

watchmanALERT

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When Words Fail

I recently learned of the death of a friend's loved one. It's a pain I am all too familiar with, and I remember in vivid detail how people tried to offer condolences and support to me in my time of loss. I certainly appreciated their presence, but the fact is sometimes people don't know what to say; the event is so significant it doesn't seem like any words will do it justice, and so we fall silent, grasping for a non-existent vocabulary.

Prayer can be like that too. What we're experiencing and dealing with can seem so huge and overwhelming that we don't even know what to say. Where do we begin? How do we begin? And so we remain silent, even as our hearts scream out.

But here's the good news: when words fail us, God's Spirit does not. Paul tells us, "Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." (Romans 8:26-27)

I think we underestimate the fact that God is more aware of what we need than even we are; that when we don't know what to say, or even know what we want, the Holy Spirit stands in the gap on our behalf, advocating for our best—for God's best for us. It encourages me that God doesn't wait until I have the words, or figure out what I want, because that's no guarantee it'll be what God wants for me. Not only that, the Holy Spirit in me pleads my case far more eloquently than I am capable of, and far more earnestly than I can, and it is to my benefit.

What God does ask of us though is to be present—to confidently "draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). It is often there, on our knees, where words fail us, that the sweetest prayers are lifted to God.

Pastor George Helewa

Young Adult Pastor

PRAISE & PETITION...

Senior Pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah

- Thank you for praying faithfully for my recovery from a virus called Transverse Myelitis. I continue to make progress and am looking forward to my return to the pulpit and fellowship with my Shadow Mountain family soon!
- We are off to an awesome start with our Men and Women Bible studies. Give praise for those who have placed their faith in Christ during the beginning weeks of the Fall season ministry.
- Our Small Group recruiting efforts last month were greatly blessed of God. Continue to pray for sufficient leaders and homes to host each new group.
- We have experienced record enrollment in our schools this Fall. Let's trust God to use us effectively to train each student to embrace a Biblical worldview and seek His will for their life.
- Pray for revival.
- Pray faithfully for God's protection around the entire scope of Shadow Mountain Ministries.

For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I am the LORD, and there is no other. (Isaiah 45:18)

Family Ministries

Praise:

- For the opportunity to provide biblical counsel and encouragement to individuals who are facing challenges.
- For our mentor couples who are meeting with couples preparing for marriage.

Prayer:

- For those who come to Family Ministries for help with life challenges. Pray for our counselor as she meets with people to provide biblically based direction and help.
- For our GriefShare and DivorceCare groups for encouragement and hope for all who are attending. For wisdom and discernment for our facilitators.
- Pray for couples who are preparing for marriage, pray for a strong biblical foundation as they start their lives together.

Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23

Evangelism, Connections, Discipleship, New Members & Baptism,

Pastor Scott Pittman

Praise:

- We have 14 people signed up for our next discipleship class. We have had over 200 new Christians come through our discipleship class since we started these three years ago. They are a real blessing to be a part of.

Pray for:

- Our Outreach/Connections team, that God will continue to guide them in their efforts.
- The deacons and deaconesses who help with baptisms.
- Our discipleship groups, that they would be able to build a strong foundation to their new faith and that we would be able to connect them into other ministries of the church.
- Toni Vowels our Administrative Assistant who cares for all the details surrounding assimilations.
- All our first-time guests, that God would meet them where they are and help them find a home at Shadow Mountain.
- Pray for everyone involved in the New Member's Class as they process the details of the class during this season.
- Pray for all the altar counselors, that they would be encouraged, and that God would give them many opportunities to minister to people in our weekend services.

"Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be above all the earth." Psalm 57:5

Pastoral Care, Pastor Ray Benton

Pray for Pastor Ray Benton and Pastor Gareld Murphy and Pastor Tim Powell and Pastor Brian Moulton as they seek to be an encouragement to those going through difficult physical challenges and those who are shut in. Pray our calls will provide encouragement and comfort.

Pray for our tele-care team members who connect weekly over the phone with encouragement by means of prayer and scripture to those who are shut-in from our congregation. These calls are more important than ever because of the isolation many are experiencing.

People home/hospital recuperating: Dawn Wilson, Sandy Hornyak, Jordan Roberts, Chuck Emert, Carolyn Hunt, Betty Preston, Dave and Yolanda Schoenfeld, Jim Nemece, Elizabeth Carrillo, Matthew Carrillo, Alice Hall, Ruth Cast, Donna Coombs, Suzanne Bennett, John Paradise, Tom Henry, Charlene Hyatt, Arlene Vollmer, Ronald and Marlene Robershaw, Phil Johnston, Peggy Bush, Richard Upah, Connie Burgher, Joanne Hendrickson, Sterling Smith, Don Harrison, Richard Harvey, Ken Howell, Al Gossner, Gwenda Brown, Jeanette Eddery, Jay Young, Dan Rynkof, Will Nikkel, Tamm Bugg, Robert Pitcher, Mike Toomey, Marge Puckett, Gary Flor, Larry Weinstein, Ray Grimm, Pastor Jeremiah, Alicia Ruiz

Pray for shut-ins: Sally Barber, Bill Babcock, Sue Jarrett, Barbara Hendrix, John Goetz, Cliff Swanson, Doug Ayres, David Morris, Alice Cook, Mary Mills, Karena De La France

Pray for families who have lost loved ones: Ron Hover, Ryan Sebring, Barbara Nickerson, William Pickney

"In my distress I cried to the Lord, and He heard me." Psalm 120:1

Director of Servant Ministries, Joyce Tepper

Thanks to the Lord

- For the Servant Ministry Advisors who make themselves available to invest in the lives of new members.
- For the many people who keep coming to us for direction in service options.
- For the many ministries from which to choose at SMCC.
- For the varied gifts that are needed in each component of ministry.
- For the joy that fills one up when their gifts FROM Him are used FOR Him!

It was surely His idea to make serving such a delight! Pray for that spirit to spread like wildfire!

Business Office, Josh James

Praise:

- God's continued favor and blessing on Shadow Mountain, Christian Unified Schools, and Southern California Seminary.
- The congregation's faithful giving and His provision for the ministries at Shadow Mountain.
- The congregation's support of the Benevolence Fund and the Deacons' discernment and compassion in the administration of this fund.
- The dedicated staff that God has called to serve in the Finance, Payroll, and Compliance/Benefits Department.
- Christian Unified is starting the year with +1,700 students across the district—God is good!

Prayer:

- God's counsel in our stewardship of that which He has entrusted to us. May we use it according to His will to reach people locally and world-wide with God's Word, the Gospel message, and knowledge of His love. That many would come to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.
- Provision for those at SMCC who are struggling financially.
- Counsel for daily wisdom and discernment for Pastor Jeremiah and the staff.
- Prayer for discernment and consistent joy for our educators at the school as they jump into the new school year.
- Prayer for a new accountant to join our team!

Music Ministry, Tobin Davis

- Praise God for the blessing of music that adds beauty to our worship and helps us praise His Name.
- Pray for the leaders and directors of our Children's and Student Choirs. Praisemakers (Ages 4-K), Children's Choir (Grades 1-5), Resound (Grades 6-8), and Student Youth Choir (Grades 9-12).
- Pray for health and protection of our musicians.
- Pray for our technical team as they serve in each of our weekend services.
- Pray for the music ministry team, for wisdom and discernment, as they plan and prepare for the weekly rehearsal and worship services.

Kids Ministries, Jesse Abeel

Praises:

- God is continuing to work in the lives of our children and their families! Children are coming to church, hearing God's Word, and carrying the truth home to their families.
- Kids Blast (elementary) and Kids Blast Jr. (preschool) have been a huge success since launching this Spring! We are seeing new kids and new families each week.
- We have so many amazing volunteers serving with us on a weekly basis. We are so thankful for the way God constantly provides.
- Our staff is thriving and growing—we are bringing on new people to help support the new Kids Blast program.

Prayer Requests:

Kids Blast

- We launched our new large group program this spring, and it has been a huge success. We are hoping to reach far and wide into the community of children in East County (and beyond!). This is a big undertaking. Please pray for more volunteers, for staff needs to be filled, and to fill the Event Center with kids each Sunday.

General

- For our staff and volunteers to joyously communicate the love of Christ to our kids, their parents, and each other.
- For kids to have a genuine relationship with God, build a Biblical foundation for their lives, grow with friends and leaders, and develop a community at church that they love being part of.
- Pray for the power of God's truth to permeate deeper in the hearts and minds of our young ones than any of the lies surrounding them in this culture we are living in!

Small Groups, Dale Bacon

- **Shadow Mountain Leaders:** Please pray for all of our Shadow Mountain leaders, either on campus at a Bible study, or in their homes. Please pray for strength, wisdom, and leadership as they start a new season of ministry.
- **Small Group Sign-up:** Please pray for the over 450 people who signed up to be in a small group. Pray that they would find community and grow deeper in their faith.
- **November Leader Breakfast:** Please pray for our November Leadership Breakfast on November 4, 2023. Pray that those who attend would be blessed.

College Ministry

- Please pray for our students and for their protection from the cultural forces prevalent on college campuses.
- Pray for our students who are seeking hope and truth in a world that seems divided to them.
- Please pray for our weekly small groups, monthly activities and fellowship gatherings.

Young Adult Ministry, 20's – 30's, George Helewa

Praises

- Thank you that we HAVE a ministry to this vulnerable and challenging demographic.
- Many are getting baptized!
- For a good group of YA's who are pursuing the Lord!
- For many answered prayers within our ministry.
- For the majority of our YA's joining a Small Group.

Prayer requests

- **For our Small Groups** as they experience life-changing relationships; healthy and encouraging spaces where God honoring community happens through Bible Study.
- **Spiritual and physical growth and revival in our ministry.**
- Mental, emotional, and spiritual health for Young Adults.
- **Protection** for our Young Adults serving in the military.
- For our events, YA Café, and small groups, to impact lives every time we're together.
- **Spiritual discernment** as our community lives and works in the world.
- **For Pastor George: clarity and endurance** as he leads his group and others in the new year. Also, for endurance as he finishes two seminary classes in October.
- **Also for Pastor George and his wife Krysten:** For a strong marriage, and wisdom as they navigate parenting their two teenage daughters. For their daughters to find their value, strength, and hope in Christ every day.

- **For Pastor George's oldest, Amira** (19). As she navigates her manufacturing Academy. Pray that she learns the skills well and has job opportunities following completion of the course. Bless her with authentic relationships, spiritual mentors, and a sense of purpose.
- **For Pastor George's youngest, Jasmine** (15), Jasmine continues to navigate some medical challenges with her left leg that the doctors are trying to properly diagnose and treat. She is unable to put weight on it. This has been going on since March 23rd. Help her pain management and to maintain a good attitude and perspective as we figure this all out! We have stumped just about everyone who has seen her, and we are no closer to getting her back on her feet than we were six months ago. Pray for miraculous healing.
- **For the San Miguel Fire Dept. where Pastor George serves as Chaplain.** For opportunity to share God's hope with the firefighters as they navigate the challenges they face personally and professionally. Protect their minds, bodies, spirits, marriages, and families. Pray they get the raise they need and deserve.
- **For the YA's getting married in 2023,** God's leadership in this new season!
- **Administrative and practical help** for the Young Adult ministry as we continue to provide connection and events for YA's in SMCC. Pray for a minimum 10-hour a week Admin for George so he can focus on leading and shepherding ministry.

Middle School Ministry, Chase Eurich

Prayer requests:

- Pray that God would continue to bless Middle School Ministry and the momentum of reaching new students and new families.
- Pray for us during the Fall Season of mid-week small groups.
- We have lots of new students joining us—please pray they feel welcome and comfortable.
- Pray that students would have a tenderness toward the Gospel.
- Pray for the parents of our middle schoolers—they have a hard job and need support and encouragement!
- Pray for more volunteers to join us in reaching middle schoolers for Christ.
- Pray for continued safety and health for our staff, volunteers, and students.

Praises:

- Our ministry to middle schoolers is continuing to grow!
- Students seem to be really connecting and are finding a sense of community in our ministry.
- We have an exceptional team of staff and interns. I thank the Lord for them!

Shadow Youth High School Ministry, Pastor Grant Todd

We need prayer for the following concerning the Youth Ministry:

- For the Lord to use the High School messages to help our students connect and grow.
- We want to pray for students to connect, grow, and serve the Lord.
- Asking God to energize and use our staff to reach out to our students.

Young Married Ministries, Troy Leeman

Praises:

- Praising God for all the new couples that He is bringing.
- Thankful for all of our leaders who are leading tables. We have 19 tables currently in our room.

- Grateful for the ministry and the platform the Lord has given us to reach out to couples and families so they can have a place where they can grow spiritually and have a community for their marriages.
- Pastor James Darnell and his wife Amy had their babies. We are thankful the babies are healthy, and mom is doing well.

We ask God for the following:

- Wisdom to help our couples grow in their marriage.
- God will continue sending us new couples who want to grow in their faith and enter a growing community.
- New Leaders that we can train up and prepare for our growing ministry.
- The clarity in the vision and implementation of the plans we are developing for the ministry this fall.
- Pray for the spouses that are deployed, pray for the guys, and pray for the wives and kids.
- We currently have seven ladies expecting babies; please pray for healthy pregnancies.

Women's Ministries, Lisa Paulson

Praise:

- Bible studies are back in session!
- Women are eager to connect and grow!
- Praise God for new and returning leaders committed to investing in women's lives.

Prayer:

- God will continue the work that He has started by connecting women to God, His Word, and women who will help them grow.
- Pray for new and returning leaders—God's wisdom, strength, and guidance in leading their small groups.
- God's wisdom, vision, and protection over Lisa, Jennifer, Kasey, and Council as we seek His will to further the gospel, make disciples, and pour into the next generation.
- The Discipleship program will continue to grow and produce more Disciple-Makers.
- Development of future leaders and servants going forward.
- God will provide more servants for the Caring 4 Kids Ministry.
- Future outreach opportunities through our Worship Night and Girl Time Events!

"For the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man (woman), to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." Ephesians 4:12-13 (NLT)

Men's Ministries, Manny Sanchez

Praises

- We had a banner start for our Bible Studies with largest attendances ever.
- We had several men get saved our first night.
- We've been able to help 28 widows with the Fixers Ministry.

Prayers

- For the Fall Season of Bible Study. Our goal is 450 men regularly attending and that their lives would be transformed through the Word, worship and fellowship.
- That 50 men would get saved this Fall.
- That more people in need would find out about the Fixers Ministry and that we would help more and more widows and those in need.

Campus Operations, Bryan Snow

Let us be glad and rejoice!

“And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.” (Revelation 5:13)

The requests that we desire of Him:

- God’s blessing and power upon Jesús Rodriguez as he leads our facilities team. Please pray for Jeff Cothran, Mark Summers, Dan Buell, Joseph Arriola, Mark Kuker, Nathan Leffew, Paul Circo, Nathan Pyle, Brian Petersen, and Eric Nickerson as they serve on the Facilities and Maintenance team.
- *“The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace” (Numbers 6:24-26).* The Lord wants to bless our church family and keep them safe, so let’s ask Him to do so!
- This month we have several conferences, as well as events for students and children. Please pray that these will go smoothly and be used greatly to further God’s Kingdom.

Missions, Dr. Gary Coombs

Missionary Updates – Somewhere in the World!

Dan & Casie Falls, Ethnos360, Senegal

- The teaching in West Africa by some of our “training teammates” is being well received and some have placed their faith in Christ...pray that their young faith will be strengthened in the face of inevitable opposition.

Bill & Jen Morlang, Ethnos360, Papua New Guinea

- Prayer—that our eyes and ears would be open to unknown possibilities, places, and ministries now that we are back in the United States.

Jason & Jodi Olver, Asia Pacific

- Praise—for a wonderful time with co-workers at the yearly Papua regional conference.
- Prayer—for provision of an affordable new place to live by the end of November.

Sports Ministry, Tim Brown

Praise

- Praise God for families who have been able to register for our upcoming youth Rec Basketball League.
- Praise God that we have the facilities to host our Rec Basketball League.
- Praise God for those individuals who have reached out and want to help serve in our Rec Basketball League.

Prayer

- Pray for God’s guidance and direction as we plan for upcoming Rec Basketball season.
- Pray that families would be able to register for our Rec Basketball League this winter.
- Pray for opportunities to share the Gospel with those families who will be involved in our Rec Basketball League this season.
- Pray for volunteers and coaches who can help serve and meet the various needs that we have, like coaching, operating the score clock, helping at practices.

- Pray for families, volunteers, and staff to be unified in our vision and purpose for the league. We want kids to learn the game of basketball and for families to learn about God's love for them and experience a personal relationship with Him!

Hispanic Congregation, Pastor Erick Zaldaña

Praise God for:

- The **Conference for Parents** with guest speaker Dr. Cornelia Hernandez, as she asked parents to "Take off the Mute" to be frank with teenagers about subjects that could seriously affect them.
- Tuesday night's **Youth Bible Study "Influencers"** as they delve into the Book of Proverbs to see what God has to say to their generation.
- Our **Royal Ball Night** where our middle and high schoolers dressed in formal attire, but with tennis shoes to set them apart as they listened to Youth Pastor Hayden Lema.
- The individuals who attended the **Baptism Class** and were baptized after having taken the step of coming to Christ, may God abundantly bless them as they continue their walk with Him.
- The continuing attendance on Friday evening of our North Park event "**Night Visitation**" in which individuals use this time set aside to come into the presence of God through prayer and praise.

Pray for:

- "**Why Don't We Make Better Disciples?**"; a spectacular 2-day conference devoted to training Pastors and Leaders how to attract the younger generation, from 6-years to 25-years old, to be comfortable evangelizing.
- Our yearly event "**WHITE**" held on October 31 as we offer kids of all ages a spiritual evening with Timmy Ost, and fun and friends in lieu of celebrating Halloween.
- Our **Parents Who Pray Ministry** as they come together and meet at the same time as "WHITE" for emergency prayer to cover the lives of their children while they are living in a world that refuses to know God.
- The weekday event **ALTAR** held in Encinitas, South Bay, and North Park campuses as individuals seek God and praise Him for the answers to their prayers.
- A **Youth Pastor for our Encinitas Hispanic Campus**; one who will be able to engage with the youth and invest time in their lives while teaching Bible lessons.

Arabic Congregation, Pastor Robert Helou

Praises for:

- The Evangelism Ministry. Three individuals accepted Christ as their Savior: one American, one Iraqi, and one Mexican.
- The special concert on August 21st presented by The Better Life Team. Around 600 people attended the event.
- The new special praise and prayer revival meeting every Thursday evening, more than thirty people in attendance.
- The increasing number of volunteers in our Evangelism Ministry at Parkway Plaza every Monday evening.
- The monthly potluck supper on the last Friday of the month. A time of worship, prayers, sharing and fellowship.
- The start of the Ladies meeting after two months summer vacation. The church ladies are excited about this meeting.
- The increased number of viewers of our live-streamed services. The Sunday morning, and the Ladies meetings.

Prayer Requests for:

- The individuals who responded to the Gospel message through our various Evangelism meetings and ministries.
- The needed revival in our lives as individuals, families, and a church, as well as throughout San Diego County, and California.

- The recovery of several elderly people who have some health issues and have been staying home for many months.
- The various ministries and weekly meetings: Ladies, Kids Care, FUEL, the Youth, Bible Study, and Sunday's.
- The protection of our children in the elementary public schools from the terrible teaching agenda concerning LGBTQ.
- The many students who are attending the private schools to be protected from the shooting incidents in schools.
- The people of Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon; especially the Christians who are struggling financially and socially.

Alpine Campus, Kekoa Grover

Praises:

- We thank God for our Small Groups and Small Group Leaders who will be facilitating community and deeper spiritual growth this Fall!

Praying For:

- A Jr High leader to lead our Jr High students on Sunday mornings. God has provided volunteers to serve in this ministry; now we just need someone to lead it.
- God to bring a new worship leader to the Alpine Campus. Someone who loves the Lord, understands the purpose of worship, has a heart for the Alpine campus and community and can lead with excellence!

Encinitas Campus, Paul Murray

We are thankful for...

- A great Labor Day Summer Celebration!
- A continued partnership with the Hispanic and English services!
- Many guests are returning and attending the Encinitas Campus.

Requests:

- Continued prayers for our team of terrific Small Group leaders.
- That our Fall schedule of events will serve as a catalyst for families to start attending our campus.
- For the health and well-being of many of our members.

Online Campus, Rod Gray

Praises:

- For over 15,000 viewers worldwide each weekend on our online platform, Facebook, and YouTube.
- For those who accept Christ and those who make recommitments through our online ministry.
- Praising God for 15 small groups operating this season.

Prayers:

- For many who are homebound and shut-in to find a place to belong at Shadow Mountain Online.
- Continued increase for new online small group leaders and continued growth of our online small groups.
- For unchurched non-believers to come to Christ through our online platforms.

North Park Campus, Todd Hitchcock

We are thankful for...

- Our small group time on Tuesdays continues to be a time of diving deep into God's Word and connecting personally.
- The growth in our Men's and Women's Ministries.

We are praying for...

- God to open doors for us to reach our community and to find creative ways of connection.
- The remodeling and refurbishment of the facility. Praise God for all those who have donated items and time to update our facility.
- The fall launch of our weekly Bible study and children's ministry program.

South Bay Campus, Pastor Fausto Garay

We are thankful for...

- A growing sense of community within our congregation.
- Our Ministry Volunteers.
- We have a youth ministry worship leader (answered prayer).
- A wonderful Sunday Funday on 9/10.
- Two people were baptized on 9/17.

Prayer for:

- Continued growth of our Youth Ministries and Tuesday night Men's and Women's Bible studies.
- Need for a Children's Director.
- Our Fall Calendar of Events.

Central Coast Campus, Pastor Kevin Begley

Prayer & Praise:

- We have all new deacons and deaconesses! Which is both a prayer and praise!
- We continue to develop more individuals for our worship team rotation.
- We had our best summer yet and pray the momentum continues into the fall.
- We are in need of a Kids Ministry worker and are reaching out to local Christian college students at Cal Poly.
- Our campus continues to feel a part of the greater Shadow Mountain community!

Twentynine Palms Campus, Mike Maddy

- Pray for unsaved people to come and hear music, testimonies, and the gospel preached.

Southern California Seminary, Dr. Gary Coombs

Praise for:

- The privilege of serving as a ministry of Shadow Mountain.
- Pastor Jeremiah's leadership and ministry, including his role as chancellor of Southern California Seminary.
- SCS Students and Alumni who are serving in local churches, in missions, in counseling, and in Christian schools and colleges. Grace, peace, and wisdom in serving.

- Our faithful faculty who work diligently in equipping believers with biblical knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills!
- The joy of serving as SCS Staff and Faculty. Providing a working environment full of servant-minded people ready and available to serve the student body in their education to succeed in spreading the gospel in their ministry fields.
- The SCS Called to CARE in church lay counselor training program offered over the summer to help support local Christian churches and their local communities was well attended.
- SCS Press book launch of “Discovering Dispensationalism” being used in several seminaries as a valuable new resource and course textbook. It is #1,320 top books in Church History and #4,904 in Theology.

Prayer for:

- Effective ministry for Seminary Leadership: Dr. Gary Coombs, President, Dr. Gino Pasquariello, Provost and Chief Academic Officer; Dr. James Fazio, Dean of Bible and Theology; Dr. Elizabeth Elenwo, Dean of Behavioral Sciences.
- SCS students and their families to be encouraged and faithful in their academic studies, ministries, and personal faith development as they navigate many shifting circumstances.
- Continuing generous support of donors through faithful giving for scholarships to help students attend seminary for Biblical training and formation.
- Ministry opportunities for graduating alumni as well as a connection with others through the Alumni Association.
- 2023-2024 Fall Academic Enrollment Open
- The SCS Called to CARE in church lay counselor training Conference October 14th.

Christian Unified Schools, Bob Ruhlman

Praise:

- We are grateful to God for bringing a record enrollment to our schools this Fall. We are beginning the school year with 1754 students.
- Many new students are assimilating well and are hearing the gospel and responding to it.
- Praise God for a powerful Jr. High Retreat for our South Campus. All 52 students made a commitment for Christ. Of those, seven were decisions to accept Christ as Savior. God moved in an amazing way!
- The South Campus Welcome Back Picnic, at a park in Coronado, was wonderful with over 500 in attendance. It was a sweet time to get to know our new families and touch base with returning parents.
- The South Campus was able to participate in sending school supplies to missionaries starting a Christian school in Africa.
- Praise for a recent chapel service at the West Campus where many students gave their hearts to the Lord.
- Praise for our security guards that are ever-present and helpful.
- Fall sports are in full swing at all of our campuses.

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for our new students and staff as they join our Christian community and school culture. Pray that they would quickly become rooted in the care and connection of Christian fellowship and community.
- We ask for continued prayer for all the staff, students and families.
- We pray for the teachers and their health and vision as the school year gets rolling after a hard season of preparation.
- We have two families with parents just finding out they have cancer. We pray that the doctors see a clear path to treatment, and that the families feel God's arms around them.
- We have a few families struggling in the financial area. We are praying that God will provide for their needs, so that they can keep their children in a school that lines up with their biblical beliefs.
- We pray for wisdom in making key decisions specifically in discipling and shaping our students' hearts for Christ and in being good stewards of the budget that God has entrusted to us at CUSSD specifically in regard to staffing.