



crazy love

**October 8, 2017**  
**11:00 am Traditional Worship**  
**Royal Oak First United Methodist Church**

[www.rofum.org](http://www.rofum.org) • 248-541-4100

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

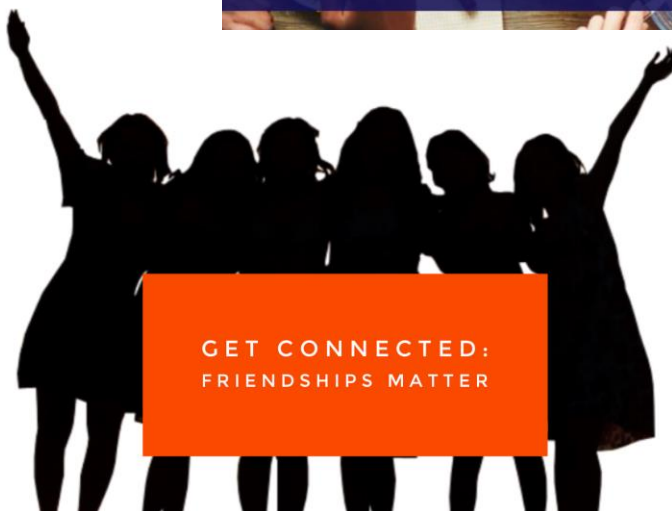
Prelude	<i>“Jupiter” Theme from “The Planets” Suite</i>	Gustav Holst
	featuring Michele Prud’homme, timpanist	
Hymn #559	Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation	UMH*
Call to Worship		
Response #420	Breathe on Me, Breath of God	UMH
Greeting Your Neighbor		
Invitation to Mission		
Time with Children		
Sacrament of Baptism	Avery Marie Kuznia Child of Erin and Nicholas Kuznia	
Time of Prayer		
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Mission Moment		
Musical Offering	<i>I Am His Child</i> Women of Sanctus Choir	Moses Hogan
Doxology #95		UMH
Scripture	Matthew 21:33-46	CEB
Message	Crazy Love	Jeff Nelson
Hymn #545	The Church’s One Foundation	UMH
Postlude	<i>Toccata in C Major P. 456</i>	Johann Pachelbel

\* United Methodist Hymnal



More information  
on page 4

More information  
on page 6



More information  
on page 11

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Welcome to the Party!

**Today, 2:00 pm, at the Parsonage**

You are invited to a gathering at the parsonage at 3113 Marion Dr in Royal Oak. Get to know some other people, learn more about the church, and ask any questions you might have about Royal Oak First. Call the church office, email Laurie O'Donnell at lodonnell@rofum.org, or sign up at the *Here I Am Lord* Table to register, or you can just show up! There is always room for more!



## Former Organist Craig Scott Symons in Worship

**October 15, 11:00 am Worship Service**



Royal Oak First has a proud tradition of excellent music. Our former music directors have gone on to serve some of the most impressive congregations in our area, from First UMC in Birmingham, MI to Metropolitan UMC in Detroit. Craig Scott Symons served as Music Director from 1995-2010. Since then, he has directed the music ministry at First Congregational Church of Greenwich in Old Greenwich, Connecticut. Craig also composes and sings professionally. An engagement with the choir Sounding Light (also featuring current Music Minister, Caleb Williams) will bring him to Michigan the weekend of October 15. We hope you'll join us at 11:00 am as he

returns to conduct the choir, lead songs, and even play a duet with our current organist, Debi Szeliga. Don't miss Sounding Light's concerts that weekend, including Friday, October 13, 7:30 pm at First Presbyterian in Birmingham.

## Now Hiring!

We are looking to hire a Nursery Coordinator for Royal Oak First! This position would require you to be present on Sundays from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm with up to 6 additional hours per month as needed. The Nursery Coordinator will work with the Director of Children, Youth & Family to recruit, train, schedule, and supervise nursery staff for both Sundays and mid-week programming as needed. They will be responsible for making sure the space is clean, safe, and prepared for the children. Please send resumes to Danielle Moody at dmoody@rofum.org.



## Men's Basketball

**Beginning Tuesday, October 17, 7:00 pm**

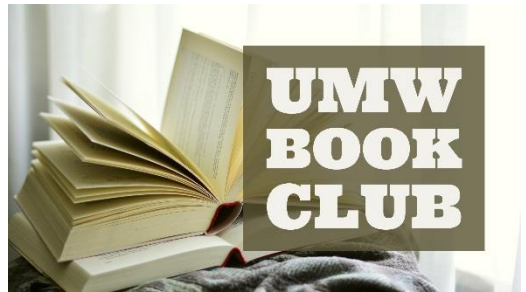


Get together with this group of guys to play a friendly game of basketball, every Tuesday, at 7:00 pm at Jane Addams Elementary School on Webster in Royal Oak. Contact Craig Sleeman at [craig@sleemanlaw.com](mailto:craig@sleemanlaw.com) with any questions.

## United Methodist Women Book Club

**Wednesday, October 18, 9:30 am**

The book for the month is "The Rainbow Comes and Goes", a story written by Anderson Cooper and his mother, Gloria Vanderbilt. When Gloria suffers from a severe illness at the age of 91, Anderson decides that it is time for the two of them to share life stories. The book is a #1 New York Times best seller. We look forward to greeting any new comers!



## Big Boy Night for Music Guild

**Tuesday, October 24, 5:00–8:00 pm**



By popular demand, the annual Big Boy Night is now a semi-annual event. Mark Tuesday, October 24, on your calendar. Come to the Big Boy at 30460 John R Rd in Madison Heights and enjoy dinner with your church family and 15% of your dinner tab (with a coupon) goes to the Royal Oak First United Methodist Music Guild to support Choir Camp. There are drawings for wonderful prizes and you get to eat where (almost) everybody knows your name! Contact Shirley Harris at [shirlnealharris@gmail.com](mailto:shirlnealharris@gmail.com) with any questions.



## Friday Fun Night Halloween Party

Friday, October 27, 7:00 pm



Mark your calendars for Friday, October 27 at 7:00 pm. Our Friday Fun Night Halloween Party is open to all ages and abilities. We can't wait to see you for fun, food, and fellowship. If you have questions, contact Laurie O'Donnell at [lodonnell@rofum.org](mailto:lodonnell@rofum.org).

## Saturday Night Supper Club

Saturday, October 28, 5:30 pm

This is a monthly Saturday Night Potluck and Program. It is open to all people and will create an intergenerational experience for our members. Good food, good friends, and great entertainment. Our entertainment this evening will be the Nahhat Family Singers. We'll supply the main course and drinks. Bring a side dish or dessert to pass.



Contact Myra Moreland at [mmoreland@rofum.org](mailto:mmoreland@rofum.org) with any questions.

## Royal Oak Spooktacular and Royal Oak First UMC Lunch

Sunday, October 29, following the 11:00 am worship service

The annual Royal Oak Spooktacular is Sunday, October 29, 1:00-4:00 pm. Royal Oak First is one of the hosts for this community event with candy and games on our lawn.



We will be collecting candy donations in the elevator lobby on the lower level. Any assistance would be appreciated, as running out of candy could be ugly!

Children, Youth, and Family Ministries will host a bag lunch following the 11:00 am Worship Service on the 29th to ease the transition for families who plan to attend the Royal Oak Spooktacular. All are welcome!

# PRAYERS

**Prayers for our church family:** Dick LaCombe; Bob Demyanovich; Howard Emorey; Mary Nahhat; Lee Hoffman; The Loftin Family; Marilyn Hocking; Alfie Wright; Gene Roberts; Nancy Matson; Barbara Nicholas; Marguerite Nowacek; Charles Williams; Ann Moser; Peggy Waisanen; Dori Bridson; Sophia Nader; Caroline Bowen; Jill Paswater

**Prayers for our extended family:** Victims of the Las Vegas shooting; Ryan Monte; Jason Perez; Jerry & Laurie Sessions; Susie Inch; Paul McCormack; Hurricane Flood Victims, including the parents of Kathy Riggs; Robert Lechner; Earl Hendrickson; Charles Prud'homme; Monica Rethman; Trevor Beagle; Beverly Lambert; Patricia Semivan; Jan Thomas; Kirt Taylor; Foster Braun; Opal Monte; Logan Cross; Corinne Janes; Patrick Mallon; Mary; Melissa Enyart

**Hospitalized:** Sue Hughes, Royal Oak Beaumont

**Homebound Member of the Week:** June Stephan

Please contact our Pastoral Care Team at [pgill@rofum.org](mailto:pgill@rofum.org) with any prayer concerns.

# MISSIONS



Funding missions is an expression of our stewardship and of our connectedness. We pray that you will join in the mission to support these important ministries. Please use the green Missions envelope located in your bulletin, in the pews, or in your offering envelope set; or give online at [www.rofum.org](http://www.rofum.org).



**Cass Community Social Services** – Provides emergency, transitional and permanent supportive housing for homeless men, women and children each night. Provides free mental health and medical services, and offers vocational training and employment for people with disabilities.

**Common Ground Sanctuary** – Common Ground provides a lifeline for individuals and families in crisis, victims of crime, persons with mental illness, people trying to cope with critical situations and runaway and homeless youths.

**Covenant Health Clinic** – Covenant Community Care, Inc. is a faith based charitable non-profit Community Health Center serving the people of Metro Detroit. As a Federally Qualified Health Center, they offer integrated medical, dental and behavioral health care to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay.

**Dominican Republic: Solar Oven Project** – Teaching and delivering the appropriate technology for solar cooking.

**Haiti: Jeremie Project** – Provides medical supplies, building supplies, clothing, and other support to the city of Jeremie, which was devastated by a 2010 earthquake and again by Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

**Hands 4 Detroit** – Serving the Detroit area by helping those in need & building bridges in the community.

**Heifer International** – Working with communities to end hunger & poverty, and to care for the earth in sustainable ways.

**Methodist Children's Home Society** – MCHS responds to the needs of abused and neglected children by providing an array of housing, educational, clinical and therapeutic services.

**N.O.A.H. Project** – (Networking, Organizing and Advocacy for the Homeless) – Empowers low income and homeless Detroiters to achieve stability by serving as the first step on the journey to self-sufficiency.

**Redford Brightmoor Initiative** – reaching out into the Brightmoor neighborhood in Detroit and to the Redford community to provide assistance in many different ways. The Free Store, food assistance, home repairs and youth summer camp are just a few of the programs offered.

**Royal Oak First Lunch Program** – Sack lunch and a hot meal served daily Mon.-Fri. for those in need. Clothing Closet once a month.

# Change

# Matters

Help support our partners in

# Lithuania

## **Noisy Bucket Sunday Returns!**

We will resume our loose change  
“Noisy Bucket” collection for Lithuania  
on the fourth Sunday of every month.

We can't wait to revitalize this long-standing connection between our  
church and the Methodist Church in Lithuania.

# SMALL GROUPS

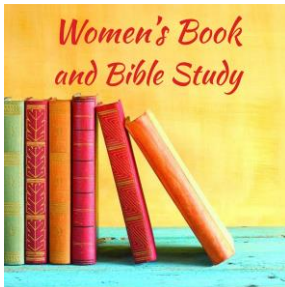
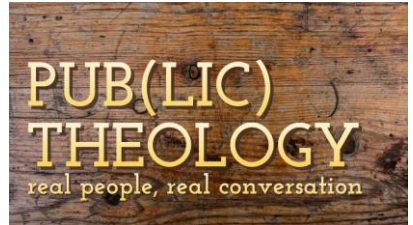


## Men's Morning Fellowship

Pastor Jeff and the men of the church gather every Thursday Morning for coffee, conversation, lots of laughs, and a time of study and devotion. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Jeff Nelson at [jnelson@rofum.org](mailto:jnelson@rofum.org) with any questions.

## Pub(lic) Theology

Head to Ale Mary's in downtown Royal Oak with Pastor Caleb every other Monday at 7:00 pm. Real people, good conversation, and really good beer. Contact Caleb Williams at [caleb@rofum.org](mailto:caleb@rofum.org) with any questions.



## Women's Book and Bible Study

Pastor Myra leads this evening group for women of all ages. It is a great group of women who love, support, and pray for each other. Contact Myra Moreland at [mmoreland@rofum.org](mailto:mmoreland@rofum.org) with any questions.

## Tool Time

Join us for some work and fellowship as we help those in need. No special skills required, just a love for building, fixing, and doing good in the world. Contact George Marck at [gmarck@rofum.org](mailto:gmarck@rofum.org) with any questions.



## Shawl Ministry

This group meets on the second and fourth Thursday 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. Contact Mary Nahhat at [mcnahhat@aol.com](mailto:mcnahhat@aol.com) with any questions.

# BIBLE FRIENDS “PASS IT ON...”

**Touch the life of a child. Communicate what is important to you.**

## **October 15, 11:00 am Worship Service**

We are looking for Bible Friends to help our class of third graders discover their own Bibles. The opportunity includes:

- ✚ Participating in the presentation of Bibles to third graders on October 15
- ✚ Sharing your favorite Bible passages with your student
- ✚ Keeping in contact with your youth
- ✚ Being a visible role model in any way you can

The annual gesture of a Bible Friend presenting a Bible to a third grade student does more than provide a Bible to a child. You pass on a bit of your faith and values. You make a memorable statement that the Bible is important and children are important.

If you are interested in becoming a Bible Friend, complete this form and return it to the office. Act quickly, as the presentation ceremony is October 15! If you have any questions, please contact Danielle Moody at 248-541-4100 or [dmoody@rofum.org](mailto:dmoody@rofum.org).

\*You do not need to purchase a Bible to be a Bible Friend and do not need to be a Bible Friend to purchase a Bible.\*



**I would like to participate as a Bible Friend \_\_\_\_\_.**

**I would like to purchase a Bible (\$20 enclosed) \_\_\_\_\_.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Additional forms are available for pick-up at the *Here I Am* Lord Table.

# UMW NUT SALE

## Pre-Orders Only

The United Methodist Women's Missions nut sale begins today. **This is a pre-order only sale.** The deadline for pre-orders is Sunday, October 22. Please fill in the number of bags for each type of nut you would like on this form. You may turn in your order form in Fellowship Hall after weekend worship services or in the UMW mailbox located outside the church office during the week. Please DO NOT put any money in the UMW mailbox. You may pay for your order when you pick it up. You may also mail your orders to Cynthia Cline at 713 Knowles St Royal Oak MI 48067 or email your orders to Cynthia at ckcline93@gmail.com. Your orders will be filled and ready for pick-up after the worship services on November 18 and 19.

## Checks should be made payable to: UMW

\_\_\_\_\_ Chocolate Covered Raisins - \$6.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Pistachios - \$9.50

\_\_\_\_\_ Chocolate Peanuts - \$6.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Pralines - \$9.50

\_\_\_\_\_ Malted Milk Balls - \$6.25

\_\_\_\_\_ Mixed Nuts- \$10.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Milk Chocolate Almonds - \$8.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Pecans - \$10.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Dark Chocolate Almonds - \$8.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Cashews - \$10.50

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Order Pick up following:

4:00 pm Saturday Service \_\_\_\_\_

9:00 am Sunday Service \_\_\_\_\_

11:00 am Sunday Service \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions, contact Cynthia Cline at (248)496-0261 or ckcline93@gmail.com.

Additional forms are available for pick-up at the *Here I Am* Lord Table.



# SCHEDULE

## Sunday, October 8

9:00 am	Arise! Worship .....	Sanctuary
	Nursery & Preschool – Fellowship Hall	
	Sunday School (K-5) – Room #403	
10:15 am	Coffee Hour .....	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Worship and Baptism.....	Sanctuary
	Nursery – Fellowship Hall	
	Preschool – Room #405	
	Lower Elementary (K-2) – Room #402	
	Upper Elementary (3-5) – Room #403	
	Middle School (6-8) – Room #414	
12:15 pm	Coffee Hour .....	Fellowship Hall
12:30 pm	Sanctus Choir Council .....	Choir Room
2:00 pm	Welcome to the Party!.....	Parsonage
5:30 pm	Youth Choir Rehearsals.....	Choir Room & Room #403
6:00 pm	Cantata Chorale.....	Choir Room & Sanctuary
6:45 pm	Youth Dinner.....	Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
7:15 pm	Youth Group .....	Fellowship Hall

## Monday, October 9

10:00 am	Core Team Meeting .....	Choir Room
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop .....	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Pub(lic) Theology .....	Ale Mary's
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Faith Abilities .....	Choir Room

## Tuesday, October 10

10:00 am	Tuesday Morning Pastor's Book Group.....	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Sermon Practice .....	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	ROga (Royal Oak Chair Yoga).....	Choir Room
3:30 pm	Piano Lessons .....	Choir Room
4:00 pm	Sounding Light Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Staff Parrish Relations Committee .....	Church Office
7:00 pm	Sounding Light Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Women's Book & Bible Study .....	Choir Room

## Wednesday, October 11

11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) .....	The Avenue Restaurant
1:00 pm	Comprehensive Communication Plan Meeting.....	Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm	Holy COW (Church On Wednesday) Dinner .....	Fellowship Hall
6:15 pm	Holy COW Choirs .....	Choir Room, Room #402, & Room #403
6:30 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal .....	Sanctuary
6:30 pm	Knowledge Circle .....	Carol Mayer's House
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga .....	Room #414
7:30 pm	House Band Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

## Thursday, October 12

7:00 am	Men's Morning Fellowship.....	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	As We Gather Service .....	Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Shawl Ministry.....	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal .....	Choir Room

## Friday, October 13

9:30 am	As We Gather Bible Study .....	Choir Room
6:00 pm	Parents' Night Out .....	Fellowship Hall

## Saturday, October 14

4:00 pm	Saturday Afternoon Worship Service .....	Sanctuary
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## Sunday, October 15

9:00 am	Arise! Worship .....	Sanctuary
	Nursery & Preschool – Fellowship Hall	
	Sunday School (K-5) – Room #403	
10:15 am	Coffee Hour .....	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Worship .....	Sanctuary
	Nursery – Fellowship Hall	
	Preschool – Room #405	
	Lower Elementary (K-2) – Room #402	
	Upper Elementary (3-5) – Room #403	
	Middle School (6-8) – Room #414	
12:15 pm	Coffee Hour .....	Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm	Youth Choir Rehearsals.....	Choir Room & Room #403
6:00 pm	Cantata Chorale.....	Choir Room & Sanctuary
6:45 pm	Youth Dinner.....	Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
7:15 pm	Youth Group .....	Fellowship Hall

# LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I sat in my car Monday morning for almost a half hour just being quiet. I shut off the radio. I turned off the news. I just sat in the silence of the morning and listened. I listened for the calming voice of God.

Like many of you I had awakened that morning to the tragic news of the mass shooting in Las Vegas. We were learning that over 50 people had lost their lives at the hands of a lone gunman. I was shaken. I was sad. I was scared.

So I sat in the silence and I waited for a word from God. After sitting in the quiet of morning, sitting with the questions, sitting with the pain, I found myself reaching into the back seat and finding my Bible. It is the Bible I keep in the car. It has been with me since college, in the days when I found myself coming back to the faith. I slowly began to page through it until I landed in the place I needed to be that morning - in a well-worn section of 1 John, Chapter 4.

Dear friends, let's love each other, because love is from God, and *everyone* who loves is born from God and knows God. The person who doesn't love does not know God, because God is love... There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love.

And there it was - the reminder to choose love instead of fear.

I have to admit that at first that word was a bit jarring.

How can love alone change the world?

How can love alone offer us safety and protection?

How can love alone end all the division?

I wanted more. I wanted action. I wanted justice.

But I sat with God's word that morning until slowly the message came through. Love is active. Love creates justice. Only by risking the vulnerability of love are we truly safe and secure.

That is one of things I love about you - the people of Royal Oak First. You are committed to the ways of love, even in the face of hurt, pain, and violence.

Thank you for choosing love!

Grace and Peace,

