



## Covenant Presbyterian Church

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

November 1, 2023

Beloved of God,

God wants us all to have the cheerfulness of heart that constant gratitude brings. Thus, 1 Thessalonians 5:18 commands us to “give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

In the month in which the national holiday of Thanksgiving takes place, it is natural that the church emphasizes that it is God’s will that we give thanks day in and day out, month in and month out.

The best way to give thanks is to give out of grateful love.

Now, there is no loving without giving: giving of ourselves and our resources to bless God and neighbor. Hence, it is also natural that the church in November emphasizes stewardship and runs its pledge campaign.

To make a pledge is to make a faith promise to give a certain amount of money in the coming year in support of the church’s mission. Making a pledge to give, as opposed to giving without making a pledge, is valuable for two reasons. First, it helps the church leaders form a responsible, and yet daring, church budget for the new year. Second and more importantly, it helps pledgers grow spiritually. How is that so?

What we do outwardly not only expresses but also develops what we are like inwardly, and how we handle material things not only expresses but also develops how we handle spiritual opportunities.

For example, in prayer we may kneel, bow down and/or lift our hands. Those physical actions represent our fundamental values and convictions, but they also instill those values and convictions more deeply in our soul. *Our soul often follows our body.*

Likewise what we do with our money both represents our fundamental values and convictions and embeds them more deeply in our soul. We give generously both because we are grateful to God for all His grace to us and because we intend to grow all the more in our gratitude and love of God for His grace.

It is worth noting that Jesus, in speaking about giving in the Sermon on the Mount, does not state the truth that where your heart is, there your treasure will be also. Rather He says, in Matthew 5:21, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” In other words, *our heart follows our money!* Or, to put it another way, to give God our money is to give God our heart.

When we make a faith promise of a pledge, we make an investment in our spiritual development. We pledge, not just to do justice to the God to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude, but also to promote our becoming His stronger and more faithful servants.

We hope you will join in worship (in-person or on-line) on November 12<sup>th</sup> and dedicate your pledge to God that day with the rest of us. (Pledge sheets will be mailed out the following week to those who can’t join in worship on the 12<sup>th</sup>.)

We also hope you will join in worship the following Sunday for a Thanksgiving-oriented worship on November 19<sup>th</sup> (the Sunday before Thanksgiving Day), and at noon that day (following Sunday School) for a Thanksgiving potluck (details on page 2) and an afternoon of festivities. Further, we will be airing an on-line Thanksgiving service starting at noon on Thanksgiving Eve Day, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, and running it the rest of the week.

This month, we both give and give thanks! And the two of us give thanks for each of you every month!

In gratitude for Christ,

*Rob & Adele*

# 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](http://www.CovenantLB.org) at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. All services remain available throughout the week and in our video libraries.

**Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**

*Holy Communion*

Psalm 37:21-26 & 112:1-5, 9  
“Righteous Generosity”

**Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>**

*Stewardship Dedication Sunday*

Psalm 104:24-28  
“Imitating God”

LET US GIVE THANKS

**Thanksgiving Eve Worship**  
**November 22<sup>nd</sup>**

*Pre-recorded (virtual only)*

*First airing at 12 Noon*

Psalm 92:1-4

“The Glad are Grateful;  
and the Grateful, Glad”

**Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm 95:1-7b

“The Wise Get Excited”

**Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>**

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

“A Perfect Leader for an  
Imperfect People”

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

**On-site & On-line at 11:00 a.m.** Adults are invited to attend Sunday School, this month studying *The Acts of the Apostles*, under the leadership of Elder Mark Wiley. The class is offered in a hybrid-style at 11:00 a.m. — in the Meeting Room for those in-person, and for those on-line through *Google Meet*. If you would like to join on-line:

- please visit [Meet.Google.com](https://www.meet.google.com) & use the meeting code: **goeumjnwgg**
- or dial in from your phone, **1-209-781-9485** & enter this PIN: **443 527 177#**.



### CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### Youth Hybrid Sunday Programming

Youth gather in-person & on-line on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. for Sunday School, fellowship and youth group activities.

For more information about the children's & the youth's programming, including codes to join virtually, please contact Pastor Adele at [ALangworthy@CovenantLB.org](mailto:ALangworthy@CovenantLB.org).

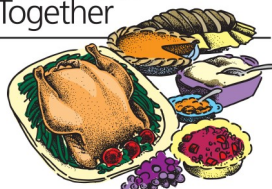
#### Children's Hybrid Sunday School

Sunday School for children thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade is meeting at 11:00 a.m. in a hybrid-style (in-person & virtual).

## PROGRAMMING NEWS

### Covenant Family Thanksgiving Dinner, Sunday November 19th at 12 Noon

We Gather Together



The church will be providing turkey and beverages, and those attending are asked to bring traditional Thanksgiving fare such as mashed potatoes, stuffing, yams, green bean casserole, greens, pie. You can sign up to bring your favorite dish by calling the church office, sending an email or seeing Amy on Sunday. We hope you can gather with us for the meal, and stay after to check out Rising TIDE interactive displays and to enjoy the Maria Shafer Quartet's "My Favorite Things" Jazz Concert (see next page for details).

## WEEKLY STUDIES

### **Mondays - In-depth Bible Study**

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

You are invited to join our study as this Fall as we study the book of *1 Samuel*.



To join this study,

**Online:** Visit [Meet.Google.com](https://meet.google.com/ohcydfgmm) & Join by using meeting code: **ohcydfgmm**

**By phone:** Dial **1-415-662-0116** & Enter this PIN: **903 321 793#**

### **Tuesdays - Book Club**

The on-line Book Club is now reading and discussing *Everybody's Normal Till You Get to Know Them* by John Ortberg. Elder Mark Wiley and Pastor Rob lead this group, on Tuesdays, beginning at 6:30 p.m.



To join this study,

**Online:** Visit [Meet.Google.com](https://meet.google.com/duhmbnkqku) & Join by using meeting code: **duhmbnkqku**

**By phone:** Dial **1-225-503-0091** & Enter this PIN: **470 552 822#**

### **Thursdays - Bible Study (except 11/23)**

This Bible Study meets each Thursday 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](https://meet.google.com/ohcydfgmm) & Join by using meeting code: **ohcydfgmm**

**By phone:** Dial **1-415-662-0116** & Enter this PIN: **903 321 793#**

## SPECIAL NEWS



*Pre-concert:*

*1:00 p.m. Interactive displays highlighting the Rising TIDE program in the Courtyard*

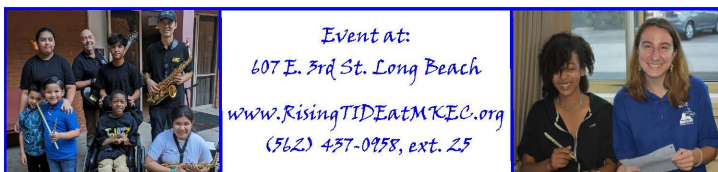


### **My Favorite Things**

**Jazz Concert**  
Featuring, *Maria Schafer Quartet*

Sunday, November 19th  
2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Suggested donation:  
\$20 to benefit *Rising TIDE@MKEC*



Event at:  
607 E. 3rd St. Long Beach  
[www.RisingTIDEatMKEC.org](http://www.RisingTIDEatMKEC.org)  
(562) 437-0958, ext. 25

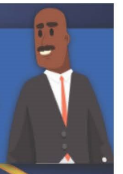
TAX ID #75-3220288

PWC Presents

Nov. 5, 2023  
12pm-1:30pm

# Family Feud

**WE SURVEYED 100 AMERICANS, THE TOP ANSWER IS ON THE BOARD...**



Presbyterian Women in the Congregation invite all women to gather in the Fireside Room after worship service and Bible Study for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and friendly "feuding"!




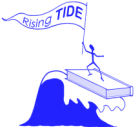
We will play a few rounds of Family Feud for a chance to win some prizes and bragging rights.

### **Reserve your spot by Nov. 1**

Speak to Mary Lou or call her at (562) 233-7405. Be sure to indicate if you would like to be a contestant or part of the audience.

Refreshments will be available for a \$2.00 suggested donation. PWC will also take up their annual Birthday Offering at the event.

## DID YOU KNOW ... ?

- **Movie Goers** will next be going to the movies on Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Check in with Adele for details closer to the day. 
- **Cutters** will be enjoying breakfast on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. See Mary Lou Fourtané or Pastor Adele to make your reservation and find out more details.
- **Flowers to beautify the Sanctuary** on a particular Sunday can be purchased for \$50.00. You can place an order in honor or 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. 
- **Covenant Adult Choir** meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., except on 11/23. See Peter Bates for more details.
- 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. Hardcopies 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.
- **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).
- Check out [RightNowMedia.org](http://RightNowMedia.org) and let Pastor Adele know if you would like to join. 
- Our **social media presence** is on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter with the handle [@CovenantLB](https://www.instagram.com/CovenantLB).
- The weekly *Words of the Pastors* is presently taking a hiatus.
- Download **Covenant’s app** - CovenantLB - on your favorite device.
- Two **women’s small groups** and one **men’s small group** offer opportunities to connect and grow.
- Volunteers help staff the church office on weekdays to answer calls, assist those who stop by, and help with small clerical jobs. Might you be interested? Please contact Pastor Adele.
- **Rising TIDE @ MKEC** programming for children and youth will meet Monday through Thursday between 12:30 & 6:00 p.m. for pre-school & elementary-aged children; 2:00 & 8:00 p.m. for middle/high school youth. Please note: Rising TIDE will be on Fall Break the week of November 20th. 

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*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**.*

