

Church Life

is published monthly

**Royal Oak First
United Methodist Church**

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The Congregation



Get Yourself Connected

At Royal Oak First we strive to make "Christ's Love Real." We want our faith to be more than just an idea or a set of beliefs - we want our faith to impact our lives and the lives of those around us in real, tangible ways.

One of the ways our faith becomes real is when we have formed meaningful friendships with each other. Friendship is one of the most precious gifts. Friends can make the good times even better and the hard times more bearable. We want to make sure that, here at Royal Oak First, there are lots of opportunities to meet, get to know, and become friends with each other. When we begin the program year in September, we hope each of you finds a place to connect and form friendships. These are some of the ongoing groups that will be starting up again this fall:

Pastor's Tuesday Morning Book Group: Every Tuesday morning Pastor Jeff gathers with a group of people to discuss and share insights into some of the most interesting books in Christian thought, practice and theology.

Berean Sunday Morning Bible Study: This group takes its name from the Book of Acts Chapter 17 verse 1, where Paul and Silas preached at Berea and the inhabitants "... received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" and many of them believed. This class meets at 9:30 am on Sunday mornings and has been a long time favorite of members.

United Methodist Women's Book Group: This group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am to discuss a popular book.

Knowledge Circle: This is our United Methodist Women's circle. These women meet monthly for prayer, learning, mission, and support.

Shawl Ministry: This group meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 1:00 pm. They create blankets, prayer shawls, mats for the homeless, crosses, and many other items to support the ministries of our church. This group is a lot of fun and a great place for friendship and conversation.

ROMEOS: This stands for Retired Old Men Eating Out. This group of men meets every Wednesday at the Avenue Restaurant on Woodward at 11:30 am. It is a great group for friendship and fellowship. All are welcome.

Women's Bible Study and Book Group: Pastor Myra leads this evening group for women of all ages. It is a great group of women who love, support, and pray for and with each other.

In addition, this Fall, we will be starting up the following new groups for you to make a connection to and with:

Friday Night Supper Club: Starting in September, we will be offering a monthly Friday night potluck and program. This will be open to all people and will hopefully create an intergenerational experience for our members. These nights will be fun and give us more opportunities to connect socially with each other.

Moms' Group: Bridget Nelson will be starting a mom's fellowship group this Fall. This group will provide a space for the moms of our congregation to read, pray, support each other, and just plain have fun together.

Men's Morning Fellowship: Pastor Jeff will gather the men of the church together on Thursday mornings for coffee, doughnuts, laughs, and banter about the upcoming game and a time of study and devotion before sending guys off to work or out for breakfast. This will be a great time of friendship building. This group will also hold regular work days for seniors in our congregation and community.

Theology on Tap: Pastor Caleb (and Pastor Jeff at times) will be starting a regular week night gathering at some of our local pubs. These gatherings will be a great place to grab a beer (we'll provide the appetizers) and join in conversations about life, faith, and the issues facing our community and world. These will be open to all people and should be pretty awesome!

We will be publishing an expanded brochure this fall with more information, times, locations, and contact information for leaders. Please begin to think about which groups with which you would like to connect.




VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

AUGUST 14-17

Join us as we help kids discover their strength in God! We will be going on awesome adventures alongside our favorite Bible heroes and discover the qualities that make us truly heroic in God. Hero Central uses music, science, crafts, and Bible stories to empower kids and teach them what they are capable of.

We are in need of adult and youth volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Danielle Moody at dmoody@rofum.org or 248-854-8844.

TO MY CHURCH FAMILY,

Thank you all for the prayers and get well wishes received during my time of healing. The prayers do help and the cards perked me up. I will be returning to church in the near future, but want to let my church family know how much I appreciate the prayers. They do help.

Thank you,
Dorothy Matsumoto



SPRING TREK 2018

Royal Oak First United Methodist is pleased to announce that Spring Trek 2018 will take place April 2 – 7, 2018. Six days of Christian fellowship with some serious hiking mixed in and more rock climbing and rappelling than ever before for those who enjoy a bit of an adrenalin rush with their fun.

Our destination is Fall Creek Falls State Park near Spencer, Tennessee. At an altitude of 1700 feet, compared to Spring Trek 2016 where we camped at an altitude of 5000 feet, this area should be a bit more comfortable sleeping at night.

The park is spread across the western top of the rugged Cumberland Plateau. We will have access to 34 miles of trails within the park boundaries and will be situated within a 45 minute drive of the southwest terminus of the historic Cumberland Trail.

This park (with bathhouses) is open all year. There are fire-rings, picnic tables, and electricity at each campsite (we also expect to have water at each campsite). This time the living will be easy.

The cost for those using tents is expected to be \$80 to \$100, excluding the cost of any extra activities we might choose to sample (such as a serious Zip-line on the park premises).

Last spring we attempted to complete an overnight backpack hike but a forecast of intense cold during the nights foiled our fun. This time the temperature will not prevent completion of this goal. It will happen and our hope is to have it occur on the rugged Cumberland Trail in a remote area of the Justin P. Wilson Cumberland Trail State Park. The descent to the Cumberland Trail for this hike is 200 feet of elevation in a horizontal distance of 60 yards. This particular trail is not for the faint of heart (or those who have not trained for it) and will be an option for those willing to give it a try.

So start thinking about this excellent opportunity to get out-of-doors next spring and see some beautiful scenery and enjoy some high adventure as well. Set aside eight dollars a week starting now and you will have ready cash next spring to participate in this exciting trip. More information will appear in the fall. If you want some more details right now, contact Jon Cline at 248-561-2975 or justjon123456@Outlook.com.

LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS

Sack Lunch continues through our reconstruction. Thank you to everyone who continues to donate to our program. At this time our needs include hygiene items, men's jeans and khakis, hoodies, socks, underwear, light jackets, baseball caps, gym shoes, rain ponchos, blankets, tote bags, and backpacks.



Items for clothing day can be dropped off before the last Monday of each month.

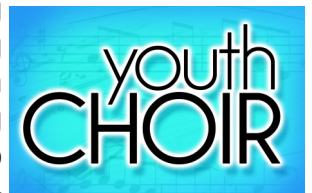
Food items are always needed, including juice boxes, fruit or pudding cups, fresh fruit, individual chip bags, hard candy, nutritional bars, and jelly (we have a lot of peanut butter).

You can also help the program through monetary contributions designated for Sack Lunch.

Delores Grier
Sack Lunch Coordinator
248-548-5670

YOUTH CHOIR NEWS

Summer is a time of ramping up our choirs for the upcoming year. Choir Camp provides an opportunity to begin learning our music and set our kids up for a year of worship, leadership, and growth. The "Summer of Love" series came to a close on Camp Sunday, but it is only the beginning of what you will see our youth and children accomplish. Our Choir Camp theme, "Send Me Out" is being lived out by our Angelus Choir as they travel up north to the Petosky-area to share their gifts on the first weekend in August. They will stay at the beautiful Lake Louise Methodist Community and sing at the chapel service there. A trip to the sand dunes and sightseeing in Petosky will also be part of the package. This is just the first of many events where our children and youth will take their show on the road and share God's love outside our walls in the coming year. Stay tuned!



ACOLYTES NEEDED

All youth in 4th grade through 12th grade are invited and needed to serve as acolytes at our Traditional 11:00 am, Sunday worship service. The acolyte plays a very important role in worship as they carry the light of Jesus into the sanctuary to light the candles on the Altar. There will be training sessions following 11:00 worship on several Sundays this summer and again in the fall. Contact Jennifer Semivan at jsemivan@rofum.org if your child is available and interested. This is a fabulous way for our youth to become worship leaders. A Sign-Up Genius link will be sent to the parents of our 4th—12th graders to make the process easier.



Is one of these true for you?

1. You like to sing in worship, but wish you felt more confident.
2. You used to play or sing, but you've forgotten most of it.
3. You've considered joining a group here, but aren't sure you've got the skills to keep up.

You're invited to Music 101, an evening of fun and learning. We'll develop the basic tools for singing or ringing in an ensemble this year. Join us, Thursday evening, August 24, 7:00 pm — 9:00 pm, and walk out with new confidence. If you have any questions, or want to let us know you're coming, email caleb@rofum.org.

Are you brushing the right way?

Brush your teeth thoroughly twice a day.

Brush gently for 2 to 3 minutes.

Hold your toothbrush at a 45-degree angle to your gums when brushing, except for the inside of your front teeth. To clean those areas, hold the toothbrush vertically.

Replace your toothbrush every 3 to 4 months.

Brush the front and back of your teeth as well as the chewing surfaces. Pay close attention to your back molars, which can be hard to reach.

Make sure your toothpaste has fluoride, which strengthens tooth enamel and helps prevent cavities.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

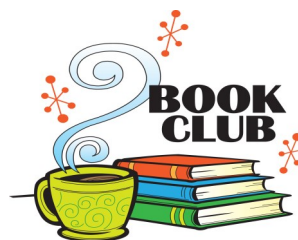
Our annual September meeting and tea will be held on Thursday, September 7. The executive team will meet at 10:30 am. The General Meeting will begin at 1:00 pm.

We are looking forward to another exciting presentation by our two favorite traveling pastors, Revs. Bob and Diana Goudie. Join us for news about one of their latest travel experiences, followed by an afternoon tea.

CHANGES COMING TO CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS



Beginning this autumn, we will be transitioning from a monthly newsletter to a quarterly magazine. In order to keep our members informed, we will send smaller weekly updates with information on upcoming events and ministry opportunities. Information will also be available on the church website, rofum.org, and at the church.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20,
10:00 AM

United Methodist Women's Book Club is meeting on Wednesday, September 20. Our featured book for the month is, "The Charm Bracelet", a novel by author Viola Shipman.

"Through an heirloom charm bracelet, three women will rediscover the importance of family and a passion for living as each charm changes their lives." All are welcome to join us at 9:30 am on Wednesday, September 20. Meeting location will be listed in the church calendar.

ARTS, BEATS, & EATS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SEPTEMBER 1-4

Once again, Royal Oak First United Methodist Church is hosting Arts, Beats, & Eats and we need your help!

Your could be:

- A greeter/host for the Command Center at the Tower Doors.
- A domestic engineer to monitor the grounds and restrooms.
- A green space host for our front lawn.
- A monitor for the baby-changing station and nursing mothers' tent.

We will work in 4 hour shifts — 9:45-2:00, 1:30-6:00, and 5:30-10:10.

Volunteer forms are available in the church office during the week or in Fellowship Hall after weekend worship services.

Questions? Contact Kay or Dick LaCombe at 248-566-3137 or at kd.lac@comcast.net.





AUGUST

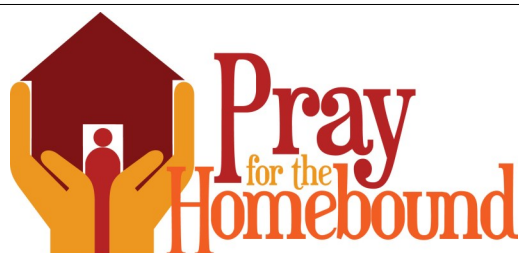
BIRTHDAYS

- 1 — Luca Coulter
Brian Paswater
Ava Richards
Andrew Sluss
- 2 — David Coulter
Benjamin Crowe
Jamie Forgash
Christopher Marsh
- 3 — Catherine Risley
Diana Shornak
Barbara Simmons
- 5 — Audrey Leenhouts
- 7 — Mike Dabney
Paula Heckman
Curtis Notarantonio
Peter Rhoades
Jacob Thomas
Kerrigan Usher
- 8 — Alex Beachum
- 9 — Theresa Crowe
- 10 — Suzanne Hughes
Virginia Wright
- 11 — Quinn Fall
- 12 — Drew Burgess
Vivian Lewis
Kimberlyn Palchak
Eileen Schroeder
Laurie Yarmy

- 13 — Wendell Bell
Melissa Carey
Richard Dyer
Andrew Kondrat
- 14 — Kirk Rogers
Carolyn Rondot
Abigail Weaver
- 15 — Aloma Mirjah
Ruth Porkka
Bob Prud'homme
- 16 — Delores Miller
- 17 — Diane Gibson
Clay Kosnik
Mike Monte
- 18 — Kathleen Seidler
James Standing
- 19 — Catherine Young
- 20 — Dori Bridson
- 21 — Crystal Reed
Elizabeth Wright
- 22 — Karla Ringeisen
Olivia Willis
- 23 — Matteo Burgess
Linda Somers
- 24 — Bradly Ather
Anna Calhoun
Robert Demyanovich
Mary Kosnik

- 25 — Joseph Peck
- 26 — Nora Harris-Ko
Mason Herd
Carol Lewis
Michael Long
Laurie O'Donnell
Patti Peterson
Scotlyn Salazar
- 28 — Neal Cobb
Benjamin LaRose
Zachary LaRose
Violet Richards
- 29 — Nancy Lorenz
Daniel Welch
- 30 — Jeffrey Harris
Paula Peltier
- 31 — Riley Combs
Sam Garrett
Summer Loeffler
Jacob Yates

If you notice a name missing from this list, that means we don't have your birthday. Contact Sam Garrett at sgarrett@rofum.org to be added to our birthday list.

**Clifford Anderson**

801 Butternut Ave
Royal Oak, MI 48073
248-585-4735

Peter Bilovus

175 E Nawakwa Rd
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
248-6438696

Betty Cairns

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Troy, MI 48083
248-585-5614

Goldie Chiti

Meadowbrook Square
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Novi, MI 48377
248-960-8776

Zenovia Courtney

21445 Blackmar Ave
Warren, MI 48091
248-547-6995

Emily Crimmins

Arden Court
11095 E 14 Mile Rd
Sterling Heights, MI 48312
248-549-5718

Dorothy Gates

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Royal Oak, MI 48067
248-543-8711

Ruby Hawkins

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Warren, MI 48091
586-755-9828

Florence Martin

2835 Somerset Blvd Apt 102
Troy, MI 48084
248-519-3191

Vera Miller

1309 Woodlawn Ave
Royal Oak, MI 48073
248-588-5834

Joyce Nelson

Baldwin House Apt 407
200 Chester St
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-220-4292

Shirley Olsen

24092 Virginia Dr
Warren, MI 48091
586-754-1542

Ruth Porkka

1210 E Dallas Ave
Madison Heights, MI 48071
248-547-5593

Yvonne Quinn

36430 Van Dyke Ave Apt 109
Sterling Heights, MI 48312
586-242-3106

Charles White

6870 Killarney Dr
Troy, MI 48098
248-879-6135

Charles Williams

American House
2300 Grand Haven Apt 348
Troy, MI 48083
248-816-2028

Out of the Area**Joseph Gardner**

11190 Medlock Bridge Rd Apt 417
Johns Creek, GA 30097
248-224-0082

Christina Smith

P.O. Box 930
Good Hart, MI 49737
231-242-0294

June Stephan

1055 Forest Hill Ave SE Apt 94B
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Phone numbers & addresses will be removed from the online version of Church Life for security reasons.



Andy Dalerio — Navy
Son of Terri Morris

Avery Gardner — Navy (Virginia)
Granddaughter of Joe Gardner

John Garrett — Marine Corps
Grandson of Delores Grier

Jody Holton — Army (Washington D.C.)
Son of Polly & John, grandson of Ben & Ruth Forsythe

Bobby Huneycutt — (Alaska)
Nephew of Anna Cline

Andrew Kostzewa — Navy (California)
Grandson of Marion LeBeau

Dan Lewis — Army (Stateside)
Nephew of Kris Simms

Thomas Morales — Navy (Italy)
Nephew of Anna Cline

Mason Smith — ROTC: WMU/Army
National Guard (MI)
Son of Ben Smith

Ethan Watkins — Army (Kosovo)

Help us update our records. We would like to keep better track of our military members. If there is any information missing from the above list or if you see any information listed above that needs to be updated, please contact Sam Garrett at sgarrett@rofum.org.

Thank you to our *Church Life* Sponsors

Dr. Nancy E. Hartrick - Family Dentistry, Kinsey-Garrett Funeral Home, Paul Kremer - Garage Doors, Charlie's - Haircuts for Men and Boys

Sponsorships:

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- Quarterly (3 issues) \$45.00
- Yearly (12 issues) \$180.00

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- Birthdays, Anniversaries, Greetings, etc. \$5.00/issue

Contact the church office (248-541-4100) to learn how you or your organization can become a *Church Life* sponsor.



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AUGUST 2017

Tuesday, August 1

11:30 am	Sermon Practice	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	ROga (Royal Oak First Chair Yoga)	Choir Room
7:00 pm	Informational Meeting for Special Church Conference	Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, August 2

8:15 am	Arts, Beats, & Eats Informational Meeting	Fellowship Hall
10:30 am	Staff Meeting.....	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out).....	The Avenue
2:30 pm	Arts, Beats, & Eats Informational Meeting	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	Backyard Blast for Middle and High School Students.....	Carolyn Gabler's Home
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary
8:15 pm	Arise! Band Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

Thursday, August 3

11:00 am	As We Gather Service	Fellowship Hall
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Friday, August 4

Angelus Choir Tour

9:30 am	As We Gather Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
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Saturday, August 5

Angelus Choir Tour

4:00 pm	Saturday Afternoon Worship.....	Sanctuary
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Sunday, August 6

Angelus Choir Tour

9:00 am	Arise! Worship	Sanctuary
	Nursery & Preschool – Fellowship Hall	
10:00 am	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	Sunday School	
	Nursery & Preschool – Fellowship Hall; Sunday School (K-5) #403	
12:00 pm	Coffee Hour.....	Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm	Welcome to the Party!	The Lieblein Home

Due to our fluctuating construction schedule, all locations listed are subject to change.

Monday, August 7

11:30 am	Covenant Community Care Cooking Class.....	Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 8

11:30 am	Sermon Practice	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	ROga (Royal Oak First Chair Yoga)	Choir Room

Wednesday, August 9

10:30 am	Staff Meeting.....	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out)	The Avenue
7:00 pm	Faith Abilities	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary
8:15 pm	Arise! Band Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

Thursday, August 10

11:00 am	As We Gather Service	Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Shawl Ministry.....	Fellowship Hall

Friday, August 11

9:30 am	As We Gather Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
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Saturday, August 12

9:00 am	Corn Roast and Missions Fundraiser.....	Royal Oak Farmers' Market
12:00 pm	Transgender Pride In The Park.....	Donald "Red" Geary Park in Ferndale
4:00 pm	Saturday Afternoon Worship.....	Sanctuary

Sunday, August 13

9:00 am	Arise! Worship	Sanctuary
	Nursery & Preschool – Fellowship Hall	
10:00 am	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	Sunday School	
	Nursery & Preschool – Fellowship Hall; Sunday School (K-5) #403	
12:00 pm	Coffee Hour.....	Fellowship Hall
12:30 pm	Sanctus Choir Council.....	Choir Room
1:00 pm	Special Church Conference	Fellowship Hall

Monday, August 14

11:30 am	Covenant Community Care Cooking Class.....	Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
6:00 pm	Vacation Bible School.....	Fellowship Hall & Front Lawn
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 15

11:30 am	Sermon Practice	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	ROga (Royal Oak First Chair Yoga)	Choir Room
6:00 pm	Vacation Bible School.....	Fellowship Hall & Front Lawn

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Wednesday, August 16

9:00 am	Arts, Beats, & Eats Sponsor Forum	Fellowship Hall
10:30 am	Staff Meeting.....	Choir Room
11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out)	The Avenue
6:00 pm	Vacation Bible School.....	Fellowship Hall & Front Lawn
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary
8:15 pm	Arise! Band Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

Thursday, August 17

10:00 am	Arts, Beats, & Eats Restaurant Orientation.....	Fellowship Hall
10:30 am	Pastoral Care Meeting	Choir Room
11:00 am	As We Gather Service	Sanctuary
2:30 am	Arts, Beats, & Eats Restaurant Orientation.....	Fellowship Hall
5:00 pm	Arts, Beats, & Eats Meeting	Sanctuary
6:00 pm	Arts, Beats, & Eats Meeting	Sanctuary
6:00 pm	Vacation Bible School.....	Fellowship Hall & Front Lawn

Friday, August 18

9:30 am	As We Gather Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
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Saturday, August 19

9:00 am	Rippling Hope Work Day	Meet In Parking Lot
4:00 pm	Saturday Afternoon Worship.....	Sanctuary

Sunday, August 20

9:00 am	Arise! Worship & New Members	Sanctuary
	Nursery & Preschool – Fellowship Hall	
10:00 am	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Worship & New Members	Sanctuary
	Sunday School	
	Nursery & Preschool – Fellowship Hall; Sunday School (K-5) #403	
12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall

Monday, August 21

6:00 pm	Arts, Beats, & Eats Tips Training	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 22

11:30 am	Sermon Practice	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	ROga (Royal Oak First Chair Yoga)	Choir Room
7:00 pm	Staff/Parish Relations Committee	Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, August 23

10:30 am	Staff Meeting.....	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out)	The Avenue
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary
8:15 pm	Arise! Band Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

Due to our fluctuating construction schedule, all locations listed are subject to change.

Thursday, August 24

11:00 am	As We Gather Service	Sanctuary
1:00 pm	Shawl Ministry.....	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Music 101	Choir Room

Friday, August 25

9:30 am	As We Gather Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
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Saturday, August 26

10:00 am	Arts, Beats, & Eats Volunteer Training	Fellowship Hall
4:00 pm	Saturday Afternoon Worship.....	Sanctuary

Sunday, August 27

9:00 am	Arise! Worship	Sanctuary
	Nursery & Preschool – Fellowship Hall	
10:00 am	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	Sunday School	
	Nursery & Preschool – Fellowship Hall; Sunday School (K-5) #403	
12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall

Monday, August 28

10:30 am	Lunch Program Clothing Day	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Justice League.....	Choir Room
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 29

11:30 am	Sermon Practice	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	ROga (Royal Oak First Chair Yoga)	Choir Room

Wednesday, August 30

10:30 am	Staff Meeting.....	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out).....	The Avenue
6:00 pm	Backyard Blast for Middle and High School Students.....	The Tripoli home
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary
8:15 pm	Arise! Band Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

Thursday, August 31

11:00 am	As We Gather Service	Fellowship Hall
2:30 pm	Arts, Beats, & Eats Charity Meeting.....	Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Arts, Beats, & Eats Captain Meeting.....	Fellowship Hall

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