

Troy United Methodist Church

Heartbeat

FEBRUARY 2020

Bringing our BEST to the Community!

TROY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship, Sunday Classes & Offices

2500 FM 935

Troy, Texas 76579

Office: (254) 938-2364

Email: troymethodist@sbcglobal.net

"Like" us on FACEBOOK

Troy United Methodist Church

Website: www.troymethodist.org

LEADERS IN AREAS OF MINISTRY

Pastor: Rev. David Ray

Administrative Assistant for Congregational Care:

Betty Hester

Administrative Assistant of Finance & Communications:

Jill Ross

Choir /Praise & Worship Leader:

Cameron Roucloux

Youth Minister: Joey Gresham

Children's & Cross Generational Ministry: Christin Ivey

Nursery Coordinator: Destany Oliver

Building Superintendent: Kirby Bush

Custodian: Edward Mendoza

Women's Ministry: ShaShawna Bush

JOY Senior Ministries: Cindy Havard

Lay Leader: Russell Reinhardt

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am - Contemporary Worship

11:00 am - Traditional Worship

LYFE Groups 9:45 am

Nursery: 0-2 Years

Children's Classes: 3-4 year olds

Kindergarten & 1st Grade

2nd & 3rd Grades

4th & 5th Grades

Youth Class: 6th-12th Grades

Adult Classes: 4 Classes offered

YOUTH on Sunday Nights

United Methodist Youth Fellowship at 5 pm



FROM THE PASTOR

Last month in my article for the newsletter, I wrote about the upcoming General Conference of the United Methodist Church and the impending issues of human sexuality that the conference would be dealing with. At that time, I knew there would be news regarding this that would begin coming out. What I didn't know is how soon the news would begin. It was about a week after I wrote my article that a formal proposal for the separation of the United Methodist Church was announced which quickly became national news. The announcement has been such that the news hasn't dissipated and it even appeared in the Temple Daily Telegram this past week.

I hadn't wished to belabor this talking point, but I feel it necessary to be clear about an aspect of the proposal which has been released. The first point is that the proposal is just that, a proposal. Everything leading up to the General Conference in May is not official until voted upon by the legislative body at General Conference. Between now and then, there will assuredly be more proposals regarding possible futures for the United Methodist church that will be released and considered at General Conference. The fact of the matter is, nothing is official yet and won't be until the end of May.

I also want to write a little on our denomination structure and what General Conference is. The United Methodist Church is structured by ever increasing levels of region administration. At the basic and most foundational level, there is the local church. Each local church is gathered into a smaller regional group called a District which is overseen by a District Superintendent. Troy UMC is in what is known as the South District of the Central Texas Conference. Our district includes all United Methodist Church in Bell, Coryell, and

Williamson Counties. The District is overseen by a pastor appointed by our Bishop who is known as a District Superintendent. The level of organization above the District level is the Annual Conference. The Annual Conference is made up of a number of Districts over a larger geographic area. Our own conference is the Central Texas Conference and encompasses an area from Round Rock on the South to Red Oak on the North East over through the Mid Cities and Fort Worth to Olney on the North West to Ballinger on the West. Each Conference is overseen by a Bishop and a staff in the conference office that manages the day to day administration of this group of churches.

Each year all the churches within the Conference meet together for three days in what is known as Annual Conference to decide on matters pertaining to the administration of the Conference and the ministry that takes place within our churches. Every church gets to send lay delegates to Annual Conference to represent their own interest based upon the size of the church. Troy UMC gets two delegates and last year Betty and Lindsey Hester were our delegates to Annual Conference. Beyond the conference level is the General Conference level. The General Conference meets every four years (unless a special session is called as it was last year) and decides on matters of worldwide church law and practice. Individual churches do not get to send delegates to General Conference. Rather, each Annual Conference is allotted a number of delegates (both clergy and lay) that they may send to General Conference to represent their interests to this world wide body. Our Conference voted on our delegates this past year at Annual Conference. Clergy vote for clergy and laity vote for laity. Betty and Lindsey voted delegates to go to General Conference that they believed would best represent the interests of Troy UMC to General Conference. This large body of delegates from every Annual Conference in the world are the ones who will be voting and deciding upon the various plans submitted regarding the future of the United Methodist Church. The decisions that the body of the General Conference make become church law and are officially incorporated into the Book of Discipline which governs the administration of the whole United Methodist Church over the ensuing four years until General Conference meets again and revises this church law.

If you wish to know more about the upcoming General Conference or to email the delegation from our conference, you can visit www.ctcumc.org/general-conference-2020.

Please bear in mind that until after General Conference is over we can only speculate as to what the future holds for our denomination. Until that time and past it, I pray that even in our differences that we can practice and show love toward one another, and most importantly – no matter what may be happening within the larger denomination, never forget that we are called by Christ to His service within the world around us. May we follow Him in all that we do as a church and trust our future to His hands, wherever He may be guiding us.



Recently, someone sent out a round of text messages and emails pretending to be Pastor David. In these messages, they said that they needed a favor and to email or text back right away. If contacted, they then asked the recipient to buy gift cards and send the numbers from the cards to them for some urgent charitable purpose. If you receive an email or text message from someone asking these things, please do not respond. It is not Pastor David, but a scam!



Beginning in February, we will be offering a new ministry of prayer during communion! At each worship service, one of our Stephen Ministers will be available to pray with anyone who wishes for prayers to be said for them or for someone else. All you have to do is to kneel at the rail during communion and lift your hands as a signal and one of our Stephen Ministers will come over and pray with you!



Pastor David will be offering a confirmation class this spring. Confirmation is the process where our youth explore their faith in a deep way, learn about the history and theology of Methodism, and have the option to profess faith in Jesus and join the church as full members. If your 5th grader or youth is ready to participate in confirmation this year please talk with Pastor David. You can reach him at his cell phone:

(254) 784-3102

or email: david@troymethodist.org

Ministry in Motion

Children's LYFE Group February Theme: The Rainbow Promise



February 2020 Youth Calendar

2 - Bible study and games 5:00-7:00pm

5 – EPIC Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm

9 – Bible study and games 5:00-7:00pm

12 - EPIC Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm

16 – Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser 5:00-7:00 (Youth need to be ready to work by 4:30)

19 - EPIC Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm

23 – Bible study and games 5:00-7:00pm

**February is going to be a busy month!
Youth calendars are out!**



God's covenant with Noah, and with us, is not dependent on the behavior of humans. Yes, we have a responsibility to be faithful to God and to live as God wants us to live. When we fail to keep our end of the covenant, which being humans, we will, God continues to reach out to us. God's covenant never ends.

God uses the rainbow to mark the covenant established with Noah and all living creatures. God did not create the rainbow for this purpose, but gave it a new significance for the future. The rainbow serves as a reminder of God's commitment to humankind. The rainbow also reminds God's people of God's constant and never ending faithfulness. We are God's people. Thanks be to God!

Children's Ministry is looking for additional helpers in the LYFE group classes. While we have several very capable and willing adults who lead each Sunday, they need time to worship and be with their families as well. Please prayerfully consider being a LYFE group assistant. We can utilize you in many ways and at a frequency that meets your needs.

Please contact the church office or Christin Ivey at 254-541-6873 or troyumckids@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions or if you would be interested.

Summer will be here before we know it and we always need help over the summer!



Our annual Spaghetti Supper is on February 16th from 5-7pm. This event helps pay for our van rentals and fuel for mission trip. I hope to see you there!!

Youth arrive at 4:30!



In 2019 our Women's Ministry events focused on relationships, especially looking at the story of Naomi and Ruth as a biblical example of relationship. I truly believe that God created us to live our lives in community with others. None of us can walk through the ups and downs of life without other believers walking alongside us.

A big part of our Women's Ministry throughout the years has been intentionally providing opportunities for women of all generations to come together and grow their relationship with each other and with God. During my time as the Women's Ministry leader I have had the honor of forming deep relationships and seeing relationships sprout and blossom from time spent together.

After prayerful consideration I have decided to step back from being the Women's Ministry leader in 2020. I have loved my time serving in this capacity and have grown in my faith by getting to interact with the women of this church. I hope to be able to offer support to whomever takes over this role in the future.

ShaShawna



Stephen Ministers work alongside our pastor to care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are going through a difficult time, such as divorce, grief, hospitalization, unemployment, terminal illness, relocation, chronic illness, or loneliness.

Ellen Huffman, Jamie Roucloux, Elaine Roberts, Pam Lewis and myself are the only Stephen Ministers currently trained in our congregation. To continue to offer support and reach more people who may need a Stephen Minister we need additional people to complete the training and commit to walk alongside those who are hurting. We especially need men to become Stephen Ministers as men work with men and women with women.

I will be offering a Stephen Ministry training course starting at the end of March. If you think you might be interested or need more information please reach out to me by email (sbush02@yahoo.com) or phone (254-541-5530) and we can discuss what it means to be a Stephen Minister and what training looks like. You can also speak to any of our current Stephen Ministers about their experience as a Stephen Minister. If you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening, please begin to prayerfully consider whether you might want to be part of this exciting ministry.

ShaShawna Bush
Stephen Leader





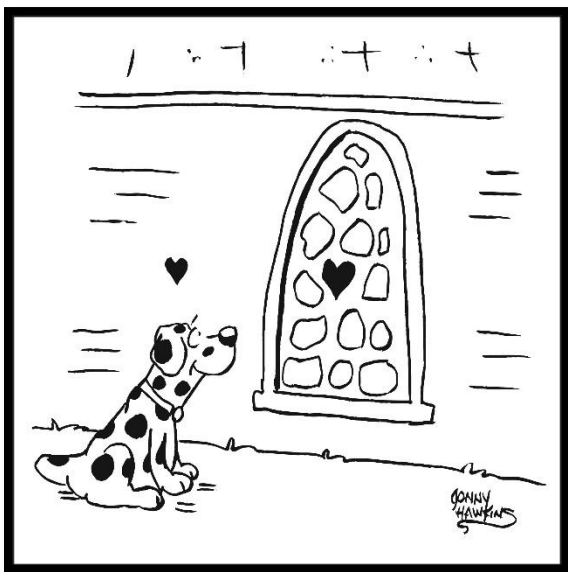
COMMUNICATIONS

Coordinator



Every Sunday before and after services there are images on the wall announcing upcoming events, classes, or opportunities to serve our community or church. If you or your ministry area need an announcement made for the wall on Sundays please email me at jill@troymethodist.org at least 7 days before you want the announcement displayed on the wall. This is one of several ways we help pass information out to members of the congregation, so they know what is going on in the life of the church.

In the email tell me what information you need on the announcement (e.g. date, time, cost, person to contact, etc.). If you have an image you would like to use, please attach the image to the email. If you don't have an image, I will find one that will work with what you are announcing.



?? ? Bible Quiz ? ??

The precise number varies depending on the Bible version, but roughly how many times does the word "love" occur in the Old and New Testaments combined?

- A. 200-300
- B. 400-500
- C. 600-700
- D. 800-900

Love

Answer: C



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 3 John Coleman
- 4 Susan Neal, M'Lynn Hobbs, Baylee Crawford
- 5 Stacy Bastin, Megan Gersbach, Jennifer Naser
- 6 Pete Rondeau
- 9 Ed Luna
- 11 Erian Medrano
- 12 Nancy B. Sammons
- 13 C.J. Porter
- 14 Gary Doughty
- 15 Luke Williams
- 16 Ellie Ray
- 17 Jalee Luna
- 18 Erin Sims
- 19 Barbara Thompson
- 21 Christin Ivey
- 23 Shirley Ketcham, Mike O'Donnell, Bowyn Jarma
- 25 Jett Coleman
- 27 Amber Gresham



thank you

To the Ladies of Troy UMC,
Your kindness is a gift, your generosity is beyond
thoughtful and I am completely grateful.

Thank you for the pretty blanket you gave me for
Christmas. I appreciate it and once again I say thank you
from my heart. All I can say is thank you, thank you and
many more. Keep up the good work and may God bless
you always.

Your friend in Christ,
Charlie Davis



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Jim & Eva Marie Trantum
- 15 Joe & Diana Massey
- 23 Russell & Joyce Reinhardt

*IN LOVING
memory*

of Mary McGuire

by Lynn Owens and Pam Lewis, Jack & Pam Tulloch

of Violet Howell

by Tim & Janice Kirkscey, Richard & Betty Hester,
Gary & Donna Allison, Barbara Thompson,
Katherine Maedgen, Larry & Sarah Stewart,
Mike & Nancy Mercer

of Martha Gill

by Katherine Maedgen



**50TH
ANNIVERSARY**

In Honor of

Charlie & Janice Porter's 50th Anniversary

by Katherine Maedgen, Mike & Nancy Mercer