

St. Peter the Fisherman: Parish Profile Summary

“Who is the church?” “We are the church.”

St. Peter the Fisherman originated literally on the beach in the surfing city of New Smyrna Beach, Florida, to meet the needs of people wanting to know Christ and make Him known. Our band of beach Christians soon evolved from their surfboard in-the-sand altar to a humble contemporary campus just a few blocks from the ocean. There, we gather to worship and proclaim the Good News of Christ, as we strive to deepen our relationship with Him both individually and corporately. We adhere to the rich traditions of the Episcopal Church, yet our style is informal.

The congregation consists of 239 core members. Visitors and weekend beach goers augment our Sunday average attendance to 185 souls. We consider ourselves a warm, caring community, supporting one another, as we strive to welcome and accept everyone into our fold. We encourage all to share their talents and gifts for the good of the entire body and offer various ministries and opportunities to do so, under the leadership and guidance of our laity, deacon, and rector. Outreach into the community is an important fabric of our parish.

We partner with other congregations to serve the needy in our community through the “Colors of Hunger” feeding program, “God’s Bath House” ministry and the “Gifts of Love” food pantry. We also celebrate the Eucharist on the beach every Sunday keeping with this tradition of outreach and evangelism. With help and guidance from the Holy Spirit, we seek a shepherd who knows the living God and continues to grow in that personal relationship; a teacher, a good listener and a confident leader, yet humble in their walk. We especially appreciate sermons that are personal and relevant in today’s world. Good administrative skills are important, but above all, it is our hope to have a rector who would love our flock.