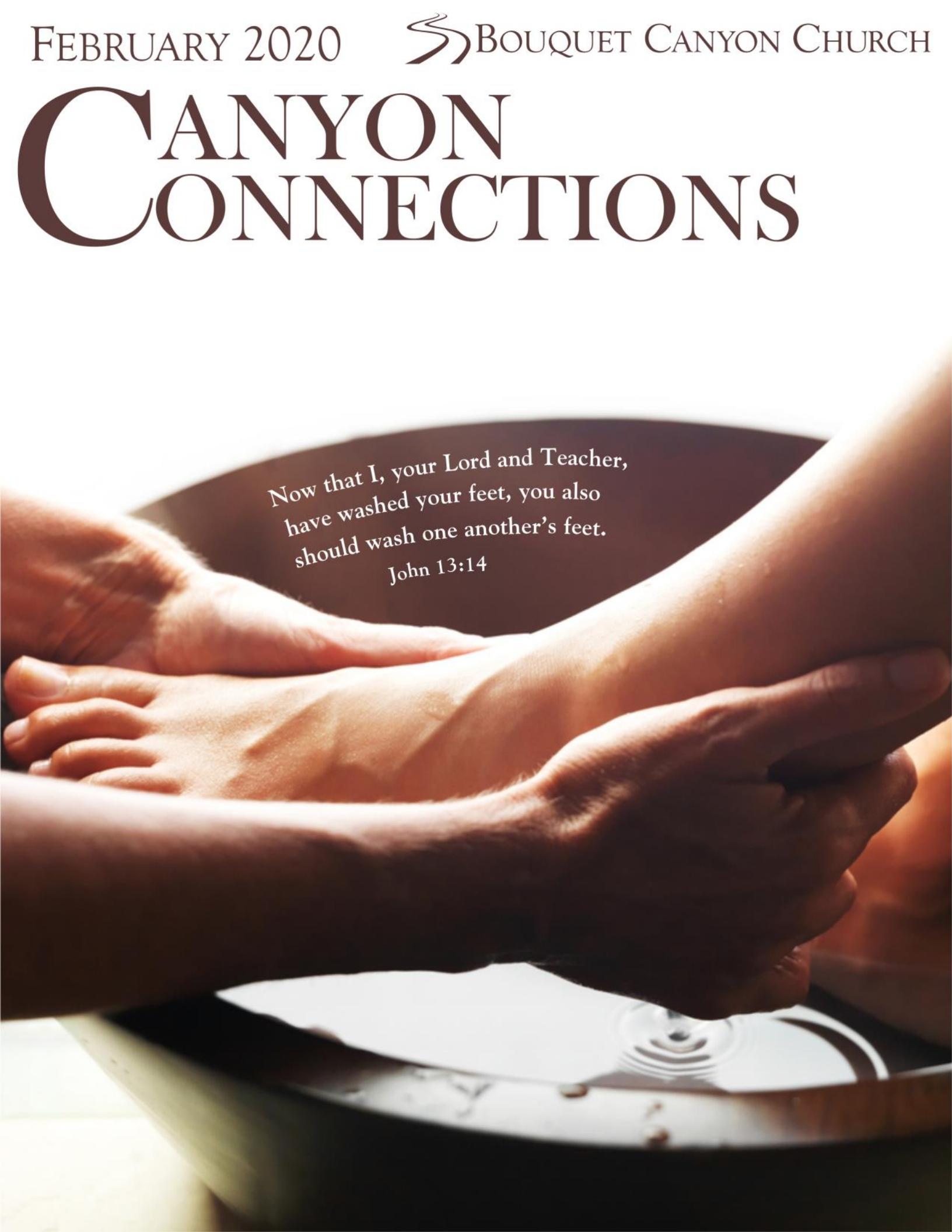


FEBRUARY 2020

BOUQUET CANYON CHURCH

# CANYON CONNECTIONS



Now that I, your Lord and Teacher,  
have washed your feet, you also  
should wash one another's feet.

John 13:14

# Ciao!

by Billy Ford, Pastor (Adapted from an October 2012 article)

The word “ciao”, pronounced like “chow” in English, is used in many nations to say goodbye. But the term has an interesting and unexpected history. It comes from a Venetian term which means “I am your servant”, or more literally, “I am your slave”. In our culture today it usually seems demeaning to even use the word slave, let alone to willingly offer yourself as one. But the idea behind “I am your slave” is very Christian.

First, early Christian leaders saw themselves as slaves of Jesus Christ. Paul begins the book of Romans in this way: “This letter is from Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, chosen by God to be an apostle and sent out to preach his Good News” (Romans 1:1). James, Jude, and 2 Peter begin the same way. The Greek word for slave is *doulos*, which literally means, “one who is bound.” It is sometimes translated as servant or bond-servant. So there is a sense in which we need to see ourselves as servants, even slaves, of the Lord. Does that rub you the wrong way? It should be hard to take. But maybe this will help: Jesus, whom we serve, was willing to become like a slave for us. Consider these words:

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. – Philippians 2:5-8

The word underlined above is that Greek word *doulos* which means slave. The Son of God became a slave for our sake. In John 13 we see Him kneel down and perform the dirty job that was usually reserved for servants, washing the dusty feet of his disciples. Peter was shocked and tried to stop him because it just didn’t seem right. But Jesus insisted and when he was finished said, “Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed

your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet” (John 13:14).

So not only are we servants of the Lord, but we are to be servants of one another as well. Jesus put it bluntly in Matthew 20:26-27: “... Whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave.”



How can we be each other’s servants today? We don’t really need to literally wash each other’s feet since we don’t walk in sandals on dusty roads. But there are other ways to serve one another in challenging and humbling ways. I am so blessed by those who serve in our church in various ministries, but especially those who work hard in behind the scenes roles that aren’t always pleasant. There are dozens in our church who work in the Kids & Teen Ministries so children can grow up in knowledge of the Lord and so their parents can experience worship and teaching without distraction. There are about 30 adults currently serving in the Custodial Ministry, periodically mopping, vacuuming, and cleaning toilets in our church facilities. There are many other examples. Are these types of roles beneath us? No, they are very similar to the feet washing example that the Lord gave us.

Have you found a way to serve the Lord and other Christians yet? Jesus set the example and, regardless of the world’s culture, the church’s culture should be characterized by servanthood. Pray about it. Ciao!



# A New Stage of Life

February 3, 2020

by Rachel Ogg Merrick

On July 16, Albion and I said our vows and started a new stage of life as a married couple. It was a beautiful day. So many friends and family members came together to make sure the venue was decorated and the food was delicious. It was so good to worship together, dance together, and to remember God's design and purpose for marriage. It has been an exciting and stretching

journey learning to adjust to each other's schedules and habits and learning to prefer one another. Christmas break was a great time for Albion to get to know my family, and we had many great conversations and a lot of fun exploring California together.

Now that we are back at the training center, Albion has a few months left of classes before he graduates. I have been privileged to serve on staff in childcare, and it's been so fun to get to know all the sweet kids and their parents. We are so thankful to be surrounded by godly examples here at the training center.

When Albion graduates, we will be taking an advanced Linguistics course together that will go until December. This will be a great opportunity to practice language learning and to acquire the skills required to learn an unwritten language.

I got to attend a ladies retreat this past weekend and was so encouraged by the many truths that were shared. One thing that God challenged me with is to take the opportunities He gives me everyday to serve Him and serve others. My tendency is to allow my fear of failure or my insecurities to hold me back from what He tells me to do. I can also have idols in my life that distract me and pull me away from what He has for me.

Here are some verses that have been especially impactful for me during this time:

Hebrews 12:1-2

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, *let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up.* And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. *We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus,* the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.

John 15:5

"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. *For apart from me you can do nothing.*"

## Annual Giving Statements



You can view your giving statement online, through Realm,  
OR

You can request a printed copy by calling the church office,  
(661) 481-0801 or marking on a response card.

Your statement will then be mailed out to you.

~~~~~

### Do you need help filing your taxes?

**VITA**, the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program provides FREE tax preparation and e-filing for those who qualify. Ask the church office for more details. They have temporary offices locally and are taking appointments now through April 15, on Mondays & Wednesdays, 4 - 7pm.



**Saturday,  
March 14th  
7:00 am—Noon**

We will be accepting donations a few days before the event

Clean those closets, garages and spare rooms!!

**Drop off times:**

Thursday, March 12, 9:00 am—3:00 pm

Friday, March 13, 9:00 am—9:00 pm

**All proceeds from the sale will go towards  
Summer Camp Funds for kids and teens.**

To have money applied to YOUR camp fund, you must come and help any or all of the days listed above (the more you work the more money you'll earn)

# 14 Passages about God's Love

With so much talk about love this month, there is no greater privilege than to focus on the greatest love of all – the love of God. Perhaps the most well-known Bible verse about God's love is John 3:16:

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."*

But there are many more that show us just how much God's loves us. Use the following list as a daily scripture writing exercise, or read the verses and meditate on God's great love for you.

God's love is ...



1. Demonstrated in Jesus – Romans 5:8
2. Abundant – Psalm 103:8
3. Vast – Psalm 36:5-7
4. Unending – Lamentations 3:22-23
5. Dynamic – Zephaniah 3:17
6. Enduring – Psalm 136:26
7. Relational – 1 John 3:1
8. Unshakable – Romans 8:35-39
9. Life-giving – Ephesians 2:4-5
10. Motivating – 1 John 4:7
11. Abiding – 1 John 4:16
12. Valuable – Psalm 63:3
13. Immovable – Isaiah 54:10
14. Unfailing – Psalm 136:1-2

## Women's Retreat

April 24-26, 2020



Save your spot and plan to attend the annual Women's Retreat at Thousand Pines Conference Center in Crestline, CA

**\$100 deposit required, total cost is \$220**  
(scholarships may be available)

**Speaker is Melody Workman, from Sandals Church**

Sign up at the resource table or call the church office at 661-481-0801



# ROOTED

## Winter 2020 SESSION

Registration opens February 2nd

Sessions begin first week of March

Do you believe God has uniquely created you with a purpose and plan? What if you heard God speak and you felt the love of Jesus in a profound way? Imagine yourself in a community of people who cared for you, listened to you and supported you. What if you stepped into the **Rooted** journey and experienced personal transformation? **Rooted** is a catalyst for life change where discussion is held in a small group environment, creating a safe space for biblical exploration and practical learning experiences.

Thousands of people have been taken through **Rooted** and we believe God will continue to use this curriculum as a tool to bring life change and transformation to Bouquet Canyon Church and to the Santa Clarita Valley. **Rooted** is a 10-week journey for people in every life stage, wherever they are on their walk with Christ. The weekly readings teach us what it means to be a disciple of Jesus through an experiential model built on foundational elements of Christianity such as Scripture, prayer, worship, generosity and service.

**ROOTED** provides the opportunity to connect with God, the church community and your purpose in unexpected life-changing ways. This 10-week series is one of the most transformational experiences we have at Bouquet Canyon Church. Whether you have been following Jesus for years, or you are new to the faith, this is the perfect place to jump in!

*Questions or more information, contact*

Kurt McCullum or Pastor David



# February 2020

| Sunday                                                                                                                              | Monday                         | Tuesday                                                               | Wednesday                                                                                                                        | Thursday                             | Friday                           | Saturday                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                     |                                |                                                                       |                                                                                                                                  |                                      |                                  | 1<br>6:30p Harp & Bowl<br>Intercessory Prayer  |
| 2<br>9 & 11a Worship<br>9:30a Teen<br>Sunday School                                                                                 | 3<br>10:20a Prayer<br>Meeting  | 4<br>6:45p<br>Men's Bible Study                                       | 5<br>4:30p<br>Homework Club<br>6:30p<br>Stellar Kids<br>Junior High<br>Adult Studies<br>High School<br>8:30p<br>Young Adult Grp  | 6                                    | 7<br>2p Primetime Life<br>Group  | 8                                              |
|                                                                                                                                     |                                |                                                                       |                                                                                                                                  |                                      | Teens Winter Camp at TP          |                                                |
| 9<br>9 & 11a Worship<br>10:40a 101 Class<br>1p Copperhill Life<br>6:30p Saugus Life<br>Group at Jerry &<br>Carolyn Walker's<br>home | 10<br>10:20a Prayer<br>Meeting | 11<br>8:30a Ladies<br>Connect Group<br><br>6:45p<br>Men's Bible Study | 12<br>4:30p<br>Homework Club<br>6:30p<br>Stellar Kids<br>Junior High<br>Adult Studies<br>High School<br>8:30p<br>Young Adult Grp | 13<br>7p Leadership<br>Board Meeting | 14<br>2p Primetime Life<br>Group | 15<br>6:30p Harp & Bowl<br>Intercessory Prayer |
| 16<br>9 & 11a Worship<br>9:30a Teen<br>Sunday School                                                                                | 17<br>Office Closed<br><br>    | 18<br><br>6:45p<br>Men's Bible Study                                  | 19<br>4:30p<br>Homework Club<br>6:30p<br>Stellar Kids<br>Junior High<br>Adult Studies<br>High School<br>8:30p<br>Young Adult Grp | 20                                   | 21<br>2p Primetime Life<br>Group | 22                                             |
| 23<br>9 & 11a Worship<br>9:30a Teen<br>Sunday School<br>1p Copperhill Life<br>6:30p Saugus Life<br>Group                            | 24<br>10:20a Prayer<br>Meeting | 25<br>8:30a Ladies<br>Connect Group<br><br>6:45p<br>Men's Bible Study | 26<br>4:30p<br>Homework Club<br>6:30p<br>Stellar Kids<br>Junior High<br>Adult Studies<br>High School<br>8:30p<br>Young Adult Grp | 27                                   | 28<br>2p Primetime Life<br>Group | 29<br>7p High School<br>Leap Party             |

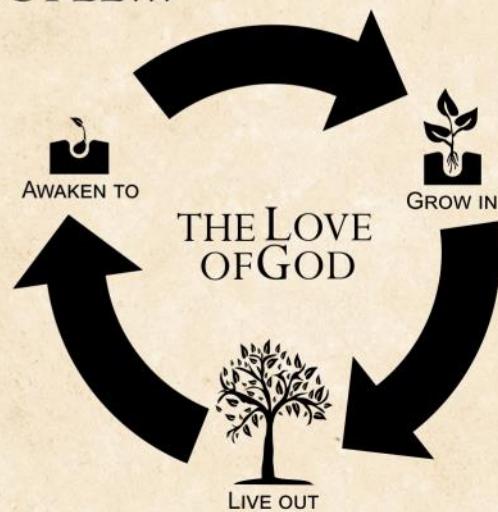
# BOUQUET CANYON CHURCH

27000 Bouquet Canyon Rd.  
Santa Clarita, CA 91350  
Phone: (661) 481-0801

Email: office@bc-church.com  
[www.bouquetcanyonchurch.com](http://www.bouquetcanyonchurch.com)  
Office hours: 9am-3pm weekdays

## OUR PURPOSE AS A CHURCH IS TO DO THREE THINGS REALLY WELL. WE HELP PEOPLE...

AWAKEN TO THE LOVE OF GOD,  
GROW IN THE LOVE OF GOD, AND  
LIVE OUT THE LOVE OF GOD.



## OUR CORE VALUES SUPPORT OUR PURPOSE AND HELP TO MAINTAIN A HEALTHY AND BALANCED MINISTRY.

Guard your heart above all else,  
for it determines the course of your life.  
- Proverbs 4:23

IT IS OUR AIM THAT THE “HEART” OF BCC'S MINISTRY WILL BE CHARACTERIZED BY:

**HARVEST VISION** – We will keep our eyes on the harvest fields, those who don't yet know God in the sphere of influence He has given us (John 4:35).

**EMPOWERED MINISTRY** – In order to be a help and blessing to all people, we will operate by the love of God, consistent prayer, excellent training, and the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:18).

**AUTHENTIC WORSHIP** – We will love and honor God by living lifestyles of genuine worship, faith, and Christ-likeness. We will not simply offer our community a philosophy, but will be a place where people can experience genuine encounters with the true and living God (Matthew 22:37).

**RELATIONAL COMMITMENT** – We will be a dedicated spiritual family, devoted to one another and maintaining a culture of love, grace, and forgiveness (Romans 12:5).

**TRUTHFUL TEACHING** – Devoted to the truth of God's Word in Scripture, we will present it in a way that makes sense and helps people to grow into spiritually mature disciples (1 Timothy 4:13).