

# WATCHMAN ALERT

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Volume 30, Number 2—February 2026

## *The All-Sufficient Jesus!*

***“For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.”*** —Colossians 1:16-17

When I was a young mom, I thought the most important aspects of life were my well-being, my son’s safety, and my career development. These were important to me because I grew up in chaos and felt a high need to prove myself over and over again. During a crisis in my own life, my neighbor invited me to church. After attending a few times, I felt genuine love, care, and concern from people I did not know. I had no real family to turn to, but these people were different. Two women took a personal interest in my growth; they prayed with me, helped me grasp who I was in Christ, and pointed me to Jesus and His Word.

Over time, the Bible came alive in a way I had never experienced, and everything began to change for the better. My focus shifted from myself to the magnificence of Jesus. Step by step, I came to realize that when Christ was glorified through my life, my well-being improved. As Jesus became bigger in my life, I became a better mom and friend. Committing my life to follow Him clarified my real purpose and showed me how I mattered in His plan. A new freedom rose within me as I felt the heaviness fall off my shoulders and back onto His. I had found true victory in Jesus!

One of the primary goals for Women’s Ministry is to connect women to God, His Word, and women who will help them grow. In everything we do, we want women to discover that Jesus loves them. Our Girl Time event is designed to invite women to begin a life-changing relationship with the Savior who loves them and gave Himself for them. Our Coffee Connect events create opportunities for women to connect with other women who have a heart for the Lord. Our Bible studies encourage women to learn as much as they can about the God who created them and gave them the purpose to “Go and make disciples” (Matthew 28:19). Our discipleship ministry equips women to walk with Jesus and help other women do the same.

Please join us in praying that everything we do helps women discover that Jesus is the most important person in their lives. He makes all the difference!

**Lisa Paulson**

Director of Women’s Ministry

## PRAISE & PETITION...

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### *Pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah*

- Give thanks for God's Basic Plan of Economy we studied during our stewardship series and for His faithful provision to meet the needs of Shadow Mountain Ministries.
- I am looking forward to our teaching series on Jonah. Let's look to our God to open our hearts to His precious truth and use us for His glory.
- Trust God to grant discernment to our Deacons as they help those facing financial challenges and administer the Deacon's Benevolent Fund.
- Our Cares Ministry helps thousands of families each month who face a lack of basic food items in the home. Pray that many will come to faith through this outreach of love.
- God has privileged us to reach around the world with the gospel message through 200+ missionaries under our care. Pray for their protection physically and spiritually and that God would prosper the call He has given them.
- Pray for revival.
- Continue to trust God to protect all He has called us to do and for the resources He has provided for our use.

*Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day. (Psalms 25:4-5)*

### *Family Ministries*

#### **Praise:**

- For the opportunity to provide biblical counsel and encouragement to individuals who are facing challenges.

#### **Prayer:**

- Pray for wisdom and discernment for our counselor as she connects with people seeking guidance.
- Pray for our Marriage Mentor program; for those who are preparing for marriage and for our mentor couples.
- Please pray for the next session of DivorceCare and GriefShare beginning February 2 and 3. Pray for those attending who have lost loved ones and for those going through separation or divorce.

*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 and Baptism, Pastor Scott Pittman*

#### **Praise Report**

We have 15 new Christians signed up for our upcoming discipleship class.

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray for our **Evangelism/Connections Team**, that God will continue to guide and empower their outreach efforts.
- Pray for the **Deacons and Deaconesses** who faithfully assist with baptisms.
- Pray for our **Discipleship Groups**, that they would help build strong foundations for new believers and connect them into the life of the church.

- Pray for **Toni Vowels**, our Administrative Assistant, who is retiring this month. Pray that God will bless her in her new adventure with her family in Temecula. Pray that our team would find a great fit to fill the Administrative Assistant role for our ministry.
- Pray for all our **First-Time Guests**, that God would meet them where they are and help them find a home at Shadow Mountain.
- Pray for those involved in the **New Member's Class**, that they would clearly understand and embrace the mission and vision of our church.
- Pray for all the **Altar Counselors and Pastors**, that they would be refreshed, encouraged, and used mightily as they minister during 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 as they seek to be an encouragement to those going through difficult physical challenges and those who are shut in. Pray that 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:** Loretta Emert, Carolyn Hunt, Betty Preston, Jim Nemec, Elizabeth Carrillo, Ruth Cast, Suzanne Bennett, John Paradise, Tom Henry, Arlene Vollmer, Don Harrison, Jeanette Eddery, Shirley Pickney, Jack and Jean Kriege, Jordan Verhoeve, Glenda Parker, Marilyn Campbell, Mark Kuker, Krystal Emery, Lee White, Lorraine Hanley, Mary Hodge, Ellis Grant, Janet Lawry, Pat Dorroh, Leanne Norvell, Jim Sutton, Andy Pheasant, Rex Gastrich, Kent Sturgeon, Ron Meyers, Stephen Lewis

**Pray for shut-ins:** Sally Barber, Barbara Hendrix, John Goetz, Cliff Swanson, Doug Ayres, David Morris, Alice Cook, Karena De La France

**Pray for families who have lost loved ones:** V.J. Iverson

*"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?'"* John 11:25-26

## *Director of Servant Ministries, Joyce Tepper*

The beginning of something as BIG as a Year demands a great deal of planning, praying and pondering.

Even in its second month a new car can still squeak, smell and sound like new.

But just like most new things, eventually all becomes familiar, functioning and even fruitful.

Please join the team of Ministry Advisors as they embrace the new members by way of an interview towards SMCC becoming a comfortable community of Christ-followers.

It's kind of a new pair of shoes: It can start out a bit rough, rugged and even ridged before broken-into that feels like it will get you to where you are headed.

Pray that we will be good stewards of time; full of sensitivity toward giftedness; and servants of care to that end.

## *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.

### **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 our staff.
- Pray for discernment and consistent joy for our educators at the school and seminary.

## *Music Ministry, Tobin Davis*

- 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 upcoming services and outreach events.

## *Kids Ministries, Jesse Abeel*

### **Praises:**

- Our Kids Blast and Kids Blast Jr. programs continue to thrive, drawing many new children to our church.
- Our dedicated team of staff and volunteers is a true blessing, united in our passion for working together.
- We're thrilled to see children embracing faith, wanting to get baptized, and thriving in their church experience as they grow spiritually! We're grateful for the opportunity to serve entire families.
- We have been able to navigate staffing changes with grace, and God is providing for our needs to maintain a strong team to lead our ministry.

### **Prayer Requests:**

- The launch of the new Kids Blast at 9:00 am this Fall has been a big success. Now our prayer request is for more volunteers! We need more adult leaders to help us continue to grow and reach more kids.
- We need more reliable adult volunteers in ALL weekend programming.
- That our staff and volunteers joyfully share Christ's love with children, parents, and one another.
- For children to develop a deep, authentic relationship with God, establish a strong Biblical foundation, form meaningful connections with peers and leaders, and cherish their church community.
- That God's truth would deeply impact our children's hearts and minds, overpowering the falsehoods in today's culture!

## *Small Group Central, Dale Bacon*

### **For Our Small Group Leaders**

Pray that our small group leaders would be filled with wisdom, compassion, and endurance as they shepherd their groups. Ask God to refresh their hearts weekly, give them discernment as they facilitate conversations, and deepen their personal walk with Christ so they can lead from overflow, not exhaustion.

### **For Our Small Group Attenders**

Pray that every attender would experience genuine community and spiritual growth within their group. Ask that God would open hearts to His Word, strengthen relationships marked by grace and truth, and inspire each person to take their next step in faith—whether that’s serving, leading, or sharing their story.

### **For Our Small Group Coaches**

Pray that our coaches will lead with humility, clarity, and encouragement as they guide and support their leaders. Ask God to give them insight into how best to mentor and equip their leaders, helping to cultivate a culture of care, and multiplication across our ministry.

## *College Ministry, Trey Cole*

### **Prayer Requests:**

- That God would provide 5 more adult couples to serve on Thursday Nights in the College Ministry to facilitate discussion and prayer.
- For God to continue to work in the hearts of the students who have heard the Gospel.
- For students to say “yes” to serving in different ministries in the church.

### **Praises:**

- Two students were saved during our Save San Diego event!
- Students are excited about what God is doing through them in the ministry!

## *Young Adult Ministry—20 's & 30 's, George Helewa*

### **Praises**

- Thank you that we HAVE a ministry to this vulnerable and challenging demographic. This is a good group of Young professionals who are pursuing the Lord!
- **We are very grateful for** 2025, and the work God has done in people’s lives. We’ve seen a lot of people move on this year, but we have sent them towards God’s best.
- For many answered prayers within our ministry, and that God is using the community to meet one another’s needs and helping people **Pursue their Purpose**.

### **Prayer requests**

- **Continued Spiritual** and **physical** growth of our ministry.
- Prayers that God would send **new members and new leaders** to our ministry.
- We need to develop more **leaders** to step up from within our group. Pray for **new table** and **small group leaders** to emerge.
- **Vision for what the next iteration of Young Adults** looks like, as we strive to serve our singles, military, and engaged people at Shadow Mountain.
- Healing for some damaged interpersonal relationships - that the Spirit would bring unity, healing, and conviction.
- **For our 2026 planning** as we seek to serve our demographic better in the coming year.

- **For our 2026 Small Groups study on Holiness-** That it would lead people closer to Jesus, and that we can find places for everyone who wants to be in one.
- **Administrative help** for the Young Adult ministry as we continue to provide connection and events for YA's at SMCC. Consistent help to manage the "business" of the ministry so Pastor George can focus on the people of the ministry.
- **Protection** for our Young Adults serving in the military.
- **For opportunities to minister to our military more directly and gain** base access.
- **Spiritual discernment** as our community lives and works in the world.
- **Relational wisdom** for the YA's that God is calling into more romantic relationships. That they would put God first and their significant other second. Also, wisdom and grace for those that come to us out of failed relationships.
- **For Pastor George: clarity** and **endurance** as he leads his group and others. **Wisdom** to navigate the demands of ministry and family. **Healing** from frustration and burnout.
- **Focus** as he prepares teaching lessons. **Also**, for a strong marriage to **Krysten** and wisdom as they navigate parenting their two daughters, Amira and Jasmine. Pray for valuable time together as a couple, and for their daughters to find their value, strength, and hope in Christ every day.
- **Krysten's** father passed away late in 2025. Comfort and grace as we heal from that and support her mom in this season.
- **Jasmine is well into her Senior Year of HS!** Pray for physical strength and for **a Car** for Jasmine as she starts driving this winter. Praying for a small SUV to help accommodate her physical needs. Endurance to finish her senior year well!
- **Amira begins a new College program.** Wisdom and clarity as she takes on this next educational goal for herself. Also, continued wisdom for navigating interpersonal relationships.
- **Prayers for the Local Fire Departments** that Pastor George serves as Chaplain (San Miguel, Santee, Sycuan). Safety for the crews and opportunities to hear the gospel. Also, opportunities to expand the influence of the Chaplains in the San Diego area.

## *Middle School Ministry, Chase Ewrich*

### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray that God would continue to bless Middle School Ministry and the momentum of reaching new students and new families.
- Pray for spiritual growth in those attending our 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.

## *Family Life Ministry, James Darnell*

### **Praises:**

- Pray for our new volunteer admin team as they coordinate and plan.
- Pray for new couples entering the ministry in the new year.
- Pray for our leaders as they take on new responsibilities in the new year.
- Pray for our couples, their marriages, and their children.

### **Praise:**

- God has blessed us with a new group of volunteers to begin the year.
- Praise for a solid and committed leadership team.
- God's sustaining and providing power for the ministry.

## *Young Marrieds Ministry, David Todd Jeremiah*

### **Requests:**

- New couples would come try out young marrieds.
- Couples who are deployed.
- Safety as we have many current pregnancies.
- Wisdom as we look to make adjustments throughout the year.

### **Praises:**

- We had an awesome kickoff to our year last Sunday.
- Families are getting connected and sticking.

## *Women's Ministries, Lisa Paulson*

### **Praise:**

- Praise God for all the connections we made through the Ministry Fair!
- Praise God for an incredible launch of our Spring Bible studies!
- Praise God for the opportunity to share the gospel and make disciples!
- Praise God for all the ways we get to serve one another!

### **Prayer:**

- Please pray for God's hand-picked speaker for our spring Girl Time event on April 17!
- New and returning ladies will be excited to be in God's Word this spring semester.
- God would raise more women who want to get involved and serve!
- The Joyful Hearts event on Saturday, February 14, will be an encouragement to our widows. They will feel God's love through His church and His people.
- Many new women will sign up for our Coffee Connect event on Saturday, March 7.
- As women grow in their relationship with Christ, they will see the fruit of their investment pouring over into their families.
- God will raise more leaders and Disciple-makers for 2026 and take the challenge to invest in the next generation.
- Our Women's Leadership Breakfast on February 21 will ignite hearts to keep leading and serving!
- Caring for Kids, Needlecrafters, Joyful Hearts, Discipleship, Military Wives, and Global Connect groups will provide opportunities for women to connect, grow, and serve!
- God's wisdom, guidance, and protection over Lisa, Jennifer, Kasey, and Council as we seek His will in ministering to the needs of His women. Loving, leading, and serving women would be on full display!



- Please pray for protection over all that God is doing through Women's Ministry.
- God would be glorified through His church and His people!

*"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 faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro carried away with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love." Eph. 4:12-14*

## *Men's Ministries, Pastor Manny Sanchez*

### **Praises:**

- Great start to our Spring Bible study so far. We have an average of 450 men on the El Cajon Campus and almost 75-100 together on our other campuses.
- We launched two new sub-ministries in the Men's Ministry. One is called *Chains 2 Change*, designed to help men with addictions find freedom in Christ. The other is called *Lead Your Family* to help men become better leaders and husbands at home and helping those with struggling marriages.
- There are more young men coming to Men's Bible study on Tuesdays which is something we've been praying for this year—it's our goal and focus. We're calling the campaign generation to generation and asking men to reach out to the next generation of men, and next generation of believers and disciples.

### **Prayers:**

- We are launching a marriage training group community to help the many men and their wives who are struggling in marriage or simply in need of a marriage boost. It starts in March—pray that the Lord brings those couples He wants - we are praying for 50 couples.
- Dangerous Man planning is underway and scheduled for March 13. We have two very dynamic speakers coming and are praying for over 2000 men in attendance and over 100 salvations!
- A very generous donation to cover 100 scholarships to Dangerous Man specifically for High school senior boys to attend. Pray that we fill all those spots—that would be incredible to have that many young people there.

## *Campus Operations, Bryan Snow*

*"I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images."* (Isaiah 42:8) The LORD, Jehovah, is "the existing One," "the self-Existent," "the Eternal." When we bring our requests to Him, we are glorifying Him, because we acknowledge that He is Lord, that He is the Supplier of our needs, and that we are dependent upon Him. Would you please glorify the Lord by bringing the following before Him?

- Byron Mathe has taken on the additional role of Chief Operations Officer. Please pray that the Lord will bless the work of his hands in this department as well!
- Norelis Dyshkant is Bryan Snow's Administrative Assistant. She also supervises the receptionists, Linda Parker, Lisa Moody, Erin Popka and Marsha Newman. Please pray that the Lord will give these ladies joy, grace, and patience as they represent the Lord and SMCC each day!
- *"Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD: he is their help and their shield."* (Psalm 115:11) Please continue to pray for the Lord's protection of our people.
- This month, CUSSD will observe "Spiritual Emphasis Week." Please pray that this time of focusing our students' attention on the Eternal will bring them to a closer walk with Him.



## *Missions, Dr. Gary Coombs*

- Prayer—for the Missions staff and Mission Board to have wisdom concerning prospective missionary partnerships.
- Prayer—for **Betty Ngoboka** to recover quickly and fully following ongoing health concerns in Uganda.
- Prayer—for missionaries navigating challenging family circumstances.
- Prayer—for **Luke and Jaalah Kanagy's** transition out of Ecuador and discernment for future ministry.
- Prayer—for the planning of our 2026 Global Teams. Please pray for the right places to go, projects to deepen our missionaries' ministries, people to build teams, and efficient preparation for each team.

## *Sports Ministry, Tim Brown*

### **Praise**

- Praise God for the resources available on our campus to facilitate our Sports Programs.
- Praise God for the servants that God has raised up to help coach, train, and work at our Sports Programs.

### **Prayer**

- Pray for those serving in the Sports Ministry to represent Jesus Christ well during our sports programs.
- Pray that the sports environments would help build relationships, share the Good News, and draw people to Shadow Mountain.
- Pray for opportunities to share the Gospel, both one on one and in our team settings, with the participants who will be involved in our sports programs.
- Pray for the recruitment of godly, mature coaches for the sports programs.
- Pray for the participants in the Youth Basketball League. Pray for the impact of the relationships with the players and their families. Pray that they might visit SMCC or consider understanding more about God and His Church.
- Pray for the Youth Basketball games on Saturdays (Jan-Feb). That the environment would help believers connect with families from the community and be a positive experience for the participants.
- Pray for the volunteers and coaches who will help serve in the upcoming Youth Rec Basketball League. For unity, enthusiasm, and purpose while we coach and facilitate a community basketball league on the SMCC campus.

## *Cares Ministry, Kevin Gowing*

***“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” 1 Peter 4:8-10***

### **Praises:**

- For current faithful volunteers, and some new ones, that love our ministry and serve with joy!
- That the Lord has continued to supply all our needs in the Cares ministry!
- Rudy who had been stabbed, has returned to the ministry and is healing well, PTL!
- Another year of Ministry Fair showcasing all that God is doing through our ministry and church!

### **Prayers—Always the need for the following at Cares:**

- That we would continue to boldly proclaim Christ to those who need a Savior, and that the Spirit would give them understanding. Luke 24:45, *“Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.”*
- That God would continue to lead this ministry by His Spirit, and that He would cause revival in our community and county.

- For the health of volunteers and recipients as some have been experiencing serious health ailments (always a need).
- May God keep our campus safe as we serve our diverse community.

## *Hispanic Congregation, Pastor Erick Zaldaña*

### **Praise God for:**

- The fantastic response of our church, Shadow Mountain en Español, with our current sermon series, **Differences That Define Us.**
- The new family ministry in our church, called **Agape**, which is truly an answered prayer from God.
- The life of each person that has come to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- The families in our congregation that have a job to support their households.
- Every member that supports our different ministries.
- The work of God through “Bajo Fuego,” an initiative by pastor Hayden Lema, that is freeing men from the chains of the enemy through Christ.
- How God is taking care of the lives of the church’s leadership staff, and their families.
- The unity and purpose God has brought to our different ministries, helping us share the Gospel with Boldness.

### **Pray:**

- For pastor Zaldaña’s daughters, Rebecca, who is studying at CBU, and Gracia, who is a senior this year. That God would lead their steps through different challenges.
- For God to continue using His church, Shadow Mountain en Español, to share the gospel with the Hispanic community of San Diego.
- For God to give us wisdom and direction leading the Youth Ministries.
- For the life of each member of our SMCC Youth Community, may they grow in the love of Christ.
- For God to continue to give us grace and passion to serve and honor Him.
- For the wisdom to guide members to Christ through our different ministries.
- For God to open doors everywhere we go to preach the gospel.
- For God’s grace and strength to share the gospel, and to have the entire church getting involved in evangelism.

## *Arabic Congregation, Pastor Robert Helou*

### **Praises:**

- For the special Christmas Day service on the 25th, during which my son Andrew preached, with very good attendance.
- For the wonderful Christmas concert featuring 24 visiting singers and musicians, with an attendance of over 300 people.
- For the New Year’s Eve special meeting from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., including a special dinner and program, with good attendance.
- For our entire family—our children, their spouses, and our grandchildren—being able to attend the SMCC Candlelight Service together.
- For the successful major surgery of a dear brother who faced complications and endured the effects of chemotherapy.
- For the special New Year-focused services, and for the many who resolved to take their spiritual lives more seriously.
- For the many non-Christian guests who attended our Christmas services and heard the Gospel clearly presented.

**Prayers:**

- Pray for a dedicated Christian couple to lead our FUEL Ministry, which serves over 20 students ages 11-16.
- Remember Sister Afaf in prayer as she faces a recurrence of colon cancer and the effects of chemotherapy.
- Lift our elderly members and shut-ins who worship with us online, some of whom are very ill.
- Pray for a genuine revival in 2026 in our church, in El Cajon, and throughout San Diego County.
- Pray for the family of Brother Tawfik Fakoury, who went to be with the Lord after a long battle with health issues.
- Pray for our Christian brothers and sisters in Syria and Nigeria who are enduring severe persecution and hostility.
- Pray for real and lasting peace in Lebanon, and for wisdom and courage for our new president.

## *Alpine Campus, Pastor Kekoa Grover*

**Praises:****God's Work Through Small Groups**

- We're also praising God for the strong Fall season of Small Groups! Many wrapped up their sessions celebrating the sanctifying work of God in their lives. We're grateful for the leaders who faithfully facilitated these groups and for the sweet community that continues to form as people pursue Jesus together. What a joy it is to see our church family strengthened through these meaningful connections!

**Praying For:****Future of Small Groups and Community Life**

- We're praying for continued growth and depth in our Small Groups (and all ministries at Alpine Campus) as we look toward the new year.
- We're asking God to guide those who are considering joining a group, strengthen our leaders, and deepen the sense of biblical community at the Alpine Campus. Our desire is that every person would find a place to grow spiritually, serve, build Christ-centered friendships, and take next steps in their walk with the Lord.

## *Encinitas Campus, Pastor Adam Brodewolf*

**Praise God for**

- The sweetness of our congregation and fellowship.
- Three new families with children. Please pray they will continue to come when they see there are other kids. If we could just get them all to come at the same time...
- Two men being personally disciplined.
- All of the painted trim has been completed and it looks great.
- The relationship with Venture Church next door, and the opportunity to provide space for the teaching of Congolese children along with them. Please pray: they are currently in need of a van to get the kids to class.

## *Online Campus, Pastor 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 17 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.

## *South Bay Campus, Fausto Garay*

**We are thankful for...**

- A successful Ministry Fair and everyone who helped make it possible.
- Those who have stepped forward to lead small groups.
- A strong start for everyone who has joined a small group this year.

**We are praying for:**

- God to raise up leaders with willing hearts and a spirit ready to serve as small-group leaders.
- God to continue providing new leaders so more groups can be opened.
- God to establish His foundation and bring clear direction for our youth ministry.

## *South Bay Campus—Hispanic Congregation, Pastor Jesus Tiznado*

**Praise God for:**

- We are thankful for the health God has restored in many brothers at church.
- We are thankful for keeping the church united and firm in the study of His Word.
- We are thankful for the body of deacons serving God faithfully.

**Pray:**

- For the youth, may God awaken a heart of service for others serving those in need including the homeless.
- For the Family events we have every month at South Bay “Together at the table”.
- For the evangelism activity across the border in Tijuana “Coffee & Prayer”.
- For the Tiznado family, so their son Jesus Jr. may be strengthened in Christ through his missionary training.
- For Jesus Jr. as a missionary through YWAM and a transcultural missionary trip in 2026.

## *Central Coast Campus, Pastor Kevin Begley*

**Prayer**

- Continued prayer as we seek out new Deacons and Deaconesses.
- Prayer for a kid’s ministry leader.
- That we start the new year strong reaching our community.

**Praise:**

- We have younger un-churched families attending church.
- We have been invited to visit a local men’s prison to support their chapel.
- God continues to provide for the needs of the campus.

## *Southern California Seminary, Dr. Gary Coombs*

### **Praise for:**

- **The Blessing of Ministry through Shadow Mountain:** We are grateful for the opportunity to serve as a ministry of Shadow Mountain, and for the partnership in sharing the gospel.
- **Pastor Jeremiah's Inspiring Leadership:** Praise for Pastor Jeremiah's faithful leadership and ministry, including his role as chancellor of Southern California Seminary, which continues to inspire and guide many.
- **Dedicated SCS Students and Alumni:** Gratitude for students and alumni who are faithfully serving in local churches, missions, counseling ministries, and Christian schools and colleges. We celebrate the grace, peace, and wisdom God grants them as they minister to others.
- **Faithful and Skilled Faculty and Staff:** Praise for the dedicated faculty and staff who diligently equip students with biblical knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills, ensuring they are well-prepared to serve in their fields.
- **We're celebrating a great start to the Fall 2025 term!** We have had a challenging season of transition but have experienced tremendous blessing and growth. We see God's provision throughout this new academic year and as we head into our 80th year of equipping believers. We are grateful for how He continues to guide and shape SCS for the good of those we serve.

### **Prayer Requests:**

- **Blessing and Wisdom for Seminary Leadership:** Pray for Dr. Gary Coombs (President), Dr. Gino Pasquariello (Provost and Chief Academic Officer), Dr. James Fazio (Dean of Bible and Theology), and Dr. Elizabeth Elenwo (Dean of Behavioral Sciences) as they lead with vision, integrity, and effectiveness in their ministries.
- **Encouragement for SCS Students and Families:** Please pray for our students, faculty, and staff as well as their families.
- **Gratitude and Support for Donors:** Pray for continued generosity and faithfulness from donors, whose giving provides scholarships that enable students to receive biblical training and spiritual formation at the seminary.
- **Ministry Opportunities for Alumni:** Ask for doors to open for graduating alumni to step into meaningful ministry roles and to stay connected with one another through the Alumni Association, fostering ongoing support and collaboration.
- **Provision and Praise:** Please join us in praying for God's continued growth and provision over the seminary. As we move forward, we ask for wisdom, strength, and clarity in every area of our mission so that we may faithfully serve those God has called here. We also pray for a meaningful and joy-filled upcoming celebration of all that God has accomplished through the seminary and through its faithful leaders over the past 80 years.

## *Christian Unified Schools, Bob Ruhlman*

### **Praises**

- We are grateful for the incredible generosity of our school community and supporters who faithfully help ensure that the needs within our district are met.
- We are thankful to be a ministry of Shadow Mountain Community Church and for their continued support, including our facilities, security, IT, production, finance, HR, and middle and high school ministries teams.
- We praise the Lord for the health, safety, and provision He has placed around our campuses throughout this year.

## Prayers

- Please pray for Spiritual Emphasis Week at the Jr./Sr. High School (2/17-2/20). Our theme is “Unshakable: Rooted in the Character of God.”
  - Pray for protection over our speaker, students, and staff that the enemy would not snatch away what the Lord intends, and that hearts would be prepared to receive at least one lasting truth that deepens students’ relationships with Jesus or brings them to a relationship with Jesus.
- Pray for the upcoming Jog-a-Thons at our elementary campuses, that the anticipated funds will be raised to support and strengthen our schools.
- Please pray for our parents, that they would parent intentionally and remain sensitive to the effects of screens and social media on their children.
- Pray that our students would stay focused, not lose heart during this third quarter, and finish strong by going all in.
- Pray for our families that are facing hardship of various kinds. That they would trust the Lord for His guidance and provision. Pray that our community would support one another and walk together in times of need.
- Pray for wisdom, discernment, and clarity for our admissions team as they work to re-enroll current students and assess new families for mission fit at CUSSD.
- Pray for families who feel called to enroll at CUSSD, that they would trust in the Lord’s provision as they commit to providing their students with a Christian education.
- Please pray for our development department and for the care of our campuses, staff, and student capacity and that the Lord would provide abundantly and grant wisdom to leadership.
- Pray for our office staff and school administrators as they seek to finish this school year strong while also beginning to plan thoughtfully for the next school year.