First Quarter 2014 Newsletter

In This Issue

JTD Annual Gathering 2014
Journey to Damascus #121
- Community Greeting
- Team Roster & Schedule
- Pilgrim Roster

Spiritual Value of Journey to Damascus
Are You Being Called To Serve?

Corpus Christi Board of Directors

FR. TOM GOODWIN
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

REV. BILLY STORMS
ASST SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

JASON RODRIGUEZ (2014)
PAST-PRESIDENT

JIM STEGALL (2015)
PRESIDENT

January 28, 2013

2014 ANNUAL GATHERING
Saturday February 8th
St. Pius X Church Parish Hall
Corpus Christi, TX
6:30 - 9:00 pm

The Journey to Damascus Board of Directors cordially invites the entire JTD Community and your family to the annual gathering for fellowship, music and sharing a meal together. The BOD will be providing the main entree, and the community will be asked to provide appetizers, salads, side dishes and desserts. Please bring enough to feed 10-12 people.

Community Last Names A - F: Provide appetizers
Community Last Names G - L: Provide salads
Community Last Names M - T: Provide side dishes
Community Last Names U - Z: Provide desserts

The music and celebration begins at 6:30 pm, with the blessing and meal at 6:45 pm. There will be two speakers (7:30 pm and 8:00 pm) from the community highlighting the impact of the Journey weekend on their spiritual and personal lives.

Sr. Angela requests that you bring your
remaining unused Christmas cards to the gathering for the Kairos Prison Ministry. The cards are sent to the men at the facilities as agape. Sr. Angela and the men of the Kairos Ministry sincerely appreciate your assistance.

**Women's Journey to Damascus #125**  
**February 27 - March 2, 2014**  
**Queen of Peace Retreat Center**  
**Corpus Christi, TX**

"I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith."

2 Timothy 4:7

My Dearest JTD Family,  
What an amazing Journey this team has experienced while we have prepared ourselves for THE BEST JOURNEY EVER!!!  
Our hearts have been humbled to receive these beautiful women HE has entrusted to us. It is with great honor that we welcome together as a team the pilgrims that God has called to the weekend for JTD #125 on Thursday.  
The scripture for the weekend is **2 Timothy 4:7**  
"I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith."

Our scripture was truly a work of God. We as a team have been challenged in more than one occasion. But here we stand today with open arms as we prepare to finish the race never losing sight of Our Savior. Our Faith has kept us bonded as one.  
There are no words to express the gratitude we as a team feel for this awesome Journey to Damascus community. The amazing community has so generously gifted its time, treasure and talent to make JTD#125 a reality. Please lift our team in prayer that we may be united in Christ as one to love and serve. Continue to pray that the pilgrims will surrender their hearts and minds to the One who loves unconditionally. Our hearts anxiously wait to see you my brother's and sister's in Christ on the other side of the candle at Candlelight!

A Special Thanks to Our Lord and Savior for He is our Rock and Refuge.

Your Sister in Christ,  
De Colores,  
Martha Ruiz  
Lay Director
With the guiding hand of the Holy Spirit our team has been working hard in preparing to receive the pilgrims. He have shared our talks and enjoyed our fellowship and time worshipping our Lord. What an amazing group of women God has place together on HIS team. We have only one meeting left and a couple of talks to be read. It is with great joy knowing we are following the path He has set for us. We currently have 31 pilgrims sign up and just a few slots left. Our Agape list is full and our Prayer Vigil is in need of a few slots to be filled. [WWW.3day01.org](http://WWW.3day01.org). So please take a few moments to sign up on our Prayer Vigil. We ask that you please continue to pray for the team and the pilgrims to come.

De Colores,
Martha Ruiz
Mhruiiz47@hotmail.com

**JTD #125 Team Roster and Schedule**

**St. Elsewhere:**

- Martha Ruiz - Lay Director
- Fr. Patrick Higgins - Spiritual Director
- Sr. Angela Murdaugh - Assistant Spiritual Director
- Rev. Billy Storms - Assistant Spiritual Director
- Rev. Gwen Jennings - Assistant Spiritual Director
- Michele Hoelscher - Board Rep
- Delma Edge - Assistant Lay Director
- Cindy Cardiel - Assistant Lay Director
- Sandra Saenz - Assistant Lay Director
- Danielle Ruiz - Co-Head Angel
- Alison Alonzo -Co-Head Angel

**Music team:**

- Melissa Ricard
- Elsie Gaertner
- Michelle Gonzalez
- Norma Ochoa
- Stephanie Sananikone

**Table Leaders:**

- Angie Vasquez
- Lisa Cervantes
- Diana Devereux
- Valerie Glover
- Jennifer Riley
- Sang Sananikone

**Assistant Table Leader:**

- Lindsey Seale
**Prayer Vigil Signup 101**

This is how easy it is to sign up online:

**Step 1.** Log on to the website 3dayol.org (Cut and paste it from this email or double click on the link)

**Step 2.** Click on the "prayer vigil" link at the bottom of the rainbow on the far left side of the webpage

**Step 3.** Click on "Check out a list of Prayer Vigils"

**Step 4.** Every weekend is in Alphabetical order. Scroll down to "Journey to Damascus" and chose the desired weekend.

**Step 5.** Chose an available time highlighted in Blue to the left that indicates "sign up"

**Step 6.** Enter your Name, Email address, City and State of Residence, Country of Origin and submit

**2014 Weekends**

**JTD #125**

Feb 27 - March 2  
Martha Ruiz

**JTD #126**  
April 10-13  
Michael Wagoner

Julie Stephenson  
Lisa Wunderlich  
Rebecca Stallings  
Evon Montalvo Kelly  
Bernadette Howard

**Angels:**  
Anna Adrian  
Heather Arteaga  
Kathy Campbell  
Hilda Curry  
Melinda Ernest  
Lucy Garcia  
Jena Kauffman  
Helen Orsak  
Tina Panek  
Mary Jessie Quiroz  
Debbie Rivera  
Michelle Ruiz  
Mary Salem  
Dorothy Torres  
Felicia Trevino

**Talk Schedule:**  
Friday, February 28, 2014

Priorities  8:30 am  Allison Alonso  
Grace  10:30 am  Rev. Billy Storms  
Priesthood of All Believers  1:10 pm  Delma Edge  
Faith  2:30 pm  Rev. Gwen Jennings  
Life in Piety  6:50 pm  Angie Vasquez

Saturday, March 1, 2014

Growth Through Study  8:20 am

Sacraments  9:40 am  Fr. Patrick Higgins  
Christian Action  1:30 pm  Lisa Cervantes  
Obstacles to Grace  3:00 pm  Sr. Angela Murdaugh  
Discipleship  6:45 pm  Cindy Cardiel  
Love and Unity (at Candlelight)  8:00 pm  Danielle Ruiz  
Changing Our World  9:15 am  Heather Arteaga
The Lay Directors for 2014 will be presented at the annual gathering. If you would like to serve on a team in 2014, please introduce yourself to the Lay Directors.

Community Reminder

Sponsor Service
February 27th - 6:30 pm

Candle Light
March 1st - 8:00pm

Closing
March 2nd - 2:00pm

Babysitting services are provided at Dougherty Hall for Candlelight and Closing Ceremonies

www.journeytodamascus.org

JTD #128
June 12-15
Celeste Lutz

JTD #131
July 24-26
Gary Richards

JTD #133
August 7-10
Lori Green

JTD #134
September 18-21
Norman Acker

JTD #136
October 16-19
Belinda Saenz

Body of Christ 10:15 am Jennifer Riley
Perseverance/4th Day 11:15 am Martha Ruiz

JTD #125 Pilgrim Roster

Renne Cunningham          Ashely Davis
Amber Acosta              Amber Sanchez
Holly Willie               Andrea Chappell
Grace Gonzalez            Lisa Crook
Alice Atkinson            Sandra Saenz
Mary Eden                 Kathy Baker
Mary Barton               Shannon Rios
Annie Hewitt              Lanette Parker
Kay Ramos                 Syvlia Vallejo-Lazo
Doris Bourret             Tiffany Coleman
Patsy Saldivar            Mari Moya
Norma Rodriguez           Lorraine Pienda
Shelly Naro               Rose Harrison
Alicia Shaw               Hortencia Meurer
Maria Torres-Garcia       Christina Davis
Rene Scanio

The Spiritual Value of Journey to Damascus--Sister Angela Murdaugh, FSM

Journey sets peoples’ feet on the spiritual path. There is a saying that “experience is the best teacher.” Perhaps close behind is “observation can teach us a lot.” Just sitting back and watching the Holy Spirit work can be an amazing experience. And, on a Journey to Damascus, the Spirit never disappoints.

The human spirit longs for an encounter with the Divine. It is a rude awakening to many that being in the right atmosphere with the right motivation can be the winning combination for finding the Lover of our Souls. What a Journey to Damascus can do is bring together the seeker and those who answered Jesus’ call. In John 1:45-47, hear again Nathanael asking Philip if anything good can come out of Nazareth. And Phillip replying “Come and See.”

Repeatedly, we are told that a Journey to Damascus is a basic course in Christianity. The thirteen talks, indeed, are geared for such a basic renewal, or in some cases, a first time exposure to God. In either case, the seeker comes away richer. The variety of speakers on any one of the 13 talks given during a Journey weekend is enough to realize the richness and depth that can be gleaned out of every talk. In other words, if I am the
Pilgrim and hearing a talk for the first time, or a seasoned
Journey team member who has heard the talk repeatedly; in both
cases, I am changed with each exposure. Why? Simply put, the
Holy Spirit has a message both new and old that conveys what is
needed the most at that moment for that particular group of
people. In Matt. 12: 52 it says, "Then Jesus said to them, 'So
anyone who knows the law and has learned about the kingdom of
heaven, is like the headman of a house. He can bring both new
things and old things out of what he has stored up.'" Do not be
fooled into believing that all lessons taught are for the Pilgrims.
There are men and women who have served on Journey teams for
over 10 years who frequently hear anew.

Do we not all worship one God and the Redeemer
who was sent to show us the way and who left us the gift of
the Holy Spirit? How can it be different? The oft used
example of the diamond is correct. God is like a many
faceted diamond whose beauty is exhibited by the
perspective from which it is viewed. How did the light strike
it? How did my eye pick up the reflection? God knows just
what each person needs to see to put the Beauty of the
Holy in the best light!

The Journey is a gift to absolutely everyone
exposed to it. Of course, it differs from person to person
how it is received and what is done with it. This much is
ture: it was meant to be lived. The 4th Day has the secret
of the Journey's transformative power. It includes Reunion
Groups, but it also involves the deep desire to pass it on, to
want to do good for others, and to take the longings
(desires) of each soul for God to a deeper level. From
1999 to present, we can truly say that Journey has
produced committed Christians ready to serve, to give of
their time and talent, and when needed: just show up for
Christ. Well done, good and faithful Servants! Matt: 25:
21a

Are You Being Called To Serve?

"So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead."
James 2:17

If you are interested in serving the greater Journey to
Damascus Community, We ask that you write a brief
letter detailing how you can serve the JTD community
and how the Board can serve the pilgrims. Send you
response to the address given below. Responses
must be returned no later than Monday, March 3rd.

Names will be submitted during the March meeting,
and reviewed at the April Board meeting. Elections
will take place at the May meeting.
The purpose of the Community Board of Directors is to serve their community and through prayerful discernment, carry on the work of Journey to Damascus.
- Directors will serve a term of three (3) years.

- Board members must be a member of the local Journey to Damascus community

- The term of office starts on June 1st and ends on May 31st

- Board members will serve a maximum of two terms.

Duties of the Board of Directors

Conduct JTD weekends and Fourth Day activities using the guidelines and protocols as established and maintained by the Board of Trustees

Manage its own finances using the guidelines and protocols as established and maintained by the Board of Trustees.

Honor the terms of the "Journey to Damascus Expansion Agreement"

Manage its own registration using the guidelines and protocols as established and maintained by the Board of Trustees.

Review the team member list as provided by Nominating/Team Selection Committee during executive session for approval. The Board may delay approval of the team if it deems the Team Selection Committee needs to make changes and then resubmit it at the next Directors meeting.

On an annual basis, create a calendar for the coming year and update as needed.

Conduct an Annual Meeting each year at a place and on a day designated by the Board of Directors, for the purpose of electing Directors and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

DeColores,