

## Friendship and Belonging Really Matter

Church ought to be a place for friendship and belonging. God designed us that way. Even in the very beginning, God said, "It is not good for the human to be alone." As the old *Cheers* song says, "Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came." In ancient Christian literature, it's called "the beloved community" — followers of Jesus getting to know each other at a deep level and building close-knit community.

Growing our capacity to support deep friendship connections is the number-one goal for LifeJourney Church for 2012. And the best way to do that — the best way to grow our friendship connections — is through regular small-group gatherings where we get to know each other, learn more about spiritual life, and walk life's path together. **Oasis** is what we call this at LifeJourney Church.

In March, we plan to launch 3 new Oasis Groups:

- **Westside Oasis**, Tuesday nights, led by Pastor David
- **Eastside Oasis**, Wednesday nights, led by Pastor Vivian
- **Northside Oasis**, Thursday nights, led by Pastor Jeff



### New this week: Play Date!

If you are the parent of a baby or toddler you know how important it is to have play dates — for you and for your little one! Because there are so many families connecting to our church we want to provide a space for those play dates.

Beginning February 7 at 10:00 am, the church will host a **monthly Play Date on the first Tuesday of the month**. This is a chance for **parents of babies and toddlers** to connect while their little ones play.

Registration is not required. Contact Melody Merida for info: mmerida@LifeJourneyChurch.cc or (317) 722-0000 x 102.

(Note: We already have a **Southside Jesus Seekers Oasis** that is led by Roger Brown. They have recently moved to 5457 West Walnut Street, Greenwood and meet on Thursdays at 7:15 pm.)

Pastor Melody is not launching a new group since she already leads the **Family Oasis**, which meets at the Church every other Wednesday night, including this Wednesday at 6:30 pm.)

**To launch these new groups, we need host homes.** If you would like more information about what it would mean to host one of the new Oasis Groups, please fill out the form below. Host homes should have a gathering area that will seat up to 15 people (with use of supplemental folding chairs).

I would like information about hosting an Oasis in my home.

I live on the  east side  north side  west side.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address, with Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

### Upcoming Events

See page four for details on these activities:

- **Families:** Winter Escape, plus a gaggle of events to mark on your calendar
- **Singles:** Dinner and Duckpin Bowling
- **Couples:** Retreat (registration due today!) and Emotional Intelligence Workshop
- **Ministry Team Leaders Appreciation Lunch**

### Our 2012 Congregational Meeting

will be **next Sunday, February 12, at 12:45 pm**, following the 11:00 am worship service. Information packets are available at the info kiosk.

# Order of Service • February 5, 2012

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**Worship Theme:** Creating Change

**Key Verse:** Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God. *Matthew 5:9*

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## Our Approach To God

**Prelude:** *I Will Rise*

**Praise Songs and Prayer:** *Goin' Up Yonder, All I Can Do, I Love You Lord Today*

**Connection Opportunities**

## God's Word To Us

**Scripture:** 2 Chronicles 28, selected verses

**Anthem:** *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*, LifeJourney Children's Choir

**Sermon:** *How Change Happens*, by Jeff Miner

**Offering our Gifts and Resources:** *I Am Free*

## Our Communion With God

**Silent Confession**

**General Confession:** God, too many times, when I see things that are wrong, I shrink back, lacking confidence to act. Grow my power to live as one of your prophets in this broken world. Give me courage to challenge the status quo. Help me to heal wounds in this weary world. 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 *Everywhere*.

## Benediction

## Postlude

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

## Notes

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**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).*

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, February 5

- 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, February 6

- 7:00 pm **Following Jesus: Discipleship 101 SoulShift Class**, Room 1.  
7:30 pm **AA Meeting**, Room 2.

## Tuesday, February 7

- 10:00 am **Play Date** for babies, toddlers, and their parents, social hall.  
7:00 pm **Board of Trustees**, Room 4.  
7:00 pm **Clergy Training Board**, Room 6.  
7:00 pm **[going deeper] Tuesday Evening Oasis**, Room 2. Info: Jim Rednour at (765) 388-0256.

## Wednesday, February 8

- 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.  
7:00 pm **Choir Rehearsal**, Room 1. Info: Mark Brown at [mbrown@lifejourneychurch.cc](mailto:mbrown@lifejourneychurch.cc) or (317) 722-0000 x 104.

## Thursday, February 9

- 6:30 pm **African American Oasis**, Room 4. Info: Tina Johnson-McCrackin at (317) 679-1510.  
7:00 pm **[going deeper] Close Encounters of the Heart Oasis**, Room 6. Info: Larry Heavilon, [larryheavilon@hotmail.com](mailto:larryheavilon@hotmail.com) or (317) 523-4543.  
7:00 pm **Instrumentalists Rehearsal**, sanctuary. Info: Mark Brown at [mbrown@lifejourneychurch.cc](mailto:mbrown@lifejourneychurch.cc) or (317) 722-0000 x 104.  
7:00 pm **Southside Jesus Seekers Oasis** meets at the home of Roger Brown. Info: See Chuck Levi or call Roger at (317) 446-5604. See page one for an update.  
7:00 pm **[going deeper] L<sup>3</sup>: Love Looks Like Oasis**, Room 2. Info: Tommy Chittenden at [tommychittenden@gmail.com](mailto:tommychittenden@gmail.com) or (317) 966-0284. L<sup>3</sup> hosts **Exploring What I Believe: An Overview of Christian Theology SoulShift class.**  
7:00 pm **Spiritual Principles for Dating SoulShift Class**, Room 1.  
7:00 pm **Weigh 2 Go** weight loss support group, Room 7. Info: Stacy Cook at [scook001@indy.rr.com](mailto:scook001@indy.rr.com).

## Friday, February 10

- 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, February 11

- 10:00 am **Winter Escape for Families**. Info on page four.  
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 and Duckpin Bowling**. Info on page four.

## Coming Soon

- Feb 12 **Congregational Meeting**, 12:45 pm in the sanctuary.  
Feb 19 **Ministry Team Leader Lunch**. Info on page four.  
Feb 22 **Ash Wednesday**.  
Feb 25-26 **Couples' Workshop**. See page four for info.

## Last Week's Numbers

Early Service Attendance	127
Morning Service Attendance	245
Friday Night Praise!	117
Other Events Attendance	142
General Offering	\$8,090
General Offering: Three Month Average	\$9,164
General Offering Average Goal	\$9,554

  
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*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.*

## If Someone Asks You for Money

Occasionally on a Sunday, someone will wander into our church and start randomly asking people for money or favors, like a ride. If you ever have that experience, **take that person to one of our Deacons or Church Staff**, so we can assess the situation and deal with it in an appropriate and sensitive way. Unfortunately, sometimes scam artists may take advantage of your kindness. By referring requests to a Deacon or Staff member, we can assess legitimacy.

## Spring Couples' Retreat: due today!

Spring is the season of renewal. What a perfect time to renew your relationship with a weekend retreat! Focus on your relationship and enjoy the company of other couples from the church.

We'll gather at the beautiful **Waycross Retreat Center** in Brown County. The cost for the weekend of **April 20 – 22** is \$365 per couple, which includes a private room, meal service, a beverage bar, and access to 400 acres of trails and lakes, sports fields, and more.

Our agenda for the weekend will include social and spiritual activities in a large group as well as quiet alone time for every couple.

**Registration closes today, February 5!** Please give payment directly to **Pastor Melody Merida**. Checks can be made payable to LifeJourney Church with a note "Couples Retreat."

### Couples' Retreat

**We will pay in three installments:** \$122 non-refundable deposit by Sunday, February 5; \$122 second payment by Sunday, February 26, and \$121 final payment by Sunday, March 18.

**We have enclosed payment in full.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

***If you're including a payment, please give this form and payment directly to Pastor Melody Merida!***

## Singles' Dinner & Duckpin Bowling

Attention Singles: Who likes to bowl? Now who likes to *Duckpin* Bowl? Come join us in Fountain Square for 90 minutes of fun-filled bowling on **Saturday, February 11 at 8:00 pm**. The cost is \$7.00 per person. We'll have dinner at **Smokehouse on Shelby** at 6:00 pm, and you can come for one or both activities. Space is limited so reserve your spot today! To RSVP, email [donnamartin12003@gmail.com](mailto:donnamartin12003@gmail.com), call Donna Martin at (317) 407-4611, or fill out the form.

## Winter Escape for Families

Let's shake off our winter doldrums together at **Snapperz Family Fun Center!** Snapperz in Carmel features 33,000 square feet of fun. It's the perfect place for kids to play while the adults socialize.

They have soft structure play units, laser tag, climbing walls, food, a toddler area for the little ones, and a lot more. Families of all ages are invited to join us **Saturday, February 11, from 10:00 am**

## Upcoming Children & Family Events

Mark your calendars now!

- **Annual Easter Egg Hunt:** April 7, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
- **Graduation Sunday:** June 10, morning services
- **Vacation Bible School:** June 11 to 15, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
- **Camp Forust:** July 8 to 13
- **Family Camp:** August 31 to September 3

More info and registration available closer to the dates.

**to 2:00 pm**. The cost is \$10 for children ages 4–17, \$3 for children ages 2–3, and free for adults and children under 2. Admission gets you four hours of fun on the main attractions. Other attractions and food are extra. Please complete the form if your family will be attending the winter escape.

## Ministry Team Leader Appreciation

Our ministry teams do so much for the community and for our church family; now we want to say "thank you" to the leaders of those teams! On **Sunday, February 19**, following the 11:00 am service, the pastoral staff will host an **appreciation lunch** for all active ministry team leaders. Please plan to attend so that we can show you our appreciation and share with you some thoughts on the future. Please complete the form so that we can plan appropriately for food service.

## Couples Workshop: Emotional Intelligence and Your Partner

Learn how to understand each other better and communicate in a way that helps you to connect in this workshop for couples.

The two-part workshop will be presented on **Saturday, February 25 from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm, and Sunday February 26 from 1:00-2:30 pm**. The class is limited to six couples so that everyone can participate, and each session will build on the previous session. This class reviews some information from previous couples classes as a refresher. It's led by Laura Inniger, Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy.

Registration is required before the workshop, and the cost is \$100 per couple. Referrals will be provided after the workshop for couples who want to do couples or individual counseling. For more information or to reserve your spot please complete the form.

### I/we would like to register for:

- Winter Escape for Families
- Singles' Dinner and/or  Singles' Duckpin Bowling
- Ministry Team Leader Appreciation Lunch
- Couples' Workshop: Emotional Intelligence

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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