

JESUS IS...

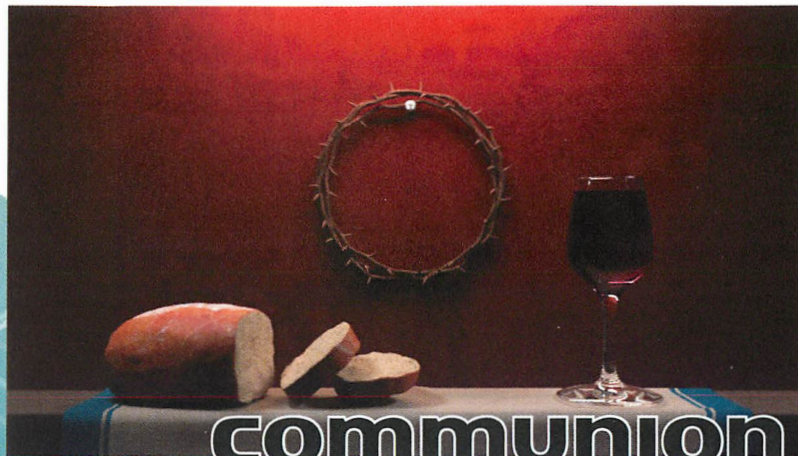


WELCOME TO LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH

FEBRUARY 5, 2017

welcome to
long beach alliance church

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



Communion

In Remembrance Of Me

One of the dangers we face when reading about spiritual warfare is thinking it's all a bit too fanciful... that it's something that happened a long time ago, during a simpler time, before people understood how things really worked. We have the answers of advanced science and technology to many of life's great mysteries. Perhaps, if given enough time, we will no doubt unravel all the mysteries of the universe?

Many of us who are Jesus' followers have unfortunately limited our faith in Christ to the boundaries which science and what can be proven to be real allow! But then...

Jesus takes bread and wine and tells His disciples that reality is entirely different than they might think. He tells them they are not just eating bread and drinking wine! In reality they are eating His body and drinking His blood!

Reality is that this is a different Passover meal altogether! Jesus says,

For one who has died has been set free from sin.

"I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life. I am the bread of life... But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die... For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink (John 6:47-50, 55).

this is my body which is for you. *do this in remembrance of me.*
this cup is the new covenant in my blood.
do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.



HOW
WE
LOVE

February 10-11
Register Now @ lbac.org

KEIY DOUGLAS

TOUIOUSE, FRANCE
2017-2019

44% OF SUPPORT RAISED

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!"

The Next 50 Update

LBAC's Facility Renovation Fund



Visit <http://www.lbac.org/our-church/giving>
for information about giving online, and
for more detailed giving information!

LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report

Budget	Required	Received	Budget %
Weekly:	\$12,236.37	\$11,714.08	95.7%
Month-to-Date:	\$61,181.85	\$43,390.88	70.9%
Year-to-Date:	\$281,436.51	\$259,356.31	92.2%
Disbursed YTD: \$249,080.80 GOF Balance: \$10,896.35			

LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

Sunday, February 5

- 9:00AM Morning Coffee
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration
- 11:00AM Foundations Classes
- 12:15PM Deaconess Meeting
- Grounds Bakery & Cafe

Monday, February 6

- 6:00PM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous

Tuesday, February 7

- 9:00AM All Staff Team Meeting
- 7:00PM High School Youth Group

Wednesday, February 8

- 6:30PM AWANA

Thursday, February 9

- 7:00PM Junior High Youth Group

Friday, February 10

- 6:30AM Men's Bible Study
- 6:30PM How We Love Conference

Saturday, February 11

- 8:00AM How We Love Conference
- 9:00AM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous

Sunday, February 12

- 9:00AM Morning Coffee
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration
- 11:00AM Foundations Classes
- 12:15PM Deacon Meeting

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 @ 11:00AM

AWANA

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

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

YOUTH MINISTRIES

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

JH & HS Foundations ~ Sundays @ 11:00AM

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: sherylynne@lbac.org

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

3331 palo verde avenue · long beach, ca · 90808-4113
 phone: 562.420.1478 · office@lbac.org · www.lbac.org
www.facebook.com/longbeachalliancechurch
 church office hours: tuesday-friday, 12NOON-5:00PM

church staff team

michelle crammer, office manager
 ext. 1004 · michelle@lbac.org

kelly douglas, missions coordinator
 kelly@lbac.org

jesse duckett, youth pastor
 ext. 1005 · jesse@lbac.org

chris lankford, lead pastor
 ext. 1001 · chris@lbac.org

tina rand, receptionist & treasurer
 ext. 1006 · tina@lbac.org

matt swaney, family ministry pastor
 ext. 1003 · matt@lbac.org

scott trickett, associate pastor
 ext. 1002 · scott@lbac.org

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN 2016

GIVING SUMMARY

(January-December 2016)

LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH

Great Commission Fund (GCF)	\$35,375
Approved Specials	9,520
CAMA Advance	90
<hr/>	
TOTAL	\$44,985



THEALLIANCE

For more information about what God is doing through
The Alliance, visit www.cmalliance.org

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN 2016

With your help in 2016, TENS OF THOUSANDS of people who never knew of Jesus' rescuing love are now experiencing it firsthand through the outreach of the global Alliance family. **Because of you,**

- 37 new international workers have been sent to 14 countries in 2016. They join a team of more than 700 workers *you helped send and continue to support*.
- Alliance workers and churches in Europe and the Middle East are caring for thousands of refugees, migrants, and others who have been displaced by war, disease, and disaster.
- Bongolo Hospital in the remote jungles of West Africa is providing critical medical and spiritual care to those in need. Last year alone, more than 2,300 people came to Christ as a result of Bongolo's ministry.
- An Alliance school in Jordan is providing children—some of whom have been ostracized because of disabilities—with a quality education and a loving environment that is drawing entire Muslim families to Christ.
- C&MA and CAMA workers have partnered with the Alliance national church in Ecuador to bring immediate relief and long term development to the areas devastated by a powerful earthquake outside of Quito this past April.

ALLIANCE COUNCIL 2017

May 30–June 4, 2017

Join the Alliance family in Columbus, Ohio, as we gather to celebrate what God is doing in our midst and seek His heart as we move forward.



Learn more at www.cmalliance.org/events/2017/council

Jesus Is Dependent

LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH FEBRUARY 5, 2017
PASTOR CHRIS LANKFORD

Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Matthew 5:19

1) Jesus Reaches Rockstar Status

- A) Let's take a quick moment to remember the remarkable road Jesus has walked in just a few short months. His Father pronounces His pure pleasure and pride in His Son, Jesus; who is equipped and filled by the Spirit of God for the beginning of His ministry life (Luke 3:21-22).
- B) Almost immediately, Jesus goes from this incredible high point of His Father's public affirmation to the desolation of desert temptations suffered under the brutal influence of Satan, a kind of 'final exam' before the ministry of Jesus Christ goes public (4:1-13).
- C) Of course, after forty days of fasting and temptation in the desert, Jesus goes home to recuperate and begins teaching in his hometown of Nazareth (4:13-27). Shockingly, Jesus is rejected and run out of Nazareth, miraculously escaping a mob intending to harm Him (4:28-30).
- D) Jesus departs the disappointment of hometown Nazareth for the delight of ministry in Capernaum. Jesus connects with common folks who receive His teaching and find tremendous freedom from physical and demonic bondage through His powerful and authoritative ministry (4:31-39).
- E) News about Jesus rockets from Capernaum all around Galilee as crowds press in on Jesus. Jesus tirelessly heals the sick. He casts out demons with suffocating authority. He loves the broken, healing "every one of them," laying His hands on them with tenderness (4:40-41).
- F) Capernaum warmly receives the teaching and ministry of Jesus Christ! This is the moment all of history has been anticipating, the arrival of Messiah and the tender ministry of the Great Shepherd (cf. Micah 5:4).
- G) Jesus is suddenly a rockstar, the kid from Nazareth has made the big-time in Capernaum. Once again local townspeople pursue Jesus, but this time they want to keep Him for themselves (4:42). What a great moment in history! The King has come, He is rescuing, people are experiencing freedom, Satan's power is falling, and all the people want more of Jesus!

2) Jesus Rejects Rockstar Status

- A) The crowds find Jesus in the desert (4:42, desolate). The people reason that Jesus should come back to Capernaum, a ministry home-base which will catapult His popularity! The world will come to Capernaum and see Jesus! Makes sense, doesn't it? Maybe Jesus could teach in their synagogue, heal more people, make yesterday – everyday (Mark 1:35-37)!
- B) The quiet and barren desert brings clarity for Jesus, a place where Jesus is positioned to connect with God. Popularity and fame aren't worth much in a desert. Following a sudden and profound time of intense ministry, the desert solitude provides a sanctuary for Jesus to enjoy relationship with God, and in the quiet silence the Son can hear the Father (Luke 4:42).
- C) Solitude and silence are like fertile soil, and this intentional communion with God is like rain in a desert, flooding into Jesus' soul. Jesus comes out of the desert with greater clarity and purpose, leading Him to reject an immediate return to Capernaum and any rockstar fame (cf. Mark 1:38).
- D) Jesus will not be identified with one place or with one group of people, but only by His identity as God's child, His Son. In the silence and solitude of the desert, God directs Jesus (as in 4:1) to make His purpose to proclaim the Gospel (good news) of the "kingdom of God" (4:43).

3) Dependence On Communion With Father God

- A) From the outset of His public ministry, Jesus moves with great power and authority (4:30, 32, 35, 39, 40-41) over the worldly kingdom of Satan (note 4:5-6). We are witnessing what our own lives can look like when they are moved by the pleasure of God for His children (see also 3:21-22).
- B) From the outset of His public ministry life, we also witness the source of Jesus' power and focus for ongoing ministry (4:44). His relationship with His Father draws Him into silence and solitude (before dawn!), to spend time talking with His Father, and listening to God's direction for His life.
- C) Jesus depends on His Father (Hebrews 5:7-9), in order to live His life obediently for purposes still not revealed! Jesus thirsted for time with His Father. The things of this world held no attraction for Jesus, because of His intentional communion with God (1 Corinthians 10:21-22).
- D) We are witnessing the source of real power in the life of Christ, but also the source of power over sin in our own lives. When we are intentional in our response to God, we seek Him in silence and solitude, and when we do, God promises power to His children (note James 5:13-18).

Growth Group Guide

Week #5 • Luke 4:42-44



Ice Breaker

- What is the most time you've ever spent alone with God?
How would you describe the experience?

In-Depth

Read Luke 4:42-44

- Discuss what you learned from this week's sermon.
1. Verse 42: Jesus frequently retreated from the world around him to solitude with God. What do these verses tell us about dependence on God?

A. Hebrews 5:7-9

B. 1 John 2:15-17

2. Verse 43: Jesus "was sent for this purpose": to preach the good news of the kingdom of God. Jesus spoke of the kingdom to his last day on earth (Acts 1:1-3). What is "the kingdom of God? (See Luke 1:33; Luke 13:18-21; Luke 17:20-21; John 3:3-5; John 18:36; Revelation 11:15.)



3. The Kingdom of God (Matthew calls it the kingdom of heaven) is often spoken of as “already, but not yet” here. It has “already” begun with Jesus’ first coming, but is “not yet” fully empowered until his second return. For each of the following, decide whether the passage is describing an “already” aspect of the kingdom or a “not yet” one:

- A. Matthew 11:12
- B. Matthew 12:28
- C. 1 Corinthians 15:24
- D. Acts 1:6-8
- E. Revelation 12:10
- F. Mark 1:14-15
- G. Mark 9:1

Making It Relevant

1. In our struggle with being in the world or in the Kingdom, what can we learn from these verses:
 - A. 1 Corinthians 10:21-22
 - B. James 5:13-16
2. Jesus describes the “not yet” aspect of the kingdom in Matthew 24:3-14. While verses 3-12 are sobering, what motivation can we find in verses 13-14?