



## Welcome to Troy Methodist Church!

### New to TMC?

We invite you on a journey with Jesus...

**Connect** to God and our faith community.

**Grow** into a wholehearted follower of Jesus.

**Serve** with your God-given gifts and passions.

**Share** God's love regionally and globally.

Worship God in everything you say and do.

*Stop by the Welcome Center after service to pick up a gift!*



*Point your phone camera at the QR code to connect!*

### Upcoming Events

10/22- Tweens Event (Troy Methodist Kids)

10/24- Joy Seekers Meeting

10/26- Cookout at the Stolle Home (Troy Methodist Students)

10/29- Fall Fest/ Trunk or Treat (Troy Methodist Kids)

## Message Notes

October 22, 2023

### **Community: Threat 3-Injustice**

Acts 6:1-7

**Question:** Why were there rumblings of discontent?

**Answer:** Greek widows were being overlooked in the food distribution. Injustice from within.

The community's solution: Vs 3 - Raise up new leadership to take care of the problem.

#### **Was this a good solution? Yes and No!**

##### **Yes:**

- Empowered more Spirit filled leadership
- Witness of the priesthood of all believers - see verse 7, many Jewish priests became Christians

##### **No:**

- Apostles "too important" minister to widows? Jesus held widows up as exemplars of faith. (Luke 2:37, 4:25-26, 7:12-14, 18:3-5, 21:2-4)
- Greek men assigned to tend to Greek widows - see verse 5
- Assigned role to others so they could focus on ministry of "word and prayer" but Stephen was clearly able to do both - see 6:8 and following.
- Apostles said to have stayed in Jerusalem when other believers scattered to Judea and Samaria (8:1b).

#### **Could this all be a subtle critique of the apostles?**

**A better way** —> Stephen:

- Spirit filled and ministering to widows
- Arrested for preaching the word - see 6:8-11
- Held up by Luke as a reflection of Jesus as he was being killed - see 7:54-60
- Stephen's faithfulness was the catalyst for the church's obedience to Jesus' command to go beyond Jerusalem - see 8:1b

##### **Practicals:**

- Never be too important to get your hands dirty.
- Good rule of thumb: spend 80% of time in your gifted/called areas; 20% to do whatever it takes including the "lowly tasks."