



## Covenant Presbyterian Church

607 E. 3rd St. Long Beach, CA 90802 - [www.CovenantLB.org](http://www.CovenantLB.org) - (562) 437-0958

September 1, 2024

Beloved,

The seasons change, from Summer to Fall, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of this month.

The world around is day by day changing radically and rapidly.

The church needs to change to bring the changeless good news of Jesus to as many as possible in this new, unprecedented cultural context.

We, however, are not yet clear on how we should change or how we can change.

What then are we to do?

What comes to us is we are both to work faithfully *in the Lord* and to wait faithfully *for the Lord*.

That is to say that we are, first of all, to carry on in doing what He has already made clear is ours to do, changing only in the sense of doing those things still better as His grace enables.

It is also to say that we are, as well, to keep listening carefully for His guidance and to keep hoping that He will lead us, at the exact right moment, in every next, new step we are to take.

Most of us probably understand better what it means to work for the Lord than what it means to wait for the Lord.

Waiting for the Lord does not mean becoming passive and inactive. In fact, it means diligently persevering in what God has already directed us to do, even while we hold on to His promises of directing us further and hold out for His *revelation* of what is our best next step (which requires us to refrain from jumping to *what just occurs to us* as a good next step).

To wait for the Lord is to let go of our illusions about our ability to figure things out on our own, to depend on God to show us the way forward, and to believe that He will do that at the perfect moment according to the perfect timing of His perfect schedule (which is often quite different from our schedule).

To wait for the Lord is to turn to Him first and foremost for the wisdom we need. It is with focused and sustained attention to listen vigilantly and expectantly for His voice as it might come to us through the Bible, through the Spirit in prayer, through conversations with other brothers and sisters in the faith, and through our meditation together on the circumstances of our present context.

It is a process that takes longer than we might like; and, in the midst of it, we might feel like the children of Israel on their forty-year journey to the Promised Land.

But let us persist in this drawn-out process of working and waiting, even as we obey the call of Psalm 31:24 to “be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord”!

In the grip of God’s grace,

*Rob & Adele*

Pastor Adele and Pastor Rob



# IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL WORSHIP

Our weekly in-person Sunday service is held each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. The service is also streamed live on *YouTube*: **Covenant Presbyterian Church Long Beach CA** and our website: **www.CovenantLB.org** at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays.

**Sunday Sermon Series: “Life Revolution From the Sermon on the Mount”**

<b>September 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>September 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>September 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>September 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>September 29<sup>th</sup></b>
Matthew 6:16-18	Matthew 6:19-24	Matthew 6:25-35	Matthew 7:1-6	Matthew 7:7-11
“Reflection #13: <i>Practicing the Disciplines of Discipleship</i> ”	“Reflection #14: <i>Focusing on the Main Thing as our Main Thing</i> ”	“Reflection #15: <i>Growing Free of Anxiety</i> ”	“Reflection #16: <i>Judging Rightly</i> ”	“Reflection #17: <i>Gaining the Hope Prayer Promises</i> ”

## SUNDAY SCHOOL (Hybrid: On-site & On-line)

### **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (Now at 11:15 a.m.)**

Adults are invited to attend Sunday School and study *The First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians*, under the leadership of Elder Mark Wiley. The class meets in the Meeting Room for those in-person, and for those on-line through *Google Meet*. To join on-line: please visit **Meet.Google.com** and use the meeting code: **goeumjnwgg** or call from your phone **1-209-781-9485**, entering this PIN: **443 527 177#**.

### **YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL (Now at 11:15 a.m.)**

Sunday School for 6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> graders meets in the Art Room for those attending in-person, and for those on-line through *Google Meet*.  
Email **ALangworthy@CovenantLB.org** for virtual joining information.

### **CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL (Now at 11:15 a.m.)**

Sunday School for children thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade meets in the “Center” for those attending in-person, and for those on-line through *Google Meet*.  
Email **ALangworthy@CovenantLB.org** for virtual joining information.

## WEEKLY STUDIES

### **Mondays - In-depth Bible Study (except 9/2)**

This on-line study meets at 7:00 p.m. to study *1 Kings*.  
Pastor Adele and Pastor Rob jointly lead this study through the Bible.



To join this study,  
**Online:** Visit **Meet.Google.com** &  
Join by using meeting code: **ohcydfgcm**  
**By phone:** Dial **1-415-662-0116** &  
Enter this PIN: **903 321 793#**

### **Tuesdays - Book Club**

The on-line Book Club meets at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the novel *Ordinary Grace*.  
If you would like to be contacted about this group, please reach out to Elder Mark Wiley.



To join this study,  
**Online:** Visit **Meet.Google.com** &  
Join by using meeting code: **duhmbnkqku**  
**By phone:** Dial **1-225-503-0091** &  
Enter this PIN: **470 552 822#**

### **Thursdays - Bible Study**

This Bible Study meets on-line and over the phone at 4:30 p.m. It is presently studying the *Gospel of Matthew* (led by Pastor Rob).



To join this study,  
**Online:** Visit **Meet.Google.com** &  
Join by using meeting code: **ohcydfgcm**  
**By phone:** Dial **1-415-662-0116** &  
Enter this PIN: **903 321 793#**



PETER BATES

**TWO  
ORGANS  
TWO  
ORGANISTS**



DAVID YORK

IN A CONCERT OF

**MUSIC FOR TWO ORGANS**

FEATURING COVENANT'S MIGHTY  
AEOLIAN-SKINNER PIPE ORGAN

AND THE

RODGERS 3-MANUAL DIGITAL TOURING ORGAN

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 • 4:00 PM

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

607 E. 3<sup>RD</sup> ST. • LONG BEACH

FREE OF ADMISSION CHARGE

CO-SPONSORED BY COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH &  
CHURCH KEYBOARD CENTER

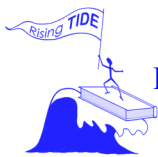


*Long Beach Gives* is almost here!  
We invite you to join with others in this  
city-wide philanthropic event.

**The big day is  
Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
but early giving opens as soon as  
September 12<sup>th</sup>!**

To support efforts to uplift young lives  
through *Rising TIDE*, you can either give online:  
<https://www.longbeachgives.org/rising-tide-at-mkec>  
or by mailing a check to the church made out  
to *Rising TIDE* with a memo indicating *LB Gives*.

Please join with us in  
**(T)raining (I)ndividuals to (D)evelop and (E)xcel!**



**RISING TIDE @ MKEC**  
**Programming for Children &  
Youth**  
**Monday - Thursday**

*Homework Help, Tutoring,  
Activities, Science Experiments, The Arts,  
Recreation and More*

**12:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

Pre-school & Elementary-aged Children

**2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Middle School & High School Youth

**Go to [www.RisingTIDEatMKEC.org](http://www.RisingTIDEatMKEC.org)**

- to **sign up a new young person** for Fall, click on *New Participant Enrollment Form*
- to **sign up a returning student** for Fall, click on *Fall 2024 Participant Renewal*
- to **apply to be a tutor, mentor or general volunteer**, click on *Volunteering*

**Special Middle School & High School  
Programs are held on Wednesdays**

**You are invited to see  
*The Forge*  
with your  
Covenant family on  
September 22nd.**



*Movie Goers* is a group that meets monthly to watch a movie together and then discuss it over a meal following the movie. *The Forge* is our September choice. For more details, please email Pastor Adele at [ALangworthy@CovenantLB.org](mailto:ALangworthy@CovenantLB.org).

Synopsis: *A year out of high school with no plans for his future, a boy is challenged by his single mom and a successful businessman to start charting a better course for his life. Through the prayers of his mother and biblical discipleship from his new mentor, he begins discovering God's purpose for his life is so much more than he could hope for or imagine.* [Google]

## DID YOU KNOW ... ?

- **Covenant Summer Choir** rehearses on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. through September 8th. If you'd like to join, please meet up with choir members in the Choir Room on Sunday morning. You can also see Peter Bates for more details.
- **Covenant Adult Choir** rehearses on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room, beginning September 12<sup>th</sup>. If you'd like to join, please contact Peter Bates for more details.
- **Cutters** are a group of adults who enjoy getting together to break bread over breakfast (on Saturday) or over dinner (on Sunday). Cutters will be enjoying breakfast on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at The Potholder Café. See Mary Lou Fourtané or Pastor Adele to make your reservation.
- The **Order of Worship** for Sunday worship is located just above the video of the worship service on the website and is archived under "Worship - Sermon Archive", along with a text copy of the sermon. Hard copies of the sermons are found in the Narthex. They can also be mailed or emailed when requested.
- When the new weekly worship video is posted, the **previous week's video** can then be found in the video archives of the website under "Covenant's Videos" and on our *YouTube* channel: Covenant Presbyterian Church Long Beach CA.
- **Flowers to beautify the Sanctuary** on a particular Sunday can be purchased for \$50.00. You can place an order in honor or in memory of someone, and either plan to take the flowers with you following worship or donate them to be shared with those in need of special cheer. You can place an order using the link that can be found at the end of the Order of Service on our website, filling out a form found in the Narthex, or calling the church office.
- **Hometouch** is a weekly publication that is mailed or emailed. (You choose in which form you receive it.) It provides updates about things happening around Covenant, as well as a devotion and an activity page.
- **E-touch** is a weekly publication that is emailed on Saturday evenings. It includes *Covenant* news and a biblical reflection on something newsworthy. These reflections are timely and thought-provoking.
- You can **request to receive copies** of the sermons, *Hometouch* and/or *E-touch* by contacting Adele at [ALangworthy@CovenantLB.org](mailto:ALangworthy@CovenantLB.org).
- To explore joining a women's or men's **small group**, reach out to Pastor Adele or Pastor Rob.
- If you are interested in **volunteering** to help staff the office for a few hours one-day-a-week, please contact either Pastor Rob or Pastor Adele.
- **Covenant has an app** called *CovenantLB* that you can download on your favorite device.
- Our **social media presence** is on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter with the handle [@CovenantLB](https://www.instagram.com/CovenantLB).



*Your giving sustains the ministries of this church. You may make an offering in worship on Sunday morning, give either by writing a check and mailing it to the church, or give on-line from the church website by clicking on the green button on the website's home page, [www.CovenantLB.org](http://www.CovenantLB.org). Also on the website, if you would like to pledge, go to **About** on the top bar, then on **New to the Church?**, and scroll down to the 4<sup>th</sup> **FAQ**.*