



Covenant Presbyterian Church

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

July 1, 2024

Beloved,

We write this letter as an invitation to join us in the appreciation and celebration of certain volunteers in our church who play as crucial a role in it as any.

Covenant is a church that identifies as “Presbyterian”. That English word derives from a word in *koine*, the ancient Greek language in which the New Testament was originally written. The word is *presbyter*. It is translated in English as “elder”, referring to an office in the community of God’s people that goes back to the time of Moses. The words, *presbyter* and *presbyteroi* (its plural form), are used twenty times in the New Testament.

The congregation in our kind of church elects its elders. The congregation elects elders to lead the church in the will of Christ. Thus, the main function of elders is to listen to the living Christ and to discern His particular will for a particular church (in this case, Covenant).

This is no easy job.

The Bible gives us the general principles and purposes of a church, but it gives no specific instruction about how a specific church in today’s world should fulfill those general, but eternally essential, principles and purposes. It takes faithful praying, hard thinking, open-minded discussing and more faithful praying to pick up Christ’s particular wishes for a particular church in a particular context.

That is all the more the case when the context is as unprecedented as today’s. Never-before-seen changes in the cultural milieu have been taking place every which way, and with increasing speed. What used to work in helping “the church be the church” often no longer works, and frequently what works wonderfully are things we are still figuring out how to do best.

So please give thanks for our Covenant elders and pray for them as they discern Christ’s wishes and lead us in them. The elders are Jar’reese Billberry, Ah’jea’le Brown, Mary Lou Fourtane, Kris Hall, Karen Kennedy, Adele Langworthy, Rob Langworthy, Hubert Lloyd, Bubele Sakala, Jen Schwing, Ed Story, Jeff Sutton, Mark Wiley and Drury Wisdom; and they meet the middle of this month, July 16.

Thank you!

In the grip of God’s grace,

Rob & Adele

Pastors Adele and Rob Langworthy

*We always thank
GOD for all of you
and continually
mention you in
our prayers.*

1 Thessalonians 1:2, NIV

P.S. Here’s a teaser.

This letter of gratitude is the first in a two-part series. For in our tradition there are two kinds of church officers: elders and deacons. The primary role of the first is to lead with true discernment, and the primary role of the second is to serve with true love. Both are to be equally honored, for Jesus our ultimate Leader said, “The Son of Man came, not to be served, but to serve.”

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.

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

Sunday, July 7th Matthew 5:43-48 “Reflection #9: <i>Growing Extraordinary in Concern & Kindness</i> ”	Sunday, July 14th Matthew 6:1-8 “Reflection #10: <i>Seeking the Rewards God Gives</i> ”	Sunday, July 21st Matthew 6:9-10 “Reflection #11: <i>Praying for God</i> ”	Sunday, July 28th Matthew 6:11-15 “Reflection #12: <i>Praying for Neighbors and Ourselves</i> ”
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Celebrating Holy Communion on July 7th

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

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adults are invited to attend Sunday School and study *The Letter of Paul to the Romans*, under the leadership of Elder Mark Wiley. The class meets at 11:00 a.m. 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](https://meet.google.com) and use the meeting code: [goeumjnwqq](#) or call from your phone **1-209-781-9485**, entering this PIN: **443 527 177#**.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for 6th thru 12th graders meets at 11:00 a.m. in the Art Room for those attending in-person, and for those on-line through *Google Meet*.

Email ALangworthy@CovenantLB for virtual joining information.

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for children thru 5th grade meets at 11:00 a.m. in the “Center” for those attending in-person, and for those on-line through *Google Meet*.

Email ALangworthy@CovenantLB for virtual joining information.

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. The class will be concluding the book of *2 Samuel*.



To join this study,
Online: Visit [Meet.Google.com](https://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 will be reading a novel over the summer and then meet back together in September. If you would like to be contacted about the novel the group will be reading, please reach out to either Elder Mark Wiley or Pastor Rob (group leaders) for more details.

Thursdays - Bible Study (except 7/4)

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).



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Enter this PIN: **903 321 793#**

Covenant PWC Presents

Annual Event

PIZZA PARTY ON THE PATIO

Covenant Presbyterian Women in the Congregation (PWC) would like to invite you to join us in the fun at "Pizza Party on the Patio." Ladies, let's mingle and have fun!

There is no fee, but please consider giving to our annual PWC's 'Thank Offering'.

MUSIC | GAMES
PIZZA | SALAD | DESSERT

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2024
5:30 P.M TO 7:00 P.M

Jen Schwing's Residence | 4325 E. Broadway
Long Beach, CA 90803 | (818) 424-6483

RSVP by Sunday, July 14, 2024
with either one of PWC's Board Members:
Mary Lou (562) 233-7405 | Diana Law (562) 537-3965



YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND:



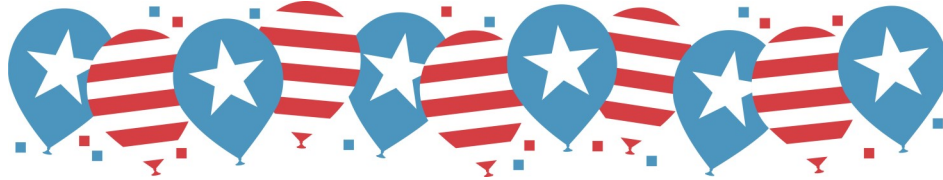
Potluck Picnic & Courtyard Worship

Thursday
July 18th

Doors open at 5:45 p.m.

- Bring food to share and your table service, beverages provided
- The meal will begin at 6:00 p.m., after grace

Courtyard
WORSHIP



AGE 3-18
YEARS

REGISTRATION
REQUIRED

SUMMER OLYMPICS 2024 RISING TIDE-STYLE

JUNE 17TH - JULY 25TH

MON-THURS
9:45AM-3:00PM

ACTIVITIES:
(FOOD PROVIDED)

READING, MATH & SCIENCE,
WORLD AWARENESS,
LIFE SKILLS, SBC/ETHICS,
MADD INC (ART CAMP)

607 E 3RD ST
CORNER OF 3RD & ATLANTIC
IN DOWNTOWN LONG BEACH

For more information call 562-437-0958 ext. 25
www.RisingTIDEatMKEC.org

REGISTER NOW



Volunteers are needed to work behind the scenes or to help directly with children. If you are interested in assisting in some way, please contact Pastor Adele.



Yuri Lotakov
&
Peter Bates

Sunday, July 28th
2:00 p.m.

DID YOU KNOW ... ?

- Join members of your Covenant family for an afternoon at a local movie theater (and a light meal following) on a date yet to be announced. For more details about **Movie Goers**, please contact Pastor Adele at ALangworthy@CovenantLB.org. 
- **Cutters** are a group of adults who enjoy getting together monthly to break bread together over breakfast (on Saturday) or over dinner (on Sunday). In July, Cutters will be enjoying breakfast on Saturday, July 13th at 9:00 a.m. at The Breakfast Bar - 70 Atlantic. See Mary Lou or Pastor Adele to make a reservation or to find out more details.
- **Covenant Summer Choir** rehearses on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. throughout the summer. 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. 
- 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 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.
- Two **women's small groups** and one **men's small group** offer opportunities to connect and grow.
- **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. 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 4th **FAQ**.*