

# Troy United Methodist Church

## Heartbeat

JANUARY 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](mailto:troymethodist@sbcglobal.net)

"Like" us on FACEBOOK

Troy United Methodist Church

Website: [www.troymethodist.org](http://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: Don Havard

### 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

This is going to be a different newsletter article than I would normally write at the beginning of a new year. While I will close with a word of encouragement and an exhortation to join in God's continual work of making all things new, I feel that I need to write about the future of the United Methodist Church as we begin 2020. There was much discussion related to the called session of General Conference last year, and this discussion will begin anew this year. To begin, I'd like to recap where we have been.

For the past twenty plus years there has been an ongoing debate in the United Methodist Church about the role and status of LGBTQ people within the church, specifically in relation to marriage and ordination. This debate came to a head at the General Conference in 2016 when delegates asked the Bishops to lead the way in overcoming the impasse that our denomination has been mired in for the past many years. What arose was called the Commission on the Way Forward. The commission's work was to meet and work together to develop plans for the future of the United Methodist Church. The commission presented three plans aimed at paving a way toward resolving the impasse over the status and role of LGBTQ people in the church. These plans were presented at a special session of General Conference last year that was called to specifically deal with this debate. The result of this session of General Conference resulted in almost no change in the Book of Discipline (church law) of our denomination. The traditional stance of not allowing homosexual weddings in churches and prohibiting clergy from performing homosexual weddings was maintained. Also, practicing homosexual persons were still prohibited from serving as clergy. The main changes enacted at this general conference happened in tightening up restrictions and creating mandatory penalties for clergy and annual conference committees that violate the Book of Discipline.

The result of all this happening last year was that nothing of substance really changed throughout the denomination. So, what does the future hold? This year, our regularly scheduled General Conference will meet from May 5-15. Invariably, the debate surrounding the LGBTQ issues will be resumed once more. Although this won't be the only item on the agenda, it will be one of the most watched items of the conference. One thing that is different this year is that there will be petitions that will be submitted and debated that bring up the possibility of the United Methodist Church being split into different denominations or sub-denominations along lines of theological difference. One of the proposals suggests three different churches, an orthodox, progressive, and moderate. I don't wish to raise alarms regarding the future of the denomination by saying this, but simply desire to be informative about possible futures to come out of General Conference in May. The reality is that none of us knows the future, and the United Methodist Church could emerge post General Conference with no substantial changes or with significant changes to the way our denomination operates.

I wish us to begin 2020 with a call to prayer for the United Methodist Church and those serving as delegates to General Conference. Most importantly, we have a job to do, and that is to follow the Holy Spirit in building Christ's Kingdom all around us. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says, "Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today." The future will come soon enough and we will respond as a church to whatever it brings. Until then, let us look to how Christ's Spirit calls us into His service today that He may be Lord in our lives and Lord of this world! We are all Christ's own, this church is His own, not ours. Let us follow Him faithfully now and allow Him to lead us into the future!



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](mailto:david@troymethodist.org).

Children's participation is an important role in the worship experience. It allows them to be part of and take responsibility for an area of ministry in the church. As they grow and mature, they are able to take on more and more roles to enhance worship such as greeting, being an usher, working the media booth, serving communion, and being liturgist just to name a few. Our acolyte ministry needs a little adjusting from previous trainings as our worship services have changed some as well. Training and re-training information is provided below:

**Sunday, January 19**

**During LYFE group hour**

**9:45am-10:45am**

Current (who wish to continue) and future acolytes currently in grades K and up  
***At least one parent/guardian will need to be present for the 'classroom' part of the training (the first 15 minutes or so)***

*Sign your child into LYFE group as usual and we will move from the gym to the sanctuary for the training.*

**acolyte** noun

Save Word

ac·o·lyte | \ ˈa-kə-ˌlīt, -kō- \

**Definition of acolyte**

- 1 : one who assists a member of the clergy in a liturgical service by performing minor duties
- 2 : one who attends or assists a leader : FOLLOWER

# Ministry in Motion



## Children's LYFE Group January Theme: The Ten Commandments

### January 2020 Youth Calendar

- 5 - Bible study and games 5:00-7:00pm
- 12 - Bible study and games 5:00-7:00pm
- 15 – EPIC Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm**
- 19 – Movie Night at Church 4:30-7:00pm
- 22 - EPIC Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm**
- 26 - Bible study and games 5:00-7:00pm
- 29 - EPIC Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm**

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 [troyumkids@sbcglobal.net](mailto:troyumkids@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!

*thank  
you  
from your staff*

SPR and Church Family,

We wanted to write a quick note of sincere thanks for your generosity in caring for your church staff at the end of the year. Your giving towards staff gifts is immensely appreciated by us. We love being a part of this amazing body of believers and have loved serving on this church staff and volunteering for the 6 wonderful years we've been a part of Troy UMC. For more than just the end of year gift, thank you for giving us a place to call our church home.

Cameron and Jamie Roucloux

Words are hard to come by when it comes to thanking you for the generous gift during the Christmas season. You are such a blessing in my life and each one of you is important to me.

My prayer for you all is a happy and healthy 2020, filled with love!

Thank you so much for everything,  
Betty Hester

Thank you so much for your generosity contributing to the staff Christmas gifts. I really appreciate your support and thoughtfulness.

Joey Gresham

Thank you just doesn't seem like enough for your generosity throughout the year and for the generous Christmas gift. I continue to be amazed at what God is doing through this congregation and couldn't be any more proud to be part of the ministries of Troy UMC.

Thank you so much!  
Christin Ivey



### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 7 June Payne
- 8 Susan Creech
- 9 Teresa DeLeon, Peyton Stermer
- 10 Josh Pausewang
- 12 Kaiden Rodahl
- 13 Wes Hart
- 14 Tooter Creech, Billy Hobbs
- 16 Christina Porter, Hannah Maedgen
- 17 Bill Ledger, Breanna Medrano, Tony Medrano
- 18 Terry Cavanaugh, Matt Lynch
- 21 Kelly Gerath
- 23 Richard Hester, Brandon Lindberg, Kacie Tedrow
- 25 Tammy Cavanaugh, Megan Havens, Kylie Allred, Everly Gresham
- 27 Billy Joe Ledger, Linda Knight
- 28 Larry Stewart
- 30 Sandy Vargas, Bill Maedgen, David Willis

### JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Michael & Karen Lindberg
- 22 Burnell & June Payne



*Thank you*

Two delightful friends, Barbara and Katherine, delivered a sack of goodies and beautiful poinsettia to our home. We were so happy to visit with them. It's great to be remembered by long-time friends. We have been blessed so many times by your prayers.

With humble and grateful hearts,  
Jack & Becky Hobday

IN LOVING  
memory

*of Margaret Jankovich*  
by Richard & Betty Hester

*of Lynn Walker*  
by Richard & Betty Hester, Katherine Maedgen,  
and Barbara Thompson

*of Mary McGuire*  
by Richard & Betty Hester, Tim & Janice Kirkscey,  
Mike & Nancy Mercer, Katherine Maedgen,  
Barbara Thompson, Larry & Sarah Stewart,  
and Tooter & Susan Creech

*of Elizabeth Thompson*  
by Tooter & Susan Creech,  
and Richard & Betty Hester