

Coastline Annual Meeting 2025

Introduction: Garrick Hanger

- Introduction of officers:
 - Annual Meeting Chairman: Dan Sullivan
 - Parliamentarian: Emily Wandland
 - Secretary: Denise Trippett

Welcome: Chairman Dan Sullivan

- **Approval of agenda:**
 - Motion for approval: Margaret Grieco
 - Seconded: Kristina Zorn
 - Verbal vote of approval: Motion approved.
- **Approval of last year's minutes: posted online**
 - Motion for approval: Safy Jacob
 - Seconded: Kristina Zorn
 - Verbal vote of approval: Motion approved.

Approval of Membership: Nikki Hernandez

Nikki reminded all current members that in the church constitution, it says we renew membership every three years. Most members will be going through the membership renewal process next year. It will be a simple, streamlined process. A link will be emailed to all who need to renew their membership.

- Nikki read the list of people who have applied for membership: they stood and were recognized.
 - Tom Carmody
 - Karen Carmody
 - Mary Beth Eroen
 - Jerry Gargus
 - Jenny Kottke
 - Nathan Nichols
 - Christian Nichols
 - Melissa Pluke
 - Nate Pluke
 - Krystal Ramirez
- Coastline membership has grown from 138 to 148 members
- Motion for approval: Rick Seide
- Seconded: Sue MacKenzie
- Verbal vote of approval: Motion approved.
- As those who have met the requirements, we welcome you into membership of Coastline Covenant Church.

Demographic Study: Nikki Hernandez

Nikki informed the congregation about the reasons for doing a demographic study. As we look forward to a building and its location, and consider leasing for longer at St. Andrew's, she said that the leadership wants to know the thoughts of the members, as well as details like address, age demographics and ethnicity. These things help us assess better where we are doing well, and who we are missing. And it helps us as we consider where to locate ourselves permanently.

-Demographic study is a two-step process for both members and regular attenders.

- 1) Update household information in Planning Center database
- 2) Survey

Nominating Committee Presentation of the Candidates: Safy Jacob

- Safy recognized and thanked fellow Nominating Committee members: Ken Hurley, Shawn Hurley, Sam Van Wagner and Kristina Zorn.
- She recognized and thanked outgoing Leadership Team members, Dan Sullivan and Brenda Stipa.
- Safy presented names for Leadership Team 2025: Rick Seide and Kelly Donohue
 - Motion for approval of the leadership team: Safy Jacob
 - Seconded: Karin Capodanno (Rick) and Sue Mackenzie (Kelly)
 - Floor opened for discussion.
 - Verbal vote of approval: Motion approved.
- Present names for Nominating Committee 2025: Karin Capodanno and Nathan Tweedie
 - Motion for approval of the nominating committee: Safy Jacob
 - Seconded: Pam Seide (Karin) and Taren Zorn (Nathan)
 - Floor opened for discussion.
 - Verbal vote of approval: Motion approved.

Presentation of Ministry Vision: Shawn and Garrick

- **Review of 2025: Garrick**
 - Theme for 2025 was A Year in the Spirit
 - Started 2025 helping wildfire victims
 - Pep rally for over 100 volunteers serving at Coastline
 - Coastline Cares
 - Strange Things of God sermon series and lab
 - Spiritual retreat
 - Easter service
 - VBS
 - Summer and winter youth camps
 - Men's retreat

- Women's day retreat
- Baptisms (6 at beach, 2 at church)
- Vision and prayer night
- Coastline Country
- Trunk or Treat
- Labs (three this year)
- **Ministry 2026 Vision: Shawn**
 - Guidance from the congregation: focus on outreach, share faith, bring in new people and deepen relationships with one another and the Lord.
 - Deep and Wide is theme for 2026
 - Wide (first six months): Outreach and evangelism emphasis
 - Lost (Luke 15): God's heart for lost people
 - Great Exchange: Seven stories of conversion
 - Follow me: How to be a disciple and the cost
 - Deep (second six months): Deeper relationship emphasis
 - Tough questions: How does the Bible address them?
 - James: Faith is what you do
 - Digital minimalism
 - Spiritual practices: Habits to help you go deeper with the Lord
 - Men's and Women's ministries: Community group social nights (second Thursday of the month) will be replaced by programming for men's and women's ministries on Thursday nights at St. Andrew's, aligning with Kids Crew.
 - Increase the number of labs offered to at least four per year, integrated with preaching series.
 - Fifth Sunday worship nights.
 - Global and local partnerships through a new ministry team.
 - Short-term missions team will go into the field in spring/summer 2026.
 - Four Coastline Cares work days.

Decisions will be made in the coming year about the location of our church home, either continuing at St. Andrew's or purchasing a property. Leadership is soliciting input from the congregation about how to proceed (through the survey).

Financial Update and presentation of budget: Gene Chou

See attached slides for budget details: actuals in 2025 and projections for 2026.

- Attendance for 2025: In person, online, podcast
- Congregation was updated on giving for 2025
- Coastline Budget for 2026 was presented
 - Finance team agrees the number to shoot for in 2026 is \$1,358,000.
- Floor opened for discussion.

Andrew Faris asked, "Why are expenses so much below budget? We budgeted to spend \$1.1 million and we spent \$1.04 million?"

Gene answered that the bulk of our giving is coming in December, the year ahead. They divide the year-to-date expenses by 12. So, it's a timing difference of when the expenditures come in.

Andrew then asked if the giving decrease prevented the church from doing anything that it wanted to do.

Garrick answered that to this point, the leadership has not pulled away from any ministry plan. They pulled \$100,000 out of savings and investments in order to make up for the current shortfall from expenditures to giving, up until the end of October.

Mike Whelan asked, "How much is the expense for the annual rent here at St. Andrew's?"

Gene answered that it will be \$97,000 in 2026.

Britt Faris asked if we purchased a building, if it would be possible that the annual administrative expenses would go down or would we expect them to hold at a similar rate?

Gene said that it would depend on the purchase price of the building and the mortgage rates, but he would guess that we would pay more than we do now.

Brenda Stipa asked, "December is our largest giving month. If we go over our projected budget, does that money go into investments, does it get spent or where does it go? Do we add to it?"

Gene replied that it goes into our savings. We saved money that we received when we started the church and any money that we bring in over our budget, we continue to save.

Dean Ibelle asked if there are any religious exemptions we could take advantage of to buy a building. If we do buy a building, what kind of government expenses would we incur versus not incur in the situation where we're renting the building?

Gene answered that our expenses would be the mortgage and property taxes.

Ken Hurley said that we would be exempt from a good portion of property taxes because we are a non-profit organization. We have a welfare exemption that is very wide and will cover a lot of our work. Also, if we find the right building, we won't need the office space that we rent, as well as the facility we rent. Much depends on the shape the building is in and if improvements need to be made in order to use it for the various ministries, worship center and office space. We should not have to pay income taxes or property taxes.

Margaret Grieco asked if the Covenant denomination helps with the building cost when it's a church plant.

Garrick responded that National Covenant Properties, a lending arm of our denomination, would

give us a loan. It's a 20-year mortgage instead of a 30-year mortgage, so the monthly payment can be a bit higher. He also reminded everyone about the additional expense of cleaning and maintenance when owning a property versus renting.

- Motion for approval of the budget as proposed: Andrew Faris
- Seconded: Dwight Hanger
- Verbal vote of approval: Motion approved.

Presentation of Mission Momentum Proposal: Garrick and Shawn

Pat Stark of Mission Momentum is a consultant we are considering hiring to assist Coastline with training in outreach and building the congregation, in numbers and relationally. Garrick introduced the proposal to work with Mission Momentum as a one-time opportunity that will be paid for with savings.

Feedback received during prayer and vision night in fall 2025 helped illuminate the desire for Coastline to not only reach out to the greater community of the Southbay, but to grow and deepen the roots of our own church community so that people who visit Coastline want to stay and be part of the family.

Garrick shared that he believed Pat to be the right person for this task because he is gifted in the area of church planting at a level unmatched by anyone on our staff. Pat was Coastline's church planting coach and a church planting leader for the Covenant denomination, so the staff has seen firsthand his skill and giftedness.

Garrick said that he believes the church is doing well with outreach because new people are finding us. He said he thinks we should bring Pat in to "help us grow collectively together because it feels like we've got some budding momentum that we should harness."

Shawn said that, if the motion was approved, Pat would be at Coastline three times in February and three times in March, with the option to extend the contract two more months, if appropriate. His time would primarily be spent leading the labs for congregants on Sunday mornings and meeting with staff for training and development on Mondays. He may occasionally speak from the pulpit.

Garrick addressed the cost, indicating that each two-month period of consulting costs \$15,000. If we hired Pat for four months, we would be spending about \$40,000 when travel expenses are included.

Garrick emphasized that the lab Pat would be leading would be for everyone in the church, not just staff or leaders, "to help us think about how we do what we do in light of our missional call to go after and connect and build relationships with those who don't know Christ yet."

- Floor opened for discussion.

James Pratty asked if the Covenant denomination has a program like this that we would not

have to pay for.

Garrick said that Covenant has a program to help struggling churches with sustainability and that wouldn't apply to our situation. When Pat supported Coastline as a church planting coach, none of the training flowed down to the congregation. Also, the Pacific Southwest conference has recently streamlined some of their procedures, effectively eliminating certain positions, like church planting coach. We currently have an advisor, who acts as more of a liaison, connecting churches to ministries that can help them in specific areas instead of providing the services directly through trained Covenant employees.

Andre Hemmersbach asked if it would be possible to speak to churches who Pat has worked with to hear about their experiences.

Garrick answered that the main reason the leadership is considering working with Pat is the five-year history they have with him, so they know who he is and what he can offer. He has a contract with an existing church that we can reach out to and have a conversation.

Lianne De La Pena asked if we approached Pat or he approached us about working together.

Garrick answered that Pat approached Coastline. He let the leadership know that he was starting a ministry that they may be interested in utilizing and he would love to help. Garrick said that he and Shawn prayed about it and felt that the vision for 2026 aligned well with what Mission Momentum has to offer.

Andrew Faris asked if there is a way to measure the success of our work with Mission Momentum. Also, what outcome are they expecting and how would they evaluate if the investment was worth the expense?

Garrick said that he would expect that the congregation would develop not only a passion for sharing their faith, but they would have more tools to help them do so. Also, he would hope to see more new people stick around and the congregation grow.

Shawn said that to him, the measure of success is simple. "We want to break past the number of 220 in a worship service." He added that typically, the attendance numbers will fluctuate between 160 and 220 throughout the year and this has been a consistent pattern since the church started. Regardless of what the leadership has tried, they have not been able to break 220. He is hoping that "Pat can train us and give us the tools to break into a new territory of attendance on Sunday morning."

Dwight Hanger said that he would like to have the leadership consider setting up a separate account to replenish the \$40,000 expenditure.

- Motion for approval of Mission Momentum Proposal: Garrick
- Seconded: Keith Fletcher
- Verbal vote of approval: Motion approved.

New Business: Chairman Dan Sullivan

Mike Whelan recommended that a report on Coastline property ownership be assembled, including information on the tax implications.

Brenda Stipa asked what the attendance was on Christmas Eve, one of Coastline's largest services. Can the worship center handle more than 220? How many before we feel cramped?

Shawn answered that the sanctuary can accommodate 400. Last Christmas Eve, between the two Services, 450 attended. The year before that, 398 in one service.

Shawn said that as soon as you move over 400, it feels extremely cramped and hot. On special occasions, you may be able to get away with pushing the limit, but not on a weekly basis.

- Motion for approval to adjourn: Les Congelliere
- Seconded: Dwight Hanger

Closing: Shawn Hurley