



REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS

JANUARY 2026
VOLUME 38 • ISSUE 1

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OUR VISION

Passionate Disciples
MULTIPLYING **Passionate Disciples**

OUR VISION: PASSIONATE DISCIPLES MULTIPLYING PASSIONATE DISCIPLES

What are we striving for at Troy Methodist Church? Where are we going? What's the main thing? After a year of prayerful reflection and discernment, we have articulated our vision as *Passionate Disciples Multiplying Passionate Disciples*. We know we are living out God's call on our church when we have passionate disciples reproducing themselves in others. As we launch into a new year, we invite everyone who is part of Troy Methodist Church to catch this vision, understand what a passionate disciple is and what our church's process is for developing each of us into such disciples. If you want a head start, begin by memorizing Matthew 4:19, when Jesus said to his disciples, *Come, follow me, and I will make you into fishers of people*. You will not want to miss this January!

January 4: *A Passionate Disciple is With Jesus* - Mark 4:13-19

January 11: *A Passionate Disciple Follows Jesus' Ways* - Matthew 7:24-27

January 18: *A Passionate Disciple is Transformed by Jesus* - Luke 19:1-10

January 25: *A Passionate Disciple Participates in the Mission of Jesus* - Luke 5:1-11

Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. Traditional Service
(Sanctuary)
10:30 a.m. Modern Service
(Family Life Center)
Children's ministry, nursery,
and online worship at both services



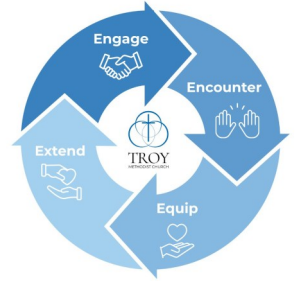
ROOF & RESTROOMS RENOVATION

Giving Total: \$132,609 through 12/16/25
Thank you to everyone who contributed!
We are already underway on the projects!

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

OUR E4 DISCIPLESHIP PROCESS

This January we will unveil the vision for our church – *Passionate Disciples Multiplying Passionate Disciples*. Our first message series of the new year will help us define what we mean by a passionate disciple using Matthew 4:19, when Jesus calls his disciples saying, *Come, follow me, and I will make you into fishers of people*. But how does our church make passionate disciples? What is our process? Our system? This has been the prayerful work of our Adaptive Leadership Team over the last several months. I'm excited to share the basics with you now and to share with you some of our next steps.



As you can see from the graphic, our discipleship process has 4 steps. Here are the definitions:

Engage: Ministries or strategies that connect us with unchurched people to befriend them, invite them to TMC, and make Jesus known.

Encounter: Ministries or strategies that introduce people to a transformative, personal relationship with Jesus and our church family.

Equip: Ministries or strategies that deepen people's relationship and commitment to Jesus in community.

Extend: Ministries or strategies that lead people outward by deploying them to multiply passionate disciples through our E4 process and beyond.

Having a clear understanding of what we do and how we do it will help each of our ministries know their part in our discipleship process and align our ministry activities to accomplish our main objective, making and multiplying passionate disciples by inviting people on a journey with Jesus. Over the next several weeks we will begin building leadership teams for each of these four critical steps of our process. We will have an Engage Team, an Encounter Team, an Equip Team, and an Extend Team. These teams will focus on ensuring the current ministries and strategies of their areas align to our mission and vision. They will also develop new ministries and strategies to help us better live out the call God has on our church.

It's an exciting time to be part of Troy Methodist Church. God is alive and at work in our church as evidenced by the many baptisms at the end of 2025 and the great ministry momentum we have. But we know that God has more in store for our future than we can possibly hope or imagine. We look forward to God doing even greater things as we strive toward his vision for us: *Passionate Disciples Multiplying Passionate Disciples!*

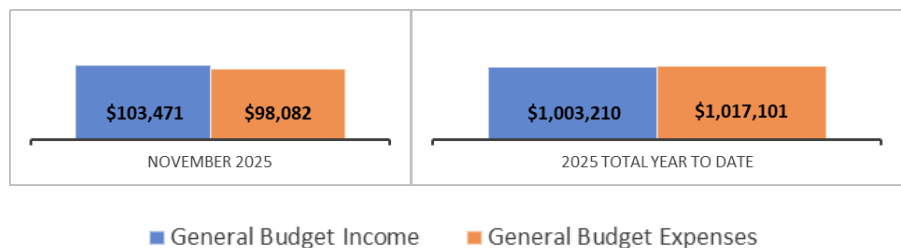
Faithfully,

Andy

STRATEGIC STATS

| Worship Services | November Average | Year to Date Averages |
|---|------------------|-----------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. - In Person | 120 | 120 |
| 9:00 a.m. - Online | 161 | 148 |
| 10:30 a.m. - In Person | 166 | 164 |
| 10:30 a.m. - Online | 139 | 129 |
| Sunday Children | 66 | 60 |
| Wednesday Youth | 61 | 51 |
| *Thanksgiving Service (11/26) | 48 | |
| Average Weekly In Person Worship | 409 | 402 |
| Average Weekly Online Worship | 300 | 277 |

General Budget



SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP GENERATOR - SIGN UP TODAY!

You're invited to learn what it means to be a spiritual leader and live into your calling by participating in this year's **Spiritual Leadership Generator**, a process for developing everyday followers of Jesus into spiritual leaders. Join Pastor Andy and others as we look at biblical leadership through the life of Christ and dive into leadership concepts that can be directly applied to your life.

Details:

- 4 newly designed modules over 8 months in a cohort of 4-5 people
- Weekly 90-minute meetings – video and discussion + application and accountability (your group can meet at any time during the week)
- 2 one-day retreats – worship, formation, relationship, vision-casting – **Kickoff on Saturday, January 31, 2026 (9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. with lunch at TMC)**
- Shared learning experience that is two-fold: learning and formation – content learning of some key concepts and cohort learning that's being formed spiritually
- Learning from the experts in the field – integration of high-quality content by professors and practitioners
- Additional monthly coaching for each group facilitator
- **COST:** Although the actual cost of this seminary level, two-semester course is \$795, we are only asking you to invest \$350. The rest will be offered through a scholarship from our church's leadership development budget.

Please contact Pastor Andy at andy@troymc.org if you would like to participate! Read more at troymc.org/slg.



MIDWEST MISSION FOOD PACK - SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for our annual food packing event on Saturday, March 21. More details to come! This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to get involved. Anyone can fill a table - your family, your band, a journey group, or we can place you at a table and you can meet new people! This service opportunity is for all ages: toddlers (3+) to adults (90+). We'd love to see you be a part of this day! Got questions? Email Pastor Bonnie at bonnie@troymc.org.

STAFF RETIREMENT AND JOB OPENING

We offer our heartfelt congratulations to Sharie Meyer upon her retirement set tentatively for May 1, 2026. She and her husband, Mark, are members of TMC, so this isn't goodbye, but it does mean a significant transition. Sharie has been on staff at Troy Methodist Church for 19 years and literally holds the keys for much of the behind-the-scenes support of our ministry activities in her role of Office Manager. We will all miss her presence in the office and the multitude of ways she contributes to the health of our church. There will be plenty of time to celebrate Sharie in the coming months.

After evaluating the needs of our growing ministry, our Staff Parish seeks to fill a **new position of Executive Director** with a target start date of April 1, 2026. Some of the previous office manager duties will be entrusted to our administrative assistants and some will become part of the Executive Director's job description, in addition to other building, financial, and staffing responsibilities. This is a significant role that we hope to fill with a mature Christ follower who has experience and education in business and management along with a passion for our church's mission. You can read the job description and how to apply at www.troymc.org/jobs.



CONNECT

MAKING THE MOVE TO MEMBERSHIP

Sunday, January 25, 11:45 a.m., Upper Family Life Center

As we begin the New Year, we each have the opportunity to deepen our faith and commit to God and our church family in new ways. One way for you to do so might be by becoming a member!

On January 25, we will have our first Membership Class of the New Year! If you haven't been to a Membership Class, you might be wondering what that entails. Well, I'm glad you asked! Membership Class is an opportunity to learn about what it means to be a committed part of our church community. In Membership Class, you learn about our deep Wesleyan faith and what it means to be Methodist. You also discover what makes Troy Methodist unique. It is an opportunity to ask questions, both theological and practical, about the Global Methodist denomination.

Membership Class & Lunch

Sunday, January 25 @ 11:45 a.m.
Upper Family Life Center



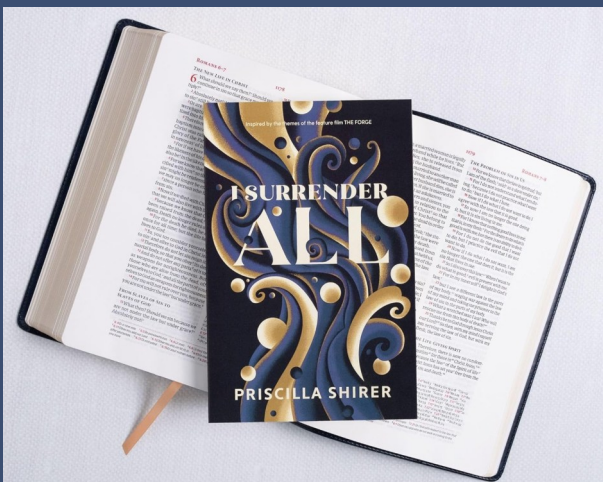
You see, being a member is a way to say – I'm all in! So, my invitation to you is to come and see! If you have been attending our church for a few weeks or many, many years, I would LOVE to see you there! Lunch starts at 11:45 a.m. in the Upper Family Life Center, and childcare is available upon request. If you have questions, feel free to email Bonnie at bonnie@troymc.org.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

New study starting January 15

From Author Priscilla Shirer comes this fervent appeal and invitation to surrender everything to Jesus. "I Surrender All" is a book that encourages us to follow Jesus, not just as our Savior but as our priority, our first love, our Lord.

We will learn ways to move beyond being a believer to becoming His disciple. You are invited on this journey with Jesus, Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m., starting on January 15 in Room 241. All women are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Pastor Bonnie at bonnie@troymc.org.



J.O.Y. SEEKERS "JUST OLDER YOUTH" (55+)

Tuesday, January 27, 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.,
Family Life Center

J.O.Y. Seekers next lunch gathering will be on January 27 in the Family Life Center (FLC). We will be playing a dice game as a part of our program.

We're looking for individuals to sign up to bring their favorite soup to share (for example - wild rice chicken, chili, tomato soup, broccoli cheddar, etc.)

Please call the office (618) 667-6241 to sign up to attend and let us know the soup you plan to bring and if you want to bring a dessert. Please let the office know your dessert choice, as well.

Please sign up between January 5-22.



CONNECT

NEXT STEPS TO CONNECT

Sunday, January 11, 11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Upper Family Life Center

If you are new to our church family or looking for ways to get connected, we want to welcome you and invite you to lunch!

On Sunday, January 11, we will have a Connect Lunch following the 10:30 a.m. service. Starting at 11:45 a.m. and going until 1:30 p.m., we will enjoy lunch from Fire and Smoke BBQ, spend time getting to know each other, and provide time to answer questions about our church family. You will also have an opportunity to tour the church facilities to help you know your way around.

Childcare is available upon request. Your kids will be able to eat lunch with you and then go to the children's area with our staff for a fun activity. If you have questions or want to sign up, contact our Discipleship Pastor at bonnie@troymc.org.



CARING FOR PEOPLE - OUR MOST IMPORTANT JOB!

I'm sure you have heard the old saying, "No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care?" I know first-hand that's good practice! I have met people who are long on knowledge but short on compassion; correct on doctrine, but offensive in nature! We need to remember Jesus died for people, not for knowledge or correct doctrine.

Here are some common sense guidelines when interacting with people:

- Speak to people! There is nothing more encouraging than a cheerful word of greeting.
- Smile at people! It takes 72 muscles to frown but only 14 to smile. And it pays dividends!
- Call people by name! (that used to be much easier, but it's gotten harder as I got older!) Can I get an AMEN!
- Be friendly! The best way to have a friend is to be a friend. Jesus was a "friend of sinners."
- Don't put strings on your love! None of this, "I'll love you if..." Jesus loves us "because" and "in spite of where we've been or what we've done."
- Genuinely treat people as if they are worth something. If you remember ...THEY ARE!
- Consider the feelings of others! The Golden Rule applies: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."
- Be thoughtful of others' opinions! There may be three sides to a controversy: yours, the other person's, and the right side!
- Serve others! The "servants" and the "givers" are the ones on the way to "greatness" (Matthew 20:26). Jesus came to serve (Matthew 20:28).



In our efforts to be a caring congregation, let's not forget that we work with people, the most precious commodity in the world. Handle with **CARE** ...Handle with **PRAYER**!

In God's Grasp, by God's Grace, and for God's Glory,
Pastor Dan, Care Minister

TMW WINTER WONDERLAND LUNCH & PROGRAM Thursday, January 8, 1:00 p.m., Family Life Center

Happy New Year! Come join Troy Methodist Women on Thursday, January 8, at 1:00 p.m. for fun, food, and fellowship in our Winter Wonderland! We will have a short program by a representative of the Maryville YMCA about Silver Sneakers and other programs they offer. During the meeting, we will discuss plans for the missions we support and the fundraisers for the year.

Questions? Please contact Libby Gregg at lgregg129@gmail.com or (618)954-6263.



TROY METHODIST KIDS

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: PAT AND CHRIS MEEKS

This month we are excited to highlight two faithful members of our Kids Ministry team, Pat and Chris Meeks. Their steady presence, warm encouragement, and genuine love for children shine every Sunday they serve.

When asked why they serve, Pat and Chris point to the lifelong impact that a positive view of Jesus and the church can have on a child. They believe that helping kids see church as a safe, joyful place can shape their faith for years to come. "We think about what a positive perception of Jesus and the church can do to form the faith of kids," they shared. That hope has guided the way they serve and invest in every age group they meet.

Both Pat and Chris began following Jesus as young adults, with Pat coming to faith at 23 and Chris at 25. Soon after, they felt called to serve. Over the last 25 years, their ministry has stretched across nearly every age group. Pat started in kindergarten and moved through the grades all the way up to junior high. Chris began serving in youth group, and together they spent five years leading in the nursery. For the several years here at Troy, they've continued sharing that same steady love and commitment with our kids.



Their favorite part of serving? Talking with the children. "They're so much fun to listen to," they said. Whether it's a thoughtful question, a funny observation, or a moment of honest faith, those conversations keep them coming back week after week. They especially love seeing how Vacation Bible School plants seeds of faith in young hearts.

When we asked what they would say to someone thinking about joining Kids Ministry, the answer came without hesitation: "Try it. You'll like it. Kids listen better when it's not their parents. You learn so much even just teaching them." Their encouragement is simple and sincere - step in and see what God does.

Serving as a husband and wife team has also strengthened their ministry. They support one another, share the joys and challenges of the classroom, and model a strong partnership for the kids they lead. Their teamwork reminds us that ministry is always richer when we serve side by side.

We are grateful for Pat and Chris and for the many years they have devoted to loving children, pointing them to Jesus, and helping them build a foundation of faith that lasts.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN 2026

We're excited to start the Baby Bottle Campaign again this year. This project isn't just about collecting money, it's a way for us to follow Jesus' call to value and protect every life. When we fill a bottle, we help give support to women, share the hope of the Gospel, and help protect unborn children.

We will begin the campaign as we prepare for **Sanctity of Life Sunday on January 18, 2026**. We invite you to take part and make a real difference in our community.

Important Dates:

- **Pick up a bottle:** Sunday, January 11, 2026
- **Return your bottle:** Sunday, February 15, 2026

You can pick up and return bottles in the Children's Ministry area or bring them to the church office. Please return all bottles, even if you didn't use them or if you placed a check inside. Thank you for helping us show the love of Jesus by caring for and protecting life.



CONTACT

Tim - tim@troymc.org
Jenn - jenn@troymc.org

WEBSITE

troymc.org/kids

FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

[@troymethodistkids](https://www.facebook.com/troymethodistkids)

TROY METHODIST STUDENTS

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace! 1 Peter 4:10



Troy Students Serving on MLK Day 2026!

Monday, January 19, 2026

Leave at 7:30 am - Return at 5:30 pm

You must pre-register for this event with form and \$15 payment.

Very Limited Space - register now - troymc.org/students

MLK DAY SERVING

Monday, January 19, 7:30 a.m., Midwest Mission

Join us for MLK Serving Day on January 19. We have very limited space (18 total) to take a group to Midwest Mission to serve for the day. The first 18 middle or high school students to bring their payment and registration form to Ryan or Courtney can attend.

Meet at the church at 7:30 a.m., leave at 7:45 a.m. sharp, and be back about 5:30 p.m. See all the details at troymc.org/students.

PARENT MEETING

Wednesday, January 28, 6:30 - 7:45 p.m., Kids Ministry area

All parents of 6th-12th grade students are encouraged to attend a parent meeting on **Wednesday, January 28 from 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.**

Parents will meet in the Kids Ministry area as we share information about the summer, talk about the spring semester, answer any questions you may have about student ministry, and pray for our students and their faith!

PARENTS MEETING - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28 - 6:30 - 7:45 PM.

Parent Meeting

FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS

FOR ALL PARENTS OF 6TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS.
MEETING IN THE TROY METHODIST KIDS MINISTRY AREA.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT MINISTRY

Wednesday Night Student Ministry resumes on Wednesday, January 7 at 6:00 p.m.

FIRE-UP HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE

Fire-Up High School Conference will take place at Troy Methodist Church, February 27-March 1. It's a powerful discipleship weekend, and students are invited to register today at troymc.org/students.



Delvin Pikes, Speaker

Fire-Up Conference
For High School Students

fire-up.org

PRAY WITH US

Pray with our adult student ministry leadership team as we meet for a retreat on January 24 to prepare, plan, and pray for our students and the ministry. If you are interested in exploring the possibility of serving each Wednesday night as a student ministry volunteer, talk with Ryan Froidcoeur.

CONTACT

Tim - tim@troymc.org

Ryan - ryan@troymc.org

Courtney - courtney@troymc.org

WEBSITE

troymc.org/students

FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

[@troymethodiststudents](https://www.facebook.com/troymethodiststudents)

Church Information
Phone (618) 667-6241
troymc.org

Staff

***Senior Pastor**
Andy Adams

***Discipleship Pastor**
Bonnie Abel

***Care Pastor**
Dan Perry

***Next Generation Minister**
Tim Price

***Office Manager**
Sharie Meyer

Director of 1st Step Learning Center
Amy Burrelsman

***Preschool Liaison**
Lisa Rayle

***Choirs Coordinator**
Rebecca Koebbe

***Director of Worship Arts**
Marissa Rushik

***Children's Ministry Leader**
Jenn Diliberto

***Communications Coordinator**
Tracey Berkemeier

***Production Coordinator**
Josh Case

Administrative Assistants
Chris Boemecke, Kathy Hahn

***Senior High Ministry Co-Leader**
Courtney Froidcoeur

***Senior High Ministry Co-Leader**
Ryan Froidcoeur

Custodians
Jacob Baum, Bruce Jackson

***Staff E-mail** [firstname]@troymc.org

To contact our Administrative Assistants,
use admin@troymc.org

To contact 1st Step Learning Center, use
1ststep@troymc.org

If you would like to receive the Reach
newsletter via email only, please
contact admin@troymc.org

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JANUARY SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

| Date | Event |
|------------|---|
| January 8 | TMW Winter Wonderland Lunch & Program (page 5) |
| January 11 | Connect Lunch (page 5) |
| January 15 | Women's Bible Study (page 4) |
| January 19 | Student Ministry - MLK Serving (page 7) |
| January 25 | Membership Class & Lunch (page 4) |
| January 27 | J.O.Y Seekers Lunch & Program (page 4) |
| January 28 | Student Ministry - Parent Meeting (page 7) |
| January 31 | Spiritual Leadership Generator Kickoff (page 3) |

**IN OBSERVANCE OF THE NEW YEAR HOLIDAY,
THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED JANUARY 1**

GINGERBREAD BASH - THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all the volunteers and families who joined us for the Gingerbread Bash on December 7. We welcomed 47 kids and their families for a fun, Christ-centered evening and we are so grateful for everyone who made it happen.

Special thanks to the wonderful group of ladies who helped with prep and set-up and to those who served the night of the event. It was an amazing time, and I'm thankful for a church family that serves others so well and invites us all to walk together on a journey with Jesus.



REACH

Troy Methodist Church
407 Edwardsville Road
Troy, IL 62294
troymc.org

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