

## LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

### Sunday, April 22

9:00AM Morning Coffee  
9:30AM Worship & Celebration Service  
11:15AM Foundation Hour

### MISSIONS

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

### GROWTH GROUPS

<http://www.lbac.org/gg>

Mid-week Bible Studies for all Adults

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/children>

### Sunday Mornings

Gospel Project @ 9:30AM  
Fun-N-Funky Hour @ 11:15AM

### AWANA

<http://www.lbac.org/awana>

Wednesdays through May 6:30PM-8:30PM

### YOUTH MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/youth>

JH & HS Foundations - Sundays @ 11:15AM

HS Core Groups - Tuesdays @ 7:00PM

JH Core Groups - Thursdays @ 7:00PM

### WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/women>

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/men>

Contact: mensministry@lbac.org

### Monday, April 23

6:00PM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous

### Tuesday, April 24

7:00PM Elder Board Meeting  
7:00PM Youth Group- High School

### Wednesday, April 25

6:30PM AWANA

### Thursday, April 26

7:00PM Youth Group-Junior High

### Friday, April 27

6:30AM Men's Bible Study  
8:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

### Saturday, April 28

9:00AM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous

### Sunday, April 29

9:00AM Morning Coffee  
9:30AM Worship & Celebration Service  
11:15AM Foundation Hour

## long beach alliance church offices

3331 palo verde avenue • long beach, ca • 90808-4113  
phone: 562.420.1478 • [office@lbac.org](mailto:office@lbac.org) • [www.lbac.org](http://www.lbac.org)  
[www.facebook.com/longbeachalliancechurch](http://www.facebook.com/longbeachalliancechurch)  
church office hours: tuesday-thursday, 10:00AM-5:00PM

### church staff team

michelle crammer, office manager  
ext. 1004 • [michelle@lbac.org](mailto:michelle@lbac.org)

chris lankford, lead pastor  
ext. 1001 • [chris@lbac.org](mailto:chris@lbac.org)

ben shaw, worship & celebration intern  
[ben@lbac.org](mailto:ben@lbac.org)

scott trickett, associate pastor  
ext. 1002 • [scott@lbac.org](mailto:scott@lbac.org)

jesse duckett, youth pastor  
ext. 1005 • [jesse@lbac.org](mailto:jesse@lbac.org)

tina rand, receptionist & treasurer  
exts. 1000 & 1006 • [tina@lbac.org](mailto:tina@lbac.org)

matt swaney, family ministry pastor  
ext. 1003 • [matt@lbac.org](mailto:matt@lbac.org)

Regular Ministry Schedule & Contacts

# The Road Less Traveled

Welcome to Long Beach Alliance Church • April 22, 2018



THE  
ALLIANCE

Weekly Schedule



welcome to long beach alliance church  
a community of Jesus followers who  
love God, love others, & serve the world

## LBAC WOMEN

Buy your tickets in the Courtyard today!

may  
12  
2018

11:00AM  
to  
1:30PM



## TEA AT TIFFANY'S

Do you want  
to host a  
table?

Contact  
Meghan  
562.708.9261

## Gary May Charity Golf Tournament

Friday, May 4 • 1:00PM - 9:00PM  
Recreation Park 18-Hole Golf Course  
5001 Deukmejian Drive, Long Beach, CA

### Golf • Dinner • Silent Auction

Golf Registration @ 11:00AM • Shotgun Start @ 1:00PM  
Banquet Begins @ 6:00PM  
(\$40 to attend the Banquet only)

**SIGN UP FOR THE BANQUET IN THE COURTYARD TODAY!**

To register for the tournament or banquet only  
you can also visit [GaryMayGolf.com](http://GaryMayGolf.com)

## FOUNDATIONS CLASSES TODAY at 11:15AM

### Lessons from the Master

Facilitator: John Carriveau  
Located: Room 102

In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus teaches his disciples about the kingdom of God, using parables. He then shows them (and us) how to interpret them.

### Praying

Facilitators: Vince Palacios and Team  
Located: Room 106

Continuing our conversation with God, we will be meeting each week to pray and seek God's care and direction for all of our world and the ministry of the gospel.

### Q Class

Facilitator: Dawn and Scott Trickett  
Located: Room 203

We will examine several contemporary aspects of life using video talks from the "Q" organization, and then discuss the subject using helpful tools and insights to help us share our faith in the world today.

### Childcare & Kids Fun-n-Funky Hour!

Nursery thru Pre-K Contact: [matt@lbac.org](mailto:matt@lbac.org)  
Location: Gym

Fun activities and games for the kids while parents participate in class.

## LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report

<u>Budget</u>	<u>Required</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget %</u>
Weekly:	\$12,041.97	\$10,792.73	89.6%
Month-to-Date:	\$36,125.91	\$40,702.69	112.7%
Year-to-Date:	\$397,385.01	\$390,470.99	98.3%
Disbursed YTD: \$379,718.00 GOF Balance: \$10,752.99			

# Soul Warping Anxiety

Long Beach Alliance Church • April 22, 2018 • Pastor Chris Lankford

## 1) Good Samaritans AND Good Mary's?!

(Luke 10:29-37, 10:38-42)

**The 'Good Samaritan' teaches that Christ followers prioritize actively displaying mercy in fulfillment of 'loving your neighbor' (Luke 10:27b). In like manner, "Mary & Martha" teaches that Christ followers prioritize active listening to Jesus in fulfillment of 'loving the Lord your God... heart, soul, and mind' (Luke 10:27a).**

## 2) Anxiety Warps Good Worship

(Luke 10:38-42; John 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35)

**Martha's anxiety/distraction exposed her priority of worldly concerns and also reveal our own best-intentioned heart-idols, the seemingly 'good things' stealing our listening and worship from God. Questioning another's devotion to Christ should be a warning of a warping soul.**

## 3) God's Soul Bending & Mending

(Romans 12:1-3; 1 Corinthians 5:17-21)

**The 'Good Samaritan' and 'Mary & Martha' stories are not black & white moralistic stories. Rather, these stories reveal a mutual necessity of both '100% heart transformation & 100% hand transformation,' the metamorphosis of our minds and actions as Kingdom ambassadors. Undivided devotion to Christ is to the heart (soul) what undivided mercy is from the hand (body).**



# Growth Group Guide

## The Road Less Traveled

Week #3

Soul Warping Anxiety

Luke 10:38-42

### Ice Breaker

- Would you rather host a dinner party or be a guest at someone else's? Why?

### In-Depth

- Read Luke 10:38-42
- Discuss what you learned from this week's sermon

1. Mary sat at the Lord's feet and listened

1A. What is the relationship between loving God and listening to Jesus? (See John 14:23-24)

1B. Read Luke 6:46-49, Luke 8:15, John 17:8, 1 Thessalonians 2:13. How does scripture describe true disciples of Jesus?

1C. What did Jesus mean when he said, "Mary has chosen the good portion?" (Luke 10:42)

2. **But Martha was distracted with much serving**

2A. Hospitality is a Biblical principle (e.g. Romans 12:13; Hebrews 13:2). Do you sympathize with Martha? What was she doing wrong?

2B. Read Matthew 7:21-23; Luke 8:14. What are the dangers of focusing on the wrong things?

## Making It Relevant

1. Does this passage mean we should all sit in the worship service and leave the nursery unattended?

2. If we only have a little spare time, should we use it to go to a Bible Study or to serve others?

3. Is it possible to spend too much time in God's word?

4. Which is more important: Understanding God's word, serving others, or spreading the gospel?

4A. Which of these is God calling you to prioritize more of your time?

5. God tells us to listen and do. Sometimes we listen, but don't do. Other times we do without first listening. Which is a bigger problem for you?

6. Martha suffered from "the tyranny of the urgent," giving priority to what is urgent over what is most important. Do you? How can we overcome it?

# CALL TO *Prayer*

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APRIL 2018

## Texting with Jesus

BY AN ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL WORKER  
SERVING IN THE NORTH AND CENTRAL ASIA  
REGION

Too late? Or just in time? To be honest, we sometimes have a hard time knowing which it is in our work with north and central Asian migrants.

Take this past week with Jesus. (No, not *that* Jesus!) He's a young migrant I met at the market whose name in his language translates to "Jesus"—a pretty rare moniker in the majority faith he practices.

During our initial conversation I concluded that Jesus wasn't a believer, since he referred to Him as a prophet. We exchanged numbers, and I hoped to follow up, using his name as an open door to talk about the Savior.

Well, two days later Jesus texted me. (You don't get to write that sentence every day!) He had lost his job and housing and was living outdoors. And he hadn't eaten in two days. The temperature here was hovering at 0 degrees Fahrenheit.

I was in the middle of a meeting when I got the text, but I agreed to

meet Jesus two hours later to provide him some food and discuss options—and hopefully talk about *our* Jesus!

He texted that he was excited that I would meet him and said he'd try to sleep and forget about his hunger for a bit while he waited.

But before I got to meet up with Jesus, a contact of his from outside the city invited him to stay at his apartment. So Jesus hopped on a bus and was gone.

He texted me a final "thank you" but added a line that was overwhelmingly sad to me: "I have Allah."

I felt in that moment that I was just a little too late. So I replied with all that I knew to say in that moment, "Don't forget your name! Jesus loves you so much."

Perhaps from God's perspective, He arranged my meeting this young man just in time to inject our Savior's name into his life during a moment of crisis.

Please pray that the name of Jesus will continue to ring in my new friend's ears and that he will be granted the grace to seek and find our Savior.

## "I Have My Life Back!"

BY WENDY HOFMAN, MD, AN  
OPHTHALMOLOGIST AT BONGOLO HOSPITAL,  
A MINISTRY OF THE ALLIANCE IN GABON

When Emmanuel arrived at Bongolo Hospital's eye clinic recently, he was unable to see—except to differentiate between light and dark. His wife had to lead him everywhere, and his friends had abandoned him; others mocked him.

Emmanuel had visited several medical providers in Gabon's capital city. Since no one could offer treatment, his family had tried to get him to see the local witchdoctor.

Emmanuel had heard about our eye clinic and insisted he wanted treatment here. We currently perform about 70 percent of all cataract surgeries in Gabon.

When his eye patch was removed after surgery, Emmanuel shouted for joy—he could see again. He also made a first-time decision to ask Jesus into his life.

When I asked him why he chose to follow Christ, Emmanuel replied, "I didn't know that I could ever see again—I have my life back!"

In 2017, more than 40,000 patients were seen and 1,500 surgeries performed at Bongolo Hospital. On average, more than 100 come to Christ each month as a result of this life-giving ministry. Pray for the hospital's ongoing ministry and for Emmanuel to grow in faith.

## "Ask What Ye Will"

*The following is an adapted excerpt from "The Authority of the Intercessor," by pioneer Alliance missionary John A. MacMillan, published in The Alliance Weekly, May 23, 1936.*

"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7, KJV).

Note carefully the significance of the statement, "Ye shall ask what YE will." How many believers content themselves with a submissive uttering of the words, "Thy will be done" in all matters which they bring before the Lord? Their spirits assume a passive attitude that accepts anything that comes to them as the will of the Father.

This is not scriptural, and it is very far from the desire of God for His children. The Holy Spirit teaches a hearty cooperation rather than mere resignation; an active entering into God's plan instead of a vague yielding to circumstances; a definite claiming and appropriating of the promises which are set before us in the Word, as being the expression of the Father's will for His children.

We are to positively will the will of God; to seek it out as He has revealed it; and to maintain our place of quiet assurance before Him until it has been fully accomplished.

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Thank you for praying for Alliance workers and for the people with whom they share the gospel. To receive The Alliance Call to Prayer and weekly Alliance Prayer Requests via e-mail, subscribe at [www.cmalliance.org/pray](http://www.cmalliance.org/pray). Alliance Ministries are supported by gifts to the Great Commission Fund and the CAMA Advance Fund.



THEALLIANCE

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