

Sunday Headlines

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December 8, 2019



LifeJourney Christmas Events

Dec. 15	9:30 AM & 11:00 AM	A Christmas Oasis: The True Gift Unwrapped LifeJourney Christmas Program at both services.
Dec. 20	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Blue Christmas Service
Dec. 24	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service
Dec. 25	1:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Pastors Jeff & David's Christmas Open House

Blessing Homeless Families

On the first Christmas, Jesus was homeless. You know the story; his family ended up taking shelter in a stable. No wonder Jesus has a special heart for the homeless. And so do we!

This Christmas season, LifeJourney has the opportunity to do something special the week after Christmas (December 29-January 5). We will host up to four homeless families in our building. These families have been carefully screened by the Family Promise Network and they will be our guests for one week. During the day, they'll be at work, school, or the Family Promise Day Center, but during the evening and overnight, they'll stay here. When the week is over, they'll move on to another church that's also part of the Family Promise Network.

Our Oasis Groups have each volunteered to take a different evening of the week to host, feed, and care for the families. But our Oasis Groups could sure use additional support. Can you help on one of those days with things like:

- Unload and unhitch trailer on the first Sunday
- Load and hitch the trailer on the last Sunday and drive to next church
- Set up rooms and make the rooms inviting
- Grocery shopping prior to first Sunday of our hosting week (church will cover costs)
- Mid-week grocery shopping as needs arise
- Mid-week laundry of linens (if necessary)
- Launder and store linens after the hosting week
- Mid-week errands as needed

If you might be able to help in any of the foregoing ways during the week of December 29 - January 5, please fill out the response form on the back of today's bulletin and we'll be in touch with more information. Don't miss this opportunity to do something near-and-dear to the heart of Christ.

Special Training Today!

At 12:45 pm today, two volunteers from each Oasis Group will participate in a 2-hour training session in Room 6, so we'll be well prepared to host homeless families the week of December 29 - January 5. Others who would like to participate in this training are also very welcome. You don't have to participate in the training to volunteer. But all who would like to learn more are welcome. A pizza lunch will be served. Join us in Room 6 (near the front doors) at 12:45 pm.

Blue Christmas

Friday, Dec. 20 at 7:00 PM

The upcoming days hold many expectations, emotions, and experiences for those of us on a journey through grief. Stepping away from the busy activities of these winter holidays to remember a loved one may give peace and comfort.

Blue Christmas will be a special time of remembrance—a time to light a candle and think of those special to you, regardless of how much time has passed since the loss.

Sunday Worship Service

Worship Theme:
Christmas Lessons

Key Verse:
“Unto us a child is born; unto us a Son is given.” Isaiah 9:6.

Order of Service

- Welcome
- Advent Candle *Peace*
- Praise & Worship: *O Come O Come Emmanuel
Everlasting God*
- Affirmation Poem
- Connections
- Offering Selection: *Lord Prepare Me*
- Offering Blessing
- Song of Preparation: *Noel*
- Prayer
- Scripture: *Isaiah 9:2-7*
- Sermon: *Christmas Vision*
Rev. Jeff Miner

Communion (9:30 Service in Room 9, 11:00 Service in Sanctuary)

- Congregational Hymn: *His Name Is Wonderful*
- Closing & Benediction

Our Communion With God (11:00 Service)

- Silent Confession
- General Confession: God, I confess that there are areas of my life where I am tempted to despair. Remind me that what I see depends on where I position myself. So give me the gumption to reposition myself. Open my heart to receive my own personal Christmas vision for those areas of life where I’m struggling. Amen.
- Consecration of the Elements
- Proclamation of our Faith: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ is here now, and Christ will come again. Alleluia!

- Distribution of the Elements
- If this is your first time with us: You are welcome to receive Holy Communion (or simply observe). You can take Communion alone, or with friends or family. Ushers will release rows and direct you to a server. The server will offer you the wafer dipped in juice with a prayer. After receiving the elements, return to your seat by the side aisle. If you would like to receive Communion but are unable to come forward, please notify an usher.

Sermon Notes:

Webcast Reminder: The morning services are recorded for our webcast; crowd shots are included. To improve the quality of those shots, we’d like to fill the center section of seating.

If you prefer not to be on camera, just sit in the back half of the left section.



Decision Form:

If you feel moved to respond in a tangible way.

☐ I am making a decision to become a follower of Jesus, or I want to rededicate myself to that decision.

☐ I have questions about spiritual things and would like to talk to someone.

☐ Other: _____

One of our pastoral staff would be happy to make an appointment to talk with you about your spiritual life and what steps might come next – but only if you wish.

☐ I would like to schedule a time to talk.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Place this form in the basket at the Welcome Center.

Oasis Meeting Times...

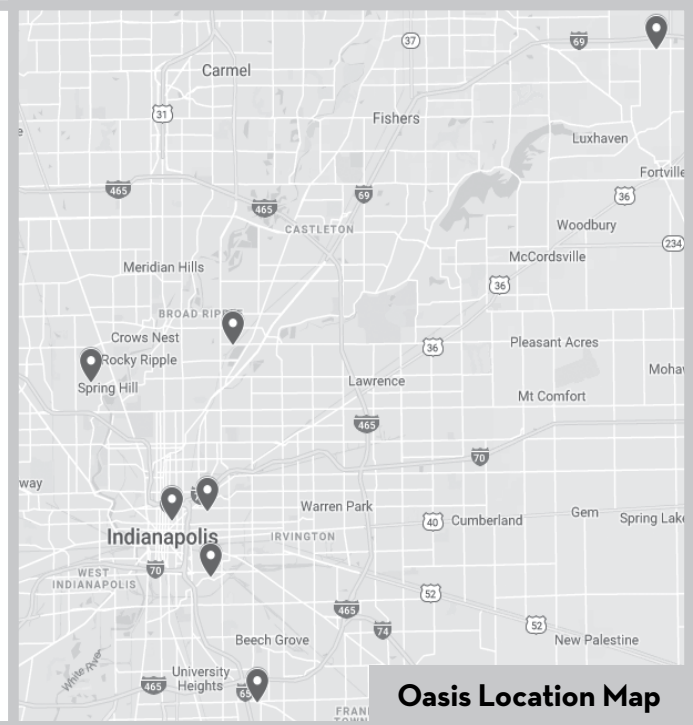
- Oasis groups are small groups that meet regularly for friendship, support, study, and prayer. This is a great way to make connections!
- Groups are open to everyone and meet evenings at 7:00 pm in various locations. (Exceptions will be noted.)
- No registration is required. If you're planning to visit an Oasis for the first time, you may confirm meeting details by calling the church office.
- If a group or location is ~~crossed out~~ please look for the revised information under "exceptions" in "The Week Ahead" section below.

MON: Book Club Oasis, Room 8.
Pendleton Oasis, 9479 W Campfire Dr., Pendleton

TUE: Journey through the Bible Oasis, Room 6.
Mornings with God Oasis, Cafe at 10:00 am.
Westside Oasis, 4465 Clover Dr., Indianapolis.

WED: F•R•I•E•N•D•S Oasis (age 20-30 something), Room 7.

THU: Downtown Oasis, 225 E North St. #2500, Indianapolis.
Southside Oasis, 3905 Shelbyville Road, Indianapolis at 6:30.
Thursday Evening Oasis, Room 6



The Week Ahead...

Today

9:30 AM Morning Worship Service, Sanctuary
9:30 AM LJC Kids! (PreK-5th grade), Main St. Station (Rm 1-4)
11:00 AM Morning Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00 AM LJC Kids! (PreK-5th grade), Main St. Station (Rm 1-4)
11:30 AM Teen Life (6-8th grade), The Loft (Rm 10)
Youth are released from the Sanctuary before the sermons.
12:45 PM Family Promise Volunteer Training, Room 6

Monday

7:30 PM AA Meeting, Room 6

Tuesday

7:00 PM Board of Directors, Room 7

Wednesday

6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:00 PM Newcomers Welcome Reception, Room 8

Thursday

6:30 PM Dinner Church, 1820 Orange St, Fountain Square

Friday

7:00 PM Women's AA Meeting, Room 6
8:00 PM Gay Men's AA Meeting, Room 7

Saturday

8:00 AM Homeless Ministry, serves Dayspring Center

See the full events calendar from LifeJourney!

View this month at: LifeJourney.church/events

Stay connected to recent news from LifeJourney!

Subscribe by email at: LifeJourney.church/subscribe

Last Week's Numbers...

9:30 am Service Attendance	104
11:00 am Service Attendance	154
Oasis & Discipleship Attendance (Holiday)	36
General Offering: Last Week	\$5,258
Weekly Average: YTD Weekly Average	\$8,511
Budget Goal: Weekly	\$9,119

In Memoriam...

A long-time member of our congregation, Steve Whitlock, passed away this week. Steve was active in the LifeJourney Choir and Indianapolis Mens Chorus for many years, along with being a gifted artist. Steve is survived by his spouse, Rex Camp. Arrangements will be made available in the coming days.



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<http://LifeJourney.church>

Jeff Miner
Senior Pastor

Vivian Ampy
Minister of Congregational Life

David Zier
Minister of Discipleship

Spencer James
Minister of Operations

Jason Powell
Minister of Worship Arts

Chris Edwards
Minister of Family Life

Advent Day of Silence Retreat

Modern life can be chaotic; what a radical shift to slow down this holiday season and spend 24 hours in silence to prepare our hearts right before Christmas. Pastor David will host an Advent Day of Silence Prayer Retreat at the Fatima Retreat House, right down the street from the church on 56th Street, beginning on December 17 at 4:00 PM.

More information is available at the Welcome Center, complete the response form for more details and to RSVP, paid reservations must be received before December 11.



Giving Tree

The annual Giving Tree is up and supporting LJC families in need, along with Dayspring Center. Please, choose a gift tag and return it by December 15.

LifeJourney's 2020 Missions Trip!

A team of volunteers from LifeJourney will be returning to Guatemala next year—the week of June 14 - 20, 2020! We will do desperately needed construction work for poor families under the supervision of Mission Guatemala, while building deep friendships and experiencing a beautiful country and culture. It will be an amazing spiritual experience. If you'd like to explore participation, plan to attend an Interest Meeting on Sunday January 12 at 12:45 here at the church. If you can't attend the meeting, fill out the response form and we'll contact you with information.

Sisterhood Cookie Exchange

Sisterhood is a newly formed group that fosters companionship and mutual support for those who identify as female.

The sisters' next group activity will be a cookie exchange this Tuesday 7 pm. Complete the response form for details and location information.

Yes! I'd like to respond to these articles:

- ☐ Family Promise Volunteer
- ☐ Advent Day of Silence Prayer Retreat
- ☐ 2020 Mission Trip Info
- ☐ Sisterhood Group Info/RSVP
- ☐ Newcomer Welcome Reception
- ☐ Hospitality: Helpful Donut Eaters

Name _____

Mobile/Text _____

Email _____

Return this form in the offering or in the basket at the Welcome Center.



Bring A Friend Next Sunday!

Invite Post Cards Available at Welcome Center

Have you ever found yourself in a spirited debate over the true meaning of Christmas? Some may say it's all about gifts and selfless acts of generosity. For others, it's a time to be merry with family and friends. Christians might encourage you to believe it commemorates the birth of Jesus... But what is the true meaning of Christmas?

A *Christmas Oasis* takes you on a journey of eight friends as they unwrap the mystery of Christmas. Will these friends' collective spirits agree on the true meaning or will they need the profound insight of souls from Christmas' past? Find out as the true gift of Christmas is unwrapped!

A *Christmas Oasis: the True Gift Unwrapped* is an uplifting and insightful Christmas story woven together with some of the most beautiful songs of the season and participation for the whole family. All are welcome to come unwrap the true meaning of Christmas on December 15 during both services.

HELLO... I AM

Are you new to LifeJourney today or within the past six months? If so, you're invited to a casual reception in your honor (snacks included), **this Wednesday at 7:00 pm.**

We'll get acquainted and answer questions you may have, like, *"Is this church the right place for me? How do I fit in and make friends? What resources are available?"*

RSVP through the response form to the left. Questions may be directed to: PastorJeff@LifeJourney.church or call the church office at (317) 722-0000 x103.

Eat Donuts While Helping Others

The Hospitality Ministry could use some extra helping hands on the 1st Sunday and 4th Sunday of each month. If you're able to prepare light refreshments and wouldn't mind tidying up the Cafe and Kitchen afterwards, the Hospitality Ministry would be grateful if you could serve during one Sunday service per month. (Early access to donut holes are a fringe benefit.) Complete the response form for more details.