# **Covenant Presbyterian Church**

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

October 1, 2024

Beloved,

The first worship service of this month, we celebrate World Communion Sunday, that annual date on which we make a special effort to recognize, and be inspired by, the reality that we belong to a faith family comprised of people of every nation, race, cultural background and kind.



We follow up on the last worship service of this month by holding a congregational meeting in which we take care of the specific needs of this one particular church and elect officers to lead us, and serve with us, in the fulfillment of God's will for this unique community of Jesus followers in its unique context.

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In between, we seek, as best we know how now, to make both new disciples and stronger disciples of Jesus.

To that end, we are striving to develop our hospitality and inclusivity toward church visitors who are spiritually seeking, who are new to the faith, and/or who are in any way unfamiliar with what following Jesus means to us. We are hoping to learn how to warmly welcome them without scaring them off, how to bring them into our circles of conversation as a new friend without putting them on the spot and, most of all, how to create an atmosphere in which they feel safe enough to be themselves and to speak freely without being exposed to put-downs or judging.

To the same end, we are also striving to provide additional, alternative ways for the many children and youth who, coming out of the pandemic, have been resistant to coming to church on Sundays, to engage with the wisdom and inspiration of God's word. We are therefore offering a host of new weekday Bible studies and encouraging more mentorships than before in which the scriptures might often come up in conversations about decision-making and finding one's way in these challenging days.

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In between, we also faithfully keep doing what we know we should always do – such as taking care of the needy.

In that regard, the third weekend of this month, October 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>, provides a pair of opportunities to help the needy while having a good time!

From 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. that Saturday, at the Salt Water Deck restaurant, right on the beach below 2630 E. Ocean Blvd., the social service agency Christian Outreach in Action, will be having its Gospel Brunch fundraiser. You can enjoy an all-you-can-eat brunch buffet, joyous and uplifting music and a beautiful view of the ocean – while, by your \$45 ticket purchase and possible participation in a silent auction, you support the feeding of our unhoused and low-income neighbors. You may purchase your tickets by calling 562-432-1440 or by visiting https://givebutter.com/o7rje7. (Continued on page 3)



# **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 through October 20th: "Life Revolution From the Sermon on the Mount"

October 6<sup>th</sup> Matthew 7:12-14 "Reflection #18: The Grand Reversal" October 13<sup>th</sup> Matthew 7:15-23 *"Reflection #19:* Becoming the Real Deal" October 20<sup>th</sup> Matthew 7:24-29 *"Reflection #20:* Doing It" October 27<sup>th</sup> Ephesians 2:8-9 "God's Gift from Start to Finish"

# 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: **goeumjnwgq** 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

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

### Tuesdays - Book Club

The on-line Book Club meets at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *The Jesus I Never Knew* by Philip Yancey. If you would like to be contacted about this group, please reach out to Elder Mark Wiley or Pastor Rob.

### 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, <u>Online</u>: Visit Meet.Google.com & Join by using meeting code: ohcydfgcmm <u>By phone</u>: Dial 1-415-662-0116 & Enter this PIN: 903 321 793#

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

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



Starting at 2:30 that Sunday at the Los Altos Methodist Church at 5950 E. Willow (with organizing rally at 2:15), *CROP/Church World Services* will be having its Hunger Walk fundraiser. You can enjoy a pleasant 5K afternoon walk through nice neighborhoods in the company of lovely people – while you either take the stroll yourself or sponsor someone who is walking, and so raise money to relieve hunger (with 75% of the funds going to international feeding efforts. and 25%, to Long Beach local efforts). You may register by calling 562-983-1665 or by going online to crophungerwalk.org/longbeachca.



LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

We are so grateful for the adventure of following Jesus, and for such wonderful companions in the journey!

In the grip of God's grace,

Rob & Adele

Pastor Adele and Pastor Rob

Join in a *Serve Day* to help around the church facility 8:00 a.m. - 12 Noon Saturday, October 12th Southern California Junior Bach Festival 2:00 pm.



*Movie Goers* is a group that meets monthly to watch a movie together and then discuss it over a meal following the movie. *Average Joe* is our October 27<sup>th</sup> choice. For more details, please email Pastor Adele at ALangworthy@CovenantLB.org.

Synopsis: This movie is based on a true story about a marine who becomes a high school coach and takes a legal stand to defend freedom and religious liberty for everyone.



### 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

- to sign up a new young person, click on New Participant Enrollment Form
- to sign up a returning student, 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



## **DID YOU KNOW ... ?**

- Covenant Adult Choir rehearses on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. 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 dinner on Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at *Mimi's* in Lakewood. 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.
- If you would like us to join you in prayer, you can contact one of the Pastors through the church office at (562) 437-0958, complete a prayer request card found in the Narthex or use this QR code.
- 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 a 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.
- 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.



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 or using this QR code.



