

**WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO:**

To change people's perception of God by changing their perception of church.

**WHO WE WANT TO REACH:**

Those who are far from God.

**SHORELINE CULTURE:**

1. Know God
2. Connect with Others
3. Find Your Place

Culture is the personality of your group or organization. The culture of Shoreline is unique as far as church cultures go because, well, have you met us? That's the only way to explain the things we do sometimes. Our staff is made up of a bunch of people who love God, love people, appreciate good sarcasm, and can't go two hours without talking about something related to ministry. All of those things combined are why we work at this church and not the one down the street.

Here are the **values** that guide the way we think at Shoreline:

- *Keep it simple.*
- *Make it fun.*
- *Be creative.*
- *Make it practical.*
- *Give it away.*
- *Do your best.*
- *Extend grace.*

**WHERE WE DO THAT:**

**1. Weekend Services** - large-group environments where you can gather with others to hear teaching and participate in a time of worship.

**2. Life Groups** - small-group environments that help you grow in a place where everybody knows your name.

**3. Serving Opportunities** - church-wide options that give you a chance to be part of something bigger than you.

**WHAT WE BELIEVE:**

**1. In essential beliefs, we have unity.**

There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called— one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. Ephesians 4:4-6

a. THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD. God's Word is the only completely reliable and truthful authority and we accept the Bible as our manual for how we live. Our first question when faced with a decision is, "What does the Bible say?" We practice daily Bible reading and Bible study. The Bible is the basis for all we believe. *2 Timothy 3:16, 1 Thessalonians 2:13*

b. JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD. Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity, lived a sinless life on earth and voluntarily paid for our sin by dying on the cross in our place. This accomplished salvation for all who receive grace by trusting in Him alone. He rose from the dead and is the only mediator between God and us. He baptizes believers in the Holy Spirit and will return to earth to fulfill prophecy. *John 14:6, Acts 4:11-12*

c. YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN. God created people to have a relationship with Him, but they defied God by doing what they wanted. As a result, we need God's saving grace to end our separation from Him. Salvation comes only through God's grace - not human effort - and must be received personally by repentance and faith. At the end, everyone will experience bodily resurrection and the judgment. Only Christ-followers will live with God forever. *2 Corinthians 5:17*

d. CHRIST-FOLLOWERS CAN BE SPIRIT-FILLED AND SPIRIT-LED. We believe the only way possible to live the life of a Christ-follower is by God's power within us. Every believer can be filled with the Holy Spirit simply by asking. We seek to practice a daily dependence on God's Spirit to enable us to do what is right. *Acts 1:8, Luke 11:13*

## **2. In non-essential beliefs, we have liberty.**

Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters. Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand. So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. *Romans 14:1, 4, 12, 22*

## **3. In all our beliefs, we show love.**

If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. *1 Corinthians 13:2*

## **OUR STRUCTURE:**

We love what we do (obviously, because Value #2 is “Make it fun”) but we take our responsibility to you and to God very seriously. Here is how we keep ourselves accountable to each other, our church, and other spiritual leadership.

## **WE ARE GUIDED BY A LEAD TEAM**

The Lead Team refers to the staff team led by the Lead Pastor (also known as the Senior Pastor). This team oversees the day-to-day ministry and operations of the church. The staff serves the congregation and is responsible for the development of the spiritual life of the church.

## **WE ARE PROTECTED BY A BOARD OF ELDERS**

Shoreline Church has staff pastors and non-staff people known as Elders. These elders are chosen by the Lead Pastor and approved by the Lead Team. They work together with the senior pastor for the development of the spiritual life of the church. This team, along with their spouses, support the church staff as the primary protectors and encouragers of a positive spiritual climate within the church body. They do not serve in a governing capacity. Rather, they serve as counsel, giving advice and wisdom to the pastor leading the church. They also fulfill the state requirements for non-profits by functioning as a board of directors in approving major expenditures of the church as outlined by our by-laws. In addition, they serve in a spiritual capacity to create and maintain stability in potentially negative situations. All elders are responsible to model a Godly lifestyle, pray regularly for the members of Shoreline, and protect the integrity of the church, pray for the sick, mediate disputes, counsel, and represent the church to the community.

## **WE ARE STRENGTHENED BY A BOARD OF OVERSEERS**

The Board of Overseers consists of five pastors of respected congregations and ministries who love Shoreline Church and its pastors, and are willing to provide spiritual protection to the church. They may be called in at the request of the Elders to assist in accountability matters relating to the Lead Pastor if necessary.

Shoreline Church Overseers are:

- *Pastor Dan Stallbaum - East Coast Christian Center, Merritt Island, FL*
- *Pastor Ray Goolsby, East Coast Christian Center, Merritt Island, FL*
- *Pastor Carmine DiBiase, The Special Gathering, Rockledge, FL*
- *Pastor Craig Altman, Grace Family Church, Tampa, FL*
- *Pastor Jon Callahan, Harvest Church, Urbana, IL*

## **WE ARE GOOD STEWARDS OF OUR CHURCH FINANCES**

Each staff member, as well as the church organization, practices tithing (or giving) for the support of Christ’s Body, the church, as God commands. We recognize that giving ten percent of the church’s income is the Biblical standard of giving.

Many people love to give to God through charitable organizations, but need to have confidence in the methods and processes used by organizations to which they give. When people see honesty, integrity, and Biblically-based spiritual values reflected in the personal lifestyles of their church leaders, they are encouraged to give consistently and generously.