WELCOME TO

ARK MINISTRIES
It is impossible to remain unchanged when we encounter the living God, for “where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.” (2 Cor 3:17) When we worship Him in spirit and in truth, when our “one thing” is to seek His face and behold His beauty all the days of our lives, when we yield our will to His in order to be one with Him, He transforms and revives us from the inside out. This - the resurrected, reconciled, transformed life - is the work of the Kingdom of God that is at hand, that is in our midst, that is advancing. This is the power of Jesus, our Lord, Savior, and Redeemer.

This is our vision for sustained revival: To see individuals, families, cities, and nations revived, healed, and transformed - day by day, life by life, relationship by relationship.
Throughout the history of the church, we’ve seen corporate revival movements come and go. But, what is revival? And how do we continually fan the flames of revival? Revival is the manifestation and multiplication of the first and greatest of the commandments - loving the Lord with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and loving our neighbors as ourselves. Revival is the discipleship and lasting transformation of individuals, communities, cities, nations unto the glory of God. Revival might start with an encounter, but it is matured through discipleship and multiplied through unity of the Spirit. Revival is the fullness of God in and through His Body, overflowing into communities; His Church operating in her God-ordained fullness as the salt and light of the world. Revival must first be inwardly sustained in order to be outwardly effective.

To be faithful to the end, to mature our faith in and love for the Lord, to sustain the flames of revival, to be powerful and effective in the world, God has given us His Spirit, His Word, and His Church. Under this Kingdom paradigm, we can manifest the fullness of God in every arena and sphere of life.

It starts with a seed. A step. A spark. A “yes.”

We invite you to join us. What does sustained revival look like in your life? In our families, our places of work, our cities, our nation, and our world?
OUR MISSION

Discipling generations to be:

Filled with faith,
Healed in every way,
Empowered in the Spirit, and
Influential in every sphere of society,

so that Jesus may be glorified
in the city of Berkeley and beyond.
Our mission is to raise up generations of people who are wholly surrendered unto God; captivated by Him; utterly convinced of His worthiness, His goodness, and His love; and entirely dependent upon and expectant of God showing up in powerful and practical ways.

We cannot give what we have not received. As He continuously heals us inside out, renews our thinking and fills us with His love, we are equipped to partner with Him in faith and in obedience, we can bring Christ and be like Christ to those around us, wherever He calls us. We can transform the atmosphere around us. We can be ambassadors of hope. We can bridge the distance between heaven and earth.
OUR FIRST LOVE:
Jesus is Preeminent

When we place Jesus at the center of our hearts and our lives, everything else falls into place. Jesus is both our starting point and end goal, for there is nothing more worthy, more beautiful, more glorious, more awesome, more wonderful than Him. The pursuit and worship of God, simply for who He is, is the chief aim of our lives. Any other endeavors and pleasures in life pale in comparison to the surpassing joy of knowing Him and to be known by Him. We were made to seek Him, worship Him, know Him, and enjoy Him forevermore. To be with Him one day is better than thousands elsewhere. His love is better than life. He is our great reward.

When we see Jesus and the cross clearly, we are compelled to respond with wholehearted adoration and complete abandonment. Who Jesus is and what He has done for us is worth everything we are and have, even our very lives. Although He invites us into a life of neverending surrender, losing our life in Him is where true life, abundant life, can always be found and fulfilled. He is altogether perfect. His ways are higher and must come before our own agendas and ideas. Our greatest desire in life is to be faithful to Jesus, whether in things big or small. Whatever we do out of faith in Him bears lasting fruit; but whatever we do out of our own ambition remains futile.

Matthew 16:24-26; Matthew 25; Philippians 1:19-26, Proverbs 1:7; John 5:19; 1 John 5:3; Luke 16:1-12; Luke 19:11-26
Who am I? Is there something at the very core of who we are that holds forever true and can be authentically expressed? The answer is a resounding “yes” proclaimed by our Creator. We are fearfully and wonderfully made. In Christ, we are beloved sons and daughters of The Most High God. We are loved, forgiven, and intimately connected with our Heavenly Father. His unchanging love and faithful provision free us from endless striving for worth and significance. He invites us to dream “God-sized dreams” that require a God who does exceedingly, abundantly more than we could ask or imagine. His Spirit and grace empowers us to do all He has called us to; apart from Him, we can do nothing. Because our identity is secure in Christ, and because His grace is sufficient, we can even boast in our weaknesses! We are co-heirs with Christ. We are His royal priesthood. We are more than conquerors in Christ. In Him, we lack no good thing. Who the Son sets free, is free, indeed. And, indeed, we are who He says we are and we have what He says we have.

2 Corinthians 5:16-17; 1 John 4:9-10; John 3:16; Luke 15; John 15:5; Romans 8:15; Romans 8:31-35; 1 Peter 2:9
Jesus called us, His Church, to be the salt and light of the world. Salt preserves, but it also draws out flavor and essence. Light dispels the darkness, and it enables vision and clarity. As God’s chosen vehicle to disciple the nations, the Church has been given the authority, assignment, and ability to transform every sphere of society, to blur the line between sacred and secular, to prepare the way (and hearts) for the second coming of Christ, and to restore and reconcile a broken world to our God the Father. As the Body of Christ, we are equipped to carry out His work by prioritizing The Greatest Commandment, stewarding His presence, obeying His Word, cultivating sacrificial love for one another, preserving the unity of the Spirit, honoring the Kingdom paradigm of leadership and order within the Church, growing in the gifts and fruit of the Spirit, and modeling His ways to those who do not yet know Him. Though the mandate will not be complete until Christ’s second coming, we operate from His love (not to earn His love) and from a place of faith, joy, and rest because we fix our eyes on Him.

Matthew 5:3-16; John 17, 1 Corinthians 12:12, 27; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Hebrews 4:9-11; Mark 12:28-31; John 13:34-35; Ephesians 2:19; Matthew 28:18-20
Our History

The heart behind Ark Ministries of Berkeley has always been to establish “the ark of God's presence” in Berkeley, to establish a remnant of people fully surrendered to Jesus and altogether after the heart of God who will carry the flame and the torch of sustained revival through the generations and nations. Throughout the years, many attempts have been made to alter God's purpose and agenda for the Ark, but He has supernaturally preserved the purity of His “DNA” and of His work within and through the Ark.
By the grace of God and His sovereign providence, the Ark has endured many seasons of transition and different iterations of leadership. Each and every time, the Lord has refined, strengthened, and purified His intentions and our resolve to keep Jesus at the center and at the helm. As the Ark enters a new era, we believe God is preparing us for “a new wine” and “a new wineskin.” We do not yet know what it will fully be, but we know God is faithfully leading us. He will carry us through and over until He has completed the good work He has begun.
ORIGINS (2006-2010):

Birthed Out of Hunger for His Presence

The Ark began as a ragtag group of believers, largely Cal students and graduates, who were desperately hungry to seek the face of God in Berkeley. Ryan and Suky Longfield, then newlyweds, (along with Pastor Vera Speed) hosted several prayer, prophecy, and worship nights. Starting February 17, 2006, the Lord led the group to initiate 40 days of prayer and fasting to enter the ‘Ark of His Presence.’ One of the members felt the Holy Spirit promise snow as a confirmation of God’s presence. (By the way, if you’re not familiar with the Bay Area climate, it definitely does not snow in the Bay Area.) The day the group started praying, just as God promised, snow fell on Berkeley! During those 40 days, not a single day went by without miracles, signs, and wonders. The supernatural had become natural in the midst of this group’s abandoned pursuit of God. Out of that outpouring of God’s Spirit and Presence, the Ark was born!
The Lord even provided a new 3 story house, 4 blocks from campus for us as a venue. We were a bonafide house church!
Over the next few years, many continued to join us, often through unexpected avenues: some heard our worship from the streets, and some managed to circumvent our broken website to find us. Eventually, we outgrew the house where we gathered, as well as the next two venues we rented. This was also a season for many firsts: Our first short-term missions trip through Iris Ministries, the ordination of Senior Pastors Ryan and Suky Longfield, the Ark’s first retreat, the formation of Ark College Group, our first New Students Reception, and more.
ESTABLISHING FOUNDATIONS (2011-2014):

Spiritual Sonship &
Vision of Sustained Revival

In 2011, the Longfield’s began receiving mentorship from Pastors Benjamin and Sunhee Robinson, Senior Pastors of Living Hope Christian Center (now LINEAGE). After years of operating as a prayer house/church, it became clear to the Longfield’s that the Ark needed to establish itself as an official organization with healthy systems, structures, and spiritual covering. To that end, the Robinsons graciously stepped-in as the interim Senior Pastors of the Ark, providing Pastors Ryan and Suky Longfield a much-needed opportunity to rest and, ultimately, to start growing their own family!
Over the next two years, the Robinsons laid the foundations of a healthy spiritual family built upon Biblical principles of sonship, order, honor, service, discipline, with God as our “Abba Father.” God showed us the tremendous freedom that comes from being sons and daughters of God who, because of our identities in Christ, share ownership by joyfully serving the house and lovingly honoring its leaders. “Discipline,” “endurance,” and “perseverance” were no longer scary words because we began to appreciate that our Heavenly Father exclusively reserved discipline for His sons and daughters in order to mature and bless us, to cause us to be fruitful in all we endeavor. The Robinsons taught us how to approach and connect with God as our “Abba Father.” They also instilled within us our divine purpose, mission, destiny, and inheritance in God.
By the time the Ark's pastorship was returned to the Longfields in 2013, the Ark was more firmly established and further equipped to pursue its vision and mission of sustained revival in Berkeley. It was also during this time that we hired our first Executive Director, registered as a nonprofit, established a Board of Trustees and a Board of Overseers, developed formal service teams, initiated small groups, initiated "All Members’ Meetings," and made great strides towards operational excellence.
GROWTH & SCALING (2015-2018):
Formalized Ministries & Strategic Priorities

With the Longfield’s return as our Senior Pastors - and with two new babies! - the Ark grew and grew-up! With so many new children and families, the Ark established its very first Children’s Ministry. We also initiated and formalized many ministries, such as prayer and intercession, altar ministry, home groups, local and international missions, and a core leaders’ team. During this season, we saw the greatest growth in numbers - over 20 new members each year, along with many more college students, young adults, and families attending regularly.
Each year, God highlighted several strategic areas for growth, many of which matured into core spiritual practices for our community. Some of these included: “Joy-filled Service” in 2015, “Anchored in the Word” in 2016 and “Simplicity of Intimacy” in 2017. In 2018, as part of our annual priority on “Community Done Well”, we commissioned twenty-six new shepherding leaders to pastor a new iteration of home groups, expanding our pastoral capacity and reach.
STRENGTHENING OUR RESOLVE (2019-):

Preparing for the New Wine & New Wineskin

Pastor Suky released a powerful word during the 2019 retreat on being prepared for Jesus’ return and living our lives in light of eternity. The urgency of the word weighed heavily on our pastors’ hearts, to establish us as a people who are wholly rooted in the person of Jesus and His Word, unoffendable, consumed in faithfully carrying out His mission, and committed to loving and protecting the unity of His Church. Unbeknownst to us, this would soon be put to the test as our nation and the rest of the world experienced an unprecedented shaking in 2020 (i.e., COVID-19 outbreak, California wildfires, reckoning with racism in America, social and economic upheaval, Presidential election, etc.)
Now, more than ever, the need to cling to Jesus is essential. In Him is the answer to every issue, injustice, and heartbreak. Now, more than ever, the need to hold fast to the immutable God and His inerrant, infallible, eternal Word, is vital. Now, more than ever, the need to seek and worship the Lord is crucial. Now, more than ever, we need to live in light of eternity. We believe God is calling for His Church to return to their first love, Jesus. We believe God is underscoring The Greatest Commandment, for all of life revolves around this. We believe God is preparing His Church for the great harvest. We believe we are sitting at the cusp of something momentous - in the Church, in this nation, in the world. We believe God will forge His Church in the fire of trial, and our faith will come forth as purified, refined gold.
This is not a return to our roots; rather, it is a strengthening of our resolve. From this place of abandoned pursuit of and single-minded devotion to our first love, we will continue to advance God’s vision of sustained revival in and through the Ark, in Berkeley and beyond.
About Our Founding Pastors

RYAN LONGFIELD

Since the start of Ark Ministries of Berkeley and his professional career, Ryan has served as a bivocational pastor for 15 years, having been gifted with the vision, grace and strength for stewarding God's vision for the Ark and God's Presence in the marketplace as his primary mission field. Currently, he is the Chief Revenue Officer of Gong, a Forbes top global 100 startup. Ryan desires to see people living purposefully and passionately from a place of complete surrender to Jesus in all things. His dream is for the Kingdom to invade corporate culture as God's people carry His glory, presence, love, wisdom, and power to those who otherwise may not have the opportunity to encounter Him. Ryan has been married to his wonderful, anointed wife Suky since 2005 and they have two beautiful girls, 8 and 6 years old.
SUKY LONGFIELD

Suky’s greatest desire in life is to see God glorified through His Son being known, loved, and worshipped for who He is. After powerfully encountering the Lord and His Holy Spirit as an undergrad at UC Berkeley, God interrupted her plans after graduate school and called her into ministry within the Church. Little did she know she and her husband, Ryan, would eventually found and plant a church in the city of their alma mater. Serving alongside her husband as the Senior Pastors of the Ark for the last 15 years, she has faithfully carried the heart of God to establish an “ark of His presence” in the City of Berkeley and to consecrate a people after His own heart. She has lovingly discipled God’s people to seek the face of Jesus, and love the Lord with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength. She has also faithfully imparted timeless Kingdom truth and wisdom, and tirelessly counseled God’s people into emotional wholeness and freedom in Christ. Her hope and prayer is to see people remain faithful to God to the end.
Ark Ministries is a non-denominational church. Instead of operating under a regional denominational office, our founding senior pastors Ryan and Suky Longfield have chosen to come under the spiritual covering and authority of a Board of Overseers made up of ministers, apostles, and pastors with proven character, accountability, wisdom, sound theology, established Christian ministries, and relationship with the Longfields. Their primary role is to provide spiritual and theological oversight, pastoring and accountability over the senior pastors.

**VERA E. SPEED**

*Interim Senior Pastor, Ark Ministries of Berkeley City Reachers International Ministries*

Dr. Vera E. Speed is a longtime minister in the Bay Area and now in Texas. She is the co-founder and spiritual mother of the Ark. She has been deeply involved with the intercessory and strategic prayer movement throughout California and has been sent on prayer missions throughout the state, breaking strongholds and paving the way for revival. She recently received her Doctorate of Christian Theology. Currently, she travels both internationally and nationally conducting apostolic training schools, equipping the church from state to state. Vera is an itinerant full time speaker and teacher of the Gospel. She moves in a grace to bring inner healing and deliverance to many through her prophetic gifts. She is a mother of one son, Charles and his wife, Erika and two grandchildren, Aslan and Aria.
ROBERT & DIAHANN DANIELS
City of the Lord Zion Oakland

Pastors Robert and Diahann Daniels have served as Senior Pastors for more than 20 years at the City of the Lord Zion Church in Oakland, and the parents of 3 incredible children. Pastor Robert is an apostolic teacher and spiritual father to many, and God is using him to restore spiritual sonship to the body of Christ. Pastor Diahann is a successful business consultant and a mighty minister of the gospel who has a passion to release men and women to prosper in every area of their lives.

BENJAMIN & SUNHEE ROBINSON
LINEAGE

Pastors Benjamin Sunhee Robinson are the Founders and Senior Pastors of LINEAGE in El Cerrito. They were also Senior Pastors of the Ark from 2011-2013, and continue to mentor and shepherd the Ark Founders (the Longfield’s).

Pastor Benjamin has a Masters Degree in Biblical Studies from Fuller Seminary and did eight years of PhD work in Renewal Theology at Regent University. Benjamin’s ministry is a marriage of Word & Spirit, demonstrating a unique grace for bringing academic insights into the service of Spirit-empowered ministry. Pastor Sunhee has pioneered missionary work in some of the most remote and dangerous places in the world, in which God has used her mightily. She earned her M.A. at Fuller Theological Seminary’s School of Intercultural Studies.
The City of Berkeley & Surrounding Areas

The City of Berkeley and the immediate surrounding cities (Oakland, Emeryville, part of the “East Bay” of the Bay Area) can best be described as a blend of urban and suburban living. Although one of the best public universities in the nation (UC Berkeley) is located in the city, and although the East Bay is just across the bridge from Silicon Valley, the birthplace of tech innovation, the Bay Area is also one of the most unchurched regions in the nation. New Age, atheism, and secular humanism are the “religions” of choice. Homelessness and crime pervade much of the City of Berkeley and the surrounding cities. This is definitely not a city for the fainthearted; nor is it the typical “ideal location” to plant a church. Thankfully, we serve a God who calls the things that are not as though they are. Thankfully, we serve a God who sees and knows the prophetic destiny of each person, each city, and each nation— for He created them.
God loves the City of Berkeley and its inhabitants. God has great plans for the city, for the region, and for UC Berkeley. Decades before God established Ark Ministries, He began sending prophets, missionaries, and evangelists to witness to the city and to the campus. In fact, UC Berkeley was one of the first campuses to see a revival born out of The Jesus People Movement, as many gave their lives to Jesus and were baptized in Sproul Hall fountain, a campus landmark.
It’s no coincidence that the motto for UC Berkeley is: “Let there be light.” It’s no coincidence that this region and the university are an international attraction. It’s no coincidence that some of the greatest movements and minds have come from UC Berkeley; after all, this region, its cities, and its universities are world-renowned for their pioneering, entrepreneurial spirit. It’s no coincidence that God decided to establish “the ark of His covenant” in this city. This area, this region, is a “promised land” that belongs to God and that He wants to redeem. As in the Promised Land described in the Bible, there are “giants” to conquer in this land, as well - spiritual “giants” that set themselves up against the knowledge of God.
The unprecedented national and global events of 2020 that continue to pervade our current spiritual, political, and social climate have shaken everything that can be shaken and exposed every foundation that was not built upon Christ. In the shaking and scattering, God has purified what He always intended the Ark to be: A remnant of His people who steadfastly carry and champion the heart and vision of God, to see God glorified in this city and beyond, and to birth and sustain an unstoppable revival. The truth of the matter is, we know it will not be easy - and it would be unfair and disingenuous to pretend this endeavor will not come without trials and resistance. We are very aware of the spiritual battle being waged. But, we are even more aware of God, confident in His Spirit, and passionate about His work in this region, in the nations, and in the Body of Christ. We are called and we are committed to God and to His dreams for this land and its people. It hasn't been easy, and it won't be easy. But, we believe we will see the goodness of God in this land. And we believe He is worthy of our all.