



For His Glory

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2023
TROY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

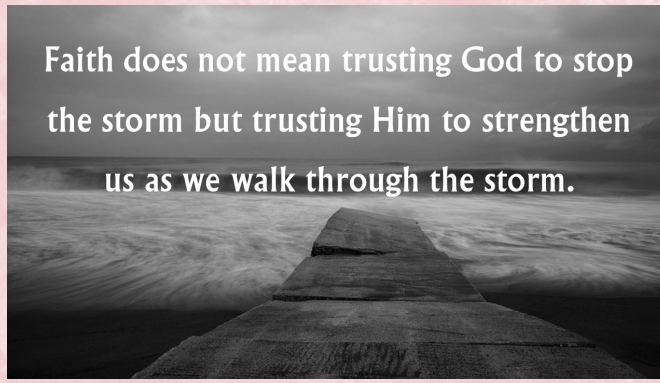
After the Storm...

I shared at our Q&A meeting Sunday what I feel to be a working of the Holy Spirit in what I'm preaching over in our current sermon series "Who is This?" where we take a look at the things Jesus does that make people ask who he is. This coming Sunday, the day before we vote as a congregation whether we continue as a United Methodist Congregation or disaffiliate, I will be preaching on the passage from Luke's Gospel where Jesus calms the Storm. When I planned this sermon series, I didn't know the date of our vote and believe that the Spirit was working in my planning. It's a perfect passage of scripture to talk about where we are as a congregation and what we're going through. Because we are in the midst of the storm right now. The thing about storms though, is that they end. In a week this tumultuous chapter of our church's life will draw to a close and a new one will open.

This new chapter of our church's life, whatever it may be, and wherever our church finds itself is not guaranteed to be easy. But, the storm over disaffiliation or remaining United Methodist will begin moving past us. We will find ourselves then surveying the condition of our congregation once the skies begin to clear and assessing where we find ourselves as a church. After the storm, we begin to look to the future, to gather together, remember Christ Jesus is Lord and center ourselves around Him. Knowing that not all of our church family may remain once the vote is taken, I pray that we can regather ourselves and reconnect with one another as a Body of Christ.

This is a crucial time for our congregation, committing to repair what needs to be repaired after the storm and moving into the future that Jesus holds for us. Our membership vows come into stark focus to me as what the church needs, and what our community needs from us. Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness. After the storm, let us offer these qualities to our congregation and to our community in the name of Jesus, that we may rebuild strong together, and see what new thing Jesus has in store for us.

Faith does not mean trusting God to stop
the storm but trusting Him to strengthen
us as we walk through the storm.



**Important Information Regarding the Discernment Vote to Remain United Methodist
or Disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church**

Please mark your calendars for Monday February 13 at 6:30pm. This is the date and time we have been given to hold our Church Conference to vote on the matter of remaining United Methodist or disaffiliating from the denomination. At this meeting Professing Members of our congregation will be able to vote for our congregation to remain United Methodist or separate from the United Methodist Church. If you wish to vote, you must be present. There will be no absentee ballots or proxy ballots. In order to receive a ballot, your name will be checked against the church's membership roll. If your name is not on the roll, you will not be able to vote.

As we approach our vote date, as always if you wish to speak one-on-one with Pastor David please reach out (david@troymethodist.org or 254-784-3102) and he'll be more than happy to talk with you and answer any questions you may have.

New To Our Church Family



From Jeremy Thompson
Our new Music Ministry leader

I have been in music ministry in some capacity for the better part of the last 30 years. I am married to the amazing Lindy Thompson, and have two adult children, Jacob, who lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and is in school, Grace, who is a nurse at McLane Children's Hospital, and one son who is a senior at Temple High School and plans to attend Baylor University in the fall. My daughter Grace is married to Alex who is a student and baseball player at the University of Mary Hardin Baylor. I am an elementary music teacher in the Killeen Independent School District. My wife, Lindy, is a Dyslexia Therapist for the Temple Independent School District. We are excited to be joining the Troy Methodist family, and I am thrilled to begin serving you all as your Minister of Music.

Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper and Worship

Wednesday, February 22 is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Season of Lent. We'll gather together for a time of fellowship over a pancake supper at 5:30. Following the pancake supper, we'll join together in worship as we prepare ourselves for accepting Christ's journey to the cross and our place in His way of salvation.



Ashes to Go

On Ash Wednesday, pastor David will be offering Ashes to Go at the corner of Church St. and Carter Spur across from Ace Hardware. He'll be there in the morning of February 22 from 7:30 to mid-morning to pray with and offer the sign of the cross in ashes for everyone who stops by.

Troy Prayer Partners to Pray over our Schools February 12

On February 12 a new joint ministry initiative in our community will kick off with an afternoon of prayer at our community's schools. We will join other churches in our community to gather at our schools and pray for the students, teachers, administrators, staff, parents, and everyone associated with our schools. We'll meet in the afternoon and travel to each school where we will pray as a group, and then spread out to pray individually. If you'd like to participate and ride together in a church van, we'll be leaving the church at 1:45 pm. If you want to drive to each school individually, the first school we'll gather at is Troy Elementary at 2:00 pm.



Mark your calendar for Sunday, February 26 at 2:00. We will be packing nourishing meals for underprivileged people. All ages are welcome to participate in this event.

We will also be accepting monetary donations for this project---yes, we pack the meals, but we also are required to pay for the ingredients. Your generosity will go a long way in helping us provide these meals.

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

7 Michael & Karen Lindberg

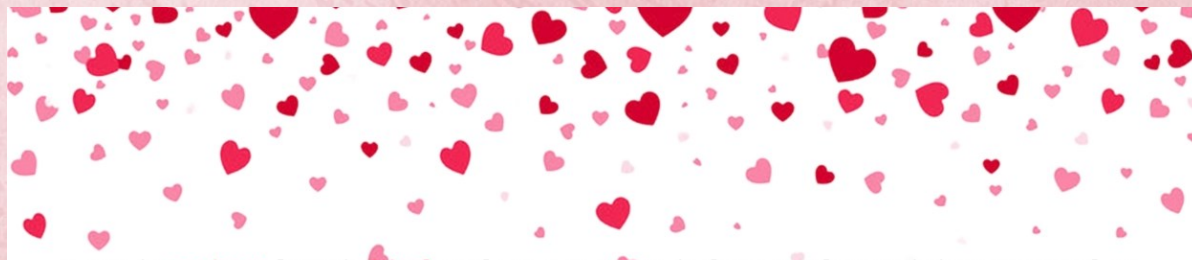


FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Liz Pincombe
- 3 John Coleman
- 4 Susan Neal, M'Lynn Hobbs, Baylee Crawford
- 5 Stacy Bastin, Megan Gersbach, Jennifer Naser
- 6 Pete Rondeau, August Joe Brauer
- 11 Erian Medrano
- 12 Nancy Sammons, Clara O'Donnell
- 13 CJ Porter
- 14 Gary Doughty
- 15 Luke Williams
- 16 Ellie Ray
- 17 Hadley Payne
- 18 Erin Sims
- 19 Barbara Thompson
- 21 Christin Ivey
- 23 Shirley Ketcham, Mike O'Donnell, Bowyn Jarma
- 25 Jett Coleman
- 27 Amber Gresham

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

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



Love is **patient**, love is **kind**. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with **truth**.

It always **protects**, always **trusts**, always **hopes**, always **perseveres**.

Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Thank You Notes

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so very much for the monetary gift at Christmas. It is greatly appreciated.

I am so blessed to call you all my "family" and get to work doing a job I love with a congregation I love.

My prayer for you all is a happy, healthy 2023, doing God's work in our church and community.

In His name and with much love,
Betty Hester

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Thank you, everyone, for the love offering and kind words you shared in December! This church has meant the world to our family, and I know we have grown as disciples of Jesus Christ because of this faith community. Thankfully we will still get to see each other every now and then. We have not moved from Troy, so you will still see each of us around town. Plus, because of my internship requirement for graduation, I will still have some tasks to complete for Troy UMC, so I will still be doing some work in the background to support this congregation. You will also still see me at the church meeting weekly with David who is my internship supervisor and meeting monthly with my internship community advisory council. We can't wait to see how Troy grows as disciples in 2023 and share our growth with each of you as we begin this new adventure in Nolanville.

I pray God's blessings over each of you!
ShaShawna

~ Memorials ~

In memory of Charles William Thurman by Mike & Nancy Mercer

In memory of Ricky Sanders by Tooter & Susan Creech, BJ Finch

In memory of Sindy Greenwood by Tooter & Susan Creech

In memory of Donna (Havard) Ener by Larry & Sarah Stewart

In memory of Margie Gepner by Larry & Sarah Stewart

In memory of C.F. (Sonny) Ellis by Richard & Betty Hester, Larry & Sarah Stewart,
Tim & Janice Kirkscey, Don & Sherri Valenta

In memory of Dick Jarma by Kevin & Kellie Johnson, Richard & Betty Hester,
Mike & Nancy Mercer, Barbara Thompson, Katherine Maedgen,
Gary & Donna Allison, Larry & Sarah Stewart, Tim & Janice Kirkscey,
Don & Sherri Valenta, Brigitte Allen

In memory of Gary Jay by Gary & Donna Allison

In memory of Bob Miller by Richard & Betty Hester