

LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH

*Treasuring
Christ* WHEN
GIVING IS
Gain

JOURNEY GUIDE

*But whatever gain I had,
I counted as loss for the
sake of Christ. Indeed, I
count everything as loss
because of the surpassing
worth of knowing Christ
Jesus my Lord. For his
sake I have suffered the
loss of all things and count
them as rubbish, in order
that I may gain Christ*

Philippians 3:7-8





- April 20, 2003 **03** Sent out by Evergreen Baptist Church San Gabriel Valley
- April 27, 2003 First Service at Magruder Middle School (Torrance, CA)
- Jan-May 2004 **04** First Small Group Study “Trusting God” by Jerry Bridges
- Sept 22-24, 2006 **06** First All Church Retreat at Marriott (Ventura, CA)
- October 3, 2010 **10** Start of Lighthouse’s First Generosity Initiative
- December 12, 2010 Generosity Initiative Celebration Sunday at Torrance HS
- July 17, 2011 **11** Open House at 501 Van Ness
- September 11, 2011 First Service at 501 Van Ness
- November 6, 2013 **13** Move to Two Services - 8:30am and 10:30am
- Dec 14-15, 2015 **15** Hosted Biblical Counseling for Japan Meetings - Christ Bible Institute
- April 30, 2016 **16** Zoe Community Church (Dallas, TX) - Opened
- October 15, 2017 **17** Start Third Service @ 5pm
- May 17-18, 2019 **19** First Disability Conference - “Indispensable”
- March 15, 2020 **20** First Online Service & Children’s Ministry - COVID
- January 17, 2021 **21** First Outdoor Service Under the Tent - COVID
- June 6, 2021 First Indoor Service - COVID
- April 3, 2022 **22** Logos Community Church (Nagoya, Japan) - Opened
- March 2, 2025 **25** Start of Lighthouse’s Second Generosity Initiative

Our Story

Lighthouse Community Church started in 2003 with five elders/pastors and around fifty congregants. Even from the beginning, we didn’t have big dreams and grand visions of what we hoped Lighthouse would be. We kept things intentionally simple—preach the Word and try to love people well. By God’s grace, slowly the scope and size of ministry expanded, and God has grown Lighthouse from those early years of being a “church in a trailer” to something more than we could ever have imagined. Along with our growth, God has given us the resources to be involved in missions, contribute to mercy ministry, invest in young leaders, hire and support more pastors, and much more. But more than just the size, what we are most grateful for is God bringing people to faith and changing lives. Our front-row seat to God’s grace is so much more than we deserve.



LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH

721 church members

SPRING 2025:
26 small groups led by 70 leaders with 548 small group members

SINCE 2012,
177 baptisms

Lighthouse has trained and equipped **48 pastoral interns** and **10 biblical counseling interns** who are serving in San Francisco, Dallas, New York, Ohio, Canada, Japan (Saitama, Nagoya), and the South Bay

Lighthouse has sent out **short term missionaries** to Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, Brazil, Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Taiwan, Japan, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Belarus, Greece, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, inner US cities, and closed countries

Lighthouse has sent out **longer term missionaries** to Nepal, China, Mexico, Japan, Thailand, Ghana, Uganda, South Sudan, and England

Planted on April 30, 2016

Zoe Community Church
Allen, Texas

Pastors Jesse Terasaki & Eric Lau

Two Lighthouse church plants

Planted on April 3, 2022

Logos Community Church
Nagoya, Japan

Pastors Toshi Saito & Hide Kawai

We want God's Word in the hands of people.

Lighthouse participated in Crossway Publishers' One Million Bible Initiative in Africa. \$65K was sent to Crossway in order to distribute 100,000 ESV Concise Study Bibles in Spanish. Hundreds of ESV Global Study Bibles were sent to the Philippines.

Lighthouse has sent Bibles and theological, pastoral, and counseling books to pastors and church leaders in Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Guatemala, Philippines, and to many African countries.

Lighthouse believes in the importance of gospel centered resources, so we've helped fund the translation of multiple gospel centered books into the Arabic and Japanese languages.

Lighthouse has purchased and packed nearly 1 million meals through *Feed My Starving Children*

Since 2008, Lighthouse has built 17 homes for families in Tijuana and Ensenada, Mexico

Lighthouse provided \$25K to *Serve LA* so they could purchase a new shower trailer that serves the homeless population.

We've given \$20K to *Foster the City* and the *Pregnancy Help Center* in Torrance to care for kids in the foster care system and the unborn, respectively.

Lighthouse has given over \$100K to *Los Angeles Bible Training School* so they can teach believers the Word of God in the inner city.

Over \$2.7 million has been given by Lighthouse through the Mercy Ministry and an additional \$1.8 million through the Kingdom Fund. These funds have been given with the vision of making gospel-centered disciples who exalt and proclaim Christ.

By God's grace, your generous giving has allowed our church to play a part of the gospel spreading locally and globally!

Treasuring Christ

WHEN
GIVING IS
Gain

“**Treasuring Christ**” is a two-year generosity initiative with the goal of raising \$7 million to be used for a campus expansion, through renovating a leased site or using the funds to purchase a property. Throughout the next two years, we hope to be a people who will grow in faith, leading us to live lives that display the greatness of our God.

Our Challenge

With the many blessings of numerical growth, we also face a pressing challenge: **we are running out of space**. Sunday morning worship services can be crowded, the children’s ministry classrooms are often very full, and other ministries such as Bridge, counseling, Friday night fellowship groups, and Equip classes are also affected. In addition, we are particularly burdened by how these challenges might be a hindrance for those who are newer or visiting our church.

Our Opportunity

We are entering a season where we are being called as a church to vision and prepare for the next chapter. We recognize that Lighthouse’s growth is God’s **kindness** to us, but it is also a **stewardship** that He has entrusted to us. This initiative is not about more numerical growth or Lighthouse making a name for ourselves, but about how we can be faithful in carrying out our mission statement: “**to make gospel-centered disciples who exalt and proclaim Christ.**”

God has done amazing things through Lighthouse over the years, and now He is presenting us with even more opportunities for the gospel to spread. We believe God has a vision for Lighthouse to be an impactful church that makes more gospel-centered disciples in our community and beyond.

But it all begins with us. We are a people who have received extravagant gifts from our God, and He calls us to live lives of extravagant generosity for Him and others. We invite each and every one of you to join us on this journey of Treasuring Christ. What might your life look like if you truly believed that “giving is gain” because Christ is your greatest Treasure?

Brothers and sisters, we hope you are excited for what God will do in this season of ministry as we take a step of faith together and learn what it means to treasure Christ.

Campus Expansion

Over the past 20 years, the Lord has continued to provide a location for the Lighthouse church family to meet and worship together. From middle school cafeterias to our current space in an industrial complex, the Lord has been kind.

When we first moved into the 501 Van Ness site, we thought space would never be an issue again. Little did we know that the Lord would continue to grow us, and now we are having capacity problems – of the good kind! Finding a parking spot can get tricky, we’ve already had to open an overflow area for the sanctuary, and the children’s ministries classrooms are getting tighter every week.

To address this, the elders have been looking for options to alleviate some of the crowding. We’ve considered church planting, satellite churches, and finding more office space, but we believe the best course for now would be a campus expansion. This could be moving into an entire new building or finding another site within our current complex to pair with our existing one.

For our next home, we are hoping for about 60-70k square feet of space, adequate parking, a larger sanctuary, more children’s classrooms, as well as more office, counseling, and meeting spaces. An acquisition of a new space would likely involve some remodeling, as well as the purchasing of furniture, equipment, and supplies needed to do ministry.

We have looked at both the options to lease (which we are currently doing) or purchase. Leasing is less expensive, while purchasing gives us more freedom with how we want to utilize the property and greater long-term stability of staying in one location.

The financial numbers are big and best estimates at this point range from 7 million dollars for a lease that pairs with our current site to upwards of 30 million to purchase and remodel one larger site. In any of these cases, in order to move forward, we would need some money saved and ready to be used. This has led us to our generosity initiative. On a practical level, we need to have funds raised to proceed with any purchase or rebuild. On a spiritual level, we trust that this will be a blessing to each of us as we grow together in joy and generosity.



Let's Journey Together

Here is what we're asking of you...

1 Pray

We pray because this task is great, and we need God's help and grace. Pray that God would grow you in generosity, not just for this initiative, but in all things. Ask the Lord to unify our church in this generosity initiative and to show you how you might take part. Pray that God would multiply our efforts as a church to make gospel-centered disciples and that He would do abundantly more than we ask or imagine.

2 Prepare

Think through how God might be stretching and growing you in your stewardship of the things He has entrusted to you, and specifically how He is calling you to give to this generosity initiative. We invite you to join us for our "Treasuring Christ" sermon series on Sundays from March 2 to April 6. Learn all you can about God's heart for you and your resources. Seek to be an active, helpful, encouraging voice as you engage in the study with your brothers and sisters.

3 Praise

Allow your heart to praise Him through this journey and to be able to see all things as from the hands of a good and loving God.

4 Participate

We hope that **100% of the church family** at Lighthouse will join us on this spiritual journey. We are asking you to stand side by side with your church family, to prayerfully consider making a financial commitment to support this vision, and to commit to do what God asks. Imagine how God might use a people unhindered by the idol of money and who treasure Christ above all things. We trust that as each of us gives generously and sacrificially, God will bear much fruit both in our hearts and in our church.

We hope that each and every person who calls Lighthouse home will engage in this initiative to experience a life-changing encounter with God.

As you pray about how God would ask you to engage in Treasuring Christ, use this chart as a discipleship tool. Allow God to inspire and challenge you to greater generosity over the next two years (April 2025 - April 2027). This giving commitment would be in addition to your regular giving.

GIFTS NEEDED	TWO YEAR GIFT OF	MONTHLY GIFT OF	GIFT LEVEL TOTAL
1	750,000	31,250	750,000
1	500,000	20,833	500,000
1	250,000	10,416	250,000
1	125,000	5,208	125,000
4	75,000	3,125	300,000
10	50,000	2,083	500,000
20	35,000	1,458	700,000
40	25,000	1,041	1,000,000
60	15,000	625	900,000
70	10,000	416	700,000
70	7,500	312	525,000
80	5,000	208	400,000
100	2,500	104	250,000
Many	<2,500	100	100,000
			7,000,000



Devotionals

As we embark on this generosity initiative, our mission is “**to make gospel-centered disciples who exalt and proclaim Christ.**” It’s exciting to consider opportunities to **look outward** and to imagine how God might continue to use Lighthouse to multiply more gospel-centered disciples in our community and beyond. But at the same time, we also hope that this season of ministry will be an opportunity for us to **look in** and grow as **more faithful gospel-centered disciples ourselves.** More than just raising funds, we are praying that God would grow our hearts to treasure Christ more than money.

To that end, the following pages contain space for sermon notes, as well as devotionals for yourself and your family to help fuel your faith in God during this Generosity Initiative. There are three devotionals (and one family devotional) per week, and each will give you a passage(s) to read and some reflection questions to consider. Like our small group studies, these questions are based around **Word** (what does the Bible say?), **Worship** (how does this affect my heart?), and **Work** (how do I live this out?).

Along with the reflection questions, there are also some prayer prompts to guide times of prayer. In addition to praying on your own, we encourage you to find times to **pray together with others**, whether it’s your own family, a friend, or other church members. We pray because this task is great, and we need **God’s help and grace.**

We also invite you to join us to fast for one lunch/day during the week of March 30, leading up to the Commitment Sunday on April 6. In the Bible, God’s people fasted to focus on God as they brought particular issues before Him in prayer.

As you spend time thinking about your own heart and what it means to treasure Christ, we hope that God brings clarity to how He might work through your life and resources and the next steps to take. It is exciting to think about how God will work in and through us during our time in the Word and how we can experience the joy of generosity.

FOR SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDES
SCAN QR CODE



NOTE FROM PASTOR WAYNE

Treasuring Christ Family Devotionals

Hi Lighthouse Parents!

What a great privilege we have to shepherd our kids in their love for God and others and explore together as a church family what it means to treasure Christ more than this world!

Here are a couple simple ways to introduce and frame your family devotional times. Announce to your kids how for the next 5 weeks, your family will be going on a treasure hunt together and discovering the treasures of God’s Word and God’s promises to us! Before your devotional time each week, write down the main point of the sermon on a piece of paper, roll it up, and hide it somewhere in the house. Also, included in each week’s devotional is an opening object lesson. You can choose to place the object next to the rolled up piece of paper or in a separate location (make sure to provide a treasure map or hints for your kids!). Feel free to make the “treasures” as fancy as you’d like, even adding some extra incentives (e.g. candy, fun snack, etc.). Be creative and have fun!

As you attempt to facilitate these weekly devotionals with your kids, remember to prepare your heart to focus more on using this time to enjoy conversations with your family and getting to know what’s on their hearts rather than just trying to get through the material. Even if things do not go as planned (which I’m sure never happens!), take time to pray and thank God together for these special moments that we get to experience together with our family. Our children’s ministry will be following up with a recap of the devotional during the children’s large group worship time the following Sunday. Enjoy going on your treasure hunts and discovering more of God’s amazing love for us together!

in Christ,

Pastor Wayne

Frequently Asked Questions...

Why are we embarking on this Generosity Initiative now?

God has been so gracious to us as a church, and as we have experienced significant growth over the past few years, we believe that the best way to prepare for the next chapter is to raise funds to be applied towards a larger new facility.

We believe that moving into a larger facility will allow us to more faithfully carry out our mission to make gospel-centered disciples who exalt and proclaim Christ. By undertaking this Generosity Initiative, we hope to have the financial resources to pursue a future property.

What will this money be used for?

We hope to use this money for leasing or purchasing a larger new facility.

How much money are we trying to raise? What happens if we don't meet that goal? What happens if we exceed that goal?

We are praying that God provides \$7 million through this Initiative.

We joyfully trust that God will provide as he sees fit, and whatever he provides will be no more and no less than what he has deemed to be sufficient for us. If we don't meet our goal, we will trust God with his provision and rejoice at what has been given! We will continue to steward our existing facility, our finances, and our flock as wisely as we can. We may consider future Generosity Initiatives to continue to financially prepare for future ministry.

If we exceed our goal, we will still trust God with his provision and rejoice at what has been given! Receiving more than our goal would be a tremendous grace, and it would allow for greater flexibility and opportunity in our pursuit of a new facility.

How long will I have to fulfill my commitment?

Your commitment will be fulfilled over a two-year period (April 2025 to April 2027).

When should I start giving towards my commitment?

After you submit your Commitment Card on April 6, you can begin to make contributions on Sunday, April 27. In order to allow more time for God to grow and transform your heart throughout the Initiative, please refrain from making contributions until then. However, you should continue to make your regular offering contributions.

Can I make changes to my commitment in the future?

Yes! If the Lord is calling you to give differently over the course of the next two years, you can let us know at bills@lighthousesouthbay.org.

Is my commitment in the place of my regular offering? Or is it separate?

The Generosity Initiative contributions are being made in addition to your regular offering.

What is the best way to make my contribution payments?

You can make your contributions through Planning Center Giving.

If donating by check or cash, indicate "Generosity Initiative" in the memo line of the check and on the Offering Card.

How do I donate appreciated assets (e.g. stocks, real estate, life insurance, etc.)?

You can contact our finance team at bills@lighthousesouthbay.org

Are those who are not part of Lighthouse allowed to contribute to this Initiative?

Yes! We welcome the generosity of anyone who wants to be a part of what God is doing at Lighthouse!

How will the money be held once collected? What safeguards are in place to make sure that it is managed appropriately?

The collected funds will be securely held in low-risk financial instruments, such as savings accounts and certificates of deposit (CDs), to ensure both safety and accessibility. Additionally, we have safeguards in place, including regular oversight, transparent reporting, and adherence to established financial policies, to ensure the funds are managed responsibly and in alignment with their intended purposes.

Will my giving commitment be made public in any way? Who will know what I've committed?

We will not make anyone's giving commitment public. Only a select few individuals will have access to the Commitment Cards in order to calculate our churchwide Giving Total. Our standard policy is that giving information is only available to our Controller, and our deacon of finance, and select administrators for systems maintenance. All giving information is anonymized when being evaluated by church leaders.

What kind of facility are we looking for?

We are hoping to find a location in Torrance that includes 60-70k square feet of usable space, which would accommodate a larger sanctuary, more children's classrooms, office, counseling, and meeting spaces. The site would also need to include sufficient parking spaces. An acquisition of a new space would likely involve significant remodeling, as well as the purchasing of furniture, equipment, and supplies needed to do ministry.

What happens if we cannot find a new facility?

If we cannot find a new facility, we will continue to trust the Lord and be faithful to what he has called us to! We will continue to maximize the use of our current resources, while trusting that God will provide for our future.

The money collected from the Generosity Initiative will be held until an opportunity arises.

What is the current status of our search for a new facility?

As of now, there is not a specific location that we are actively pursuing as our next church home.

When we first moved into our current building in 2011, our realtor semi-seriously said to us on our first Sunday, "It's too small." In God's kindness, he was right! Since then, we have retained our realtor to actively monitor the real estate market for possible future locations. While various options have emerged throughout the years, we have not found anything suitable for our needs.

In the latter half of 2024, there was a possibility of leasing another building in our current business park (529 Van Ness Avenue), and while we initially had favorable meetings with the landlord and even a verbal agreement, the owners never offered a formal contract, and our realtor has concluded that the likelihood of us getting that building is very slim.

We are continuing to monitor the South Bay market for a property that will meet our needs.

Is pursuing a new facility the best option for our church? Have we considered other ways to steward our growth (e.g. church planting, satellite church campuses, offsite office space, capping attendance)?

The church elders have considered these possibilities, but each seems to not fully address our issue - either holistically or for the long-term. For example, even a sizable church plant of 100 members would only minimally and temporarily relieve growth pressures and artificially capping our attendance would also mean capping what we believe God is doing through Lighthouse.

Who do I talk to if I have questions?

As there are so many aspects to this generosity initiative, we encourage you to contact the church office at info@lighthousesouthbay.org or call us at (310) 212-0320 so we can connect you with the right person to answer your specific questions.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

<i>“Treasuring Christ” Sermon Series begins</i>	<i>March 2</i>
<i>Finance Seminar</i> Learning to have a biblical understanding of finances.	<i>March 16</i>
<i>Prayer Gathering</i> A time for the church family to pray for the Generosity Initiative.	<i>March 29</i>
<i>Financial Pacesetters Gathering</i>	<i>March 30</i>
<i>Fasting and Prayer</i> Join us in prayer and fasting for one lunch/day during this week together	<i>March 30</i>
<i>Commitment Sunday</i> We will formally make our giving commitments together as a church and turn in our Commitment Cards	<i>April 6</i>
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	<i>April 13</i>
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	<i>April 20</i>
<i>Anniversary Sunday - Giving Reveal & First Fruits Offering</i> We will reveal the final commitment total and officially begin to make our financial contributions to the Initiative.	<i>April 27</i>

LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH