

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Tommy Valle
- 2 Jennifer Webb
- 3 Michelle Jolliff, Nathan Maedgen,  
Kayla Sammons
- 4 Andrea Durbin
- 5 Fern Pipkin
- 6 Jeanie Kirk
- 8 Morgan Richter
- 10 Marcus Ketcham
- 11 Tom Clark
- 12 Cheryl Sanders
- 14 Lizzie Rurup
- 15 Margaret Willson
- 16 Mike Birdsell
- 17 Matt Jarma
- 18 Terry Martinez
- 19 BJ Finch, Richard Naser
- 23 Mary Knepp
- 24 Seth Rurup, Tana Luna
- 26 Casey Pausewang
- 28 Brett Payne, Scott Payne,  
Avery Williams
- 29 Mia Ecker, Ty Porter
- 30 David Walston
- 31 Mike Hill, Karen Lindberg



## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 18 Tommy & Jennifer Valle
- 23 Tim & Janice Kirkscey
- 30 Matt & Phyllis Lynch
- 31 Charles & Evelyn Gover



## MEMORIALS

**In memory of Denise Connell by**

*Larry & Sarah Stewart,*

*Richard & Betty Hester, Barbara Thompson,*

*Katherine Maedgen*

**In memory of Barbara Melikan by Richard & Betty Hester,**

*Barbara Thompson, Katherine Maedgen*

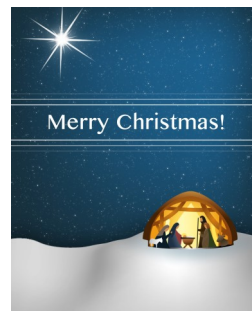
**In memory of Carol Doughty by Pat & Ellen Patterson**

**In memory of Bernard Franken by Barbara Thompson,**

*Katherine Maedgen, Richard & Betty Hester*

**In memory of Don Knepp by Richard & Betty Hester,**

*Barbara Thompson*



*The staff of Troy United  
Methodist Church wishes each  
of you a very  
Merry Christmas.*



**Troy United Methodist Church**

P. O. Box 9 - 2500 FM 935

Troy, Texas 76579-0009

[www.troymethodist.org](http://www.troymethodist.org)

[troymethodist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:troymethodist@sbcglobal.net)

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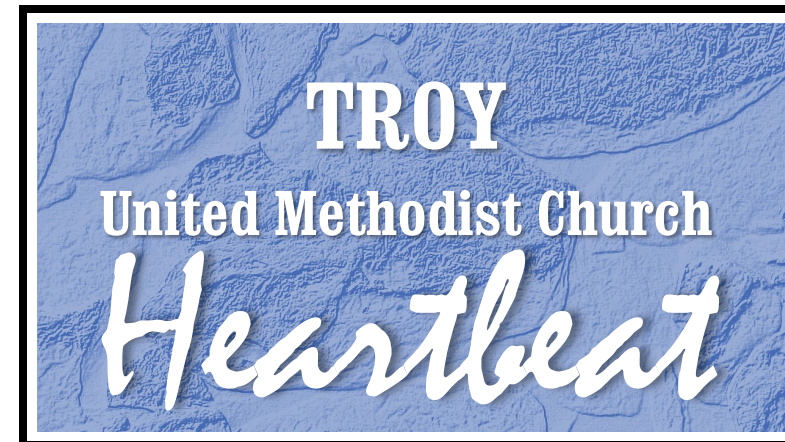
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**Return Service Requested**



**DECEMBER 2017**

**Church Newsletter & Ministry Updates**

### TROY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship, Sunday Classes & Offices

2500 FM 935

Troy, Texas 76579

Office: 254-938-2364

Parsonage: 254-938-7294

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

**Pastor's Email:** [leslieb713@yahoo.com](mailto:leslieb713@yahoo.com)

**"Like" us on FACEBOOK**

Troy United Methodist Church

**Website:** [www.troymethodist.org](http://www.troymethodist.org)

### LEADERS IN AREAS OF MINISTRY

Ministers: All

Pastor: Rev. Leslie Byrd

Administrative Assistant: Betty Hester

Choir /Praise & Worship Leader: Cameron Roucloux

Youth Minister: Joey Gresham

Family & Children's Minister: Christin Ivey

Nursery Coordinator: Destany Oliver

Women's Ministry: ShaShawna Bush

Communications: Jamie Sikes Roucloux

JOY Senior Ministries - Cindy Havard

Lay Leader: Don Havard

### SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship

11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 a.m.**

Nursery: 0-2 Years

Children's Classes: 3-4 year old's

Kindergarten & 1st Grade

2nd & 3rd Grades

4th & 5th Grades

Youth Class: 6th-12th Grades

Adult Classes: 3 Classes offered

**YOUTH on Sunday Nights**

United Methodist Youth Fellowship at 5:00 p.m.

### COVENANT BIBLE STUDY

Covenant 1A- Tuesday 10 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Covenant 1AA- Wednesdays 5:30-7:00

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

5:30-7:00 p.m.



With their families,

*Anna Marie Birdsell*

and

*Cody Oscar Lee*

request the honor of your company at the  
celebration of their marriage

on

Saturday, the sixteenth of December

Two thousand seventeen

at half past ten in the morning

Troy United Methodist Church

2500 FM 925 Troy, Texas

Merriment to follow

**TROY United Methodist Church's VISION STATEMENT:**

***"Bringing our BEST to the Community!"***

*Building relationships, Equipping Disciples,*

*Sharing Christ's love, Transforming the World*





## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**TROY CHRISTMAS PARADE** Saturday, December 2nd If you want to participate, please meet at the OLD Troy Middle School lot at 4:30.

**JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM** at Wednesday Nite Live on December 6th Come prepared to spend an evening in Bethlehem as we take you on a guided tour of the night Jesus was born.

**CHILDREN'S ART AUCTION AND PROGRAM** Art Auction begins at 5:30 on Sunday, December 10th with all proceeds going toward Glen Lake Camp scholarships this summer. The program will begin at 6:00. Refreshments to follow.

**NACHO AVERAGE CHRISTMAS CAROLING** following the meal at Wednesday Nite Live on December 13th. A parent MUST be on the trailer with children under 12 years of age.

**CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING** we will celebrate with one service only at 10:00. It will be a "Filled with Peace" pancake brunch around Christmas themed decorated tables made festive by Table Hosts. Tablecloths, plates, napkins and cups will be provided (unless you opt to use your own Christmas dishes). Pancakes with all the toppings will be provided. We hope you will come and enjoy a homily message with prayers, talk-points and Christmas music throughout the hour. There will be no Sunday School.

**CANDLELIGHT AND COMMUNION SERVICES** will be Christmas Eve evening at 5:00 and 11:00. Don't miss this special time together to celebrate the birth of the Christ child.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE WATCHNIGHT DURING THE DAY** worship will be on Dec. 31st, also at 10:00 ONLY! The message for this service will be "Blessed are the Peacemakers". Black-eyed peas and cornbread will be served alongside the donuts following the service. Bring your favorite black-eyed pea recipe in a crock pot to share and/or cornbread muffins. Let's celebrate 2017 as we set our hearts and sights on 2018.

### CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Monies brought in from the Christmas letter and all of the Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion offerings will go toward Kids Against Hunger and Snack Buddies.



### A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR ...

If you rely on what you hear in the media, it seems like our world is void of peace. We have witnessed far too many acts of violence and people arguing back and forth politically. Families under great

stress, natural disasters have taxed us emotionally and physically and relationships are broken in many different arenas. It would be easy to just live in fear and anxiety; hunkering down in our homes and never going out into the world.

We need to be reminded that Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27) No matter what difficulties we face, Jesus reminds us to rely upon a peace that only He can give. We will be talking about "peace" in our Advent sermon series, "Center-peace". I invite you to commit to the 4 weeks in December to immerse yourself in God's word on this timely series. It is a series that could bring a new kind of peace to your heart. We will look at topics such as "What is peace?" "Where can we get this peace?" "Are we pursuing peace?" "Filled with peace" and "Prince of Peace". Please join us in worship and invite a neighbor, co-worker or family member to come with you. Proud to be your Pastor,

*Leslie*



**MOMS Fellowship** will meet on December 11th @ 6:00 for our holiday celebration. We are having a Favorite Things Party. Moms of all ages and stages of life are welcome to join us.

Pick one of your favorite things costing less than \$10. Bring 3 of that favorite thing to share along with an appetizer or dessert. Everyone will go home with 3 new favorite things at the end of the party. Childcare is available at no cost for kids 12 and under, but please RSVP if you will need childcare by December 9th.

## DECEMBER YOUTH NEWS

Lots happening in December! For more information of events contact our Youth Minister, Joey Gresham at [generation268@yahoo.com](mailto:generation268@yahoo.com)



### DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Dec. 3 Bible Study & games 5-7:00  
Dec. 10 Christmas Program 5:30  
Dec. 17 Six Flags (leave after Sunday School)  
Dec. 20 Christmas shopping and ice skating  
Dec. 24 and 31 No youth meetings



### Altar Flowers

It's time to start filling the calendar for altar flowers for the coming year. Arrangements are \$35.00 (*payable the week you provide the flowers*) each and yours to take home to enjoy following the 11:00 service on that day. It's a great way to remember special occasions and people. If you have a special request for colors the florist works well with us by trying to satisfy those desires. If you have special dates you want, please get back with me as soon as possible to be sure you get "your" date.

### TIME TO ORDER ALTAR ARRANGMENTS FOR 2018



In order to get tax credit for your giving in 2017, donations MUST be received in the church office by Dec. 31.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

**GLEN LAKE CAMP NEWS...** We will have a firm deadline for church sponsored scholarships and assistance of January 31 registration for camp this year. Watch for more details.



## CHRISTMAS Parade

**SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 2nd  
CITY OF TROY**

We have a theme of "Sweet Love of Jesus"

and some decorations, with more to be added. Now we need YOU! Come ride the float or walk alongside it and hand out candy and flyers about Christmas Eve Services and Children's Christmas Program. Let's share the love of Christ by celebrating His birth and at the same time celebrate "Bringing our BEST to the Community!"



Order your Christmas poinsettia now to be placed in the sanctuary Dec. 10 through Christmas Eve. Cost is \$13.00 per plant. This is a good way to remember a loved one during this season by placing it in honor or memory of someone.

## HOLIDAY Closings

**December 25, 26 and January 1**

## FINANCE APPROVES ON-LINE GIVING

We are partnering with VANCO, a company that handles over 18,000 churches and is endorsed by the GCFA of the United Methodist Church. This secure method of giving has been requested by many who do not carry cash or checks. We are working hard to streamline giving and changing the ways in which we count and secure monies here at Troy UMC. We feel all of these extra measures will provide peace of mind and ease for giving back to God. Watch for more details as we get closer to launch.