



REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS.

**MARCH 2022
VOLUME 34 • ISSUE 3**

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Summer 2022 Events

June 7-9	Preschool Summer Camp (Ocean Life)
June 17-19	Middle School Summer Retreat at MMDC
June 23-28	High School Student Mission Trip to Kansas City, MO
June 27-July 2	Beulah Kids Camps (grades K-5th)
July 5-7	Preschool Summer Camp (Let's Go Camping!)
July 11-15	Make Waves VBS
July 17-22	Epworth Jr./Sr. High Camp in Greenville, IL

Covid/Mask Update

The Governor recently indicated that the indoor mask mandate will be lifted by the end of February throughout the state of Illinois as long as infections continue in their downward trend. In response, our Church Council has agreed to make masks optional beginning in March. We understand that mask wearing is a contentious topic for many, but out of respect and love for one another, we hope that those attending worship and other events at Troy UMC will be patient and gracious to everyone whether they choose to wear a mask or not. Masks can be a helpful deterrent to ongoing outbreaks and are especially encouraged for those at higher risk of illness. As always, we ask that if you feel sick, or have tested positive for COVID, that you remain at home for the recommended quarantine period. Thank you in advance for showing compassion and kindness to one another!



Worship Schedule

8 a.m. Sanctuary
9 a.m. Family Life Center & Online
10:15 a.m. Sanctuary & Online
10:45 a.m. Family Life Center

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

Our Transition Team

The broader United Methodist Church has experienced great turmoil since the special session of the General Conference held in St. Louis in 2019 upheld the church's historic stance that God's design for marriage is between one man and one woman for a lifetime and that same sex sexual practice is incompatible with Christian teaching. The great divide in the UMC goes much deeper than human sexuality. The roots of the conflict center around biblical authority, the understanding of sin and the need for God's grace, the nature of salvation, the mission of the church, and even core doctrines such as the Trinity, atonement, and historical resurrection of Jesus. This rift has been growing for decades, and 2019 was a tipping point for many. Hundreds of pastors and churches, along with many bishops, conference boards of ordained ministry, and even entire jurisdictions ignored and defied our shared covenant established by the General Conference (the democratically elected, highest decision-making body in the UMC, and the only group that can officially speak for the UMC). Entire segments of the United Methodist Church in the USA stopped paying general church apportionments directed to support the growing church in Africa and Eastern Europe as retribution for their part in upholding the church's doctrine in 2019. And many groups proposed legislation for separation plans for the 2020 General Conference.

One plan, The Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace through Separation, was mediated by an outside party with representation from all caucus groups as a compromise legislation. It has gained support across the theological spectrum as a way forward by allowing conferences, churches, and pastors to choose between future Methodist expressions without penalty or recourse. But this legislation cannot go into effect until it is adopted by the General Conference. However, as you may know, that 2020 conference has been postponed twice now due to the pandemic preventing international travel. We await a decision to be made before the end of March as to whether that General Conference will indeed be held in August/September of 2022 or will be further delayed. Many churches (of various theological leanings) unwilling to wait any longer, have already gone through the sometimes costly process of disaffiliation from the UMC.

Anticipating these big transitions in the broader church, last August our Church Council commissioned a "Transition Team" to collect information and consider the various options available to us as we envision our preferred future. The objective of our Transition Team has been blessed by our District Superintendent. Members of this team include Andy Adams, Deb Ellis, Sheila Hall, Deb Inman, Mickey Jackson, Mike Loftus, Tim Price, and Jason Wickersham. Our team, who reports to the Church Council and will periodically keep the congregation informed, began meeting monthly in December. As we wait to hear if and when the General Conference will meet, we are collecting information about other Methodist denominations including the Free Methodist Church and the Wesleyan Church. Each of these are being considered by our Transition Team as well as the options of remaining part of the post-separation United Methodist Church, joining the soon-to-be-created Global Methodist Church, becoming an independent church, or affiliating with some other group. Any recommendations the Transition Team makes to the Church Council would ultimately come before our entire church membership for a vote.

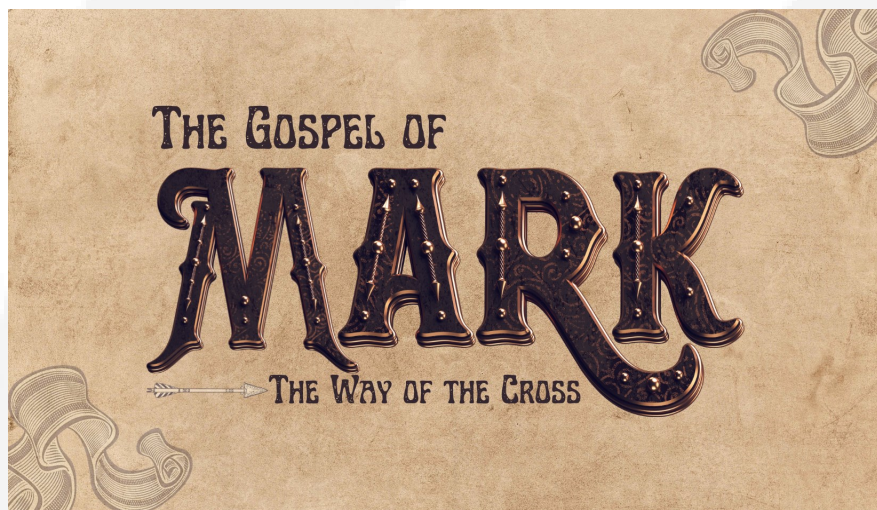
Our denominational chaos and its impending impact on our church have been a heavy burden to bear for our leadership. The Transition Team humbly asks for your prayers for our work, for our broader denomination, and especially for the future of our church – that we will be best aligned to fulfill our role in God's mission in our region.

Faithfully,

Andy

General Budget





Join us for the beginning of Lent – a 40-day (not including Sundays) time of repentance as together we journey to the cross. You're invited for worship, reflection, Holy Communion, and the imposition of ashes in the Sanctuary on **March 2nd at 6:30pm**. We will continue our study of the Gospel of Mark on Sunday mornings through this Lenten season beginning with three weeks exploring Jesus' radical call to lay down our lives for the sake of others in **The Way of The Cross**.

Hey! That's My Donkey

Come see the Lenten Drama with an unusual name! Hey! That's My Donkey will be presented by the TUMC Drama Team on Friday, March 25th, at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 26th, at 5:00 p.m. Hey! That's My Donkey is the story of the man who owned the donkey that Christ rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Issachar was a man who only cared about money. So, when Rachel, his wife, loans their donkey to Jesus' disciples for the Master's use, Issachar is furious and is determined to get it back. In his attempt to retrieve his animal, he unknowingly enters into a plot with Judas and the Pharisees to kill Jesus. There is no charge for admission. Both performances will be held in the Family Life Center. There will be a free will offering. Doors open one half hour before show time. Come join us for Hey! That's My Donkey.



Hey! That's My Donkey



March Gladness

As we continue to be a church that serves our community and shares kindness, the servant evangelism team has worked to put together a fun handout of ideas so that you can March Into The Month of March with Gladness! March Gladness is all about continuing to show our community the unconditional love that Christ shows us every second of every day! Be on the lookout for the March Gladness handout!

Midwest Distribution Food Pack Event

You've marked your calendars and now it's time to sign up! On April 23rd 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! Time slots include: 9:00, 11:00, 1:00, 3:00. Each time slot is 110 minutes with a 10 minute transition period to clean and reset for the next shift. Again, this year, we will be packing meals for over 50,000 people!

To sign up you can email bonnie@troyumc.org or sign up at www.troyumc.org/missions. You can sign up as an individual or with your family, band, small group, etc. We will set you at a table according to who you signed up with and you will be social distanced from anyone outside of your family group. If you'd like to sign up for more than one time slot, please do! This is a great opportunity to be the hands and feet of God!

CONNECT

"Older" Adult Luncheon

For our March meeting, we will once again gather for a wonderful time of getting together with "old" and "new" friends. Our theme for the month of March will be a Famous Birthday Trivia. We ask for a \$10 donation to help cover expenses. Call the church office to sign-up, 618-667-6241.



GriefShare Offered At Troy UMC

Church and community members who have experienced the death of a family member or friend are invited to register for **GriefShare**.

This nondenominational program features Christ-centered, Biblical teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The DVD seminar features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories of people, followed by a small group discussion about what was seen on the DVD.

Many grieving people find they are only beginning the work of healing when friends or family have returned to their daily life routines. Past participants have related how helpful the information and fol-



low-up discussions were to them. Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. You will find encouragement, comfort, and help in grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member, or friend. No matter what the cause of your loved one's death, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling.

You will learn how to recognize the symptoms of being stuck in grief and that you do not need to live in bondage as a slave to certain emotions. You will learn valuable information about facing your new normal in life and renewing your hope for the future. Grief-related books/materials are made available for participants to borrow.

GriefShare will be held Feb. 17 – May 12 from 5-7pm in the Children's area in the Family Life Center of Troy United Methodist Church. To register or for questions, go to griefshare.org and in the find window enter 62296, Troy's group should be the first entry. Contact Pastor Dan at dan@troyumc.org, or call **618-667-6241** for more information.

Cost: We suggest a \$20 donation to cover the cost for the book, but scholarships are available if needed.

United Methodist Women

March is an active month for the Women of our Church. The Troy United Methodist Women's meeting will be held on Thursday, March 10th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Our program will include the yearly "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" and a special offering will be taken as part of our national and global UMW mission outreach.

Preparations have begun for the annual Troy UMW fundraiser, "**The Soup's On**" this year. UMW is hosting a Carry-out Soup and Chili dinner on Saturday April 9th from 1 to 5 p.m. Cost is \$20 per quart with a dessert you choose from the table. For those who long for a pre-Covid Spaghetti dinner, we will also be selling quarts of spaghetti sauce for \$20. Come to the meeting and sign-up to help. To place an order, get a form after church services in March from a UMW member. Return your order to the church with your payment by April 1st (checks made out to UMW), and your meal will be waiting for you to pick up on the 9th. You can also order and pay at the door on April 9th while supplies last. All profits will go to support the UMW 2022 missions listed on the church website.

SERVE

Join the Lawn Care Team

We'll need help mowing and trimming around the church grounds. We'll need teams of around three people to mow 1-2 times each month April through October. If you are interested in joining the lawn care team, please contact Sharie at sharie@troyumc.org.

Building Community Through Serving

There are several options for connecting with others in the church such as discipleship bands, worship and journey groups. But another way is through serving. There is a ton of community and connection that comes from being together in ministry serving roles anytime, but primarily on Sundays. If you're looking for a way to get connected and get to know others, give one of these roles a try!

PARKING LOT WELCOME TEAM

As part of the Troy UMC Hospitality Team, we really believe that having a team in the parking lot on Sunday mornings sets a tone of welcome and expectation for the whole day! The role primarily includes waving people in to worship, helping to answer questions about which location to enter for the services, and to assist if there is any kind of issue in the parking lot. We have plenty of parking here, but there are times during special events where actual directing of traffic is also needed. If you would like to check this team out, we'd love to pull you in and you can give it a try – this Sunday! Talk with Beth Repp (elizabeth.repp@yahoo.com) or Barb Buck (jordanandbarb@sbcglobal.net)

WORSHIP TEAM VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Do you like to sing? Every once in a while, we gather a vocal ensemble to sing with the worship songs for the modern worship services in the Family Life Center! We'd love to have you and though we don't have a date set right now, we will put you on the list for the next one! If you like to sing and you typically attend the traditional services in the sanctuary, we'd also love to have you join the choir! Typically, we send the music in advance, run through it the Wednesday evening before the weekend, then sing for the 9:00 and 10:45 services on Sunday. Talk with Elizabeth West (elizabeth@troyumc.org) or Jennifer Zahn (tiergirl@gmail.com).

WORSHIP TECH MINISTRY

This tight knit group is growing due to the needs and demands of the online worship services and other technical aspects to worship. We would love to have you join this group if you like computers, sound boards, lighting, or video – and we can train you! Roles are available at all services beginning as soon as you can! Talk with Ryan Froidcoeur (ryan@troyumc.org) or Josh Case (josh@troyumc.org).

There is ample time during each of these worship roles to visit, talk and meet other believers who are serving in the church! It's really fun. Many times, great friendship and community come out of serving together. – Tim Price

JOURNEY KIDS

Troy UMC Children's Ministry ~ Save the Date Spring and Summer events:

Sunday, February 20, 10:00-10:45am: Bible Buddy Adoption



Tuesday, April 12: Journey to the Cross family event 5:30-7:00pm

Saturday, April 30: Light Kids Conference; grades 1-5

Week of June 27-Beulah camps, grades K-5 (Stay tuned for more info)

July 11-15: Make Waves Vacation Bible School 9am-noon



NEW LIFE STUDENT MINISTRY

NEW LIFE STUDENT MINISTRY

While the New Year marches on, all 6th through 12th 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!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

6:00-7:45 pm Snack Dinner, Worship, Small Groups, and Activity in the Family Life Center

March Wednesdays:

02 March Ash Wednesday – students will join TUMC congregation for worship service

I HAVE QUESTIONS: "Why is there so much racial tension?"

09 March Galatians 3:26-28; Gen. 1:27 It takes all of us to reflect the image of God.

"WHO IS JESUS" and "PRISM": A series about Easter

16 March Matt.6:9-13; John 15:15 Because of Jesus, you can be connected to God.

23 March John 4:1-42 Because of Jesus, you have power to make wrong things right.

30 March John 14 Because of Jesus, you can know how to live with purpose.

MARCH SPECIAL EVENT!

Bike Ride – all students, siblings, & parents

Ride on beautiful Madison County Trails!

Saturday, 19 March 2022

No RSVP; Free

9:00 AM – park & meet at MCT Parking Lot, 2400 Old Troy Rd. (at Mont Rd.), Glen Carbon, IL 62026

2022 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Instructional Classes – we will meet 5:30 – 7:00 PM on these March Sundays: 6, 13, & 20.

Confirmation Class Spring Retreat!

25-27 March RSVP + \$125

Retreat & Accommodations at beautiful Little Grassy Camp, Makanda, IL

Volunteer Mission Project & Worship with Jesus Es El Senor UMC, Cobden, IL

Sunday Breakfast at Giant City State Park Lodge

Confirmation Family Dinner at 5:00 pm on Sunday - Troy UMC

PARENTS

New Life Student Ministry schedules and registration flyers can be accessed at troyumc.org/students

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

MLK Day of Volunteering at Midwest Mission Distribution Center

Worked on 11 student desks in the Wood Shop and assembled 910 personal dignity kits!



"A Walk in the Woods"

Students, siblings, parents, sponsors, and Grace the dog enjoyed a 2.5 mile winter hike!

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

*Minister of Discipleship
Bonnie Abel

*Director of Children's Ministry
Christine Lippert

*Director of 1st Step Learning Center
Lisa Rayle

*Accompanist & Interim Director of
Traditional Worship Arts
Mike Rogier

*Office Manager
Sharie Meyer

*Fields Manager
Courtney Bettis

*Administrative Assistant
Marie Brown

*Interim Coordinator of
Communications & Worship Ministry
Intern
Elizabeth West

*Production Coordinator
Josh Case

Youth Worship Band Leader
Ryan Froidcoeur

Custodians
David Barr, Loren Fear, Penny Stone

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

If you would like to receive the Reach
via email only, please contact
elizabeth@troyumc.org.

Connect with us!
@troyumc



MARCH SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
March 2	Ash Wednesday Service (see page 3)
March 10	United Methodist Women monthly meeting (see pg. 4)
March 13	Connect Lunch
March 19	New Life Student Ministry Bike Ride (see page 6)
March 25-26	Hey! That's My Donkey Play (see page 3)
March 25-27	Confirmation Class Spring Retreat (see page 7)

Ways to Connect!

Are you newer to our church family? If so, we'd love to invite you to our next **Connect Lunch**! Our Connect Lunch is a 90-minute session that is designed to give you the opportunity to get to know Troy UMC! We will spend time getting to know each other and give ample opportunity for questions you might have about our church family. The next Connect Lunch is scheduled for March 13 at noon. This will include a time of fellowship while we eat lunch together. We will also take a tour of our church facilities so you can get to know your way around. Childcare is available upon request. Contact Bonnie, at bonnie@troyumc.org, for more details.

Another great step is to check out our **Membership Class**. This is a one-time class session where you learn a little more in-depth info about the United Methodist Church and what it means to be a member at Troy UMC. There is no obligation to join, but you will certainly have the option! Our next Membership Class is scheduled for April 10 at noon. Lunch is included and childcare is again available upon request. Contact Bonnie, at bonnie@troyumc.org, for more details.

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