

# The Jenney Family

Church Planting In Southern CA

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SHEPHERD'S CALL  
BAPTIST CHURCH

Dear Praying Friends,

Oct 10, 2023

Another summer has come and gone! Church planting can be like the change of seasons. Sometimes it's sunshine and blue skies and other times dark and cold. Through it all, opportunities are available to serve our Lord and Savior as he uses each season for a grand purpose.

In our last prayer letter, I told you about a young man named Angel who had gone through a rehab program for his drug addiction and, after returning home, came back to church. He seemed very determined to come faithfully and even invite some of his family members. We had planned to have lunch together the following Sunday; unfortunately, that was the last Sunday we saw or heard from him. Since then, I have been unable to get a response. Please pray that God will break chains and he will seek a relationship with Jesus!

God gave us many opportunities this summer to witness and invite many to church. With our involvement in the newly formed Cub Scout pack, we have been able to meet people through the activities and fundraising. The Cub Scout leaders attend our church and have been handing out Gospel tracts at fundraising events at our local grocery store. We were also able to use that opportunity to talk with many about our church as well as to see many we have talked to in the past. We pray that soon we will see the fruit of those efforts!

In August, we held our annual Super Saturday VBS when we take four hours to offer fun and Bible lessons for our kids and those in the community. We had a great turnout of 35 kids! As a result, we had a grandmother bring her grandkids to church for a couple weeks. The last Sunday they came, she gave nothing but praise for our services. Unfortunately, like Angel, she has not been back, and I have been unable to contact her. This is something that seems to be a common occurrence and can be very discouraging as I am often left contemplating what I might have done wrong. We are not the only church that experiences this in the area, but being so small, we feel it.

We also had Kenny come back for a while. Though I have been in contact with him, he has at least for the moment decided not to attend. Church was just not coinciding with his lifestyle as is the case with many we meet. We often get visitors we meet hanging out around the Community Center and park partly because it is a bus stop. A large majority of these people are enslaved to devastating substances. Much prayer is needed for the Gospel to overcome where Satan has had a strong foothold.

On a more positive note, we have maintained a solid core that is learning and growing. Please pray we will soon see several baptisms as the next step of obedience.

Our children's ministry is doing well with growth in the hearts of young people with many questions!

We have some that have recently been battling with health issues which have been a great challenge and burden for them, their families and the church. We covet your prayers for this season of our ministry.

Thank you for standing behind us as we continue to strive to grow a church out here in the Southern California desert. As a wise Pastor once told me when we first started, "It is a marathon not a sprint!". We wouldn't want to do this without your prayers and support. You all mean so much to us and we are so very grateful for your love and care!

In His Service,

Stephen, Charity, Judson (9), Samuel (7), Noah (6) and Valiana (4) Jenney