



# Journey to Damascus Houston Community Newsletter

Summer 2023

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## Welcome New JTD Community Members

The Houston Journey to Damascus would like to welcome the pilgrims of JTD #208 and #211 to the community.

### **#208**

AJ Garza, James Hackney, Todd Kearnes, Greg Lewis, Jeffrey Limmer  
Joseph Matula, Thomas Reagor, Jeffrey Rice, Steven Tolhurst

### **#211**

Brett Lavigna Afiwa Tapoyo, Bryanna Capuchino, Tina Chovanetz,  
Ashley Duran, Tammy Lewis,  
Elizabeth McDonald, Eunice Morgan, Olivia Mulherin, Nacole Myers, Ann  
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## Thank You!

First, let me start by saying welcome to the pilgrims of #211 and our new Sisters in Christ:

Brett Lavinga Afiwa Tapoyo, Bryanna Capuchino, Tina Chovanetz,  
Ashley Duran, Tammy Lewis, Elizabeth McDonald, Eunice Morgan,  
Olivia Mulherin, Nacole Myers, and Ann Solis

Journey #211 was a small, but mighty ministry weekend, and I was honored to be your Lay Director. Thank you, team, for your selflessness and dedication. Your hard work and determination inspire me every day and I am so grateful to have you in my life. It would not have been possible if it had not been for the BEST TEAM EVER. Thank you to everyone who worked or participated in the weekend either in person, through prayer or agape. The success of our ministry would not be possible without our JTD community. I cannot express the love that was felt during our weekend together. Thank you to the men who showed up to serve the beautiful Christmas in May dinner. Also, thank you to everyone who participated in the 72hr prayer vigil and to everyone who showed up for candlelight. I will forever be blessed by JTD #211, May 4-7, 2023, THE BEST JOURNEY EVER!

DeColores  
Treva Gallup

**Board of Directors:**

**Bill Ewing, Jr., Past President**  
**Princess Helin, President**  
**Shawn Royer, Vice President**  
**Brenda Tolbert, Treasurer**  
**Susan Norman, Secretary**

**Randy Bame, Member**  
**Gerald Blackwell, Member**  
**Kevin Clark, Member**  
**Eric Gallup, Member**  
**Rachelle Vento, Member**  
**Joy Willison, Member**

**Spiritual Advisors:**  
**Deacon Tom Whited**  
**MaryClare Cullen**

**Board of Trustees:**  
**Cindy Ramirez**  
**Ed Stempel**  
**Charley Green**

**MEN'S JTD #214, AUGUST 3-6, 2023**

"Lord, I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you." Isaiah 44:22

Thank you to all the members of the JTD community who have supported us with their prayers, and their actions. Please sign up for the prayer vigil and pray for this group of eighteen Pilgrims and the devoted team supporting them, that they will experience the work of the Holy Spirit opening hearts and minds. Also, please join us for Candlelight, Saturday night, August 5, 2023. There will be a report by the board president followed by Agape Feast at 7:30 PM. Candlelight should begin around 9:00 PM.

Your brother in Christ, Mike Main.

**[Prayer Vigil Link](#)**

**Pilgrims:** Sal Arizmendez, Dale Campbell, Tony Gamage, Lou diSioudi, Mark Rogge, Pete Brown, Brendan Hartgrove, Rubio Pedraza, Dwayne Bennett, Woian Phipps, Jake BurnsidePaul Nation, Ron Massey, Benjamin Hackney, Rohan Fernandes, Carson Martin, Garrett Borak

**St. Elsewhere Team:**

LD – Mike Main	ALD – Greg Bedell
LDIT – John Harrison	ALD – Shawn Royer
BR – Eric Gallup	ALD – Brian Bumpass
SD - Fr. Michael Scherrey	HCHA – Jason Willison
ASD – Rev Lewis Entricht	ASD – Dcn. Tom Whited
ASD – Rev Karl Decker	Music – Gerald Blackwell

**Table Leads:** Kevin Clark, Ed Stempel, Mike Sheely, Randy Bame

**Assistant Table Leads:** Greg Lewis, Bobby Boyd, Tyler Mays, Todd Moffat

**Music Team:** Gerald Blackwell, Franz Helin, Pete Curran, Jim Hackney, Cam Collins

## Upcoming Journey Weekends

Men's JTD #214

**August 3 – 6, 2023**

Women's JTD #217

**October 19 - 22, 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 Journey weekends 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>

**CHAs:** Shannon Ripkowski, Charlie Green, Gil Mays, Mike Lehane, Tim Broxson, Joe Matula, Rusty Oxford, Jeffrey Limmer, Johnnie McCracken, Roshan Phipps, Hayden Clark, Chae Hillman, Matt Hoffman, Kevin Hartgrove, Steven Tolhurst, Mike Merritt

### Talk Schedule:

#### Friday, August 4, 2023

Priorities – Tim Broxson

Grace – Rev. Lewis Entricht

Priesthood of all Believers – Shawn Royer

Faith – Dcn. Tom Whited

Life in Peity – Jason Willison

#### Saturday, August 5, 2023

Growth Through Study – Brian Bumpass

Sacraments – Fr. Michael Scherrey

Christian Action – Michael Lehane

Obstacles to Grace – Rev. Karl Decker

Discipleship – Greg Bedell

Love and Unity (at Candlelight) – John Harrison

#### Sunday, August 6, 2023

Changing Our World – Shannon Ripkowski

Body of Christ – Rusty Oxford

Perseverance/Fourth Day – Michael Main

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## Lay Directors Needed

We are in need of both men and women who have a desire to plan, lead, and grow the Houston JTD community in 2024 and beyond. Being a Lay Director is both a privilege and a calling to which takes prayerful consideration. If you meet the below criteria and/or would like to learn more about this very important commitment, please contact any board member or email Cindy Ramirez at [cinram0424@gmail.com](mailto:cinram0424@gmail.com) and cell 832.577.0484.

Criteria for consideration of a Lay Director:

- Must have given two (2) different weekend talks (not including Love and Unity)
- Have served in three different team positions:
  - As Table Leader or Assistant Table Leader
  - As an Angel/Cha
  - As Assistant Lay Director

Christ is counting on you!

# JTD #214 Candlelight

**Brothers and sisters in Christ,**

**As another group of men prepare to step outside the world the first weekend of August on JTD 214, We find ourselves looking back on the miracles that happen EVERY weekend.**

**Significant among those is their candlelight experience. It stays with you as if it was a brief visit to heaven. The beauty, the love, and the amazing realization that SO MANY PEOPLE would show up just to express their love!!!**

**So, as a community lets pull together and show up in-force for them. I know many are unable to participate in an entire weekend, but this is such an important experience for the pilgrims, that only an entire roomful of smiling loving faces, lit only by candles and the Holy Spirit can bring.**

**It's the best date night (free!) there is. Plus, it is sooo great to see everyone. Like a family holiday party.**

**We look forward to seeing you there, so plan now for:**

***August 5th 7:00 pm.  
Camp Lone Star Pines***

***26210 Tuwa Road  
Tomball, TX 77375***



## Women's JTD #217 October 19-22, 2023



Hello JTD Community,

My name is Sherry Metcalf, and I will be Lay Director for the upcoming women's Journey in October. I am so excited to lead our community of women in planning and orchestrating the Best Journey Ever!

I have been a member of the JTD Community since October 2012 when I made my Journey weekend. I have been on Team for many Journeys and served on St. Elsewhere as well. I had the privilege of serving on the Board of Directors for four years. This has enhanced my love for this community and what it stands for and I want others to experience the Journey.

My scripture verse is Philippians 4:6, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." This has been my favorite scripture for a very long time because it reminds me to always rely on God and to go to him in prayer for all things.

Please pray for God to put on your heart a woman that could benefit from this weekend and be obedient by inviting that person. If you are interested in working on Team, our next meeting will be August 12 at Chapelwood United Methodist Church. Please feel free to call me at 832-643-9686 or email me at [sherry\\_metcalf@yahoo.com](mailto:sherry_metcalf@yahoo.com) if you have any questions. Please be on the look-out for the email reminding you about signing up for the prayer vigil.

I am praying for a very successful Journey with many Pilgrims and Team. My goal for this Journey is to not only plan a beautiful spiritual weekend but to have fun! My motto is "The pilgrims don't know when a mistake has been made".

De Colores!



## SAVE THE DATE!

### **Houston JTD Annual Golf Tournament, Breakfast, Lunch and Silent Auction**

**Thursday, September 28  
8:00 a.m.**

**Tour 18  
3102 FM 1960 East  
Humble, Tx 77388**

Player registration \$150

Hole Sponsor \$250

(Hole sponsors can promote company on their holes)

Title Sponsorship \$2,500

(Title sponsor donor will have company logo  
embroidered on four 1<sup>st</sup> prize golf bags and two free registration tickets)

Exciting contests including 'Longest Drive', 'Closest to Pin',  
'Team of Four Scramble' and a putting competition.

Player registration:

<https://jtd.breezechms.com/form/2023GolfRegistration>

Sponsorship:

<https://jtd.breezechms.com/form/2023GolfSponsorship>

Visitor's Meal Ticket for the Day:

<https://jtd.breezechms.com/form/VisitorMealTicket2023>

**We are seeking auction items for our event. Please see link  
below to sign up your item.**

Silent Auction Donation:

<https://jtd.breezechms.com/form/SA2023>

**Golf Committee:**

**Chairperson: Shawn Royer**

**Co-Chairs: Randy Bame and Gerald Blackwell**

To volunteer to help the day of the tournament, contact:  
Randy Bame @ [randy.bame@yahoo.com](mailto:randy.bame@yahoo.com)

## Do you have a passion for the JTD mission and enjoy interacting with others?

If so, the JTD Board of Directors is seeking community members interested in serving on several committees including:

- ❖ *Finance*
- ❖ *Web Administration*
- ❖ *Document Manager*
- ❖ *Public Relations/Marketing*
- ❖ *Fundraising*

Committees are open to all JTD community members.

If interested, please contact:

Cindy Ramirez: [cinram0424@gmail.com](mailto:cinram0424@gmail.com)

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## Ways to Support the JTD Community

### ***PILGRIMS***

**The most important piece to this pie is PILGRIMS! To continue this ministry that is so needed during these trying times we need the community to be intentional in inviting and sponsoring pilgrims. Should you need help on how to share what JTD is about please reach out to a board member who can provide brochures, details to go in church bulletins, etc.**

### ***Recurring Donation***

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, JTD relies on the generous donations from the community.

To support JTD by recurring donation you can pay online via credit card at [houstonjtd.com](http://houstonjtd.com) at the link <https://www.houstonjtd.com/donate-to-jtd>. Next go to 'Donate to JTD' and enter a weekly, monthly, yearly, or one-time amount. If you prefer to make your donation by check please email us at [houstonjtd.com](http://houstonjtd.com).

We thank our generous donors in 2022 and hope that we can have your continued support in 2023.

### ***Company Matching***

Many companies provide matching of your donations to a charity or non-profit. Please be sure to check with your company and request a match form. You may contact a board member for the JTD Tax ID as your company match will usually require it.

**Connect with your brothers and sisters in Christ  
and keep the JTD fire going by joining  
a Houston reunion group near you:**

*Please call/e-mail the reunion group contact before attending a group for  
the first time*

### **Men's Reunion Groups**

#### **Dixie Farm Boys**

Mondays, 6:00 PM

Contact: Matt Hoffman, 713-819-2297, [mhof1100@aol.com](mailto:mhof1100@aol.com)

Location: Gateway Community Church, 760 Clear Lake City Blvd., Webster

#### **STRIVE!**

Tuesdays, 6:00 AM

Contact: Brad Whitt, 713-469-1565, [brad.t.whitt@gmail.com](mailto:brad.t.whitt@gmail.com)

Location: Panera Bread, 26003 NW Freeway, Cypress

#### **SEASoned Warriors**

Every other Wednesday, 7:00 PM

Contact: Greg Bedell, [gjbedell@mdanderson.org](mailto:gjbedell@mdanderson.org)

Location: Willie's Grill & Icehouse, 7092 Hwy 6 North (FM 529 & Hwy 6) Houston

#### **Walking Tall**

Fridays, 6:00 AM via Zoom Call

Contact: Tom Stallings, 281-450-8101, [tom@tomstallings.com](mailto:tom@tomstallings.com)

#### **Mama's Boys**

Fridays, 8:00 AM

Contact: Mike Main, 832-444-1728, [mike.j.main@gmail.com](mailto:mike.j.main@gmail.com)

Location: Buffalo Grille, 1301 S. Voss Road (S. Voss & Woodway) Houston

#### **Blurry Eyed Boys**

Saturdays, 7:00 AM

Contact: Tim Cullen, 281-948-1417, [tpcullen@windstream.net](mailto:tpcullen@windstream.net)

Location: La Madeleine, 2675 Town Center Blvd., Sugar Land

#### **Gravy Spoon Disciples**

Every other Saturday (or when His Honeys meet), 9:00 AM

Contact: Eric Gallup, 832-253-4766, [tccsuper01@yahoo.com](mailto:tccsuper01@yahoo.com)

Location: Black Walnut, The Vintage Park, 10623 Louetta Rd. Houston

### **Women's Reunion Groups**

#### **SEAS Sisters**

Mondays, 11:30 AM

Contact: Denise Dreyling, 281-855-7745, [denise@thoede.com](mailto:denise@thoede.com)

Location: Romeros, Hwy 6 & Longenbaugh, Houston

#### **Sisters with a Purpose**

2nd & 4th Monday, 1:00 PM

Contact: Shay Christopherson, 281-799-2002, [christopherson.shay@gmail.com](mailto:christopherson.shay@gmail.com)

Location: Jason's Deli, 529/Hwy6, Houston



**His Honeys**

Every other Saturdays, 9:00 AM

Contact: Pam Gonzalez, 713-854-6587, [furnituregirlpam@gmail.com](mailto:furnituregirlpam@gmail.com)

Location: Black Walnut, The Vintage Park, 10623 Louetta Rd., Houston

**The Breakfast Club**

Thursdays, 6:00 AM

Contact: Toni Weyand. 281-731-6883, [toniweyand@gmail.com](mailto:toniweyand@gmail.com)

Location: Dennys's, 1422 Highway 6, Sugar Land

**Sophia Sisters**

Every other Saturday, 8:00 AM

Contact: MaryClare Cullen, 713-480-7511, [clarecullen@windstream.net](mailto:clarecullen@windstream.net)

Location: La Madeleine, 2675 Town Center Blvd, Sugar Land

**Grace Girls**

3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:00 PM

Contact: Rachele Vento, 713-851-0364, [rachele.vento@gmail.com](mailto:rachele.vento@gmail.com)

Location: La Fiesta, 11623 Katy Freeway, Houston

**Mary Martha**

2nd &amp; 4th Saturday, 11:00 AM

Contact: Agnes Fernandes, 281-933-3721, [agnesffernandes@gmail.com](mailto:agnesffernandes@gmail.com)

Location: Panera Bread, 7041 FM1960 East, Atascosita

**Bay Area Blessed Sisters**

3rd Wednesday, 7:00 PM

Contact: Sherry Metcalf, 832-643-9689, [sherry\\_metcalf@yahoo.com](mailto:sherry_metcalf@yahoo.com)

Location: La Madeleine, 929 Bay Area Blvd, Webster

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**Be an ambassador for Houston JTD  
with fun JTD merchandise  
We have the following items available for purchase:**

To purchase these items, please visit the  
link below on our JTD Houston website

[Merchandise | Houston Jtd](#)



