

# Troy United Methodist Church

## Heartbeat

OCTOBER 2019

Bringing our BEST to the Community!

### TROY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship, Sunday Classes & Offices

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"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

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

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



I am excited for worship coming up in October! During the month of September, I have been taking requests for sermon topics. Starting October 6, I will be preaching sermons over these requests in a series called, "*You Asked for It!*" While I haven't completely finalized the complete outline yet, some of the things I will be preaching on include: angels, doubting or struggling with faith, forgiveness and cutoff.

Also, on the first Sunday of November we will have our All-Saint's worship. All Saint's day is one of my favorite days of worship throughout the year. We will specifically honor members of our church and immediate family of church members who have died over the last year. However, we also want to remember all the saints who have played an important role in each of our lives who have since gone to the Lord. To do this, we're inviting everyone to bring pictures of their saints to worship on November 3. We'll have tables set up to place the pictures on, so we can be surrounded by that great, "cloud of witnesses" as we remember them and give thanks to the Lord for their impact in our lives.

I look forward to seeing everyone for these exciting and meaningful days of worship over the next month!  
- Pastor David



# Ministry in Motion

## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

The man who was my pastor when I was young gave me a piece of advice when I entered the ministry. What he told me was to always be reading, because what I read would influence what I preached, how I preached, and the depth of my preaching. I have always been a reader. I thought myself an avid reader before I married Mandi, and quickly realized that I do not read nearly the number of books that some people do. However, at the time I didn't fully grasp the significance of what my pastor had said. I even doubted him a little in wondering how books and magazines I read for fun or my own edification could possibly spill over into my preaching. Suffice to say, I was wrong. As an example, I recently re-subscribed to a magazine that I used to avidly await new issues of: *Texas Architect*. I let my subscription lapse when we moved to Comanche and decided I needed to take the subscription again as we worked on establishing our new normal here. I received my first issue in the mail just the other day and have been reminded why I loved the magazine. One of the fundamentals I learned early in my time as a student of architecture is that good design is relevant to all aspects of life. I remember taking my history of architecture courses and learning so much of world history through the history of the built environment. As I read my first issue of *Texas Architect* since my subscription lapse, some of these things that have grown somewhat hazy have come back to me. In the Editor's Note writing about Austin architect O'Neil Ford and his struggles with the issues of his day, such as "usurpation and defamation of land by vulgarians and the construction of square miles of shacks", Aaron Seward wrote:

*One of the most heartening results of studying the writings of those who have come before us, as well as the most disturbing, is to discover how much our time has in common with times past. Heartening because it's possible to find succor in the accounts of those who have labored under circumstances and conditions that, if they don't precisely mirror our own, at least prefigure them.*

*Disturbing because, in spite of these histories and lessons they convey, the same troubles persist, often in metastasized form.*

Though I'm not nearly as eloquent in expressing my ideas as Mr. Seward, I feel much the same way he does, about architecture, life, and also when I read scripture. One great misconception of the Bible (both outside the church and even within it) is that it is not relevant to our time. As a pastor, I know I should be above such thoughts, but how often have I caught myself thinking when reading scripture, "Wow! I've experienced this exact same issue in my life. I can't believe they had to deal with these things in the Bible too." To borrow a phrase, it's heartening to me because I can find that God's people have dealt with many of the same issues we do today, that God has led them through it, and will lead us through it. Disturbing, in that we have the witness of scripture to help teach, instruct, and guide us and yet we so often fall into the same mistakes we read about in the Bible. It truly seems that the more things change, the more they stay the same. Unable to sometimes overcome our own failings, the truth remains: we really need God's help.

Like parents who try to raise their children to avoid the mistakes of their own past, God seeks to lead us away from the common pitfalls of earthly life into something more, His own kingdom on earth. To achieve this however, we, as God's people need to not only be attentive to God's future - which He leads us to by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, but we also need to be attentive to the past. We have much to learn from looking back, if we are willing to. In scripture we find so many people who have known our struggles and have made our mistakes. Jesus himself lived our life and died our death, so that by His grace we are freed for something more. It all begins for us with the Bible, and it continues with the Bible. If we are to learn from the children of God who have gone before, we must regularly engage with scripture. In it we find our past, our common struggles, and our way toward a Spirit-led tomorrow all under God's guidance.

Troy UMC

# EPIC

hilppians 4:13

Student Ministry

Hey all! After a successful first month or so back in school, and an amazing See You At The Pole morning, I am really looking forward to upcoming events! Fields of Faith is October 2nd at the football field! Make sure to pick up the new fall calendar by the sound booth or swing by the youth room. Lots of exciting things happening these next few months! Hope to see you all there!

In Christ  
Joey

### October 2019 Youth Calendar

- 2 **EPIC Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm**  
Fields of Faith at the Football Field 7:00pm
- 6 Bible Study & Games 5:00-7:00pm
- 9 Joey will be at the Middle School for lunch  
**EPIC Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm**
- 13 No Youth (Joey will be gone to Youth Ministry Conclave)
- 16 **EPIC Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm**
- 20 Bible Study & Games 5:00 – 7:00pm
- 23 Joey will be at the High School for lunch  
**EPIC Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm**
- 27 Bible Study & Games 5:00-7:00pm

## Exciting things are happening in the Children's LYFE Groups

With the change from Sunday School programs, to LYFE (Living Your Faith Everyday) Groups, the Children's ministry has made some recent changes as well. Last month, we began utilizing a new way of doing LYFE groups for children 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and younger. (Room 26 kids will continue with their Life Application curriculum with Bill and Russell.)

LYFE group leaders will be using a rotation model in order to really help the children understand Bible stories and concepts more thoroughly. What this means is your child's leader will remain the same each week, but they will be discussing the same story or lesson for an entire month. The fun part of this is that they will learn it in a new way each week.

In September, they focused on the Fruits of the Spirit. They began by doing an art project. We utilized games, food, and science to further develop their knowledge of the Fruits of the Spirit. The kids and the leaders (and myself) had a great time but most importantly...almost every child who attended at least once in the month was able to talk about what the Fruits of the Spirit are and how we can use them not only to be closer to God but to show God to others.

In October, we will be focusing on "Jonah and the Big Fish". I am super excited to see what our AMAZING LYFE Group Leaders have planned for your kiddos this month!

In His Service,  
Christin



### HARVEST FUN NIGHT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

5:30-7:00PM

Carnival type games, Chili Cook-Off, Hot Dogs, AND Trunk or Treat

We are in need of volunteers to organize and work each of the carnival booths from 5:30-6:30pm that evening. Please see Christin if your family, LYFE group, or other group is interested in helping with this community outreach event.

**Costumes that are NOT scary or bloody are encouraged!**



# October

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 8 Trisha Hart
- 9 Oneta Taylor, Kay Tyler
- 11 Cameryn Stewart
- 13 Edward Mendoza, Jaxon Gross, Jessica Medrano
- 14 Cameron Roucloux
- 15 Gary Allison
- 17 Robert Oliver, Lindsey Hester, Madison Naser
- 18 Landry Hart
- 19 Robert Mick, J.R. Ledger, Cohen Ketcham
- 24 Kade Stewart
- 26 Melody Ledger
- 28 Nancy Holmes, Jill Ross, Preston Roberts, Kellie Tedrow, Sydney Richter, Brendan Stermer
- 29 Charles Gover
- 30 Tim Kirkscey
- 31 Nancy Mercer, John Williams, Kirby Bush, Andrew Pausewang

IN LOVING  
memory

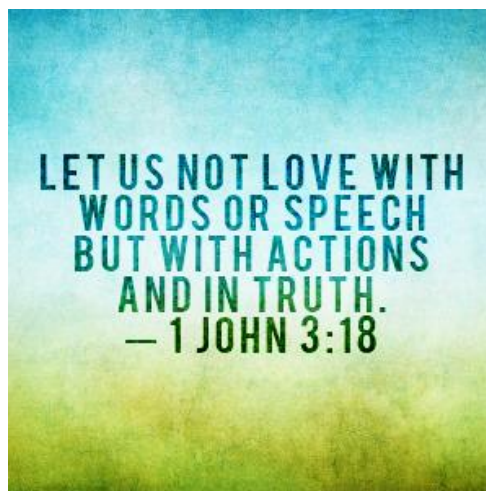
of Charles Beechem  
by Mike & Nancy Mercer



JOY (Just Older Youth) Ministry will be taking a trip to Homestead Heritage on October 22. Please see Cindy Havard for details.

## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Richard & Jennifer Naser  
Marcus & Alyssa Ketcham
- 4 Josh & Casey Pausewang
- 7 Rodney & Tracie Tedrow
- 15 Matt & Kacy Jarma



### **Mark Your Calendars for these special Ministry Events...**

- November 17<sup>th</sup> Youth Canned Food Scavenger Hunt
- December 8<sup>th</sup> Youth Shopping and Ice Skating Trip
- December 14<sup>th</sup> Troy Christmas Parade (who has some great ideas for this year's float???)
- December 15<sup>th</sup> Children's Christmas Program (auditions and practices will be held either late Oct or early Nov...watch the Notepad and Troy UMC Kids Facebook page for more information)
- December 31 – Youth Lock In