

## Christmas at LifeJourney Church

### The Giving Tree

Our traditional Giving Tree items are available by the tree in the social hall today. **Deadline for IYG gifts is next Sunday!**

We're purchasing gifts for **Indiana Youth Group**, a safe haven for LGBT teens and young adults, and **Dayspring Center**, our ministry partner that assists homeless families. Complete instructions and due dates are on the gift tags. *Questions?* Contact David Squire, dsquire@lifejourneychurch.cc.

### Sing Joy! Christmas Concert

**This Thursday and Friday, December 8 and 9 at 7:00 pm.**

Join us for a casual, cozy, contemporary Christmas concert, with a classic reading of the Christmas story.

Concert participants include the Children's Choir, the Gospel Choir, the Sanctuary Choir, the Instrumental Ensemble and guest Charlie Morgan of the local band *Hryyder*.

### Birthday Party for Jesus!

**December 18.** The Children's Ministry will hold a birthday party in Jesus' honor, complete with games, prizes, birthday cake, and a visit by Jesus himself.

### Christmas Eve Open House

**December 24: Christmas Eve Open House** at Jeff Miner and David Zier's home. Drop in any time from 1:00 to 7:00 pm for dinner and a relaxed time with church friends. This is *not* a pitch-in, and all are welcome. Their address is 10838 Midnight Drive, 46239.

### Christmas Remembrances

Join us on Christmas Sunday at our regular worship times for a one-hour service of carols, scriptures, and Holy Communion. We'll have you out in an hour for the rest of your busy day!

### LifeJourney Press Sale

Just in time for Christmas gift-giving!

- All versions of *The Children Are Free* (English, Spanish, and audiobook) are just \$10.
- *Quench! refreshing devotionals by gay, trans, and affirming Christians* is \$12.
- *To Have and to Hold* CD resource for couples is just \$25.

See the display in the social hall today, or shop at [www.LifeJourneyPress.cc](http://www.LifeJourneyPress.cc).



### The Weigh 2 Go Weight Loss Support Group

will hold its first meeting on Thursday, December 15 at 7:00 pm. All are welcome!

### Global Gifts from New Community Project

Support craftspeople from Southern Sudan, Guatemala, and Ecuador by purchasing an item from the display in the social hall. Products are available after services on December 4, 11, and 18.

## New to LifeJourney Church? Be our guest!

If you're new to LifeJourney Church within the past six months or so (or even if today is your first Sunday!) we invite you to a **Welcome Reception** at the church **tomorrow, December 5 at 7:00 pm**. The reception is casual and will include snacks and dessert. We'll get acquainted, share stories and info, and answer any questions you have. **If you've wondered, "Is LifeJourney Church the right place for me? What resources are available? How do I fit in and make friends?" then this reception is for you!**

RSVP with the form at right. **If you have questions**, contact the church office at [info@lifejourneychurch.cc](mailto:info@lifejourneychurch.cc) or (317) 722-0000.

### Newcomer's Welcome Reception, December 5

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

# Order of Service • December 4, 2011

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**Worship Theme:** Loving One Another Through Our Words

**Key Verse:** Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God. *1 Peter 4:11*

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## Our Approach To God

Prelude

Advent Reading and Lighting of the Advent  
Candle

Praise Songs and Prayer: *Lord I Lift Your Name on  
High, Joy to the World*

Connection Opportunities

## God's Word To Us

**Scripture:** 1 Peter, selected verses

**Anthem:** *Love Will Save the World*, Sanctuary Choir  
and Instrumentalists

**Sermon:** *Speak Easy*, by Jeff Miner

**Offering our Gifts and Resources:** *Jesus, Oh What a  
Wonderful Child*

## Our Communion With God

Silent Confession

**General Confession:** God, I run my mouth all the  
time, saying so many things that are snarky. Forgive  
me for how many people I have hurt through my  
words. Forgive me for how I have hurt myself

through my words. With Your help, I'm going to  
do better. I'm going to be more careful. 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 *O Holy Night*.

## 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 appoint-  
ment 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, December 4

- 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.  
1:00 pm **Financial Peace University**, Room 2.

### Monday, December 5

- 7:00 pm **Newcomer's Welcome Reception**, Room 4. Info on page one.  
7:00 pm **Understanding the Bible Better**, Room 1.  
7:30 pm **AA Meeting**, Room 2.

### Tuesday, December 6

- 7:00 pm **Board of Trustees**, Room 4.  
7:00 pm **Clergy Training Board**, Room 6.  
7:00 pm **Square Dancing**, social hall. Info: Sandra Johnson at [rjohnson1506@comcast.net](mailto:rjohnson1506@comcast.net).  
7:00 pm **[going deeper] Tuesday Evening Oasis**, Room 2. Info: Jim Rednour at (765) 388-0256.

### Wednesday, December 7

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

### Thursday, December 8

- 7:00 pm **Sing Joy! Christmas Concert.** Info on page one.  
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] 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.

### Friday, December 9

- 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.  
7:00 pm **Sing Joy! Christmas Concert.** Info on page one.  
7:30 pm **Women's AA Meeting**, Room 2.

### Saturday, December 10

- 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).  
4:00 pm **Praise Team Practice**, sanctuary.

### Coming Soon

- Dec 18 **Children's Ministry Birthday Party for Jesus!** Info on page one.  
Dec 24 **Christmas Eve Dinner** at Jeff Miner and David Zier's home. Info on page one.  
Dec 25 **Christmas Remembrances.** Regular worship times for Christmas day; a one-hour service of carols, scriptures, and Holy Communion.

### Last Week's Numbers

Early Service Attendance	140
Morning Service Attendance	154
Other Events Attendance	155
General Offering	\$6,923
General Offering: Three Month Average	\$9,331
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



## Invitation: Friday Morning Oasis

If you enjoy the sermons and want a chance to talk with others about them, then a **Going Deeper Oasis** might be the right place for you. We offer six Going Deeper groups including the **Friday Morning Oasis**. Beulah Bragg is the leader of that group and she has extended an invitation to all:

“Early risers, here is an opportunity to refresh your thoughts on Sunday’s sermon, and also share your concerns or anything that presses on your heart and mind. Our group is a sounding board for all. In this Oasis we share and really get to know each other. We meet Friday mornings at 9:00 am and usually end by 11:00. Come and check us out, it’s quite invigorating!”

## Jesus Seekers Oasis

What do you think Jesus would say to you if you were face-to-face with him right now? Many of us imagine he would say something like, “I can’t believe you call yourself a Christian,” “If you really loved me, you’d try harder,” or “I’m so disappointed in you.” **But these are things Jesus never said!**

You are welcome to join **Jesus Seekers Oasis** as we learn about “**10 Things Jesus Never Said, and Why You Should Stop Believing Them.**” Join us Thursday, December 15 as we start our discovery.

Jesus Seekers meets Thursdays at 7:00 pm in Greenwood. Please contact Roger Brown at [popa\\_angelbear@att.net](mailto:popa_angelbear@att.net) or (317) 446-5604 for info and directions.

## Nominating Committee Notice

At our Congregational Meeting in February, we will elect three members to our Board of Directors. Those positions are now held by Todd Cox, Sheryl Holko, and Tony Benner. Todd and Sheryl are willing to be considered for re-nomination. However, after 12 years on the Board serving as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, Tony Benner has decided he’s ready for a rest! **We honor Tony’s remarkable service!**

Pursuant to our Bylaws, the Board of Directors creates a Nominating Committee before each election to ensure that at least one qualified candidate is available for each position to be elected. This year’s Nominating Committee will consist of Pastor Jeff, one Board member (Todd Cox), and two other Church Leaders.

The Nominating Committee will review the incumbents and any other individuals who express an interest, then prepare nominations. Because our Treasurer is retiring, we especially need candidates who have financial and accounting skills.

If you are interested in being considered, please fill out the form below. To stand for election to the Board of Directors, you must be a member of the Church for at least six months prior to the election.

### I’d like to request an application.

Do you have financial/accounting skills?  Yes  No

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Deacon of the Month: Paul Hancock

Paul Hancock loves photography and says it “reminds me of how beautiful the world around us is; even in the simplest things we see God at work.” He must have lots of photographs of his new granddaughter as she reminds him of how precious life is!

Paul has been involved in pastoral care in this church for five years and is the deacon that oversees the Pastoral Care Team and the Prayer Team. He loves helping others as it makes him feel the most fulfilled. He says he would make pastoral care his full time job if he could. If you don’t see Paul around the church much in the next few weeks, it’s because he’s recuperating from major knee surgery.



## What’s New in the Bookstore

We have some great new stuff in the church bookstore:

- A new CD from **Marcus Young: *The Collection*** for just \$8.
  - ***Prayers for Bobby***, the Lifetime movie starring Sigourney Weaver as a mother who struggles to accept her son.
  - A new version of ***The Beginners Bible*** that now includes the complete book on audio CDs.
  - Two children’s books: ***Monday is One Day*** and ***Donovan’s Big Day***. Both books celebrate family diversity.
- Also in the bookstore:
- A “basic” Bible. It’s a hardback ***New Revised Standard Version Bible*** that sells for just \$12. This is in addition to all the other Bibles: ***The Hands-On Bible*** for older kids, ***The Youth Bible***, ***The New Oxford Annotated Bible***, and ***The Message***.
  - ***Made in God’s Image***, a thoughtful introduction to gender diversity. Also: Justin Tanis’ ***Trans-Gendered: Theology, Ministry, and Communities of Faith***.

## Free HIV Tests

Planned Parenthood of Indiana is recognizing World AIDS Day (December 1) by offering free HIV tests at 19 of its health centers through December 8. Center locations can be found here: [www.ppin.org/healthcenters/locations.html](http://www.ppin.org/healthcenters/locations.html).

## Indiana Heart Gallery at LJC!

The Indiana Heart Gallery portrays children in Indiana’s foster care system. A Gallery of professionally produced photographs is on display to increase awareness about Indiana children of all ages who are available for adoption.

Heart Galleries are traveling exhibits that provide special opportunities for families to consider adopting the children who are featured. The Gallery will be on display until December 11. Check it out in the social hall today!