

# LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

## Sunday, March 1

- 9:00AM Morning Coffee
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration
- 11:15AM Foundations Class: Session 4: Week 2
- 4:00PM Health Talk
- 7:00PM Golf Tournament Committee Meeting

## MISSIONS

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

## GROWTH GROUPS

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

Mid-week Adult Bible Studies

## Monday, March 2

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

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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

Sunday Mornings: Gospel Project @ 9:30AM

Fun N Funky @ 11:15AM

## Tuesday, March 3

- 10:00AM All Staff Team Meeting
- 6:00PM The Process – Student Leader Mtg.
- 7:00PM The Process – High School

## AWANA

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

Wednesday Nights September through May

## YOUTH MINISTRIES

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

## Wednesday, March 4

- 6:30PM AWANA

The Process High School– Tuesdays @ 7:00PM

Junior High Live – Thursdays @ 7:00PM

## Thursday, March 5

- 7:00PM Junior High Live

## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

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

Women's Ministry Event Information

Contact: deya@charter.net

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

## Sunday, March 8

- 9:00AM Morning Coffee
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration
- 11:15AM Foundations Class: Session 4: Week 3
- 12:45PM Youth Leaders' Meeting

## MEN'S MINISTRIES

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

Contact: mensministry@lbac.org

## 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 • megan@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

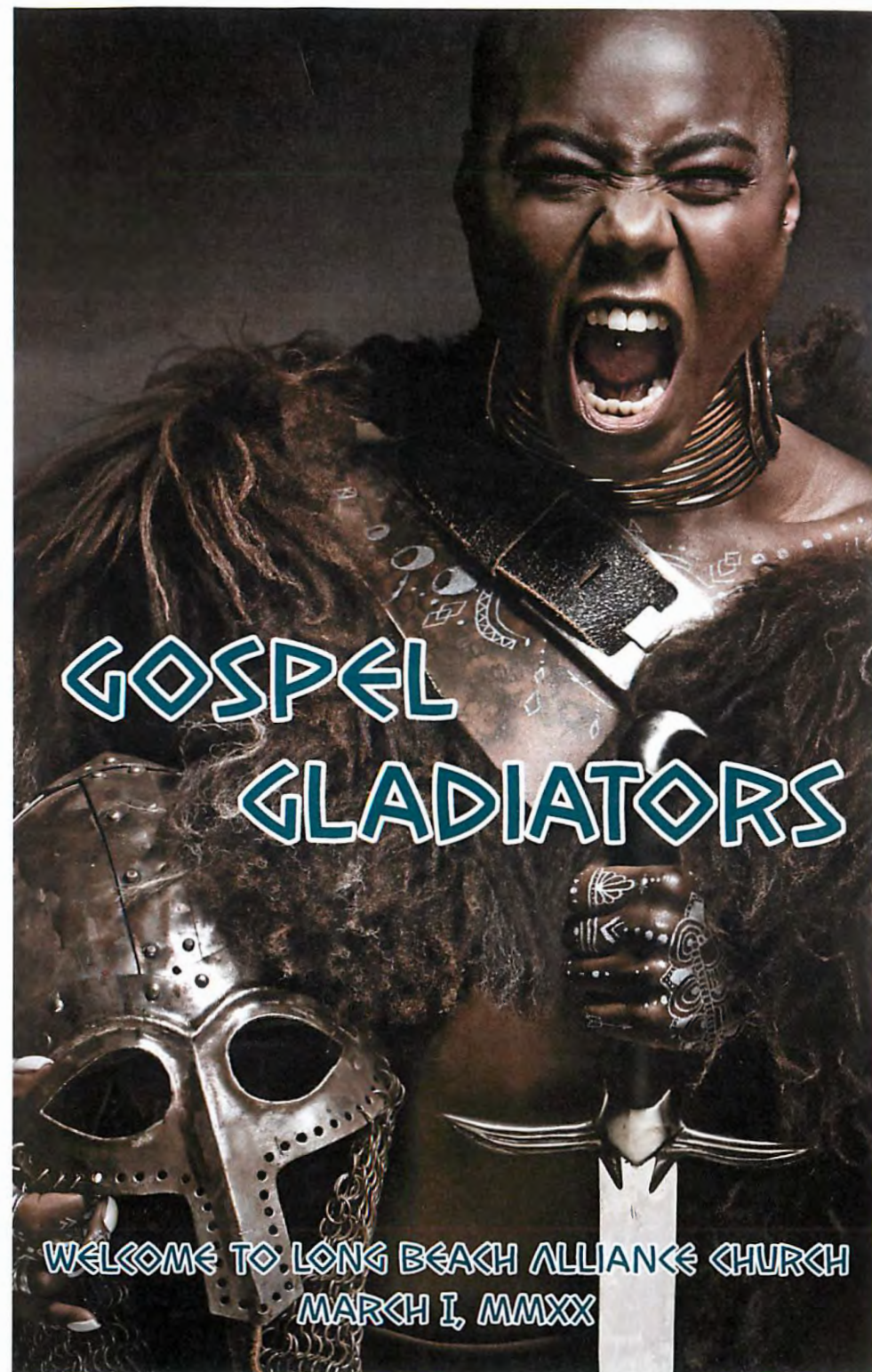
ben shaw, worship & celebration intern  
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THE  
ALLIANCE

Weekly Schedule

Regular Ministry Schedule & Contacts



WELCOME TO LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH  
MARCH 1, MMXX





**DON'T FORGET!**

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS**

**SPRING FORWARD**

**NEXT SUNDAY!**

## **FOUNDATIONS CLASSES**

### **Mental Health & the Church**

A look at different ways the church can support people with mental illness.

Kou John Yang, Room 203

### **Missions: Here, There & Everywhere**

A look at missions from the local work we are involved in to the work being done at the end of the earth through CMA.

Pastor Scott Trickett & Others, Room 102

### **Fun N Funky**

Nursery & Kids' Activities for all ages!

Parents Check-in Kids at Nursery & Gymnasium

## **Youth Only Foundations Class!**

### **View From 30,000 Feet**

Take a step back from smaller passages to examine entire books and letters in a single setting, to pick up on some of the overall themes and messages in the Bible.

Pastor Jesse Duckett, Room 202

For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

*John 6:33,35*



## **Men's Breakfast**

**FREE CHILDCARE PROVIDED!**

**Saturday, March 14  
8:00AM**

**LBAC Gymnasium**

Got Questions? Call Greg Coles @ 310.293.9518



Please join us...

## **Crafty Women**

**Saturday, March 14  
10AM-4PM - Room 102**

Questions? Contact Donna Neel

Text: 562.335.9088 Email: donna@neel.com

## **LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget %</u>
Weekly:	\$12,715.40	\$11,966.00	94.1%
Month-to-Date:	\$50,861.60	\$52,131.56	102.5%
Year-to-Date:	\$330,600.40	\$323,573.97	97.9%
Disbursed YTD:	\$306,763.56	GF Balance: \$16,810.41	





# GOSPEL GLADIATORS

"CAN YOU OUT-SIN GOD'S LOVE?"

LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH • MARCH 1, MMXX • ROMANS VIII:XXXI-XXXIX • PASTOR CHRIS LANKFORD

## I) IS GOD TELLING ME A SECRET CODE SO I CAN FIGURE OUT HIS RETURN?

- A. If you took a quick glance at Romans 8:26-30, you might get the impression that despite obvious human weaknesses, God is trying to help (we who love God) out by interceding on our behalf so that we can be happy (for our good purposes) and in fact, God has made the whole universe to secretly work together, and if you follow God, it will lead to God glorifying you with all He has to offer (obedient children, an easy commute, and maybe the numbers for a Lotto winner here and there – you know, because sometimes the church really needs some extra coin).
- B. But maybe (just maybe), that isn't what God is saying to us in this part of the Bible (and for the record in case you were curious, He doesn't say that in any other part of the Bible either). In fact, before the talk of "all things work together" and "foreknowledge and predestination" there was God's wonderful picture of salvation as adoption as the "children of God" (beginning in 8:14-16, but the 'lens' through which the remainder of Romans will be viewed).
- C. Our identity in Christ is so complete, we not only get to enjoy the amazing benefits of being a child of God (heaven, faith) – we might also face some of the struggles which Jesus faced on earth such as struggle and suffering because of our faith in Christ (Romans 8:17-25).
- D. Sure enough, when the Apostle Paul is summarizing this fantastic Spirit-focused and pinnacle chapter of Romans, it is "these things" (God's Spirit at work in: adoption, suffering, faith, prayer, sovereignty, salvation, and eventual glorification in heaven) which are in mind (Romans 8:31).
- E. Paul's message is one of tremendous encouragement! If our identity is in Christ for everything (adoption, suffering, redemption), we can fully expect God, who has all things under His divine control (prayers, predestination) will also provide for all we need (Romans 8:32).





## GOSPEL GLADIATORS - PAGE II

### II) WHAT CAN I DO TO LOSE SALVATION MY SALVATION?!

- A. The fear of losing salvation has always been a big issue for followers of Christ, because we can always look at our own lack faithfulness and sinful struggles, and rather than see the Spirit of God at work, we see good reasons for God to give up on us. So, Paul asks a series of questions in order to highlight these types of issues (Romans 8:33-36).
- B. But Paul does not bring these questions up in order to cause people distress or incite fear over losing your salvation! Rather, he brings them up in order to provide security in our salvation. Even if the worst happens (and it sometimes does), Paul implores the believer in Christ to not lose faith or endurance, because God is still in control!
- C. Paul concludes his questions with one of the most famous crescendo “mic-drop” passages in the entire Bible (Romans 8:37-39). We are reminded in these verses that the security of our salvation does not come from us, but through God’s love, in Christ Jesus, authenticated by the Holy Spirit -- and that nothing can ever separate any of us from what God secures!
- D. One famous Bible teacher says it this way: “If you could lose your salvation, you would. If you could lose your salvation, you already would have lost it a long time ago. If you could lose your salvation, then everyone would lose it, which means no one would be saved, which means Jesus came for nothing, which means He would never have come at all.”
- E. But salvation was never meant to be about you and me. While we are the beneficiaries of the results of salvation, it’s real purpose is showing God’s glory through weakness, and to reveal God’s goodness and honor, despite the specter of evil and dishonor of sin. Despite this, like a teenager trying to prove they are unlovable by out-rebelling the unconditional love of their parent(s), many attempt to ruin their confidence in security by filling their lives with every kind of rebellious sin even after they have become Christians.
- F. But it cannot be done! There is absolutely ***NOTHING THAT CAN SEPARATE YOU FROM THE LOVE OF GOD!*** Memorize Romans 8:38-29.! Trust in God’s sovereign plan. Pray often. Endure suffering. Enjoy God’s fatherhood and family. Subdue sin in your flesh by living for the Spirit in your soul. Life in Christ Jesus is true freedom, and for the truly free, there is no condemnation. It begins in Christ, ends in Christ, and is always Christ!



# Growth Group Guide

*Gospel Gladiators: Assurance*  
*Week #9 • Romans 8:31-39*

## Ice Breaker

On which feature on your cell phone are you the most dependent? What is the best app on your phone that most others don't have on theirs?

## In-Depth

- Read Romans 8:31-39
- Discuss what you learned from this week's sermon

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ ...shall separate us from God

A. **No sin...** Read Romans 8:31-34; Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:27. What happens when we are accused of sin before the eternal judge?

B. **No situation...** Read Romans 8:35-37. Review the 7 situations in Romans 8:35. What is Paul's point in listing each? What does it mean to be "more than conquerors" in all these?

C. **Nothing...** Read Romans 8:38-39. For each item in this list, explain what it means and how God overcomes.

## 2. God Preserves His Children to the End

- A. Read John 5:24; Romans 8:30, 11:29. What do these verses say about the eternal security of God's children?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. Read Matthew 24:12-13; 1 Corinthians 15:1-2; Colossians 1:22-23. These verses seem to put conditions on salvation. Do they mean it's possible for a Christian to permanently fall away?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- C. Read Philippians 1:6; 2 Timothy 1:12; 1 Peter 1:3-5; Jude 24-25. How is God at work in our faith and salvation?

## 3. Assurance of Eternal Life

- A. Read 8:38-39; 2 Peter 1:10-11; Hebrews 10:22; 2 Corinthians 5:5-8. Is assurance of our salvation possible or must we always be unsure?

## *Making It Relevant*

- 1. How can the reality that we are "more than conquerors" help us when facing distress, danger, etc.?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2. Read v38-39 again. Where in this passage do you find the most encouragement?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3. Tell the group of a time when it was clear that God was active in preserving your faith.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 4. Does assurance of our destiny affect your day-to-day living? If not, how could it?