

## Let's power up this bad boy!

That's right! It's time to generate our own electricity at Journey with our new solar panels. Because you rallied in June giving over a million dollars in a First Fruits offering; we immediately began to work on the solar



*Solar panels newly installed on top of worship center*

project. Our friends at Precision Electric are putting the final pieces in place for our system. As soon as the Fire Marshal, and the City of La Mesa Building and Planning Departments sign off we will be ready to turn on the new system. We hope this has happened by the time you are reading this. If not, it's happening very soon!

This was a huge undertaking. In fact, it's the third largest solar project in La Mesa. Installing solar panels on nine different buildings only added to the complexity. With the extensive roof repairs that were required prior to installation, there was no way to rush this project.

Not only will this system significantly reduce our carbon footprint, but it will also save us over \$100,000 a year on our SDG&E bill. That savings will go directly into programs, people and resources to expand our ministry and care for those in our community.

## What else has been completed?

### On the Worship Center

In addition to the solar panels, it has a new roof, fascia boards, rain gutters and roof drains.

### In The Parking Lot

New light poles have replaced the ones (and we are not kidding) that had pieces of concrete falling from them...look out below!

### In Encounter – the High School Room

A new roof has been installed, as well as two HVAC units, roof drains, fascia boards, and rain gutters. In addition, broken pipes under the concrete walkways have been repaired.

### On the Kids Center

New fascia boards on the front of the building have been installed.

### Around the Property

New roof drains have been installed, replacing old broken ones on several buildings, and broken pipes under the concrete have been repaired.

### Two of our Tithe Projects

We committed to invest 10% of the funds raised through **I Live the Journey** to Kingdom work outside of Journey. And we've gotten a great start. \$70,000 was given to New Birth Kingdom Covenant Church to cover the construction costs of making improvements to their new building. We recently showed the opening service with Pastor Archie Robinson in a live feed during our weekend service.

We gave \$10K to the American Red Cross Shelter of Hope which provides emergency for local people caught in disasters. In case you are unaware, we are the largest emergency shelter in San Diego with 95 Journey people trained as volunteers.



*Pastor Archie with Pastor Ed at baptism.*



*American Red Cross Shelter of Hope*



## So what's next?

### Clearing CUP Issues

Because of the proposed changes to the Worship Center, we are required to review our Conditional Use Permit (the permit that allows us to be a church in what was originally zoned for commercial use). Our original CUP was filed years ago and things have changed since then. Getting everything rounded up and reviewed is proving to be a chore. Once this is done, we'll know what we have to do to move forward on several projects. It may be no big deal, or it may require amendments to the CUP that will take additional time. Please pray for this situation, as it is a biggie.

### Kids Center Bathroom and Elevator

The bathroom is proving to be no small task. We've had many meetings with the city, plumbers, engineers and architects. Running waste lines through concrete walls is quite an undertaking. Our architect is drawing up plans, and we will continue to move forward.

The same holds true for the elevator in the Kids Center. The engineer and architect are working with all parties to make sure we comply not only with the city, but also with all the ADA regulations. We will continue to proceed as things get clarified and/or approved.

### Food Bank

The Food Bank has a new home! The Trolley Stop Deli is moving and we will now house **Journey Food Ministries** there. The new location will allow us to expand the reach and effectiveness of the Food Bank, Hope for the Homeless, our senior food support ministry to Guava Gardens and Mission Gorge Senior Trailer Park, as well as helping people with urgent food needs.

By the way, the Journey Food Bank has been accepted to be part of Feeding America, a nationwide network of member food banks engaging the country in the fight to end hunger. Feeding America began in 1979 as a clearinghouse for national food donations and is now the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization. This is a huge win for our food ministry, allowing Journey to expand its efforts to feed the 1 in 7 San Diegans who are uncertain about their next meal.

### And More...

We are moving ahead on the construction of the **Welcome Center** and the **Conversation Plaza** as well as the renovation of the **Worship Center** and **The Other Room**.

As we complete projects and learn more about upcoming ones, it's no surprise that there have been some cost variances along the way. We have found that some projects have come in at or under budget, but others are over. The budget variance is a result of increased project complexity or the city requiring unanticipated upgrades as we make improvements.

## Three thoughts in closing...

### Pledge Commitments

As you know, our First Fruits offering was great, with over a million dollars given! As a community, we have pledged a little over \$2.8 million dollars to be given over the next two years. To date we have received \$425,531. We have a long way to go, so please join us in praying we will meet our commitments. We will only proceed as funds become available. You can follow the flow of income and expenses on the **I Live the Journey** section of the Journey website or at [ILiveTheJourney.com](http://ILiveTheJourney.com)

### Please Pray

Join us in continuing to pray for all the projects we have underway. Pray for wisdom, safety, cost, and favor with the city. Also pray for the financial pledge commitments that people have made, and God's provision to meet them.

### Join Us

It's not too late to join **I Live the Journey**. If you would like to be a part of what God is doing through **ILTJ**, we first want you to pray. Ask God what step of faith to take and then do that. You can find the various ways to give on our website.

We are still looking for people with resources, skills, connections, or organizations that can make a difference in **ILTJ** including engineers, architects, designers, and people in the trades — just to name a few. If you can help, email [Tic@journeycom.org](mailto:Tic@journeycom.org)