

## Journey Covenant Church

Journey Covenant Church was originally established in 1952 in a family home. Rapid growth led to the construction of a “parsonage-chapel” in 1954 and then a full-fledged church building in 1958 with the support of conference financing, Frontier Friends donations, and congregational giving.

After several decades of growth and vitality, a series of pastoral changes and vacancies led to a significant drop in attendance and a reduced focus on outreach.

In 2000, a new pastor challenged the congregation to focus on missional outreach. We experienced controversy about abandoning traditional practices for contemporary approaches, including replacing pews with removable seating in order to use the sanctuary as a multipurpose gathering space. Attendance dropped dramatically. When the pastor left in 2006, the remaining members considered dissolving the congregation.

Yet after prayer and reflection, the congregation sensed God leading them to continue. The church changed its name and recommitted itself to missional ministry and outreach. Participating in Covenant’s congregational vitality process led us to establish the Christ Kitchen meal program, a cornerstone for other outreach ministries. In November 2008, we called Phil Engle to be our pastor, largely due to his commitment to evangelical outreach.

Subsequently we have experienced renewed growth—which has brought attention to the limitations and deficiencies of our aging physical plant. Most significantly, we lack wheelchair accessible restrooms and overall building accessibility, our nursery and restroom facilities are outdated, and our storage facilities are insufficient to allow the effective conversion of the sanctuary from a worship space to a multifunctional ministry area. Our current project (the first phase of a long-term building rehabilitation plan) will remedy those deficiencies to make Journey Covenant Church more inviting to visitors and more practical for our expanding ministry efforts.



### PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for Pastor Phil and his family.
- Pray for the congregation; how to best reach and minister to their community.
- Pray for the church leadership and ministries, for wisdom, direction, and financial provision.

### YES! I want to help through Kingdom Builders.

- I will give generously to support Journey Covenant Church.  
Enclosed is my gift of:
- \$500    \$250    \$100    \$50    \$25    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I want to become a regular Kingdom Builders member.
- I commit to praying for our Kingdom Builders projects on a regular basis.
- I would like information on how to set up electronic transfer funds.
- Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of this appeal to share with my friends, Sunday school, or church.

### WAYS TO GIVE...

- Give online at:  
[CovChurch.org/donate](http://CovChurch.org/donate)
- Monthly donations at:  
[CovChurch.org/resources/eft-forms](http://CovChurch.org/resources/eft-forms)

*Thank you for your prayers  
and financial support.*

### DeerGrove Covenant Church

Funds raised: \$39,190.62

Having a building to call our own has been a blessing for DeerGrove Covenant Church in many ways. Instead of expending energy to unpack and load a trailer every Sunday, we now are able to focus on outreach and preparing our hearts for corporate worship. Since we moved into our building, more and more residents of the Palatine area have noticed and been attracted to a church with a permanent home. Neighbors are becoming members, some of whom literally walk to our building every week. We are able to warmly greet our visitors and welcome them into space that has been thoughtfully designed. Just as important, having our own building has encouraged us to identify the importance of community involvement as a priority for our future ministry to help expand Christ's kingdom in the Palatine area.

This past December marked four full years of occupancy in our building, which we know was a gift from God. We thank Kingdom Builders members for helping us to see our dream unfold. We ask you to keep us in your prayers as we seek to maximize our potential to bring more people to know God and serve him fully.

### Kingdom Builders: Helping build God's kingdom since 1952

**What is Kingdom Builders?** Kingdom Builders is a ministry that provides grants to churches purchasing property or building a facility.

**Who are Kingdom Builders members?** Kingdom Builders members are committed Covenanters who want to help build God's kingdom through prayer and the sharing of resources.

**How does the program work?** Members receive appeals with information about churches seeking support. Members set their own giving levels. The most common gifts range between \$1 to \$100 per appeal and member.

**How do I join?** If you are interested in joining Kingdom Builders or would like information about donation options, call (773) 907-3355 or contact us at kingdom.builders@covchurch.org.

**How can I give to Kingdom Builders?** We offer a variety of giving options to fit your preference: 1) by appeal; 2) monthly; 3) quarterly; 4) annually. We accept personal checks, credit cards, or electronic transfer of funds. To change your donation plan or to start an electronic funds transfer call (773) 907-3355 or contact us at kingdom.builders@covchurch.org.

**Moving?** Please update your address information on the card below. You can also call (773) 907-3355 or email kingdom.builders@covchurch.org. When calling, please spell out your full name and include your old and new address.

**Questions? Comments?** More information is available at the Covenant website. Visit CovChurch.org, and click on the Kingdom Builders link.



#### PAYMENT INFO

Thank you for your prayers and financial support. Please make checks payable to the Evangelical Covenant Church, designated Kingdom Builders. See reverse side for more giving options.

Payment Type:

- Check enclosed  MasterCard
- Visa  Discover

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_