



Living In Gospel Focus

Welcome to Long Beach Alliance Church

October 16, 2022



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Children 5 years old thru 8th grade are welcome to participate

Practices: Sundays after church 11:30AM-12:30PM

October 23 thru December 4

Performance: Saturday, December 10 at 7PM

SIGN UP IN THE COURTYARD TODAY

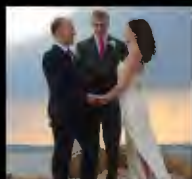
Questions??? Mankka Ostermann

562.972.8718 / mankkaostermann@gmail.com

PASTORS



What society thinks I do



What my parents think I do



What my friends think I do



What my church thinks I do



What I should do



What I actually do

WE LOVE OUR PASTORS

and appreciate everything they do!

THANK YOU CHRIS & SCOTT!

LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget %</u>
Weekly:	\$13,332.06	\$7,822.67	58.7%
Month-to-Date:	\$26,664.12	\$17,443.89	65.4%
Year-to-Date:	\$79,992.36	\$96,144.58	120.2%
Disbursed YTD:	\$65,060.55	GF Balance:	\$54,718.00

Offerings can be placed in the locked box in the Sanctuary Lobby or given to any usher

Spiritual Maturity

Long Beach Alliance Church • October 16, 2022 • Dr. Vincent Nwankpa

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Introduction:

Spiritual maturity is achieved through becoming more like Jesus Christ. After salvation, every Christian begins the process of spiritual growth, with the intent to become spiritually mature. Paul says, it is an ongoing process that will never end in this life (Phil. 3:12-14). We have to press continually toward deeper knowledge of God in Christ. Paul also encourages us to walk by the spirit, so that we will see the increase in the fruit of the Spirit in our lives (Gal. 5: 16, 22-23).

I. We Must Depart from sin v. 1-4

- A. The Corinthian Christians were characterized as men of the flesh as well as infants in Christ v.1,3. Heb. 5:11-6:2). Why so characterized?
 - i. There were jealousy, strife, and division among them v.3
 - ii. Competition towards various teachers v. 4 (Apollos and Paul)
- B. They were following mere men of the world rather than Gods v. 4 (They were boasting in their teachers).

Spiritual maturity is measured not only by what we know, but by what we put into practice. Peter tells us about what God has granted us concerning life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:3). He encourages us to make every effort to supplement our faith with virtue (2 Pet. 1:5-8); 2 Cor. 11:23; 4:1)

- i. Ask yourself “Am I doing what God’s Word says I should do in my home, my work place, school, and neighborhood?
- ii. Christian growth is about becoming more like Christ in our daily living.

II. We are Servants, while God is the Master v. 5-9.

- i. Paul asks “What then is Apollos; and What is Paul? (NIV) The “what” means the focus is on their role and function and not their personalities.
- ii. Paul answers his own question v.5. He says, they are “servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each his task.”
- iii. Apollos and Paul and the other teachers were servants of God, just as every believer is to serve God together with the rest.
- iv. We are all instruments God uses to bring people to faith.
- v. It was God who assigned them their ministry v.5
- vi. Paul uses agricultural analogy to describe these different ministries v.6- Paul planted the seed (he preached the good news to them), and Apollos watered (teaching and edifying Paul’s converts) and God gave the increase or the growth v.6

III. Ministers are Only Instruments in God’s Hands v. 7 (1:29; 1 Thess. 5:13; Eph. 1:21)

- A. They are not to be credited with the results of the ministry.
- B. All of the credit should go to God.
- C. They are all working for the same purpose (save souls) v. 8
 - i. They are each accountable to God for their work.
 - ii. They will each receive their own reward according to how they labored (the effort they put in) v.8, 13; 4:5.
 - iii. Paul didn’t say that they will be rewarded for the results of their ministry (for many people they converted or taught).
 - iv. Each minister/Christian is working on the same project v. 9 (God’s vineyard-which are people God created).
 - v. We are all God’s fellow-workers; God’s field; God’s building (servants- douloi) (Phil. 2:5-11)

- vi. That project is either the church/school/ministry/organization v.9, v. 21-23.
- vii. You are of Christ Jesus. You are united with and belong to Him v. 23.
- viii. We are to train our people/converts to focus their eyes on God rather than on themselves/us. God is the one who is accomplishing whatever we have accomplished- we shouldn't take the credit and all the glory should go to God alone. We have to fix our eyes on Jesus/God alone.

IV. The things we need to do in order to be spiritually mature (Psa. 24:1).

- A. The things we need to do include are: Bible reading/study, prayer, fellowship, service and stewardship (Phil. 1: 3-8; Eph. 2:11-22; Psa. 24:1; Matt. 25:35; Luke 11:1-11; 1 Tim. 4:16; Titus 2:1; 2 Tim. 2:15).
- B. We need to walk in love (Eph. 4:2; 1 John 4:7-8).
- C. Get into the Word of God (Get the Word of God in you) (1 Pet. 2:1-2).
- D. Present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable before God (Rom. 12:1-2).
- E. Mature Christians should be teaching new Christians the basics (Heb. 6:1-2)

Conclusion:

Christians need to hunger for spiritual maturity. The more we get into studying the Word of God, praying in the spirit, fellowshiping with one another, coupled with service and stewardship we will avert quarrelling and descension. We will have more time to unite in service and with Christ who is the Head of the Church.

LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

Weekly Schedule

Regular Ministry Schedule & Contacts

Sunday, October 16

- 9:30AM Gospel Project: Children's Ministry
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration Service

Monday, October 17

- 7:00PM Betrayal & Beyond Zoom Meeting
- 7:00PM Pure Desire In-Person Meeting
- 7:00PM SIA In-Person & Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, October 18

- 10:00AM All Staff Team Meeting
- 7:00PM Govern Board/Personnel Comm Mtg
- 7:00PM Betrayed Heart Zoom Meeting
- 7:00PM Men's Bible Study (offsite)
- 7:00PM High School Youth Group

Wednesday, October 19

- 6:30PM AWANA
- 7:00PM Revelation Bible Study (offsite)

Thursday, October 20

- 5:00PM Lydia House Women's Outreach
- 7:00PM Middle School Youth Group

Friday, October 21

- 8:00PM NA In-Person Meeting

Saturday, October 22

- 8:00AM Men's In-Person/Zoom Bible Study

Sunday, October 23

- 9:30AM Gospel Project: Children's Ministry
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration Service
- 11:15AM Children's Musical Practice

MISSIONS

[Information Coming Soon!](#)

GROWTH GROUPS

[Link to LBAC Growth Groups!](#)
Mid-week Adult Bible Studies (on hold)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Children's Ministries!](#)

Sunday Mornings:

Gospel Project @ 9:30AM
Fun-N-Funky @ 11:15AM (on hold)

AWANA

[Link to LBAC AWANA](#)
Wednesday Nights September-May

YOUTH MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Youth Ministries!](#)
[Link to LBAC Youth Instagram Page](#)
Every Tuesday & Thursday Night @ 7:00PM

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Women's Ministry!](#)
Women's Ministry Event Information
Contact: office@lbac.org

Lydia House Meals Ministry
3rd Thursday each month

Women Connecting with Missions
3rd Tuesday each month @ 7:00PM (on hold)

Crafty Women
3rd Saturday each month @ 10:00AM

MEN'S MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Men's Ministry!](#)
Contact: mensministry@lbac.org

long beach alliance church offices

3331 palo verde avenue • long beach, ca • 90808-4113
phone: 562.420.1478 email: office@lbac.org website: www.lbac.org
church office hours: Tuesdays-Thursdays 10:00AM-5:00PM
For prayer requests: prayer@lbac.org

church staff team

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

justin enayat, worship producer
562.754.7163 • justin@lbac.org

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

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

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

jeremiah holden, worship tech intern
760.224.4178 • jeremiah@lbac.org

tina rand, receptionist & treasurer
562.900.8385 • tina@lbac.org



THE
ALLIANCE

“What would we have done differently had we known we would only have 100 days with Sara? This question paralyzes me. Why would God do this? How could 100 days be enough with her? I do not know the answer to this, but I do know that 100 days was not enough time for her to trust in Jesus for her salvation. Before we could learn the delight of baptizing a Muslim, we had to learn the dread of burying one.”

Kelly Douglas and Diana Burg, Third Way Community



You are invited to come and celebrate with us all that God has been doing in our church over this past year to share His love with anyone, anywhere, at any time!

Mission Celebration

Where: Long Beach Alliance Church

When: Friday evening 6:30PM-9PM; Saturday 9AM-5:30PM

Cost: \$25 per person (to help cover food and refreshments)

Do you recall the saying that goes like this: “If you see something, say something, and if possible, do something?”

This is the experience of a couple who witnessed a heartbreaking situation and resolved to do something. Could their dream be part of God’s plan of intervention? What was their plan of action and it’s outcome?

Vincent & Chinyere Nwankpa, EWCM



You are invited to come and celebrate with us all that God has been doing in our church over this past year to share His love here, there, and everywhere!

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