



# the Chapel at Seaside

# FROM THE TOWER

CHRISTMAS 2025 | VOL 35

*Abide in Jesus. Be changed by Jesus. Embody the ways of Jesus.*

FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE GOOD OF OTHERS

Explore this Tower to celebrate 2025 and see how we are going to start 2026. All the info you need to mark your calendar below. Check out all the great stuff God is doing in and through the ministry here at The Chapel.

## Closing the Year and Looking ahead

Take a look through this Tower to make sure you get all the info you need and to see what we have been up to this year. Here are the highlights – read more about each in the following pages.

- Christmas Eve Service
- Highlights from this year
- We are starting a 2<sup>nd</sup> Service!
- Chapel Affiliate Membership
- Christmas Night of Worship recap.
- New Year Bible Study start date
- What is our plan for January?
- Prayer Hour in 2026

# CHRISTMAS EVE

## *at the Chapel* 2025

### One Big Outdoor Service

*4:30pm*



Join us outside The Chapel for our Christmas Eve Service at **4:30 PM on December 24th**. Come early (around 4 PM) to enjoy the pre-service music and hot cocoa with your family. There is **NO onsite parking**.

Make use of all Seaside public parking options.

### *Bundle up and bring the whole crew!*

If you'd prefer to stay warm or worship in the building, our overflow will be inside The Chapel.

If it happens to rain there will be a tent on the Lawn and worship will be held in the Chapel with overflow into the tent.

We cannot wait to celebrate the birth of Christ with you and yours!

A special thank you to Dylan Barnes and his crew at Seaside Christmas Lights for donating lights to make sure this event is beautifully festive!

# It's Been Pretty Beautiful

This time of year, our family challenges each other to look back. We ask questions like: What were your favorite moments? Your favorite trips? What do you hope we do again next year? These moments of reflection and gratitude are good for us mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.

God's people have always practiced this kind of remembering. The Hebrew people looked back to recall the ways God moved powerfully among them. The early church reflected on the life and teachings of Jesus and the work accomplished through the Spirit. And today, each time we gather, we remember what God has done, the steps taken in faith, the risks embraced, and the ways lives have been shaped through this ministry called The Chapel. Our hope is that reflection doesn't simply make us feel good (though that's not a bad thing), but that it inspires us to keep participating in the transforming work of God, on earth as it is in heaven.

Here are just a few highlights from this past year:

- **We welcomed Nate Kelly as our new worship leader**, who has brought a diversity of musical talent to accompany him in leading worship. The participation in worship has continued to grow, standing in this lovely space that honors the great traditions of hymns and modern songs that invites all to make a joyful noise to the Lord.
- **Our Next Generation Ministry, led by Michael Pratt, officially launched a youth group with Sunday morning gatherings, weekly meetups, and fun social events that build community and faith for middle and high school students.**
- What was once a somewhat forgotten space on the west side of The Chapel has been transformed into a welcoming, **semi-contained gathering area for families with toddlers, making Sunday mornings just a little easier and a lot more joyful for young families.**
- **Kids Church continues to thrive**, with more children and volunteers helping the next generation know and follow Jesus.
- **We launched Chapel 101**, offering people a deeper understanding of who we are, what we believe, and where we're headed, along with a meaningful step toward commitment as Chapel Affiliates. We have 50 people who have become Affiliate Members of The Chapel.
- **We have 121 people in Chapel Communities** who are learning what it looks like to live out their faith together.
- **We continued giving more than 25% of our budget away**, partnering with about 20 organizations, both local and global, to proclaim the gospel through both word and deed, feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, caring for the vulnerable, supporting those reentering society, and loving children and families in need.

- **We're nearly finished updating our windows**, an important project that strengthens the building, improves energy efficiency, and protects this sacred space for generations to come.
- **We celebrated many baptisms this year**, including our first official beach baptism and bonfire, where 12 people, including an entire family, were baptized. We also dedicated two little ones to the faith that evening.
- Most importantly, **this year, we had 30 people who committed to faith for the first time, experienced the life-giving salvation Jesus offers, or recommitted their lives to following Him.**
- We gave away 600 Lenten guides and 600 Advent guides, **helping people journey with Jesus through the rhythms of the church year.**
- **We've seen continued growth in our podcast**, sermon reach, Chapel Study Notes, and online worship, alongside in-person worship where we see on an average Sunday, about 300 people gather here, plus kids, youth...and a few dogs.
- We have also bore witness to The Chapel being filled with people desiring deeper relationship with the Lord, growing in their personal discipleship, and making decisions to follow Jesus more closely effecting change in their lives and the lives around them.

This has been a truly beautiful year of ministry, and I'm deeply grateful to each of you who calls The Chapel home. None of this happens without you. Thank you for your support, your generosity, your participation, and your presence.

As we look ahead, I hope you'll continue to stay involved; serving, giving, worshiping, and helping make the world look a little more like the Kingdom of Heaven.

*As you reflect on what God has done at The Chapel, I invite you to prayerfully consider us in your year-end giving.*

You can give online at [thechapelatseaside.com/give](http://thechapelatseaside.com/give), mail a check to PO Box 4936, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459, or give in person during worship or at our Christmas Eve service where 50% of the offering will go directly to our mission and outreach partners.

As we turn the page into a new year, we'll also be preparing tax statements. These will be emailed in the new year, and your giving history is always available through Church Center. Logging in at [thechapelatseaside.com/give](http://thechapelatseaside.com/give) ensures we have your most up-to-date email and information, and it's also where you can set up regular giving if that's helpful.

Looking back, it is easy to see this has been an incredible year at The Chapel. We've seen people abide in Jesus, be changed by Him, and embody His ways for the glory of God and the good of others. That kind of faith doesn't just change individuals; it transforms communities and echoes into eternity. Here's to another great year.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**

**Andrew Beard**



# A second service is coming... here is what you might want to know.

If you've worshiped with us at The Chapel anytime between about March 1st and January 1st...and you didn't arrive by roughly 9:45...there's a pretty good chance you ended up sitting outside.

Now, The Chapel is in a beautiful place. The Grove and the Lawn are lovely. The weather is often incredible. And let's be honest, outdoor worship is especially great if you brought your dog.

With that being said...

The Chapel only seats about 175 people indoors (and that is with some squeezing). During our busy seasons, it's not uncommon for 300–400 people to show up for worship on a Sunday morning.

So after lots of conversations, lots of prayer and reflection, lots of trying to squeeze people under the patio on rainy Sundays, lots of handing out water bottles and fans on hot summer days, and lots of saying, "I'm so sorry—The Chapel is full," we've realized something:

After five years, and a growing community of locals, along with many who love worshiping here when they're in town, we need to make some room.

The best way to do that?

We're starting a second service.

**Here's what that will look like:**

- **We're keeping the 10:00am service exactly the same** (because people love it).
- **We're adding an 8:30am service**, identical to the 10:00am service.
- **Both services will be 60 minutes or less.**
- **There will be a 30-minute transition time between services**; a chance to see one another, say hello, and keep building community.
- **Children and youth programming will continue at the 10:00am service only**, held at Seaside Neighborhood School, just like always.
- **This all begins Sunday, February 22nd.**
- **We'll continue offering communion on the first Sunday of the month**, shared between the two services at 9:35.



# Help Make the Second Service Work

To make a second service work well, we'll need a little help from you.

First, we need people to attend the 8:30am service.

This won't solve every space issue overnight, but if we can take some of the weight off the 10:00am service, it will make a huge difference—especially on hot, cold, or rainy days. If you're willing to make 8:30 your regular worship time, it would be a real gift to our community.

**Second, we need people to serve.**

If you don't currently volunteer, this is a great moment to jump in. Since kids and youth programming happens at 10:00 a.m., many people could attend one service and serve during the other.

If you're interested, just fill out the volunteer form at  
[thechapelatseaside.com/volunteer](http://thechapelatseaside.com/volunteer).

Lastly, if you know someone who vacations or visits us here and may want to know this info, would you PLEASE share this info with them? Being a church that serves so many visitors, we want to make sure that people are getting the info!

We're genuinely excited about this next step. We believe this will help us be more welcoming and more hospitable to everyone who wants to worship at The Chapel.

If you have questions, please reach out. We can't wait to see you at one of our two services starting Sunday, February 22nd.

## Chapel 101 – Affiliate

We now have the opportunity for you to participate more fully as an Affiliate member of The Chapel. If you want to know more about how, or if you are just curious about what The Chapel believes, we hope you will sign up for a Chapel 101 Class.

These small group gatherings are a chance to learn who we are, what we're about, and how you can become deeply connected to the life of our Chapel community. [Click here to register](#) – new classes will continue to be added – If you are not here full time, we have the option for you to zoom in!

## New Chapel Affiliates

Mike Ainsworth

Anne Beard

Scott Beard

Mike Cross

Joan Heflin

Kirk Herzog

Suzanne Herzog

Chuck Kruft

Mary Kruft

Greg Smith

Lori Smith



## Christmas Night of Worship

Christmas Night of Worship was such a special evening. Nate and his crew led us in worship with songs of old and new...but all the way leading us right to the presence of the Lord. The Chapel was full of families and young people, and people who call this place home!



# January Plan

As we gear up for the new year, we want to do so with intention. Last year we did 21 days of prayer at the Chapel. This year we want to invite you into something similar.

Beginning on January 1 we would love to invite you into a 21 days of prayer, fasting, and Scripture focus. We have taught and met in our communities about all of these things this year, and now, lets practice.

You will be able to pick up a bookmark at The Chapel with our reading plan and invitations into deeper study and scripture mediation and memorization. (You can see it right here!) We will meet at The Chapel for **Prayer on Wednesdays at 9:00am during the 21 days.**

Nate will be there to lead us in a time worship as we gather to pray.

We hope you join us as we start the year off with a focus in Romans chapter 12.

**21 Days**  
OF SCRIPTURE,  
FASTING & PRAYER

**January 1st-21st**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

\*Join us for Prayer Hour on **Wednesdays at 9:00am** at The Chapel

We believe that if we begin our year with an intentional spiritual plan, it creates a pattern that will put us into holy rhythms that align our heart with Truth from scripture. We believe our desire for the presence of God will grow. We believe we will be more transformed by the renewing of our minds.

**Daily Practice**

- Begin with prayer — praise God for meeting with you and ask Him to highlight what He wants you to notice.
- Read the daily Romans verse, then the paired passages.
- Reflect on the readings; reread the Romans verse.
- Ask: What is God inviting me into through this scripture?

**ABIDE IN JESUS. BE CHANGED BY JESUS.  
EMBODY THE WAYS OF JESUS.**  
*For the glory of God  
and the good of others.*

JAN	WHAT TO READ
1	Rom 12:1, Psalm 51:10-17
2	Rom 12:2, Eph 4:17-24
3	Rom 12:3, Phil 2:1-11
4	Rom 12:4, 1 Cor 12:12-20
5	Rom 12:5, Eph 4:1-6
6	Rom 12:6, 1 Peter 4:8-11
7	Rom 12:7, John 13:1-17
8	Rom 12:8, 2 Cor 9:6-15
9	Rom 12:9, 1 Cor 13:1-13
10	Rom 12:10, Col 3:1-17
11	Rom 12:11, Psalm 119:137-144
12	Rom 12:12, James 5:7-18
13	Rom 12:13, Heb 13:1-6
14	Rom 12:14, Mat 5:38-48
15	Rom 12:15, 1 Cor 12:24-27
16	Rom 12:16, James 2:1-13
17	Rom 12:17, 1 Peter 2:19-25
18	Rom 12:18, Heb 12:14-17
19	Rom 12:19, Eph 6:10-20
20	Rom 12:20, Luke 6:27-36
21	Rom 12:21, Luke 10:25-37

**Deeper Invitation**

- Memorize a section of Romans 12 during these 21 days.
- Fast until dinner, or abstain from something (news, social media, coffee, etc.) until after prayer and reading.
- Ask the Lord to reveal insight and wisdom for the year as you read, meditate, and pray.

## Bible Study in the New Year

We will kick off our Bible study on Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. We hope you will join us as we dive into the book of Ephesians. Men will meet at 8:00 and Women will meet at 9:30 am.

## Communion

Each month we gather for a special Communion Service. Join us on January 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. for the next one. Join us for our open table and stick around for coffee and pastries. We will meet again on Feb 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00am.

### Mark your calendar for the March Communion time Change.

March 1<sup>st</sup> we will have Communion at 9:35am.

## January 11<sup>th</sup> Worship

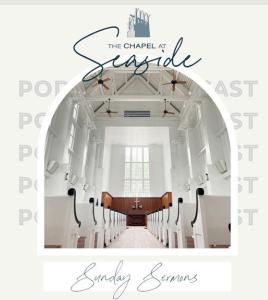
Don't miss this Sunday. We'll have special Worship leaders joining us from our friends at Capitol Music who are in town for a Church Song Writing Camp and Retreat.

## Noon Prayer

We will begin our regular Tuesday Noon Prayer Hour on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. 12:00-1:00pm. And our plan is to continue through the year. Each week we make space to hear from the Lord. It is a time of live worship and self guided prayer. You can come-and-go or stay the whole time.

Until February 3rd, we hope you come in January on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> from 9-10am.

### CHAPEL AT SEASIDE PODCAST



Stay up with our Sunday Sermons and Weekly Bible Studies wherever you stream your podcasts. Just search, "The Chapel at Seaside" or [click here](#) and start listening now!