

Reverend Heidi Grueser

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Pine Island Community Church

Website: www.Pineislandcommunitychurch.com

To View Sermons: YouTube: Pine Island Community Church, Pastor Heidi Grueser

Accomplished Church Planter, Pastor, Preacher, Teacher, Counselor. Jesus and I planted our vision for an "Island Community Church" on our small fishing island in Southwest, Florida. The past 8 years the Holy Spirit has taken us from our first service in a Bingo Hall, to full capacity in the Elementary School Cafeteria to buying our own 8 Bay Warehouse. We are now a 7 day a week Church complete with a Thrift Store. For 8 years I have been known as the "Island's Pastor." I LOVE what I do and am feeling a nudge from the Holy Spirit to continue my journey forward.

SKILL HIGHLIGHTS

- Excellent Leadership and Communication Skills.
- 20+ Years of Ministry Experience in Church Planting, Hospitals, Ronald McDonald Houses and Denominational Churches.
- 8 Years of Managing, Building & Creating a Successful & Thriving Church Plant
- Volunteer Coordinator for Over Sea Mission Trips
- Mission Trip Coordinator and Leader
- Excellent & Proficient Communicator
- Background in expanding Program Involvement and Attendance in Community Ministries.
- Designing, Coordinating & Managing Skills in Start-Up Church Thrift Stores.
- Strong Record of Problem Solving Amongst Individuals
- Bible Study & Small Group Teacher & Facilitator
- 15+ Years in Grief-Bereavement Counseling in Clinical, Community & Church Settings
- Excellent Interpersonal & Negotiating Skills
- Outstanding techniques in Team Building
- Project Planner in Community Outreach Program

CORE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Church Planter:

Spearheaded and Planted Pine Island Community Church on Pine Island, located in Southwest, Florida.

Established and Managed Partner Relationships with the Community at Large on a Daily Basis.

Developed, Coordinated & Managed an Extended Ministry Church Thrift Store.
Developed Ministry Programs that were lacking in the community:
Began a free weekly dinner that fed hungry Families & Children
Began a free pet food pantry
Developed a Mission Team that does maintenance jobs for low income families weekly in the community
Accomplished Preacher, Teacher & Communicator

Operations Management:

- Managed large group of volunteers to help begin and sustain many all church Programs--we have no paid staff.
- Handled all functions related to the Business and Pastoral sides of the Church.
- Launched a successful Mission Team that is local and active in the community weekly.
- Mentored and Coached Volunteers to run, manage and staff our Church Thrift Store.

Program Management:

Began Programs at the Ronald McDonald Houses in Jacksonville & Orlando Florida that inspired family awareness of emotional, comfort & grief support.
Initiated Grief & Community Programs at Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital to help ensure high-risk pregnancies reach full term while on bed rest in the hospital.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Church Pastor & Founder, 01/2008 to Current

Pine Island Community Church - St. James City, Florida

Spearheaded a Non-Denominational Church on Pine Island. Developed and directed a strategy for beginning a grass roots Church. Performs sermons, Officiates Funerals, Marriages, Bible Studies, & Baptisms.

Accountable for all business and secretarial components of the church office.

Writes and Coordinates a weekly Newsletter.

Coordinates Volunteers and overall satisfaction of the Congregation at large.

Developed and Manages a thriving Church Thrift Store.

Organizes the order of Worship weekly.

Spearheads the weekly Mission Team.

Developed and Runs the Pet Pantry.

Counsels members of the Community as well as Church Members.

Program Director, 12/2005 to 09/2006

Program Director - Brunswick, Georgia

Established programs for incoming children taken out of abusive homes in a crisis situation.

Worked with local Social Workers, the Department of Children Services, local schools, hospitals and mental health facilities.

Counseled abused children.

Developed field trips and educational trips for the children.

Organized a charity black-tie event featuring celebrity chef Paula Deen and raised over \$100,000. for the Shelter.

Increased community awareness for the shelter.

Raised high performance team efforts amongst the staff.

Family Minister/Youth Minister, 12/2006 to 01/2008

Pine Island United Methodist Church - Bokeelia, Florida

Organized all family and youth events such as Bible Studies, weekly youth services, field trips, mission trips and retreats.

Preached once a month.

Raised youth attendance by 55% the first year.

Performed weddings and funerals.

Resident Manager/Chaplain, 08/2003 to 11/2005

Ronald McDonald House - Orlando, Florida

Raised the Moral of the families residing at the Ronald McDonald House while having a sick child in the neighboring hospital.

Developed programs such as "Bingo Night", Family Dinners every evening, Pottery Night and Holiday Family Events.

Offered Spiritual Support.

Worked closely with the hospital staffs, social workers, office staff and out of town family members.

Helped organize charity events to raise money for the foundation.

Established relationships and awareness with the Orlando businesses.

Mother-Baby Chaplain, 06/2002 to 03/2005

Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital - Orlando, Florida

Brought Spiritual comfort and development among the patients, families and hospital staff.

Developed Bereavement groups for the Hospital

Blessed and Baptized all babies upon request

Rocked babies while they died at the parents request

Was present in births upon request.

Prayed with families and staff

Let Bible Studies amongst the staff

Visited patients daily.

Resident Manager/Chaplain, 06/1999 to 05/2002

Ronald McDonald House - Jacksonville, Florida

Ran the daily operations of the Ronald McDonald House

Checked in and Check out families visiting the House

Developed Family Programs

Worked closely with the office staff and the local hospitals

Specialized in counseling children living with cancer and their families

On-call 24/7 for families in emergencies.

Hospital Chaplain, 05/1999 to 05/2002

Baptist Health - Jacksonville, Florida

Brought spiritual comfort to all patients and hospital staff upon request.

Visited patients daily

On Call to Emergency Room

Respond to all deaths

Developed Bible Studies for nurses and staff

Associate Minister/Youth Minister, 06/1995 to 06/1997

Richmond Hill United Methodist Church - Richmond Hill , Georgia

Organized and ran the youth group

Preached once a month and every Sunday evening

Organized youth retreats, field trips and Bible Studies

Organize and lead youth mission trips.

Went to all football and basketball games the youth were involved in

Held Prayer meetings for parents to pray as a group over their teens.

Associate Minister, 06/1995 to 06/1997

Wesley United Methodist Church - St. Simons Island, Georgia

Did all the hospital and home visits

Organized and kept record of all visitors and visited them after their first visit to the church.

Preach once a month

Organize, Develop and lead a Woman's Ministry

Lead, Organize and Develop Bible Studies

Oversee the Educational Department

Officiate Weddings and Funerals upon request

EDUCATION

Masters of Divinity, 1995

Asbury Theological Seminary - Wilmore, Kentucky, USA

Bachelor of Arts: Christian Education, 1992

Taylor University - Upland, IN, USA

High School Diploma: High School, 1988

Columbus Christian School - Columbus, Ohio, USA