

# Journey Enews

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The Door by Bobby Duncan

There are two sides to every door. The place you are standing right now. Then, whatever is on the other side of the door you are looking at. Journey Church Cynthiana is having a birthday in a few weeks. July 7th we will celebrate nineteen years as the church for the community. We decided to be different on purpose. We chose to be a church for people who don't go to church.



After years of strategic outreach, random acts of kindness, extraordinary invites to people who don't know Jesus is for everybody—we've established our label and brand in our community where we live and breathe each day. People of all tribes realize they are welcome inside. We've spent a lot of time and money to earn the trust of people, reluctant to trust other people.

Years of meeting people, losing people, gaining people back again—we're still located in the storefront of a local strip mall, called The Square. Maybe God has a sense of humor. We're certainly not like the church we grew up in. We still dream (imagine) owning property which we might design ourselves, for even more impact to people who don't go to church.

Kudos to every volunteer, donor, Jesus follower who gave a hand in helping us develop and grow. From the early days of bag chairs and a sheet on the wall like church camp—we've turned our location into a pretty attractive space for new arrivers.

Almost everyone describes us, "Much larger on inside than it appears, outside." Next door to Auto Zone on one side, a Behavioral Clinic for mental health treatment, the other side—our 6,000 square helps keep us friendly in our neighborhood. When we remodeled the space seventeen years ago (spending \$35,000) we built an elevated stage for worship, new lighting, new restrooms (2), and new kids space (4 rooms) which are multi-purpose meeting spaces.

We're short of storage for everything (no space left), good insulation overhead (expensive heat/cool), and updated electrical for modern worship. Still, this is a pretty cool place if you step inside.

This morning I was headed to our back hallway, opened the door, checking the rainfall. We've had unusual rain for more than a week. The rain was needed but flooding in low spots have been a hazard. A couple more days of this current weather pattern and the regional forecast looks like summer weather with sunshine.

Here's my thought for today. When I opened the back door I saw the alley. Have you been in the alley of a strip mall lately? We have dumpsters, trash on the ground, varmints looking for a meal, and aroma which is not very pleasant. How different everything looks and smells on the other side of the closed door in the back.

Jesus changes everything. Come inside and check things out. I promise you will be impressed and we usually have a few candles burning—the aroma is terrific. Haha

"I am the Door; anyone who enters through Me will be saved (and live forever)..." John 10:9 Amplified