



REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS.

DECEMBER 2022
VOLUME 34 • ISSUE 12

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We're so used to making New Years' resolutions. Let's start early this year and make some important Christmas resolutions! This Advent you are in for a very special treat as we hear first person accounts behind the Christmas story from lesser-known sources. From their perspectives we will each be encouraged to prepare for the birth of Jesus by making some meaningful resolutions that can change our hearts and our lives!

- November 27 – Admit My Need – a message from Eve
- December 4 – Stay Open to Hope – a message from Zechariah
- December 11 – Expect Blessing – a message from Elizabeth
- December 18 – Trust God's Plan – a message from an Angel
- December 24 – Make Room for Jesus – a message from the Innkeeper
- December 25 – Anticipate Deliverance – a message from a guard for Herod

This year 16% of the general December offering will go towards relief efforts in Eastern Kentucky headed by the Kentucky Conference of the UMC. This is in response to the past two years of devastation from tornados and flooding.

Join us for Christmas Eve Worship!

Thursday, December 22

6:30 p.m. Service in the Family Life Center
(children's ministry & nursery available)

Saturday, December 24

2 p.m. Service in the Sanctuary
4 p.m. Service in the Family Life Center & Online
(children's ministry & nursery available)
6 p.m. Service in the Family Life Center
11 p.m. Service in the Sanctuary & Online

Worship Schedule

- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Service (Sanctuary)
 - 10:30 a.m. Modern Service (Family Life Center)
- Nursery, children's ministry, and online worship at both services*

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP GENERATOR – *An Opportunity for YOU!*

Learn what it means to be a spiritual leader and live into your calling! The Spiritual Leadership Generator is a process for developing everyday followers of Jesus into spiritual leaders. That means YOU. We'll look at biblical leadership through the life of Christ and dive into leadership concepts that can be directly applied to your life. Completing this course will help you:

- Integrate your learnings spiritually, relationally, emotionally, and vocationally
- Develop your spiritual leadership
- Sharpen your leadership skills
- See your call and begin to embody your call

Details:

- 5 modules over 10 months in a cohort of 5 people (we'll take a short summer break)
- Weekly 90-minute meetings – video and discussion + application and accountability (your group can meet at any time during the week)
- 2 one-day retreats – worship, formation, relationship, vision casting – **Kickoff on Friday, January 27** (tentatively 9 a.m.-3 p.m. with lunch at TUMC)
- Shared learning experience that is two-fold: learning and formation – content learning of some key concepts and cohort learning that's being formed spiritually
- Learning from the experts in the field – integration of high-quality content by professors and practitioners
- Additional monthly coaching for each group facilitator

Cost:

Although the actual cost of this seminary level year-long course is between \$600-700, we are only asking you to invest \$300. The rest will be offered through a scholarship from our church's leadership development budget.

Please contact me andy@troyumc.org if you would like to participate! I am praying for 40 of our leaders to invest up for this life changing journey together. **Yes, that means YOU!** Read more at www.troyumc.org/SLG

DENOMINATIONAL UPDATES

Our leadership is still waiting for our conference to set up an appointment for us to agree on the financial terms of disaffiliation. As you know, we've been waiting patiently for this appointment since June. Please pray for a breakthrough so we can begin having informational meetings in preparation for a congregational vote soon.

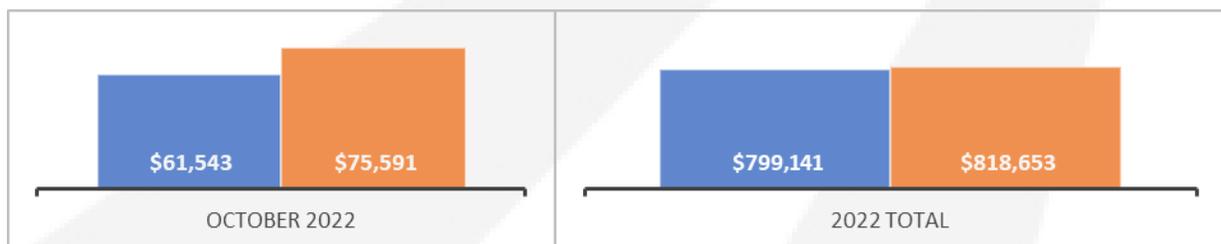
I invite you to read my reflections after serving as a delegate to the North Central Jurisdictional Conference on November 2-5 where we elected 3 new bishops to serve in our jurisdiction. These meaningful reflections can be found on my blog at: www.pastorandyadams.com

Faithfully,

Andy

STRATEGIC STATS

General Budget



■ General Budget Income ■ General Budget Expenses

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

"Earnestly Seeking Him": A Christmas Concert

Join us for an afternoon of beautiful Christmas music!

Troy United Methodist church proudly presents "Earnestly Seeking Him": A Christmas Concert on December 18 in the Family Life Center. Join us for an afternoon of beautiful Christmas music featuring the Troy UMC Chancel Choir, the Troy UMC Bell Choir, a piano duet w/Tom Burroughs and Rebecca Koebbe, a brass ensemble, a saxophone ensemble, a string ensemble and a flute duet.

Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. and the concert starts at 3:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the performance. There will be a Freewill offering.

SERVE

Angel Tree

This year our Angel Tree tradition will be both in person and online! There will be three types of angels to choose from which include:

- Gifts wrapped for children at the Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House
- Gift cards for Cunningham Children's Home
- Gift items in gift bags for residents at Liberty Village



The deadline to get all the gifts dropped off at the church is **December 11th**.

Soon you will find Christmas trees in both the FLC and Sanctuary foyers adorned with angel ornaments. Each ornament represents a child or older adult that you can bless this Christmas season! If you choose to bless a child from Cunningham Children's Home or an adult from Liberty Village you can grab an angel off the tree and deliver your gift back to the FLC or Sanctuary foyers anytime. If you choose to bless a child from Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House you will go to the website you find on the angel and sign up for your child online! If you are not currently attending worship in person, you can sign up to get an angel emailed to you directly by reaching out to Bonnie at bonnie@troyumc.org.

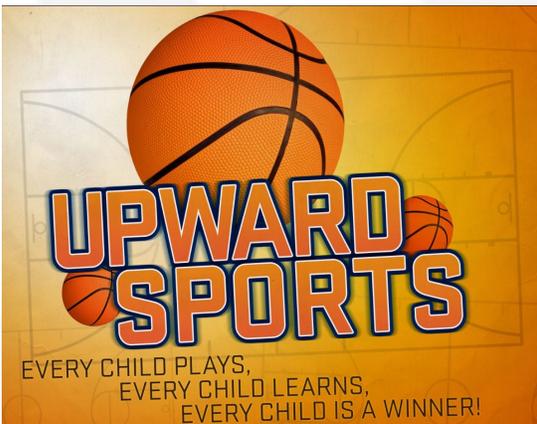


Upward Serving Opportunities

Upward Season is right around the corner!

At the midway point of November, we already have 133 basketballers and 21 cheerleaders registered!

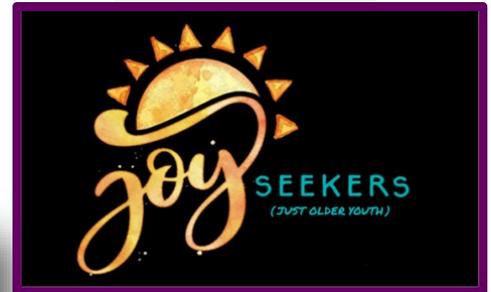
Please consider helping to welcome the community by serving during our final evaluation date on December 10 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Please sign up for a role here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c44abaa28a3f9c52-upward3> or by contacting Dawn Lambert at tumcupward@gmail.com.



CONNECT

JOY SEEKERS (55+)

At our November JOY SEEKERS lunch, we were treated with a special musical program from the 60's Chicks. Our very own Libby Gregg is a member of the group! We thoroughly enjoyed their program along with the delicious BBQ meal and ice cream sundae dessert.



In December, we will not have a regularly scheduled lunch. Instead, a group will attend the Holiday Brass Concert at the Manchester United Methodist Church in Manchester, MO on December 6.

For our January 24, 2023 gathering, we're looking forward to celebrating with a "SOUPER BOWL" theme. Stay tuned for more information. *Please RSVP to Sharie in the church office (618-667-6241) by January 19*

Just a reminder: We meet on the 4th Tuesday each month (unless we plan special outings). We also ask for a \$10 donation to help cover food expenses.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



Troy UWF encourages all to shine bright in the light of Jesus Christ this Christmas.

Our Christmas Luncheon is December 8 at Bella Milano in Edwardsville.
Our next meeting is January 12 at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

"Led by the light of faith serenely beaming, with glowing hearts by His cradle we stand...
He knows our need, our weakness is no stranger, behold your King, before him lowly bend."
lyrics from "O Holy Night"

JOURNEY KIDS

Children's Ministry December Schedule

December 4, 11 & 18 - regular services and schedule: Nursery and Sunday school at 9am & 10:30 a.m. services.



Thursday, December 22 - 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. early Christmas Eve service. Children's ministry and nursery - We will throw a *Happy Birthday Jesus! Party*

Saturday, December 24 - 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service only - Children's ministry and nursery- We will watch the movie, *The Star*, and have treats.

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas morning at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. we will have family service. Children will attend worship with their parents. Mr. Loren will be storytelling (the conclusion of our Advent season) and Miss Christine will do a children's lesson at both services.

Sunday, January 1 - New Years Day children are invited to wear their pajamas to children's ministry and nursery during the 9am and 10:30 a.m. services. We will be watching a movie, *Snow Buddies*, so that our volunteers can take a break to celebrate the new year.

Beginning November 22, we will have a Compassion International tree displayed in our children's ministry check-in area. There will be ornaments with various gifts you can purchase for needy children. Just \$10 can buy a child a Bible. Buying a gift for someone in need is a great practice for your family during the Advent season.



Family advent kits will be available Sunday, November 27. Our prayer is that families will use this kit which includes devotionals, Bible readings, and family activities to find rest in the peace, joy, hope, and love that only Jesus can bring.

He is the greatest gift. Let's celebrate!
Pick your kit up in the children's area.
Advent begins that Sunday, November 27.

Come in your pajamas and bring a blanket and pillow.

Hot Cocoa bar * Popcorn * Water
Children will receive a bell.

Family photo opportunity

For advance Polar Express "Golden tickets" to be sent to your home for that evening please rsvp to Christine@troyumc.org

*This is a free event for our families

To be held in the
Troy UMC Family Life Center



High School Student Annual Fall Retreat in southern Illinois!
Little Grassy Camp, Feme Clyffe State Park, Devil's Kitchen Lake, Giant City State Park, and Jesus Es El Señor UMC



Middle School Family Fall Bike Ride & Trail Walk
Bikers and walkers on this early winter 40-degree mid-November Sunday afternoon!



Fall Rally hosted by Harvest Ministry at Troy UMC

Church Information
Phone (618) 667-6241
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
- *Director of Traditional Worship Music
Rebecca Koebbe
- *Office Manager
Sharie Meyer
- *Administrative Assistant
Karen Wimmer
- *Communications Coordinator
Deb Ellis
- *Production Coordinator
Josh Case
- *Youth Worship Band Leader
Ryan Froidcoeur
- Custodians
David Barr, Loren Fear, Erica Ellis
- ***Staff E-mail** [firstname]@troyumc.org

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

Connect with us!
@troyumc



DECEMBER SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
December 4	NLSM attend St. Louis Symphony Orchestra (see page 6)
December 6	Joy Seekers attend Holiday Brass Concert (see page 4)
December 8	United Women in Faith Christmas Luncheon (see page 4)
December 10	Upward Evaluations (see page 3)
December 11	Angel Tree Drop-off Deadline (see page 3)
December 16	NLSM Interfaith Worship Experience (see page 6)
December 16	Family Movie Night (see page 5)
December 18	"Earnestly Seeking Him" Christmas Concert (see page 3)
December 22	Early Christmas Eve Service (see front page)
December 24	Christmas Eve Services (see front page)

Staff Appreciation Month

The church staff want to say **"THANK YOU"** to our beautiful church family for all of the appreciation that was shown during October Staff Appreciation Month. From cookies to meals, coffee to gift cards, t-shirts to chocolate, you all showed us that we are loved!



REACH

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