



REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS

**NOVEMBER 2025
VOLUME 37 • ISSUE 11**

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my story...
GOD'S GLORY



MY STORY, GOD'S GLORY

We are quickly wrapping up our *My Story, God's Glory* series in November, and YOU have an opportunity to be part of it! Pastor Andy will share some of his story on All Saints Sunday, then on Veteran's Sunday observance, retired Navy Chaplain and Global Methodist Church elder Rev. Bob Phillips will be giving God glory with his story!

It has been our hope that through each unique testimony, you will encounter God's mercy and grace and consider your own stories of encountering God. In fact, we hope you'll take one of two opportunities to share your 2-5 minute story for God's glory during our baptism Sunday on November 16 or on November 23, which is dedicated entirely to your stories. If you sense God tugging at your heart to share, please contact Pastor Andy today!

November 2 – Andy Adams – Exodus 20:5-6

November 9 – Bob Phillips – Ephesians 6:10-20

November 16 – Baptism Sunday – Romans 6:1-11

November 23 – My Story Testimonials – 1 Peter 2:9-10

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

JOIN OUR NEXT WORSHIP CIRCLE

Friday, November 7, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Upper Family Life Center

Don't forget our Worship Circle on November 7.
Questions, email Marissa, marissa@troymc.org.

Worship
CIRCLES



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

ADAPTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATE

Our Adaptive Leadership Team is nearing the end of its first big objective – to produce a Ministry Action Plan (MAP) for our congregation by the end of 2025. Thus far, we have spent time considering our external and internal context, affirmed our mission of *Inviting people on a journey with Jesus*, and articulated our core values which we shared with the congregation in August: Methodist Heritage, Scriptural Authority, Life Transformation, Spirit-Led Ministry, Outward Witness, and Every Person Matters.

The last three months we have narrowed in on our Vision – our hoped-for and preferred future as we carry out our mission. We believe God's vision for us is *Passionate Disciples Multiplying Passionate Disciples* and we have some near-term objectives for the next 18 months of clearly defining what makes a passionate disciple and aligning our ministry teams to our church's MAP. Our final task this year, which is already underway, is to clarify our church's discipleship system and strategies. Please continue to pray for our work as we meet in November and December to finalize our MAP!

ROOF & RESTROOMS RENOVATION

For the last month you've been hearing about our Roof and Restrooms Renovation! I continue to be thankful for the blessing of our facilities and the generosity of our congregation.

As we approach our Giving Sunday, November 16, I hope that we can collectively make a way for these projects to all be funded. The roof is an obvious necessity, and the restrooms facelift will make an immediate impact for not only our congregation but for all the hospitality we offer the community. Please prayerfully consider how God is leading you to give to this renovation.



PASTOR AND STAFF APPRECIATION MONTH

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to making October such an encouragement to our staff and pastors. You regularly let me know that I am loved, and pastor appreciation month is always special as a result. It is such a joy to be your senior pastor. The staff and I have felt your care for us, and public acknowledgement is oftentimes difficult to receive, but we thank you. If you desire to show further appreciation, we all agreed that we would gladly accept any donations made in our honor to our Roof & Restrooms Renovation (maybe because the leaks occur in our offices and we are the ones who use the restrooms here more than anyone else)!

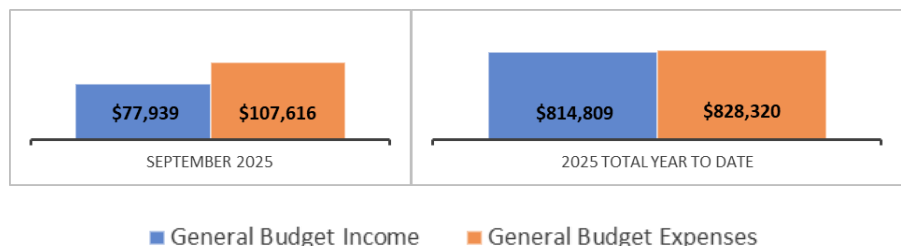
Faithfully,

Andy

STRATEGIC STATS

Worship Services	September Average	Year to Date Averages
9:00 a.m. - In Person	145	120
9:00 a.m. - Online	156	147
10:30 a.m. - In Person	151	166
10:30 a.m. - Online	138	128
Sunday Children	55	60
Wednesday Youth	59	49
Average Weekly In Person Worship	410	401
Average Weekly Online Worship	294	275

General Budget



SERVE

SHARE THANKSGIVING 2025

Share Thanksgiving is a great opportunity for each of us to help others in our community share in a traditional Thanksgiving meal. By donating a full meal or one or more meal components, you will assist those who are not able to purchase these holiday foods on their own.

FIRST STEP:

On November 2, 9, and 16, you can sign up to bring an entire meal or one or more meal components listed below by filling out a sign-up form, which will be distributed each week. On Sunday, November 23 all items need to be brought to church. We will compile meals for delivery that morning. *Meal components:* turkey (frozen), rolls and stuffing, vegetables and sides, desserts

WHAT DO I BRING?

The idea is that you bring items that you enjoy cooking for your own Thanksgiving meal. If you usually make pumpkin pie for dessert, we suggest a can of pumpkin pie mix (including spices), a pie crust mix, and Cool Whip or Dream Whip. Some of you have used your creativity to include a favorite casserole recipe with all the ingredients as a side dish.

SUGGESTIONS & IDEAS

Vegetables/side dishes: Potatoes (fresh bag of potatoes or box of mashed potatoes mix), gravy (glass jar or packet), canned vegetables, canned yams, your favorite recipe with ingredients (green bean casserole, candied yams, etc.)
Desserts: pie mix, crust mix, Cool Whip, cookies, cake mix, your favorite recipe with ingredients

OUT OF TOWN?

Will you be out of town the Sunday before Thanksgiving? You can still arrange to get your items to the church by dropping them off during office hours the week prior. We do ask that you carefully label your items with your name and whatever meal components you are providing.

HOW MANY PER MEAL?

While it is difficult to predict the sizes of the families for whom items will be provided, we ask that you bring enough to feed a family of four. We can make adjustments as we compile the meals, as needed.

HOW CAN I HELP?

DELIVER MEALS! Deliverers head off in their own vehicle with addresses in hand, and we have maps of Troy available if needed. We also have some instructions should you not reach someone at home.

BRING FOOD! Either meal components or an entire meal

PRAY for the families receiving meals

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Sharie Meyer or Bonnie Abel at (618) 667-6241. To sign up to deliver or to help put together boxes on Sunday, November 23, email our Discipleship Pastor at bonnie@troymc.org.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Boxes went out on Sunday, October 19 and soon the packing will begin! Grab your Operation Christmas Child Shoebox and label from the Family Life Center or Sanctuary foyer and return by Sunday, November 16 packed full of toys and other fun items! If you have questions about what to pack, check out the packed shoeboxes on display for ideas! You can also pick up a handout to see additional suggestions.

Remember that soap is no longer allowed in the shoeboxes. For a full list of restricted items go to the Operation Christmas Child website. As you pack your box, remember to pray over it and reflect on the fact that each shoebox is a chance to show the love of Christ to a child. Giving to others is one of the greatest gifts of the Christmas season, and it points us back to the greatest gift: the Christ child!



SERVE & CONNECT

THANKSGIVING SERVICE WITH SOUP & SALAD POTLUCK Wednesday, November 26, Noon, Family Life Center

Mark your calendars for this year's Thanksgiving Service, **Wednesday, November 26**. We will meet in the Family Life Center for a time of worship, including a homily and special music. Following the service, we will have a potluck lunch of soups, salads, and desserts so we can enjoy time together in community.

If your last name begins with A-L, bring a dessert to share

If your last name begins with M-S, bring a soup to share

If your last name begins with T-Z, bring a salad to share

(Drinks, bread, dishes and utensils will be provided.)

Additionally, there will be a **special offering during this service that will go towards our Financial Assistance Fund**. Over the past year we have helped families with assistance paying their rent, electric bills, water bills, groceries, car payments, gasoline, clothing, and much more! This is all made possible by your generous support!

Thanksgiving Service with Soup & Salad Potluck

Wednesday, November 26, Noon
Family Life Center



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

November 18, Noon

NOTICE: Date change due to our regular week being the week of Thanksgiving.

Our Senior Ministry, J.O.Y. Seekers (55+) is having a Thanksgiving-themed lunch on November 18 at noon with sliced smoked turkey from Fire & Smoke, sweet potato soufflé, stuffing, & cranberry sauce. Members are encouraged to bring any *other side dishes or desserts*.

Our program for that day will be pianist Clarence DeVore. Watch weekly eReach emails for more details.

Please register for our gathering beginning November 5-13 by calling the office at (618) 667-6241. Let us know if you are planning on bringing a side dish or dessert. REMEMBER: We ask each person to donate \$10 to help cover food costs.

TROY METHODIST WOMEN - ANNUAL NUT SALE

TMW Annual Fundraiser

Pecans, Cashews, & Mixed Nuts
\$12 for 1 lb. bags



The TMW is now accepting orders for the Annual Nut Sale. All proceeds go to the many missions they support. The one-pound bags of mammoth pecans, pecan pieces, holiday cashews, and mixed nuts are \$12 per bag. These nuts keep well in the freezer. Plan ahead and stock up for the coming year!

The nuts are expected to arrive in early November in time for all your holiday baking. Please contact Betsy Middleton at kgmbm@hotmail.com to place your order. We will be selling til they're all gone! And they go fast, so get your orders in now!

BAPTISM SUNDAY Sunday, November 16

Celebrate new life in Christ in each of our worship services on Baptism Sunday, November 16.

Have you recently surrendered your life to Christ? Have you already been baptized but would like to remember your baptism? Are you wanting your child to be baptized? Young, old, or in between, if you are ready to take this next step in your journey with Jesus by sharing your faith publicly through baptism or remembrance of baptism, please contact Pastor Andy. This may be a perfect way for you to share some of your story for God's glory!



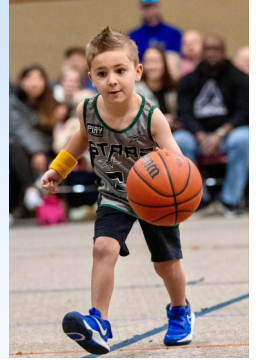
CONNECT

UPWARD CHEERLEADING & CO-ED BASKETBALL *Registration & Evaluations Serving Opportunities*

UPWARD
SPORTS

Registration has been open for less than a month and we're already up to 70 participants! We expect up to 300 basketballers and cheerleaders before all is said and done! Register today or share with a friend! www.troymc.org/upward-sports

We really hope that all of Troy Methodist Church joins together to welcome and serve our community through this great ministry that connects with hundreds of people without a church home. Please consider helping during our Evaluation dates: November 3 or 14 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. or November 30 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Serving opportunities include greeters, check-in, uniform sizers, and several folks willing to test the players' skills (don't be intimidated - it's easy!). Sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44ABAA28A3F9C52-58777191-2025> or contact our Upward Coordinators, Tyson or Erica Graham at upward@troymc.org.



TROY
METHODIST WOMEN
FAITH • MISSIONS • SERVICE

TMW NOVEMBER MEETING

Thursday, November 13, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Family Life Center

Our regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the FLC. The guest speaker this month will be Afton Spriggs, Church and Community Coordinator with SAFE Families.

Our yearly "Nut Sales" are beginning so please make sure you purchase an assortment of nuts for \$12 a bag. Please look for order forms in the church lobbies, and a link is provided in a separate article in this newsletter.

SAVE THE DATE! WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Saturday, December 6, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.



This Advent season, join us for a morning of community, inspiration, and refreshment! Along with a delicious brunch, the event will be filled with beautiful music by our very own Marissa Rushik and an inspirational message by special guest, Valerie Johnson. Val is a powerful and encouraging speaker who loves Jesus Christ!

Tickets go on sale this month and will be available to purchase after church services on November 16, 23, and 30. Watch the weekly eReach and the church website for additional details.

NEXT STEP TO CONNECT

Sunday, December 7, 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

If you are new to our church family or haven't attended a Connect Lunch in the past, this invitation is for you! On Sunday, December 7, we will have a Connect Lunch following the 10:30 a.m. service. Starting at 11:45 a.m. and going until 1:15 p.m., we will enjoy lunch from Fire and Smoke BBQ, spend time getting to know each other and provide time to answer questions you might have about our church family. Staff from various ministries will be available to answer questions and share about ways to get connected. We will also take a tour of our church facilities so you can get to know your way around.

Childcare is available upon request with RSVP. 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. Sign up by emailing Bonnie at bonnie@troymc.org.



TROY METHODIST KIDS

Gingerbread Bash

Sunday, December 7, 4:00-5:30 p.m., Family Life Center

This year, we're throwing a Christmas celebration that your family simply can't miss! It's called "Gingerbread Bash" and it's happening on December 7 from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

You might be wondering, "What exactly is a Gingerbread Bash?"

Well, it's a gingerbread nativity building party that's perfect for the whole family. Along with creating and decorating your own gingerbread nativity, you'll enjoy games, singing, hearing the Christmas story straight from the Bible, and discovering how Jesus is the true STAR of our lives.

It's an incredible way for your family to celebrate our Savior's birth! Invite your friends, family, and neighbors!

You definitely don't want to miss out on all the fun, so be sure to register at troymc.org/gingerbread-bash.



Guarding Your Family's Peace This Holiday Season

By Jenn Diliberto

The holiday season should be filled with joy and connection, but for many families it can bring stress or tension. As parents and caregivers, we have a responsibility to protect our family's peace and set a Christlike example — even when that means making hard choices.

1. Don't Let Toxic People Control Your Schedule

Proverbs 4:23 says, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." Guarding your heart means guarding your family's peace. Don't let unhealthy relationships decide how you spend your time. Kids are learning from how you set boundaries and choose calm over conflict.

2. Prioritize Worship and Godly Community

In the busyness of the season, make space for church and time with people who lift you up in prayer. Hebrews 10:24–25 reminds us to keep meeting together and to encourage one another toward love and good deeds. Choose spaces that strengthen your family's faith.

3. Choose Peace Over Proving a Point

When tensions rise, remember that peace is powerful. Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers" (Matthew 5:9). Turning the other cheek doesn't mean accepting mistreatment — it means responding with grace instead of anger. Your children will remember how you handled hard moments more than who "won" the conversation.

4. Keep Perspective

Not every moment will go as planned, and that's okay. Focus on what truly matters — loving your family well, honoring the Lord, and reflecting His peace. Philippians 4:7 promises, "The peace of God...will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

This season, choose peace over pressure and presence over perfection. Your children will remember the warmth in your home more than any event on the calendar.

CONTACT

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

WEBSITE

troymc.org/kids

FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

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

TROY METHODIST STUDENTS

HIGH SCHOOL 2026 MISSION TRIP INFO MEETING Sunday, November 9, 12:00-1:00 p.m., Upper Family Life Center

In 2026, the High School Mission Trip will be through Praying Pelican Missions, and students will be traveling to serve in Colorado.

This initial meeting is open to all high school students and their parents who would like more information. We also need to get some input on the kind of projects we might like to do through the mission organization! Questions, contact Courtney Froidcoeur at courtney@troymc.org. Hope to see you on November 9 after church!

HIGH SCHOOL FALL RETREAT November 21 - 23

One of the big highlights of the year is the High School Fall Retreat Weekend at Little Grassy!

You don't want to miss this time to pull away, leave the normal schedule behind, spend time with friends in nature, and grow closer to Jesus!

The retreat is Friday, November 21 through Sunday, November 23. Cost is \$150 and you can find out more and register at troymc.org/students or by emailing ryan@troymc.org or courtney@troymc.org!

HIGH SCHOOL FALL RETREAT



NOVEMBER 21-23, 2025 | LITTLE GRASSY CAMP
REGISTER AT TROYMC.ORG/STUDENTS

2026 SUMMER CALENDAR AVAILABLE!

If you're planning out next summer and want to make a commitment to go on a mission trip or attend summer camp or a special ministry, you can find all the dates at troymc.org/students. We don't have all the details, but we know when each trip and event is!

**Summer
2026**

DATES AND INFO AS IT COMES IN!



CONTACT

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

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRIP

Sunday, November 16, 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.

On Sunday, November 16, the middle school student ministry will take a trip to the STL Museum of Illusions and get some dinner at Galactic Fries!

We will leave at 2:00 p.m. and arrive back home about 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$30. For more information, visit troymc.org/students.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

STL Museum Of
Illusions & Galactic
Fries At The Foundry

**SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 16**

Leave at 2:00 pm
Home at 6:00 pm

(Cost is \$30.00)

troymc.org/students

FALL RALLY

Praise the Lord for the Fall Rally with students from all over the region!

On Saturday, October 18, approximately 150 students and leaders gathered in the Family Life Center for a day of worship, preaching, and growing in relationship with Jesus!

You can see photos by searching: Harvest Ministry on Facebook.



WEBSITE

troymc.org/students

FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

@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

***Middle School Ministry Leader**
Wenifer Greer

***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

Connect with us!



NOVEMBER SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
November 7	Worship Circle (page 1)
November 9	Student Ministry - High School 2026 Mission Trip Info Mtg (page 7)
November 13	TMW November Meeting (page 5)
November 16	Baptism Sunday (page 4)
November 16	Student Ministry - Middle School Trip (page 7)
November 18	Joy Seekers Lunch & Program (page 4)
November 21-23	Student Ministry - High School Fall Retreat (page 7)
November 26	Thanksgiving Service with Soup & Salad Potluck (page 4)

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

As I look around our church family, my heart is filled with gratitude. I'm especially thankful for those of you who help in our **Care Ministry** reaching out to our members who can no longer be with us in person, our shut-ins, those in nursing homes and in assisted living.

Your visits, phone calls, cards, and prayers are more than kind gestures, they are living reminders of Christ's love in action. Every time you send a card, take a few moments to stop by, listen, pray, or simply bring a smile, you become the hands and feet of Jesus to someone who may feel forgotten.

As the Apostle Paul wrote, *"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel"* (Philippians 1:3-5). That verse captures my heart perfectly. I truly thank God for each of you who shares in our ministry of Care.

Our Care Ministry isn't just about what we *do*, it's about who we *are* as a church that cares and loves like Jesus. Thank you for extending that love so beautifully. Let's keep shining God's light into every room, every heart, and every season of life. - With heartfelt thanks, Pastor Dan

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS
Thursday, November 20, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Upper Family Life Center

Questions, contact Dan Perry at dan@troymc.org.



TROY METHODIST WOMEN THANK YOU

A big "Thank You" to everyone who participated during the yearly Rummage and Bake Sale! It was a success and helped so many people in our community and surrounding area! God has blessed us all!



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Troy, IL 62294
troymc.org

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