

# Building a Church Family at Coastway Church



## Overview

Coastway Church was a response to the need for more healthy, gospel-centered churches in an area experiencing dynamic growth.

In June of 2021, a small group embarked on a mission with Jeremy Woods, lead pastor of Coastway Church, to plant a new church in the Myrtle Beach area of South Carolina. Their journey was marked by prayer, seeking counsel, and a calling to address spiritual needs in a rapidly growing community.

"If the city of man is seeking to add infrastructure, we believe that the city of God must do the same," Woods said. "In a place where subdivisions are being built faster than local churches, we saw an opportunity to start a new church that would do something about that."

They identified Myrtle Beach as the fastest-growing city in the United States, with an influx of 50 people daily. "You could plant one new church every single week and not come close to keeping up with the historic population boom," Woods said.

## Outreach at Coastal Carolina

The team's vision extended beyond mere congregation growth; they aimed to foster a multi-generational focus, particularly toward college students attending Coastal Carolina University (CCU). With roughly 11,000 students, CCU represented a ripe mission field. "We are thrilled and thankful to be able to bring the Gospel to a place and a campus like CCU," Woods said.

After hearing about Coastway on campus, Makayla Buckner decided to visit. "Ever since I heard Pastor Jeremy preach that first message I kind of knew that this was a place where I belong," Buckner said.

Read the full story.

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