

Jesus is Lord and all are welcome.

Seven Basic Premises of Shepherd of the Sea Lutheran Church
Adopted by Congregation Council September 2011

Basic Premise #1 - The Church exists for those who are not yet members.

Basic Premise #2 – We welcome and accept people wherever they are in their faith journey, and trust God to take them where He wants them to be, and on His timetable.

Basic Premise #3 - People want relationships, not religion.

- a. Authentic Christianity is a relationship, not a religion.
- b. They don't care what you know until they know that you care.
- c. Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name and they're always glad you came.

Basic Premise #4 – Positioning: We play to our strengths. We aren't interested in trying to be another church. We learn from others, but adapt what we like to our situation. There isn't one single way that works, or one size that fits all.

Basic Premise #5 - Just because we've always done things in a certain way is not, in and of itself, a sufficient reason for continuing to do it that way. God loves us just the way we are, but He doesn't expect us to stay that way.

Basic Premise #6 – God pays for what God orders.

Basic Premise #7 – With God, nothing is impossible.