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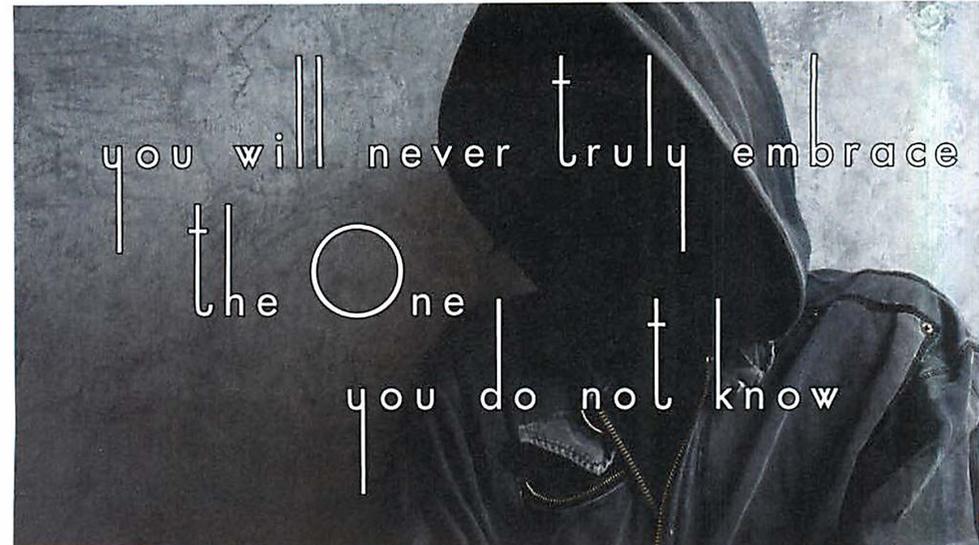
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# d



welcome to long beach alliance church  
august 28, 2016



you will never truly embrace  
the One  
you do not know

Q. Read Romans 12:1-2. How do we live out the will of God for our lives?

Q. Read 2 Peter 1:2-3. What role does knowledge play in our Christian lives?

## The Next 50 Update

LBAC's Facility Renovation Fund



Visit <http://www.lbac.org/our-church/giving>  
for information about giving online, and  
for more detailed giving information!

MEN'S  
RETREAT

**LBAC MEN**

**Hume Lake Men's Retreat**

**October 20-23, 2016**

Contact Mike Comstock  
comstock7@verizon.net  
562.505.8389

Spots are filling up; don't miss out!  
[HUMELAKE.ORG/MENS](http://HUMELAKE.ORG/MENS)



## Growth Groups

Take Your Next Step @ LBAC!

Groups Begin Meeting

Week of September 12-16!

Come to the Sign-Up Table  
Located in the Courtyard  
For more info. today!!



## LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report

| Budget         | Required     | Received                 | % of Budget |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Weekly:        | \$11,766.37  | \$8,681.53               | 73.7%       |
| Month-to-Date: | \$35,299.11  | \$31,318.71              | 88.7%       |
| Year-to-Date:  | \$611,851.24 | \$591,133.66             | 96.6%       |
| Disbursed YTD: | \$569,025.27 | GOF Balance: \$22,108.39 |             |

# LBAC • Church Family Calendar & Events

## Sunday, August 28

- 10:00AM Worship Celebration
- 12:30PM Building Committee Meeting
- 6:00PM Perspectives

## Monday, August 29

- 6:00PM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous

## Friday, September 2

- 8:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

**FALL KICKOFF  
TWO SERVICES  
9:00AM  
& 10:45AM**

## Sunday, September 4

- 9:00AM Worship Celebration 1
- 9:00AM Youth Equipping Class
- 10:45AM Worship Celebration 2
- 10:45AM Adult Equipping Class
- 6:00PM Perspectives

### MISSIONS

<http://www.lbac.org/ministries/missions>

Join us for Perspectives & Serving the World!

### GROWTH GROUPS

<http://www.lbac.org/ministries/growth-groups>

Mid-week Bible Studies for all Adults

Meeting From September – June

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/ministries/childrens-ministries>

Summer Sunday Mornings @ 10:00AM

All-Kids VBS, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Hume Lake!

### AWANA

<http://www.lbac.org/ministries/childrens-ministries/awana>

Meeting From September – June

Wednesday Nights For Kids Through High School

### YOUTH MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/ministries/student-ministries>

All-Youth Equipping Hour ~ September–June

All-Youth Mid-Week ~ Tuesday's @ 7:00PM

### WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/ministries/womens-ministries>

Woman To Woman Mentoring

Contact: sherylynnelbac@gmail.com

Lydia House Meals Ministry

Contact: robbi@apabrandu.com

Women Connecting with Missions

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month @ 7:00PM

Crafty Women

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month @ 10:00AM

### MEN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/ministries/mens-ministries>

Contact: mensministry@lbac.org

Weekly Schedule

Regular Ministry Schedule & Contacts



**THE  
ALLIANCE**

## long beach alliance church offices

3331 palo verde avenue · long beach, ca · 90808-4113  
phone: 562.420.1478 · office@lbac.org · www.lbac.org  
www.facebook.com/longbeachalliancechurch  
church office hours: tuesday-friday, 12NOON-5:00PM

### church staff team

michelle crammer, office manager  
ext. 1000 • michelle@lbac.org

kelly douglas, international worker in training  
ext. 1000 • kelly@lbac.org

jesse duckett, youth pastor  
ext. 1005 • jesse@lbac.org

chris lankford, lead pastor  
ext. 1001 • chris@lbac.org

tina rand, treasurer  
ext. 1006 • tina@lbac.org

matt swaney, family ministry pastor  
ext. 1003 • matt@lbac.org

scott trickett, associate pastor  
ext. 1002 • scott@lbac.org



Long Beach Alliance Church  
August 28, 2016  
Pastor Chris Lankford



# Breaking

# Bad

**but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant...**  
(Philippians 2:4-7)

**“Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,**

## 1) Easily Identifiable Sins

- A) The central concept of “Breaking Bad” is that each one of us have bad things which threaten to distract and (even) dominate our Christian lives.
  
- B) Sometimes these bad things are overtly sinful. For example, whether cheating on a test at school or your taxes next April, cheating is clearly sinful.
  
- C) Sin is relatively easy to overcome. We often attach slogans to sin-conquering efforts (cheaters never prosper). For most, conquering cheating is achieved through immediate justice (authorities in a classroom/playground, family, or courtroom). And of course, God hates a cheater (Proverbs 11:1-10).

## 2) The Temptation To Self-Medicate

- A) But sometimes bad things don't start there. Some things develop over time, and can become sin for us (individually) through overabundance. These sins are less obvious because they take something God meant for good and twist its purpose.
  
- B) For example, most of us deal with difficult past experiences (pain), anxieties, or stress. If we deal with these things by self-medicating (using something to numb the struggle), something meant for good can end up becoming bad.

- C) **Self-medication meets legitimate needs in illegitimate ways. It really doesn't matter how someone self-medicates (food, sex, TV, exercise, etc.) because self-medications are symptoms of deeper pain/needs which have replaced God's good provision.**
  
- D) **Self-medicating is much more difficult to identify/understand than overt sin. For example, it is relatively easy to tell teenagers and Singles that sex outside of marriage is sinful (Deuteronomy 22:13-28, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 18-20, 2 Corinthians 12:21, Galatians 5:19-21, Hebrews 13:4, 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5).**
  
- E) **Often though, teens and Singles use sex as a self-medicating method, a way of numbing devastating pain, crippling anxieties, or overwhelming stress. The outward sin is a symptom of legitimate needs being met in illegitimate ways. It might sound odd, but sin is a gracious alert of deeper issues (Mark 7:21-23).**

### ***3) All Bad Things Must Come To An End***

- A) **So do we tolerate sin, because it's not really a problem? Ha! BY NO MEANS (Romans 6:2)! We are, and will always be, a family of blood-saved-Christ-chosen-followers who embrace a Gospel of confession, repentance, and restoration (Galatians 2:20).**
  
- B) **But we also do not "eat up our own" because of sin struggles. Our church is not distinguished as a place absent of real struggle, but as a place where sin is broken by confession, repentance, and people are restored by the Gospel of Christ (James 5:16-20).**
  
- B) **The Gospel Breaks all Bad things, not by obsessing over sin, but in the power of Gospel indirection. Indirection means Breaking Bad by filling our lives with the good things of Jesus' Gospel, His great provision (1 Corinthians 10:13).**