



# REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS

**JULY 2023**  
**VOLUME 35 • ISSUE 7**

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Get a high-def view of the God of the Bible



## Worship Schedule

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

## SUMMER SERMON SERIES

*Who is God? What is God like?*

*How can we even know about a transcendent and supernatural God?*

Thankfully, God has revealed himself to us through the Scriptures, and ultimately through Jesus himself whom the Scriptures testify. Throughout the Bible, God has revealed himself through a variety of roles – Creator, King, Father, Redeemer and others. In isolation these roles give us a partial glimpse of God, but together they provide a high-definition view of who God is and what he's like. Furthermore, these roles help us better understand ourselves and what it means to be in relationship with our transcendent and supernatural God who longs for us to know him. Join us as we get a clearer, fuller picture of the God of the Bible!

**July 2** - Sovereign King

**July 9** - Personal Revealer

**July 16** - Holy Priest

**July 23** - Righteous Judge

**July 30** - Loving Father

**August 6** - Powerful Redeemer

**August 13** - Good Shepherd

**There is a change to the Communion schedule this month**  
**Communion will be offered on July 9**

# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

## A SUMMER OF CONNECTION

Here is a truth about me: I desire to be connected to everyone who is part of our church family! That's how I'm uniquely wired. I believe my God given passion is to connect with others! It's one of the reasons I work hard to get to know you by name. Knowing someone's name is a great first step to connect with them.

Despite my passion and desire to be connected to everyone in our church, I've had to come to terms with the reality that it is impossible for me to have deep, meaningful connections with each of our 500+ members, let alone everyone new to our church! Therefore, over my years in pastoral ministry, I've developed this strategy. Yes, I'm letting you in on a little secret. Although I really do want to be connected with you, I'm more passionate about making sure you are connected first to Jesus, and second, to at least a few other people in our church. So, here's what I try to do: 1) Get to know your name and a little bit about you 2) Make sure our staff are also generally aware of who you are so together we can 3) Help you get connected to others to develop friendships, grow in discipleship, and serve in mission and ministry.

Earlier this spring, our staff team decided to try and make the summer months a time to foster connection within our church family. We felt it was especially important to provide opportunities for our church family to be together and develop relationships with at least a few others. We know that if you don't have friends who care about you within your church family that it's easy to fade away, and we don't want that to happen to anyone! We want you to develop meaningful relationships with at least a few other people in the church. That's what makes us feel like family!

So, this summer we invited you to be part of a Dinner Group. Over 60 adults, in groups of about 8 each, have been sharing monthly dinners together! I'm excited to see how new bonds are created as a result. It was also a joy to witness so many people visiting at Pastor Kurt's retirement cookout in May, and younger folks getting connected through VBS and youth outings in June. And in case you're feeling sad thinking, "Well, I missed out on those opportunities..." let me highlight one more opportunity this summer to casually meet some other people in the church and simply have fun together. Check out the next page for details on our upcoming Gateway Grizzlies' night on Sunday, July 30. Buy tickets from the church office for yourself, your family, and maybe a friend you've wanted to invite to church. Come to the game and enjoy the atmosphere but look at it as a time for you to be intentional about meeting some new people.

Here's another secret: We're not having a Grizzlies' Night because we want you to watch a ball game. We're doing it to help you get connected and to foster relationships, old and new. We want to have fun together (and I plan on having lots of fun at the ball park!) because we know that if we can laugh and have fun together, then that makes it more likely that you will feel safe to join a journey group, band, or ministry team where you get connected to God and to others in ways that could be life-changing. So, I hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity (or others) to get connected this summer at Troy Methodist Church!

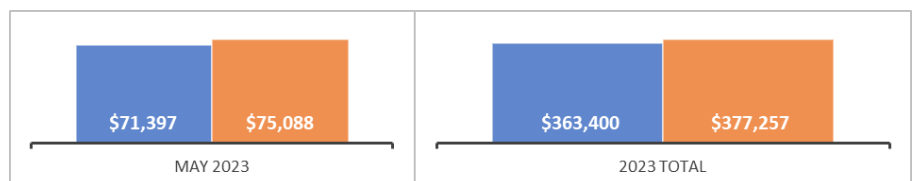
Faithfully,

Andy

## STRATEGIC STATS

Worship Services	May Average	Year to Date Averages
9:00 a.m. - In Person	129	123
9:00 a.m. - Online	151	158
10:30 a.m. - In Person	157	174
10:30 a.m. - Online	130	128
Sunday Children	40	47
Wednesday Youth	31	36
St. Jacob 10:15 a.m.	5	6
*Worship & Prayer (5/10)	35	
* 5/28 Combined Service - In Person	249	
* 5/28 Combined Service - Online	239	
Average Weekly In Person Worship	361	398
Average Weekly Online Worship	271	283

## General Budget



■ General Budget Income ■ General Budget Expenses

\*We also received \$9,355 for disaffiliation expenses in May

# CONNECT

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THIS AMAZING WOMEN'S MINISTRY KICKOFF TO OUR FALL SEMESTER!

On Saturday, August 26 the doors will open at 8:30 a.m. and our Family Life Center will be transformed into the ***Going Beyond Women's Conference!***

This will be a full day event (8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) where you can expect: Bible teaching from best-selling author Priscilla Shirer, an opportunity to gain tools on how to study Scripture on your own, engaging worship led by Christian music artist Anthony Evans, and fellowship with other believers that will encourage you in your walk with Christ.

The cost for each participant is \$25.00 and will include a light breakfast, a catered lunch, and drinks throughout the day. Childcare will be provided upon request. Rates go up to \$35.00 on August 1, so be sure to sign up soon! This event is open to all women! We would love for each and everyone of you to not only plan to attend, but bring a friend with you! This is a fun day of fellowship and refreshing our souls. Come be a part of it!

Get your tickets at Eventbrite - [www.eventbrite.com/e/663775920647](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/663775920647).



*Going Beyond*  
SIMULCAST  
**PRISCILLA  
SHIRER**  
WORSHIP WITH ANTHONY EVANS



## TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLPARK...FOR SOME FELLOWSHIP!

Meet us at the Grizzlies Ballpark, in Sauget, IL on Sunday, July 30 to root on the Gateway Grizzlies and spend a fun evening with your church family! The church has pre-purchased 100 field reserve box seats in section 120, located on the third base line and near the Kid's Zone play area. First pitch is at 5:45 p.m. and the gates open an hour earlier.

This is a promotion night - ***Wizarding World Night!*** "Are you a fan of all things Wizarding World? We will be sorting you into your correct house and in those houses you'll be competing for the title of the night. Be here when the gates open to get pictures with some of our wizards and watch for fun activities throughout the night."

Tickets are available in the church office and will be sold after some July worship services. (*Sunday sale dates will be announced in the weekly eReach & on social media*) Seats are \$10 for adults; \$5 for children age 10 and under; children 2 and under are free (*but do not get their own seat - they must sit on their parents lap.*) Visit the Gateway Grizzlies website for detailed ballpark information - [www.gatewaygrizzlies.com](http://www.gatewaygrizzlies.com).

We encourage you to pick up tickets for yourself, your family and maybe a friend you have wanted to invite to church!

If you have any questions, contact Deb Ellis, Communications Coordinator at [deb@troymc.org](mailto:deb@troymc.org)

## SAVE THE DATE...MEMBERSHIP CLASS IS COMING SOON!

Our next Membership Class will be Sunday, August 13 following the 10:30 a.m. service. This is open to anyone who is interested in becoming a member of Troy Methodist Church: A Global Methodist Congregation!

If you are a long time attender and want to find out about what it means to be Global Methodist; we would love for you to attend this lunch and learn more. If you are a new visitor to our church, this event is also for you!

If you have questions, or would like to sign up, email our Discipleship Pastor at [bonnie@troymc.org](mailto:bonnie@troymc.org). You can also RSVP for childcare, if needed.





# CONNECT



## JOY SEEKERS

For the month of July, JOY SEEKERS will meet Tuesday, July 18 at noon in the Family Life Center. We will be celebrating a very festive **CHRISTMAS IN JULY!**

After lunch, for the second year in a row, we have planned a very special program by the **Rivers of Life Clergy Band** (*Pastor Dan is a member*). They will be playing Christmas music, as well as songs from their newest CD titled "FORGIVEN".

**Call the church office (618)667-6241 to register by July 13. We ask for a \$10 per person donation to help cover food and other expenses.**



If you are a member of the Visitation Team, watch for information about an upcoming meeting for team members. The purpose is to receive possible assignments for the remaining summer and fall seasons. Members will also be receiving an email regarding the meeting.

If you are interested in being a part of the Visitation Team, please contact Pastor Dan at (618) 830-5589.

## NEW GRIEF SHARE SESSION STARTING IN AUGUST

**GriefShare** is a support group that is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way.

We will be starting a new 13 week session of **GriefShare** in August.

Watch for ways to sign-up in the upcoming weeks or contact Pastor Dan at (618) 830-5589.

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend



# UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



## LADIES AFTERNOON TEA WAS A SUCCESS!

The Ladies Afternoon Tea we hosted in June was a lovely success! A big thank you to all who were involved in the planning and presentation of the tea and silent auction. A special thank you to those who supported it with their participation. Funds raised will help support the UWF's missions.



Troy United Women in Faith is committed to helping women and children in need with inclusivity, action and impact! We will meet again on August 10, at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our president, Bethel Rogers at [rogersbethel@gmail.com](mailto:rogersbethel@gmail.com). God Bless America and all who work to share God's love to it's people.





## A Journey with Jesus to the Holy Land

### Women's Small Group Discovery - April 15 - 21, 2024

You are invited to join Troy Methodist Church for the first of two upcoming trips to the Holy Land. These are opportunities to continue - or perhaps begin - your journey with Jesus & to deepen your faith while building fellowship with your church family.

Highlights of this once-in-a-lifetime, intimate women's-only trip include:

- Visit the stalls of the Jaffa Flea Market in Tel Aviv
- Ride a boat on the Sea of Galilee
- Enjoy a traditional lunch of St. Peter's fish
- Dine with local Palestinian Christian women in Bethlehem
- Travel by cable car to the ancient fortress of Masada
- Soak in the natural minerals of the Dead Sea
- Optional extension to Jordan with:
  - Enter the red-rock city of Petra on horseback
  - See the ethereal moonlike landscape of Wadi Rum
- And much more!!!

**Booking Now Open!**

Information  
Session after  
10:30am service

**July 30, 2023**



#### Women's Small Group April 15 - 21, 2024

- Open to women & teens 14+
- 4-Star accommodations
- Most meals included
- Private touring with local guide + entrance fees
- Travel Insurance
- Up to 30 guests

**\$4,200**

Per person/double occupancy



#### Women's Small Group with Jordan Extension April 15 - 24, 2024

- Three additional nights in 4-Star accommodations
- Ten additional meals
- Transportation from Israel to Jordan

**\$6,350**

Per person/double occupancy



#### Large Group Trip April 2025

- Open to entire congregation - men, women & teens 14+
- 12-day all-inclusive itinerary with Israel and Jordan
- Up to 44 guests
- More details to be released in early 2024

**Details Coming Soon**

Add name to the list

#### Managed by:

Polaris Travel Advisors  
A Dream Vacations Company  
[www.polaristraveladvisors.com](http://www.polaristraveladvisors.com)  
(314) 451-4400



<https://PolarisTravelAdvisors.tiny.us/JourneyWithJesus>

#### Questions?

Contact Betsy Forman:  
TMC Trip Coordinator  
[eforman@dreamvacations.com](mailto:eforman@dreamvacations.com)  
(314) 451-1231



# TROY METHODIST STUDENTS



## MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP RECAP

By Wenifer Greer

For years my sons had gone to Midwest Mission in Chatham, IL with Troy Methodist Church. They would always say they had fun and I knew they were safe, but it wasn't until a week ago that I really got to see what goes on there. It is nothing short of life-changing!

My dear sons never explained to me that this ministry has world-wide impact. The warehouse is mind-blowing! When I walked in the doors and saw the desks that will be shipped to Ghana; with the precision that goes into constructing each one, I knew that there was something special about this place. I was with a team that put together cleaning kits for UMCOR. When we finished a pallet we prayed over it. We also prayed when we finished the school kits and personal care kits. That was my favorite thing about all the work we did. My second favorite thing was that nothing gets wasted. Every bag, every deodorant that was too big for the kit, even used billboard signs, they all were put in a "redirect" pile. The used billboard signs are used as tarps to cover roofs that are damaged by storms.

I am so thankful that I got to experience Midwest Mission firsthand. Our youth team played card games in the dorm; we sang and had devotions. We bonded in a way that only happens when God hosts. It was hard work, good food, and lots of fun!



### COMING UP:

July 5 - "Bike or Hike" Watershed  
July 12 - STL Aquarium  
July 19 - "Road Trip to Epworth"  
July 26 - "Dinner at Home"

Get all the details for Summer Wednesday nights, mission trips, camp and more at [www.troymc.org/students](http://www.troymc.org/students).



### Wednesday Nights!

June 7

Eckert's Dinner & Summer Kick Off

June 14

Disc golf & Snow cones!



### CONTACT

Tim - [tim@troymc.org](mailto:tim@troymc.org)  
Ryan - [ryan@troymc.org](mailto:ryan@troymc.org)  
Courtney - [courtney@troymc.org](mailto:courtney@troymc.org)  
Wenifer - [wenifer@troymc.org](mailto:wenifer@troymc.org)

### WEBSITE

[troymc.org/students](http://troymc.org/students)

### FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

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

# TROY METHODIST STUDENTS

## THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR EPWORTH CAMP!

*Summer church camp is an incredible opportunity for teenagers to grow spiritually and personally*

We have already had several students register for Epworth Camp in Greenville, but there is still time for your teenager to join us! The week-long camp is for students in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades (must have completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade) and begins on Monday, July 17 and concludes Friday, July 21. Through a range of activities, Bible studies, worship, adventure and free time, Epworth is designed to help teenagers deepen their faith and build lasting connections with other young people.

Don't miss out on this transformative experience - register your teenager for summer camp today! Troy Methodist is paying half of the cost for each student, so when you register, pay for half (but you need to round to the nearest dollar).

You can find the link at <https://www.igrc.org/campsessions> and Epworth Camp is at the bottom of the page.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO RYAN AND COURTNEY FROIDCOEUR

They met during a week of camp with Harvest Ministry and have been serving together at Troy Methodist Church since that time. They both have been instrumental in student ministry and in worship tech ministry. Beginning this summer, they are serving on staff as High School Ministry Leaders. We're celebrating them and their new life together! God's blessings!



## LEADER TRAINING MOMENT

A huge thanks to each adult who serves in ministry to the next generation!

Our church student ministry is blessed with great leaders and a culture of great programs! The real power of these "programs" is the space they create to form relationships and share our faith. As leaders, we want the programs to run smoothly – they have to in a group this size! Once the program structure is all good and set, we're trusting the adults to focus on **loving Jesus and loving students**.

When you have a minute, dive a little deeper into these five reasons why we need to take great ministry programming seriously! <https://tinyurl.com/42y5ms72>



**SAVE THE DATE:** Troy Methodist Church Student Ministry leaders are invited to take part in a special volunteer training on Saturday, September 23 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in Edwardsville, IL.

## BE A STUDENT MINISTRY PRAYER PARTNER

Prayer Requests for this month:

- The students and leaders traveling to Red Bird Mission in Beverly, KY (June 25-June 30)
- Friends who have been invited to attend church by our students
- The next generation to grow in their faith in Jesus



**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**  
Lisa Rayle

**\*Director of Traditional Worship Music**  
Rebecca Koebbe

**\*Director of Modern Worship**  
Marissa Horning

**\*Communications Coordinator**  
Deb Ellis

**\*Production Coordinator**  
Josh Case

**\*Administrative Assistant**  
Karen Wimmer

**\*Children's Ministry Leader**  
Jennifer Diliberto

**\*Middle School Ministry Leader**  
Wenifer Greer

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

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

**Custodians**  
David Barr, Rex Repp

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

If you would like to receive the Reach via email only, please contact [karen@troymc.org](mailto:karen@troymc.org)

**Connect with us!**  
@troymc



## JULY SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
July 5	Troy Methodist Students - "Bike or Hike" Watershed (page 6)
July 12	Troy Methodist Students - STL Aquarium (page 6)
July 17-21	Troy Methodist Students - Epworth Camp (page 7)
July 18	Joy Seekers Lunch & Program (page 4)
July 19	Troy Methodist Students - "Road Trip to Epworth" (page 6)
July 26	Troy Methodist Students - "Dinner at Home" (page 6)
July 30	Holy Land Travel Informational Meeting (page 5)
July 30	Gateway Grizzlies Baseball Game & Fellowship (page 3)

### 1st STEP JOB OPENING

Troy Methodist Church's 1st Step Learning Center provides a safe, nurturing, Christ-centered environment that enhances the development of the whole child and helps prepares them for their future experiences in school. The Center is a vital outreach ministry to the community.

We are currently seeking a teacher assistant in the 2-year-old classroom. This is a part-time position, Tuesday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - noon. There are a few evening and after school events as well. ***If you love to read to children, teach them about Jesus, play with dolls, paint, play outside, wipe tears and give hugs, this is the perfect job for you!*** Come join our awesome team and have fun with us!

You can call or email Lisa Rayle at (618) 667-6241, Ext. 13 or [lisa@troymc.org](mailto:lisa@troymc.org) for more information and an application.



**School  
begins  
August  
22!**



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

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