

#### Why did Journey start?

Perhaps the best place to start is to recognize why we did NOT start. We didn't start to get people from other churches. We didn't start to be cool, popular, or new. We started because we wanted to help people who have given up on church, but haven't given up on God. That is still our goal today. According to a recent Gallup poll, only 11% of Americans report attending any kind of Christian church service once a month. There are plenty of people to reach that do not attend any church regularly. They have given up. We have an opportunity to reach them, let them know God loves them, and they can start their journey with God.

Timeline Grand Opening September 12, 2004. Meeting at De Pere Middle School Moved to Wisconsin St., 2011

. 10 Year Anniversary, 2014 Hired our 2 nd Pastor, 2015 New building, 1800 Grant St., 2019 We added a 3 rd service, 2023



We are so excited that you decided to join us at Journey Community Church And would be honored to grow together with you! September 2004 Launch Team Gathers Founding Members Although we had an initial launch team to help start the church, the people below were the first formal members of our church. We are so thankful that some of them are still















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Jeans 2014













### THE LIVES CHANGED









## The Worship

Journey Community Church









### Panielle & Mitch



Prior to finding Journey Community Church, we may have told you we had a relationship with God but we were far from Him. Though we knew about him and attended church occasionally, our hearts were far from him. We may have considered Jesus to be our Savior, but he certainly wasn't Lord over our lives. As Pastor Mark would say, Jesus was riding in the passenger seat, not the driver of our lives. When we got engaged, Danielle suggested we get married in the church. That's just what you do, right?... Little did we know, the Holy Spirit was working, hard times were coming, but Christ was going to soon save & redeem us. During our premarital assessment and meeting with Pastor Chaz, our sexual sin and unequal yoking was brought to light. It was discovered that we had different opinions on the importance of worship and church in a marriage. Faced with a crossroads in our relationship and difficult conversations, the beginning of our engagement was off to a rocky start to say the least. But we look back with gratitude that God allowed us to experience this difficult season - because that's exactly where He met us and gave us new life. Mitchell gave his life to Christ the night of our premarital meeting. Danielle also realized that though she felt church and God were important, her heart and life did not reflect this. Over the course of their engagement she also surrendered her life to Christ. In many regards, this was the start of our faith journeys. We then entered a season of strengthening our faith journeys aided by countless Christian mentors and resources at Journey for which we are eternally grateful. Chaz discipled Mitch; we poured our time and energy into our premarital counseling group (The Art of Marriage); we joined a growth group and were blessed with formational wisdom and guidance from wise Christians (shout out to the Sunstroms

formational wisdom and guidance from wise Christians (shout out to the Sunstroms and Kowalczyks); and we were baptized! We look back with deep, indebted gratitude for this time and these people - we can testify that God is nothing but faithful to those whom he calls. And we learned to share our testimonies and the gospel - with coworkers, family, neighbors, strangers, and our church. God called us to ministry early on in our journey through leading Journey's Guest Services ministry and a growth group. These provide us opportunities to minister to others, share the love, hope, and joy of Christ, and continue to strengthen our own faith.

Our faith in Jesus and relationship with God is now #1 in our lives and we credit all that we are to Him. We continue to strengthen and share our journey through daily bible study and scripture memory, constant prayer, our AMAZING growth group community, serving, attending church service, and seeking opportunities to share the good news God has entrusted us with. When you look at our lives - where we've been, where we are, and what's ahead, it's hard to deny God's goodness, grace, and mercy. We are deeply grateful for Journey Community Church's pivotal role in our testimonies - not the building or "going to church," but the people - the church of Christ. "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen." Eph 3:20-21

### Exciting Days Ahead!

Exciting Days Ahead! As we look around at all that God has done, we can't wait to see what God does in the future. We will continue with our Prevail Initiative. Prevail came from Matthew 16:18 where Jesus said, And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Prevail is a call for the church to attack the gates of hell, to play offense not just defense. It's a call to share the gospel of Jesus with those around us and our communities. We created an acrostic to describe our action steps:

Plant Community Groups. This means starting groups in communities such as Wrightstown or Little Suamico or others, that would build relationships, and at some point birth a campus of JCC.

Reach Surrounding Neighborhoods. We have been active in serving, inviting, and loving our surrounding neighborhoods by serving them coffee, sending mass mailings, communicating encouraging messages through our electronic sign, and more.

Expand our Campus. We are currently preparing to add onto our campus on Grant St. to accommodate our growth. More exciting information will be coming in 2025!

Virtual Presence. We hear story after story of how God has used our broadcast and social media presence in people's lives. Most people now watch a service online before they come, so we want to help connect with as many people as possible.

Additional Staff. We have been able to add some part time staff through Prevail, to accommodate for our growth.

Intentional Discipleship. We realize people don't drift into becoming disciples, it takes intentionality. We are using a powerful group experience called Rooted, which has impacted a lot of our leaders already who participated in a pilot group.

Leadership Development. As the church grows, so does our leadership. We have been studying books on leadership. We've started a Leadership Kickstart interactive seminar. We're helping people discover their spiritual gifts. Dozens of people are developing their leadership in preparation for our future together.

Thank you for being a part of our church family.

We have exciting days ahead!

PREVAIL N**©**W







# Start... Strengthen... Share... Your Journey

We really believe in our name...everyone is on a journey, and our goal is that we continue to take the next step closer to God, whatever that step may be, for each one individually. As we do, we embrace, accept, and encourage one another along the way.

We believe everyone needs to be celebrated, loved, and inspired so we coined the phrase Real People on a Real Journey.

We would love to hear about your Journey..

Share by scanning the Code below:



