



REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS.

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BLOOD RED LETTERS

JESUS' FINAL WORDS FROM THE CROSS

Bloody, beaten, and nailed to a cross, a dying Jesus looked at those around him and spoke his final words before his death. **What did he say?** Join us as we **relive Jesus' final hours** and celebrate his ultimate victory in *Blood Red Letters*.

- March 31st – Why have you forsaken me?
- April 7th – Father, forgive them
- April 14th (Palm Sunday) – It is finished
- April 21st (Easter Sunday) – Today you will be with me

You will not want to miss this powerful series when we will get a glimpse of the heart of Jesus for each of us. Make sure you bring a phone/camera to worship on **Palm Sunday** for a **photo opportunity with a very special guest!** You will definitely want to invite a friend!

Preparation for Easter Sunday

Schedule – We will have our normal worship schedule on Easter Sunday with an additional Sunrise Service at 6:30am followed by breakfast in the Family Life Center.

Choosing Your Service – We anticipate our 9:00am (Family Life Center) and 10:15am (Sanctuary) services to be very full. If this is your normal worship time, please consider worshipping at 8:00am (Sanctuary) or 10:45am (Family Life Center). If you are coming to 9:00am or 10:15am, please fill in seats and sit up front to make room for more guests!

Parking – Arrive early as the parking lots will fill up fast! Our parking greeters will help direct traffic, but if you are able, please consider parking in the furthest spots (softball fields) to save the close spots for the elderly, guests and late comers!

Good Friday Service

April 19th - 7pm

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. Join us in the Sanctuary for a memorable Good Friday "Service of Shadows" where we will walk through the Passion of Jesus Christ with Scripture and meditative music.



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY



Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Andy Adams

General Conference Response

Many of you paid close attention to last month's specially called General Conference of the United Methodist Church where delegates from around the globe voted to retain our denomination's current language regarding human sexuality and reaffirm the definition of marriage as between one man and one woman. Several people have asked me about my response or Troy UMC's response.

I struggled mightily with my response as I know that our church has a wide range of feelings on topics of human sexuality. Some identify as traditional, some as liberal, some as conservative, some as progressive and some don't know what to think or feel. Yet I am called to spiritually shepherd each of you. Shepherding doesn't involve telling you what to think or how to feel, but to lead you to the well that will never run dry. I tried to do so in my sermon on March 3rd. It was a very snowy day (again!) and attendance was low as a result, but you can still watch my response online at <https://vimeo.com/321073149>.

On March 18th, our church council met for the first time since General Conference took place and we discussed our response. Our group did not approve any official statement, however they entrusted me to convey their overall thoughts and feelings. Although our council is made up of people with differing opinions and feelings about the results of General Conference, we all agreed that we remain a United Methodist Church. And we will do what we can to remain faithful to our shared covenant as outlined in our denomination's *Book of Discipline* which contains our history, doctrine and organizational rules for life and ministry in every United Methodist Church. Furthermore, we were emphatic that Troy UMC will continue our mission of *inviting people on a journey with Jesus* – all people. We shared a renewed conviction that our ministry initiatives established in our Mission 1:8 plan are all the more important as we share the love of Jesus amongst ourselves (Jerusalem), in our community and the broader Metro East (Judea and Samaria) and to the ends of the earth. In fact, at our meeting we took some next steps in that Mission 1:8 plan which I will share more about in the coming weeks and months.

At several gatherings throughout the conference, our Bishop Frank Beard, shared that General Conference "changed nothing, but shifted everything." Most of us felt the shaking and the tremors. Some more than others. But at the end of the day, the General Conference didn't change anything about who we are and what our mission is at Troy UMC. You can rest assured that our church today is the same church you loved before any vote was taken at General Conference.

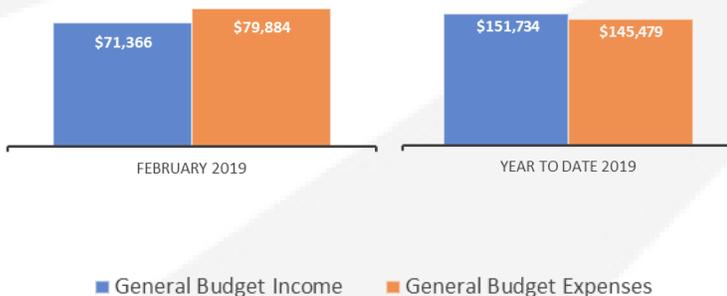
One final note. I want to express my sincere gratitude for each of you who showered love and encouragement on me as a delegate at General Conference and as your pastor trying to lead us through uncertain waters. Honestly, it's been an immense burden. My wife told me she thinks I aged 10 years in 2 weeks, and that is the way I feel. But I have found so much rejuvenation and joy in being your pastor and serving Jesus with my whole heart. Thank you for your prayers.

Faithfully,

Andy

STRATEGIC STATS

General Budget



Worship Services	February Average	2019 Average
8:00am	38	41
9:00am	130	138
10:15am	142	120
10:45am	92	96
Sunday Children	62	59
Wednesday Youth	36	40
St. Jacob 10:15am	17	15
*Scout Service (2/3)	66	
*Combined Service (2/7)	465	
*Fire-Up Service (2/24)	203	
Total Weekly Worship:	565	519

Our mission is to invite people on a journey with Jesus!



We invite you to:

- Connect** to God and our faith community
- Grow** into a wholehearted follower of Jesus
- Serve** with your God-given gifts and passions
- Share** God's love regionally and globally
- Worship God in everything you say and do

CONNECT

United Methodist Women

The April UMW meeting will be Thursday, April 11th from 1:00-3:00pm in the Family Life Center. The guest speaker will be Jackie Hogue. Her program will be "Trip to the Holy Land." The evening Fellowship Circle will be at 7:00pm in room 241. Please come enjoy food, fellowship, and faith at one of our meetings.

Troy United Methodist Sightseers (age 55+)

TUMS group (age 55+) will travel on the church bus to the Illinois Governor's Mansion in Springfield on Tuesday, April 16. Tour is free, each person pays for their lunch at a restaurant in Springfield. Bus will leave at 9:30am and return at 4:30pm (fee will be determined later). Advance registration is required and ID needed to enter the mansion. To sign up call Diane or Larry Jones (618) 288-7254.

Pickleball

Have you ever played Pickleball? Do you have an interest in playing? If so, contact David Roderick for information about connecting with others to play. If you are not sure what Pickleball is, go to usapa.org for more information.



Director of Connections
Dave DeRemer

*New Connections Cards!

New **CONNECTIONS** cards have been created to make it easier for you to communicate with us! We'd like to call your attention to all of the specific ways that you can **SERVE** in the church, as well as giving you the ability to submit prayer requests confidentially and/or have a pastor contact you.

CONNECTIONS cards are important tools for us to use to help us know you! We offer many opportunities to **SERVE** here at **Troy UMC** and this more-detailed list of serving opportunities will help us get you where you would like to be! Please take the time to fill out a **CONNECTIONS** card and drop it in the offering plate or at the Welcome Center so we can help you on your *Journey with Jesus!*

ALICE Training

Troy UMC is hosting a FREE instructor-led ALICE course on **April 15th from 6:00-9:00pm in the Family Life Center**. ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) is an instructor-led class in preparation for individuals and organizations on how to more proactively handle the threat of an aggressive intruder or hostile situation. ALICE Training provides options that address the unique challenges specific to K-12 Schools, healthcare, higher education, businesses, and houses of worship. **This class will be taught by the Troy Police Department** and is the same program that the Troy Police Department uses with the Troy School District Students and Faculty. This course is for anyone and everyone, including worship leaders, journey group leaders, teachers, and anyone who would like to learn more about this nationally-used program.

Called to Serve

In 1 John 3:18 we're reminded, *"Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."* As baptized Christians, we need to make the connection between our baptism into our faith community and our conduct in daily life. Our baptism incorporates us into the church as sons and daughters of God. PerryPhrasing (get it?) Professor Dr. Anthony Gittins, "If more Christians were aware of the unrealized potential of their baptism and encouraged to activate their faith, the world would be a very different place."

Have you ever been told you are a good listener? Do you have a desire to hear people's stories and provide encouragement? Maybe you have incredible administrative skills and like to help organize systems. If you think you may have any of these gifts, **consider joining our Congregational Care Team**. With a congregation of our size, we rely on our Care Team members to serve alongside our pastors and staff in Congregational Care.

Pastor Dan oversees our Care Team, Meals Ministry, Expectant parents, and lining up Communion to shut-ins. If you would like to become a member of our Congregational Care Team, please contact Pastor Dan at (618) 667-6241 or dan@troyumc.org.



Care Pastor
Rev. Dan Perry

Troy UMC Hospitality By The Numbers:

- 4: The number of main entrances to enter the church for worship.
- 5: The number of different teams who serve in hospitality areas.
- 10: The number of dozens of doughnuts ordered.
- 30: The number of needed positions / team members to fulfill great hospitality each week.
- 550: the approximate number of people who come through the doors on Sunday mornings.
- 2700: the approximate number of handshakes at Troy UMC on Sundays.
- 4500: the approximate number of smiles on Sundays.

We're so thankful for the current team members who help serve in hospitality roles! And **we're inviting you to join us**. We have some short term roles in greeting and parking lot welcome for Palm Sunday (April 14th), Easter Sunday (April 21st) and Confirmation Sunday (April 28th - one service at 10:00am). If you're available any of those Sundays and would like to explore using your gifts to help create a hospitable welcome for guests at Troy UMC, contact Tim Price (tim@troyumc.org) | (618) 667-6241).



Minister of Modern Worship Arts
Tim Price

Worship Tech Team Ministry

There are currently worship tech roles available and training is provided! This behind the scenes role is really important for helping support the message notes, lighting, computer graphics for song lyrics, videos and video creation. There are roles during all the services and if you are interested in exploring the possibilities, talk with Tim Price (tim@troyumc.org) or Nick Tipton (ntipton1998@gmail.com). In the sanctuary, someone sets up the message support on the computer and operates the computer and sound for the 8:00am and 10:15am services. In the Family Life Center, someone helps create the videos, slides and song lyrics and rehearses with the worship team on Wednesday evenings. The sound operator also rehearses on Wednesday evening. On Sunday, the FLC tech team serves from 7:30am-11:45 am operating the sound, computer, video, lights and cameras. Video of the messages goes to vimeo, the website and is used for dinner church. **If you would like a tour of the tech ministry, let's set up a time! We'd love to show you around.**

SHARE - OUTREACH



Minister of Outreach and Mission
David Roderick

Upward Basketball and Cheerleading Thank You

Thank you to the church for your support of the Upward Basketball and Cheerleading program which ended on March 9th. In addition to all of the players, cheerleaders, coaches and families involved, there are a few things that really stood out. We had a team of people from the church who were instrumental in the success of the program, even though they have no kids involved. These volunteers helped with greeting, concessions, refereeing, the scoreboard and more. I especially want to recognize Dawn Lambert who does all the administration for our league. She works more hours than anyone knows to make sure everything is ordered, the teams are put together correctly and that communication takes place with parents and coaches. Great job Dawn!

The thing that really stands from this season is the mission project I challenged our families to participate in. I shared with them that one of the greatest needs in our local pantries and shelters is toilet paper. They responded with nearly 10,000 rolls of toilet paper that we then donated to several local organizations.



Boy Scouts Troop 226 and Cub Scouts Pack 91

Troy United Methodist Church received an award from the Boy Scouts of America for being an outstanding charter organization. TUMC hosts Boy Scouts Troop 226 and Cub Scouts Pack 91 meetings at the church building on most Monday nights during the school year and also hosts several Scouts events throughout the year in our facility.

Mark your calendar for the **Boy Scouts Annual Trivia Night** on May 4th, 2019 in the Family Life Center. Doors open at 6pm. To reserve a table, contact Toyi Reinneck at (618) 978-0783 or (618) 978-2044.

SHARE - MISSION

Upcoming Trip to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center

Save the date! On May 4th we will be traveling to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC) just up I-55 south of Springfield to participate in a community day of missions sponsored by Comcast. We will meet at the church building at 7:30am and travel by bus and carpool and return at 5:00pm. Lunch will be provided. This is a great opportunity to learn about what MMDC does and directly participate in their many missions, and will be open to persons of all ages. Our church already supports MMDC, but this is a way for the broader congregation to become directly involved. Our youth groups and the United Methodist Women have made annual trips there, and the Sew Much Joy group has contributed thousands of sewn items for distribution all over the world. MMDC was the sponsor of our food packaging event held here last November. More information and signup sheets will be available in early April. You can also visit their website (www.midwestmission.org) or check them out on Facebook (Midwest Mission Distribution Center).



As part of our Mission 1:8 theme '... and to the ends of the earth', the missions committee voted to contribute \$2,400 to Josh and Lisa Inman and their work with Global Hope Network International (GHNI). Josh is the son of Carl and Deb Inman. Their work takes them to the most impoverished and unreached areas of southeast Asia. In addition to the contribution, we ask you as a church family to pray for Josh and Lisa as they work in places where Christians are very few in number.

The committee also voted to contribute \$500 to the McKendree University Cultural Immersion trip to Belize in May. During this short trip the students will be participating in various work projects and getting to know the local people.

WORSHIP

Music and Drama Camp

Music and Drama camp will be June 10th-13th from 9:00am-12:00pm.

This camp is for students 1st -5th grade. During the week we learn music, singing, and acting fundamentals. All materials teach something about what it means to be a Christ follower by using music and drama. The culmination of all we learn during the week is presented at a small "performance" at the end of the week. It is a very fun week for all! Older students 6th-12th are encouraged to be camp "helpers" for the week. These students help with the younger students, but also sing and present a drama of their own. The registration fee for camp participants is \$35.00. Helpers do not need to pay a fee.

We are also always looking for adult volunteers for the week! If this sounds like something you would like to do, please contact me at emily@troyumc.org.



Director of Traditional Worship Arts
Emily Ottwein

*Oh, to grace how great a debtor; Daily I'm constrained to be
Let that goodness like a fetter; Bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; Seal it for Thy courts above*

4th verse of "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

April 28th Confirmation Sunday

All of our worship services will be combined into ONE worship service at 10am where we will celebrate God and honor our confirmands together. You won't want to miss this special service!

JOURNEY KIDS MINISTRY

Staff Transitions in Children's Ministry

Our Staff Parish Team joins with the rest of our church family in expressing a heart-felt thank you to Sarah Bohnenstiehl (Director of Children's Ministry) and Kim Barnes (Nursery Manager) as they step back from their leadership roles over the next several weeks. Sarah has helped us take big steps forward over the last 6+ months as our children's ministry has grown, and Kim has served faithfully in her role for over a decade, providing a loving and safe environment for our youngest attendees. **We will host a short reception for them following our combined worship service on Sunday, April 28th.**

We are also actively seeking either one full-time Director of Children's Ministry (overseeing birth-5th grade) or two part-time directors (overseeing birth-preschool and K-5th grade respectively). If you or anyone you know is interested, please direct them to the job description on our website (troyumc.org/jobs) or contact jobs@troyumc.org.

It is with much sadness that I must step down from the position of Children's Ministry Director. I love working with the children of Troy UMC and will miss that very much. I need to be more available for my family right now and feel it is best to put my full attention there. I sincerely hope that the next person in this position can step in and keep growing Journey Kids! My goals for our ministry were to make the kids feel at home here and welcome them on a



Director of Children's Ministry
Sarah Bohnenstiehl

Journey with Jesus. I strongly encourage each of you to consider volunteering with our children. They are the best and they deserve the best! It is easy to do, and our kids are eager to learn and want to know God's Word. There are important volunteer opportunities every Sunday as well as during a variety of special events. You can commit to as much or as little as you would like to. I know my time with the kids here has been full of joy and love and I want to hand off the strongest team I can to the next director.

I would like to thank you for entrusting me with your children in our nursery over the past ten years. I have enjoyed loving on them and watching them grow. Many of them have continued to blossom in the children's ministry, as well as, in the youth group. It always brings a smile to my face when they come back to the nursery area for a visit after they have been promoted. I look forward to seeing what God has planned for them in their future.



Nursery Manager
Kim Barnes

NEW LIFE STUDENT MINISTRY



Associate Pastor - Student Ministry
Rev. Kurt Stone

All 6th through 12th grade students are invited on a journey with Jesus! Students have opportunities to connect to God and our faith community, grow into a wholehearted follower of Jesus, serve with God-given gifts and passions, share God's love regionally and globally, and worship God in everything said and done. Student ministry is scheduled on Sunday Mornings, Wednesday Nights, and monthly Special Events – see details below for April 2019.

Sunday Morning Student Classes 9:00-10:00am Youth Area (Upper Family Life Center)

What does it mean to be called by God? How does God's call change the way we walk through the world, not only on a spiritual level but also tangibly? How does God's call change the way the feels to us, the way it sounds, smells, looks, and tastes? Throughout the lessons during April, students will explore God's call using their five senses and learn how they can physically put God's call into action. *Bible Lessons 4 Youth* is designed to help students understand and apply the Scriptures to their lives, using a "Bible-to-life" approach. The Sunday Morning Student Classes are taught by Carol Sisson, Sharon & Mickey Jackson, and Noah Durbin.

Wednesday Night Youth Group Schedule

5:15 – 5:55pm Praise Band Rehearsals

Middle School Students – Youth Area; High School Students – Sanctuary

6:00 – 6:25pm Snack Supper – Family Life Center

6:30 – 8:00pm Worship, Small Groups, Activity, & Closing Circle Prayer – Sanctuary

On Wednesday Nights in April we continue the Lenten Study titled "Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week" by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, with the goal of deepening our understanding of what happened in the events leading up to the cross.

Wednesday, April 24 – Summer 2019 Student Ministry Overview Session for parents, students, and adult sponsors!

April Special Events

Beautiful U Conference for All high School & Middle School Girls

Saturday, April 6th at Troy UMC; 9:00am-3:45pm | RSVP + \$25

The Beautiful U Girls Conference is a one day event designed to help teenage girls understand their worth in Christ. This event is designed for teen girls, moms, and female ministry leaders. The conference consists of worship, devotions, seminars, and experience stations. Lunch is included with registration.

Boys on a Trip (BOAT!)

ALL High School & Middle School Boys

Sunday, April 7th; 12:30-6:00pm | RSVP + \$10

Enjoy a delicious Sunday lunch at historic Pere Marquette State Park Lodge, make a quick stop at the Visitor's Center, and then enjoy an afternoon of scenic hiking with spectacular views of the Illinois River and its backwaters from several points atop the bluffs.

Summer 2019 Mission Trips & Church Camp!

June 7-9: Middle School Student Summer Weekend Retreat at Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC) in Springfield, IL

June 23-29: High School Student Red Bird Mission Trip to southeastern Kentucky

July 9-13: Jr. High Alive at Beulah Holiness Camp in Eldorado, IL

See troyumc.org/students for complete calendar, registration forms, and trip details!

Confirmation Sunday, April 28th

10:00 am, one combined service in the Family Life Center

The congregation's annual celebration of students who are emerging from their confirmation experience prepared for a life of Christian discipleship!

Photo is from the Confirmation Class' Spring Weekend Retreat at Little Grassy U.M. Camp.



Church Information

Phone 618-667-6241

Fax 618-667-7748

Staff

*Senior Pastor

Andy Adams

*Associate Pastor of Outreach and Missions

David Roderick

*Associate Pastor, Student Ministry

Kurt Stone

*Care Pastor

Dan Perry

*Minister of Modern Worship Arts

Tim Price

*Director of Traditional Worship Arts

Emily Ottwein

*Director of Connections

Dave DeRemer

*St. Jacob Ministry Leader

Clint Benesh

*Director of 1st Step Learning Center

Lisa Rayle

*Director of Children's Ministry

Sarah Bohnenstiehl

*Office Manager

Sharie Meyer

Nursery Manager

Kim Barnes

(kim.barnes@troyumc.org)

*Administrative Assistant

Courtney Bettis

*Accompanist

Mike Rogier

*Sound Technician

Josh Case

*Worship Design Coordinator

Drew Allsman

Worship Tech

Nick Tipton

*Worship Intern

Ava Andrews

Custodians

David Barr, Loren Fear, Jake Wetterlin

*Staff E-mail [\[firstname\]@troyumc.org](mailto:[firstname]@troyumc.org)

 www.troyumc.org

 www.facebook.com/troyumc

 www.twitter.com/troyumc

Sunday School

8:00am (adult); 9:00am (all ages)

10:15am & 10:45am (children)

UPCOMING APRIL EVENTS

- 2 Sew Much Joy 10:00am-2:00pm (Jane Johnson's home)
- 2 Mission Team Meeting 7:00pm (Upper Family Life Center)
- 6 Beautiful U Girls Conference 8:30am-4:00pm (Family Life Center)
- 7 Membership Class 12:00-2:00pm (Upper Family Life Center)
- 7 NLSM Boys Boat Trip 12:30pm
- 11 United Methodist Women Meeting 1:00-3:00pm (Family Life Center)
- 11 United Methodist Women Evening Circle 7:00-9:00pm (Room 241)
- 14 Palm Sunday
- 15 ALICE Training 5:00pm (Family Life Center)
- 16 Sew Much Joy 10:00am-2:00pm (Jane Johnson's home)
- 19 Good Friday Service 7:00pm (Sanctuary)
- 21 Easter Sunday 6:30am, 8:00am, 9:00am, 10:15am & 10:45am Worship Services
- 28 Confirmation Sunday One Combined Service 10:00am (Family Life Center)
- 29 Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm (Rehearsal Room)

Mail vs Email?

If you would like to discontinue receiving this newsletter via mail and prefer email, please contact Sharie in the church office sharie@troyumc.org/(618) 667-6241.



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