



# REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS.

OCTOBER 2020  
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### Worship Schedule

- 8 a.m. in the Sanctuary
- 9 a.m. Outdoor in the FLC parking lot (Children's Ministry Available) & Online
- 10:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary & Online
- 10:45 a.m. in the Family Life Center (Children's Ministry Available)

### Registration

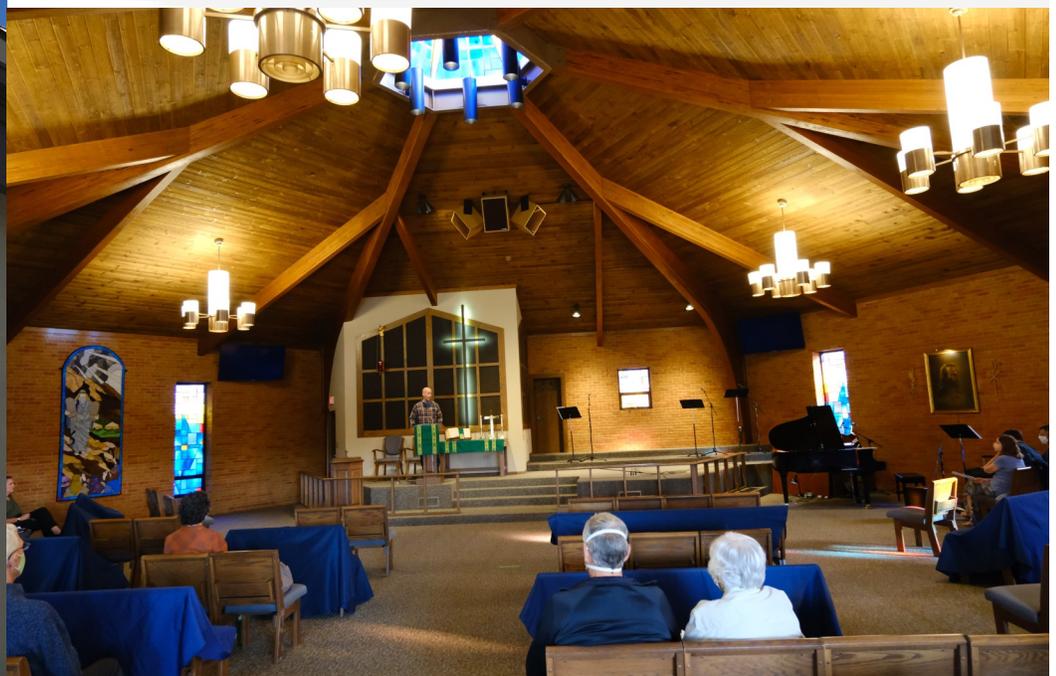
You can register for indoor worship at [troyumc.org/worship](http://troyumc.org/worship) or call the office. Registering helps us plan ahead, but you are welcome to show up anyway, and we'll register you at the door!

### Safety Guidelines

We feel that our procedures create a risk-limiting environment where we can all be comfortable and safe.

- Indoor services are at 25% capacity of the worship space
- Masks are required (if you forget yours, we will provide masks at the door)
- Only the worship leaders will sing
- The seating is spaced out
- There is a receptacle for your offering
- The bathrooms are limited to one family at a time

Please continue to wear your color-coded wristbands so everyone will be aware of your comfort level (we will provide these at the door).



Sanctuary service. Photo courtesy of Josh Case.

# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

## Comeback Reflections and Announcement

All comebacks are precipitated by a “fall.” Sometimes that fall is brought on by our own actions. Sometimes it’s something that happens to us far beyond our control. The COVID-19 global pandemic certainly qualifies as “far beyond our control” and has shaken up so much of our normal way of life. Indeed, the way we worship as a church body has been drastically affected. The pandemic forced us exclusively online for worship for several months. By June, we were gathering together in our parking lot for Communion from Your Car. In July, we added an outdoor worship service and retrofitted the Sanctuary to offer online worship in that location in addition to our Family Life Center. Then August saw us begin to test indoor worship to prepare for our September comeback! There is no comeback without a fall.

No, we didn’t bring on this fall, but by God’s grace we have come back. **Our outdoor comeback service** was nothing short of glorious as we welcomed 10 new members, celebrated baptism and heard testimonies of transformation from four people and gathered nearly 200 people in lawn chairs and in cars for Holy Communion – not to mention 100 people participated online. And yes, it was worth being dunked dozens of times simply to see the joy on the faces of all our kids!

Then, on September 13, we came back to our **full Sunday worship schedule**: three indoor worship services, two online, and one outdoor, plus two children’s ministry hours. What a day! We saw about 150 people outdoors, 90 indoors, and 16 in children’s ministry. When you add in 14 in-person worshipers at our St. Jacob campus and the 39 in-person participants for our Student Ministry comeback worship on September 16, that puts us a little **over 50% of our pre-COVID worship attendance**.

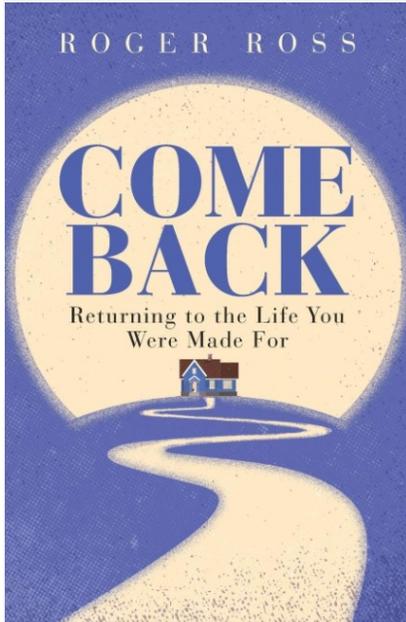
Given that we saw another 100+ online worshipers, this is spectacular news! Other large churches in our conference who have returned to in-person worship have been seeing anywhere from 25-50% return rate. I am so thankful to our team of staff and volunteers who are able to help us offer safe, in-person worship both indoors and outdoors AND continue to offer excellent opportunities to remain connected online!

Even more importantly, whether you’re online, indoors, or outdoors, you’re remaining connected in journey groups, bands, and our church-wide study of the book *Come Back*. You aren’t letting a pandemic keep you from growing deeper roots into the soil of God’s transforming grace!

And to further encourage you on your comeback journey, I’m excited to announce that **the author of *Come Back*, Roger Ross, will be preaching the concluding message of this series for us both in-person and online on Sunday, October 18!** Although I have no idea when we’ll return to “normal,” I believe God is doing something greater in us than we could ever hope for or imagine as we faithfully come back.

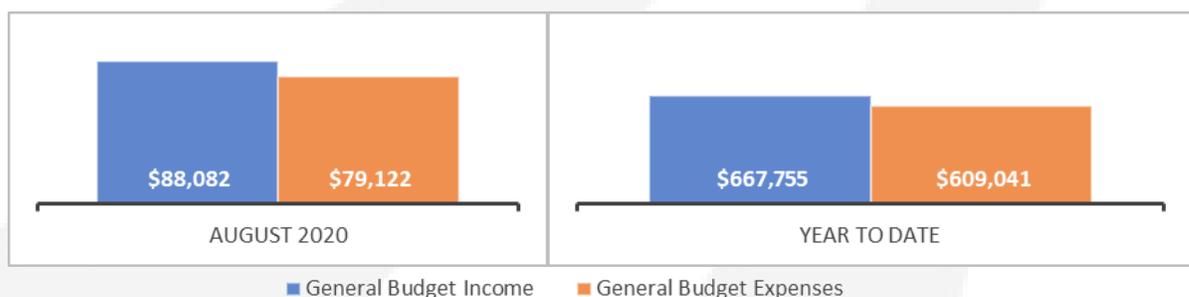
Faithfully,

Andy



## STRATEGIC STATS

### General Budget



# Comeback Sunday Highlights



Photo Credit: Josh Case  
Drone Photo: Dan Yarger



# GROW

## GriefShare Begins

The Troy UMC GriefShare group began meeting September 24 and will meet every Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. for 13 weeks.

GriefShare is a biblical, Christ-centered grief support group ministry to help you face challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. You are welcome to begin attending our Grief-Share group at any session. Each is “self-contained,” so you don't have to attend in order. You will find encouragement and help whenever you begin.

If you're interested in participating, please contact Pastor Dan at [dan@troyumc.org](mailto:dan@troyumc.org).

## Discipleship Bands

Are you still thinking about joining a band? Would you like to be in fellowship with others in a journey group this fall? It's not too late! As we continue the Comeback series and dive into the study as a church, this is a great opportunity to join a band or small group and dive in deeper! If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Bonnie ([bonnie@troyumc.org](mailto:bonnie@troyumc.org)) or Pastor Andy ([andy@troyumc.org](mailto:andy@troyumc.org)). We love answering questions as you ponder what your next step in your journey with Jesus might look like.

## Fall Journey Groups

This fall's Journey Groups are kicking into gear! If you're interested in learning more or joining one of the groups below, contact the group leader or Bonnie. (Note: All groups are currently working through the *Come Back* book and participant's guide. If you haven't already, you can pick up a copy at outdoor or indoor worship or request that we send one by mail.)

### Women's Bible Study

Day/Time: Unknown

Location: Unknown

Leader: Dawn Lambert

Email: [dawn.burnett@gmail.com](mailto:dawn.burnett@gmail.com)

### Sisters in Christ

Day/Time: Monday, 1 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Leader: Deb Ellis

Email: [debsellis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:debsellis@sbcglobal.net)

### Women's Bible Study

Day/Time: Monday

Location: In person outdoors at Sheila's home

Leader: Sheila Hall

Email: [Halls@wustl.edu](mailto:Halls@wustl.edu)



### Sermon Discussion Group

Day/Time: Tuesday, 6:30-8 p.m. bi-weekly

Location: Church Sanctuary

Leader: Julie Ford & Barb Buck

Email: [Jeford5@yahoo.com](mailto:Jeford5@yahoo.com) / [jordanandbarb@outlook.com](mailto:jordanandbarb@outlook.com)

### Generations

Day/Time: Thursday, 7 p.m.

Location: Zoom or at a park (weather pending)

Leader: Jeff Johnson

Email: [jeffjane627@gmail.com](mailto:jeffjane627@gmail.com)

### Young Adult Group

Day/Time: Monday, 6:30 p.m.

Location: In person at Clint's home or other location TBD

Leader: Clint Benesh

Email: [clint@troyumc.org](mailto:clint@troyumc.org)

# SERVE

## Troy Methodist Fields Work Day | Saturday, October 24, from 8 a.m. to Noon

We originally scheduled this work day to take place back in March, but it will now take place on October 24.

We will be cutting down trees around the outfield fences. We need anyone with chainsaws to help take the trees down and cut them up. We'll also need people to help haul the limbs to a designated spot on the property.

If you are interested in volunteering to help on this work day, please contact Sharie ([sharie@troyumc.org](mailto:sharie@troyumc.org)) or call the office at (618) 667-6241.

## Save the Date: Food Packaging Day on November 14

Mark your calendars and get ready! We will be doing our annual food packing event on November 14. This is a great service opportunity for people of all ages (3-90+)! We could place you at a table with your family, band, or journey group, or this could be an opportunity to meet new people! The food packaging will be done with social distancing guidelines, masks, gloves, and hair nets (more details to come soon). We'd love to see you be a part of this day!

# SERVE CONT'D

As we continue to open indoor worship to more and more people, there are increasing opportunities to serve in hospitality and tech! If you feel led to serve in one of these ways, now is a great time to step in. No experience is needed, since we will equip you for each of these roles.

- **Computer Operator:** Follow a computer program on Sunday mornings to present the song lyrics, Scripture, and message notes on the screen and on our live streams. Contact Josh Case, Production Coordinator, [josh@troyumc.org](mailto:josh@troyumc.org).
- **Sound and Production Technicians:** Help run the sound and live stream audio for all four services. This requires learning the sound board and arriving early for set-up and sound checks. Additional production includes lighting and stage design. Contact Josh Case.
- **Parking Lot Greeting Team:** This team has been growing as we've welcomed people to parking lot services. Help welcome people, guide them to the right place, and set a great first impression for guests! Contact Tim Price, Worship and Hospitality, [tim@troyumc.org](mailto:tim@troyumc.org).
- **Greeters:** Though this role looks a little different during the pandemic, it is no less essential! Welcome people to worship, check their names when they arrive, open doors, and let everyone know they are welcome. Contact Tim Price.

# CONNECT

## Membership Class via Zoom | Sunday, October 4, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Considering membership in our church family? We're excited to come alongside you as you consider this important step.

- **Sign Up:** Email Bonnie ([bonnie@troyumc.org](mailto:bonnie@troyumc.org)), and she will send you the details you need. Please sign up, even if you've already told a staff member that you're interested in this class.
- **Before Class:** When you sign up, you'll receive three teaching videos and a resource guide. Please watch the videos and read through the guide prior to class (this will take approximately an hour).

## Connecting with Our Church Family

Our staff team has been working to reimagine how we connect with YOU, our church family, as well as first-time guests. One change you may have noticed already is to the digital **Connection Card** — we're only asking guests to fill out this card! If you're already connected to our church community, you don't need to fill it out. However, when you invite someone to church, please encourage them to fill out the Connection Card from our website or church app so we can personally reach out to them.

Another change is to our **prayer ministry**. Prayer is a vital part of what it means to be on a journey with Jesus. If you need prayer or would like to share a praise report with our church, please do so at [troyumc.org/prayer](http://troyumc.org/prayer) or call the church office to speak with a staff member. We would love to support you in this way.

Thank you for your role in sharing the love of Christ with others!

# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

## UMW Monthly Meeting | Thursday, October 8, at 1 p.m. in the Family Life Center

We look forward to seeing everyone in person. As a reminder, everyone will be required to wear a face covering, so please come prepared. We will also be socially distanced.

## Fall/Winter Fundraiser: 11th Annual UMW Nut Sale

- **Price:** \$11 per 1-lb. bag
- **Choices:** Mammoth pecan halves OR medium pieces (great for baking). These Georgia pecans keep well in the freezer, which is great for stocking up for the coming year.
- **Payment:** Required in advance (make checks payable to Troy UMW)
- **Order:** By October 12, email your order to Diane Jones ([drasplijones@gmail.com](mailto:drasplijones@gmail.com)), fill out a print form at the church welcome center, or call the office to place your order.
- **Delivery:** Late October. After that, we will take orders for holiday cashews and mixed nuts.

All proceeds go to the many missions sponsored by the UMW, including Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House, Oasis Women's Center, Cunningham Children's Home, Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Ministries Unlimited, Spero Family Services, and Red Bird Mission. Due to COVID-19, this is the only fundraiser the UMW will be able to hold this year.

# JOURNEY KIDS

Did you know you have four options to get the most out of children's ministry during this season?

1. **Online via our weekly newsletter.** Watch the videos, then use the parent guides to talk with your child for an additional few minutes about the week's lesson.
2. **Monthly "take-out church" box.** You still watch the video links in the newsletter, but the other resources, activities, games, or crafts are right there in your box (email [christine@troyumc.org](mailto:christine@troyumc.org) if you would like one).
3. **Busy bags during all four Sunday services.** Look by the check-in area for a bin labeled "busy bags." Each bag has crayons, coloring sheets, busy activities, and fruit snacks.
4. **IN PERSON – we are back!** Please pre-register your children to attend nursery, preschool, or elementary during the 9 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. service at [troyumc.org/worship](http://troyumc.org/worship). Please try to register by Thursday each week so we can have all the materials ready for your child.

We are also working on plans to offer something special for families for Halloween this year. We will have either an indoor or outdoor event that will be a special night for your kids. Stay tuned for more details.

## NEW LIFE STUDENT MINISTRY

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

Students can meet in-person or online for Youth Group.

#### Wednesday Night Schedule

5:30-6:30 pm	Sr. High Praise Band	Family Life Center – Clint Benesh
5:30-6:30 pm	Jr. Praise Band	Children's Area – Tim Price
6:30-7:00 pm	Worship – All Students	Family Life Center, Facebook Live, & Zoom
6:50-7:45 pm	High School (HS) Students	Family Life Center
6:50-7:45 pm	Middle School (MS) Students	Children's Area
6:50-7:45 pm	Online Small Group	Zoom

#### Themes for October

October 7	FAMILY MATTERS: A Series about Family
October 14	A stand-alone talk about ARGUING
October 21	A stand-alone talk about WORDS
October 28	IT'S PERSONAL: A Series about Zacchaeus

#### Safety Guidelines:

- We'll meet in two groups: Middle School Students and High School Students.
- We'll meet in two separate spaces: Children's Ministry Area and the Family Life Center.
- We'll implement social distancing (face masks are required).
- Please eat dinner at home before attending Youth Group.
- We'll provide online access to Youth Group for students at home.
- If you have a fever or feel sick, please stay home.

#### Special Offering: "Fill the Grocery Cart!" | October 7, 14, 21, & 28

The Ministries Unlimited food pantry in Troy is running low on complete meal kits. Please add some of the following items to your next grocery list and bring them to church to "fill the ALDI grocery cart!" Buy what you would serve at home, and be generous. Thank you!

- Hamburger Helper
- Chicken Helper
- Tuna Helper
- Beef stew
- Chicken and dumplings
- Canned pasta (ravioli, Spaghetti O's, etc.)

### 2021 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Through confirmation, we renew the covenant made at our baptism and focus on our discipleship – becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ by affirming and witnessing to our faith. Confirmation is open to all 7th grade students and any 8th grade student who missed last year or is new to Troy UMC. In this introductory session, we will preview the confirmation schedule, highlight the CONFIRM curriculum, introduce adult and student confirmation leaders, and do the first session!

Please contact Rev. Kurt Stone if you have confirmation questions: [kurt@troyumc.org](mailto:kurt@troyumc.org) or (618) 407-7586.

# NLSM CONT'D

## Confirmation Sessions:

### October 4

- Session 2: Living Together
- Session 3: Loving Together
- Session 4: Belonging Together (at home)

### October 11 | Unit 2: Our History and Heritage

- Session 5: The Faith of Jesus
- Session 6: The Early Church

### October 24 | Confirmation Fall 1-Day Retreat at the Dubois Center (Dubois, IL)

- Session 7: The Reformation
- Session 8: Wesley and the Methodists
- Session 9: The Growth of Methodism (at home)

## SPECIAL EVENT: Cool Weather, Cool Treat! | Friday, October 16, 7 p.m.

Meet at Bobby's Frozen Custard (Rt.159 in Maryville, between I-70 & I-270) to enjoy a FREE cone, sundae, shake, or concrete with your church friends!



Students had their Youth Group Comeback September 16! Photos courtesy of Andy Adams, Bonnie Abel, & Kurt Stone.

**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
- \*St. Jacob Ministry Leader  
Clint Benesh
- \*Director of 1st Step Learning Center  
Lisa Rayle
- \*Office Manager  
Sharie Meyer
- \*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



# OCTOBER SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
Oct. 4	Membership Class (see page 5)
Oct. 8	UMW monthly meeting (see page 5)
Oct. 12	Deadline to order pecans (see page 5)
Oct. 16	Student Ministry frozen custard (see page 7)
Oct. 17	Recycling Event
Oct. 18	Roger Ross (author of <i>Come Back</i> ) preaches
Oct. 24	Troy Methodist Fields work day (see page 4)



Troy United Methodist Church

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