

OPENING

Thank you for staying after service for this family conversation. We want to take a few minutes to share some important updates about our church, celebrate what God is doing among us, and discuss a few matters that will help us move forward together.

To keep things brief and allow plenty of time for our Summer Kickoff BBQ, we won't be having an open Q&A during the meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to speak with one of the elders afterward—we'd be happy to connect with you.

FINANCES & GIVING

- **Giving**

We also want to let you know that we have transitioned to a **new online giving platform**. You can find it at the same link (conejochurch.com/giving). If you currently have recurring donations set up through our previous system, we encourage you to make the switch to the new platform by the end of June. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the ministry.

- **Profit & Loss**

APRIL: Income: \$17.1K Expenses: \$22.2K Net loss: \$5.1K	MAY: Income: \$21.8K Expenses: \$23.1K Net loss: \$1.3K	YTD: Income: \$99.1K Expenses: \$110.1K Net loss: \$11.0K
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If you'd like more information, feel free to reach out.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY UPDATE

Last week, we met with Jill to let her know that, due to our current financial situation, we can no longer afford to fund the Children's Director position. This was not an easy decision. We deeply love and appreciate Jill and the many years she has faithfully served the children and families of Conejo Church through her part-time role as Children's Director.

After much prayer and discussion, the leadership team unanimously agreed that this step was necessary in order to be good stewards of the church's finances, particularly in light of the budget deficits we have experienced over the past year.

While this position was not Jill's primary source of income, we recognize that this change still impacts her, and we want to care for her as well as we can during this transition. We are providing an additional month's salary and have encouraged her to join us in the main service so that she can experience a greater connection with the broader church family. I shared with her our desire to honor and support her as much as our resources allow.

From our perspective, this is not goodbye. We continue to consider Jill part of the Conejo family, and it is our sincere hope that this change will not affect her place among us.

For the time being, Ryan will oversee the elementary ministry, and our current volunteer rotation will continue as normal. For our younger children, we are exploring additional staffing options to help support the ministry as the church grows.

Please keep Jill in your prayers during this transition. We also ask you to pray that the Lord would provide additional volunteers and new members to help strengthen our ministry in the months ahead.

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

For several years, leadership at Conejo Church has functioned through a church council consisting of the pastor, John Barbour, Scott Thurman, Leslie Skinner, and Lucas Johnston.

After much prayer, discussion, and reflection, we have unanimously decided to dissolve the council structure. We want to be clear that we are deeply grateful for the way the Lord has used this model and for the faithful service of everyone who has served on the council. This change is not a reflection on any individual, but rather a desire to bring greater clarity to our leadership structure and to align it more closely with the pattern of church leadership we see in Scripture.

Moving forward, Conejo Church will be led by Elders and Deacons / Deaconesses.

At present, the elders, in addition to myself, will be John Barbour and Scott Thurman.

At the same time, Ryan, Lucas, and Leslie will continue to serve in important leadership roles and remain a vital part of the life and direction of this church. I want to take a moment to publicly honor them for their faithfulness, wisdom, hard work, and dedication to this congregation. Their contributions have been invaluable, and we are grateful for the many ways they continue to serve our church family.

LOOKING AHEAD

As I pray about the future of Conejo Church, I keep coming back to one word: foundations.

I don't believe God is calling us to reinvent the wheel. I believe He is calling us to strengthen the foundations of our church and refocus on the things that matter most.

Of course, we want to see growth. We want to see new people come to faith, families restored, and this room filled with worshippers. But growth belongs to the Lord.

At the same time, success is not measured only by attendance. Success is reflected in a church where people genuinely care for one another, where disciples are being formed, where worship is meaningful, where families are strengthened, and where our faith impacts the community around us.

Our responsibility is not to manufacture growth. Our responsibility is to be faithful.

As we've evaluated where we are today, we've identified some areas where our foundation needs strengthening. In the coming months, we'll be focusing on several practical priorities:

- Improving signage and visibility
- Strengthening our website, livestream, and online presence
- Consolidating our systems into Planning Center
- Building ministry around the weekly gathering
- Equipping parents and strengthening families

But more importantly, we want to strengthen our life together.

In Acts 2, we're told that the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. I believe one of the greatest needs in the modern church is to recover what it means to be devoted to fellowship—not simply attending church, but truly sharing life together as the family of God.

As we move forward, I believe Conejo Church should continue to be known for three things:

Rooted in Scripture and history.

Seeking depth in God's Word and an appreciation for the historic Christian faith.

Relational in our gathering.

Cultivating genuine community, participation, and shared life.

Restorative in our purpose.

Helping restore individuals and families to God while helping believers better understand the biblical roots of their faith.

We want to continue being a beacon of light in our community, shining the hope we have in Christ into a world that desperately needs Him.

We may never find a perfect church because churches are made up of imperfect people. But together we can pursue faithfulness.

My prayer is that Conejo Church would be a gathered, participatory, reverent, caring, and Scripture-rooted community that reflects the heart of Jesus.

And as we take these steps together, I am reminded of Jesus' words:

"Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" (John 11:40)