



September, 2025

Journey to Damascus Community News

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Journey to Damascus #235 September 18-21, 2025

*I have called you friends for all that I have heard
from my father I have made known to you. You did
not choose me, but I chose you.*

John 15:16

Dear JTD Community,

Looking back on the past year of preparation, I feel extremely grateful for all the love and guidance our team has received. The prayers, acts of kindness, and selflessness we've seen along the way are truly inspiring. Every need has been met with perfect timing, every challenge met with unwavering faith, and no obstacle has been too big for the power of unity and prayer.

Every hope we had for this weekend is coming to life just as God planned. Every single person on this team has a servant's heart and

has worked hard to make this the most meaningful journey ever. We're excited for everyone to experience Christ's love this weekend through our team and at candlelight with the JTD community.

A huge thank you to my St. Elsewhere team—Kyle, T.J., Jason, Billy, J.T., and Rick—you've been such a guiding light when I didn't know where to turn. Your leadership and dedication are truly inspiring. Thank you to the music team, cook team, spiritual team, sponsor hour, prayer chapel, and every single person of JTD #235—you all are amazing!

Please join us at candlelight as we raise our voices in pure praise to Jesus—who has united us in love, strength, and purpose. Together, we give thanks and celebrate the incredible gift of His grace.

De Colores
Mitchell Hippensteal
Lay Director, #235

TEAM

Lay Director
Mitchell Hippensteal
"Perseverance/ Fourth day"

Spiritual Director
Father Brady Williams
"Sacraments"

Spiritual Team
Rev. Billy Storms
"Grace"

Deacon Hector Salinas
"Obstacles to Grace"

Rev. Gwen Perkins
"Faith"

Board Representative
Rick Svetlik

Observing Lay Director
John Porche

Assistant Lay Directors
Jason Naranjo
"Discipleship"

TJ Arredondo
"Growth Through Study"

Billy Dunn
"Priorities"

Co Head CHA's
Kyle Rossler

Pilgrims

Kenneth Miles
Young Smith
Richard Valdez
Ricky Reyes
Abel Herrera
Kevin Green
Omar Arispe
Casey Bird
Scott Saucedo
James McPeak
Alex Bocanegra
Eric Naranjo
Ethan Gallimore
Jack Ryan Atkinson
Chris Sanchez
Matthew Cueva
Lino Lopez
Michael Franco
Rudy Garcia
Tomas Gonzales Jr.
Jason Aguilar
Billy Serna
Martin Martinez Jr
Anthony Saenz
Jacques Mouttet
Andres Gonzalez
Alex Garcia
Matthew Welborn
Ryan Pugh

JT Tovar
"Christian Action"

Music Team

Rick Ricard
Alex Ricard
Frank Newel
David Reichenbacher

Table Leaders

Alaniz Pablo
Rudy Garza
Jose Gonzales
Kevin Hippensteal
James Mitchell
Ivan Alveraz
Tom Del Los Santos
Robert Montalvo
Mark Paiz

"Priesthood of all believers"

Juan Rementeria
Eddie Rodriguez
James Beeson

CHA's

Hector Chavarria
Mike Morgan
Joe Hopkins
Mike Kaestner

"Love and Unity"

Zach Altemus

Miguel Aguilar

"Life in Piety"

Jeff Duggan

Andrew Miles

David Martin

Justin Faris

James Batey

Sam Arredondo

Freddy Arismendez

Chad Evans

Dino Hernadez

Collin Ware

Edward Day

Hilario Leal
Troy Divine
Kevin Page
Jon-Michael Cason
Albert Flores
Rick Rodriguez
Jaime Carrillo
Sam Gonzales
Gus Berlanga
Bradley Lindsley
Carlos Garza
Jose Cobos
Albert Ronje



Journey to Damascus#236
October 16-19, 2025

For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord,
plans to prosper you not to harm you, plans to give you
hope and a future.
Jeremiah 29:11

Dear Journey to Damascus Community,

I am truly humbled by the outpouring of love and support shown to us during our team formation. Our Sunday team meetings have been filled with prayer, music, talks and we can't forget the great food! The team of JTD #236 is not only united in faith but also ignited with purpose to receive the pilgrims.

For anyone still considering signing up for our 72-hour Prayer Vigil, this is an opportunity to be part of something transformative. Covering every pilgrim in prayer before they even arrive is such a powerful act of faith and intercession. Even one prayerful moment can ripple through someone's life in ways we may never fully see.

Thank you to everyone who signed up to bring Agape. Our Agape list is full because of your generosity and giving hearts.

Please join us for Candlelight on Oct 18th. As you will recall on your Pilgrim weekend, Candlelight is going to be unforgettable. The pilgrims will walk into a room filled with love, light, and the presence of Christ through each of you. We hope to see you all there for the last Candlelight of 2025 !

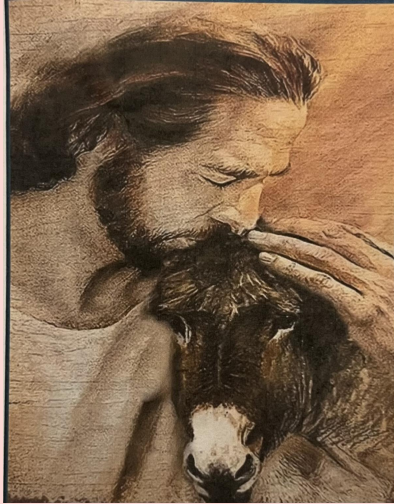
It's powerful to remember that God has already chosen each heart that will walk through this journey. Every detail is being woven together with divine intention, and your faithfulness in prayer is part of that sacred

tapestry.

Pray for St. Elsewhere, our Team, our Spiritual Directors and me that we be strengthened with unity, wisdom, and joy. May the pilgrims feel the gentle tug of the Holy Spirit even now, preparing them to receive love and transformation.

JTD #236 will be the BEST Journey EVER—and it's only just the beginning.

De Colores,
Liz Yzaguirre, Lay Director, JTD #236



**Special
Thank you
from
Lay Director
of
Journey to
Damascus
#233**

First and foremost, I give thanks to our Heavenly Father for His grace and faithfulness over Journey to Damascus #233. This weekend was a beautiful reminder of His love and the power of saying “yes” to His call.

To the JTD community, thank you for covering us in prayer, showering us with agape, and surrounding us with so much love. A special thanks to Marivel, Jessica, and Kelly, your support and encouragement meant the world to me.

I'm grateful for the lay directors who have invited me to serve on their teams in the past. Because of you , I've formed lasting friendships and have been blessed to walk alongside amazing brothers and sisters in Christ.

To my family, my husband, Rene, my daughter and son-in-law, Marlena and Brian, and my sweet grandchildren, thank you for always sharing in my “yes”. You have encouraged and supported me every step of the way, and I love you deeply for that.

To our St. Elsewhere team, Marlena, Kera, Tess, Flory, Mary Jessie , and my rock star, board rep., Michele. You trusted God's plan even when it wasn't clear, and together we witnessed His perfect timing. I'm so thankful God placed you in my life, and to have been able to serve with each of you.

Thank you Janie Riojas, for leading our prayer chapel, and for letting me serve as your ALD on your weekend. And to Sabrina, Lupe, Sandra, and Gianna, thank you for supporting JTD #233 and creating a beautiful space of prayer.

Our cook team, led by Alonzo, kept us well fed and cared for. Everything was amazing. Becca Ramos thank you for a moving sponsor hour. Sonia, Rosa, and Yolanda, the Agape dinner was perfect. Giggles Reunion Group, thank you for the ice cream social. It brought so much joy to the pilgrims. And to the Primas, thank you for always filling the weekend with laughter and melody. And to Journey 5 , and

Owen, your music lifted our hearts in worship this weekend.

God blessed me beyond measure with this team. Your dedication, love, and service made this weekend possible. Table leaders and assistant Table leaders you have created a close knit group of sisters and I thank you for making them feel our love. Angels you rocked it all weekend and never left the pilgrims needing anything. You were truly the hands and feet of Christ. The steps you put in were not unnoticed.

And to the pilgrims of JTD #233 thank you for answering God's call. Your openness and joy made this weekend unforgettable with all our laughs, tears, and new sisters in Christ. Carry Christ's light with you wherever you go and keep saying "yes" to Him.

May God continue to bless you and guide you always,

De Colores,
Cindy Garcia, Lay Director #233



Last up Coming Journey To Damascus Weekend for 2025:

**October 16 - October 19th
Women's JTD #236
LD, Liz Yzaquirre**

The 2026 Lay Directors or a St. Elsewhere representative from each future team will present updated status for weekends of the up coming year at the next two candlelights.

Please plan to attend candlelight for September and October, 2025.

Candlelight begins at 8:00 p.m. each Saturday of a Journey weekend at OLCC, St. Teresa Hall, 1252 Lantana St., Corpus Christi, Tx.

Lastly, if you would like to fill out a team application or sign up a pilgrim for any of the up coming Journey weekends please click the link below.

Applications



Please help complete the JTD 72 hour prayer
vigil for the following weekend:
By CLICKING THE "SIGNUP" LINK to help out:

*access code (for all) De Colores

Women's JTD #236
Oct 16 - 19

Prayer Vigil Sign
Up



2026 Journey to Damascus

Lay Directors & Up Coming Weekend Dates

March 19-22, 2026 Corpus Christi
Men's JTD #239

Lay Director- John Porche

April 23-26, 2026 Corpus Christi
Women's JTD #240,

Lay Director- Missy Socha

June 18-21, 2026 Corpus Christi
Men's JTD #242

Lay Director- Daniel Bluntzer

July 30- Aug. 2, 2026 Corpus Christi
Women's JTD #243

Lay Director- Bea Martinez

September 17-20, 2026 Corpus Christi
Men's JTD #245

Lay Director- Phil Gagnon

October 15-18, 2026 Corpus Christi
Men's JTD #246

Lay Director- Sonya Rodriguez

Applications



The community is invited to join any of the following JTD committees listed below:

Please contact Marivel Garza, President
or Javier Flores, Vice President with any questions.

Board representatives for each committee are listed below.

1. 4th Day Committee: Liz Yzaguirre
2. Board of Trustees: Javier Flores & Marivel Garza
3. Candlelight/Closing Committee: Jenny Sehy & Liz Yzaguirre

4. Fundraising: Owen Gallagher
5. Historian Report: Rick Svetlik
6. Music Report: Owen Gallagher & Rick Svetlik
7. Newsletter: Marivel Garza
8. Registrar Report: Jenny Sehy
9. Spiritual Director: Rev. Billy Storms & Father Joseph Lopez
10. Spiritual Team: Owen Gallagher
11. Team Selection: Lori Green
12. St. Elsewhere: Javier Flores
13. Manual Committee: Bud Colwell
14. OLCC Timeline: Rick Svetlik



We would like to remind the JTD community that, beginning with the first team and Journey of 2026, the fee for both pilgrims and team members will increase from \$190 to \$225.

This change reflects the rising costs associated with hosting the weekends and ensures we can continue to provide a meaningful, well-supported experience for all involved.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support of the Journey to Damascus ministry.

Journey to Damascus | P.O. Box 945 | Corpus Christi, TX 78403 US

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