



ROYAL OAK
FIRST
A United Methodist Church

Sunday, August 4, 2024
10:00 AM Worship

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	“For the Beauty of the Earth” arr. Schmidt	Laurie Comer
Call to Worship		Erica Plesco
Opening Hymn #400	“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”	
Apostle’s Creed		
Gloria Patri #70	“Glory Be to the Father”	
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Jennifer Tripoli & Erica Plesco
Children’s Message		
Time of Prayer		
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering	“Amazing Grace”	Virginia Wright
Doxology #95	“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”	
Scripture	2 Samuel 11:26-27, 12:1-9, 12:13	
Message	“Accountability”	Josh Wright
Sacrament of Holy Communion		
Closing Hymn #526	“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”	
Benediction		
Postlude	“Bind Us Together” arr. Hayes	

ANNOUNCEMENTS



A WEEK WITH RBI

In an effort to support our friends at the Redford Brightmoor Initiative (RBI), we are planning a full week devoted to supporting their Free Store. Scan QR code to sign up.

- **Join us today** in the Parlor after church to **repackage bulk donations into single person sizes**.
- **Thursday, August 8**, we will help sort donations and open the Free Store.
- **Saturday, August 10**, we will help staff the Free Store.

Please also look through your homes for household item donations (kitchen, bedding, towels, etc.) and men's and children's clothing (please, no winter clothes until the fall) that you no longer need and bring them to the lower level elevator lobby.



JOIN US FOR OUR CHURCH PICNIC!

Our **Church Picnic** will be held on **Wednesday, August 7** from **6:00-9:00 p.m.** at **Normandy Oaks, 4234 Delemere Blvd., Royal Oak, 48073**. Bring a side dish to pass, a chair, and your beverage of choice. There is a kids' splash pad, so bring a swimsuit and a towel. We will provide the hot dogs, the fellowship, and the fun.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ART WALK

Downtown Royal Oak Art Walk is a self-guided tour of Royal Oak's downtown businesses showcasing a variety of artwork from local and regional artists on Friday, August 9 from 5:00-9:00 p.m. It is an interactive free event with live demonstrations and opportunities to purchase art! **Royal Oak First is looking for TWO volunteers to:** arrive early at the church to set up a container of ice water and small snacks; greet artists when they arrive at the church; and greet guests starting at 5:00 p.m. **Please reach out to Karen Calhoun at 248.541.4100 or kcalhoun@rofum.org.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS



PRODUCE PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON AUGUST 9

Thank you for your continued support in providing fresh produce monthly to the families served through Redford Brightmoor Initiative's Free Store! **We are in need of 2 shopping volunteers on August 9.** Thank you to all who have helped with the continued success of this project! Scan the QR code to sign up.



MOVIE SCREENING OF "UNDIVIDE US"

Join us for an advanced screening of the documentary "UNDIVIDE US" on Sunday, August 11th from 11:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Following the film will be a small group discussion on toxic polarization. The event is free and all are welcome. Scan the QR code to sign up.



HANDS 4RO RETURNS

Thank you to the volunteers who have stepped forward to lead Hands4RO (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.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



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.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED DURING ARTS, BEATS & EATS

From August 30-September 2, nearly 400,000 people will visit our community during Arts, Beats & Eats (ABE), so we are looking for volunteers. **You will greet Arts, Beats & Eats volunteers, sponsors & artists at the Tower door; keep the church outdoor area picked up; offer assistance to ABE Volunteer Command Center Staff as needed. Bonus: Each person that volunteers for a shift will receive free admission to the festival!** Scan the QR code to sign up.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



MEN'S CLOTHES NEEDED!

As the old spiritual goes, "I got shoes, you got shoes, all 'a God's children got shoes..." Well, not all. 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 and dresser drawers for items that could help provide for "all 'a God's children". **Please drop items off at the Church office Mon-Thu between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.**



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.



NURSERY STAFF NEEDED

We are in need of an additional adult to be part of our paid nursery staff. Our nursery team creates a safe and fun space for our youngest children at Royal Oak First. **This person would be paid hourly for time in the nursery, primarily on Sunday mornings, but sometimes for other events.** If you are interested, please contact Nursery Coordinator Natalia Tovarez at ntovarez@rofum.org.

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Megan Mckenzie-Grimm • Nancy Matson • Joel Palmer • Rob Phillip •
Diana Shornak • Allison and Bill Hempstead • Lee Hoffmann • Woody Siddall •
Mike Long • The Gothards • Al and Gloria Knappenberger • 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 • Lee and Mary Warmouth •
Effie Lambros • Harold and Sue Williams •

Sympathies to:

The Stroud family on the death of Kim's mother, Janice Stroud on July 27, 2024

Congratulations to:

Danielle and Kevin Hall on the birth of their daughter, Magnolia Jess on July 29,
2024

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

LETTER FROM OUR PREACHER

Dear Friends,

One of the hardest, but most important things we are called to do as Christians is to hold others accountable. Many of us in the church are inherently “people pleasers”. We love people and want to make them happy, so we’re scared to do or say anything that might hurt someone’s feelings or damage our relationship with them.

On the other hand, it can be even more difficult to be held accountable by others. Often our first instinct is to become defensive or interpret a call for accountability as condemnation.

There are many practical things that can help us when we are in these situations. Cultivating relationships, tailoring our message, having a plan, careful listening, humility, and follow-through are some.

The key to all of it is something that we talk a lot about in church: Grace. Grace for the person holding someone accountable, grace for the person being held accountable, and, above all, God’s grace, which we all receive.

Grace and peace,

Josh Wright