



# REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS.

**JUNE 2021**  
**VOLUME 33 • ISSUE 6**

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### Worship Schedule

8 a.m. Sanctuary  
9 a.m. Family Life Center & Online  
10:15 a.m. Sanctuary & Online  
11 a.m. Outdoor (thru end of June)

It's been encouraging to see so many of you returning to Sunday morning worship in person! Thankfully, our State is now in the "bridge phase" between phase 4 and 5, which expands our opportunities!

### What does the "bridge phase" mean for our church?

- Our capacity limits have increased from 25% to 60%, which means we will have enough seating to host the usual number of folks we had pre-COVID.
- Registration is no longer required for any of our four services.
- Journey Groups and discipleship bands are starting to meet in person, whether in group members' homes or at our church building. However, there are only a few rooms at church that can safely hold larger groups; contact our office to see if there's availability for your group to meet.

Now is the perfect time to reengage in the life of the church!

## COVID-19 UPDATE

With newly revised guidelines from the CDC, IDPH, and Conference Leadership regarding masks for vaccinated people, the Troy United Methodist Church Council approves the following updates to our COVID guidelines:

### EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

- Fully vaccinated people are no longer required to wear a mask or social distance inside or outside for church activities, but may if so inclined.
- Non-vaccinated people of all ages (children above two, teenagers, adults) and for all reasons (unavailability, personal preference, health reasons, etc.) are still required to wear masks for all indoor church activities, but may unmask for outdoor worship with 10 feet of social distancing.
- With these new guidelines, Troy UMC will have red/yellow/green wristbands available at worship services (beginning 5/23) for you to wear to indicate your personal comfort with the new guidelines. Please love and respect one another during this time of slow transition "back to normal."
- Troy United Methodist Church will not ask anyone to reveal his/her vaccination status to participate in church activities. All people are welcome to participate in worship and other ministries.



Thank you for following these guidelines for everyone's benefit and safety!

# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

## Take Action

I hope God has been working in your heart as we journey through Hebrews together! Thus far, we have been encouraged to hold fast because Jesus is divine — He has spoken His Word of salvation to us. We can hold fast because Jesus became human, like us in our humanity but perfectly obedient to God. He died the death we deserve and through Him we can be raised to glory. We can hold fast despite our failures, and we can hold fast even in the face of death!

But we must be careful not to miss this message of salvation. We don't want to drift like the Israelites did. The Israelites, after being saved from slavery in Egypt, did not have faith as expressed in obedience, and they missed the rest that God offered them. When we respond to God's Word of salvation with faith, we not only experience a supernatural rest here and now (see Matthew 11:28), but we know that we will inherit the eternal rest that God has promised.

Responding to God's Word of salvation by faith compels us to *Take Action*. I can't wait for us to discover the best kinds of action to take this June as we journey through the end of Hebrews chapter 6. God's Word is alive and active and powerful (Hebrews 4:12-13)! Let's be transformed together! I hope you'll study along with us following the reading plan below:

## Conclusion of "Hold Fast"

**May 23 – Don't Drift** – Study Hebrews 3:1-19 and explore Psalm 95:7-11

**May 30 – The Promise** – Study Hebrews 4:1-13 and explore Psalm 95:11 and Genesis 2:2

## "Take Action"

**June 6 – Draw Near** – Study Hebrews 4:14-16 and look for similarities in Hebrews 10:19-25

**June 13 – Submit** – Study Hebrews 5:1-10 and familiarize yourself with Psalm 110:1-4

**June 20 (Father's Day) – Mature** – Study Hebrews 5:11-6:3

**June 27 – Anchor** – Study Hebrews 6:4-20

Faithfully,

Andy



## General Budget



## Caring for One Another

The Christian life is meant to be one of care and compassion. The phrase “one another” is derived from the Greek word “*allelon*,” which means “one another, each other; mutually, reciprocally.” It occurs 100 times in the New Testament. Approximately 59 of those occurrences are specific commands teaching us how (and how *not*) to relate to one another. Obedience to those commands is imperative. It forms the basis for all true Christian community, and has a direct impact on our witness to the world (John 13:35).

For example, we’re to **Love** one another (John 13:34 —This command occurs at least 16 times); **Care** for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25); **Serve** one another (Galatians 5:13); **Bear with** one another (Colossians 3:13); and **Comfort** one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18).

Caring ministries vary when it comes to individual churches and how they function. There are innumerable ways Troy UMC offers to help our members who are hurting or lost. In their time of need, we need to be the “hands and feet” of God by *actively serving* with purpose.

Here are a few ideas to help us all become God’s hands and feet:

### Care for church family members facing a serious illness.

1. Send cards and encouragement often.
2. Plan and arrange to clean their house or do yardwork.
3. Make a hospital or home visit to brighten a person’s day (once COVID restrictions are lifted).
4. Create a basket of small individually-wrapped gifts so the recipient will have a basket of cheer they can go to whenever they need a lift.

### Care through prayer.

1. Stop and pray for those on the church’s email prayer list.
2. Communicate with the office your specific prayer needs regularly so our prayer team can pray for your need(s).

### Care for those in recovery.

1. Be a part of our Care Team’s Meal Ministry.
2. Have a Zoom or FaceTime call while they recover.
3. Help a member by driving them to a doctor visit or treatment.
4. Take communion elements to the recovering patient.

### Care for those who are grieving.

1. Send cards to families who are grieving.
2. Make phone calls a couple of weeks after things have settled down and they’re now alone.

By no means is this a comprehensive list of ways to care for one another. If you have questions about our Care Ministry, please contact Pastor Dan at [dan@troyumc.org](mailto:dan@troyumc.org) or call the office at (618) 667-6241.

## Learn Your ABCs this Summer!

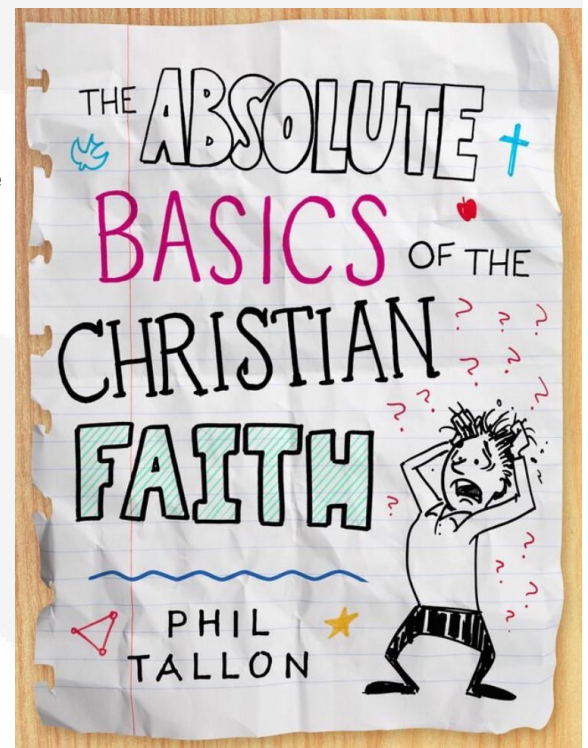
July 11 – August 30 (8 weeks)

Mondays, 7-8:15 p.m. via Zoom

*The Absolute Basics of the Christian Faith* is a visual introduction to the core beliefs of the Christian faith. While it assumes no background knowledge of the Scriptures or church teachings, this 8-unit study is stocked with rich explanation and engaging videos that will solidify the foundation of your faith.

This study is designed for people of all ages and would be perfect to do as a family with children 5<sup>th</sup> grade and above! Each week will consist of two short (and very fun) videos with discussion around questions like *Who is God?*, *Why is there evil?*, *Who is Jesus?*, *What is salvation?*, *Who is the Holy Spirit?*, *What is the church?*, *What is our future?*, and more! There will also be roughly 10 easy pages to read each week.

Led by Pastor Andy and Minister of Discipleship, Bonnie Abel, this journey group is a great opportunity to root your faith in the essentials. We’re offering this study online to make it convenient for anyone to participate! Contact [andy@troyumc.org](mailto:andy@troyumc.org) or [bonnie@troyumc.org](mailto:bonnie@troyumc.org) to sign up and receive the participant’s workbook (suggested donation of \$10).



## Communication Update

Since the beginning of the new year, our staff team has been working on ways to communicate the most relevant information to you in the best possible way. If you notice some changes in the next few weeks, it's because we're making a couple of big steps forward!

If you ever miss an eReach, children's ministry newsletter, or other weekly communication, please check your spam folder. It might take some time to iron things out, but we look forward to the possibilities God may bring through the technologies He's provided us!

## SHARE

### Harvest of Hope Initiative

This past December YOU came together and generously gave over \$126,000 to support the ministry of our church. Because of your generosity we were able to send a check for \$23,000 to Global Hope Network's "Harvest of Hope" Initiative that provides immediate relief and training for food sustainability to several rural villages in Southeast Asia. We are excited to report to you now, a few ways in which God has moved and utilized the funds so far!

Upon receiving the money, the communities of Lombang, Salutahongan, and Salutabung in West Sulawesi, Indonesia were immediately assisted in response to the earthquake that hit days earlier. Our financial support was a God send to these people, some of which, who had lost everything.

There are also plans to utilize the remainder of the money to provide relief and development in Myanmar. Since we sent the funds, the economic situation in Myanmar has spiraled due to a military takeover of the government and widespread protests. Due to this disruption, GHNI was only recently able to send funds for relief, which will be distributed among the villages of Myat Hlae, Htoong Buu, Yone Taw, Paletwa and others. In addition to this relief, GHNI will be providing training and consultation on simple, sustainable food production techniques for households in these communities.

Thank you for continuing to be the hands and feet of God and supporting God's mission and ministry both here in Troy, in our surrounding area, and around the world!

### Troy & St. Jacob Summer Lunch Program

This summer, we will again be doing a summer lunch program in both the Troy and St. Jacob communities for the children in our towns. Our church family will be volunteering on Mondays in Troy; St. Jacob volunteer days are not yet set.

In the past, Troy UMC was responsible for the entirety of the St. Jacob lunch program, but this year we are working to connect with the other St. Jacob churches to make the lunch program something that anyone and everyone can be a part of. We are better together!

If you would like to volunteer for the summer lunch program, either in Troy or St. Jacob, please keep an eye on the weekly eReach, or reach out directly to Bonnie at [bonnie@troyumc.org](mailto:bonnie@troyumc.org).



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The UMW met in person in May to share plans to step out of the bubble and into the world this summer, motivated by Apostle Paul's words in Ephesians 2:10: "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

As you continue your prayers for the world's battle against COVID-19, listen for God's call. Put your best foot forward wherever you step this summer.

**Next UMW Meeting: August 12 at 1 p.m. in the Family Life Center**

To join us and help do God's good works, contact UMW president Bethel Rogers at [rogersbethel@gmail.com](mailto:rogersbethel@gmail.com).



# Are you ready to jump in?



## Children's Ministry Summer Serve This summer could be your BEST summer ever!

Jump in and give children's ministry a test run for the months of June, July and August. Our teams serve on a bi-weekly rotation which means you will only volunteer approximately 6 Sundays during the summer. Our current Sunday School hour is 9am. There are additional opportunities to work in nursery during the other worship hours and you can be paid if you are over 18 years old.

*\*We can also use help the week of July 12-16, 9am-noon, for Vacation Bible School\**

Please reach out to Christine if you are interested:  
Email: [christine@troyumc.org](mailto:christine@troyumc.org) or text: #618-558-3818 or  
message me at [facebook.com/tumcchildrensministry](https://www.facebook.com/tumcchildrensministry)

# PRESS ▶ PLAY

## GET IN THE MIX

**We are ready to PRESS PLAY on this year's VBS!**

**This year's VBS is in-person! That's right!**

**We are providing a limited- reservation, covid- precautions taken, fun-filled VBS week at Troy UMC! Each day we will have crafts, games, missions, lessons, music and snack.**

**7/12/21 - 7/16/21**

**9:00am-noon**

**You don't want to miss out on this fun and faith-filled week for your child. Sign up ASAP. Reservations will be limited.**

**<https://www.myvbs.org/TROYUMC/>**



# NEW LIFE STUDENT MINISTRY

Troy UMC's New Life Student Ministry for 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students offers opportunities this summer for students to try new things, make new friends, create memories, and serve others through missions. Get connected to God and others through the Wednesday Night Summer Series, mission trips, and summer camp! See [troyumc.org/students](http://troyumc.org/students) for the registration forms.

## 2021 SUMMER WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERIES

What a lineup this summer! Starting Wednesday, June 2, we continue the summer series with a shared meal, a terrific way for building community. Some of the summer Wednesdays are a local experience (such as the St. Louis Wheel), and many of the outings involve outdoor recreation — fishing derby, swimming, Frisbee golf, bike ride, archery, horse trail ride, and hiking!

Most of the Wednesday Night outings are free; however, these three events require a participation fee to get rostered:

June 9 — The St. Louis Wheel (\$5)

July 14 — Mary Poppins at The Muny (\$35)

August 4 — The Dubois Center (\$5)

For most Wednesdays, meet at church at 5:15 p.m. to ride the bus, or meet at the event location. Please refer to the Summer Series Flyer for specific times and the church bus schedule.

### June 2021 Wednesdays

June 2	Dinner at Taqueria Z	109 East Park Street, Edwardsville, IL
June 9	Ride the St. Louis Wheel (\$5)	201 South 18th Street, St. Louis, MO
June 16	Fishing at Autenreid Pond	3781 Raymond Road, Edwardsville, IL
June 23	Indoor Swim at SIUe	Fitness Center, 35 Circle Drive, Edwardsville, IL
June 30	Take a Hike!	SIUe Nature Preserve, 3345 Stadium Drive, Edwardsville (Korte Soccer Stadium Parking Lot)

## 2021 SUMMER MISSION TRIPS *(note any changes to dates, times, and/or fees)*

### Middle School Students: Day Trip to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC)

Friday, June 11      7 a.m. — 7:30 p.m.      RSVP + \$30

Work will include sorting and assembling supply kits for The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and general work at the MMDC facility. The health kits, school kits, cleaning kits, layette kits, bedding kits, sewing kits, and birthing kits provide necessary supplies to the most vulnerable people during times of crisis.

MMDC is located in Chatham, IL, and is a caring ministry related to the North Central Jurisdiction and Illinois Great Rivers Conference of The United Methodist Church.



### High School Students: Mission Trip to Red Bird Mission – Beverly, KY

Sunday-Friday, June 27 — July 2      RSVP + \$425

Work will include basic construction and home repair projects. Many COVID protocols are in effect at RBM, with only one other group in camp while the Troy UMC team is there. Red Bird Mission is a mission institution of The Red Bird Missionary Conference, related to The General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church.



### JR. HIGH ALIVE CAMP! One-day camp Friday, July 16, or Saturday, July 17 | Beulah Holiness Camp in Eldorado, IL

“Songs in the Key of Life” — Dive into songs we’ve heard on the radio or in church and find how the lyrics might connect to Scripture. Psalm 46:10 encourages us to take time to be with God and to listen to what God may be speaking to us, especially through song!

Current plans for the Jr. High Alive Camp are tentative and still developing.

## PARENTS

To receive New Life Student Ministry reminders from Pastor Kurt, please text ‘NLSM’ to 40650.

Rev. Kurt Stone is available via email, texts, and phone calls: [kurt@troyumc.org](mailto:kurt@troyumc.org) or (618) 407-7586.



## NLSM May Special Event – Bobby's Frozen Custard on Mother's Day!





**Church Information**  
Phone (618) 667-6241  
Fax (618) 667-7748  
troyumc.org

### Staff

\*Senior Pastor  
Andy Adams

\*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 Children's Ministry  
Christine Lippert

\*Director of Communications  
Anna Belmonte

\*Minister of Discipleship  
Bonnie Abel

\*Director of 1st Step Learning Center  
Lisa Rayle

\*Office Manager  
Sharie Meyer

\*Administrative Assistant  
Marie Brown

\*Fields Manager  
Courtney Bettis

\*Accompanist  
Mike Rogier

\*Production Coordinator  
Josh Case

Worship Tech Coordinator  
Nick Tipton

Custodians  
David Barr, Loren Fear, Penny Stone,  
Noah Durbin

\*Staff E-mail [firstname]@troyumc.org

### Connect with us!

@troyumc



## JUNE SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
June 1-4	Music and Drama Camp (see <a href="http://troyumc.org/events">troyumc.org/events</a> )
June 11	Drive-in Movie in the FLC Parking Lot (6-9 p.m.)
June 11	Middle School Day Trip (see page 6)
June 15-17	1st Step Preschool Camp (see <a href="http://troyumc.org/1ststep">troyumc.org/1ststep</a> )
June 27-July 2	High School Mission Trip (see page 6)

### July Special Events

July 4	Summer Musical Celebration (with family activities) — last week of outdoor worship
July 11	<i>The Absolute Basics of the Christian Faith</i> study begins (see page 3)
July 12-16	Vacation Bible School (see page 5)
July 17-25	Life-size Tabernacle Exhibit, Presented by Messiah's Mansion
July 20-22	1st Step Preschool Camp

# Ancient Hebrew Tabernacle Exhibit

Presented by  
Messiah's Mansion

**FREE daily tours**  
**July 17-25**  
**Troy, Illinois**  
**All ages welcome!**

**Explore a life-size replica of the  
ancient Hebrew tabernacle!**

This tour takes you back 3,000 years into the desert between Egypt and Palestine, where more than two million people banded together to build a sanctuary for their God.

Each element in the tabernacle had deep significance to the Hebrew people. This living museum brings each symbol to life.



Troy United Methodist Church  
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618-667-6241  
[troytabernacle.org](http://troytabernacle.org)

# REACH

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