

**Every Sunday after services, Deacons are available** at the front of the sanctuary for any who would like to pray.

**Holy Communion** is available after the early worship service every Sunday in Room 4 (down the west hallway).

## 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 today; deadline for Dayspring 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.

### 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.

**Would you like to help Christmas day with the open house?** We need a few people to get things started (10:00 am – 1:00 pm), afternoon shifts with light duty for maintenance (1:00 – 4:00 pm), and early evening to help with clean up (6:00 – 9:00 pm). There will be plenty of time for fun and food even if you sign up!

#### I would like to help with Christmas dinner

morning  afternoon  evening

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

### 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!

#### The Weigh 2 Go Weight Loss Support Group

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

### 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.*

### Ruth & Naomi: A Test of Faith

Another Sunday morning workshop rotation is set to begin for the children and there are a few more available spots to serve in January and February.

- **Improv Workshop** has an opening for someone to direct children in scenes from the story of Ruth. Script is provided.
- **Moved by the Spirit** has an opening for a game leader. All materials for activities and rules for games are provided.
- **Assisting positions** are available for Kindergarten-first grades, 2nd-3rd grades, and 4th-5th grades.

Check out the display board in the social hall for information on the workshops including schedules and registration forms. For more information email Melody at [mmerida@lifejourneychurch.cc](mailto:mmerida@lifejourneychurch.cc).



# Order of Service • December 11, 2011

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**Worship Theme:** Finding Our Place In Life

**Key Verse:** In that region, there were shepherds living in the fields,  
keeping watch over their flock. . . . *Luke 2:8.*

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## Our Approach To God

Prelude

Advent Reading and Lighting of the Advent  
Candle

Praise Songs and Prayer

Connection Opportunities

## God's Word To Us

**Scripture:** Luke 2:8-20

Anthem

**Sermon:** *Lights, Camera, Action!*, by Jeff Miner

Offering our Gifts and Resources

## Our Communion With God

Silent Confession

**General Confession:** God, consumed by my own plans, distracted by my own preoccupations, too often I have missed those moments of Epiphany in my own life. Forgive me. Awaken me to Your presence in my life. Help me to find and embrace my role in the Divine Drama. 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, December 11

- 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.  
12:45 pm **Art Exhibit Planning Meeting**, Room 6.  
12:45 pm **Nursery Team Meeting**, Room 1.  
1:00 pm **Financial Peace University**, Room 2.

### Monday, December 12

- 7:30 pm **AA Meeting**, Room 2.

### Tuesday, December 13

- 7:00 pm **Board of Directors**, Room 4.  
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 14

- 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 × 102.  
7:00 pm **Choir Rehearsal**, Room 1. Info: Mark Brown at [mbrown@lifejourneychurch.cc](mailto:mbrown@lifejourneychurch.cc) or (317) 722-0000 × 104.

### Thursday, December 15

- 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 1. 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 × 104.  
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 **Weigh 2 Go**, Room 1. Info on page one.

### Friday, December 16

- 9:00 am **[going deeper] Friday Morning Oasis**, Room 4. Info: Beulah Bragg, (317) 924-2488 or [mzbees@att.net](mailto:mzbees@att.net).  
7:30 pm **Women's AA Meeting**, Room 2.

### Saturday, December 17

- 8:00 am **Homeless Ministry** provides breakfast at The Dayspring Center. Contact April Kerulis at [kerulis512@hotmail.com](mailto:kerulis512@hotmail.com) or (317) 370-8214 for information.  
10:30 am **Praise Team Practice**, sanctuary.  
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	161
Morning Service Attendance	191
Other Events Attendance	361
General Offering	\$10,163
General Offering: Three Month Average	\$9,248
General Offering Average <i>Goal</i>	\$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.

## 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***.

## 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).



## 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 today and December 18.

## 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. Check it out in the social hall today!