

# LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

## Sunday, April 28

9:00AM Morning Coffee  
9:30AM Worship & Celebration  
12:15PM Deacon Meeting

## Monday, April 29

6:00PM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous  
7:00PM Pure Desire  
7:00PM Survivors of Incest Anonymous

## Tuesday, April 30

7:00PM The Process \* High School

## Wednesday, May 1

6:30PM AWANA

## Thursday, May 2

7:00PM Junior High \* Live

## Friday, May 3

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

## Saturday, May 4

9:00AM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous

## Sunday, May 5

9:00AM Morning Coffee  
9:30AM Worship & Celebration  
11:00AM Third Way Community Launch  
4:00PM Health Talk

### 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

### AWANA

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

Wednesday Nights through May

### YOUTH MINISTRIES

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

The Process High School ~ Tuesdays @ 7:00PM

Junior High Live ~ Thursdays @ 7:00PM

### WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

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

Woman To Woman Mentoring

Contact: sherylnnelbac@gmail.com

Lydia House Meals Ministry

Contact: mcoliver789@msn.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

Weekly Schedule

Regular Ministry Schedule & Contacts

## long beach alliance church offices

3331 palo verde avenue • long beach, ca • 90808-4113

phone: 562.420.1478 • office@lbac.org • www.lbac.org

church office hours: tuesday-thursday, 10:00AM-5:00PM

[www.facebook.com/longbeachalliancechurch](http://www.facebook.com/longbeachalliancechurch)

## church staff team

meghan brearley, children's director  
562.708.9261 • meghan@lbac.org

jesse duckett, youth pastor  
562.454.7122 • jesse@lbac.org

tina rand, receptionist & treasurer  
562.420.1478 • tina@lbac.org

scott trickett, associate pastor  
562.972.5306 • scott@lbac.org

michelle crammer, office manager  
917.288.3424 • michelle@lbac.org

chris lankford, lead pastor  
562.685.4132 • chris@lbac.org

kyle rand, facility needs  
562.900.0921 • kyle@lbac.org

ben shaw, worship & celebration intern  
562.420.1478 • ben@lbac.org



THE  
ALLIANCE

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

WELCOME TO LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH

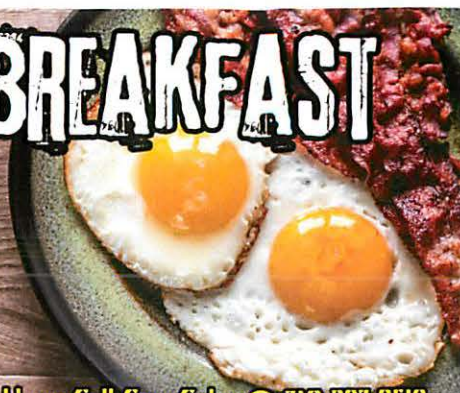
APRIL 28, 2019



# FREE MEN'S BREAKFAST

**SATURDAY, MAY 11**  
**8:00 AM CHURCH LOBBY**

Got Questions? Visit the Men's Courtyard Table or Call Greg Coles @ 310.293.9518



## Health Talk

### Food for Thought

"Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food."  
-Hippocrates

Share experience, resources, and support for living a healthier lifestyle.

Come learn how to make gluten & dairy free sourdough bread!  
Bring your recipes and samples if you have any.  
Join us Sunday, May 5, 4PM-5:30PM, Room 106

RSVP is welcome Contact: Dawn Trickett ditrickett@icloud.com



# POWER UP VBS 2019

**July 8-12**

QUESTIONS?

[meghan@lbac.org](mailto:meghan@lbac.org)

562.708.9261

[www.lbac.org/vbs](http://www.lbac.org/vbs)

**REGISTER TODAY!!!**

LBAC Women's Ministry presents...



## Jolly Holiday Tea

**MAY 11 2019**

11:00AM to 1:30PM

Long Beach Alliance Church

Who: High School Seniors and Up

Tickets on Sale: April 28 and May 5

*Ticket Price: \$14*

If you're interested in hosting a table or have any questions

Contact: Meghan Brearley, [meghan@lbac.org](mailto:meghan@lbac.org), Phone: 562.708.9261

## LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget %</u>
Weekly:	\$11,977.03	\$18,453.53	154.1%
Month-to-Date:	\$35,931.09	\$42,613.80	118.6%
Year-to-Date:	\$407,219.02	\$439,764.13	108.0%
Disbursed YTD:	\$406,132.00	GOF Balance: \$33,632.13	



# Spiritual Formation

LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH . APRIL 28, 2019 . PASTOR CHRIS LANKFORD

## 1) *A Gospel Crisis of Freedom vs. Submission*

- A. FROM THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN EXISTENCE, THERE HAS BEEN A BATTLE BETWEEN MANKIND'S DESIRE FOR FREEDOM FROM GOD VS. OUR SUBMISSION TO GOD'S DESIGN THAT WE REFLECT AND BEAR HIS IMAGE, AS CHILDREN OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER.
- B. GENERALLY SPEAKING, MANKIND CRIES OUT TO GOD AND ASKS FOR HELP DURING TIMES OF CRISIS, BEGGING GOD FOR HIS FAVOR IN PROVIDING FREEDOM/RELEASE FROM A VARIETY OF NEGATIVE (SOMETIMES HORRIFIC) CIRCUMSTANCES INCLUDING ENEMIES, FAMINE, ADDICTIONS, FAMILY PAIN, ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, SLAVERY, ETC.
- C. HOWEVER, WHEN GOD DELIVERS PEOPLE FROM TROUBLE, THEIR FAITHFULNESS TO SUBMIT TO GOD'S DESIGN IS USUALLY VERY SHORT-LIVED. STRANGELY, WHEN GOD DIRECTLY INTERVENES FOR PEOPLE IN HISTORY, THEY BECOME LESS FAITHFUL.
- D. SUBMISSION TO GOD IS OFTEN GREATEST WHEN HARDSHIP IS MOST INTENSE. SADLY, TIMES OF GREAT PERSONAL COMFORT AND FREEDOM OFTEN LEAD TO REBELLION, PASSIVITY, AND APATHY IN RESPONSE TO SUBMITTING TO GOD. THIS SO-CALLED FREEDOM FROM GOD LEADS MANKIND BACK INTO TROUBLE, AND BACK TO CRYING OUT FOR DELIVERANCE FROM GOD. THIS CYCLE SEEMS TO NEVER-END!
- E. HOW DOES GOD KEEP ENOUGH DISTANCE FROM MANKIND SO AS TO NOT TRIGGER OUR REBELLIOUS THIRST FOR INDEPENDENCE, WHILE STILL REMAINING CLOSE ENOUGH TO PROVIDE A WAY TO LIVE AS GOD THE FATHER'S IMAGE-REFLECTING CHILDREN? THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION IS THE HOLINESS OF GOD.

## 2) *The Holiness of God*

- A. "HOLY" MEANS THAT SOMETHING OR SOMEONE IS "SET APART FROM ITS REGULAR USE OR PURPOSE FOR THE EXCLUSIVE PURPOSE OR USE OF GOD." I PREFER TO THINK OF HOLINESS AS "SET APART FROM THE WORLD FOR GOD'S GOOD PURPOSES."
- B. THERE ARE A FEW KEY WORDS IN THE BIBLE WHICH DESCRIBE "HOLINESS," "PERFECT," "PURE/PURITY," "COMPLETE," "SEPARATED/CUT OFF," "SANCTIFY/SANCTIFICATION," AND AT TIMES, "GLORY." THESE ARE ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF HOLINESS, AND BECAUSE HOLINESS IS AN IMPORTANT CONCEPT IN THE BIBLE, I KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THESE WORDS.

- C. GOD DESCRIBES HIMSELF AS COMPLETELY HOLY (LEVITICUS 11:44-45). IN OTHER WORDS, GOD IS COMPLETELY OTHER-THAN THIS WORLD. HE IS SEPARATE FROM THE WORLD, BEYOND IT, AND ALL HIS WAYS ARE HOLY (ISAIAH 55:8-9).
- D. GOD'S HOLINESS IS PROBABLY GOOD NEWS FOR MOST OF US. WHO WANTS TO FOLLOW AN IMPERFECT GOD? WHY BOTHER? RATHER, GOD IS THE ONE WHO KNOWS THE BEGINNING FROM THE END, AND WHO ALWAYS COMPLETES HIS PURPOSES IN PERFECTION AND IN HOLINESS (ISAIAH 46:10).
- E. BUT GOD'S HOLINESS IS ALSO BAD NEWS FOR ALL OF US. GOD EXPECTS THAT WE ARE HOLY, REFLECTING HIS PERFECT CHARACTER (MATTHEW 5:48) AND LIVING HOLY LIVES (1 PETER 1:16). WE HAVE TO BE HOLY BECAUSE GOD IS HOLY (LEVITICUS 20:7, 26, 1 PETER 1:13-16). BUT HOW?

### 3) *God's Gift of Holiness*

- A. THE GOOD NEWS OF THE BIBLE IS THAT GOD PROVIDES WHAT WE NEED. WHILE HE EXPECTS US TO BE PERFECT AND HOLY, HE ALSO KNOWS WE CANNOT ACCOMPLISH HOLINESS ON OUR OWN. THIS IS WHY GOD SENT JESUS CHRIST TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST (LUKE 19:10), WASHING US WHITE AS SNOW (ISAIAH 1:18).
- B. THROUGH JESUS, WE ARE MADE COMPLETELY CLEAN, HOLY, AND PURE. GOD'S (HOLY) SPIRIT WASHES US CLEAN (TITUS 3:5), REGENERATING US AND SEALING US FOR THE DAY OF REDEMPTION (EPHESIANS 1:13-14, 4:30).
- C. EVEN THE MOST CLUELESS AND CARNAL FOLLOWERS OF GOD IN THE BIBLE (THE CORINTHIAN CHURCH), WERE CALLED "HOLY ONES" OR "SAINTS" (1 CORINTHIANS 1:2, 2 CORINTHIANS 1:1). IN THIS SENSE, WE ARE MADE HOLY, SIMPLY AS PART OF OUR IDENTITY IN JESUS CHRIST (1 CORINTHIANS 6:11).
- D. OUR SECURITY IN CHRIST IS COMPLETE, AND PRODUCES THE GOOD FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES AS PART OF OUR IDENTITY (GALATIANS 5:23-24). EVEN THOUGH WE ARE STILL "IN PROCESS," GOD SEES US IN CHRIST AS COMPLETELY HOLY (SANCTIFIED) PEOPLE, WELCOMED IN HIS PRESENCE (HEBREWS 10:19-25). THIS IS OUR "POSITIONAL SANCTIFICATION," OUR POSITION IN CHRIST (GALATIANS 2:20).
- E. BUT WE KNOW THERE IS MORE! OUR JOURNEY IS NOT COMPLETE, BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT PROMISES TO COMPLETE THE WORK HE HAS STARTED (PHILIPPIANS 1:6). THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING OF OUR PROGRESS TOWARD BECOMING MORE LIKE JESUS CHRIST (ROMANS 12:1-2). THIS IS THE EXCITING JOURNEY OF OUR SPIRITUAL FORMATION AT WORK THROUGH THE REST OF OUR LIVES!

# Growth Group Guide

## Spiritual Formation

WEEK #1 . SANCTIFICATION

### Ice Breaker

What entertaining or interesting thing did you do during the Growth Group break?

### In-Depth

- **Discuss what you learned from this week's sermon**

#### 1. Holiness

A. Read Revelation 4:8. Define "holy" in your own words. In what ways is God "Holy, holy, holy?"

B. Read Genesis 2:3; Exodus 3:5; Exodus 19:6; Exodus 28:2; Exodus 28:38; Exodus 29:37; Exodus 30:31-32. What does it mean that these things are holy? How did these ordinary things become holy?

#### 2. Sanctification

A. Sanctification is an intimidating looking word. What does it mean?

B. Read 1 Corinthians 1:2; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Romans 3:21-22; 2 Corinthians 5:21. In one sense, we are already sanctified. How is this possible?



C. What are the implications of this “positional sanctification?” (Read Romans 6:14,17-18; Galatians 5:16-18)

D. Read Romans 6:19; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Hebrews 12:1; 1 Peter 1:14-16. These (and many other) verses say we are not yet sanctified. How does this “progressive sanctification” differ from what we discussed above?

E. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:23; 1 Corinthians 15:49; Revelation 21:27. When is our sanctification complete?

## *Making it Relevant*

1. Meditate on God’s holiness. How does an appreciation for His holiness inspire you? Convict you?
2. We are sanctified saints. How does this knowledge affect your spiritual life?
3. 1 Peter 1:16 says, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” How’s that working out for you? What are some challenges you face in being holy?