

# Love, Grow, Serve

## Viewpoint Community Groups

Hello all!

So, are you ready to SERVE?! We are really excited to share that our Community Groups will now be moving into a season and rhythm of serving. As you know, our Community Groups are places to serve one another, the church, and our community. Mark 10:45 says, *"even the son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."* Living out our faith means living a life of serving. Each of us has unique gifts, talents, and strengths to serve inside and outside of the church.

Look at David's life...he took a posture of humility and servanthood before God released him into his true destiny. It was through the act of serving his father, brothers and King Saul that we see the abundant amount of grace God poured out to him. David had numerous opportunities to self-promote along his journey, but instead took the posture of humility and obedience in God's timing.

As a general overview, we are looking to partner with two different organizations that provide opportunities to serve our brothers and sisters both on a local and global scale. Our goal here is to create lasting and meaningful relationships and to dive into a rhythm of serving through our Community Groups. Our groups really will be the heartbeat of our church!

Please take this time to pray and discuss where it is you feel God wants your group to move. Please take the time to review these opportunities with your group. Again, our goal is to foster an ongoing relationship with the people that we serve. We are looking for each of our groups to serve every other month with our local partners and/or once or twice a year with our Mexico partners. However, do not let this limit you! If your group feels called to serve more, please, please do so! You may also serve in some capacity at both. Please communicate any thoughts or questions that you might have. I am available assist and guide you. We love our groups and thank you for your hearts to serve. We are very excited to move into this new chapter of serving at Viewpoint through our Community Groups!

-Val and the VP Staff

# Local Serving with Lighthouse Church

Please visit this link: <http://www.lighthousecostamesa.org/about-the-outreach-ministry/> for more information on Lighthouse Church's outreach ministries.

## **Current Serve Opportunities:**

> **DINNERS FOR THE HOMELESS (WEDNESDAYS + FRIDAYS):** Lighthouse Church is in need of a group of people to serve dinner to the homeless! Friday Dinners serve a meal to approximately 50-60 homeless individuals in the Costa Mesa area. This is a time not only to serve a hot meal but to love on, minister to and befriend to our homeless community. Bonus? Bring dessert!

- What to do? Show up and serve! Note: The food is already prepared.
- Address? 1885 Anaheim Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
- When? Every and any Wednesday and Friday evening.

>**BREAKFAST FOR THE HOMELESS:** Open any and every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning. Lighthouse Church is in need of a group of people to serve breakfast to the homeless (food already made!). Do you know what's a bummer? No one is ever there to serve breakfast! So, we need you! This is a time not only to serve a hot meal but to love on, minister to and befriend our homeless community. Following these meals there is always a time to put on a small devotional or for someone to share a testimony or speak! Singing and music is also an option! They love it! Bonus? This really helps the staff at Lighthouse Church; it gives them a breather! What to do? Arrive at 8:00AM and serve.

- What to do? Show up and serve! Note: The food is already prepared.
- Address? 1885 Anaheim Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
- When: Any Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning.

*Extra bonus? Following breakfast on Friday mornings, the Lighthouse Church "Mercy Room" opens! This is a place where they provide clothing, blankets and backpacks to the homeless community. Additionally, their "Free Pantry" opens as well. This "Free Pantry" is available not only to the homeless but also to local residents struggling to keep food on the table! They are in need of volunteers to help assist these efforts.*

>**MENToring:** Lighthouse Church provides housing and accommodations for up to 30 previously homeless men through their Residential Program. These men are off the streets, sober and determined to change their lives for the better. Lighthouse Church is always in need of a group of men who are available to mentor to their residents. This is a time to love on, support and guide these individuals. Note: the fellas only for this one!

>**The BIG Saturday Serve:** This one is a biggy! What would it require? Several community groups partnering together to pull this one off! Every other fourth Saturday of the month, Lighthouse Church is in need of a group of people to put on a large meal for 200 homeless individuals in the Costa Mesa area. This includes both providing a hot meal as well as serving it.

\*Please note: kids are allowed to join as long as they are accompanied by a parent!

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“We love it when volunteers engage and love on our people. This is more than just serving a hot meal, it is about treating our homeless with the dignity and love of Jesus Christ.” Linda Miles, Lighthouse Church Director

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# Mexico Serving with Corazon

Please visit this link: <http://corazon.org/en/> for more information on Corazon outreach ministries.

## **Current Serve Opportunities:**

**>YOUTH SUMMER CAMP GRADUATION (day trip):** Corazon is in need of a group of individuals to assist with their summer camp graduation! This is a one-day volunteer effort in which volunteers set up, interact with, play with, swim with and provide a fun and supportive environment for their summer camp graduates. This is free to all volunteers and is also a great intro into the work and mission of Corazon! Purpose? To give children a sense of accomplishment (by graduating) in a community where there is scarcely the opportunity to finish or complete anything. Also? To have a blast with the kids! This is usually the highlight of their year!

Date? Saturday, July 28th.

How to arrive? Car caravan.

Passports? Yes.

Needing more details? Of course! Contact Valerie Sizemore!

**>FAMILY COMMUNITY BUILDING PROGRAM (day trip):** Here volunteers along with the Corazon Staff provide free workshops and classes to the community. Adults in the community have the opportunity to learn a variety of different skills and have access to additional resources. Many times the skills learned at these workshops improve quality of life as well as the means to improve economically.

*"Corazón believes education is as important for adults as it is for children. In the process of developing a self-sufficient community, Corazón offers a wide variety of adult education classes. These classes include; sewing, construction, plumbing, electrical, English, health courses, computers, child and spousal abuse prevention, stained glass, cosmetology, and gardening." - Corazon Website*

Interested? Contact Valerie Sizemore for upcoming dates and times.

>**CORAZON HOME BUILD (day trip):** We are tentatively aiming to do an entire Viewpoint Community Group Program house build in Tecate, Mexico in the fall of 2018! More information on this to come!

>**CORAZON PICK A PROJECT (day trip):** Here, your group is able to pick and complete a project on a home (roof installation, house painting, appliance or bathroom equipment installation, floor installation, etc.)! Project costs typically run between \$600-\$800. Please contact Valerie Sizemore if your group is interested.

>**CORAZON SEPTIC TANK INSTALLATION (day trip):** Here, your group is able to install a much needed septic tank to a family's home. Project costs run around \$1,500. Please contact Valerie Sizemore if your group is interested in installing a septic tank!

\*Please note: with any of these builds, additions or projects it is always a lovely touch to welcome a family to their new home with housewarming gifts such as towels, blankets, plates, cups, rugs, etc.

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*"To these people, having a home with walls, floors and a working bathroom is like winning the lottery." - Lauren Cissel, U.S. Operations Manager, Corazon Inc.*

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## Next Steps?

### Step One: Picking a "Serve Coordinator"

Please pray on, discuss and decide upon on a "Serve Coordinator" from within your group. This person may or may not be your Community Group leader. This person should have a passion and/or gift for serving and have the ability to communicate and coordinate group volunteer efforts with me, Valerie Sizemore. If your group feels that there is more than one person for this role, no problem! It takes a team! This person(s) will be in charge of leading their Community Group in serving and will coordinate projects, times, dates, etc. with Valerie Sizemore. This person will be encouraged to communicate and update group volunteer efforts with the Director of Involvement (Valerie Sizemore) on monthly a basis.

### Step Two: Picking Your Serve

Please pray on, discuss and decide upon where it is your group would like to first serve. Perhaps you would like to start small with a dinner or breakfast at Lighthouse Church. Maybe you make this into your thing and once a month or once every other month you serve a dinner at Lighthouse? Awesome! Maybe you want to go big and partner with one or two other groups and put on a "BIG" Saturday Meal Serve? Sweet! Feeling drawn to Mexico? Perhaps your group would like to plan on volunteering at the Summer Camp Graduation in July or maybe you would like to plan for a day service trip over the summer? Cool! Whatever it is, first decide on where you feel God calling your group! Note: feel free to volunteer with both organization should you desire!

### Step Three: Picking Your Serve Date(s)

Now that you know **how** you would like to first serve...please pray on, discuss and decide upon **when** it is that you would like to serve. We do not have any strict requirements for how often and where/when you should serve but we do want to encourage our Community Groups to serve! You may pick one day/date now or line up several volunteer efforts! Whatever is best for your group. Also, please note in deciding upon a date that not EVERYONE is going to be able to serve at ALL efforts. That is the beauty of serving on a regular basis; all will have a chance to serve! Tip: plan ahead and save the date! Don't just look at the next month but rather come up with a strategy and a rhythm for serving in your group. Do you want to serve every other month with Lighthouse? Serve twice a year with Corazon? Maybe a mix of the two!? Awesome. Decide as a group how you want to make an impact.

Moving forward, your "Serve Coordinator" will take 15-20 minutes once or twice a month during your weekly meetings to discuss and plan serve goals and efforts with your group. So...

>Lighthouse Church: If your group would like to volunteer at Lighthouse Church...please decide upon your first serve date. Breakfast and dinner dates (Monday, Wednesday, Fridays) are completely open at Lighthouse Church. It is up to you! Should you like to do a "BIG" Saturday Meal Serve" please let me, Valerie Sizemore know. I will put you on the list to partner with additional Community Groups.

>Corazon: If your group would like to volunteer with Corazon, please contact me, Valerie Sizemore to coordinate a your Summer Camp Graduation on July 28th or to coordinate a "pick a project", "septic tank" or "family community program" effort.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Together, we can impact the Kingdom!

All for Christ,

Valerie Sizemore, Director of Involvement, Viewpoint Church

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