

THE BEACON

A newsletter of Seaside Home, Inc., Cape May, NJ

"Providing Christian vacations for 147 years"

2026



Seaside Home stay promotes creativity

People come to Seaside Home for a variety of reasons. There is, of course, the beach. The sand, the sun, the waves—a constant reminder of God’s majesty. Some come for the relaxation, a break from everyday life, whether that be a good book or a quick snooze on a porch rocking chair. And others come for the Christian atmosphere, the daily devotions and the lifelong friendships created there. But Sandy Parente comes to Seaside Home to write poetry. And she shared her poem about Seaside Home at the weekly talent show.

“When I sat down to write this poem, I just asked myself, what does Seaside Home mean to me?” Sandy says. “I just wanted to find a way to describe what makes Seaside Home so special to me and the families that come here.” Sandy says she wrote this particular poem during the week of her stay at Seaside Home.

Sandy, 80, has been attending Seaside Home for the past 32 years, at first with her two daughters as a single mother, and now on her own. Her daughters attended until their early teens. “As we started to get to know Seaside Home and the other guests, we started to come every year. Things haven’t changed much through the years,” Sandy says. “Seaside Home grew to be the highlight of our year.”

My Ode to Seaside Home

Seaside Home is just the best
Sand and sun, and all the rest.
We arrive with a smile and a happy face
That troubles and worries cannot erase.
We enjoy the sermons every day,
And feel so blessed when we pray.
Sadly enough the week does end.
We say, “good-bye” to each new friend.
But, the spiritual strength we gather here
Will firmly last throughout the year.
GOD BLESS SEASIDE HOME

By Sandy Parente



Seaside Home managers Jennifer Vasey, Carolyn Doerr, and Nancy Conner serve guests during the weekly ice cream social.

Half-week stay available this season

Not able to commit an entire week for vacation this summer? The Seaside Home Board of Managers is adding one three-night stay to its 2026 schedule. June 24-27 will accommodate all guests at the following rates:

Age 14-adult	\$150
Age 10-13	\$75
Age 5-9	\$45
Age 2-4	\$20
Age 0-1	free

Enjoy all the same amenities in a shortened week! Please see the enclosed registration form to register.



Seaside Home, Inc.
201 Grant Street
Cape May, NJ 08204
(609) 884-8728
www.SeasideHomeNJ.org

2026—Volume 39

The Beacon is distributed to all guests, donors, and friends of Seaside Home once each year. If you have any questions or news, or to be removed from our mailing list, please contact:

Carolyn Doerr
Editor and Chair,
Outreach Committee
CarolynLDoerr@gmail.com

The mission of Seaside Home is to spread the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and to give spiritual as well as physical refreshment to our guests.

Linda Allebach
President
linda@sojournersuites.com
(215) 872-7313

Joanne Criswell, Registrar
7676 Rockstone Lane
Mobile, AL 36695
contact@SeasideHomeNJ.org

Large gaming monitors and hoverboards are not permitted at Seaside Home.



Roof replacement fundraiser

This year we will be continuing our roof replacement fundraiser. Please help as you are able.



Dear Friends,

Since the late 1800s, the Lord has graciously allowed Seaside Home to share the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and to provide both spiritual and physical refreshment to all who visit. We have much to be thankful for. God has been faithful. In 2025, many friends partnered with us to help continue this mission.

On behalf of the entire Seaside Home Board of Managers, we want to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who participated in the ministry last year. The Lord provided 11 pastors who generously volunteered their time to share the Good News. Our dedicated staff served our guests with faithfulness and joy. Many friends supported us financially. Many prayed. And God provided. We thank the Lord for each of you, and we are truly blessed to have you as part of this mission. We pray that God will bless you abundantly for your kindness and your commitment to the work of Seaside Home. Because of your continued support, we are excited to share that the dining hall and cottage now have a new roof. Praise the Lord for His ongoing provision.

We hope you will consider joining us this summer for a week of spiritual refreshment. Please invite a friend to come along. Come and see what the Lord is doing at Seaside Home in 2026. Return to reconnect with old friends and to make new ones.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”
— Matthew 11:28



Blessings be with you now and always,
Linda L. Allebach
Linda L. Allebach, President



Staff have a little fun
on Taco Tuesday!



SEASIDE HOME, INC

2026 Policies

Reservations

- All reservation requests must be made using the Reservation Form and mailed to the Registrar.
- Requests will be accepted beginning March 1.
- All first-time guests must submit a Reference Form before a reservation request will be accepted.
- A signed Caretaker Form is required for all minor children not accompanied by their parent or legal guardian.
- Women and Children Weeks are open to women and girls of all ages, and boys 13 years old and younger.
- Requests for a 2nd vacation week may be accepted after Memorial Day.

Fees / Payments

- A \$50 deposit must accompany a reservation request for everyone 10 years old and older.
- Deposits are non-refundable and non-transferable.
- Full payment will be accepted by the Registrar by mail at least one week prior to arrival, or at check-in.
- All payments must be made by check. Exact cash can be accepted at check-in. No credit/debit cards.
- The Registrar is available to discuss a scholarship if there is a hardship.
- Full final payment must be made upon check-in on arrival day.

Cancellations

- Cancellations must be received in writing by the Registrar 10 days before your expected arrival.
- Full payment of the balance due will be charged if the required cancellation notice is not made.
- Travel insurance is always recommended.

Room Assignments

- Room assignment requests are always considered, but never guaranteed.
- Room assignments are made with the whole in mind and are not first-come first-serve.
- Request a first-floor room if you physically cannot navigate stairs. Other requests for the first floor will be considered after physical needs are accommodated.
- Guests are responsible for the cleanliness of their assigned rooms.
- Guests are not permitted to enter other guest rooms unless expressly invited.
- Single rooms may be requested. When the Home is at full capacity there will be a surcharge of \$50.

Health

- Seaside Home is not equipped to accommodate disabilities or special diets. The Registrar is available to discuss individual needs and circumstances.
- All guests must provide the name and phone number of an Emergency Contact.
- Parents/Guardians/Caretakers are responsible for the health, welfare, and behavior of their children.
- All prescription and over-the-counter medications must be secured.
- All guests must be free of communicable diseases.

I have read and accept the above representation of the Reservation Policies of Seaside Home, Inc

Signature

Date

Registration Procedures

Reservation requests will be processed beginning March 1. Enclosed you will find four forms:

1. Submit the **First Time Guest Reference Form** if you have not been a guest with us before. Remember to have your pastor complete and sign the reference area. You can send this form before, or with, the request form.
2. Please read the **2026 Policies**. They are very important, and you really do need to know them.
3. Fill out the **Reservation Request Form**. Each adult must submit his or her own form. This helps keep our records accurate and up to date. If you are bringing your children and Grandma, and Grandma has a different address, please send us a form with her information in addition to the form for yourself and children. If you are bringing adult, unmarried children, and they live at your address, you can list them on your request; please include individual email addresses. Married couples should submit one form, include individual email addresses, but designate one email address as primary.
4. The 4th form, the **Temporary Caretaker and Medical Authorization Form**, is required when you bring a child, under the age of 18, who is not your child or legal ward. The form should be submitted with the reservation request. The form must be submitted before the child is confirmed on the reservation. Contact the Registrar if you have any questions. NOTE: Some medical facilities may require a notarized form.

Please take a look at our website at www.SeasideHomeNJ.org. for helpful information, or to contact the Registrar via email. All forms can be downloaded and printed from the website for your convenience.

SEASIDE HOME, INC

Temporary Caretaker & Medical Authorization

Any minor child registered as a guest at Seaside Home must be accompanied by, and under the care of, a registered adult guest. The adult guest accepts all responsibility for the health, welfare, and behavior of the minor child guest. A Minor Child is defined as any guest under the age of eighteen at any time during their stay at Seaside Home.

Seaside Home understands that some minor child guests may not be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian. Any adult registered guest accepting responsibility for a minor child guest on their reservation is defined as a Temporary Caretaker. Examples of someone who may be a Temporary Caretaker are a grandparent, aunt or uncle, family friend, foster parent, or friend's parent. We welcome you to bring children.

<i>Child's Name</i>	
<i>Date of Birth</i>	<i>Age</i>
<i>Primary DR</i>	<i>DR Phone #</i>
<i>Allergies</i>	
<i>Insurance Info</i>	

<i>Parent's Name</i>	
<i>Phone #</i>	<i>Cell Phone #</i>
<i>Address</i>	
<i>I authorize (name)</i>	
<i>to be Temporary Caretaker and to seek emergency medical care for the above named</i>	
<i>minor child, for effective dates</i> _____ <i>to</i> _____	
<i>Signed:</i>	<i>Date</i>

SEASIDE HOME, INC 2026 RESERVATION REQUEST FORM

Guest Information

Check the box next to all new information. Submit the required Reference Form for all new adult Guests.

Adult, Guest #1	All Guests:
Email Address	June 24-June 27 (see p. 1 for fees)
Spouse, Guest #2	July 4-July 11
Email Address	July 11-July 18
Mailing Address	July 25-Aug 1
	Aug 1- Aug 8
	Aug 8-Aug 15
Contact Phone #	Aug 22-Aug 29
	Aug 29-Sept 5
	Women & Children (boys 13 and under):
<u>Notes to Registrar</u> (e.g. - room, traveling with others, late arrivals, request contact, etc.)	June 27-July 4
	July 18-July 25
	Aug 15-Aug 22

Minor Children Guest Information

First & Last Name - Child under 18 years old	M/F	Relationship	Date of Birth	Age	
					Weekly Rates:
					Adult, age 14+ \$350
					Ages 10 - 13 \$175
					Ages 5 - 9 \$100
					Ages 2 - 4 \$50
					Ages 0-1 \$0

Request Reserve this week _____

Details: If my 1st choice is full, Reserve this week instead _____

I am enclosing a check to cover the \$50 deposit for each guest 10 years and older \$ _____

I am enclosing an additional payment of \$ _____

Make checks payable to Seaside Home, Inc. Balance due at check-in.

I have read and accept the reservation policies of Seaside Home.

Signature and Date: _____

Seaside Home Inc

Cape May, New Jersey

FIRST TIME GUEST REFERENCE FORM

Seaside Home welcomes all who are not established guests to submit this Reference Form prior to requesting your first reservation. It may be submitted either with the Reservation Request Form or before with the anticipation of making a reservation request. A separate form is required for each applicant 18 years and older.

Complete the Applicant Section of the form and have your Pastor, Church Leader, or Seaside Home Board Member complete and sign the Referral Section of the form. Thank you for your interest in Seaside Home.

APPLICANT SECTION

Date	Office Use
Name	
Address	
Phone #	
Email Address	
How did you hear about Seaside Home	
Where do you attend Church	

REFERRAL SECTION

Seaside Home is a nonprofit Christian vacation home located in Cape May, NJ. Our mission is to provide a seaside vacation of physical and spiritual rest for guests who cannot otherwise afford it, and to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Guests must be capable of living and fellowshiping in a retreat-like setting; comfortable with family dining, agree to observe curfew and quiet hours, and attend daily devotions. Guest rooms do not have door locks, and bathrooms are down the hall. Some weeks cater to women and children only. Our website can be visited at www.seasidehomenj.org	
Contact us at our email if you have any questions: contact@seasidehomenj.org .	
Name	
Church Name & Address	
Phone #	Email Address
How do you know the Applicant	
Signature	Date



On the porch with the registrar

Recently I was listening to a song titled “In Summer.” A friendly snowman named Olaf sings about his daydream of being a snowman in the summertime. Olaf says, “When life gets rough, I like to hold on to my dream, of relaxing in the summer sun, just lettin’ off steam.”

I won’t see snow down here in Alabama, but I know most of you will. When snow disappears and the promise of spring and warmer days comes, many of us think about the same thing—the beach. I know it is a summer highlight for my family. Another highlight of our summer is wandering down the beach looking for treasures. Sometimes it’s a pile of seaweed, or the skeleton of a horseshoe crab, but occasionally we find something worthy of holding on to. A seashell without blemish is one of those treasures for me.

Seashells often roll in on the sand, broken and less than perfect. At times we can feel like we are in the deep waters that churn and toss us about in a similar way. We wonder if, when we hit the shore, anything will be left of us. Let me remind you today that God is always with us. We can know with certainty that our Redeemer lives and He loves us.

Spring is coming, followed by summer where soon you will find yourself wandering along the beach looking for treasures. You won’t find Olaf (don’t tell him that!) unless you build a snowman in the sand.

Praying for you,

Joanne Criswell

Joanne Criswell, registrar

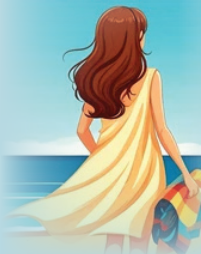
Beloved superintendent returns

Seaside Home is pleased to announce the return of Mary Beth Rush, accompanied by her husband Mike, as the 2026 superintendent. Welcome back, Mary Beth!



Important dress information

As a Christian organization in New Jersey, we must follow not only the rules of the state but also, more importantly, we must follow the rules of the Bible. One important area that often requires some reminders is in the area of dress. For health and safety, we must wear shoes at all times when not in our rooms. But for modesty, midriff tops and very short shorts should not be worn while at Seaside Home. Bathing suits must be covered at all times (no sheer bathing suit cover-ups) and not worn during meals. Proper undergarments must be worn, and men and women must be fully dressed when leaving the shower areas. Thank you for your cooperation.



Summer Positions Available

Cook, Assistant Cook,
Kitchen Associates, Housekeepers
Room and Board Provided



How you can help this year

We are once again accepting donations of new white twin-size sheet sets and mattress covers, gently used toddler toys for the front porch play area, gently used sand toys for an outdoor sharing bin and children’s books (no small pieces, please).



7676 Rockstone Lane
Mobile, AL 36695

The Board of Managers of
Seaside Home would like to
give *special thanks* to:

Lisa Leo, Taylor Made Graphics,
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time and talents in the design of this
newsletter.

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*Your generosity has made
this newsletter possible!*

New committee helps preserve rich history of Seaside Home

Seaside Home recently created the Seaside Home Historical Committee to help document and preserve the almost-150-year-old history of the home. Managers Ann Bennett, Barbara Boyer, Nancy Conner, Chris Creager and Pat Smith (chair) currently make up the committee. “We all love Seaside Home and it’s rich Christian history,” says Pat. “Our mission is to collect, preserve, share, educate and give all the Glory to God for His goodness in continuing His kingdom work begun in 1879 out at Cape May Point.”

Pat continues, “The original register books from 1879 have miraculously survived,” she says. “They give us wonderful clues to our foundation of a ministry started by a group of Christian women giving mothers and children the opportunity to enjoy a summer vacation at the shore.”

Chris Creager, manager and committee member, was a guest at the Cape May Point home when she was 3 years old. She has since hired a professional researcher and gifted his findings to Seaside Home. It includes old newspaper articles, plot plans, deeds, and more.

The original Seaside Home at the Point “toppled into the sea during a big storm tide,” according to a Cape May Star and Wave article dated March 5, 1942. The current Seaside Home building was purchased in November 1942.

In three years, Seaside Home will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary. Guests are invited to be a part of Seaside Home history by sharing information, stories, pictures or memories. If you were a guest at Seaside Home when it was at Cape May Point we would love to speak with you! Please contact Pat Smith at psmith610@gmail.com, or 610-494-4707.

