



ROYAL OAK
FIRST
A United Methodist Church

Sunday, August 11, 2024
10:00 AM Worship

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music

Call to Worship

Nicole Wilson

Hymn #77

“How Great Thou Art”

Hymn #369

“Blessed Assurance”

Hymn #140

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Hymn #64

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

Welcome & Invitation to Mission

Jennifer Tripoli & Jeff Nelson

Children’s Moment

Mission Moment

Karla Goetz

Baptism

Luke Kamischke-Storms
Son of Rachel Kamischke and Jason Storms

Time of Prayer

Invitation to Offering

Musical Offering

“Baby I’m a Fool”
by Melody Gardot

Megan Porath

Doxology #95

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Scripture Reading

Ruth 1:16-19

Message

“Love Story”

Jeff Nelson

Closing Hymn #384

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Benediction

Departing Music

ANNOUNCEMENTS



HANDS 4RO RETURNS

Thank you to the volunteers who have stepped forward to lead Hands 4RO (Hands for Royal Oak) for a return season. We currently have **two projects lined up for Saturday August 17, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** that will benefit a couple of our Royal Oak First members who could use help around their homes. We are looking for **6-12 volunteers who are willing to help with light/moderate manual labor projects that morning.** Please scan the QR code to sign up. Additionally, if you know of other projects that we could help with, either on this date or a future one, please reach out to Elliot Nielander, elliotni@umich.edu, to be added to the project list.



ARTS, BEATS & EATS CHARITY PREVIEW

Ticket Sales Benefit our Outreach on 7th Programs

Please join us on **Thursday, August 22** for the **Arts, Beats & Eats Charity Preview at Fifth Avenue Bistro.** Any tickets purchased using the QR code, will have proceeds donated to our own Outreach on 7th programs.



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Your children are invited to bring their backpacks to church on **Sunday, August 25** for the 10:00 a.m. service to receive a special blessing as we head into the new school year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SPECIAL ARTS, BEATS & EATS WORSHIP SERVICE

We will have **only one worship service during Arts, Beats & Eats on Sunday, September 1 at 10:00 a.m. on the outdoor stage located at 6th and Lafayette.** If you don't plan on staying for the festival, park in the parking structure across and down the street from the church until 11:00 am. If you are planning to attend the festival after worship, all worshippers that day get a ticket for free admission to the festival, free parking at Royal Oak High School (1500 Lexington Blvd.), along with a free shuttle from the high school to drop you off and pick you up right next to the stage.



CONSTANCE & THE REMINDERS

Part of the Greater Detroit District "Mission Revival" Concert Series

On **Friday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m.** at Royal Oak First United Methodist Church, enjoy the unique Americana sound of alt-country twang and dream pop by Constance & The Reminders (Erica Plesco & Megan Porath with vocals, Monday Busque on bass, and Jason Sherman on drums), featuring songs to soothe a lonesome heart and revive a weary spirit. Bring your friends and family to this free concert. About the Greater Detroit District Mission Revival Concert Series: The Mission Revival is an annual event organized by the Greater Detroit District, designed to celebrate and showcase the diverse and vibrant musical talents within our churches. This year's theme focuses on highlighting the unique sounds of church music across the district, from praise bands and organ recitals to classical music concerts and choir performances. Our goal is to create a series of events that not only showcase these talents but also foster a sense of community and shared worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FALL KICKOFF SUNDAY

Please mark **Sunday, September 8** on your calendar and plan to join us for the kickoff of the **2024-25 worship year**. We will have one service inside in the Sanctuary at **10:00 a.m.** that morning followed by a block party on **7th Street**. There will be hot dogs, ice cream, a bounce house and games for the kids, along with the Cornhole Tournament! We ask you to bring a pair of socks for our traditional "Sock-it-to-Me-September" sock drive.



SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION FOR FERNDALE LOWER ELEMENTARY

Late summer brings the return of the Royal Oak First School Supply Collection! We are continuing our partnership with Ferndale Lower Elementary and will be collecting the following items which they requested: **glue sticks, Expo markers, Crayola 24ct crayons, Ticonderoga pencils, and kid scissors**. Other items are welcome, but those listed are of greatest need. Please drop off items in the white bin near the Tower entrance or in the white bin by the Welcome Desk near the Lafayette entrance.



Men's Clothes Needed for Outreach on 7th Clothing Closet!

MEN'S CLOTHES NEEDED!

The Clothing Closet of Royal Oak First's Outreach on 7th Program is the source of shoes, clothing, and small essentials for many of God's homeless children. **The closet's greatest needs right now include: men's shoes (sneakers, athletic shoes), men's blue jeans, men's short sleeve shirts and men's shorts**. Please take time to look in the back of your closets for these items that could help provide for those in need. **Please drop items off at the Church office Mon-Thu between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.**



Royal Oak First is always grateful when people give of their TIME, TALENT and/or TREASURE.

Did you know that there are several different ways to give financially?

Text to Give: Text the amount you wish to give to 855.566.0093.

In Person: You can place a check or cash in an offering envelope and drop it in the offering plate when it goes by or in one of the offering collection boxes just outside the Sanctuary.

Giving App: Download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app to set up one-time or recurring donations.

Online: Visit rofum.org/giving to set up and manage your one-time and recurring gifts.

You can always check out our website, www.rofum.org for **Volunteer Opportunities** or subscribe to our weekly email, by going to this link: <http://eepurl.com/c9m7L9> or by stopping by the Connections Table in the Gathering Space.

For more information, contact Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at 248.541.4100 ext. 1225 or email jtripoli@rofum.org.

Thank you!

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Marian Kremer • Megan Mckenzie-Grimm • Nancy Matson • Joel Palmer •
Rob Filipp • Diana Shornak • Allison and Bill Hempstead • Lee Hoffmann •
Woody Siddall • Mike Long • The Gothards • Sue Minch •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Jessica Boyer • Barbara Witherspoon • Carol Marshall • Ann Avesian •
The O'Mara Family • Bob Payne • Deana Sawicki • Vayda Worden •
Bobby Edward • Matthew Fletcher • Margaret Maas • Jasean Esper •
Victor and Christy Pantin • Michael Retaskie • Effie Lambros •

Sympathies to:

The family and friends of Al Knappenberger on his death on August 2, 2024

Congratulations to:

Happy 25th Wedding Anniversary to Brent and Allison Plaxton on August 14,
2024

Evan and Lauren Fall on their marriage on July 5, 2024

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

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

"We are storytellers. We all live in a network of stories. There isn't a stronger connection between people than storytelling."

--Jimmy Neil Smith

"But Ruth replied, 'Don't urge me to abandon you, to turn back from following after you. Wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.'"

--Ruth 1:16 CEB

"It's a love story, baby, just say, 'Yes'"

--Taylor Swift

Dear Friends,

If you have been hanging around with me for a while you know I love pop music. Music has always been my way of marking time and preserving moments. Certain songs take me to certain moments in time and evoke memories of the important people with whom I have shared life. Music has helped me tell my story.

The next couple of weeks I will be using a song from one of the most impactful artists of this generation to help illuminate our biblical story. Last summer, I witnessed the cultural phenomenon of Taylor Swift's Eras Tour and I wanted to know why so many women I love and respect were drawn to her music. I am thankful for our own Megan Landry, a certified "Swiftie," who will help me find the spiritual depth in these otherwise radio friendly songs.

At the end of day, my hope is that no matter what songs we listen to, what movies or shows we watch, or what books we read, we will all begin to look at and listen to the ways God might be whispering to us. God is in all things, even in the songs of Taylor Swift.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jeff" in a cursive style. Below the signature is a simple smiley face drawn with a circle and two dots for eyes.

Pastor Jeff Nelson