

# JOURNEY TO DAMASCUS

First Quarter 2014 Newsletter

January 28, 2013

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2014

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#121

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## Corpus Christi Board of Directors

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**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

**JAMES JOHNSTON (2015)**  
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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

TRAVIS BEDNARZ  
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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  
Mhruiz47@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  
Valarie Glover  
Jennifer Riley  
Sang Sananikone

#### **Assistant Table Leader:**

Lindsey Seale

KAREN CONNER  
JTD MANUAL EDITOR  
LIASON

## **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 Kauffmann  
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	10:30am	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

#### **Sunday, February 2.2014**

Changing Our World	9:15 am	Heather Artega
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*JTD #128  
June 12-15  
Celeste Lutz*

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

*JTD #131  
July 24-26  
Gary Richards*

#### JTD #125 Pilgrim Roster

*JTD #133  
August 7-10  
Lori Green*

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	Sylvia 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	

*JTD #134  
September 18-21  
Norman Acker*

*JTD #136  
October 16-19  
Belinda Saenz*

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.

#### **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 Phillip 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

#### **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](http://www.journeytodamascus.org)

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 true: it was meant to be lived. The 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

Mail To: PO Box 948  
Corpus Christi, TX 78412  
e-mail: J2DAMASCUS@YAHOO.COM

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,

Jim Stegall  
Board of Directors  
President

Journey to Damascus | [j2damascus@yahoo.com](mailto:j2damascus@yahoo.com) | P. O. Box 948  
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

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