



TROY
METHODIST CHURCH

REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS

OCTOBER 2024
VOLUME 36 • ISSUE 10

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LIFE AFTER

What happens when we die?



Worship Schedule

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

LIFE AFTER: What happens when we die?

The afterlife is cloaked in mystery. What happens moments after we die? What is Heaven really like? What about Hell? And does what we do in this world really matter in the next? Join us as we uncover the life-altering answers to these questions about *Life After*.

October 20 – John 11:25-26 – Death

October 27 – Luke 16:19-31 – Hell

November 3 – Revelation 21:1-8 – Heaven

November 10 – Afterlife Q & A

OUR FIRST “TEAM” NIGHT

Tuesday, October 22, 6:30-8:00pm, Family Life Center

Together Everyone Achieves More! That's what it means to be a TEAM, and we want to grow as a team for the sake of God's mission. Therefore, we are beginning a new thing at Troy Methodist Church – TEAM Night! Although anyone is invited, TEAM night is designed for ministry team and journey group leaders as well as their apprentices. We will worship together, be encouraged around our mission and vision, receive training, and have opportunities to grow alongside other leaders. We will be nourished together as we invest in the mission and ministry of our church.

TEAM Nights will occur twice each quarter on Tuesdays which are set aside for administrative leadership team meetings. (If you notice, all our journey groups meet on other days and times.) We hope you'll join us for our first ever TEAM Night!

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY



NO LONGER “TRANSITIONAL” – THE GMC GENERAL CONFERENCE

Although I've delayed writing this article as long as possible, the convening General Conference of the Global Methodist Church is not yet finished. Over 300 delegates from around the world, including Troy Methodist Church member, Tom Finley, gathered for the opening session of this long-awaited gathering on Friday, September 20, 2024. Before the opening session of worship even began, many delegates were overcome by emotion and spontaneous singing could be heard from the conference lobby.

“Over the past few years, we all sensed we were building a truly Global Methodist Church,” said Simon Mafunda, the Global Methodist Church’s Africa Director. “When we all saw each other face to face and had the opportunity to embrace one another in person, it was a moment of intense joy. Praise and thanksgiving just freely poured out of us!”

This convening conference has moved the Global Methodist Church from a “transitional” phase to being an officially organized denomination with its own approved Book of Doctrine and Discipline. Part of this conference’s work is to amend that organizational document, but as of this writing, that is not yet complete. Legislative committees are perfecting and recommending proposals for such edits which will then be voted on by the full body of delegates in the coming days.

On a personal note, it has brought me so much joy to see many friends and colleagues share about their experiences at this convening General Conference held in Costa Rica. They are spending much time in prayer and worship and calling upon the Holy Spirit to breathe revival into our churches. They are also taking time to work with the Methodist Church of Costa Rica to serve the local community. Although the GMC officially launched in May of 2022, this week’s events in Costa Rica mark the official birth of the GMC. This has been a long-anticipated fulfillment of a vision that many, including our church and me, have prayed and sacrificed time and energy to see become a reality. ***To God be the glory.***

I can't wait for Tom to return and to get an update from him. When you see him, thank him for his service and let him share his excitement about what God is doing in our broader connection. We are part of a movement of God that is much greater than ourselves!

Faithfully,

Andy

STRATEGIC STATS

Worship Services	August Average	Year to Date Averages
9:00 a.m. - In Person	106	111
9:00 a.m. - Online	95	135
10:30 a.m. - In Person	159	161
10:30 a.m. - Online	75	101
Sunday Children	66	60
Wednesday Youth	45	35
Average Weekly In Person Worship	353	374
Average Weekly Online Worship	170	236

General Budget



2024 FALL FUNDRAISER

Be on the lookout for our Charleston Wrap fundraising info coming soon!



1st Step's annual Charleston Wrap fundraiser is active so you can check off items on your holiday gift list now! You're going to LOVE what you see, and your support will help us reach our fundraising goal! Charleston Wrap is well known for their beautiful, ultra heavy gift wrap but there is so much more: candles & fragrances, fashion accessories, boutique jewelry, kitchen wares, home décor, bags, and gourmet foods just to name a few of the gift categories.

1st Step uses this fundraiser to help with scholarships, purchase books, toys, educational games, and improve our program. Here is the link to order from our school: <https://registercw.com/gateway?organizationMidasId=23436>

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! **Collection Sunday is November 17** this year. So, look for the boxes to arrive soon and enjoy this tradition with your family! Giving to others is one of the greatest gifts of Christmas! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to our Discipleship Pastor, Bonnie at bonnie@troymc.org!



JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM

Are you interested in being a part of the Troy Methodist Church Prayer Team? Each month there will be opportunities to pray for people at the altar, to pray silently during service times, or to pray in preparation for the service on Sunday mornings.

If you would like to know more about this team, please reach out to our Discipleship Pastor, Bonnie at bonnie@troymc.org.

THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT SEASON IS UPON US

By Rebecca Koebbe, Director of Traditional Worship Music

Can you believe it's already time to start preparing for the Christmas season?!

For the Christmas concert this year, I'm switching things up a little bit; Chancel choir's primary portion will be a lovely Christmas Cantata entitled "Night of the Father's Love". We'll start adding these songs to our usual Wednesday evening rehearsals very soon! If you're interested in participating in Chancel choir, whether for the Christmas concert or in general, send me an email and I'll set up a time for a brief audition and discussion.

I'd love to hear from anyone in our church family who has significant talent instrumentally! If you're interested in being considered for a solo or as a participant in a small ensemble, whether you're an accomplished whistler, play harmonica, accordion, bagpipes, or anything in between, send me an email telling me all about your musical abilities. We'll set up a time for us to meet, discuss and listen to you demonstrate your talent!

Polish off that trumpet, pucker up those lips to whistle a tune, and take yourself to your computer to send me an email notification about your desire to add to the musical life of our church. I look forward to hearing from you! I can be reached at rebecca@troymc.org.

My sincere appreciation to all the lovely people who share how appreciative they are for the music our many wonderful volunteer musicians share each week. It's a joy to serve the Lord together with you!



"JOY" SEEKERS - "JUST OLDER YOUTH" (55+ ADULTS)

Tuesday, October 22, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Our next JOY SEEKERS lunch and program is scheduled for Tuesday, October 22 beginning at noon in the Family Life Center.

The guest speaker will be Christine Thurber. Her topic is "Caregiving: How to Thrive, not just Survive." Christine is the Executive Director at St. John's Community Care in

Collinsville. She is originally from Fenton, MO and received her Social Work degree at Evangel College in Springfield, MO. After spending 30 years near Seattle, WA and in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada, she moved back to the area 2 1/2 years ago to be near family. She now lives in O'Fallon, IL with her husband Wade and their youngest two children, Rhett and Reiker, and their labradoodle, Jasper.

JOY SEEKERS is a ministry designed for those who are 55+.

Watch the weekly eReach for RSVP instructions. We ask for a \$10 per person to help offset the cost of lunch.



For more information, contact Care Pastor Dan at (618) 830-5589 or dan@troymc.org



FALL COOKIE DECORATING CLASS

Friday, October 11
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Details & RSVP at troymc.org/events

open to everyone!

CRAFT NIGHT FEATURING COOKIE DECORATING

Friday, October 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Family Life Center

Join us for an evening of guided cookie decorating with Judy from Judy's Cakes, Cookies and More. There is a \$25 per person fee and includes all supplies to decorate and take home one dozen fall-themed cookies.

This will be a fun evening of connection and creativity - all ages are encouraged to attend!

A firm registration deadline is Sunday, October 6.

You may register by contacting Deb Ellis at deb@troymc.org.

If you have questions, contact Deb or Barb Buck at jordanandbarb@outlook.com.



UPWARD BASKETBALL AND CHEER

Registration for the 2025 Season is now open!

Play with Purpose! Youth sports should be fun and challenging! With Upward Basketball and Cheer, children develop athletic abilities and learn life principles that apply both on and off the court. Troy Methodist Church is proud to offer this program to our community.

Registration for the 2025 season is now open - for players and adult volunteers. Visit our website for all the details - troymc.org/upward-sports





NEXT STEPS TO CONNECT

If you are new to our church family, or haven't attended a Connect Lunch in the past, we want to welcome you and provide you with an opportunity to connect!

On Sunday, October 20, we will have a Connect Lunch following the 10:30 a.m. service. Starting at 11:45 a.m. and going until 1:15 p.m., we will enjoy lunch from Fire and Smoke, spend time getting to know each other, and provide time to answer questions you might have about our church family. Staff from various ministries will be available

to answer questions and share about ways to get connected. We will also take a tour of our church facilities so you can get to know your way around.

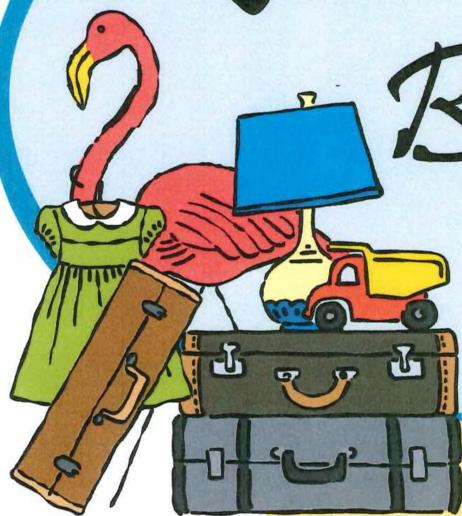
Childcare is available with RSVP. Your kids will be able to eat lunch with you, and then go to the children's area with our staff for a fun activity. Sign up by emailing Discipleship Pastor, Bonnie, at bonnie@troymc.org.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

2024 UWF

Cash or
Checks Only

Rummage & Bake Sale



Household Items • Decor • Arts & Crafts • Holiday Items
Clothing • Jewelry • Toys • Specialty Items & So Much More!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4 — 3 P.M. TO 7 P.M.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 — 8 A.M. TO 11 A.M.

Troy Methodist Church – Family Life Center
407 Edwardsville Road, Troy, IL

- *Donation items may be brought to the Family Life Center on*
 - **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, FROM 9 A.M. TO 7 P.M.**
 - **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, FROM 8 A.M. TO NOON**
- *We cannot accept large furniture, car seats, strollers, books, electronics or TVs.*

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MISSIONS OF THE TROY METHODIST WOMEN IN FAITH

TROY METHODIST KIDS

A SPLASHING SUCCESS!

The Back to School Bash and Foam Party on August 18 was a huge hit! We were thrilled to see so many families join us for a day of fun and excitement. With over 115 attendees and the help of our dedicated volunteers, we created a memorable experience for everyone. The kids had a blast playing in the foam, sliding down the slip and slide, engaging in thrilling tug-of-war battles, and cooling off with water balloon fights.

Thank you to all our volunteers for their hard work and dedication in making this event a success. We couldn't have done it without your support.



JINGLE JAM: A FESTIVE FAMILY FUN NIGHT

*Sunday, December 8, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Family Life Center*

Get ready for a good time at Jingle Jam! This festive event is designed to bring families together and celebrate the spirit of Christmas. With a variety of fun activities, games, and entertainment, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Join us for:

- **Preshow Fun:** Kick off the evening with activities that will get everyone in the holiday mood.
- **Family-Friendly Entertainment:** Enjoy live performances, a holiday-themed craft, and other festive surprises.
- **Christmas Celebrations:** Celebrate Jesus and the joy of the season with your loved ones and create lasting memories. We will end the night with fun treats!

Invite your friends and family to join you for this special event. Jingle Jam is the perfect opportunity to spread some Christmas cheer and have a memorable time together!

Join us for Fall Fest 2024, a **FREE** event, bursting with family-friendly fun! Mark your calendar for **Sunday, October 27, 4:00-6:00 p.m.** inside the Family Life Center.

FALL FEST 2024

TROYMC.ORG/KIDS



Fall Fun Awaits!

- **Engaging Activities:** fall-themed skill games for all ages!
- **Sweet Treats:** Trunk-or-Treating with tons of candy and maybe even some fun surprises!
- **Festive Fun:** a cake walk with delicious prizes like soda and Little Debbie treats!
- **Delectable Delights:** delicious food to enjoy with your family and friends.
- **S'mores Time:** roast marshmallows around a cozy tabletop campfire!

Be Part of the Fun!

We need **YOUR** help to make Fall Fest unforgettable!

- **Volunteer:** Lend a hand and create lasting memories for families! Teens are especially welcome to help run games. It's a great way for the whole family to serve together and enjoy the festivities!
- **Donate:** Contribute candy, soda, or Little Debbie snacks to fuel the trunk-or-treating and cake walk fun!
- **Host a Table:** Decorate your table/space and share treats with the little ones!

Contact jenn@troymc.org to get involved or learn more.

Fall Fest 2024 is the perfect way to celebrate the fun fall season with your loved ones. **See you there!**

TROY METHODIST STUDENTS

FALL RALLY Fan the flame

2 Timothy 1:6-7

Saturday, October 19, 2024 | Troy, IL
9:30 am - 3:30 pm | For 6th - 12th Grades
harvestministryteams.com/fallrally

All 6th - 12th grade students are encouraged to register for this one day event held here at Troy Methodist Church from 9:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. Russ Williams will be speaking on the theme "Fan The Flame".

We're inviting other area student ministry groups to join us, and we would love to have our entire youth group here!

Register at harvestministryteams.com/fallrally or you can use the flier on the website. Registration is \$40 for the day (which includes the program, snacks, lunch, and a t-shirt).

**Troy Students registering online can use the code
TroyStudents24 to register for \$30.**

**STUDENT MINISTRY
COOKOUT**
OCTOBER 30, 2024 | REPPS HOUSE



Wednesday, October 30, the student ministry will travel to the Repp Family's home for a bonfire and cookout!

There will be no student ministry at the church that evening; our meal, devotion, and activity time will be at the Repp's home in Marine, IL from 6:15 - 7:45 p.m.

See troymc.org/students for all the details.

Hope you can join us! And bring a friend!

SR. HIGH FALL RETREAT November 8-10, Little Grassy

Getting away for a weekend with a focus on Christ can be a powerful event in the life of a teenager! We're inviting all 9th-12th grade students to join us for the Fall Retreat!

Register today for this awesome time at Little Grassy. You can find all the information at troymc.org/students.



CONFIRMATION

TROY
METHODIST CHURCH

CONFIRMATION CLASS INVITATION

All 7th grade students (and any 8th or 9th grade students who haven't yet been confirmed) are invited to join this year's Confirmation Class.

Confirmation marks a baptized Christian's first public declaration of their faith in Christ and commitment to live out their baptismal covenant. It's also a way for the church to strengthen a young person's discipleship. Confirmation is not a requirement for church membership, but it does make the Christian a professing member of Troy Methodist Church.

We will begin with six sessions this fall plus a fall retreat. Then, in the spring, we will have six or seven more sessions before our Confirmation Sunday, the Sunday after Easter. This group will meet in the Rehearsal Room on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.

- **October 6 - Introductions & receive materials**
- **October 13, 20, 27**
- **November 3, 10**
- **November 15-16 - Off-site retreat**

Contact tim@troymc.org with questions.



TWEENS

All 4th & 5th Grade Students

Bonfire & Cookout

Wednesday, October 23

Meet at church at 5:30 pm to ride the bus!
Arrive back to the church building 7:45 pm.

Pick up a permission form from the Kid's Min room and bring it with you!

TWEENS BONFIRE & COOKOUT Wednesday, October 23

*Hey Tweens - join us for a fun evening around the fire!
And invite a friend!*

See troymc.org/kids for all the details.

Staff

*Senior Pastor	Andy Adams
*Discipleship Pastor	Bonnie Abel
*Care Pastor	Dan Perry
*Next Generation Minister	Tim Price
*Office Manager	Sharie Meyer
*Director of 1st Step Learning Center	Lisa Rayle
*Director of Traditional Worship Music	Rebecca Koebbe
*Director of Modern Worship	Marissa Horning
*Children's Ministry Leader	Jenn Diliberto
*Communications Coordinator	Deb Ellis
*Production Coordinator	Josh Case
*Administrative Assistant	Karen Wimmer
*Middle School Ministry Leader	Wenifer Greer
*Senior High Ministry Co-Leader	Courtney Froidcoeur
*Senior High Ministry Co-Leader	Ryan Froidcoeur
Custodians	Jacob Baum, Bruce Jackson
*Staff E-mail	[firstname]@troymc.org

If you would like to receive the REACH newsletter via email only, please contact karen@troymc.org

Connect with us!
@troymethodistchurch



OCTOBER SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
October 4-5	UWF Annual Rummage Sale (<i>page 5</i>)
October 6	Student Ministry - Confirmation Classes Kickoff (<i>page 7</i>)
October 11	Cookie Decorating Class (<i>page 4</i>)
October 19	Student Ministry - Fall Rally (<i>page 7</i>)
October 20	Connect Lunch (<i>page 5</i>)
October 22	Joy Seekers October Lunch & Program (<i>page 4</i>)
October 22	TEAM Night (<i>front cover</i>)
October 23	Kids Ministry - Tweens Bonfire & Cookout (<i>page 7</i>)
October 27	Fall Fest 2024 (<i>page 6</i>)
October 30	Student Ministry - Cookout (<i>page 7</i>)

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH - ANNUAL NUT SALE

The Troy UWF is now accepting orders for the Annual Nut Sale. All proceeds go to the many missions they support. The one-pound bags of mammoth pecans, pecan pieces, holiday cashews, and mixed nuts are \$12 per bag. These nuts keep well in the freezer. Plan ahead and stock up for the coming year! **Orders are due October 27**; payment by check on delivery at the church in early November as arranged by Betsy Middleton. You can order by emailing kgmblm@hotmail.com or by filling out the form below. Forms may be turned in to the UWF mailbox in the church copy room or to any UWF member.

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 UWF mailbox in the church copy room or to any UWF member.

Make checks payable to "Troy UWF"

Order deadline is October 27

2024 UWF Nut Order Form
\$12 per 1-lb. bag

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

Return Service Requested

REACH

Troy Methodist Church
407 Edwardsville Road
Troy, IL 62294
troymc.org