



REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS

MARCH 2024
VOLUME 36 • ISSUE 3

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EYES ON THE CROSS



This March we are focusing our **Eyes on the Cross** as we journey through Lent. For these four weeks we will gaze upon Calvary, the hill on which Jesus died to save us. We will be drawn in each Sunday as we experience a fictional story from the vantage point of different biblical characters as they witness the crucifixion. Their reflections will illuminate the gospel story in meaningful ways as we are also invited to reflect on the amazing love of Christ. Join us as we position our **Eyes on the Cross**.

March 3 - "The Man He Looked At"
March 10 - "The Man with Second Thoughts"
March 17 - "The Man who Denied Him"
March 24 - "The Man who Gave the Order"



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*

EASTER SERVICES

Sunday, March 31

7:00 a.m. – Sunrise Service in the Sanctuary
7:45 a.m. – Free buffet breakfast in the Family Life Center
9:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary and Online
(*Children's ministry & nursery available*)
10:30 a.m. – Modern Worship in the Family Life Center and Online
(*Children's ministry & nursery available*)

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

Everyone Can Participate in our MISSION!

Our mission at Troy Methodist Church is to Invite people on a journey with Jesus! I love our mission for a couple of very specific reasons. First, the journey with Jesus implies that nobody has arrived. Everyone is welcome on that journey whether they're just beginning or have been a Christ follower for decades! The other reason I love our mission is that each of us has an active part to play. **We INVITE!**

Or do we? When was the last time you invited someone to attend worship with you? It's not always easy to invite others to join you in church. First you have to have someone to invite. Then you have to step out of your comfort zone and risk the potential awkwardness. Next you need to come up with what exactly you're going to say and what you're going to invite them to! These are all common barriers that prevent each of us from participating in our mission, but it's my hope that as we approach Easter each one of us will get over the hump and join in this critical part of our church's mission. Here's how:

- ♦ If you don't already have people in mind that you can invite, **begin praying NOW**, "Lord, who would you have me invite to Easter worship?" Consider inviting family, friends without church homes, neighbors, co-workers, classmates, or people you meet while out and about!
- ♦ Regarding your comfort zone – remember, you never grow when you stay where you're comfortable. And what greater joy is there than being part of someone's story of finding new hope in Christ? **Our comfort zones are worth risking** so others can encounter Jesus!
- ♦ But here's where our church staff will help make your invitation easier! We are going to provide small, business sized, **invite cards** for you to use to invite people to one of our three **Easter Worship services on March 31**. We will have those available in the next couple of weeks.
- ♦ Furthermore, we will be starting a new message series on April 14 designed specifically for you to invite others to attend with you. In fact, both YOU and THEY will be able to help design the topics. We're calling it, *You Asked For It!* You can fill out the short survey here: <https://forms.gle/qEPiepQQb5e6NhSm9> You can also share this survey on your Facebook page or email it to friends you'd like to invite to worship with you.

You and I cannot control if someone will take us up on our invitation. All we can do is be faithful and participate in our mission by doing the inviting. Most people who come to church come because they were invited by a friend. And over 80% of people who don't have a church home say they'd probably attend if a friend asked them! But one thing I know for sure – none of us would be journeying with Jesus if we weren't first invited!

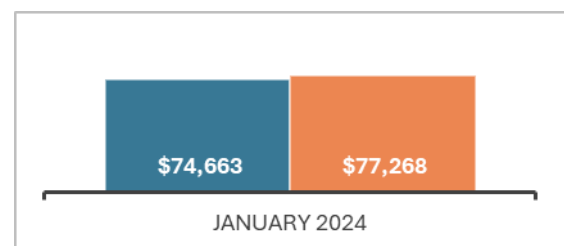
Faithfully,

Andy

STRATEGIC STATS

Worship Services	January Average
9:00 a.m. - In Person	93
9:00 a.m. - Online	198
10:30 a.m. - In Person	148
10:30 a.m. - Online	137
Sunday Children	49
Wednesday Youth	37
Average Weekly In Person Worship	327
Average Weekly Online Worship	335

General Budget



■ General Budget Income ■ General Budget Expenses

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, March 29, 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center

Join us on Good Friday as we share in the passion of Jesus' last hours in this powerful "**Service of Shadows.**" Easter loses its power and meaning when we forget to reflect on and remember the depth of pain and suffering that Jesus endured on our behalf. We will walk through the Scriptures and experience soul-moving music during this unforgettable worship. We will conclude with silent communion and depart in quiet reflection. There is no childcare, but the service is suitable for all ages!

Greenville University Choir

Spring Concert

Sunday, March 3, 2024
— 2:30 pm

Troy Methodist Church
407 Edwardsville Road Troy, IL 62294

GREENVILLE UNIVERSITY

GREENVILLE UNIVERSITY CHOIR SPRING CONCERT

We have the privilege to host the Greenville University Choir for a concert on Sunday, March 3 at 2:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary - this event is open to all, and we hope that you will come and enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music!

The Greenville University Choir, directed by Dr. Don Frazure (worship pastor at Christ Church, Fairview Heights), is based in Greenville, IL and is blessed to have our very own Rebecca Koebbe as their pianist! TMC's Director of Modern Worship, Marissa Horning, is also a recent alumna of both Greenville University and the GU Choir.

We are excited to welcome the GU Choir for this portion of their Spring Concert Tour, and we hope to see you there! For more information, contact Marissa Horning at marissa@troymc.org. A love offering to support the Greenville University Choir will be collected at this event.

SERVE

MIDWEST MISSION FOOD PACK EVENT

You've marked your calendar and now it's time to sign up! On **Saturday, March 23**, you will have multiple opportunities to come to the Family Life Center and be a part of this event that is for all ages: toddlers to older adults! There is work available for every skill level – whether you can stand for the whole two hours, or if you want to sit and seal bags. **Time slots include: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m.** Each time slot is 110 minutes with a 10 minute transition period to clean and reset for the next shift. To sign up you can email bonnie@troymc.org. You can sign up as an individual or with your family, band, small group, etc. If you'd like to sign up for more than one time slot, please do! This is a great opportunity to invite others into our church for something meaningful! **Sign up today!**

Additionally – we will have a **STUDENT FOOD PACK SET UP PIZZA PARTY** on **Friday, March 22 at 4:30 p.m.** Students and families are encouraged to come and help set up the Family Life Center for the Food Packing Event and then enjoy pizza together. For more information reach out to Pastor Bonnie.





JOY SEEKERS (55+) Tuesday, March 27 at noon

For our March JOY SEEKERS lunch, we will be blessed with the dramatic talents of the Rev. Dr. Joel Catlin. Joel will be performing a solo presentation of the Methodist Circuit Rider preacher Peter Cartwright. Peter Cartwright, often referred to as the "Backwoods Preacher", played a significant role in the Second Great Awakening; a period of religious revival in the early 19th century in the United States.

Our theme for the lunch is "SPRING."

Please call the office (618) 667-6241 to make a reservation by **March 21**.
We ask for a \$10 per person donation to cover expenses.

The Rev. Dr. Joel P. Catlin graduated from Springfield High School, The University of Indianapolis, Christian Theological Seminary, and in 2001 received a Doctor of Ministry from Asbury Theological Seminary in the field of Church Growth, Evangelism and Missions.

For much of the last 50 years, Joel has specialized in Christian Theater, alongside his wife, the Rev. Donna Catlin. Early in their clergy careers they started the Theatre Ministry, "Christian Arts Productions" and itinerated as Christian Dramatists. Joel has performed in hundreds of productions throughout the Midwest. He is widely known for his over 300 portrayals of the famous circuit rider, Peter Cartwright. Dr. Catlin was extensively involved in church camping. His most recent publication is through Cokesbury in that arena.

After 40 plus years of active ministry, the Catlins retired in Highland, Illinois. They love traveling and spending time together at home with friends and family. Dr. Catlin enjoys his hobbies of writing, art, fishing, hunting, boating, wilderness camping, and all things outdoors. Joel is also a passionate District Captain in The Convention of States Movement.

The Catlins have three wonderful adult sons and daughters-in-law. They have 8 amazing grandchildren who have priority over much of their time.



This month, UWF will hold a Call to Prayer and Self-Denial in support of those displaced by severe weather events.

In the words of the UWF Climate Justice Prayer: "God of Life, we pray to you today with the same wind in our lungs that drives ocean currents, erodes rock, and disperses seeds. Sustaining God, we pray to you today with feet grounded on the same earth that nourishes forests and crops, filters water, and helps regulate the planet's temperature. God of Hope, we pray to you with tears made from the same water that grows our plants, houses our ocean life, and provides nutrients to sustain our lives." As we acknowledge the climate crisis before us, join the Troy UWF as we pray for strength, determination, and will power; **To Do** instead of just pray.

Join us at 1:00 p.m. March 14 in the Family Life Center.

 * The Troy UWF is planning a spring fundraiser. Put this date on your calendar! *
 * Don't miss the "**Bloom Where you are Planted**" spring luncheon Saturday, May 4. *

WATCH OUR GARDEN GROW! *Troy Community Garden*

On February 8, the water line and yard hydrant for the Troy Community Garden was installed. The City of Troy Water Department visited the site and approved of the work. Thank you to Bob Hubert (from Mt. Olive Methodist Church), Gary Reed, Ray & Sue Suhre, and Don & Dottie Dexheimer who all worked together on the installation.

This Community Garden project is a labor of love birthed from the desire to see individuals and families of every age engage with creation and learn the benefits of healthy food and hard work. We are excited about the many possibilities to serve our church family and our community through this garden project.

The garden will have raised beds measuring 4 ft x 10 ft x 2 ft that you can utilize by renting out a bed for a season. Your family, journey group, band, or other group might consider renting a bed together. You also could rent out a bed as a gift to a group, organization, or family. The possibilities are endless!

*Additionally, we invite you to consider donating to this project today.
Checks can be made payable to "Troy Methodist Church" with memo line: "Troy Community Garden".*

For more information, contact Dottie Dexheimer at dondotdex@att.net or by calling 618-206-8021.



GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP *New Session Begins in August*

We hope you will consider joining us again or pass along the information to someone you know who is grieving a loss. If there is someone you know who needs to come to this group, please consider coming with them for the first week or two. You can probably remember how difficult it was to come for the first time.

We will begin on August 20, 2024. Please mark your calendars now.

If you would like more information, contact Pastor Dan at (618) 830-5589; contact the church office at (618) 667-6241 or visit griefshare.org

TROY METHODIST KIDS

GLOW

ONE DAY EASTER EVENT

**THE WEEK BEFORE EASTER
-SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH-
2 -4:30 PM**

4 YEARS OLD- 5TH GRADE



TROYMC.ORG

***Are you looking for a fun and engaging way to
celebrate Palm Sunday with your kids?***

Look no further than "Glow" - a one-day event that's designed to reinforce the story of the death and resurrection of Jesus in a meaningful way. With Biblically centered music, crafts, games, and activities, your kids will have a blast while also learning important lessons about the true meaning of Easter. And what's more, we'll cap off the day with a one-of-a-kind glow in the dark egg hunt that your kids won't soon forget! If you want to give your kids a special Palm Sunday experience, be sure to join us on March 24 from 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. This event is designed for children from ages 4 to 5th grade, so bring the whole family along for an afternoon of fun and learning.

We can't wait to see you there!

Sign up your child or to volunteer:
<https://forms.gle/NwWqE3cVK5iusJV56>

KIDS CONFERENCE ADVENTURE... TO MARION, IL!

All first through fifth graders are invited to journey with us to the Kids Conference on April 6! The one-day event is from 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. We will meet at Troy Methodist Church at 7:00 a.m. to leave and will return home around 4:15 p.m. *(If you would like to drive your own child, the event is hosted at Aldersgate Church in Marion, IL.)* Lunch will be provided. The kids will love connecting with other groups from around the area as they worship, take part in Bible Buzz, enjoy recreation, and lessons around the theme of **ON A MISSION**.

Visit troymc.org/children to print a form or register online for the event.

MARION IL - APRIL 6



A peek inside Sunday morning Children's Ministry

***Kids -
look for the
hidden
orange
somewhere
in this issue
of the
newsletter!***



CONTACT

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

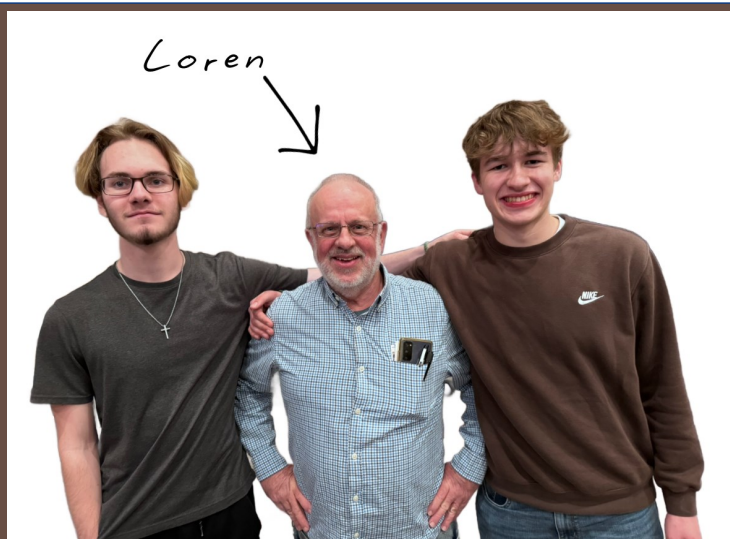
WEBSITE

troymc.org/children

FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

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

TROY METHODIST STUDENTS



MINISTRY LEADER SPOTLIGHT: LOREN FEAR

Loren is no stranger to next generation ministry. He has served in kids ministry, student ministry, and for special conferences and events. He lives in Worden and fills his days working for a company called Earth Candy. He currently ministers each Wednesday evening with the high school guys small group at Troy Methodist and also serves on the pastoral / preaching staff at Worden Methodist Church. Thanks for your ministry, faith, and witness, Loren! And we miss your mashed potatoes; we're going to have to pull you into the kitchen on a future Wednesday for those!

Summer Dates

In case you missed the summer trips and camps meeting, take a look on our website at troymc.org/students for forms and detailed information. If you have any questions, please contact any of our student ministry leaders to find out more!

June 13-15: Middle School Mission Trip
June 16-22: Beulah Youth Institute
June 30-July 5: High School Mission Trip
July 8-12: Serve during VBS at Troy
July 15-19: Epworth Youth Camp

NEXT GENERATION MINISTRY NEEDS

- prayer for a few more adults to explore the possibility of being chaperones for summer camps and events.
- prayer for a couple of more people in our church to get their bus license.
- prayer for the students and families connected to our church!

MIDDLE SCHOOL LUNCH & SERVE DAY RECAP Sunday, February 11

Several middle school students had a great afternoon spending time with residents at Cedarhurst Retirement Community in Troy. After worship, the group had lunch together and made about 60 creative cards. In addition to delivering those cards room to room, our middle schoolers also did a craft/art project with several of the residents in the dining room. It was a great way to witness and share God's love.



PARENT Seminar

ALL WELCOME

STUDENT MINISTRY PARENT SEMINAR

On Wednesday, March 20, we're inviting student ministry parents to join Tim Price for a parenting seminar from 6:45-8:00 p.m. in the Children's Ministry area.

Parents are also invited to join us for the Wednesday night meal from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Please RSVP to Tim at (618) 541-8291.

CONTACT

Tim - tim@troymc.org
Ryan - ryan@troymc.org
Courtney - courtney@troymc.org
Wenifer - wenifer@troymc.org

WEBSITE

troymc.org/students

FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

@troymethodiststudents

One of the best ways to stay connected is to subscribe to the Troy Student Ministry texting!

TROYSTUDENTS
to 94000

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**
Jenn 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,
Blaine Stolle
- ***Staff E-mail** [firstname]@troymc.org

LOOK! New staff email
addresses - @troymc.org

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

Connect with us!
@troymethodistchurch



MARCH SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
March 3	Greenville University Choir Spring Concert (page 3)
March 14	Troy United Women in Faith March Meeting (page 4)
March 17	Preschool Sunday
March 20	Troy Methodist Students - Parent Seminar (page 7)
March 23	Midwest Mission Food Pack Event (page 3)
March 24	Palm Sunday
March 24	Troy Methodist Kids - Glow! (page 6)
March 27	Joy Seekers March Lunch & Program (page 4)
March 29	Good Friday Service (page 3)
March 31	Easter Sunday (front page)



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Registration for the 2024-25 school year has begun at 1st Step Learning Center. Our days and hours for the new school year will be Tuesday through Thursday from 8:25 -11:45 a.m. We have availability for our 2's, 3's and 4's classes. Classes fill up quickly so don't delay; reach out today!

You will find our registration information at troymc.org/1ststep. You can also call the church office (618) 667-6241 and speak with Lisa Rayle or Amy Burrelsman about setting up a visit and tour.

If you would like to support the preschool by making a donation to 1st Step, please see the QR codes below. One links directly to our Amazon Wishlist and the other is a monetary donation via Venmo. We truly appreciate the prayers and support of our church community.



REACH

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