

Seaside's Connection Point



WELCOME!

WE ARE GLAD THAT YOU ARE SHOWING
INTEREST AND WANT TO FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT SEASIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

THIS IS AN
INTRODUCTION
TO SEASIDE...



Hopefully you will find this introduction helpful. We desire to extend a warm welcome to anyone who wants to be a part of this church family. We believe every follower of Jesus needs to belong and be connected with a local church family.

*We want to enable you to understand the **direction** of Seaside, and to provide an opportunity for you to **belong** to our Seaside family.*

***“You are a member of God's very own family ...
and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.”
Ephesians 2:19 (TLB)***



STATEMENT OF FAITH

Our early church leaders wrote the Apostle's Creed, to which we adhere.

We are staying connected with the historic teaching of the Christian church.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the
living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

At Seaside Community Church, we hold firmly to the truths of the historical Christian faith, including the following:

THE TRINITY: We believe there is one God, Creator, and Sustainer of all things, who exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

THE BIBLE: We believe the Bible, in both the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God and therefore the reliable authority for conduct and faith. We also believe Jesus is the Word of God made flesh as described in John 1:1-14.

JESUS CHRIST: We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life and miracles, that He was The Word of God, that He was crucified to pay the penalty for our sins and was bodily resurrected on the third day.

THE HOLY SPIRIT: We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit in the world to draw people into relationship with Christ and give believers the power to live godly lives.

THE CHURCH: We believe in the spiritual unity of all Christians as members of the body of Christ which is the Church. We follow Christ's two sacraments of water baptism and communion.

SALVATION: We have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God and therefore needs to believe and receive Christ's death on the cross as the sole and complete payment for their sins. There is no other way to salvation except through Jesus Christ.

THE FUTURE: We believe in the personal return of the resurrected Jesus to establish His kingdom forever. Those who have accepted Christ will experience eternal life with Him, while those who have rejected Him will suffer forever apart from God.

These we believe to be the major core beliefs
of the Christian Church

At Seaside we want to **major** in the **major** doctrines,
and **minor** in the **minor** doctrines

WHAT IS OUR MISSION

Our mission

After receiving the love of God that empowers and motivates us...

“We love, grow and serve with God and for his glory.”

Love

Which is the greatest commandment in the law? Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment, and the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” MATTHEW 22:36-40

Grow

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age.
MATTHEW 28:19-20

Serve

...and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” MATTHEW 20:27-28

VALUES STATEMENT

We value spiritual growth in the following areas...

- **We treasure God and His Word**

“Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. 5 And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. 6 And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. 7 Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9

Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.

PSALM 119:89

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ACTS 2:42

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. 6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. JOHN 1:1-8

To love and honor God we treasure His Word, the scriptures, Jesus as the Word, as the foundation for our lives. To know Him, listen to Him and live out His will is our highest ambition. We are committed to the study and application of scripture to our daily lives. We want to be devoted to teaching and applying the truth of scripture at every age level.

• **We invest in loving relationships**

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” JOHN 13:34

This is my command: Love each other. JOHN 15:17

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. EPH. 4:29

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. HEBREWS 10:24-25

All of God’s commands are summed up in this one: Love each other, sincerely and deeply, devoting ourselves to healthy, loving relationships. Every family member takes the responsibility to encourage and build up the church family. Receiving and reflecting God’s unconditional love is our highest pursuit.

• **We strive for spiritual growth**

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation. 1 PETER 2:2

So now, since we have been made right in God’s sight by faith in his promises, we can have real peace with him because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. For because of our faith, he has brought us into this place of highest privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to actually becoming all that God has had in mind for us to be. ROMANS 5:1-2 TLB

Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. EPHESIANS 4:15

Spiritual growth is a process that never ends. The goal of spiritual growth and Christian maturity is becoming more like Jesus. To encounter Him, to know Him, and to reflect Him is our aspiration. One of the primary purposes of Bible study and gathering with our Christian community on Sundays and Growth Groups is to move us in Spiritual growth. All we can do is come before the Holy Spirit. We don't do the work, we don't grow on our own accord. Showing up is creating the environment for the Spirit to work. We leave our old life and we are with God. We keep showing up.

- **We develop servant lifestyles**

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” MARK 10:45

*But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”
GALATIANS 5:13-14*

To serve is to follow the example of Jesus. Becoming a servant in our homes, our church, and our world will fulfill God's desire for us. This attitude is desired from every person in our church family.

• **We value collaboration and teamwork.**

Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us. Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. ROMANS 12:3-5

He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. EPHESIANS 4:16

Collaboration: *the action of working with someone to produce or create something.*

When we use the word collaboration we mean to co-labor. We value a team aspect where we share the labor with others.

We are the body of Christ, where each and every member is vital to the health of the church. Starting with our leadership, we make decisions in a collaborative manner seeking to humbly hear one another and make use of the special gifts that God has provided. Our desire is to grow every ministry with a team of servant leaders. If you want to serve, we encourage you to find a partner and team up.

• **We desire to empathize with and serve our world.**

He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. MARK 16:15

¹⁶But when the teachers of religious law who were Pharisees saw him eating with tax collectors and other sinners, they asked his disciples, “Why does he eat with such scum?”

¹⁷When Jesus heard this, he told them, “Healthy people don’t need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners.”

MARK 2:16-17 NLT

Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you. JAMES 1:27

If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God’s love be in that person? Dear children, let’s not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. 1 JOHN 3:17-18

Both Spiritual and Physical needs are in mind.

We believe that every human being matters deeply to God. We want to introduce people to the Good News of Jesus Christ. We also want to grow in our efforts to serve the people who are hungry, thirsty and marginalized. People in our city or around the globe, everyone matters to God.

• **We desire to serve the whole person.**

Relational

Mental

Emotional

Spiritual

Physical

Missional

• We cultivate a spirit of generosity

⁵So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given. ⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written:

“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

¹²This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:5-13

Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. 1 TIMOTHY 6:18-19

Generosity is a mindset. We encourage you to live generously in all areas of life including your time, your money, your skills, your talents, and your resources.

VISION STATEMENT

We plan to see Seaside ...

... as a community that is connected deeply with God.

Learning to do life His way, knowing Him, responding to His infinite love that was displayed through Jesus.

... as a place where people who are weary from the pressures of life receive from God; goodness, love, acceptance, forgiveness, guidance, grace and truth, encouragement and hope for the future.

... as a family whose members are learning to love and care for one another by accepting, affirming, encouraging and giving to each other in their faith journey.

... functioning as God intended, where each member is encouraged and equipped to discover and use their unique abilities, personality, experiences, passion and spiritual gifts to work together to build up His people.

... as one of God's instruments to reach a lost world with the message of Jesus Christ living out the message with every child, teenager and adult in Huntington Beach and the surrounding communities.

... sending out equipped, empowered, passionate and compassionate people to every continent with the hope of Christ..sending out career missionaries as well as many members on short-term mission projects.

... members, both individually and corporately, passionately giving God praise and glory, loving Him with our whole life.

TWO SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

Sacrament: regarded as imparting divine grace.

There are two sacraments Christ gave His followers; Baptism and Communion.

BAPTISM

A. What is the meaning of Baptism?

- It illustrates Christ's death and resurrection. Christ died for our sins...He was buried...and He rose again.

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures. 1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4

For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ. COLOSSIANS 2:12

B. Why would I be baptized?

- Because it identifies me as a follower of Christ.

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." MATTHEW 28:18-20

- It illustrates my new birth as a Christian.

*This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17*

COMMUNION

Who can take communion?

- All who want to participate in Jesus!

What is Communion?

- It is a reminder to us
- It is Christ's body and blood
- It is a proclamation of faith

...and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; eat it in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; drink it to remember me." For when ever you eat the bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes back. 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26

BELONGING TO THE SEASIDE FAMILY

We **devote** ourselves to **growing** by...

- Learning to love and follow Jesus

As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Levi got up and followed him. MARK 2:14 NLT

"If you love me, obey my commandments." JOHN 14:14

- Acting in love to other members and contending for unity

Have sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart. 1 PETER 1:22

So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up. ROMANS 14:19 NLT

- Praying for the spiritual health of our Seaside Family

To the church — ...We always thank God for you and pray for you constantly. 1 THESS. 1:1-2 TLB

- Finding a place to serve our church family

Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you, as faithful dispensers of the magnificently varied grace of God. 1 PETER 4:10

- Discovering and using our spiritual gifts and abilities

He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. EPHESIANS 4:16 NLT

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. 1 CORINTHIANS 4:4-6 NLT

- Regularly giving a percentage of our income to support our church mission

On every Lord's Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and use it for this offering. 1 CORINTHIANS 16:2 TLB

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 CORINTHIANS 9:7-8

- Regular participation in our weekly celebration gathering and participating in a Growth Group

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. HEBREWS 10:25

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. ACTS 2:42

- Warmly welcoming and inviting others into our church family

So warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified. ROMANS 15:7 TLB

The Master said to the servant, "Go out to the roads and country lanes, and urge the people there to come so my house will be full." LUKE 14:23 NCV

Whether you're brand new to this faith journey or have followed Jesus for a while... **We welcome you!** We look forward to growing with you and learning how to follow Jesus together!