

# JOURNEY TO DAMASCUS

## April 2018 Newsletter

### -- REMINDERS --

#### Corpus Christi Women's Journey to Damascus #176

Pax Christi Sisters Retreat Center  
April 26 - 29, 2018  
Sponsor Service - Thurs. April 26 - 6:30pm  
Candlelight - Sat. April 28 - 8:00 pm  
Closing - Sun. April 29 - 2:00 pm

### JTD #176 - Corpus Christi Women's



#### Journey to Damascus # 176

Corpus Christi Women's  
April 26 - 29, 2018

"For He has looked upon His handmaiden's lowliness; behold from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name."  
*Luke 1:48-49*

Brothers and Sisters of the Journey Community,

What a life-altering experience it has been to participate in our Lord's work on JTD #176! Using our guiding Scriptures, we as a team have worked hard to remain humble and listen to our Father's directions, hoping to be His handmaids in accomplishing His purposes. We believe this obedience

### SAVE THE DATE!

JTD #177- Corpus Christi Men's  
June 21 - 24  
LD - Eddie Rodriguez

### 2018 Weekends

JTD #177- Corpus Christi Men's  
June 21 - 24  
LD - Eddie Rodriguez

JTD #178 - Corpus Christi Women's  
July 19 - 22  
LD - Angela Wendel

JTD #179 - Central Texas Women's  
July 26- 29

JTD #181- Corpus Christi Men's  
August 23 - 26  
LD - Roger Flores

JTD #182 Central Texas Men's  
September 20 - 23

JTD #184- Corpus Christi Women's  
October 25 - 28  
LD - Dale Hernandez

has been rewarded by the great joy and peace we have felt throughout the preparation process and the weekend with our pilgrims. From praying for one another to collecting donations for various community service organizations to helping each other, the team has demonstrated truly the kind of LOVE that a Christian community embodies. We have lived through specific examples of the Lord's blessings flowing and of prayers being answered. These "God-incidences" have been too numerous to go unnoticed by team members; we have ALL been richly blessed for our work on this weekend.

We also have been gifted by the Journey to Damascus community with SO many acts of kindness and generosity. Though there was much work to do, we always knew that someone in the JTD community would notice our needs and supply solutions, often without even being asked. Our requests were answered abundantly and quickly, with much love; through the JTD community, the Mighty One certainly supplied all of our needs and wants. We are SO grateful and humbled by the community's great love—evidence of our Father's willingness to do great things for us and the pilgrims!

We would like to praise and thank our God for this opportunity to labor in His garden. Holy is His name!

Please join us this weekend for Sponsor's Hour, Candlelight and Closing!

DeColores,  
Linda Avila  
Lay Director, Journey to Damascus #176



## Contact Us

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Journey to Damascus  
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[j2damascus@yahoo.com](mailto:j2damascus@yahoo.com)

## TEAM

### Lay Director

Linda Avila  
*"Fourth Day/Perseverance"*

### Spiritual Director

Fr. Tom Goodwin  
*"Sacraments"*

### Spiritual Team

Sr. Teresa Diaz  
*"Obstacles of Grace"*  
Rev. Tom Dowdy  
*"Grace"*

Rev. Linda Frost  
*"Faith"*

### Board Representative

Gail Colwell

### Observing Lay Director

Angela Wendel

### Assistant Lay Directors

Crystal Gowan  
*"Life in Piety"*  
Debra Mendoza  
*"Growth through Study"*  
Nannette Quintanilla-Hatch  
*"Discipleship"*

### Table Leaders

Heather Arteaga  
Jeanie Binder  
Kathy Campbell  
*"Priorities"*  
Gianna Flores  
Evon Kelly  
Laura Palreiro

### Assistant Table Leaders

Amber Bradshaw  
Dee Dee Dreier

### Music Team

Pam Dowdy, Director  
Robin Blue  
Elsie Reichenbacher  
Rachel Reyes

### Co-Head Angels

Velma Garcia  
*"Changing Our World"*  
Becca Taylor  
*"Priesthood of all Believers"*

### Angel's

DeeDee Arismendez  
Ronnie Atkinson  
Jennifer Carr  
Jacque Duenez,  
*"Christian Action"*  
Agnes Flores  
Noela Garcia,  
*"Love and Unity"*  
Melissa Gonzalez  
Erlinda Klubertanz  
Kay Lopez  
Donna McLellan  
Maria Miller  
Lisa Porche  
Griselda Rivera  
Kristy Scott  
Shealeen Smith  
Jenny Tobin  
Priscilla Vargas  
Blessing Willesden

Jeanne Taylor  
Priscilla Trevino  
Tiffany Walters  
Dianna Winstead

## **PILGRIMS**

Iris Arismendez  
Sandi Barrera  
Priscilla Benavides  
Ada Besinaiz  
Tiffany Cardenas  
Maureen Charleston  
Laura Cueva  
Judy Degollado  
Mary de la Rosa  
Shanna Dunn  
Peggy Fuentes  
Jenn Garcia  
Mary Garcia  
Nelda Garcia  
Kimberly Heasley  
Ofie Hunter  
Emily Jasso  
Monique Jimmerson

Becky Karwedsky  
Sandra Knezek  
Jessica Klubertanz  
Melissa Mason  
Amanda Polasek  
Desiree Porche  
Joyce Puente  
Sharon Ramsey  
Amanda Rodriguez  
Esmer Rodriguez  
Corina Saenz  
Brooke Saucier  
Meghan Saunders  
Dilly Stewart  
Celeste Trevino  
Noemi Vargas  
Kim Wilson  
Vanessa Zarate

## **Letter from the Board**

Dear JTD Community,

As we move into our second JTD weekend for 2018, your Board of Directors, after prayerful discernment, are pleased to announce the three qualified women and three qualified men that have been selected for the privilege of serving as Lay Director in 2019:

Cheryl Brown-Yeager  
Richard Arizmendi  
Joanna Busenlehner  
David Sisk  
Hilda Curry  
Jason Atkinson

Congratulations to all of you!

As we continue to prepare for the future of the Journey to Damascus ministry, let us take a moment to reflect on our own pilgrim weekend and its impact in our lives.

For some of us, our pilgrim weekend was a means to strengthen our faith. For others, it was the most profound, life-changing experience of our lives. I have found that the impact of the weekend depends on the distance one travels to get back to Christ from Thursday to Sunday. Some of us never strayed too far, while others, like me, were in a distant land squandering God's immeasurable grace. Whether you were the Prodigal Son or the Son that never left, God's loving embrace was the same and we were all asked to respond to that love in our own unique way.

What has the Journey to Damascus meant to you? What are you going to do about it? We were all asked these same two questions on our pilgrim weekend and we each had an opportunity to respond. Do you remember your response? Some will remember every word they said that Sunday afternoon, while others will only remember the essence of their response. Regardless of what you said that day, your true response to those two questions has been how you have lived your every

fourth day since. Our collective response as one Body in Christ, unified in His love, has the power to change the world. We are the light in the darkness. We are the hope of nations. We are the change the world needs to see. We are the new creation. We are the smile on God's face! We are....because He is.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve all of you as board president the past two years. May the love of Christ Jesus continue to burn brightly in your hearts and may the richness of His grace continue to shower down upon you and your families!

In His love,  
Shane Beckwith

## JTD #177 - Corpus Christi Men's



### **Journey to Damascus # 177**

Corpus Christi Men's  
June 21 - 24, 2018

"I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness  
but have the light of life"  
*John 8:12*

My Fellow JTD Community –

As the date quickly approaches, our JTD #177 team meetings continue to build in strength with everyone's deep desire to ensure that this journey is not only a powerful journey, but, also "the best journey ever" for each and every pilgrim who seek the guiding light that has been overshadowed by dark clouds and the light that will ignite the flame of the Holy Spirit within their hearts. My team remains faithfully dedicated and completely devoted to providing an everlasting, genuine experience.

To ensure that our pilgrims have the ultimate weekend experience, I ask that our community continue to provide the wonderful pillow agape that will help bring contentment to the hearts of our pilgrims and will also provide them with a meaningful purpose and a sense of comfort. Everyone's

considerate contribution will indeed secure that special moment(s) for each and every pilgrim. My team and I graciously appreciate our community's involvement. Additionally, I am requesting that everyone, please sign up for the Prayer Vigil, either online or at our upcoming Women's Journey #176. Prayer Vigil's also play an intricate part in ensuring a powerful experience for our pilgrims and team.

JTD #177 continues to seek added pilgrims. Our list is still open to accommodate those who are in pursuit of His grace. We welcome all those who feel they need this experience or are unsure of where they stand in their spiritual life.

I ask that your prayers continue to flood our community and we all also lift those who are suffering in and out of our community. It is only by His hand that we all be shielded from the negative energy that surrounds us.

De Colores,

Eddie Rodriguez  
Lay Director  
JTD #177

## Past JTD "Thank you"

Brothers and Sisters In Christ –

The peace of the Lord be with you and to everyone for making JTD #174 a complete success! My eyes and heart were receiving plenty of love when we walked through for Candlelight and we saw all the love and support from this outstanding community.

As JTD #174 goes down in the history books for the glory of the Lord. I would like to include a couple of side notes. First and foremost, thank you to everyone in the community who supported from day one the Lord hands and feet. Because of your generosity and the best, for the team to make the pilgrims never felt our imperfections. Praise God!

JTD #174's Afterglow was full of emotions and rewards since many new members of the community are already in reunion groups...again Praise God.

Thanks plenty to our JTD Board of Directors, to Mr. David Walsh, Mr. Shane Beckwith and to Father Scott Braathen for the extraordinary work in keeping me straight....hard work!!!!.

Thank you again Journey family. You have truly made most blessed experiences of my life these past 9 years.

God bless all of you.  
De Colores.

Jorge Arteaga, Lay Director JTD #174

## Sr. Angela Murdaugh Scholarship Fund

We are also very pleased to announce the establishment of the Sister Angela Murdaugh Scholarship Fund. The goal is to be able to pay the weekend fee for one pilgrim per JTD weekend from this scholarship. To raise money to fund this endeavor we are selling JTD car emblems. The cost of the emblems is \$15 for one and \$25 for two. We should have the car emblems for sale before candlelight services and at the Sunday weekend closings. If you would like to order emblems for your Reunion group or to sell at your team meetings please contact Dale Hernandez at [dale\\_hernandez@yahoo.com](mailto:dale_hernandez@yahoo.com).



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## Boards

### Corpus Christi Board of Directors

Fr. Paul Hesse  
Spiritual Director

Rev. Billy Storms  
Asst. Spiritual Director

Shane Beckwith  
President

John McCain  
Vice-President

Marisa Herrera  
Treasurer

Becky Weaver  
Historian

Janie Riojas  
Secretary

Members:  
Anna Adrian  
Daniel Bluntzer  
Hilda Curry  
Gregory Gowan  
Dale Hernandez  
Paul Pilarczyk  
Patricia Stegall

### Central Texas Board of Directors

Daniel Garza  
President

Vilma Luna  
Vice President

Kathy Kirk  
Treasurer

Shane Sexton  
Secretary

Elaine William  
Registered Agent & Central Texas BOT Rep

Terri-Lynn Schofield  
Central Texas BOT Rep

Members:  
Lori Erwin  
Sara Fuentes  
Jennifer Ostarch  
John Puig  
Katie Stillman  
Cathy McFatter  
Glen Jackson

Sister Angela Murdaugh  
(*Spiritual Director*)

**DECOLORES!**

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