



REACH

INVITING PEOPLE ON A JOURNEY WITH JESUS

JULY 2026
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FAITH EXTENDED: FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL

You won't want to miss the conclusion to our *Faith Extended* series, where we've been traveling with the Apostle Paul on his second missionary journey!

Our goal has been to discover new opportunities to live our faith in outward ways in our everyday lives. God's Good News was never meant to end with us – it was always meant to be extended to others.

Join us at Troy Methodist Church this July as we experience a taste of what it means to be a passionate disciple who participates in the mission of Jesus!

July 5 – Corinth part 1: Staying When it's Hard (*Acts 18:1-17*)

July 12 – Corinth part 2: A Different Kind of Community - VBS Sunday (*1 Corinthians 13*)

July 19 – Ephesus part 1: When Idols Collapse (*Acts 19:1-14*)

July 26 – Ephesus part 2: The New Humanity – Baptism Sunday (*Ephesians 4:17-32*)

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

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ANDY

ANNUAL CONFERENCE RECAP

For those of you who do not understand Methodist polity, we organize ourselves in “holy conferencing” at the local, regional, and global levels. Our region is called the Great Lakes Annual Conference, made up of 315+ other Global Methodist Churches in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Pastors and an equal number of lay members, totaling around 800 people, gather yearly for 3 days to worship together, be equipped together, and do the shared business of the Annual Conference. Troy Methodist Church was WELL represented this year. I attended with Pastor Dan and his wife, Carol, along with our lay members, Tom Finley and Deb Ellis. Tim Price and the Harvest team were also there to help lead worship and youth ministry activities. We also had the great privilege of having two TMC’ers ordained into ministry servant leadership roles. Pictured below, Shelley Baty (husband Brent) was ordained Deacon, and John Bracamontes (wife Lisa) was ordained Deacon and Elder!

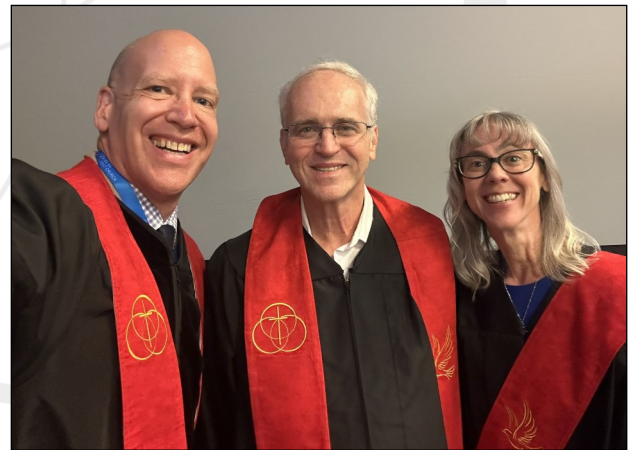
Annual Conference for me is a time of intense schedule (we cram a lot into a little time), but these last few years, I’ve always left inspired and renewed by our leadership and the many friends and colleagues with whom I am privileged to share ministry. Praise God! Here are a couple of other highlights from our time at Green Lake Conference Center in Wisconsin.

Mission Partnerships – I connected with our conference partners who are planting churches in unreached areas of Ethiopia! I can’t wait for our missions team to hear more about those opportunities to be in ministry around the world.

Connectional Giving – As a GMC congregation, we give 4% of our previous year’s non-mission income to support the ministry of the regional (3%) and global (1%) infrastructure and ministry. Our Annual Conference finance and administration team recommended LOWERING our connectional giving to the Annual Conference from 3% to 2.5% and spending down our reserves because we have more than enough! That will be a \$5,000-\$6,000 savings for us in 2027!

Bishop Mark Webb – Your opportunity to meet our bishop was snowed out last year. I’m sad about that because he has led us well since we entered the GMC three years ago. It is possible that we will be assigned a new bishop after our General Conference (the global level) in September. Bishop Webb has led with humility and grace but also boldly called all churches to proclaim the gospel and multiply disciples for the sake of God’s Kingdom. And folks, that’s what it’s all about!

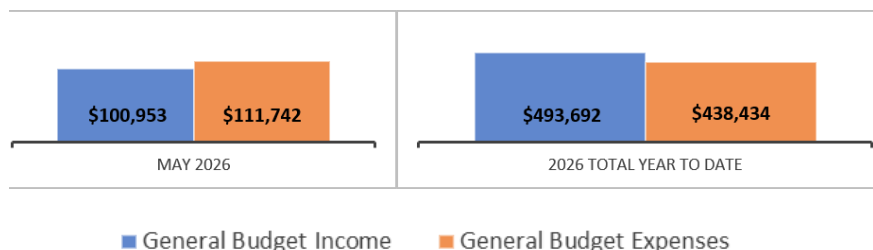
Faithfully, *Andy*



STRATEGIC STATS

Worship Services	May Average	Year to Date Averages
9:00 a.m. - In Person	120	128
9:00 a.m. - Online	163	194
10:30 a.m. - In Person	167	182
10:30 a.m. - Online	127	151
Sunday Children	67	72
Wednesday Youth	58	61
Average Weekly In Person Worship	389	449
Average Weekly Online Worship	290	345

General Budget



SERVE & CONNECT

DON'T FORGET BAPTISM SUNDAY!

Sunday, July 26, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

We have enjoyed several baptisms in June and have more planned for July! Our final Sunday in our *Faith Extended* series, **July 26, 2026**, will be a special **Baptism Sunday** to celebrate new life in Christ in each of our worship services through baptism and remembrance of baptism.

If you have recently surrendered your life to Jesus or want to have your child baptized, this is for you. Young, old, or in between, if you are ready to take this next step in your journey with Jesus by sharing your faith publicly through baptism or remembrance of baptism, please contact Pastor Andy.



VBS YOUTH SERVING OPPORTUNITY

Middle and high school students are invited to be student leaders during VBS at Troy Methodist Church! The times of serving are from 8:00 a.m. until just after noon, July 6-10.

If you haven't already, talk with jenn@troymc.org to find a great spot where you can use your gifts in ministry right here at home!

JOURNEY GROUP LEADERSHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Thursday, July 23, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Upper Family Life Center

Have you ever thought about being a journey group leader? Would you like to know more? If so, please plan to attend the upcoming training on Thursday, July 23, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the Upper Family Life Center. Pastor Andy and Pastor Bonnie will lead this training, and they will explore topics such as having a vision for your journey group, inviting new people to your group, the roles of facilitator and apprentice, and many other themes. All current journey group facilitators and apprentices will be present, allowing everyone to learn from one another.

RSVP to Pastor Bonnie at bonnie@troymc.org by July 1. If you have questions about journey groups or how to get connected to the community at TMC, reach out to Pastor Bonnie TODAY!

ROOF & RESTROOMS RENOVATION: UPDATE



Thank you to those who helped us cross the finish line in giving for our Roof & Restrooms Renovation! We anticipated needing \$15,000, and thus far, we've seen over \$16,000 given to help us complete the preschool restrooms. Praise God! Any additional gifts you make between now and the end of July will help to free up our special project funds for other future needs.

Join us in praising God for our church's continued generosity! If so inclined, you can write a check with "Restroom" in the memo or give online at troymc.org/give.

CONNECT

NEXT STEPS TO CONNECT

Sunday, July 26, 11:45 a.m., Upper Family Life Center



connect lunch

sunday, july 26 @ 11:45 a.m.

If you are new to our church family, we want to welcome you and provide you with an opportunity to connect! On Sunday, July 26, 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 set aside time to answer any questions you might have about our church family. 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 Pastor Bonnie at bonnie@troymc.org.

J.O.Y. SEEKERS (55+) JULY LUNCH & PROGRAM

Tuesday, July 28, noon, Family Life Center

The next **J.O.Y. Seekers** gathering is scheduled for July 28. Our meal will include fried chicken, green beans, potato salad & cole slaw. Members are encouraged to bring watermelon, other fresh fruit, and any of your favorite desserts.

We have a "groovy" program by Kathy Hahn planned for our July gathering. A resident of Troy, Administrative Assistant at TMC, and an Air Force veteran, Kathy's lifelong love of music has led her to sing in a variety of venues: musical theater, community festivals, sporting events, military ceremonies, weddings, and beauty pageants. Since 2017, Kathy has also been a vocalist with The Philosophers, a Metro-East band performing jazz and popular standards.

Come join us for a musical journey with "Yesterday Once More," songs by Kathy Hahn from the 1960's and 1970's. Her program will spotlight female vocalists and girl groups who left us with an impressive array of hit tunes during the 60's and 70's.

Her vocal repertoire features a diverse tapestry of contemporary and classical music, popular standards from the "Great American Songbook," and show tunes. Kathy has performed with both Masterworks Chorale and Heartland Community Chorus.



GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP - LOOKING AHEAD!

Starts August 20, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

HELP NEEDED!! Each year, we offer *GriefShare* to our church and community. This year, we begin on August 20 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. We are looking for individuals who can help with set up and getting light snacks ready before the meeting begins each week. Also, we need someone willing to facilitate a session when Pastor Dan has to be gone.

If interested in helping in any way, contact Pastor Dan at 618-830-5589 or dan@troymc.org.



CONNECT

CHURCH COOKBOOK RECIPE COLLECTION

The Troy Methodist Women are continuing to collect recipes from the congregation to publish a church cookbook!

Forms are available for pickup and should be turned in to the church office. You can also scan the QR code below to submit recipes online. You will be able to submit your favorite recipes in various categories (listed on the form).



We need your help in creating a wonderful cookbook full of treasured recipes. We hope to complete

submission in early fall in order to have books available for purchase in time for the holidays. You may contact Libby Gregg, Carol Block, or Sue Blumberg with any questions.



SUMMER CARE: A SEASON TO STAY STRONG AND CONNECTED

Summer brings sunshine, longer days, and a gentle reminder to take good care of ourselves. As we enjoy the season, it is important to stay hydrated, avoid too much heat, and keep up with rest. A little water and a shady chair can go a long way. Think of it as “holy” hydration.

Just as we care for our bodies, we also care for our souls. Scripture reminds us, *“Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit?”* (1 Corinthians 6:19). Taking care of your health physically and spiritually is part of honoring God.

Summer is also a wonderful time to stay connected. A phone call, a visit, or joining a church gathering can lift your spirit and someone else’s, too. We were never meant to walk alone. *“Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up”* (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

If the heat keeps you indoors, use it as a season of quiet strength. Spend time in prayer, read a favorite Psalm, or simply sit with the Lord. He is near, in every season.

Here are some simple, practical safety tips:

- Drink plenty of water throughout the day.
- Stay in air conditioning or shaded areas when possible.
- Avoid going outside during the hottest part of the day.
- Wear light, loose-fitting clothing and a hat.
- Check on neighbors and ask someone to check on you.
- Keep emergency phone numbers handy.
- Watch for signs of heat illness like dizziness, weakness, or confusion.

A good little reminder for summer: if the sun feels like it is preaching at you, it may be time to go inside and sit down. Stay cool, stay connected, and remember you are deeply loved.



TROY METHODIST KIDS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

July 6-10, 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Vacation Bible School is almost here, and we can't wait to welcome kids into an unforgettable rainforest adventure!

Join us July 6-10 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. each day for a week filled with fun, friendships, games, music, and discovering just how amazing God is. If you haven't registered your child yet, there's still time! Sign up today at troymc.org/vbs.

Want to be part of the adventure? We'd love your help! We're still looking for volunteers, donations, and helping hands to transform our church into a rainforest. Decorating will take place June 29 - July 3, and whether you can give an hour or several days, we'd love to have you join us. You can also support VBS through donations or by purchasing items from our Amazon Wish List. Check out our resource table in the Children's Ministry department for more information. You can also contact Jenn at jenn@troymc.org for more information.

VBS is one of the biggest outreach opportunities of the year. Every decoration hung, snack served, game led, and conversation shared helps children feel seen, loved, and connected to Jesus. Together, we can create a place where faith grows, friendships form, and lives are impacted for eternity.

Most importantly, please pray for VBS. Pray for our leaders as they prepare for the children who will attend, for the families who will walk through our doors, and for the lasting impact God will make in their hearts. Check out our VBS Prayer



Calendar and join us in covering this week in prayer!



July Prayer Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Pray that the decorations would come together and create enthusiasm for the theme.	2 Pray that station leaders would connect well with children.	3 Pray that final details would fall into place smoothly.	4 Pray for strong teamwork and shared joy among planners.
5 Pray for calm, confidence, and excitement on the day before VBS begins.	6 Pray that check-in and drop-off would be calm and organized.	7 Pray that God's truth would be shared clearly and boldly.	8 Pray for patience and wisdom when behavior is challenging.	9 Pray that kids who don't know Jesus would come to know Him.	10 Pray that kids would see the importance of a relationship with God.	11 Pray that kids and families return and feel welcomed during VBS Celebration Sunday.
12 Pray that kids would talk about VBS with friends and family.	13 Pray that kids would continue growing in the Lord and that VBS would bear fruit throughout the year.					

Day 1: Pray that kids would know God made them on purpose and calls them very good.

Day 2: Pray that kids would find peace knowing God understands and cares about every part of their lives.

Day 3: Pray that kids would learn to run to God when they feel scared or overwhelmed.

Day 4: Pray that kids would understand Jesus' deep, powerful love and begin to share it with others.

Day 5: Pray that kids would have hope knowing God never changes and will always be with them.

What the kids are learning the week of VBS (July 6-10) Please pray that kids would grow in knowledge of the Lord each day!

CONTACT

Tim - tim@troymc.org
Jenn - jenn@troymc.org

WEBSITE

troymc.org/kids

FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

[@troymethodistkids](https://www.facebook.com/troymethodistkids)

TROY METHODIST STUDENTS

RESCHEDULED HOLIDAY WORLD TRIP July 15, 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

We missed the trip to Holiday World due to some bus issues that are currently being fixed. We've rescheduled the trip to July 15 and hope you can join us!



Join us for a day trip to Santa Claus, Indiana.

Wednesday
Rescheduled to 7/15

Schedule
7:00am-10:00pm

Registration Fee	What to Bring
\$60 & Registration Form	Sack Lunch Closed Toed Shoes Swim Suit & Towel Money for Souvenirs (optional) Dinner Included

For more information email courtney@troymc.org or visit troymc.org/students

BEULAH YOUTH INSTITUTE

We had a group of 15 students and leaders participate in Beulah Youth Institute in Eldorado! Our group joined together with more than 200 other students and leaders for a week of worship, prayer, Bible study, devotions, and fun! Praise the Lord for the amazing ways God worked in the hearts and lives of our group. We're praying for continued boldness in faith!



At the time of this newsletter's printing, we're praying for the younger kids who will spend the final week of June at Beulah Bible Camp!

WEDNESDAYS COMING UP See troymc.org/students

July 1 - Sculpture Park, STL
July 8 - Serve Night
July 15 - Holiday World Trip
July 22 - Outdoor Movie
July 29 - Yard Games

Pray for the
High School
Mission Trip to
Denver, CO,
leaving July 18.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP - SIGN UP TODAY!

The Middle School Mission Trip is Thursday, July 30 - August 1, and you will love it! If you're heading into 7th, 8th, or 9th grade this fall, you're invited to join us for the weekend to serve at Midwest Mission (Chatham, IL). You will stay in the amazing dorms on the mission campus, enjoy devotions, worship, great food, and some fun activities around Springfield. If you have questions, talk with Del or Diana Henderson, Middle School Mission Trip Coordinators.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP 2026 Jul 30-Aug 1 | Chatham, IL



STUDENT MINISTRY GOALS

The Student Ministry has three goals this summer:

- To grow closer to Christ through worship, prayer, and spiritual growth at camps and special events
- To grow closer to Jesus by serving through mission trips and special projects
- To grow closer in community, growing in Godly friendships through trips, activities, and special events

Thank you to each family and the church for supporting both the kids and student ministry this summer!

CONTACT

Tim - tim@troymc.org
Ryan - ryan@troymc.org
Courtney - courtney@troymc.org

WEBSITE

troymc.org/students

FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

[@troymethodiststudents](https://www.facebook.com/troymethodiststudents)

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troymc.org

Staff

***Senior Pastor**
Andy Adams
***Discipleship Pastor**
Bonnie Abel
***Care Pastor**
Dan Perry
***Next Generation Minister**
Tim Price
***Executive Director**
Brittany Smith
Director of 1st Step Learning Center
Amy Burrelsman
***Preschool Liaison**
Lisa Rayle
***Director of Worship Arts**
Marissa Rushik
***Children's Ministry Leader**
Jenn Diliberto
***Communications Coordinator**
Tracey Berkemeier
***Production Coordinator**
Josh Case
Administrative Assistants
Chris Boemecke, Kathy Hahn
***Student Ministry Co-Leader**
Courtney Froidcoeur
***Student Ministry Co-Leader**
Ryan Froidcoeur
Custodians
Jacob Baum, Bruce Jackson

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

To contact our Administrative Assistants,
use admin@troymc.org

To contact 1st Step Learning Center, use
1step@troymc.org

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

Connect with us!
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JULY SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Event
July 6-10	VBS 2026 (page 6)
July 15	Student Ministry - Holiday World Trip (page 7)
July 18-23	Student Ministry - High School Mission Trip (page 7)
July 23	Journey Group Leadership Training (page 3)
July 26	Baptism Sunday (page 3)
July 26	Connect Lunch (page 4)
July 28	J.O.Y. Seekers Lunch & Program (page 4)
July 30-August 1	Student Ministry - Middle School Mission Trip (page 7)



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latest content with the Troy
Methodist Church App -
available on all platforms!**

**We encourage you to download it and start
exploring!**

STUDENT MINISTRY TRIVIA NIGHT

Last week, the Student Ministry had a trivia night and it was a blast! Ryan set up some great categories for students, such as worship song lyrics, joke punchlines, slogans, and more. It was a great evening!



REACH

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