



# REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS.

**MARCH 2023  
VOLUME 35 • ISSUE 3**

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JOURNEYING  
WITH

*Jesus*  
TO THE CROSS

We will continue to have life-changing encounters Journeying with Jesus the first two weeks of March. Then on March 19, we will turn toward Jerusalem and begin Journeying with Jesus to the Cross.

**This year we will expand our holy week into a holy month!**

Each Sunday you are invited to dwell in the most important events of Jesus' Passion – from his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, to the Upper Room for the Last Supper, to his death on the cross, and then to the great Easter celebration of the empty tomb!

**Find healing, encouragement, and life-change as we continue our journey with Jesus.**

March 5 – Eat My Flesh – John 6:41-60, 66

March 12 – Come Out! – John 11:1-44

March 19 – When Jesus Comes to Town:

A Palm Sunday Celebration – Luke 19:28-48

March 26 – The Living Last Supper: A Holy Thursday Experience  
(9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center)



## 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*

# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

## THE HEART OF REVIVAL

If you haven't heard by now, rumblings of revival have been shaking college campuses across the United States in the last few weeks. The epicenter? Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky. What began as a simple chapel service on February 8 caught fire and (as of this writing) has not ceased. Some students stayed and prayed and were joined by dozens, then hundreds, then thousands in the days since. Their prayer and worship haven't stopped. In fact, it's attracted so many people hungering and thirsting for God from across the country that the worship has expanded to various chapels across the street at Asbury Theological Seminary (where I spent several years) and to local churches. I've had many close friends stop all plans to travel to Asbury to experience this move of God. Our own Tim and Ruby Price were there for a few hours on day two of what news outlets and Christian commentators are calling a revival. Troy UMC member, Noah Durbin, a student at Asbury Seminary, has been there and experienced the powerful presence of God in healing ways too.

Countless people have reflected on this movement of God. Some have been skeptical, questioning its validity – even calling it emotionalism. However, I'm not questioning it for a moment as the first-hand accounts from close friends (and bandmates) have confirmed what I've observed from afar – that this began and continues to be a genuine movement of worship and prayer by people (mostly students) who are hungry for God. I love it and hope it continues to spread. As I write this, tears are coming to my eyes as I imagine how many people have come to know Jesus, been delivered from addictions, found forgiveness and healing, and felt God's call to vocational ministry. I believe people will talk about this awakening for decades to come and that the rumblings will be felt for generations.

I offer one thought. Although I wasn't there, I've seen that first chapel service that started it all. There was nothing flashy. No big band or magnificent worship songs. The preacher was a normal guy. He simply made a call for genuine confession and repentance and a young lady shared a touching testimony of her need for God. About 20-30 students came to the altar to pray as a response. They came with repentant hearts longing for the healing touch of God. That's it. Nothing out of the "ordinary" and yet, whenever God's people come to him with sincere confession of sin and repentance (turning from sin toward God), the supernatural power of God pours over us. There is nothing "ordinary" about that.

Today, I simply ask you to consider if you're regularly coming to God with a genuine attitude of confession and repentance. Do you hunger for more of God? If so, we can expect a supernatural spirit of revival and awakening to take place in us and in our church. May it be so.

Faithfully,

Andy

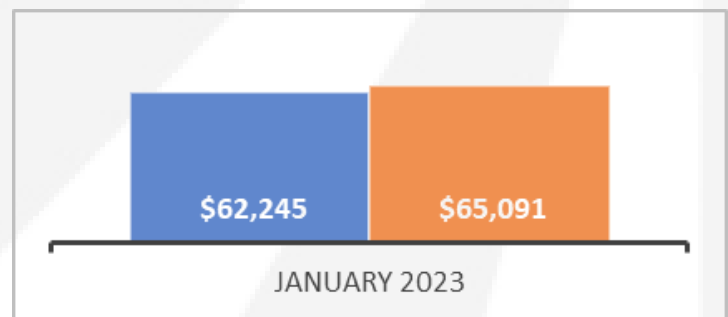
(Photo: Sarah Thomas Baldwin / Facebook)



## STRATEGIC STATS

Worship Services	January Average
9:00 a.m. - In Person	113
9:00 a.m. - Online	176
10:30 a.m. - In Person	151
10:30 a.m. - Online	127
Sunday Children	41
Wednesday Youth	39
St. Jacob 10:15 a.m.	8
<b>Average Weekly In Person Worship</b>	<b>352</b>
<b>Average Weekly Online Worship</b>	<b>303</b>

### General Budget



■ General Budget Income

■ General Budget Expenses

# CHURCH NEWS

## IMPORTANT UPDATES ON OUR DENOMINATIONAL FUTURE

### Your Membership

Many people have asked how our disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church affects their membership. Part of the agreement with our conference is that we would report each of our members' intentions regarding membership. It is our hope that everyone will choose to remain part of our local church family and thereby have your membership transfer to the Global Methodist Church. But we need to hear from you! **Be on the lookout for an email requesting your response arriving soon.** If we don't hear from you, we will follow up with a written letter. If we still don't hear from you, per our agreement with our conference, your membership will be automatically transferred to Saint John's United Methodist Church in Edwardsville.

### Special Offering to offset Disaffiliation Costs

Our disaffiliation agreement with our conference requires us to pay \$524,409 (for a breakdown, see [www.troyumc.org/faq](http://www.troyumc.org/faq)). Although this is a significant amount of money we anticipate making it up in 5-7 years without increasing our annual budget. However, we are asking everyone to **prayerfully consider a one-time sacrificial gift in March or April to help offset these costs.** You may continue making checks out to "Troy United Methodist Church" and put "Disaffiliation" in the memo. You may also make a gift online at [www.troyumc.org/give](http://www.troyumc.org/give). Thank you for your generosity and helping us step confidently into a new future!

### New Church Name

Several have inquired about our church's new name. What will we be called? At their last meeting, our church council created a team to seek input from the congregation and make a recommendation for a new name by April. **So, this is your opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas!** Please email them to [newname@troyumc.org](mailto:newname@troyumc.org) before Sunday, **March 12**. The team will narrow down the ideas and come to the congregation later in March to vote on your favorite. Remember, we remain Troy United Methodist Church until the specially called session of annual conference approves our disaffiliation on May 6, 2023.

## MEET OUR WORSHIP MINISTRY INTERNS!

Over the years, our church has been blessed to provide worship and youth ministry internships to several young adults. It's amazing when a church can invest time, money and energy in helping to shape the leadership of the next generation. This congregation does it as well as any out there. For eight weeks this spring semester, two of our high school seniors are serving as worship ministry interns. In addition to helping with music and leadership as they often have done around here, they also have some specific assignments to learn and grow their leadership skills, their music and worship ministry knowledge and their faith in Christ.

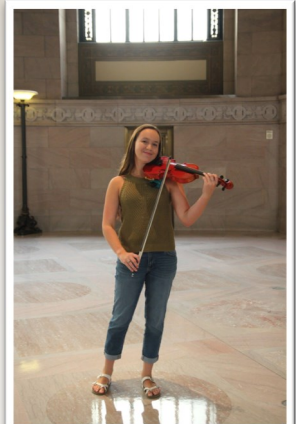


### **Ruby Price**

Ruby is a senior in high school, and she has been playing music since she was very young. She has taken violin lessons for about 10 years and also plays mandolin, piano and sings. In addition to music, she is also in her final year of dance and is part of the Iota Tau, Homeschool National Honor Society. At Troy UMC she is a part of the High School Youth Worship Team and helps in other areas, too. Her favorite scripture verse is Joshua 1:9 and she likes to give restaurant food reviews on Instagram (@foodfavs19).

### **Erin VanMiddendorp**

Erin is a senior in high school at Metro-East Lutheran in Edwardsville. She has been playing violin since she was about four years old, and plays in orchestras and other groups around the area. She likes being a part of the swim team and she enjoys helping to lead worship with the high school youth band at Troy UMC. Her favorite scripture verse is Colossians 3:23 and she enjoys learning lots of instruments and Spanish.





# SERVE & CONNECT



United  
Women  
in Faith

February was a special month as we visited with residents of Cedarhurst in Troy, delivering Valentines and gifts of handmade blankets, shawls and other goodies. Join us on Thursday, March 9 at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. In the spirit of the Lenten Season the program is a "Call to Prayer and Self-denial" led by Jennifer Zahn. A special offering will be collected as part of our national and global UWF mission outreach.



In March, our **JOY SEEKERS** lunch (50+) will meet on March 28 at noon in the Family Life Center. There will be a presentation by the Thunder and Lightning Cloggers. Brenda Newton will provide our dessert. Watch the weekly eReach for more information. We ask for a \$10 per person donation to help cover our food and other expenses. **Be sure to call the office (618-667-6241) to register by March. 23.**

## HOMELESS CARE KIT COLLECTION By: Ruby Price

Over the next few weeks, we as a church have the opportunity to help those in our community and region who are homeless.

My National Honor Society Mission Project this semester is to assemble Homeless Care Kits and I need your help!

For the next several Sundays, we will be taking donations to help assemble Homeless Care Kits. There will be baskets in the foyers of both worship spaces. These items will include toiletries, such as toothbrushes/toothpaste, deodorant, etc., and other items including pre-packaged snacks (no chocolate please), socks, hand lotion, hand sanitizer, and more! My goal is to assemble 100 kits. The Homeless Care Kits will then be sent to various ministries, including Harvest Ministry, to be delivered to those in need. If you have any questions you can contact me at [rubyprice@gmail.com](mailto:rubyprice@gmail.com). **Please bring donated supplies by March 12**



## MIDWEST DISTRIBUTION FOOD PACK EVENT

You've marked your calendars and now it's time to sign up! **Saturday, March 25**, 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](mailto: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!



## New Women's Bible Study – SUPERNATURAL by Carolyn Moore

There's no substitute for the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit in your life. Maybe you've grown dissatisfied with the weak distractions offered both by our culture and, oftentimes, our churches. When it all sinks in, spirituality and ministry without the Holy Spirit is hollow. **Join us on Thursday, March 2 at 9:00 a.m. in the Upper Family Life Center for the study SUPERNATURAL by pastor and author Carolyn Moore.** Take time to re-discover the supernatural! With a biblical basis and practical application, you'll learn how to work alongside the Spirit, and you'll become watchful for the powerful in-breakings of God's kingdom all around you.

# JOURNEY KIDS

## Power of Words Bible Study for Kids

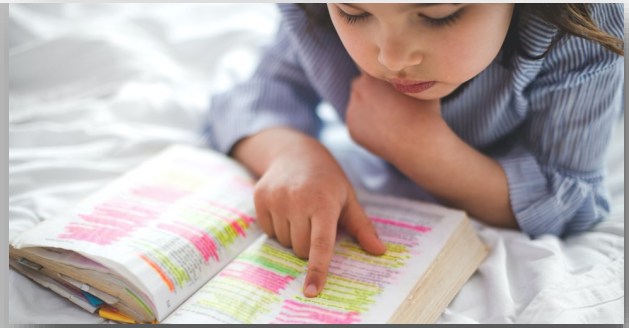
Fruit of the Tongue

Bible study for 8-12 year olds.

Starting soon! It's not too late to sign up!

Wednesdays during March (except March 15)  
6:00 p.m. Dinner; 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Bible Study

The words we say matter in a HUGE way to God,  
and they have tremendous power over our lives and the lives of  
those around us.



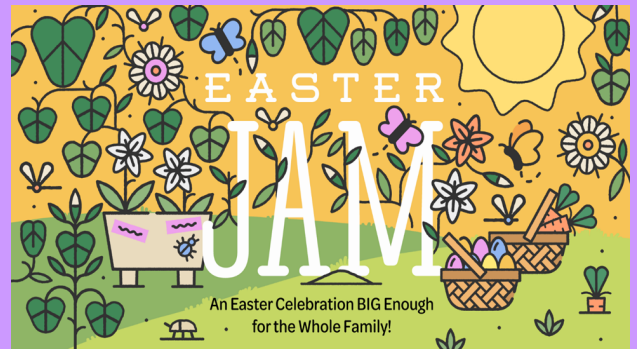
**March 19- Palm Sunday** is celebrated at TUMC. There will be children's ministry during 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. Our children will walk through the FLC waving palm branches during the 10:30 a.m. service.

**April 9- Easter Sunday** there will be children's ministry during 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. We will have our own kid friendly, short, Easter worship service in our children's area and then watch: Veggie

Tales: An Easter Carol with music by the sister of the members of For King and Country Christian band.

## EASTER JAM!

We are hosting our very first Easter Jam! This is a family friendly event for all ages. Easter worship with skits, fun, games, music, and lots of laughs. We will have lots of fun on stage, then enjoy a family dinner and afterwards we will be doing an Easter walk inside the FLC. Dominic the Donkey is here with a brand new indoor trail for Easter! This interactive trail takes children through the key events of Holy Week with a range of engaging activities to explore. You won't want to miss this fun family event! Sunday evening, March 19, 5:00-6:30 p.m. with a family dinner provided.



## The 2023 Light Kids Conference RISE UP



[kidsconference.org](https://kidsconference.org)

A one-day event for children in 1st-5th grades and their parents or ministry leaders. Kids will enjoy music with Harvest Worship Band, Recreation, a pizza lunch, ShoutCo! Puppets, entertainment, Bible Buzz and sessions around the theme of RISE UP!

**SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023**

**9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**Marion Aldersgate UMC**  
(1201 N Fair St, Marion, IL 62959)

Find out more at [kidsconference.org](https://kidsconference.org) or  
contact 618-541-8291 for more information.

**It's a Field Trip!** We will take the church bus to Marion Aldersgate on Saturday, April 1 for Harvest Kid's conference.. We will meet at the church at 7 a.m.. I will have breakfast snacks for the kids for the bus ride. We will attend the Light Kid's Conference and end our time there around 3 p.m. We will stop for an ice-cream treat on the drive home and arrive back to Troy UMC around 5 p.m. More details to follow. Please save the date. This is open to 1st through 5th graders. If any parents want to help chaperone, please reach out to [christine@troyumc.org](mailto:christine@troyumc.org).



All creation is the Lord's, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life, and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings. God has granted us stewardship of creation. We should meet these stewardship duties through acts of loving care and respect. ~UMC Book of Discipline Join us on Saturday, April 22, at Watershed Nature Center in Edwardsville as we celebrate Earth Day. This is family event from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. More details to come.



# NEW LIFE STUDENT MINISTRY

While the New Year marches on, all 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to journey with Jesus by participating in Wednesday Night Youth Group, monthly Special Events, and Sunday Morning Worship. Troy UMC's New Life Student Ministry provides these opportunities for students this March!

## YOUTH GROUP WEDNESDAY MARCH SCHEDULE & THEMES

6:00-6:30 p.m.	Snack Supper	Family Life Center
6:30-7:45 p.m.	High School (HS) Students	Family Life Center
6:30-7:45 p.m.	Middle School (MS) Students	Youth Area – Upper Family Life Center

## ***“GOOD TO KNOW” and “[THIS IS OUR SEX TALK]”: A Series about God’s design for sexual integrity***

<b>March 1</b>	Genesis 1:27-28a, 2:24-25	Sex is good, and sex is powerful.
<b>March 8</b>	1 Corinthians 6:18-20	Technology is good, and technology is powerful.
<b>March 15</b>	1 John 1:5-7, 8-9	Confession is good, and confession is powerful.
<b>March 22</b>	1 Corinthians 6:18-20; 10:13	Boundaries are good, and boundaries are powerful.

## ***“ECHO” and “BEFORE I GO”: An Easter series about important things Jesus said***

<b>March 29</b>	Luke 22:14-20	Remembering what Jesus has done.
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## MARCH SERVICE PROJECT!

**Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC)**  
**Troy UMC Food Pack Staging & Setup**  
Friday, 24 March 2023  
4:30 – 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center

All students & parent volunteers  
No RSVP; Free  
Pizza dinner provided!



PLUS, you and/or your parents may register to volunteer to pack food on Saturday, 25 March during one of three scheduled shifts: 9:00-11:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., or 1:00-3:00 p.m..

## 2023 Confirmation Class

Confirmation Class sessions are 5:30-7:00 p.m. on Sundays, March 5, 19, & 26.  
Spring Weekend Retreat is March 10-12 at Little Grassy Camp with Family Dinner on Sunday at church.

## REGISTER NOW for Summer 2023 Mission Trips & Camps

June 9-11: Middle School Mission Trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC)  
June 18-24: Middle/High School Beulah Youth Institute at Eldorado, IL  
June 25-30: High School Mission Trip to Red Bird Mission in Beverly, KY  
July 17-21: Middle/High School Epworth Camp in Greenville, IL

## PARENTS

- New Life Student Ministry schedules and registration flyers can be accessed at [troyumc.org/students](http://troyumc.org/students)
- Rev. Kurt Stone is available via email, texts, and phone calls: [kurt@troyumc.org](mailto:kurt@troyumc.org) or (618) 407-7586

**Wednesday Night Youth Group**  
High school students after a fun game of beachball volleyball

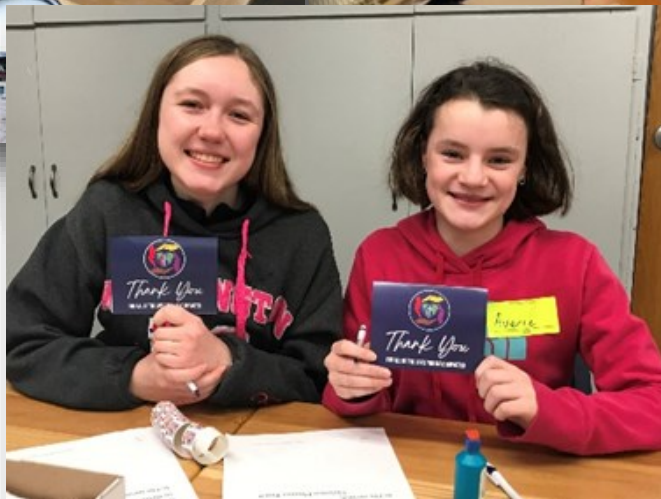




# NEW LIFE STUDENT MINISTRY

## MLK Day of Volunteering at Midwest Mission Distribution Center

Students assembled 1,000 student kits, wrote 120 thank you notes, and varnished 4 student desks!





**Church Information**  
Phone (618) 667-6241  
troyumc.org

## Staff

\*Senior Pastor  
Andy Adams  
\*Associate Pastor, Student Ministry  
Kurt Stone  
\*Care Pastor  
Dan Perry  
\*Minister of Modern Worship Arts  
Tim Price  
\*Minister of Discipleship  
Bonnie Abel  
\*Director of Children's Ministry  
Christine Lippert  
\*Director of 1st Step Learning Center  
Lisa Rayle  
\*Director of Traditional Worship Music  
Rebecca Koebbe  
\*Office Manager  
Sharie Meyer  
\*Administrative Assistant  
Karen Wimmer  
\*Communications Coordinator  
Deb Ellis  
\*Production Coordinator  
Josh Case  
\*Youth Worship Band Leader  
Ryan Froidcoeur  
Custodians  
David Barr, Loren Fear, Justin Schultz  
\*Staff E-mail [firstname]@troyumc.org

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

**Connect with us!**  
@troyumc



## MARCH SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
March 2	New Women's Bible Study - SUPERNATURAL (page 4)
March 5	Connect Lunch @ 11:45 a.m. in Upper Family Life Center
March 9	Troy United Women in Faith Meeting (page 4)
March 10-12	Confirmation Class Retreat to Little Grassy Camp (page 6)
March 19	Palm Sunday Celebration (page 1)
March 19	Membership Lunch @ 11:45 a.m. in Upper Family Life Center
March 19	Easter Jam (page 5)
March 24	NLSM - Food Pack Staging & Setup (page 6)
March 25	Midwest Distribution Food Pack Event (page 4)
March 26	The Living Last Supper: A Holy Thursday Experience (page 1)
March 28	Joy Seekers Luncheon (page 4)

### JOIN THE LAWN CARE TEAM!

We are looking for volunteers to help with lawn work at the church! If you like to do yard work, the church could use your help to keep our grounds looking their best.

Volunteers work in teams on cutting, trimming and basic care. It would take only a couple of hours about every 4-6 weeks. ***We estimate that the lawn volunteers save the church over \$10,000 per year!***

If you are interested, please contact Sharie in the church office for more information.

### MEET OUR NEW CUSTODIAN



We would like to introduce our church family to our newest employee, Justin Schultz. February 9 was Justin's first day with us as a part-time custodian. He will be working 10-15 hours each week doing facility set-ups and general cleaning. Make sure to take a few moments to introduce yourself to Justin this month and make him feel welcome!



Troy United Methodist Church  
407 Edwardsville Road  
Troy, IL 62294  
troyumc.org

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Return Service Requested