

## Are you ready for a SoulShift?

In the words of Jesus, we find strength, direction, and **invitation**. Our SoulShift program helps us as we dig deep into Jesus' teachings to learn new ways to live. These courses will:

- Grow your knowledge of your faith.
- Equip you to take charge of your own spiritual development.
- Introduce you to wonderful friends within the church.

If you're ready to take your next step, take a look at SoulShift! The next courses offered will be:

### Exploring What I Believe: An Overview of Christian Theology

Thursdays at 7:00 pm beginning January 26, with instructor Melody Merida. Ten weeks. Hosted by the Love Looks Like Oasis.

Do you know why you believe what you believe? This course walks through some of the great questions people have about faith, God, and Christianity: How was the Cosmos created? Who is Jesus? Do we have free will? What should I believe about heaven and hell? What should I believe about the second coming?

Tough questions will be asked. Open discussion will be encouraged. We won't pull any punches. When we're finished, you'll know a whole lot more about *what* you believe and *why*.

### Spiritual Principles for Dating

Thursdays at 7:00 pm beginning January 26, with instructors Jeff Miner and David Zier. Eight weeks.

Do you sometimes experience frustration with the challenges of being single, especially when it comes to dating and seeking a spouse?

Successful relationships begin before they are formed; they begin with a solid foundation to guide dating and the early months of a new relationship. Topics covered include key mistakes, strategies for choosing the right spouse, hormones and judgment, how soon to have sex, and when to move in together.

### Discipleship 101

Mondays at 7:00 pm beginning January 23, with instructor Keith Phillips. Ten weeks.

Are you ready to take your spiritual life to a new level? In Discipleship 101, you will **engage the words of Jesus Christ directly for yourself**, in all their power and mystery. Instead of relying on someone else to tell you what these words mean, you will form your own conclusions, with the benefit of open discussion. We will focus on two major questions:

- What does it really mean to be a follower of Jesus?
- How can I deepen my personal relationship with God?

This course will challenge you to take a fresh look at what Jesus said and evaluate where you stand.

You will be encouraged to make concrete decisions about next steps, *at your own pace*, when it feels right. You will be offered options for putting what you learn into practice, so that the rhythms of your life increasingly reflect the faith of your heart.

### Registration for SoulShift Classes

- Following Jesus: Discipleship 101
- Spiritual Principles for Dating
- Exploring What I Believe: Christian Theology

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*I covenant to attend all sessions unless ill or out of town.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

All courses have a \$20 registration fee, which will be collected at the first class meeting. Do you need a scholarship for these fees?  Yes  No

*Return this form in the offering  
or in the basket at the info kiosk.*

## LifeJourney Goes to Orlando

This weekend Pastor Jeff is presenting four workshops at the *Gay Christian Network Conference* in Orlando, Florida. Meanwhile, David Squire, our Communications Director, is staffing a booth at the conference offering books and materials published by LifeJourney Press, our publishing ministry.

The Gay Christian Network (GCN) operates one of the most popular web-based support organizations for LGBT Christians: [www.gaychristian.net](http://www.gaychristian.net). GCN's conferences typically draw about 500 participants, and provide a wonderful opportunity to promote our resources.

Jeff will present two workshops based on the book he co-authored, *The Children Are Free*. The third workshop will be about our church's discipleship materials — *Discipleship 101 and 102*. The fourth workshop will present our *Clergy Training Program* to those who feel called to ministry.

Jeff and David will return to Indianapolis tonight.

# Order of Service • January 8, 2012

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**Worship Theme:** Why should we pray?

**Key Verse:** Taste and see that God is good. *Psalm 34:8*

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## Our Approach To God

Prelude

Praise Songs and Prayer

Connection Opportunities

## God's Word To Us

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Anthem

**Sermon:** *Dark Shadows*, by David Zier

Offering our Gifts and Resources

## Our Communion With God

Silent Confession

**General Confession:** God, I have good intentions in wanting to pray. I want to deepen my relationship with you. But I lose track of time. I leave you out. I think I have life under control and I don't need you. Forgive me. Help me cultivate a deeper prayer life, and help me pray in a way that grows my soul. Amen.

## Consecration of the Elements

**Proclamation of our Faith:** Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ is here now, and Christ will come again. Alleluia!

## Distribution of the Elements

**If this is your first time with us:** you are welcome to receive Holy Communion. You're also welcome to just observe, if you prefer. You can take Communion alone, or with friends or family members.

Ushers will release the rows and direct you to a server. The server will offer you the wafer dipped in juice with a short prayer. After receiving the elements, please return to your seat by the side aisle. If you would like to receive Communion but are unable to come forward, please notify an usher.

## After all are Served the Elements

Rise and sing the closing song.

## Benediction

## Postlude

Deacons will be at the front of the sanctuary after service for any who wish to pray.

**Webcast Reminder:** The morning services are recorded for our webcast, and crowd shots are included. To improve the quality of those shots, we'd like to fill the center section of seating. *If you don't want to be on camera, just sit in the back half of the east section (near the media booth).*

## Notes

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Decision Form: *If you feel moved to respond in a tangible way.*

- I am making a decision to become a follower of Jesus, or I want to rededicate myself to that decision.
- I have questions about spiritual things and would like to talk to someone.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

One of our pastoral staff would be happy to make an appointment to talk with you about your spiritual life and what steps might come next — *but only if you wish.*

- I would like to schedule a time to talk.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Place this form in the basket at the info kiosk.*

## About this Calendar

Events are open to all – the only exceptions are SoulShift classes, which require advance registration.

For more info, inquire at the info kiosk, see any staff member or ministry team leader, or contact the office at [info@LifeJourneyChurch.cc](mailto:info@LifeJourneyChurch.cc).

### Sunday, January 8

- 9:30 am Early Worship Service.  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service.  
11:30 am The Bridge 2.0 (junior high / middle school), Room 7, and Teen Life, Room 5. Youth and teens are released from the sanctuary before the sermon.

### Monday, January 9

- 7:30 pm AA Meeting, Room 2.

### Tuesday, January 10

- 7:00 pm Board of Directors, Room 4.  
7:00 pm **[going deeper]** Tuesday Evening Oasis, Room 2. Info: Jim Rednour at (765) 388-0256.

### Wednesday, January 11

- 6:30 pm Children's Choir, sanctuary.  
6:30 pm **[going deeper]** Family Oasis, Room 2. Info: Melody Merida, [mmerida@lifejourneychurch.cc](mailto:mmerida@lifejourneychurch.cc) or (317) 722-0000 x 102.

### Thursday, January 12

- 6:30 pm African American Oasis, Room 4. Info: Tina Johnson-McCrackin at (317) 679-1510.  
7:00 pm Jesus Seekers Oasis meets at the home of Roger Brown. Info: See Chuck Levi or call Roger at (317) 446-5604.  
7:00 pm **[going deeper]** L3: Love Looks Like Oasis, Room 2. Info: Tommy Chittenden at [tommychittenden@gmail.com](mailto:tommychittenden@gmail.com) or (317) 966-0284.  
7:00 pm Weigh 2 Go weight loss support group, Room 1. Info: Stacy Cook at [scook001@indy.rr.com](mailto:scook001@indy.rr.com).

### Friday, January 13

- 9:00 am **[going deeper]** Friday Morning Oasis, Room 4. Info: Beulah Bragg, (317) 924-2488 or [mzbees@att.net](mailto:mzbees@att.net).  
7:00 pm Fellowship Galactica meets at David Wene and David Squire's home, 5055 East 67th Street. Info: David Wene at [davidwene@hotmail.com](mailto:davidwene@hotmail.com) or (317) 427-3728.  
7:30 pm Women's AA Meeting, Room 2.

### Saturday, January 14

- 10:30 am Praise Team Practice, sanctuary.  
11:00 am Animal Ministry volunteers at the Indianapolis Humane Society. Info: Robin Herman at [robin@luckydogretreat.com](mailto:robin@luckydogretreat.com).  
6:00 pm Singles' Dinner at O'Charley's. See page four for details.

## Coming Soon

Jan 16 Couples' Oasis resumes meeting at 7:00 pm. Info: Doug Snow at [douglassesnow@yahoo.com](mailto:douglassesnow@yahoo.com).

## Last Week's Numbers

Early Service Attendance	111
Morning Service Attendance	168
Other Events Attendance	51
General Offering	\$8,637
General Offering: Three Month Average	\$9,068
General Offering Average Goal	\$9,554



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[www.LifeJourneyChurch.cc](http://www.LifeJourneyChurch.cc)  
[facebook.com/LifeJourneyChurch](https://facebook.com/LifeJourneyChurch)  
email: [info@LifeJourneyChurch.cc](mailto:info@LifeJourneyChurch.cc)  
a congregation of the  
Metropolitan Community Churches

Jeff Miner, Pastor

Melody Merida, Minister of  
Congregational Life

Mark C. Brown, Minister of  
Worship Arts

Vivian Wyatt, Minister of Care  
and Business Administration

David Zier, Minister of  
Outreach and Development

David Squire,  
Communications Director

## Welcome to LifeJourney Church!

*Married, divorced, or single here,  
It's one family that mingles here.*

*Conservative or liberal here,  
We've all gotta give a little here.*

*Big or small here, there's room for us all here.  
Doubt or believe here, we all can receive here.*

*Gay, trans, or straight here,  
there's no hate here.*

*Woman or man here, everyone can here.*

*Whatever your race here,  
For all of us, grace here.*

## A Call to Artists

Do you create original, creative art? If so, we invite you to sign up to receive more details and guidelines for the Inaugural LifeJourney Church Visual Art Exhibition and Fundraiser. This event will be held in May 2012 and our theme is: Life's Journey...

We invite artists from all genres (e.g., painting, photos, stained glass, jewelry, pottery, graphite, drawings) to consider submitting one or two art pieces that exude Christianity or spirituality.

For guidelines, please complete the attached form below.

I am an artist and would like to see the guidelines for the Visual Art Exhibition.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Return this form in the offering or in the basket at the info kiosk.*

## Calling All Singles!

All people who are single are invited to gather at O'Charley's (6111 North Keystone, just a bit north of the church) for dinner on **January 14 at 6:00 pm**. We'll enjoy good food and good conversation. RSVP to Facebook.com/LifeJourneySingles, email donnamartin12003@gmail.com or call (317) 407-4611.

## Weigh 2 Go

It's a new year! Is it time for a new you? Join **Weigh 2 Go**, our weight loss support group, **every Thursday at 7:00 pm**. Questions? Contact group leader Stacy Cook: scook001@indy.rr.com.

## Music Rehearsals Start in 2012!

- **Sanctuary Choir** resumes rehearsal on Wednesday, January 18 at 7:00 pm.
- **Instrumentalists** resume rehearsals on Thursday, January 19 at 7:00 pm.

Please join us at the rehearsal or contact Mark Brown for info: (317) 722-0000 x 104 or mbrown@lifejourneychurch.cc. Begin your new year on a musical note!

## Gospel Choir!

The LifeJourney Gospel Choir is gearing up for another exceptional **Black History Month Celebration** on February 26, 2012.

If you enjoy singing Gospel music this group is a perfect fit. We are committed to singing God's praises and encouraging others to join in praise with us. This group is open to all people. The one thing we ask is that you sing from the heart and let God do the rest. We do more than just rehearse; we seek God's presence in the rehearsal and we support each other in prayer and love.

Rehearsals are on Saturdays: January 28, February 4, 11, and 18, from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. Because our rehearsal time is relatively short, choir members are expected to be at all of the rehearsals. Exceptions must be approved by the director.

Contact Latrice Moralez for more info: (317) 658-6997 or latricehightower@yahoo.com.

## 2012 Offering Options

If you give by **check or cash**, boxes of offering envelopes are available at the info kiosk free of charge.

Better yet, you can skip the bulky boxes and constant check writing by creating your own electronic giving account at **LifeJourneyChurch.cc/donate**. Once you establish an electronic account, you can change it anytime, at a moment's notice, at the same link. No fuss; no hassle.

## Recycle Newspapers and Junk Mail

You've probably seen the green dumpster in the upper parking lot. It's for **paper recycling**, and we receive payment for the paper.

**Continue to bring in your newspapers, magazines, office paper, and junk mail!** Please note that we **can't take cardboard, food wrappers, or any type of plastic.**