

ANNUAL SPECIAL OFFERING

STEP UP

BocaJourney.com/StepUp

GOAL: \$39,800

NOW THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2023

"I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us." - Philippians 3:14

Dear Journey Family,

I'm excited to introduce to you **STEP UP** Annual Special Offering which begins now and continues through January 31, 2023. As we look forward to 2023 and all of the opportunities before our church – your giving to the STEP UP Special Offering will allow us to enlarge our ministry, meet needs in our church and community, and deepen our impact for Jesus in South Florida and beyond!

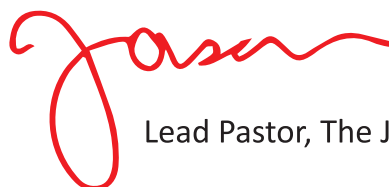
Here is how your giving to the STEP UP Special Offering will make an eternal difference:

- ↑ Supporting missionaries in the U.S. and around the globe, including a new partnership in South Africa.
- ↑ Meeting the spiritual and physical needs of the poor in our area through Community Ministry.
- ↑ Assisting those in our church facing a crisis through the Benevolence & Counseling Ministry.
- ↑ Reaching the people of South Florida with the love of Jesus through creative evangelism efforts.
- ↑ Technology upgrades for Journey Kids and Student Ministry, as well as In-Person and Online services

Please read through this packet to learn more about this exciting opportunity for our church to give sacrificially and have a greater impact for Jesus. The enclosed documents will give you an overview of the Special Offering and answer many common questions. However, if you have additional questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at **561.420.0606 x310** or **jh@bocajourney.com**.

I hope you will join me to pray about what God would have you give to this Special Offering, above your regular tithes and offerings.

Let's Step up in Faith Together!



Jason Hatley
Lead Pastor, The Journey Church

THE JOURNEY CHURCH

2200 NW Boca Raton Blvd.
Boca Raton, FL 33431

561.420.0606
BocaJourney.com/StepUp

Executive Summary

Now through January 31, 2023

Goal: \$39,800

"I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us." - Philippians 3:14

The **STEP UP** Annual Special Offering is a call to sacrificial giving with a goal of \$39,800 to fund four important ministry and mission initiatives in 2023:

STEPPING UP for National and International Missions

- By supporting missionaries and church planters in the U.S. and around the globe who are taking the Gospel to people in the most unreached areas.
- By launching a new partnership in South Africa to help children living in poverty who have been impacted by the HIV/AIDS and Covid pandemics through Hope Schools.
- By supporting the growth of Reality Church, a new cross-cultural church in Miami reaching people for Jesus in one of the most unchurched cities in America.

STEPPING UP for Those in Need in Our Church and Community

- By meeting the spiritual and physical needs of the less fortunate in our area through Community Ministry, including Boca Helping Hands and Place of Hope.
- By funding the 2023 Benevolence & Counseling Ministry of the church to assist those facing a moment of crisis or emergency.

STEPPING UP for Evangelism

- By reaching the people of South Florida with the love of Jesus through outreach, Servant Evangelism, and other creative evangelism efforts across our community.
- By making one-time improvements to our patio to maximize that space for evening events, baptisms and worship nights.

STEPPING UP Our Technology for Greater Ministry Impact

- By creating a new, electronic Check-in Center for Journey Kids and Student Ministry featuring faster mobile check-in and enhanced security.
- By investing in one-time technology upgrades to equipment and software for Church Online and In-Person Services.

You can give to the **STEP UP** Special Offering through January 31, 2023.

WAYS TO GIVE:

- **Enclosed Offering Envelope**
*Use designated **STEP UP** line for amount and return via pre-paid postage*
- **Give Online** by Credit, Debit, PayPal, Venmo, Cash App or Google Pay
Visit BocaJourney.com/StepUp
- **Text Any Amount plus the word STEP to 561.420.0606**
For example, text "\$250 STEP" to contribute \$250
- **Donate** Stock, Bonds and other In-Kind Gifts
For more, contact 561.420.0606 x200, Giving@BocaJourney.com, or visit BocaJourney.com/Stocks-Bonds

THE PURPOSES OF THE STEP UP ANNUAL SPECIAL OFFERING

STEPPING UP for National and International Missions

Equipping Missionaries in the US and around the World

We are a church that supports missions and helps start new churches in places where they are needed most. And in 2023 we will assist missionaries who are meeting needs, starting churches, and taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ to every identified people group around the globe, especially those in highly unchurched parts of the world. Through cooperative efforts with other mission-minded churches, we are designating a portion of the Special Offering to support 3,057 North American Missionaries and 3,667 International Missionaries.

Launching a NEW Partnership to Serve Children in South Africa



Children have needs met, receive a Christian education, and further their faith, positively impacting their community.

In 2023 we will launch a new partnership with Hope Schools and Care Center in South Africa to help children living in poverty who have been impacted by the HIV/AIDS and Covid pandemics.

When Pastor Jason was in NYC, he was on the team that started this partnership, which The Journey NYC has continued for more than a decade. Now, through the **STEP UP** Special Offering, we have the opportunity to support Hope Schools educate over 250 students Pre-K through 10th grade and expand their ministry to serve even more children in need in East London, South Africa.

We are also planning our first-ever Mission Trip to South Africa in 2023 to serve here. Your giving will have a tangible impact on the lives of these children!

Supporting Reality Church – a New Church Reaching Miami for Jesus

We also are a “church that starts churches.” Through **STEP UP** we will continue our support of Reality Church in it’s 2nd year as a new cross-cultural church in Miami reaching people for Christ in our backyard that we will never have the opportunity to reach.

Just 50 miles south of us, Miami is one of the most diverse, and influentially international cities in the world. Yet under 10% of Miamians have a relationship with Jesus. Reality Miami is a new church reaching people in one of Miami’s fastest growing communities, just steps away from the University of Miami.



Reality Miami is reaching people for Jesus in a cross-cultural setting in one of the most strategically international cities in the world.

STEPPING UP for Those in Need in Our Church and Community

Meeting the Physical and Spiritual Needs of the Poor in our Area



Over 220 pairs of shoes and thousands of meals have been donated to children and families.

We are a church that serves the “least of these.” Over the last year our church has been able to meet needs in unprecedented ways – providing thousands of meals, blood donations, daily necessities, and shoes to children and families in need. 2022 has been one of the greatest seasons of community impact in the history of our church. And we want to **STEP UP** our impact even more in 2023!

Through the **STEP UP** Special Offering and our partnership with Boca Helping Hands, we have an opportunity to provide meals, serve the poor, and help those in greatest need in South Florida (both spiritually and physically). And through our partnership with Place of Hope we can minister to the needs of foster families and victims of human trafficking here in South Florida.

Funding the Benevolence Ministry to help our Church Members in Financial Crisis

Since 2011, the Benevolence Ministry has allowed us to walk beside people in distress due to difficult financial times, a loss of a job/apartment, or a death in the family and meet a one-time need. There has never been a greater time of need in our church with so many struggling financially, emotionally and physically. Because of your generous giving to the special offering, so far in 2022 we have been able to approve all valid requests for benevolence funding. We look forward to meeting these needs (and more) in 2023!

In 2023 we will face many new challenges... but we will be given many new chances to show the love of Jesus like never before. We want to be prepared to respond to any new ministry opportunities that God presents us in the coming year. Your giving to the **STEP UP** Special Offering helps us to do just that!

STEPPING UP for Evangelism

Reaching the People of South Floridian with Jesus' Life-Changing Love



There has never been a greater need in our community for revival and for people to experience the life-changing love of Jesus! 83% of the nearly 500,000 people living within 7 miles of our church do not have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. That's why South Florida is our greatest mission field.

The **STEP UP** Special Offering will help expand our evangelism efforts in creative ways in 2023 so we can reach our community with the love of Jesus during a time of great need. In 2022 we have seen over 70 people come to faith in Jesus and welcomed over 400 first time guests in-person and at Church Online. We are praying to have an even greater impact for Jesus in 2023!

Making One-Time Improvements to our Patio, Maximizing Space for Evening Events, Baptisms, and Worship Nights

In 2022, we celebrated the 400th baptism in the history of our church. It was a landmark moment and reminder that every week God is changing lives through the ministry of The Journey.

In 2023, we plan to offer even more opportunities for baptism, including a series of Baptism and Worship Nights where we can gather for an evening of extended worship through music while also celebrating Baptisms Under the Stars on our beautiful patio using our portable baptistry.

To prepare for this (and other church events that we plan to hold on our patio in the evenings), we need to install new outdoor lighting, both for the success of these events, as well as expanded safety and security for our Ministry & Worship Center. A portion of the **STEP UP** Special Offering will allow us to install this lighting and use our patio for baptism and other church events in 2023.



STEPPING UP Our Technology for Greater Ministry Impact

Investing in Technology Equipment Upgrades for Church Services



In 2023 our church has experienced amazing growth in both our online and in-person services. As we look to expand and meet the growing demands of a growing church the time has come to make some one-time upgrades to our equipment and software for both the In-Person and Online Church experience.

This includes upgrades to sound, video and lighting, as well as annual upgrades to necessary software, allowing us to keep up to date with the best technology for in-person and broadcasting online services.

Creating a new electronic Check-in Center for Journey Kids and Student Ministry featuring faster mobile check-in and enhanced security

Along with the rapid growth of our in-person services, our Children's and Student Ministries are growing as we reach and serve new families in our community.

To provide a faster, simpler, safer, and more stream-lined experience for our families on Sundays, we need to upgrade the Journey Kids and Student Ministry Check-in experience.

Through the **STEP UP** Special Offering, we will add a Mobile Check-in process, allowing parents to check in their children from their phone while enroute to church through a new Check-in System.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why a Special Offering?

As part of God's plan to grow the faith of the people in His church, He calls us to sacrificial giving from time to time. This Special Offering is an opportunity for us to grow in our faith and to prepare us for what God wants to do through our church in 2023. This offering is not because we are behind on budget, but rather is to position us to make a greater impact in our community, in our church and around the world in the coming year.

What's the Difference Between the Regular Offering and this Special Offering?

The regular Journey offering is the proportional amount (the full tithe of 10%) that we set apart on a systematic basis and give throughout the year. From time to time there are opportunities to give in a sacrificial way. This Special Offering is one of those sacrificial occasions that stretch us to grow in our faith. The special offering should be over and above what you regularly give.

Frequently Asked Questions (Continued)

How Much Should I Give?

Since the goal is \$39,800, this Special Offering will involve everyone. Please prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift that will stretch your faith. The precise amount you give is between you and God. Many in our church can give a \$1,000, \$2,000 or even a \$5,000 gift. Others will be able to give between \$100 and \$500. Some may not be able to give much right now because of a lost job or wages. Others can give more to help make up that difference. The issue is not equal giving, but equal sacrifice. What amount can you give that will stretch your faith?

Why is the Goal So Large?

We are a church that dares to dream big dreams for God. The ministries and opportunities supported by this offering are BIG – supporting global and U.S. missionaries, planting churches, assisting the poor and needy, funding the 2023 Benevolence Ministry, upgrading technology for our growing church. Big dreams require big faith and big funding. The accomplishment of these big dreams will be determined by your gifts to this Special Offering.

When Should I Give?

The best time to give will be the first Sunday after you receive this packet. Please pray about making your best gift on that day. However, you can continue to give until January 31, 2023. Please use the **STEP UP** area on the offering envelopes or include a note designating that your gift is for the Special Offering. Remember, consistent gifts over time add up – a person giving \$50 per week over a ten-week period will give \$500 to the Special Offering.

Can I Give Online, by PayPal, by Text and in other ways?

Yes to all! When you give online at www.BocaJourney.com/Giving you can give by credit or debit. Simply select **STEP UP** Special Offering under the “Fund” drop-down menu.

You will also find information there about how to give by PayPal, Venmo, and CashApp – just designate your gift in the memo line as “**STEP UP**.” To give by text, simply text any amount plus the word “**STEP**” to **561.420.0606** (i.e. text “**\$500 Step**” to give \$500).

Can I Give In-Kind Gifts of Stocks or Bonds?

Of course! Since The Journey is a 501c3 organization there can be tremendous tax benefits for you by giving in-kind gifts. For information on this type of giving, simply call **561.420.0606 x200** and speak with Karla or email Giving@BocaJourney.com.

Can I Give Via Bank Check or Through Auto-Debit?

Yes. Just use your bank online payment option to send a check directly to the church office at:

The Journey Church
2200 NW Boca Raton Blvd.
Boca Raton, FL 33431

Simply mark in the memo area that your gift is for the **STEP UP** Special Offering.

If you would like to make a special, one-time auto-debit over and above your regular giving, simply call **561.420.0606 x200** and speak with Karla or email **Giving@BocaJourney.com** – it's simple and easy.

Are My Gifts Tax-Deductible?

All gifts to The Journey, whether via the regular offering or this Special Offering, are completely tax-deductible. Your gift will be deductible in the tax year given (i.e., gifts given in 2022 will be deductible on your 2022 taxes).

Please be sure to include your name and address when you give so that a receipt can be sent to you for your tax preparations. You are not required to utilize a tax-deduction for your gift, but it is available for all gifts.

How Did We Arrive at a \$39,800 Goal?

The \$39,800 goal was prayerfully set by The Journey Pastoral Team. It is a God-sized goal that can only be accomplished through 100% participation and sacrificial giving by our Journey attenders and members. Since we are expecting God to bless this Special Offering, it has been determined that any amount over and above our goal will be divided equally between Missions and Ministry Advancement.

How Will I Know if We Reach Our Goal?

Please pray for God's guidance as we all give sacrificially. You will be updated on our giving progress through the This Sunday @ The Journey weekly email updates and during the Online Sunday services. Reaching this goal will be a celebration of what we can do together as we stretch our faith under God's leadership.

Have additional questions?

Contact Pastor Jason at **jh@bocajourney.com**
or call **561.420.0606 x310.**