



Christmas Wish List

HOPE

PEACE

JOY

LOVE

Sunday, December 24, 2022 4:00PM
ROYAL OAK FIRST: A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	“How Great Our Joy!” arr. Larry Shackley	Kyle Webber
Call to Worship		Chris Mikell
Carol #234**	“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (Stanzas 1,3,6)	
Welcome		Jeff Nelson
Advent & Christ Candle Lighting		Brown Family
Carol #230**	“O Little Town of Bethlehem”	
Offering Our Tithes and Gifts		
Musical Offering	“Away in a Manger”	Students of Allison Harris
Scripture*	Luke 2:1-18	Chris Mikell
Children’s Christmas Pageant	“A Very Mixed-Up Christmas Pageant”	
Song	“O Holy Night”	Children’s Choir
Song	“Silent Night, Holy Night”	Children’s Choir
Song	“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”	Children’s Choir
Song	“The First Noel”	Children’s Choir
Message	“I See You”	Jeff Nelson
Service of Candlelight		
Carol #239**	“Silent Night, Holy Night”	
Carol #246**	“Joy to the World” (Stanzas 1,2,4)	
Benediction		
Postlude	“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” arr. Lloyd Larson	

*New International Version
**United Methodist Hymnal

Merry Christmas

from all of us
at Royal Oak First!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



WEAR YOUR PAJAMAS TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25!

We invite you to wear your pajamas to church on Sunday, December 25 at our one service at 10:00 a.m. Join us after service for some donuts and coffee!



ONLY ONE SERVICE ON DECEMBER 25 AND JANUARY 1

Remember, there is only one worship service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 25 and on Sunday, January 1. There will be no Sunday School on those days. We will return to our normal service times of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 8.



CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The church office will be **closed** on Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2. Also, please note, that church **office hours** on Tuesday, December 27, Wednesday, December 28 and Thursday, December 29 will be 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Our normal office hours are Monday-Thursday from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



CHAIR YOGA CLASSES RESUME JAN. 3!

Chair Yoga classes, presented by our own Kimberlyn Palchak's "in.balance" are open for registration for January, February and March. Each session includes: Mindful Meditation, Seated Yoga, and Focused Breathing. Classes are on Tuesdays from 12:00-12:30 p.m. To sign up, visit www.rofum.org or scan the QR code.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



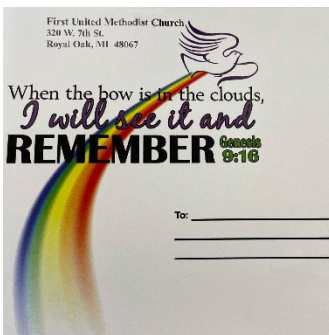
NEW YEAR SANDWICH/LUNCH ASSEMBLY FROM HOME

Would you like to start the New Year in service? We've designed an opportunity for many households to sponsor another NOAH Project lunch together. You can sign up to make 30 sandwiches or 30 lunches at your home to be delivered to church on Sunday, January 8. Scan QR code or visit www.rofum.org for more information and to sign up!



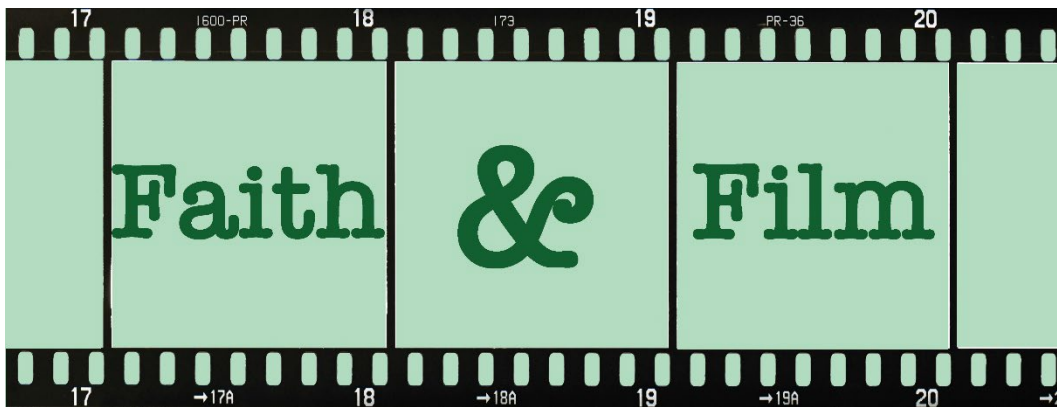
CRAFTING A RULE OF LIFE RETREAT

Led by Rev. Cora Glass and Rev. Jeff Nelson and held January 30-February 1 at the Lake Huron Retreat Center, this retreat guides both Clergy and Laity through the process of imagining and affirming the practices in your life that act as a “truss” – intentional practices and ways of living that ground you through all life’s ups and downs. Scan the QR code to register or for more details.



OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE HERE!

2023 Royal Oak First offering envelopes are now available for you to pick up after service at the Welcome Desk! If you are unable to pick up your envelopes, we'll begin mailing them out after January 31. Contact Karen Calhoun at kcalhoun@rofum.org or 248.541.4100 if you have any questions.



FAITH & FILM 2023

Royal Oak First is going back to the movies! For three Monday nights in January, we will head over to the MJR Troy Movie Theater at Maple and Livernois Roads at 7:00 p.m. to see a current movie together. Tickets are only \$8.50. If you have any questions, contact the church office at 248.541.4100 or office@rofum.org. The theater we will be in is reserved just for Royal Oak First.

Monday, January 9—“I Wanna Dance With Somebody”

Discovered by record executive Clive Davis, Whitney Houston rises from obscurity to international fame in the 1980s to become one of the greatest singers of her generation. A joyous, emotional, heartbreaking celebration of the life and music of Whitney Houston, one of the greatest female R&B pop vocalists of all time, tracking her journey from obscurity to musical superstardom.

Monday, January 16—“Puss in Boots: The Last Wish”

Puss in Boots discovers that his passion for adventure has taken its toll: he has burnt through eight of his nine lives. Puss sets out on an epic journey to find the mythical Last Wish and restore his nine lives. Kids (14 and under) get in free for this movie!

Monday, January 23—“A Man Called Otto”

Otto is a grump who's given up on life following the loss of his wife and wants to end it all. When a young family moves in nearby, he meets his match in quick-witted Marisol, leading to a friendship that will turn his world around.

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Susan Howard-Brown • Al Knappenberger • Betty Goodrich • Pat Callahan • Polly Tan • Sheryl Hunter • Tom Soboleski • David Murray • Karla Ringeisen • Karen Porter • Barb Simmons • Corey Haines • Jim Shumaker • Natalia Tovarez • Jen Irish-Minewiser • Mary Nahhat • Diane Sexton • Faye Bond • Donna Allen • Ann Anderson • Al Simmons • Mary Lou Graeber • Lisa Rye • Audrey Leenhouts • Charlene Faunt • Marian Kremer •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Margaret O'Donnell • Effie Lambros • Mary Lou Howard • Peter Edward • Rick Hocking • Linda A. • Scott Morrell • Sharon Pillow • Rachel Timm • Linda Swanson • Scott Peacor and Kyla Boyse • Tara Bouck • Joe • Mike Pilon • Larry Campbell • Phillip Makinen • Carl Gunnels • Joan Firestone • Jeff and Marcy Carmichael • Dan Hicks • Brent Miller • James • Edwin Gillette • Carl Jones • Dorothy Follette • Deana Sawicki • Atlas • Kelly • Steve Wurdock • Harold Baker • Darryl Warren • Sue Sugden •

Prayers for All That Have Been Impacted by COVID-19

Sympathies to:

Carole Hitchens on the death of her husband, Jack Hitchens on December 19, 2022

Jeff and Deb Lockledge on the death of Jeff's father, Jack Lockledge on December 17, 2022

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List, please contact Danielle Moody at prayers@rofum.org.

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas!

Welcome to Royal Oak First.

We are glad you are here!

Growing up, Christmas Eve was always a very busy and hectic day - especially as the prospect of attending worship in the evening came closer. We were a family of four with just one bathroom so getting everyone cleaned up, dressed up, fed and out the door in time to get a "good seat" at church was always hectic and stressful. The effort of getting to church always seems to steal the last remaining feelings of "peace on earth and goodwill to all."

But something would happen during that Christmas Eve service every year. Somewhere in the midst of singing the familiar songs, listening to the old familiar stories of mangers, stables and shepherds and of course the candlelight and Silent Night that culminated the night something would happen. I would look over and see the tear rolling down my father's cheek and then turn to look at my mom and behold the deep, satisfied smile resting upon her face as if all was truly right in her world. And even seeing my younger brother in the candlelight of Christmas Eve made me love him in ways I could not find the rest of the year. Something happens in the sanctuary on nights like tonight. And all I hope is that whatever that is happens for you tonight.

Emmanuel. God is with us!

So please enjoy the worship.

Come back in the weeks that follow to worship with us again.

But most importantly may you leave with a peace that truly passes all understanding.

Grace and Peace,



Pastor Jeff