

WE ARE COASTAL



connect



grow



serve



commit



OUR HISTORY

In the latter part of 2000, God began planting the seeds for Coastal Community Church. Leadership from Tidewater Community Church and Bay Rivers Community Church met to explore the idea of bringing these two church families together. Though the concept seemed favorable to both, the timing was not right, and no action was taken. One year later, in November of 2001, the new pastor of Bay Rivers, Pastor Shaun Brown, and Pastor Derek Evatt of Tidewater began praying together for God's direction concerning both churches. God began nurturing the seeds that were planted one year earlier. Through much prayer and many hours of discussion, leadership from both churches discerned that God's direction was to come together as one church. On February 3rd 2002, both churches unanimously voted to accept a proposal to come together and start a new church on the Peninsula.

Resources could go much further once the two churches merged. Only one location had to be rented, so Coastal Community Church found its home at Grafton Middle School and High School. On March 3rd 2002, 243 people attended the first Coastal Celebration Service. In the weeks to follow many volunteers were needed to unload, set up, tear down and pack up. Despite the mobile location, the church grew and soon it was time to find a permanent location, but our nation faced a financial recession. Despite this recession, God blessed Coastal financially, made the way for a loan, and provided a piece of land at an amazing price! In May 2010, 6406 George Washington Memorial Highway became the new home for Coastal Community Church.

Coastal Members anticipated many years in this new building, but after only three years, they had packed the new building. Two services became

three, and soon those three services were standing room only. There was a great need for more parking, seating and children's space, so the leadership of Coastal began to discuss their options. After months of prayer, meetings, and a Membership vote, Pastor Shaun Brown signed the papers to purchase a building from Kroger to be the home of Coastal Community Church.

Transforming a grocery store into a church took a great deal of work and money. Over 6,000 volunteer hours were logged saving the church \$100,000. Men, women and children of all ages linked arms to physically and financially prepare the new worship space. The first service in the new building was April 24th 2016 and the Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting for the new building was held on September 18th 2016. There were 1,402 people on that day!

In the fall of 2018, Coastal launched its first missional campus. This campus in Gloucester had over 120 people at their kick-off service bringing the Gospel to this new location. In just one year, this campus became self-sustaining and continues to grow.

Fall of 2019 brought the launch of our second missional campus, Deer Park. Coastal adopted Deer Park Baptist church early in the summer. Volunteers and contractors worked tirelessly to give the campus a fresh look, and on September 8, 2019, we had our Grand Opening service. Coastal Yorktown and Coastal Gloucester sent 200 people to join with the Deer Park congregation to bring even more light to Newport News.

God has blessed Coastal, and we are eager to spread the name and fame of Christ on the Peninsula and around the world.

OUR MISSION, VISION & CORE VALUES

*But grow in the grace and knowledge of
and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glo
and forever! Amen.*

Our mission and vision are to develop authentic followers of Jesus Christ who connect to God through corporate worship, growth in community through small groups, and serve in a ministry and mission.

In everything we do, we value:

WATCHFULNESS

Knowing the truth of God's Word so that we can guard the Gospel of Jesus Christ in ourselves and for the culture protecting ourselves from the world.

AUTHENTICITY

Living a holy life in honesty and transparency with others so the gospel will be clearly seen.

LOVE

Doing the most loving thing because all people matter to God and because God is love.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Giving an account to one another in response to owning the truth of God's Word.



CONNECT

*The gospel of **Jesus Christ** is the heart of the matter.*

MEET OUR ELDERS



SHAUN BROWN
Senior Pastor, Elder



ANDREW OATES
Executive Pastor, Elder



JOHN LINDSTROM
Elder



WAYNE DREWRY
Elder



LAMONTE PRESTON
Elder



JAMES RIDDICK
Elder



JIMMY MARTIN
Elder

FIND A CAMPUS NEAR YOU

CHESAPEAKE

Lead Pastor:
Andrew Segre

Campus Elder:
Wayne Drewry

Sunday Services:
10:30 a.m.

Address:
1832 Elbow Road,
Chesapeake, VA 23320

GLOUCESTER

Lead Pastor:
David Wilson

Campus Elders:
John Lindstrom, Brian Briggs,
Dan Sexton

Sunday Services:
9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Address:
6338 George Washington
Memorial Highway,
Gloucester, VA 23061

YORKTOWN

Lead Pastor:
Cliff Bowen

Campus Elder:
Jim Martin

Sunday Services
8:00, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

Address:
101 Village Avenue,
Yorktown, VA 23693



GROW

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GROWTH STARTS WITH WHAT WE BELIEVE

We grow in Small Groups and Spiritual Formation Classes.

To find a Small Group, go to **gocoastal.org/smallgroups**. Here you will find a list of our small groups, and you can narrow the search by using our small group finder.

We have two official Small Group Seasons each year. They run from February – April and September – November. We ask everyone to participate in a group during this time, but some groups choose to continue to meet throughout the entire year. Our online listing will give you a “real time” list.

When we are not in Small Group Season, we have Spiritual Formation Classes. These are in January and May – August. You can find a complete listing and register for classes coming up by going to **gocoastal.org/spiritualformations**.



SERVE

*When we embrace how we are wired, our service will have **eternal impact**.*

WE SERVE IN MINISTRIES & MISSIONS

Ministries are inside the walls of the church. They focus on the people who already call Coastal “home.”

These ministries include:

Coastal Kids	Follow Up Team	Prayer
Coastal Students	Hospitality	Production
Creative Arts	Men of Coastal	Restored (College)
First Impressions	Office Support	Small Groups

To ask for information about any of our ministries, go to [**gocoastal.org/serve**](https://gocoastal.org/serve)

Missions are done outside the walls of the church. They focus on reaching people who do not come to Coastal and who may not even know Christ as their Savior. There are missions we sponsor and mission partnerships locally and around the world.

These missions include:

Children’s Impact International (Bolivia)	Impact International (Africa)
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL – Coastal Sponsored)	Lighthouse Church (Thailand)
Food Mission (Coastal Sponsored)	Peninsula Care Net
Full Circle (Coastal Sponsored)	Peninsula Rescue Mission (PRM)
Gift Mission (Coastal Sponsored)	Sparrow Missions (Honduras)
Hunger Corp (Puerto Rico)	The Timothy Initiative (Global Church Planting)
	Virginia Beach Justice Initiative (Freekind VA)

For a complete list of our missions, go to [**gocoastal.org/localmissions**](https://gocoastal.org/localmissions) or [**gocoastal.org/global**](https://gocoastal.org/global)

Do you want help in finding a place to serve in ministry and missions?

1. Send your top spiritual gifts to [**engagement@gocoastal.org**](mailto:engagement@gocoastal.org).
2. If you don’t know your spiritual gifts, or if you would like to take a few assessments, here are some links to help you, and don’t forget to email the results.
 - Spiritual Gifts – [**https://coastalchurch.typeform.com/to/WarQknja**](https://coastalchurch.typeform.com/to/WarQknja)
 - Personality – [**https://coastalchurch.typeform.com/to/WW9IJBnj**](https://coastalchurch.typeform.com/to/WW9IJBnj)
3. Someone from our follow up team will contact you to help you get connected to a ministry and/or mission.



COMMIT

*The difference between attenders and members can be summed up in one word, **commitment**.*

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT

At Coastal, we never ask our members to do more than the Bible clearly teaches. We only expect our members to do what the Bible expects every Christian to do.

The Membership Commitment includes the member's commitment to the body and leadership's commitment to the member. The leaders referred to in this commitment are those elder/pastor approved leaders throughout the church. They include but are not limited to elders, pastors, ministry staff, ministry leaders, deacons and small group leaders.

The Member

I will protect the unity of my church...

- by acting in love toward other members
- by refusing to gossip
- by following the leaders

Your participation and accountability to a small group is the vehicle we use to promote the unity of the church.

I will share the responsibility of my church...

- by praying for its growth
- by inviting the unchurched to attend
- by warmly welcoming those who visit

Your participation by giving, prayer, and/or personal involvement in a mission is the vehicle we use to share the responsibility of the church.

I will serve the ministry of my church...

- by discovering my gifts and talents
- by being equipped to serve my pastors and leaders
- by developing a servant's heart and demonstrating a servant's actions

I will serve the testimony of my church...

- by attending corporate worship faithfully
- by living a God-glorifying lifestyle
- by giving a tithe

The Leadership

We will protect the unity of our church...

- by acting in love toward our members
- by protecting the confidentiality of private situations
- by providing leadership and clear direction
- by providing growth opportunities through small groups

We will share the responsibility of our church...

- by praying for its growth
- by providing an environment in which the unchurched can be presented with the Gospel
- by providing a welcoming environment
- by providing missions opportunities
- by faithfully giving financially to those in need and giving to local, national, and international missions

We will serve the ministry of our church...

- by assisting you in discovering your gifts and talents
- by equipping you to do the work of the ministry
- by leading you with a servant's heart
- by providing opportunities for you to serve and lead within the church

We will serve the testimony of our church...

- by providing spiritual check points for our membership commitment
- by encouraging, correcting, and disciplining as defined by Scripture
- by being responsible stewards of the finances God provides to the ministry

APPENDIX

Building The Kingdom

God's plan to provide for ministry has always been the tithes and offerings of the local church. We see this throughout the New Testament as Paul takes his missionary journeys. He sought to never be a burden to the churches, but often thanked them for their generosity to help him in the cause of the Gospel.

Coastal members have always been very generous. Our Elders are grateful and humbled by the level of giving they have seen for two decades now. It has been their desire to use the money brought for tithes and offerings and to avoid fundraising as much as possible knowing that fundraising can be a strain especially when the country or the world is in crisis.

During the recent pandemic, non-profit organizations, missions and churches were seriously affected. Many churches had to shut their doors because offerings were not being taken on a weekly basis. Through the faithfulness of our members, Coastal was able to weather this storm and provide additional help locally and globally.

As we move forward, we would like to be good stewards of all God has given and be prepared

for whatever He has in store. Therefore we are starting an endowment for Coastal. We see God working all around us now. An endowment will allow us, our children, and our grandchildren to continue to see these things for decades to come.

This is not an extra fundraiser. Rather, as you give your tithes and offerings, some of it will go into the endowment so that it can begin to build. Then as you consider your future, you can give to the endowment with publicly traded securities, beneficiary designations through a life insurance policy or retirement plan, a bequest in your will, real property, annuities, trust funds, and of course, special cash gifts. This is not just something for the wealthy. All of us can participate as God blesses us. Remember! It is not equal giving, but equal sacrifice. What can you do for the furthering of the Kingdom of God?

If you would like more information on how you can set up this giving, please let us know and we will set you up with our financial department.



WANT TO BE A PART OF WHAT GOD IS DOING AT COASTAL?

If you are interested in partnering with us through prayer, finances or labor, email getinfo@gocoastal.org for more information on ways you can serve.

Statement of Religious Beliefs

The Word of God

We believe the Bible is God's Word to man that He has given by the inspiration of His Holy Spirit in order that we may certainly know what we are to believe concerning Him and what duty He requires of us. We believe that the Bible is both inerrant and infallible. Inerrancy means "freedom from error or untruths"¹ and infallibility means "incapable of erring."² We believe that "all Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." We embrace fully that Scripture is "inspired, inerrant, clear, sufficient, necessary, comprehensive, and sufficient."³ When we use the word "Scripture" we are referring to the closed canon of Scripture that consists of 39 books in the Old Testament and the 27 books of the New Testament. We believe that all of Scripture culminates in the Person and work of our only Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. What one believes about the nature of Scripture will influence every other part of faith and doctrine. There must be an anchor of truth, an unchanging and eternal truth. Scripture is that truth.

(Num. 23:19; Pss. 12:6; 119: 89, 96; Prov. 30:5; Matt 24:35; John 17:17)

The Triune God

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who know, love, and glorify one another. This one true and living God is infinitely perfect both in his love and in his holiness. He is the Creator of all things, visible and invisible, and is therefore worthy to receive all glory and adoration. Immortal and eternal, he perfectly and exhaustively knows the end from the beginning, sustains and sovereignly rules over all things, and providentially brings about his eternal good purposes to redeem a people for himself and restore his fallen creation, to the praise of his glorious grace.⁴

(1 John 5:7; Matt 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; Exod 3:14; John 14:11; 1 Cor. 8:6; John 1:14, 18; John 15:26; Gal. 4:6)

Creation

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). We believe that it pleased God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to create the world and the things in it, both visible and invisible, for His glory and for His purpose. We believe that everything God created He declared as good.

(John 1:2-3; Heb. 1:2; Job 26: 13; Rom. 1:20; Col. 1:16; Gen. 1:31)

¹The American Heritage College Dictionary, 3rd ed. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2000), 695.

²Ibid.

³Frame, John. Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Christian Belief. (Phillipsburg, New Jersey: P&R Publishing, 2013). 599.

⁴The Gospel Coalition Confessional Statement: thegospelcoalition.org/about/foundation-documents/confessional/.

Statement of Religious Beliefs

Continued

The Family

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.⁵

Adam and Eve were made to complement each other in a one-flesh union that establishes the only normative pattern of sexual relations for men and women, such that marriage ultimately serves as a type of the union between Christ and his church. In God's wise purposes, men and women are not simply interchangeable, but rather they complement each other in mutually enriching ways. God ordains that they assume distinctive roles, which reflect the loving relationship between Christ and the church, the husband exercising headship in a way that displays the caring, sacrificial love of Christ, and the wife submitting to her husband in a way that models the love of the church for her Lord. In the ministry of the church, both men and women are encouraged to serve Christ and to be developed to their full potential in the manifold ministries of the people of God. The distinctive leadership role of eldership and ordained pastor within the church given to qualified men is grounded in creation, fall, and redemption and must not be sidelined by appeals to cultural developments.⁶

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.⁷

Marriage

Marriage is the only legitimate and accepted sexual relationship. Coastal Church holds to the biblical definition of marriage as a permanent earthly union between one man and one woman. This union reflects Christ's relationship to His bride, the Church.

(Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; 127; 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 12:4; 13:24; 14:1; 17:6; 18:22; 22:6,15; 23:13-14; 24:3; 29: 15,17; 31:10-31; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 5:8,14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3- 5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7.)

The Doctrine of Man

We believe that God created human beings, male and female, in his own image. Adam and Eve belonged to the created order that God himself declared to be very good, serving as God's agents to care for, manage, and govern creation, living in holy and devoted fellowship with their Maker. Men and women, equally made in the image of God, enjoy equal access to God by faith in Christ Jesus and are both called to move beyond passive self-indulgence to significant private and public engagement in family, church, and civic life.

(Gen. 1:27; Gen. 2:7; Ecc. 7:29; Gen 1:26; Rom. 2:14-15; Gen. 3:6).

We believe that Adam, made in the image of God, distorted that image and forfeited his original blessedness-for himself and all his progeny-by falling into sin through Satan's temptation. As a result, all human beings are alienated from God, corrupted in every aspect of their being (e.g., physically, mentally, volitionally, emotionally, spiritually) and condemned finally and irrevocably to death (Romans 6:23)-apart from God's own gracious intervention. The supreme need of all human beings is to be reconciled to the God under whose just and holy wrath we stand; the only hope of all human beings is the undeserved love of this same God, who alone can rescue us and restore us to himself.⁸

(Gen. 2:16-17; Gen 3:12-13; 2 Cor. 11:3; Rom. 3:23; Rom. 5:12; Tit. 1:15; Gen. 6:5; Jer. 17:9; Rom. 3:10-19; Rom. 5:12-19; 1 Cor. 15:21-22, 45, 49; Ps. 51:5; Job 14:4; Eph. 2:3; Rom. 6:20 & 5:12; Heb. 2:14-15; 1 Thess. 1:10; James 1:14-15; Matt. 15:19; Rom. 8:7; Col. 1:21)

The Gospel

We believe that the gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ-God's very wisdom. Utter folly to the world, even though it is the power of God to those who are being saved, this good news is Christological, centering on the cross and resurrection: the gospel is not proclaimed if Christ is not proclaimed, and the authentic Christ has not been proclaimed if his death and resurrection are not central (the message is: "Christ died for our sins ... [and] was raised"). This good news is biblical (his death and resurrection are according to the Scriptures), theological and salvific (Christ died for our sins, to reconcile us to God), historical (if the saving events did not happen, our faith is worthless, we are still in our sins, and we are to be pitied more than all others), apostolic (the message was entrusted to and transmitted by the apostles, who were witnesses of these saving events), and intensely personal (where it is received, believed, and held firmly, individual persons are saved).⁹

Salvation

Regeneration — Is a "secret act of God in which he imparts new spiritual life to us. This is sometimes called "being born again."¹⁰ Ezekiel 36:26-27 states, "A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances." We believe regeneration is an act of God alone. (James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:3; John 3:3-8; John 1:12-13)

Faith & Repentance — Also called conversion, it is our willing response to the gospel call, in which we sincerely turn away from our sins and place our hope and trust in the righteous character of Jesus as the basis for our salvation. The nature of true repentance includes; "sight of sin, godly sorrow for sin, confession of sin, shame for sin, hatred for sin, and turning from sin."¹¹ The Apostle Paul states in 2 Corinthians 7:10, "For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation and brings no regret, but worldly grief produces death." True repentance should lead us to trust in the person and work of

Jesus Christ alone for salvation.

(Zech. 12: 1 O; Acts: 11: 18; Ezek. 36:31; 2 Cor. 7: 11; Psa: 119:6 & 128)

Justification — Can be defined as a right legal standing before God. Romans 4:5 states, "And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness ... " Romans 5:18-19 also states, "Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous." We are incapable of upholding God's moral standards (Exodus 20), therefore we cannot earn right standing before God. Ephesians 2 goes as far as to say that we are dead in our trespasses (Ephesians 2: 1). However, God has provided a way to be reconciled through His Son, Jesus Christ. We believe that those who repent of their sins and place their trust in the righteousness of Christ are justified not on the basis of their works (Ephesians 2:8-9), but on the basis of Christ's life, death and resurrection. The works of Jesus are credited to your "spiritual bank account".

(Rom. 3:24; 8:30; Rom. 4:5-8; Eph. 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:30-31; Rom. 5:17-19; Eph. 2:8-10; Phil. 3:8-9); John 1:12; Rom. 5:17; Rom. 3:28; Gal. 5:6; James 2:17-26; Heb. 10:14; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; Isa. 53:5- 6; Rom. 8:32; 2 Cor. 5:21; Rom. 3:26; Eph. 1:6-7; 2:7; Gal. 3:8; 1 Pet. 1:2; 1 Tim. 2:6; Rom. 4:25; Col. 1:21-22; Matt 6:12; 1 John 1:7-9; Gal. 3:9; Rom 4:22-24)

⁹Baptist Faith and Message: <http://www.sbc.net/bfm2000/brm200.asp>.

¹⁰The Gospel Coalition Confessional Statement: thegospelcoalition.org/about/foundation-documents/confessional/.

¹¹Baptist Faith and Message: <http://www.sbc.net/bfm2000/brm200.asp>.

¹²The Gospel Coalition Confessional Statement: thegospelcoalition.org/about/foundation-documents/confessional/.

¹³The Gospel Coalition Confessional Statement: thegospelcoalition.org/about/foundation-documents/confessional/.

¹⁴Wayne Grudem: Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1994). 699.

¹⁵Thomas Watson: The Doctrine of Repentance (Carlisle, PA: The Banner of Truth Trust 2012). 18-58.

Statement of Religious Beliefs

Continued

Salvation (Continued)

Adoption — Can be defined as a membership in God's family. All those who are justified are children of God- adopted sons and daughters. Romans 8:15-17 states, "For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs- heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him." We believe that God is calling believers to stop living as orphans, but as sons and daughters to the most High King.

(*Eph. 1:5; Gal. 4:4-5; John 1:12; Rom 8:17; 2 Cor. 6:18; Rev. 3:12; Rom: 8:15; Gal 4:6; Eph 2:18; Psalms 103: 13; 1 Pet. 5:7; Eph. 4:30; Lam. 3:31*).

Sanctification — Can be defined as growth in likeness to Christ. After salvation every believer is given a deposit of the third Person of the Trinity- The Holy Spirit, who cooperates with man to decrease man's affections for sin and increase man's affections for Christ, resulting in obedience to His Word for the purpose of conforming us to the image of Jesus.

(*Titus 3:5; 1 John 3:9; 1 Cor. 6:11; Rom. 6:11-14,18; 1 Pet. 1:15; James 1:22; Heb. 12:4; Phil. 3:13-14*)

Eternal Security of the Believer — Can be defined as remaining a Christian. We believe that "all those who are truly born again will be kept by God's power and will persevere as Christ to the end of their lives, and that only those who persevere until the end have been truly born again."¹² God is responsible for saving us, and the Holy Spirit is the "guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it ... " (Ephesians 1: 14).

(*Ephesians 1; John 6:38-40; John 10: 27-29; John 5:24; 6:47; 10:28; 1 John 5:13*)

Glorification — Can be defined as the receiving of a resurrection body. This happens when Christ returns and "raises from the dead all believers who have died, reunites them with their soul

and changes the bodies of believers who are still alive."¹³ These are perfect resurrection bodies.

(*1 Cor. 15:51-52; 1 Thess. 4:16; Phil. 3:20-21; Ps. 49:15; 73: 24-24*)

The Church

The Nature of the Church — We believe the church is the community of all true believers for all time. This means the church is made of all those who are truly saved, those who Christ died to redeem, including believers from the New Testament age and the Old Testament age as well.

"The universal Church, consists of the entire number of those who repent and believe in the person and work of Christ, all those who have been, who are, or who shall be gathered into one under Christ, who is the head."¹⁴ This can also be described as the invisible church. The local church is a gathering of believers associated by faith and fellowship, observing the two ordinances, and exercising their God given gifts, talents, and resources to further the spread of the gospel, both in their community and across the world. This can also be described as the visible church. "Therefore we believe that all of these which maintain the Word, ordinances, and discipline in their functional integrity are to be recognized as true branches of the Church of Jesus Christ."¹⁵ The New Testament recognizes Jesus Christ as the head of the church, and we are the body. It also describes the church as the bride of Christ, and as a family.

(*Rom. 16:5; 1 Cor. 16:19; 1 Cor. 1:2; 2 Cor. 1:1; 1 Thess. 1:1; Acts 9:31; Eph. 5:25; Eph 4:15- 16; Eph 5:32; 1 Tim 5:1-2*)

Responsibility of the Church — We believe the overall purpose of the church is to glorify God above all else. We do this through ministry to God in worship, ministry to believers through nurturing and discipleship, and ministry to the world through evangelism and mercy. We worship God by singing praise to him through song, hearing and obeying the preaching of the Word, and living for the praise of His glory.

We nurture and disciple believers by equipping them “for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.” (Eph. 4: 12-13) We evangelize the world by fulfilling the Great Commission that Jesus gave the disciples. “This evangelistic work of declaring the gospel is the primary ministry that the church has towards the world. Yet accompanying the work of evangelism is also a ministry of mercy, a ministry that includes caring for the poor and needy in the name of the Lord.”¹⁶ The church must keep all three purposes in balance, as the Lord in Scripture has commanded them all.
(Col 3:16; Eph 1:12; Eph. 5:16-19; Col 1:28; Matt 28:18-20; Acts 11:29; 2 Cor. 8:4; 1 John 3:17; Luke 6:35-36)

Church Government — We believe that the local church is an autonomous congregation of believers submitted to the authority of Jesus Christ as the head of the Church, yet connected to the universal church body. The officers of the church are pastors and elders as they have been “publicly recognized as having the right and responsibility to perform certain functions for the benefit of the whole church.”¹⁷ We believe the New Testament displays a pattern of plural elders as the governing body of the local church. It is the responsibility of the pastors and elders to shepherd and oversee the church.
(Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5; James 5:14; 1 Peter 5:1-2; Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:17; 1 Peter 5:2-5)

The Ordinances — We believe Jesus Christ commanded the church to observe two ordinances; baptism and the Lord’s Supper. Within the word ordinance is the root word for ordinary, which means Jesus chose ordinary things (water, bread, and fruit of the vine) to help us remember the extraordinary redemptive work He has done for us through His death, burial, and resurrection.

Baptism — The act of being baptized plays no part in the process of salvation (indeed, no work can justify us of our sin or merit salvation),

but it is a step of obedience symbolizing the believer’s faith in the risen Savior, death to sin, and resurrection to walk in new life with Christ. It is an outward symbol of an inward change, and a sign of fellowship and identification with the church body. We believe that only people who have made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ should be baptized.

(Mark 1:10; Acts 8:26-39; Rom. 6:3-4; Col. 2:12; Acts 22:16; Acts 2:41-42; Acts 10:47-48; Gal. 3:27)

The Lord’s Supper — We believe that Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper as a special reminder of the breaking of His body and the pouring out of His blood for us. The bread and fruit of the vine symbolize the body and blood of Christ, and are visible signs that Christ is spiritually present. Through partaking in the Lord’s Supper we proclaim the Lord’s death, participate in the benefits of His death, recognize the spiritual nourishment Christ provides, portray the unity of all believers as one body, and affirm our faith in Christ.¹⁸ It is a special time reserved for those who have put their faith and trust in the gospel of Jesus Christ, and who have carefully examined themselves to make sure their relationships with others are right, and there is not unconfessed sin in their lives.

(Matt 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:23-32; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; John 6:53-57; Matt. 5:23-24)

¹²Wayne Grudem: Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1994). 788.

¹³Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1994). 829.

¹⁴The Baptist Confession of Faith (1689).

¹⁵B.B. Warfield, “A Brief and Untechnical Statement of the Reformed Faith”.

¹⁶Grudem, Wayne: Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1994). 867-868.

¹⁷Grudem, Wayne: Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1994). 905.

¹⁸Grudem, Wayne: Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1994). 990-991.

Statement of Religious Beliefs

Continued

The Church (Continued)

Christian Conduct and Liberty — We believe that Christians are required to walk in obedience to God's will as they are, by definition, in Christ. This obedience does not merit salvation, for it is Christ's obedience that secures our salvation. But this obedience is evidence of true faith in Christ and a truly converted soul. Christ did not sacrifice Himself for believers so that they would be free to sin, but so that they would be free from sin.¹⁹ As Christians, the debt of sin has been forgiven, and the righteousness of Christ has been credited to us. The actions of Christ have justified us before God, but we cooperate with the Holy Spirit in our sanctification, and He has granted us the power and inclination to strive for holiness. We are not under the law, but under grace. This does not mean that the law of God has no role in our lives or that we have license to sin freely; Christians must obey the Lord's commandments. It means this obedience plays no part in our justification, but is a result of the new life we have in Christ. Christ has set us free from the futility of fulfilling the law as a means of salvation, as well as the dominion of sin. Therefore, the desire of our heart is to serve God in righteousness, and we are free to enjoy God's good gifts of creation, provided we do not hinder our own spiritual well being or that of others. We should walk by the Spirit and produce the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control), and reject the flesh with its passions and desires.

(Rom. 6:3-23; Gal. 3:23-25; 1 Cor. 15:56; John 8:34-36; 1 Tim. 4:1-5; 1 Cor. 6:12-13; 1 Cor. 8:7-13; Gal. 5:16-25; James 2:14-26)

Worship — is reserved for God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit only and is made possible through the mediation of Jesus Christ alone. We believe that worship should be present in every aspect of the believer's life and is not limited to music and the preaching of the Word. Biblical worship involves both Spirit and truth. We encourage believers to worship both privately and corporately in community with other believers. True worship must be made with understanding, reverence,

humility, fervency, faith, love and perseverance, and corporate worship and prayer must be made in a known language.

(Matt. 4:9, 10; John 4:23; Matt. 28:19; Rom. 1:25; Col. 2:18; Rev. 19:10; John 14:6; 1 Tim. 2:5; Psalm 95:1-7; 65:2; John 14: 13, 14; Rom. 8:26; 1 Tim. 4:13; 2 Tim. 4:2; Col. 3:16; 1 Cor. 11:26; John 4:21; Mal. 1:11; Acts 10:2; Matt. 6:6; Heb. 10:25)

Personal Evangelism & Missions — It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.²⁰

(Matt. 28:19-21; Ex. 19:5-6; Rom. 10:13-15)

¹⁹B.B. Warfield, "A Brief and Untechnical Statement of the Reformed Faith".

²⁰Baptist Faith and Message: <http://www.sbc.net/bfm2000/bnn200.asp>.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Article I

NAME AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The name of the church is COASTAL CHURCH. This church will be further referred to in the bylaws as the "Church." The Church maintains its principal office at 6406 George Washington Memorial Highway, Yorktown, VA 23692.

Article II

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Church is to glorify God by fulfilling the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).

SECTION I: EVANGELISM AND MISSIONS

To share the good news of Jesus Christ with as many people as possible in our community and throughout the world (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 2 Peter 3:9).

SECTION II: EDUCATION AND DISCIPLESHIP

To help members develop toward full Christian maturity and train them for effective ministry. To promote spiritual growth and discipleship through Bible teaching (Ephesians 4:11-13; Matthew 18:20; 2 Timothy 2:2).

SECTION III: WORSHIP

To participate in public worship services together and to maintain personal daily devotions (John 4:24).

SECTION IV: MINISTRY AND SERVICE

To serve unselfishly, in Jesus' name, meeting the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those in our Church, community and in the world (1 Peter 4:10-11; Matthew 25:34-40; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; Galatians 5:13).

SECTION V: FELLOWSHIP

To encourage, support and pray for each other as members of the family of God. To share our lives together (1 John 1:7; Acts 2:44-47; Hebrews 10:23-25; Romans 15:5-7; John 13:34-35).

Article III

STATEMENT OF FAITH

In matters of doctrine and belief, the Church strives for three things: in essential matters, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, love.

ESSENTIALS WE BELIEVE

SECTION I: ABOUT THE BIBLE

The Bible is God's inerrant Word, infallible as originally given by God through human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit, and is absolutely true and trustworthy. It is our only standard of faith and practice.

(2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Matthew 5:18; Psalm 119)

SECTION II: ABOUT GOD

There is one true and living God. God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things. He is infinite, eternal, unchangeable, and is revealed to us as the Godhead existent in three co-equal, co-eternal, and co-substantial persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1:3-6, 13-14, 4:6; Matthew 28:19; Genesis 1:1, 26, 27; Genesis 3:22; Philippians 2:5-6; John 1:1, 3, 14, 18; Isaiah 9:6)

THE FATHER - The first person of the Trinity who orders and disposes of all things according to His own purpose and grace, and who continually upholds, directs, and governs all creatures and events for His own glory. Fatherhood denotes spiritual relationship; first, within the Trinity; second, within mankind, creatively in relation to all men, but spiritually only in relation to those who have been saved by His grace from their sin and come to Him through Jesus Christ. (James 1:17)

THE SON - Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah of the Old Testament, born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on the cross, rose from the dead to provide justification for every believer,

Constitution and Bylaws

Continued

ascended to the right hand of God where He presently intercedes for all believers, and will again, in the fullness of the Father's time, return in visible, triumphant, personal form to overthrow sin, judge the world, and establish His Kingdom on earth. (John 1:14)

THE SPIRIT - The Holy Spirit is sent from God to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, cleanse, and secure from sin. He lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives every believer a spiritual gift(s) when they are saved. As Christians we seek to live under His control daily. (John 14:16, 17; 16:8,13)

SECTION III: ABOUT MAN, SIN, AND SATAN

Man's condition is one of sin and separation from God. Man was created in innocence directly and immediately by God, in His spiritual image, for the purpose of fellowship with God and glory for God. Man was tempted by Satan and sinned, and because of this all men have been born in sin since that time. All are marred by a nature of rebellion and disobedience toward God which the Bible calls sin. Sin separates us from God, others, and all good things, and ultimately causes eternity in hell. All persons need to be saved from their sin. (Genesis 1:26; 2:17; Romans 6:23)

SECTION IV: ABOUT SALVATION

God has acted in Jesus Christ to deliver us from sin. Jesus Christ is the only Savior from sin. He provided forgiveness and atonement for our sins by shedding His blood on the cross, and rose again to provide life and justification. Apart from Christ, there is no salvation. All men are under condemnation through personal sin, and deliverance from condemnation comes only by the righteousness of Christ and not human merit. This righteousness is credited to the believer by

grace through faith. The Holy Spirit regenerates or gives new life to one who commits his life to Jesus, and he is kept by God's power forever, never to be lost. (Acts 4:12; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 3:16-19; 5:24; 6:47; 10:28-30; 1 John 3:2-3)

SECTION V: ABOUT THE CHURCH

Jesus established the church to continue His mission and ministry on earth. A New Testament church is a voluntary association of baptized believers in Christ who have covenanted together to follow the teachings of the New Testament in doctrine, worship, and practice. We believe that the church is a self-governed organization served by the Elder Team. (Colossians 1:18; Matthew 28:19-20; Hebrews 13:7, 17; Ephesians 4:7-12)

SECTION VI: ABOUT LAST THINGS

Jesus Christ will return and God's plan for eternity will be carried out. We believe in the imminent and bodily return of Jesus Christ to the earth. The dead will be raised and Christ will judge all men according to their works. Unbelievers will be cast into eternal punishment and outer darkness prepared for the devil and his angels who preceded them, and the saved will enter into the eternal state of glory with God and will in their resurrected and glorified bodies spend eternity. (Matthew 16:27; Luke 17:21-37; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 2 Peter 3:7-14; Revelation 20, 21, 22)

Article IV

ORDINANCES

SECTION I: GENERAL

This church recognizes two ordinances: Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

SECTION II: BAPTISM

This church shall receive for baptism any person who has received Jesus Christ as Savior by personal faith and who indicates a commitment to follow Christ as Lord. Baptism

shall be by immersion in water. The Elder Team, or whomever they authorize, shall administer baptism. Baptismal services shall be scheduled at the discretion of the Elder Team.

SECTION III: THE LORD'S SUPPER

This Church shall observe the Lord's Supper in keeping with the commands of the Bible at such times as the Elder Team deem appropriate. The Elder Team, or whomever they authorize, shall administer the Supper. All who know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior will be invited to participate.

Article V

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I: GENERAL

The New Testament presents a picture of definable groups of people who, once committed to the Lord, identified themselves with and committed themselves to a particular local body (Acts 2:42-46; Romans 16:1; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 2 Corinthians 8:1; Philippians 1:1; Acts 11:26).

Membership is open to any person who has personally accepted Christ as Savior and Lord, who has received believer's baptism, and who desires to be committed to Coastal Community Church as a local body of believers. Membership is not a prerequisite for involvement in every ministry, but is required for ministry leadership, involvement in certain ministries as determined by the Elder Team, and participation in congregational decision making.

Membership in this Church shall consist of all persons who have met the qualifications for membership and are listed on the membership roll.

SECTION II: QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. A personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
2. Believer's baptism as a testimony of salvation. When this baptism is performed by the

Church, it is to be by immersion.

3. Completion of the Church's membership class, and an interview with the membership team.
4. A commitment to abide by the membership commitment, which will be reaffirmed annually.

SECTION III: RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

The responsibilities of membership are described in the membership covenant, which includes the following four statements:

1. I will protect the unity of my church by acting in love toward other members, by refusing to gossip, and by following the leaders (Romans 15:5, 19; 1 Peter 1:22; Ephesians 4:29; Hebrews 13:17).
2. I will share the responsibility of my church by praying for its growth, inviting the unchurched to attend, and by warmly welcoming those who attend (1 Thessalonians 1:2; Luke 14:23; Romans 15:7).
3. I will serve the ministry of my church by discovering my gifts and talents, being equipped to serve by my pastors, and by developing a servant's heart (1 Peter 4:10; Ephesians 4:11-12; Philippians 2:3-4, 7).
4. I will support the testimony of my church by attending faithfully, living a godly life, and by tithing (Hebrews 10:25; Philippians 1:27; 1 Corinthians 16:2; Leviticus 27:30).

SECTION IV: VOTING RIGHTS OF MEMBERSHIP

Every Member shall have the right to vote on the following matters: the annual budget of the Church, the disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Church, the merger or dissolution of the Church, the acquisition of real property and related indebtedness, incurring indebtedness for facilities development, amendments to the Bylaws of the Church, and the calling or removing of the Senior Pastor. Each member 18 years and older is entitled to one vote. Voting by proxy is prohibited.

Constitution and Bylaws

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SECTION V: TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Members shall be removed from the Church roll for the following reasons:

1. Death.
2. Notification that the member has joined another church.
3. Failure to renew annual membership commitment.
4. By personal request of the member
5. Dismissal by the Elder Team according to the following conditions:
 - a. The member's life and conduct are not in accordance with the membership covenant in such a way that the member hinders the ministry influence of the Church in the community.
 - b. Procedures for the dismissal of a member shall be according to Matthew 18:15-17.

SECTION VI. RESTORATION OF MEMBERS

Members dismissed by the Elder Team shall be restored by the Elder Team according to the spirit of 2 Corinthians 2:7-8, when their lifestyles are judged to be in accordance with the membership covenant.

SECTION VII. NON-LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

A member of the Church shall not solely, because of such participation, be personally liable for the debts, obligations, or liabilities of the Church.

Article V

MEETINGS

SECTION I: GENERAL

The Church shall hold regular meetings for worship, teaching, training, outreach and fellowship. Meetings shall be held at the principle office of the church or at such other place or places within or outside Virginia as may be designated from time to time by the Elder Team.

SECTION II: BUSINESS MEETINGS

There will be an annual business meeting held during the 4th Quarter of each year at such time as determined by the Elder Team. The purpose of

this meeting shall be to adopt an annual budget. Subject to Section III of this Article and Section IV of Article IV, any other proper business may be conducted at this meeting.

Unless otherwise presented, all votes are to be taken without discussion. All decisions will be by simple majority vote unless otherwise presented. Voting by proxy will not be permitted.

SECTION III: SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETINGS

Special meetings may be called at any time by the Elder Team for any purpose by giving notice to the members in accordance with Section IV of this Article and Section V of Article IV.

SECTION IV: NOTICE REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

1. General Requirements – Whenever members are required or permitted to take any action at a meeting, notice shall be given to members no less than two (2) weeks prior to a meeting. Notification of membership meetings shall be given in any of the following manners which shall be deemed to be a reasonable method of calling a membership meeting:

- a. Distribution of written material to the congregation in attendance at a Weekend or Mid-Week service;
- b. Announcement of the meeting in the Church program, bulletin, or newsletter;
- c. Oral announcement to the Congregation at a Weekend or Mid-Week service;
- d. Delivery to each member identified on the membership roll.

2. Notice of certain agenda items – Approval by the members of any of the following proposals, other than by unanimous approval by those members entitled to vote, is valid only if the notice or waiver of notice specifies the general nature of the proposal.

- a. Calling or removing the Senior Pastor
- b. Adopting, amending or repealing Bylaws;
- c. Disposing of all or substantially all of the Church's assets;
- d. Adopting or amending a merger agreement; or
- e. Approving the acquisition of real property and related indebtedness.

SECTION V: QUORUM

Those members present and voting at a meeting duly noticed and called shall constitute a quorum of the membership for the transaction of business.

Article VII CHURCH LEADERS

SECTION I: GENERAL

The leadership structure of Coastal Community Church is based upon the nature of the church as revealed in Scripture, as well as the necessary legal requirements for a recognized religious organization. The leadership structure of the Church is intentionally designed to accommodate simplicity, growth, unity, and biblical teaching. The visionary leadership and direction of the church is placed in the hands of the Elder Team.

SECTION II: PASTORS

1. On the pastoral role – Jesus often described the church as a “flock” (Matthew 25:22; 26:31; Luke 12:32; John 10:1-30; Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:2-3). Because the church is a flock, it is cared for and led by shepherds (John 21:16-17).

Christ alone is the head of the church (Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:22-23). Yet for the purpose of order, and in accordance with the teaching of the Bible, certain individuals have been charged with leadership according to their spiritual giftedness (Ephesians 4:11-13). Three different terms are used in the New Testament to refer to the same church leader(s): “poimen” (pastor), “presbuteros” (elder), and “episcopos” (bishop). These terms are used interchangeably and reflect the different functions of the same office. The New Testament church had a plurality of pastors in each local church setting. The primary shepherd is Jesus, and then by extension the under-shepherds, or pastors (1 Peter 5:1-2; Acts 20:17, 28; Titus 1:5-7; 1 Timothy 5:17). Therefore, the Senior Pastor and Associate Pastors are to be liberated and equipped to devote themselves

to the teaching of the Word of God and the leadership of the church.

2. Requirements for the pastoral Office – The requirements for this office are found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:7-9. The Senior Pastor will be licensed and ordained, and once called to office, shall become a member of the church.

3. On pastoral Leadership – Understanding that the Bible calls for Pastors to lead the church, most decisions and responsibilities regarding the life and direction of the church are left to their spiritual oversight. Pastors are called and directed by the Bible to lead the church in vision and direction (Acts 11:30; 14:23; Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 5:17). The pastors are the administrators of the church, equipping and overseeing the ministries of the church (Exodus 18:17-18; John 21:16-17; Acts 20:17, 28; Ephesians 4:11-12; Titus 1:5-7, 1 Peter 5:1-2). In response to the Biblical patterns of leadership, members are taught in Scripture to lovingly support their leaders and to submit to their leadership (Hebrews 13:17; 1 Corinthians 16:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13). The shepherding of this Church is led by the Senior Pastor, assisted by Elders, ministry directors, ministry leaders, and small group leaders.

4. The pastor(s) – The Senior Pastor has ultimate responsibility for the oversight of the church body and the shepherding of its members (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Timothy 5:17; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Acts 20:28-32). The Senior Pastor is to actively set goals for the congregation according to the will of God, obtain goal ownership from the people, and see that each church member is properly motivated and equipped to do his or her part in accomplishing the mission of the church. The Senior Pastor is responsible for providing spiritual instruction and administrative leadership to the Associate Pastors, members, staff, and ministries of the church. The calling, supervision and dismissal of pastoral staff, ministry directors, and other employees are under the direction of the Senior Pastor, assisted by the Elder Team.

The Senior Pastor shall continue to serve as Pastor until the relationship is ended by

Constitution and Bylaws

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resignation or terminated by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of those present and voting at a special business meeting of the church called for such purpose. Upon the occurrence of a vacancy in the role of Pastor, the Elder Team shall initiate procedures leading to the adoption by the church of a process to elect a new Pastor.

SECTION III: ELDERS

- 1. On the role of Elders** – The New Testament Church had a plurality of Elders in each local church setting (Titus 1:5). Therefore the Elder Team is to assist the Senior Pastor in shepherding and spiritual oversight to the church.
- 2. Requirements for the office of Elder** – The requirements for the office are found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:7-9.
- 3. Appointment of Elders** – Elders will be appointed by the current Elder Team as they recognize God raising up men to lead as Elders. These men will be presented to the church for confirmation and ordination. Individuals nominated as Elders for the first time shall serve a season of testing, to be determined by the Elder Team on an individual basis, before official recognition as Elder. Elders may serve as long as they feel called to do so, and as long as they are affirmed in their service by the Elder Team.
- 4. The Elders** – Will assist the Pastoral Team in the functions laid out in Article VII, Section II, Number 4.
- 5. The Elder team** — Will consist of the Senior Pastor and Elders confirmed and ordained by the Church. Nominated Elders, in their season of testing, may attend the Elder Team meetings, and will perform the duties assigned by the Elder Team.

SECTION IV: MINISTRY DIRECTORS AND LEADERS

Ministry leaders in our church are equated with

deacons in the New Testament. They are given the freedom and authority to lead in their area of ministry under the supervision and leadership of the pastors, and are appointed by the pastors and Ministry Directors on the basis of need and giftedness (1 Timothy 3:8-12). There can be no limit to the number of ministry leaders, as this is dependent solely upon the Holy Spirit's disbursement of spiritual gifts in the Church. Certain Ministry Leaders will be naturally elevated to the status of Ministry Directors, as well as to paid staff, overseeing a large portion of a particular area of ministry. These Directors may or may not be ordained pastors, but should fulfill the Biblical requirements for ministerial leadership. Ministry Directors are to be appointed by the Elder Team. They shall serve in this role until the relationship is ended by resignation, by the Elder Team, or by the expiration of a pre-determined time of service.

SECTION V: SMALL GROUP LEADERS

A small group leader is a minister to a small group under the direction and accountability of the Elder Team. The qualifications of a small group leader are the same as that of any other ministry leader. Small group leaders are extensions of the pastoral ministry of the church, and serve as under-shepherds of the church through their small group.

SECTION VI: OTHER STAFF MEMBERS

Other staff members shall be hired as needed in accordance with the above-stated areas of responsibility, the annual budget, as well as the personnel and financial policies of the church. Such staff members shall be responsible to their immediate supervisors or designated staff persons.

Article VIII

CHURCH PROGRAMS & ORGANIZATIONS

All organizations and programs of the Church

shall be subject to the control of the Church and its leadership and the directors of those organizations shall report to the appropriate Church leadership.

Article IX

CHURCH COMMITTEES, GROUPS, & MINISTRY TEAMS

All committees, ministry teams, and groups of the Church shall be subject to the control of the Church and its leadership and the directors/leaders of these groups shall report to the appropriate Church leadership. Special Committees may be created for the Church when needed, and for a designated period of time as determined by the Elder Team.

Article X

REAL PROPERTY

All committees, ministry teams, and groups of the Church shall be subject to the control of the Church and its leadership and the directors/leaders of these groups shall report to the appropriate Church leadership. Special Committees may be created for the Church when needed, and for a designated period of time as determined by the Elder Team.

SECTION I: TITLE

Title to all real property of the Church shall be in the name of the Church.

SECTION II: PURCHASING REAL PROPERTY

Real property shall be purchased in the name of the Church by the act of the Directors detailed in Article V and VII of these By-Laws.

SECTION III: DISPOSITION OF REAL PROPERTY

Real property of the church may be sold, mortgaged, conveyed, transferred, or otherwise disbursed with the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at a business meeting as detailed in Article VI of this document.

Article XI

AFFILIATIONS

The church shall have full power and authority to associate itself with and participate in organizations in keeping with the character and purpose of the Church as set forth in the Bylaws. The Church is autonomous and maintains the right to govern its own affairs, independent of any denominational control.

Article XII

AMENDMENTS

All requests for amendments to these Bylaws must be in writing and shall be submitted to the Elder Team for study and consideration. The Elder Team shall issue a timely response to the proposed amendment, alteration or revision to these Bylaws. The Elder Team shall determine whether to propose such amendments to the Church for adoption. If proposed to the Church by the Elder Team, amendments to the Bylaws require the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at a business meeting of the Church as detailed in Article VI of this document.

Article XIII

FINANCES

SECTION I: ANNUAL BUDGET

The Church shall have an annual budget, approved by vote of the Church, to serve as the normative guide for the financial operation of the church.

SECTION II: DEVELOPMENT OF ANNUAL BUDGET

The annual church budget shall be established through the following process:

1. All individuals involved in ministry leadership submit their expected financial needs to their Ministry Director for the coming fiscal year.
2. The Elder Team, Ministry Directors, and other pastoral staff then submit their budget needs, including salaries for support staff, according to their areas of responsibilities.

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Continued

3. The Elders submit the salaries for the Senior Pastor, Associate Pastor(s), and other personnel to the Treasurer.
4. A proposed budget is compiled from these submissions by the Elder Team or Treasurer.
5. The proposed budget prepared by the Treasurer is reproduced and made available to all other interested persons at least two weeks before the annual business meeting.
6. Questions are answered by the Elder Team and the Treasurer on an informal basis.
7. The budget is submitted to the Church at the annual business meeting for vote without discussion.

SECTION III: BUDGET MANAGEMENT

The budget is to be managed by Treasurer, the various Ministry Directors, and staff persons according to their area of responsibility. Minor modifications within the budget can be made by the Treasurer, Ministry Directors, or other staff with budget responsibilities if extenuating circumstances in the life of the church mandate such a change. For example, if a budgeted item is not needed, or if expenses in a particular area are less than expected, the Treasurer and/or Ministry Directors can reallocate those resources as needed. The budget should, however, be the normative guide for the financial operation of the church.

SECTION IV: ANNUAL AUDIT

An annual audit of the church's financial matters will be performed by an Audit Team, and made available to Church. The Audit Team will consist of individuals appointed by the Elder Team.

SECTION V: OPERATING BANK ACCOUNTS

The church will maintain checking accounts and other accounts at banks or other financial institutions as approved by the Elder Team. Bank resolutions granting authority for specific persons to sign checks or orders must be designated by the Elder Team.

SECTION VI: FISCAL YEAR

The Church fiscal year shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.

SECTION VII: RECORDS AND REPORTS

The Church shall maintain the following records and reports:

1. Adequate and current books and records of accounts (financial records);
2. Written minutes of the church business meetings.
4. A record of the members of the Church, setting forth the member's names and addresses.
5. Contribution statements for contributors.

Article XIV

TO BE A TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATION

The term for which the church has been organized is perpetual and it shall operate as a tax-exempt organization under the United States Internal Revenue Code. In the event of dissolution of the Church, the assets thereof shall be liquidated and distributed by first paying all creditors, and all remaining assets shall then be distributed to another Christian organization or organizations which have like faith, belief, and purposes as ours and which qualify as a tax exempt organization.

AMMENDMENT I

JULY 2015

As our church grows, we find it necessary to:

- Be more precise with the content of the Constitution and By-Laws.
- Make adjustments to the infrastructure of the organization.

This amendment is the first step in making these updates.

AMMENDMENT | Article I

CORPORATION AND OFFICES

SECTION I: NAME

The name of the corporation is COASTAL COMMUNITY CHURCH. This corporation will be further referred to in the bylaws as the "Church."

SECTION II: GOVERNANCE

The Church is sovereign under the lordship of Jesus Christ and the Church retains the exclusive right of self-government in all phases of spiritual and temporal life. We realize that while an organization is necessary, God's method is to empower His people by the Holy Spirit in the service of the Lord Jesus Christ. We acknowledge, therefore, our complete dependence upon God. These By Laws have been developed in order that the men and women serving the Church may function more effectively and within the boundaries of God's Word as interpreted by the leaders and founders of this organization.

SECTION III: OFFICES

Principal office

The Church maintains its principal office at 6406 George Washington Memorial Highway, Yorktown, VA 23692.

Other offices

The Church may have offices at such place or places where the Church is qualified to do business, within or without of the State of Virginia as the Elder Board may from time to time appoint or as the business of the Church may require or make desirable.

AMMENDMENT | ARTICLE III STATEMENT OF FAITH

SECTION IX: FAMILY

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, adoption or legal custody.

Adam and Eve were made to complement each other in a one-flesh union that establishes the only normative pattern of sexual relations for men and women, such that marriage ultimately serves as a type of the union between Christ and his church. In God's wise purposes, men and women are not simply interchangeable,

but rather they complement each other in mutually enriching ways. God ordains that they assume distinctive roles, which reflect the loving relationship between Christ and the church, the husband exercising headship in a way that displays the caring, sacrificial love of Christ, and the wife submitting to her husband in a way that models the love of the church for her Lord. In the ministry of the church, both men and women are encouraged to serve Christ and to be developed to their full potential in the manifold ministries of the people of God. The distinctive leadership role of eldership and ordained pastor within the church given to qualified men is grounded in creation, fall, and redemption and must not be sidelined by appeals to cultural developments.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

Marriage: Marriage between one man and one woman is the only legitimate and accepted sexual relationship. Marriage provides for intimate companionship, pure sexual expression, procreation, and reflects the relationship of Christ and the church. A husband is commanded to love his wife as Christ loved the church. A wife is commanded to submit to her husband as the church submits to Christ. The marriage ceremony at Coastal Community Church is a form of worship service as all elements of our lives should be worship to God. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, transgender, bestiality, incest, polygamy, pedophilia, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's good gift of sex. We believe that God

Constitution and Bylaws

Continued

and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance. Such sinful pattern if not repented will be a barrier to membership and leadership in a body of believers at Coastal Community Church.

(Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; 127; 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 12:4; 13:24; 14:1; 17:6; 18:22; 22:6,15; 23:13-14; 24:3; 29:15,17; 31:10-31; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; Ephesians 5:22-33; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 5:8,14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7; Genesis 2:24; Genesis 19:5, 13; Genesis 26:8-9; Lev. 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Cor. 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4.)

AMMENDMENT | ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION II: QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Voting Members

1. A personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
2. Believer's baptism, as a testimony of salvation. Believer's Baptism is defined in Article IV, Section II. While Believer's Baptism by immersion is not a required method of baptism, it is the only method executed by this Church. If a person is physically unable to be immersed, the Elder Board will determine an alternate course of action.
3. Completion of the Church's membership class, and an interview with the membership team.
4. Signature on the by-laws indicating that it has been read and fully understood. This is only required upon the first signing of the Membership Commitment.
5. Agreement, by signature, to abide by the

Membership Commitment, which will be reaffirmed and re-signed annually.

6. Eighteen years of age or older.
7. Those who are here on a temporary basis (college/military) and do not want to give up membership in their home churches, are permitted to participate at Coastal as a Voting member if they meet all of the qualifications. It is not necessary to dissolve membership elsewhere.

Student Members

It is our desire to see our students develop as authentic followers of Jesus Christ. Based on this, those between 3rd grade and 12th grade can be student members by meeting the same qualifications as a voting member in addition to the following:

1. The student will meet with his/her respective pastor/director and his/her parents to sign the membership commitment.
2. If the student's parents or guardians do not attend Coastal Community Church, they must have a signed permission form in order to become a member.
3. In regard to church discipline, we believe in God-given parental authority, and we will look to the parent to exercise discipline. The Church will be available to offer support and counseling to the parents and/or students at the parents' request.

Upon turning 18 years of age, a student can become a voting member by meeting with a member of the Elder Board.

SECTION V: TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Members shall be removed from the Church roll for the following reasons:

1. Death.
2. Failure to renew annual membership commitment by December 31 of each year. (There will be a 30-day grace period for follow up.)
3. Notification that the member has joined another church requiring termination of

membership at this church. This church does not deny dual membership in churches more than 50 miles away.

4. By personal request of the member.
 - a. The request to rescind membership must be in writing. Checkin the box on the Membership Commitmen to not renew membership in any given year will be accepted as written request.
 - b. Upon rescinding membership, this person indicates that he/she no longer consents to the church's doctrine, and he/she will no longer be subject to church discipline. A member cannot rescind his/her membership in the midst of a church discipline issue and remain at the church. If membership is rescinded in the midst of a church discipline issue, the person will be required to physically the church body. (See #5)
5. Dismissal by the Elder Team according to the following conditions:
 - a. The member's life and conduct are not in accordance with the membership commitment in such a way that the member hinders the ministry influence of the Church in the community.
 - b. Procedures for the dismissal of a member shall be according to Matthew 18:15-17.
 - i. When the offense is brought to the attention of the leadership of the Church, it will be recommended that the victim approach the offender one-on-one or with a ministry leader.
 - ii. If this encounter does not bring about a change, or if this encounter is refused, the offender will be brought before the elders.
 - iii. If the offender is repentant and desires restitution, he/she will be put on probation and the elders will put together a restoration plan to be followed. At the end of the probationary period, the offender will meet with the Elder Board for determination of restoration to membership.

- iv. If the offender is not repentant, he/she will be dismissed from membership and removed from the property. He/she will abstain from coming back to the property.

AMMENDMENT | ARTICLE XIII

FINANCES

Our church structure now provides budget preparation and maintenance through our Financial Department under the oversight of the Treasurer and Elders.

AMMENDMENT | ARTICLE XIII

CHURCH LEADERS & PAID STAFF

SECTION VI: PAID STAFF

- a. Staff members shall be hired as needed in accordance with areas of need and avail able budget. Each position and require-ments for that position will be detailed in the Employee Handbook of the Church. Changes and additions to the Employee Handbook, with exception to the Executive T eam, can be made at the discretion of the Executive Team. Changes and additions relating to the Executive Team can be made at the discretion of the Elder Team.
- b. Staff will be immediately dismissed for any of the following:
 - i. Extra-marital relations
 - ii. Embezzlement
 - iii. Adopting a lifestyle choice in disagreement with our Statement of Faith
- c. Staff employment will be determined by the Elder Team when discipline is required for circumstances not outlined in "b".

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Continued

AMMENDMENT II

DECEMBER 2019

AMMENDMENT | ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION IV: VOTING RIGHTS OF MEMBERSHIP

Every Member shall have the right to vote on the following matters: the annual budget of the Church, the disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Church, the merger or dissolution of the Church, the acquisition of real property and related indebtedness, incurring indebtedness for facilities development, amendments to the Bylaws of the Church, and the calling or removing of the Senior Pastor. Each member 18 years and older is entitled to one vote. Absentee voting will be allowed. All absentee votes must be received no later than 24 hours prior to the public meeting.

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COASTAL
CHURCH

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gocoastal.org