

JESUS IS...

WELCOME TO LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH
JANUARY 8, 2017

LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

Sunday, January 8

- 9:00AM Morning Coffee
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration
- 11:00AM Foundations Classes
- 12:00PM Deacon Meeting
- 12:30PM Growth Group Training
- 3631 Halbrite Ave., Long Beach

Monday, January 9

- 6:00PM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous

Tuesday, January 10

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

Wednesday, January 11

- 6:30PM AWANA

Thursday, January 12

- 7:00PM Junior High Youth Group

Friday, January 13

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

Saturday, January 14

- 7:00AM Turn Your Campus
- 9:00AM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous

Sunday, January 15

- 9:00AM Morning Coffee
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration
- 11:00AM Foundations Classes
- 12:00PM Deaconess Meeting
- 12:00PM How We Love Leader Meeting
- 12:30PM Hume Fundraiser Parent Meeting
- 6:00PM Youth Leader Meeting
- 3203 Silva Street, Lakewood

MISSIONS

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

Join us for Perspectives & Serving the World!

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 @ 9:00AM & 10:45AM

AWANA

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

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

YOUTH MINISTRIES

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

JH & HS Foundations ~ Sundays @ 10:45AM

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: sherylynnlbac@gmail.com

Lydia House Meals Ministry

Contact: robbi@apabrandu.com

Women Connecting with Missions

3rd Tuesday of each month @ 7:00PM

Crafty Women

2nd Saturday of each month @ 10:00AM

MEN'S MINISTRIES

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

Contact: mensministry@lbac.org



THE ALLIANCE

long beach alliance church offices

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Jesus Is Submissive

LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH • JANUARY 8, 2017 • PASTOR CHRIS LANKFORD

Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing.

John 5:19-20

1) From the Waters of the Jordan to the Wilderness of the Desert

- A) After Jesus was baptized (Luke 3:21-22), the Holy Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness (4:1). The wilderness (*desert, desolation, waste*) was dangerous, a place of exposure to wild beasts and demonic forces (Isaiah 13:21, Luke 11:24). But, the desert also lacks distraction, and was a common place of silence and solitude for communion with God (5:16).
- B) Moving from the Jordan into the wilderness would take you to a region known as the “*Jeshimon*,” or the “*Devastation*.” Life in the desert area between Judea and the Dead Sea is unforgiving and uninhabitable, with intense heat, blowing sand, and wretched smelling sulfur salt flats.
- C) The Holy Spirit leads Jesus into the *Jeshimon* to fast (abstain from food) for forty days while being tempted by the devil (Luke 4:2). Christ’s temptations are not a punishment, but rather a time of affirmation, a significant ‘spiritual announcement’ of His public ministry (see 4:14ff).

2) How Could Jesus Be Tempted? Wasn’t He Like Chuck Norris?

- A) In one of the least surprising verses in the Bible ☺, Jesus is hungry at the end of His forty day fast in the *Jeshimon* (4:2). Right at this moment of physical exhaustion and extreme hunger, the devil comes to personally tempt Christ (see also Matthew 4:1-11 & Mark 1:12-13).
- B) The Bible describes “the devil” as an evil fallen angel who is in hostile opposition to God’s will. The devil (*tempter, accuser, slanderer, or adversary*) is also named “Beelzebul, the prince of demons,” or simply “Satan,” (Luke 11:14-20). The devil is not God’s opposite (not an “Evil God,” see Isaiah 45:5-7), but does have a “regional” rulership and is genuinely powerful (see John 12:31, 2 Corinthians 4:4, Ephesians 2:2).
- C) It is important to pause and address whether or not temptation was even genuine for Jesus. Many people subtly believe Jesus wasn’t really human, at least, not human like you and me. “Sure,” the thought goes,

“Jesus could overcome temptation! He was *Jesus*! He had a ‘God brain,’ and knew all things...” (Matthew 14:25-3; Luke 5:22, 6:8).

- D) But the Bible teaches us something entirely different! Jesus “*had to be*” completely human in order to fully experience and genuinely relate to you and me (Hebrews 2:14-18). Jesus “*emptied Himself*” of His divine abilities, becoming 100% human (Philippians 2:5-10) while still being 100% divine (note John 1:1-2, 14); both 100% human & 100% God!
- E) Jesus submitted to living a 100% human life (while still 100% God) in order to be our “*mediator*” (1 Timothy 2:5-6). In order to be the human mediator we need, Jesus had to live in dependence on the Father & Holy Spirit in *everything He said, did, and even in what He knew!*
- F) If Christ chose, even once, to access even .01% of His divinity without submitting to God & Spirit, it would have destroyed the authenticity of His mediator role (Hebrews 9:15), and any confidence for humanity to have a genuine relationship with God (10:19-25).
- G) But Jesus always maintained complete submission to God & Spirit, and did so without failure. This is why Jesus “*grew in knowledge*” (Luke 2:52), didn’t know certain things (Matthew 24:36), wrestled with God’s will (Luke 22:42), etc. It was all 100% authentic & 100% human!
- H) This explains why Jesus “*suffered when tempted*” (Hebrews 2:18). The temptations were genuine! This is why He is “*able to help*” us when we are tempted, because He faced all of the temptations, and was still without sin (4:15-16)! Jesus was genuinely God, but chose to submit to being human out of righteous obedience (note John 5:19-20, 8:28)!

3) *Forty Days+One Devil+Three Temptations=Total Submission*

- A) God created Adam, the firstborn of mankind. God provided Adam a lush and abundant home (*Eden*), a perfectly matched wife (*Eve*), and regency over creation (Genesis 1-2). In this nearly perfect environment, Adam & Eve collapsed when tempted by the devil (Genesis 3).
- B) God created Jesus, a second Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45) and led Him to the desert (*Jeshimon*), where Jesus fasted and was alone, with virtually no provision. Into this weak and isolated environment enters Satan with three brutal temptations (Luke 4:1-13).
- C) But Jesus is not like the first Adam. Jesus remains in communion with God and depends on God’s provision, even without knowing all the details. *Jesus trusts God in the dark*. Even the nightmare of the devil’s desert temptations teaches Jesus obedience (Hebrews 5:8).
- D) This was a celestial announcement to the dark prince of this world. Jesus is coming, He comes as God’s submissive and faithful Servant, and the gates of Hell will not prevail against Him.



Growth Group Guide

Week #1 • Luke 4:1-15

Ice Breaker

- *Share with your group something fun or interesting you did over the Christmas season.*

In-Depth

Read Luke 4:1-13

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

1. Let's discuss the nature of temptation:

A. How would you define temptation?

B. What are some things (other than sin) that tempt people?

C. Is it wrong (i.e. sin) to experience temptation?

Read Hebrews 2:18 & 4:15. Now read James 1:13

2. Let's discuss the nature of Jesus & temptation:

A. How is it possible that Jesus, who is God, was tempted by sin and yet God cannot be tempted?



B. Do you think it was actually possible for Jesus to give in to the temptations of Satan?

Read Genesis 3:1-7

3. Let's discuss the difference in Adam & Jesus' temptations:

A. Compare the setting in which Adam & Eve faced temptation with the setting in which Jesus faced it:

B. Which was the more challenging temptation to resist?

Making It Relevant

1. Jesus' victory over temptation has relevance to us in at least two significant ways. Describe them:

A. (Romans 5:18-19)

B. (Hebrews 4:14-16)

welcome to
long beach alliance church

we are a community of Jesus followers who
love God, love others, & serve the world

New Foundations Classes Begin Today!
Join us at 11:00AM for the next 6 weeks as we dive in...

Hearing God

Facilitators: Melinda Lankford & Missy McDougall
Located: Sanctuary Lobby

A special class for women only where we will be discovering how to hear God's voice in every circumstance of life!

Daily Christian Living

Facilitator: John Carriveau
Located: Room 102

Discovering the foundational aspects of Christianity and incorporating these central Gospel aspects of Christian Living into practice in our lives!

Childcare & Kids Fun-n-Funky Hour!

Nursery thru Pre-K Sign-Up: matt@lbac.org
Kids Hour Led By: Chris Lankford

11:00AM-12:00PM (Fun, Snacks, Fun, Crafts, and More Funner!)

Telling God's Story

Facilitators: Scott Trickett & Matt Swaney
Located: Room 202

Telling others about God is one of the most important aspects of our Christian life and perhaps one of the most challenging? It is also one of our deepest desires as followers to share the love of Jesus with others. In this class we will be looking at this tension from new perspectives that are anchored by ancient truths. It will be a great time to explore together how God has designed us to be His image bearers.

Growth Groups

Take Your Next Step @ LBAC! Groups Begin Meeting This Week!
January 8-13!

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



I am Batman!
Get Signed Up!
Do It Today!!

YOU'RE INVITED
HUME FUNDRAISER
PARENT
MEETING

JANUARY 15, 2017
GYM • 12:30PM

LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report

<u>Budget</u>	<u>Required</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget %</u>
Weekly:	\$12,236.37	\$24,498.53	200.2%
Month-to-Date:	\$61,181.85	\$73,455.25	120.1%
Year-to-Date:	\$220,254.66	\$215,929.41	98.0%
Disbursed YTD: \$196,979.66 GOF Balance: \$19,570.59			

A black and white photograph of a person with a backpack walking away from the camera towards a large, classical stone building with arched windows. The scene is set in a park-like area with trees and a street lamp on the right.

KEIY DOUGLAS

TOUIOUSE, FRANCE
2017-2019



HOW TO PARTNER

1. Go to cmalliance.org/give
2. Under "Give to International Workers and Special Projects," type: ENV-Kelly Douglas
3. Add an amount for a one-time gift in the box or sign up for monthly giving by clicking "Make this a recurring gift"
4. Fill in all of your contact & billing info click "Submit!" You will receive a tax receipt for your donation
5. If you wish to give through LBAC, contact Kelly to give a pledge. kelly@lbac.org

FRANCE IS A NATION THAT HAS LOST ITS WAY

It is committed to beauty and intellectualism, but it has lost its ability to worship or know truth. This has left a spiritual vacuum that cannot be filled with the hedonism or radicalism that compete for a place on the French throne.

Toulouse is a southern city with strong Roman roots. It's a city of engineers who come from all over the world to contribute to Europe's aerospace programs. Where the nations converge, God shows up. Pray for the people of Toulouse to find the real home and purpose that has eluded them.



Kelly is being sent to Toulouse to serve in a community center and coffee house. The center is part of TEA Project, a ministry of the Christian & Missionary Alliance to reach Muslims, and it will give community and dignity to a North African neighborhood. She will be there for two years through Envision, the short-term arm of the Alliance. Pray for her to use her gifting to bring healing and reconciliation to people looking for things they can only find in Christ.



"RESPECT • FREEDOM • LIVE TOGETHER • UNITY"

Mural near the center with the flags of nations represented by those in the neighborhood. The dreams of the people of the community are the same as the dreams of Christ, but they cannot realize them without him.

Kelly Douglas grew up in Southern California. She learned to love Christ at a young age, and she met a missionary in Sunday School at Long Beach Alliance Church. When she found out that people can spend their whole lives talking about God, she began to pursue a life of ministry, earning degrees in Biblical Studies and Theology from Biola University. She has served in a missions capacity in Utah and Long Beach, and several short-term trips, including three in France. She is a disciple-maker and gospelcommunicator, but she is not a French speaker (yet). In France, she'll be in language school, serving at the coffee house, coordinating activities at the community center, hosting short-term teams, and growing in loving Jesus.



Kelly and her TEA Project team leader, Benoit, sharing a message in a church in France.

GOD LOVES THE IMMIGRANT.

The **ALIEN** has not lodged outside, for I have opened my doors to the **TRAVELER**. • For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink; I was a **STRANGER** and you invited me in. • Beloved, you are acting faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the brethren, and especially when they are **STRANGERS**. • So show your love for the **ALIEN**, for you were **ALIENS** in the land of Egypt. • The **STRANGER** who resides with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself for you were **ALIENS** in the land of Egypt; I am the Lord your God. • Now in case a countryman of yours becomes poor and his means with regard to you falter, then you are to sustain him, like a **STRANGER** or a **SOJOURNER** that he may live with you. • Do not neglect to show hospitality to **STRANGERS**. • The Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance among you, and the **ALIEN**, the orphan and the widow who are in your town, shall come and eat and be satisfied, in order that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hand which you do. • And you and the Levite and the **ALIEN** who is among you shall rejoice in all the good which the Lord your God has given you and your household. • Nor shall you glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather the fallen fruit of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the needy and for the **STRANGER**. • I am the Lord your God. When you reap the harvest of your land, moreover, you shall not reap to the very corners of your field nor gather the gleaning of your harvest; you are to leave them for the needy and the **ALIEN**. I am the Lord your God. When you reap your harvest in your field and have forgotten a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be for the **ALIEN**, for the orphan, and for the widow, in order that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. • When you have finished paying all the tithe of your increase in the third year, the year of tithing, then you shall give it to the Levite, to the **STRANGER**, to the orphan and to the widow, that they may eat in your towns and be satisfied. • You shall say before the Lord your God, I have removed the sacred portion from my house, and also have given it to the Levite and the **ALIEN**, the orphan and the widow, according to all your commandments which you have commanded me; I have not transgressed or forgotten any of your commandments.

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