



Journey to Damascus Houston Community Newsletter

Fall 2022

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Board of Directors:

Michael Lehane, Past President
Bill Ewing, Jr., President
Princess Helin, Vice President
Jason Padula, Treasurer
Leanne Stempel, Secretary

Nikki Clark, Member
Gerald Blackwell, Member
Eric Gallup, Member
Shawn Royer, Member
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Rachelle Vento, Member

Spiritual Advisors:
Deacon Tom Whited
Mary Clare Cullen

Board of Trustees:
Cindy Ramirez
Ed Stempel
Charley Green

A Message from the Board President

Greetings Houston JTD community:

There is excitement in the air. We have been back in full swing with our retreat weekends after the hiatus with the Covid pandemic in 2020. Our JTD weekends for this year so far have ignited our servant hearts and have renewed our faith bringing us closer together as brothers and sisters in Christ. In July, the Journey community had a fun night at the ballpark in Sugar Land and despite the heat, it was a wonderful gathering for current and prospective Journey team members. It's hard to believe Summer is over. As we head into Fall, we are looking forward to the community's Golf Tournament. More information and registration links are further down in the newsletter. Also, we are going to start including the Houston JTD financials on a regular basis for transparency and awareness. Please e-mail JTD at houstonjtd@gmail.com with any questions.



De Colores, Bill Ewing, Jr.

Accepting Board Nominations for JTD Board of Directors for 2023

JTD Board of Directors is now accepting nominations until October 15 for a three-year Board of Director's term from January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026. We are looking for individuals who are passionate about helping the JTD Houston community in carrying out its mission while also utilizing their talents/skills. If you have experience in accounting, technology, web admin and networking/public relations, we would love to have your experience.

JTD members may nominate themselves or other members of the JTD community. **To make a nomination e-mail:**
HoustonJTD@gmail.com.

The nominees will be contacted by the Board to provide information about serving as a board member. For questions or more information, please contact Cindy Ramirez at cinram0424@gmail.com.

Upcoming Retreats

Women's JTD #207
November 10 – 13, 2022

Men's JTD #208
January 19 – 22, 2023

Women's JTD #211
May 4 - 7, 2023

Men's JTD #214
August 3 – 6, 2023

Women's JTD #217
November 9 - 12, 2023

Come with open hearts and empty hands. As we focus on our common Christian beliefs while still respecting our differences, we may be gradually and slowly working our way toward truly being one in Christ.

All retreats will be held at:

Camp Lone Star Pines
22610 Tuwa Rd. Tomball, TX
77375

Registration forms for Pilgrims and Team can be found at

<https://Houstonjtd.com/registration>



Women's JTD #207 November 10 – 13, 2022



Hello JTD Community,

My JTD experience began in August of 2006 after talking with my neighbor who had been an Amazing Angel on the retreat for several years. My curiosity got the best of me, and I decided to attend with a few friends. Little did I know what the Lord had in store for my life! I was one of those who felt I needed it the least, but I needed it the most! Healing, restoration, and transformation began that beautiful weekend and quickly after my retreat, I began a Reunion group that many still attend today, nearly 20 years later. Having experienced such a profound transformation of peace, love and joy for our Lord, the verse I chose for JTD #207 stood out to me while searching the Bible for something that represented my experience to date. The Lord led me to 1 Corinthians 2:9 which I feel is the epitome of the Journey itself!

This scripture verse reminds me of the unimaginable, unconditional LOVE we have all experienced having been a part of this life-changing community. When Paul first wrote to the Corinthians, he did not present the gospel to them with lofty speeches and impressive arguments. Instead, he presented the truth as simply as he could so that their faith would be based on *God's power* and not human wisdom. In the same way, only those with God's Spirit, such as believers, can understand these truths that He has planted in our hearts and on our minds. So, what is God saying to you? Is He calling you to grow the Kingdom? If so, I invite you to join me in introducing Christ to new believers and even helping Christian sisters renew their own relationship with Him during the upcoming Women's Journey Retreat. This extraordinary weekend is scheduled for Nov. 10-13, 2022, at Camp Lone Start Pines in Tomball, Tx. and our planning meetings are underway. We have one more meeting on Oct. 22nd. Please pray over how you might help and feel greet to contact me for more information at:

christopherson.shay@gmail.com or (281) 799-2002

We have 10 pilgrims so far and hopeful we will fill to capacity with your help. We encourage you to share your experience with others to aid us in the mission to bring others closer to Christ or to experience Him for the first time! Please log on to the newly designed JTD website at www.houstonjtd.com to access the Pilgrim, Sponsor, and Team

applications. We also ask for your prayers as we continue to plan the next few months. If you are unable to sponsor a pilgrim or attend the retreat as a team member, there are other ways you can contribute to the weekend. Prayer is most needed and appreciated! Please click on the link below to sign up for a 30 min prayer slot or consider attending Candlelight on Nov. 12th at 8pm.

Gentlemen, you can also help by attending the agape meal to serve the ladies on Saturday, Nov. 12th at 5pm. Please contact Rachelle Vento at rachelle.vento@gmail.com if you would like to serve.

Prayer Vigil link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D48ABA82D6-jtd207>

May God continue to bless each of you on the Journey, De Colores!

Shay Christopherson, Lay Director



It's tee time!

Houston JTD Annual Golf Tournament, Dinner and Silent Auction

Wednesday, November 2

10:30 a.m. Registration, Silent Auction and Lunch

12:00 p.m. Shotgun Start

5:00 Dinner and Awards

Blackhorse Golf Course

12205 Fry Road

Cypress, Tx 77433

Player registration:

<https://jtd.breezechms.com/form/2022GolfRegistration1995178>

Sponsorship:

<https://jtd.breezechms.com/form/2022GolfSponsorship199512148>

Silent Auction Donation:

<https://jtd.breezechms.com/form/160b4b46>

To volunteer to help the day of the tournament, contact Princess Helin at Princess.Helin@gmail.com



Scripture

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem."

[Luke 24:44-47](#)

MEN'S JTD #208 JANUARY 19-22, 2023



"And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ"
Philemon 1:6 NLV

Dear Journey Community,

My name is Edward Stempel, and my Pilgrim Journey was #168 in August 2018. I could never have imagined what I felt on my Journey; bonding and singing with men I knew only a short time. It is true what is written in 2 Corinthians 5:17 "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has passed away, behold the new has come. I have enjoyed every Journey since, and now I am happy to say I get to serve as Lay Director for the Men's Journey #208.

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

I'm currently making calls for men to serve with me on this next Men's JTD weekend in January 2023; however, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone or text at (832) 589-4714 or by email at ebstempel@icloud.com and you will have a place on the team. If I have not served with you personally, or you have been away for a while and want to get back in the game, please contact me.

Our team meetings will be held from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Chapelwood United Methodist Church 11140 Greenbay St., Houston, TX 77024. Our meeting dates are October 8, November 12, December 10, and January 7.

If you have Pilgrims you would like to register, please guide them to our website at www.houstonjtd.com under the Retreats Registration tab and Men's JTD #208 to register and pay online; or call or text me at (832) 589-4714 or email ebstempel@icloud.com

De Colores!

JTD #207 & #208
AFTERGLOW

February 2023

More details to come...

Houston Journey to Damascus
Statement of Financial Position
As of June 2022

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Chase Checking	24,844.75
Chase Savings	5,124.41
Total Bank Accounts	\$25,969.15
Other Current Assets	
Payments to deposits	636.77
Total Other Current Assets	\$636.77
Total Current Assets	\$26,605.93
TOTAL ASSETS	\$26,605.93
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
ASSETS	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Retained Earnings	23,401.90
Net Revenue	3,204.03
Total Equity	\$26,605.93
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$26,605.93

Love the Lord your God with
all your heart and with all
your soul and with all your
mind and with all your
strength.

(Mark 12:30)