



REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS

SEPTEMBER 2025
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my story...
GOD'S GLORY



MY STORY, GOD'S GLORY

What's your story? Everybody has one!

Beginning in September we will hear testimonies from various staff members, retired pastors, and seminary students connected with Troy Methodist Church. Every story is unique because our God is a personal God who reaches out to each of us in just the way we need to experience his grace and mercy. But although every story is unique, each one brings God glory. As you hear the various stories, we hope that you will begin to understand and articulate your own story of how God has called you out of darkness and into his wonderful light and that sharing it will be for God's glory!

September 7 – Everybody Has One – 1 Peter 2:9-10

September 14 – Dan Perry – Ephesians 2:1-10; 2 Corinthians 5:17

September 21 – Marissa Rushik (Horning) – Lamentations 3:19-24

September 28 – Tim Price – Ephesians 5:1-2



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

Worship CIRCLES



JOIN OUR NEXT WORSHIP CIRCLE

Friday, September 19, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Upper Family Life Center

A worship circle is a gathering of people who are there to give praise and worship to God and to grow together as worshipers and musicians. Some instruments (guitars, percussion) will be provided if you do not have your own, and you are also welcome to simply sing! From seasoned musicians to absolute beginners, all are welcome!

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

EVERYBODY WINS WHEN A LEADER GETS BETTER

In August I attended the Global Leadership Summit (GLS) for the 16th time since 2004. The GLS is a 2-day conference that brings together some of the best church and business leaders to share insights on a wide variety of relevant topics. It is broadcast live at sites across all 50 states and around the world to hundreds of thousands of people all with the same goal – to grow as a leader because everybody wins when a leader gets better! Here are some of my greatest takeaways from a few of the speakers.

Craig Groeschel taught that “great leadership is boring! It’s the small, consistent choices over time that make the biggest long-term impact.” This teaching reminded me that my consistent routines (time with God, exercise, eating habits, work rhythms, etc) really matter. I came away excited to sharpen those routines for greater impact.

Juliet Funt shared the importance of a “reductive mindset” and taught a five-step model called the “Spin Launcher: *Generate, Separate, Evaluate, Eliminate, Liberate*”. This reminded me that we can’t keep adding more things to our plates personally, at home, or at church. We must also take things off our plate. I look forward to sharing this process with our staff and Adaptive Leadership Team so we can continually stay focused on the mission.

Erica Dhawan helped me better understand “digital body language” and the most appropriate use of a variety of mediums: text, email, video meetings, and face-to-face meetings. I’ll be sharing some insights with our staff and leaders!

Nick Saben had many leadership lessons to share, but one stood out regarding the discipline of making intentional choices rather than being driven by feelings. “Can you make yourself do what you don’t want to do because it needs to be done? And can you avoid the things you want to do because you know they won’t help you achieve your goals? That makes a champion.”

Tasha Eurich who wrote the book, *Shatterproof*, shared the truth that “we all have a resilience ceiling” and that when we reach our limits, we need to offer grace to ourselves and create a new strategy that addresses our core needs. I want to be a need-fueling leader.

James Hewitt taught about “regenerative performance” and how to focus on important work at key times of the day and isolate “middle gear” work (email and meetings) to be less distracted. Can I get an amen?

Stephanie Chung taught how to better lead people not like us, **John Maxwell** inspired me with his character and life-long habits that leave a legacy, and **Jon Acuff** offered practical “permissions” to overcome procrastination: permission to dream, plan, do, and review. I came away with so many insights and little nuggets to implement to get better!

If you’d like to join me and a team of staff and laity from TMC at next year’s GLS, register for the O’Fallon, Illinois site for \$249 at <https://www.globalleadership.org/summit#participate>

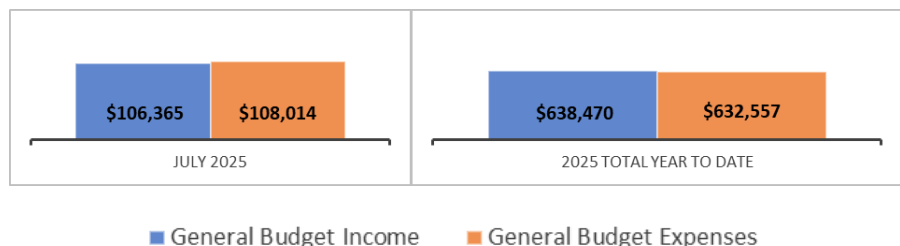
Faithfully,

Andy

STRATEGIC STATS

Worship Services	July Average	Year to Date Averages
9:00 a.m. - In Person	111	118
9:00 a.m. - Online	140	152
10:30 a.m. - In Person	161	169
10:30 a.m. - Online	114	119
Sunday Children	62	61
Wednesday Youth	33	46
Average Weekly In Person Worship	367	406
Average Weekly Online Worship	254	271

General Budget



JOURNEY GROUPS

CONNECT BY JOINING A JOURNEY GROUP

Here at Troy Methodist Church, we believe that Journey Groups are one of the best ways for you to get connected, grow spiritually, and see lasting transformational change in your life! We were designed by God to live in relationship with others, and we believe that positive, lasting change happens best when we are surrounded by others who support, encourage, and challenge us. Through weekly gatherings, our hope is that you have the opportunity to learn about God and know that you are a part of the Troy Methodist family.

Below you will see our list of current Journey Group offerings. If you have any questions, or you know that you would need childcare or a child-friendly atmosphere, please reach out to our Discipleship Pastor, Bonnie, at bonnie@troymc.org. She would love to get you connected to just the right group!



SUNDAY, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Open to: Everyone
Sermon Series Discussion Group
Start Date: Ongoing
Location: Room 241
Leader: Tom Finley

Phone/Email: 314.578.6957/tomlfinley@aol.com



MONDAY, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Open to: Young Adults
Sermon Series Discussion Group
Start Date: September 22
Location: Home of Marissa - Caseyville
Leader: Marissa Rushik (Horning)

Phone/Email: 309.224.9377/marissa@troymc.org



SUNDAY, 10:15 – 11:00 a.m.

Open to: Everyone
Study: Books of the Bible
Start Date: Ongoing
Location: Choir Rehearsal Room
Leader: Jeff Johnson

Phone/Email: 618.979.1267/jeffjane627@gmail.com



WEDNESDAY, 6:30 – 7:45 p.m.

Open to: Everyone
Study: Discovering Daniel by Amir Tsarfati
Start Date: September 17
Location: Upper Family Life Center
Leader: Beth Repp

Phone/Email: 309.825.1074/elizabeth.repp@yahoo.com



SUNDAY, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Open to: Everyone
Study: Romans: Becoming New in Christ
Start Date: August 10
Location: Home of Vic & Ellie - Highland
Leaders: Vic & Ellie Mitchell

Phone/Email: 918.397.5943/vic_56@msn.com



WEDNESDAY, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Open to: Everyone
Study: Epic of Eden: Deborah by Sandra Richter
Start Date: September 3
Location: 809 Washington St., Highland, IL
Leaders: Dan Perry & Dave Lauchner

Phone/Email: 618.830.5589/dan@troymc.org



MONDAY, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Open to: Women – All Ages
Study: TBD
Start Date: September 29
Location: Sanctuary
Leader: Deb Ellis

Phone/Email: 618.581.3383/debsellis@sbcglobal.net



THURSDAY, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Open to: Women – All Ages
Study: Prayer by Timothy Keller
Start Date: September 4
Location: Upper Family Life Center
Leader: Bonnie Abel

Phone/Email: 314.496.0890/bonnie@troymc.org



MONDAY, 6:15 – 8:00 p.m.

Open to: Women – All Ages
Study: A Jesus-Shaped Life by Lisa Harper
Start Date: September 8
Location: Choir Rehearsal Room
Leader: Beth Barbour

Phone/Email: 618.977.9323/bbarbour67@gmail.com



THURSDAY, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Open to: Men – All Ages
Study: The Gospels - The Wake-Up Call
Start Date: September 4
Location: Room 241
Leader: Tom Finley

Phone/Email: 314.578.6957/tomlfinley@aol.com



MONDAY, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Open to: Everyone
Sermon Series Discussion Group
Start Date: August 25
Location: 2021 Kensington Place, St. Jacob
Leaders: Barb Buck & Julie Ford

Phone/Email: 618.363.2847/jordanandbarb@outlook.com



SATURDAY, 7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Open to: Men – All Ages
Study: The Gospel of John
Start Date: September 13
Location: Troy Methodist Church
Leaders: Carl Inman, Jordan Buck, Rick Lechner

Phone/Email: 618.604.6551/cri2000@gmail.com

More groups are currently forming, including a college aged group!

Watch for updates in the weekly eReach and on social media

SERVE & CONNECT



MEET TRACEY BERKEMEIER Communications Coordinator

Tracey joined the TMC staff in August as the Communications Coordinator. She grew up in Troy and currently resides here with her husband, Mitch, and three kids, Aubrey (12), Makenna (10), and Austin (7).

With a background in Mass Communications, primarily video production, Tracey brings a variety of communications experience with her. She is also a freelance video editor for Switzerfilm and a substitute teacher in the Triad School District.

MISSION MOMENT

Over the past few months, we have had some exciting moments on mission! For starters we raised 32,197 pennies—made up of 20,497 loose pennies, 1,600 rolled pennies, and \$101.00 already converted to pennies—for the Coins of Honor organization. Each coin is a symbol of remembrance, honor, and the ongoing commitment to our Veterans. Your contribution is helping Veterans to reflect, be remembered, and feel valued. Also, this summer our Troy area churches gave out 7,096 lunches during our summer lunch program! That means that in the towns of Troy, St. Jacob, and Marine every child had a chance to have a free meal every day of the week! We also donated \$1,000.00 as a church family to Red Bird Mission as a way of continuing to support the amazing work that our student ministry partnered in earlier this summer!

As we move into the month of September, I encourage you to start gathering your gently used or new items to give to the many collections that are coming! The Troy Methodist Women are collecting for Oasis Women's Center and for their annual Rummage Sale. The Mission Team is collecting new or gently used men's clothing, tennis shoes, backpacks, and duffle bags to give to Chestnut Health for their active work with the unhoused population in our area. If you have any questions about ways YOU can be on mission, please reach out to our Discipleship Pastor, Bonnie at bonnie@troymc.org.

"ESSENTIALS DRIVE" TO SUPPORT OASIS WOMEN'S CENTER

Oasis Women's Center, located in Alton, IL, provides emergency shelter and supportive services to victims of domestic violence. Women and their children in crisis often escape from their homes quickly, leaving all possessions behind.

This month, Troy Methodist Women are hosting an "Essentials Drive," collecting some of the most needed items to support these families. When you are out shopping, please consider picking up: **size 1 diapers, size 4 & 5 toddler pull ups, women's underwear sizes 8 and up** (new and in the package), **cleaning supplies, liquid laundry detergent, and plastic kitchen storage containers**. Please bring your donations to the church by **September 30**.

Donation baskets are available in the Sanctuary Lobby and Family Life Center Lobby. Donations can be left at the church office on weekdays, Monday through Thursday.

TMW ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE October 3 & 4

Have you started fall cleaning? Take advantage of the Troy Methodist Women's Annual Rummage Sale to transform yesterday's treasures into support for others. This is a great local community outreach!

We will be collecting donations in the Family Life Center Thursday & Friday, October 2 & 3. The sale will take place Friday, October 3 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 4 from 8:00 a.m. - noon.

Watch for donation details in the weekly eReach and on flyers posted in the church building.



TROY
METHODIST WOMEN
FAITH • MISSIONS • SERVICE

SEPTEMBER MEETING Thursday, September 11 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Family Life Center

Since this is 9/11 Remembrance Day, how appropriate it is to have a representative from the Madison County Medical Reserve Corp, regarding disaster preparedness, as our guest speaker.

For more information on our ministry, please contact Libby Gregg at lgregg129@gmail.com.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

SERVE & CONNECT



TMC "MEN AT THE PARK"
Saturday, October 4,
9:00 a.m. - noon
Troy Tri-Township Park,
Pavilion #8

Open to all guys and boys
(ages middle school &
high school and up)

Join us for a day of outdoor activities, food, and fun! Some of our planned activities include disc golf, pickleball, bean bag toss, and country-style bocce ball.

We will enjoy a meal together at 11:15 a.m. Lunch will include barbeque, cole slaw, mac n' cheese, and drinks provided by Fire & Smoke. There is a suggested donation of \$10 per person to cover expenses.

If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to the church office at (618) 667-6241 or by email to sharie@troymc.org. We need a good headcount to ensure enough food is ordered.

Have questions? Contact Carl Inman at (618) 604-7551/
cri2000@gmail.com; Rick Lechner at (406) 799-3019/
ricklechnerjr@yahoo.com; Jordan Buck at (618) 910-8273/
jordanandbarb3920@gmail.com



**SUPPORT OUR YOUTH AT THE
TROY CITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE**
September 19 & 20
7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Many of our youth have decided to join the Troy City-Wide Garage Sale by hosting tables in the TMC Family Life Center parking lot. They are raising money to go towards purchasing items for the annual Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes.

Would you like to join their efforts? You can reserve your own table in the parking lot. Or you can donate items to the youth participants. (*Proceeds from donated items will go directly to the Operation Christmas Child project.*)

Want a table, have donations, or need more information, contact Paige Borders at (618) 365-5292.



J.O.Y. SEEKERS - "JUST OLDER YOUTH" (55+ ADULTS)
We're Going To The Price Farm Jamboree!

Join us on **Sunday, September 7**, for a road trip to attend the **Price Farm Jamboree** - a free concert of music performed by members of the Price Family under the pecan tree grove on the Price Farm in Rockbridge, IL.

If you plan to ride the church bus, please bring \$5 per person cash for fuel expenses. Also don't forget to bring a folding chair and a jacket. Refreshments will be available at the concert for a monetary donation.

Watch the weekly eReach for further details as they become available.

To register, call the church office (618) 667-6204 or contact Pastor Dan at dan@troymc.org or (618) 830-5589.

**** JOY Seekers will NOT meet
on the 4th Tuesday, September 23****



TROY METHODIST KIDS

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SURVIVAL GUIDE

Because life doesn't come with a syllabus!

Verse for the Year

Philippians 4:6–7 – “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

1. Remember Who's Got You

Going back to school can feel exciting... and a little terrifying. New teachers, new friends, new routines, and possibly new math you didn't know existed. But here's the truth—God cares about every detail. Every. Single. One. He's not just paying attention when your kids are at church; He's in their classrooms, in the lunchroom, and even at their lockers when they're frustrated wondering where to put all those binders.

2. Make It Your Best Yes

That's not to say no parent involvement—please, we beg of you—parent involvement matters! But here's a tip: you don't have to say “yes” to every single activity, committee, or club. Instead, make it your best yes—choose the things that build your kids' faith, character, and joy instead of overloading their schedules (and yours).

3. Find Your Weirdos

All kids, but especially older kids, are all about what I lovingly call “finding your weirdos.” Everyone is a weirdo in my book (and I say that as a compliment). Your weirdos are the people you can be your authentic self around and know they'll still accept you. Encourage your kids to find those people—and to be those people for someone else. Look for the left-out kids, the ones who eat alone, or the ones who seem invisible. A simple “Hey, want to sit with us?” can change someone's whole day.

4. Bring Your Worries to God

Worry is like that one song stuck in your head—you can't always stop it from popping up, but you can change what you focus on. Philippians 4:6–7 reminds us that when we pray about everything (yes, even pop quizzes), God's peace will guard our hearts and minds.

5. Bonus Tip: Pack Extra Snacks

It's not in the Bible, but it probably should be. Hunger can make anyone cranky—kids, parents, even teachers. A granola bar might not solve all your problems, but it's a start!

TWEENS - KICKING OFF A NEW SESSION

Wednesday, September 3, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

A new session of Tweens is kicking off with a party on Wednesday, September 3 in the Upper Family Life Center.

TWEENS is open to all girls entering 4th or 5th grade (and any girls from last session). We meet every Wednesday from 5:00-6:00 p.m. during the school year.

For more information, contact Jennifer Zahn at tiergirl@gmail.com.



Sunday Morning Fun

The kids have been enjoying the new outdoor playground equipment

CONTACT

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

WEBSITE

troymc.org/kids

FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

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

TROY METHODIST STUDENTS

CONFIRMATION CLASS INVITATION

Sunday, September 21 at 9:00 a.m., TMC Rehearsal Room

Would you like to make your faith your own? Confirmation class is about to begin, and we would love to usher you further along in your journey.

If you are currently in 7th grade or if you completed 7th grade in the last couple of years, this is the place for you. Come out on **Sunday, September 21** to learn what to expect and what's expected of you.

There are eight classes in the fall and eight in the spring. All will be at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays, and there will be some times for retreats and reflections. Friendships will evolve as we learn the basics of the faith we have in Jesus Christ.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Wenifer Greer at wenifer@troymc.org

WHAT HAPPENS ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS?

Student Ministry happens every Wednesday evening from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. During this time, students enjoy dinner, worship together, and engage with the devotions and lesson. They also meet in small groups for discussion, Bible, growth, and prayer. Most Wednesdays, we also have a game or activity.

Middle school students (6th, 7th, and 8th grades) and high school students (9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades) meet separately for the lesson, small groups, and activity. Everyone participates in the meal and worship together.

Every student is welcome and encouraged to invite friends!

If you have any questions about Wednesday nights, contact any of the student ministry leadership team - [Courtney](#), [Ryan](#) or [Wenifer](#).

WORSHIP TEAMS START A NEW YEAR

The High School Praise Band will begin August 20 at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. If you are in high school and enjoy playing music, you're welcome to join. This includes both playing in the band and working tech. If you have any questions, please email ryan@troymc.org.

The Middle School Worship Team meets from 5:00 - 5:50 p.m. on Wednesday evenings, beginning September 3. This group is for any 6th-8th grade student (or high school student who would like to learn an instrument) who loves music, and would love to learn to lead/play worship music. Contact tim@troymc.org.



ADULT SERVING OPPORTUNITY

Each Wednesday night, we host a meal for student ministry and invite members of the church to help provide a meal! Thank you to each person / group / family who has joined us! The dinner is at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday for about 50 people. Will you take a night? You can sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A45ADA72DA1F4CF8-57326198-wednesday>

CONTACT

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

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

***Director of Modern Worship**
Marissa Rushik (Horning)

***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!



SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
September 3	Kids Ministry - Tweens Kickoff (page 6)
September 7	J.O.Y. Seekers Trip to Price Farm Jamboree (page 5)
September 11	Troy Methodist Women Meeting (page 4)
September 19	Worship Circle (front cover)
September 19-20	Student Ministry - City-Wide Garage Sale Participation (page 5)
September 21	Student Ministry - Confirmation Class Begins (page 7)

CARE – GET INVOLVED! By Pastor Dan

Fall is a perfect season to try something new—and there's no better place to start than with our **Caring Hearts Ministry**.

This ministry is a special outreach of our church dedicated to ensuring that every person homebound or in a facility receives a personal phone call, a visit each month, and when requested, communion taken to those who can't come to church. We want each person to feel they are a cherished part of God's family, and no one should feel forgotten or alone.

One way we honor our seniors is through our **Caring Hearts Ministry** visitation teams. The ministry's goal is to provide emotional support, companionship, and encouragement to elderly individuals who may feel isolated or overlooked by offering prayers, encouragement, and meaningful conversation, and to identify needs and provide help when possible. Volunteers bring friendship, prayer, and encouragement to those who can't get out. A short visit, call, or card can brighten a day—and often, you walk away encouraged yourself!

For years, many of our seniors have prayed, served, loved, and persevered through the ups and downs of life. Their faith is a living sermon, and their service has been a blessing to our church family.

Caring Hearts Ministry needs caring people with willing hearts. If you're interested in joining our **Caring Hearts Ministry Team**, contact Pastor Dan at (618) 830-5589 or dan@troymc.org



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407 Edwardsville Road
Troy, IL 62294
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