



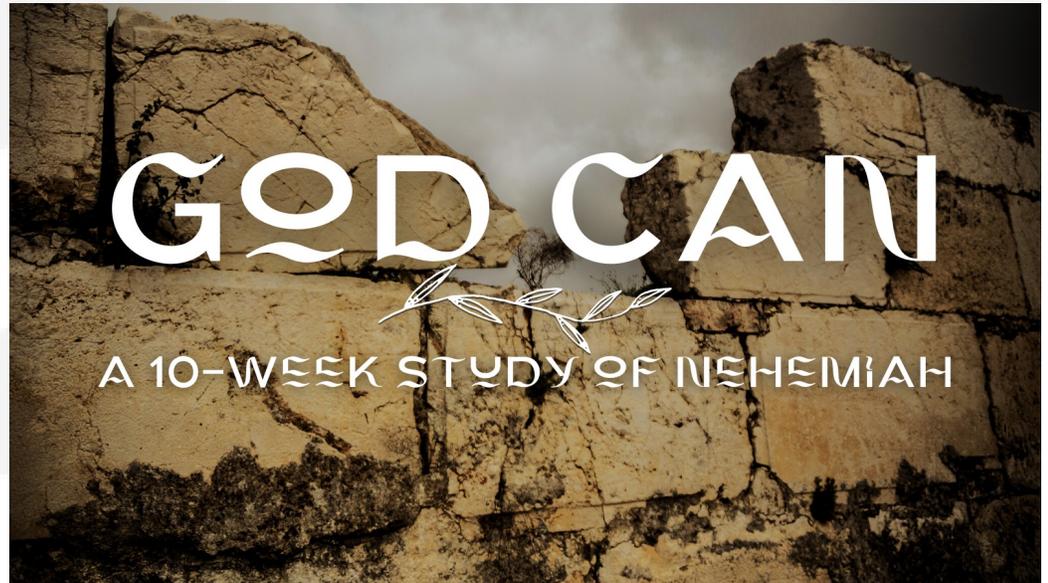
# REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS.

OCTOBER 2022  
VOLUME 34 • ISSUE 10

## IN THIS ISSUE

Strategic Stats	P. 2
Opportunities to Serve	P. 3
Opportunities to Connect	P. 4-5
Student Ministry	P. 6-7
October Schedule	Back Page
Highlights & Baptism	Page
Sunday	



## GOD CAN

A 10-WEEK STUDY OF NEHEMIAH

### Nehemiah Message Series

We have had a powerful beginning to our new series, *God Can!* We joined Nehemiah in his heartbreak over his own sin and the sin of God’s people, as well as the consequences on his homeland. We’ve celebrated that in his sorrow he turned to God in humble prayer and fasting, trusting in the promises of God’s Word. And we have stood in awe at our God, who not only uses our broken hearts but does the impossible in us and through us when we are willing to risk our comfort and security for his call on our lives. But God isn’t finished! In October, we will continue our journey through this inspiring story – join us as we continue with Nehemiah, always remembering that where we can’t, *God Can!*

**October 2** — God Can: Bring us Together (Nehemiah 2:11-20)

**October 9** — God Can: Make a Difference Through Us (Nehemiah 3:1-32)

**October 16** — God Can: Fight for Us (Nehemiah 4:1-23)

**October 23** — God Can: Rebuild our Community (Nehemiah 5:1-19)

**October 30** — God Can: Keep us Focused (Nehemiah 6:1-7:73)



### Worship Schedule

- 9 a.m. Traditional (Sanctuary)
- 10:30 a.m. Modern (Family Life Center)

Nursery, children’s ministry, and online worship at both services

# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

## A Thank You, a New Rule, and a Prayer Request

### I Love Your Servant Hearts

It hit me (again) during our annual meeting of the Nominations Team in September — our church is filled with gifted people who have such servant hearts. I want you each to know how grateful I am for your humble and willing attitude, offering your time and your talents to make our church a welcoming and hospitable community for all people. Many of you serve in behind-the-scenes ways. Some of you serve in up-front ways. A few of you do both! Thank you for giving of yourself to share the love of Christ through our church.

### The 3-Minute Rule

With the combining of some of our worship services and people attending at new times, it is likely that you will be surrounded by at least a few people you do not know very well! Maybe you recognize them, but you may not be sure their name. Or very possibly, you may be sitting near someone who is a first-time guest! As we live out our mission of inviting people on a journey with Jesus, it is our goal that every person who joins us for worship is warmly and personally welcomed at least once (preferably 3-4 times) and that somebody has learned their name. Therefore, I'm asking our members and regular attenders to observe a new rule!

The 3-minute rule begins when the worship service ends. During those three minutes, please only visit with people you do not yet know. If you can't find a newer person, visit with someone you don't know well. That will build our community! If you know that someone is a newer guest, definitely introduce yourself and make note of their name(s). Later that morning or afternoon, our staff would love it if you would email us what you learned!

Here are some ways you can begin that conversation as you extend a hand to shake:

*"Hi, I'm (your name). I'm not sure if we've met!"*

*"I attend this service regularly, but I don't recall meeting you before. My name is..."*

*"Sometimes I'm not very good with names. It's possible we've met before, but I've forgotten your name. I'm (your name)!"*

This can begin a conversation, and you can take it further by asking more get-to-know-you questions. And then, by the time that conversation is over, the 3-minutes will likely be finished, and you can go pick up your kids from children's ministry or chat with some of your friends. Chances are, they will still be there visiting for a while, but new people who don't know anyone else tend to leave right away unless they are warmly engaged. If we all follow the 3-minute rule, our community will grow, and more and more people will feel welcomed!

### Disaffiliation Update

Although no date is set, we have learned that our church's disaffiliation team will finally be able to meet with the conference disaffiliation team sometime in the first two weeks of October. Please pray for God's Spirit to lead and guide those conversations and negotiations. For more information, please refer to the FAQs available on our website at [troyumc.org/our-future](http://troyumc.org/our-future).

Faithfully,

Andy

## General Budget



■ General Budget Income ■ General Budget Expenses

# SERVE

## Serve in Hospitality

It's the job of everyone who calls Troy UMC home to help welcome guests and newcomers! (see Andy's article)

We also have a team of people who help lead the way in connecting with guests on Sundays. There is a small army of people who serve as Parking Lot Greeters, Security Team Members, Greeters, Ushers, Welcome Center Staff, Coffee and Connect, and Hospitality Hosts. If you have gifts for hospitality and would like to explore being a part of this team, there's a place for you!

Contact Jennifer Zahn ([tiergirl@gmail.com](mailto:tiergirl@gmail.com)).

## Serve in Worship

One awesome thing about worship and music ministry is the intergenerational aspect! Young kids to senior adults can take part and use their gifts in music and worship. We're so thankful for our many musicians, vocalists, and tech ministry leaders at Troy UMC for both the Traditional and the Modern services.

If you enjoy music and worship ministry, we would love to find a place for you! Some of the opportunities include Handbells, Adult Choir, Student Worship Bands, Special Music, Children's Choir (see page 5 for an upcoming opportunity for kids), Seasonal Dramas, Orchestra, Pianists, Organists, Drummers, Bass Players, Electric Guitarists, Guitarists, Keyboardists, Worship Leaders, Strings, Percussion, Sound, Video, Lighting, and Stage Décor.

The best way to explore the possibilities is to talk with our ministry leaders:

Traditional Worship — [Rebecca@troyumc.org](mailto:Rebecca@troyumc.org)

Modern Worship — [Tim@troyumc.org](mailto:Tim@troyumc.org)

Sound and Tech — [Ryan@troyumc.org](mailto:Ryan@troyumc.org)

## Operation Christmas Child

It's one of our favorite times of the year! The holidays are just around the corner, and it's time to pack shoeboxes full of special gifts that will bring joy to children around the world. Samaritan's Purse collects Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts for children in need all around the world. Each one is prayerfully and uniquely packed full of toys and other fun items by YOU so that a child can delight in the season of Christmas. Each shoebox is a chance to show the love of Christ to a child in need.

You will find shoeboxes when you arrive at the Family Life Center and the Sanctuary for worship in the upcoming weeks. Be sure to grab a shoebox and a label! **The collection week is November 14-21.** So look for the boxes to arrive soon and enjoy this tradition with your family! Visit the Samaritan's Purse website to find a list of suggested items to put in a shoebox. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Bonnie at [bonnie@troyumc.org](mailto:bonnie@troyumc.org).

<https://samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>

## Share Thanksgiving 2022

### What We Do

Share Thanksgiving is designed to help others in our community share a traditional Thanksgiving meal. By donating one or more meal components, you will assist those who are not able to purchase these holiday extras.

### How We Do It

On **October 30, November 6, and November 13**, you may sign up to bring one or more meal components listed below. On **Sunday, November 20**, all items need to be brought to church. We will compile meals for delivery that morning.

*Meal Components:* Turkey (frozen) OR Ham (boneless), Rolls and Stuffing, Vegetables and Sides, Dessert, and Drinks

### What Do I Bring?

The idea is that you would bring items that you enjoy cooking for your own Thanksgiving meal. If you usually make pumpkin pie for dessert, we suggest a can of pumpkin pie mix (including the spices), a pie crust mix, and cool whip or dream whip. Some of you have used your creativity to include a favorite casserole recipe with all the ingredients as a side dish.

### Suggestions & Ideas

*Vegetables/Side Dishes:* Potatoes (fresh or boxed), Gravy, Canned Vegetables, Canned Yams, Your Favorite Recipe with Ingredients

*Desserts:* Pie Mix, Crust Mix, Cool Whip, Cookies, Cake Mix, Your Favorite Recipe with Ingredients

*Drinks:* Coffee, Tea, Soda, Hot Chocolate, Juice Boxes

### Out of Town?

Will you be out of town the Sunday before Thanksgiving? You can still arrange to get your items to the church by dropping them off during office hours. We do ask that you carefully label your items with your name and whatever meal components you are providing.

### How many per meal?

While it is difficult to predict the sizes of the families whom items will be provided for, we ask that you bring enough to feed a family of four. We can make adjustments as we compile the meals, if needed.

### How can I help?

Be a deliverer! Deliverers head off in their own vehicle with addresses in hand, and we have maps of Troy available if needed. We also have some instructions should you not reach someone at home.

Sign up to Provide Meal Components

Bring in Meal Components

Pray for the Families Receiving Meals

### Questions?

Please contact Sharie Meyer or Bonnie Abel at (618) 667-6241.

# CONNECT

## JOY SEEKERS! (55+)

What a great time we had at our September outing. We had about dozen people ride the bus to Castelli's Restaurant followed by a wonderful time at the Price Family Jamboree. I want to thank everyone who helped the evening go smoothly in my absence. I especially want to thank Gerry for helping line up things at Castelli's and for overseeing the trip, making sure everyone got on the bus. And I'd like to thank Tom W. for driving the bus.

— Pastor Dan

**Looking Ahead** — For our October 25 meeting, we will celebrate with a Fall theme. Sue Pate and Cathy Leathers have agreed to be our Greeters, and we have a few openings: someone to help with the Program, Dessert, and someone to do the Devotion. If you're interested in serving in any area, please contact Pastor Dan ASAP at (618) 830-5589.

**November JOY SEEKERS Meeting on Tuesday, November 15** — Our theme will be *Thankful for Happy Days*. Come eat and enjoy Happy Days presented by the 60s Chicks Showchoir (Oldies but Goodies music group).



## NEW Sessions of GriefShare Have Begun

Our Fall sessions of GriefShare began on August 30. You can join GriefShare at any point or even make up any sessions you missed when we begin the Spring sessions. We meet on Tuesdays in the children's area (near the Family Life Center) from 5-7 p.m. There's a \$20 fee for the book. For more info, contact Pastor Dan ([dan@troyumc.org](mailto:dan@troyumc.org)) or Christine ([christine@troyumc.org](mailto:christine@troyumc.org))

### GriefShare Sessions

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Is this normal?              | 6. Why?                     |
| 2. Challenges of grief          | 7. Guilt and anger          |
| 3. The journey of grief-part 1  | 8. Complicating factors     |
| 4. The journey of grief-part 2  | 9. Stuck                    |
| 5. Grief and your relationships | 10. Lessons of grief-part 1 |
|                                 | 11. Lessons of grief-part 2 |
|                                 | 12. Heaven                  |
|                                 | 13. What do I live for now? |

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

Tuesdays 5:00pm - 7:00pm  
August 30 - November 8  
Troy United Methodist Church, 618) 667-6241  
407 Edwardsville Road \* Troy, IL  
[dan@troyumc.org](mailto:dan@troyumc.org) or [christine@troyumc.org](mailto:christine@troyumc.org)



## United Women in Faith

Troy United Women in Faith bless you all for your support for the Rummage Sale and the undies drive for the Oasis Women's Shelter.

**Our next meeting will be at 1 p.m. on Thursday, October 13, in the FLC.**

**October is the month of our Annual Nut Sale.** As with all our fundraisers, proceeds go to the many missions that the UWF sponsors. Mammoth pecans, pecan pieces, holiday cashews, and mixed nuts each cost \$11 per 1-lb bag. These nuts keep well in the freezer — plan ahead and stock up for the coming holidays! **The order deadline is October 15** with delivery in early November. You can order by emailing Diane Jones ([drasplijones@gmail.com](mailto:drasplijones@gmail.com)) or by filling out the form on the back of this newsletter and dropping it off with payment at the church office.

## Join a Sunday Morning Journey Group!

Are you interested in being a part of a Journey Group on Sunday mornings? Now's the time! There are currently two Journey groups meeting at 10:30 a.m., and we are in the works to start a 9 a.m. Journey Group if there is interest. All are welcome! Feel free to attend the Journey Group during one time and go to service during the other. If you have kids, no problem! They are welcome to attend Journey Kids in the Children's Area for both services! If you have questions or would like to join a group, email our Minister of Discipleship, Bonnie at [bonnie@troymc.org](mailto:bonnie@troymc.org).

## Troy UMC Men at the Park!

Saturday, October 1, 9 a.m. to Noon at Troy Township Park Pavillion #8 (near the soccer fields concessions stand)

TUMC men and middle/high school students are welcome to enjoy a barbecue lunch, outdoor activities, and fellowship! Please RSVP to the church office (618-667-6241 or [sharie@troymc.org](mailto:sharie@troymc.org)). We suggest a \$10 donation to help cover lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Carl Inman at [cri2000@gmail.com](mailto:cri2000@gmail.com).



**Please join us for our Halloween Trunk or Treat**

**At Troy UMC (lower FLC parking lot)**

**Sunday, October 30, 2022**

**3:00-5:00PM**

**Join us for decorated trunks, games and sweets!**

**In case of inclement weather activities will be moved indoors to the FLC.**

**Troy UMC members-please contact [Christine@troymc.org](mailto:Christine@troymc.org) if you would like to host a trunk.**

**We are asking for bagged candy donations now through the morning of October 30th.**

**Please leave donations in the FLC and Sanctuary foyers.**



## Upcoming Children's Choir Opportunity (for children 1st grade and above)

Parents, are your children interested in singing for occasional church services? If so, beginning on **October 5**, Rebecca Koebbe is hosting Wednesday afternoon rehearsals from 4 to 4:30 in the children's area downstairs. Performance opportunities will be approximately once a month during both services. If there's enough interest, there may also be an older children's choir (middle school age).

Please reach out to [rebecca@troymc.org](mailto:rebecca@troymc.org) to let her know your kid(s) intend to participate and whether they can have a snack after practice. Additionally, if you're able to stay to help keep the children focused, that would be greatly appreciated!

# NEW LIFE STUDENT MINISTRY

Troy UMC's New Life Student Ministry serves 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. October opportunities for students include Wednesday Night Youth Group, Sunday Evening Confirmation Class, and a Fall Rally event hosted by Harvest Ministry (Tim Price) at Troy UMC for all students!

## YOUTH GROUP WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE & OCTOBER THEMES

6:00-6:30 pm	Snack Supper	Family Life Center
6:30-7:45 pm	High School (HS) Students	Family Life Center
6:30-7:45 pm	Middle School (MS) Students	Children's Area

### **"UNDER THE MICROSCOPE" and "I WONDER":**

#### ***A series about science, faith, and the One who created everything***

<b>October 5</b>	MS	Genesis 1:1-25	Creation points to a Creator.
	HS	Genesis 1:1	As you explore science, your faith can expand.
<b>October 12</b>	MS	Gen. 1:1, 26-31	Science & faith can work together to show us more about God.
	HS	Colossians 1:15-17	You can trust Someone before you know everything.
<b>October 19</b>	MS	John 9:8-11, 17-19, 24-25	We can have questions and still follow God.
	HS	Matthew 28:2-6	Build your faith on what matters most.

### **"LET'S TALK ABOUT" and "ELEVATE":**

#### ***A conversation about Bullying and the Image of God in everyone***

<b>October 26</b>	MS	Romans 2:10; 12:17-18	You're important, and others are important.
	HS	Eph 2:10; Rom 12:17-18	How we treat other matters.

## 2023 CONFIRMATION CLASS ORIENTATION

The Confirmation Class for 2023 at Troy United Methodist Church is now forming, and you are invited to participate! Confirmation is open to all 7<sup>th</sup> grade students, and any 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who missed last year or is new to this church. Confirmation Instructional Sessions are held in the Sanctuary from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on the following October Sundays:

### ***Unit 1: OUR JOURNEY***

<b>October 2</b>	Session 2: Living Together
	Session 3: Loving Together
	Session 4: Belonging Together

### ***Unit 2: OUR HISTORY AND HERITAGE***

<b>October 9</b>	Session 5: The Faith of Jesus
	Session 6: The Early Church
<b>Oct. 15-16</b>	Confirmation Fall Overnight Retreat: <i>The Dubois Center (UCC Camp), Dubois, IL</i>
<b>October 23</b>	Session 7: The Reformation
	Session 8: Wesley and the Methodists
	Session 9: The Growth of Methodism

## OCTOBER SPECIAL EVENT

### FALL RALLY with Harvest Ministry: A one-day event for middle & high school students

Saturday, October 29, 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. | Register Online + \$40 | [harvestministryteams.com/fallrally](http://harvestministryteams.com/fallrally)

We need to focus on Jesus. Students need to continually be invited to be put Jesus first in their lives. One awesome way to do this is to join together in a day of worship, preaching, fellowship, and sending! Featured guest speakers are Sarah Wanck and Cole Abell, with music provided by Harvest Ministry Worship Band.

Registration includes morning refreshments, Chick-Fil-A lunch, program & activities, and a free t-shirt for students registered before October 12.

### PARENTS

New Life Student Ministry schedules and registration flyers can be accessed at [troyumc.org/students](http://troyumc.org/students)

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



**Left: Pastor Kurt's pre-game visit with NLSM students who play & perform in the Triad Marching Knights!**

*Marek Rose, Kurt, Ru Fuller, Emelia McLeod, Jackson Reiter, Sarah Luchesi, Jack Wilbur, Nadia Amaya, and Paige Borders*

**Right: Pastor Kurt with NLSM students who play in the THS Marching Knights Drumline!**

*Andrew Carter, London Weathers, and Nolan Owens*



**Left: THS Marching Knights Band & Color Guard performing the school song!**

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

# OCTOBER SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
October 1	Last day of Rummage Sale (8 a.m. to Noon in the FLC)
October 1	Troy UMC Men at the Park (see page 5)
October 5	Children's Choir rehearsal begins (see page 5)
October 13	United Women in Faith monthly meeting (see page 4)
October 15-16	Confirmation Class overnight retreat (see page 6)
October 25	JOY SEEKERS meeting (see page 4)
October 29	Fall Rally with Harvest Ministry (see page 7)
October 30	Trunk or Treat (see page 5)

**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
- \*Fields Manager  
Courtney Bettis
- \*Administrative Assistant  
Karen Wimmer
- \*Production Coordinator  
Josh Case
- \*Youth Worship Band Leader  
Ryan Froidcoeur
- Custodians  
David Barr, Loren Fear, Erica Ellis



Has God been doing a transformative work in your heart? Are you ready to share your faith publicly through baptism? Would you like to have your child baptized? Maybe you've never taken this step of faith, and God is nudging your heart. If you've recently made a commitment to follow Jesus and would like to share the gift of baptism with your church family at either the 9 or 10:30 service on **Sunday, November 13**, please contact Pastor Andy ([andy@troyumc.org](mailto:andy@troyumc.org)). You can either celebrate baptism or a *remembrance* of baptism if you have already been baptized. We look forward to sharing in the great work God is doing in your life!

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

If you would like to receive the Reach via email only, please contact [anna@troyumc.org](mailto:anna@troyumc.org).

**Connect with us!**  
@troyumc



**Nut Order Form**  
\$11 per 1-lb. bag

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Toasted, Salted Cashews: \_\_\_\_\_ #bags

Gourmet Mixed Nuts: \_\_\_\_\_ #bags

Mammoth Pecan Halves: \_\_\_\_\_ #bags

Medium Pecan Pieces: \_\_\_\_\_ #bags

Total Order Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Turn this form and payment in to the church office. Make checks payable to Troy UWF.



Troy United Methodist Church  
 407 Edwardsville Road  
 Troy, IL 62294  
 troyumc.org

Non-Profit Org.  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
 Troy, IL  
 Permit #37

Return Service Requested