



SIMPLY CHRISTMAS

JOY

December 16, 2017
4:00 pm Afternoon Worship
Royal Oak First United Methodist Church
www.rofum.org • 248-541-4100

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	<i>Merry Carol of the Bells</i> Celebration	arr. Kirkland
Hymn Sing		
Hymn #224	Good Christian Friends, Rejoice	UMH*
Call to Worship		
Response	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	
Greeting Your Neighbor		
Invitation to Mission		
Lighting of the Advent Candles	Liesl, Janet, & Lloyd Ramseyer	
Music Ministry	<i>Celtic Christmas</i>	arr. Lari Goss
Time of Prayer		
Prayer Song #228	He Is Born	UMH
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	<i>Breath of Heaven</i>	arr. Lloyd Larson
Doxology #95		UMH
Scripture	Luke 2:8-18	CEB**
Message	Joy	Caleb Williams
Hymn #246	Joy to the World	UMH
Postlude	<i>All the World Was Waiting</i>	Robert Sterling

* The Faith We Sing

** United Methodist Hymnal

THE LONGEST NIGHT:
A BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 6:30 PM

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 & WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Faith & Film

SIMPLY CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

3:00 PM CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

7:00 PM CONTEMPORARY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

9:00 PM TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

11:00 PM CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION SERVICE

OPPORTUNITIES AND EVENTS

Mitten, Hat, and Scarf Collection

For our Lunch Program

In the month of December, we are collecting hats, gloves, and scarves for our daily Lunch Program. Dark, muted colors are preferred. Please place your donations on the tree in the Tower entrance or in the collection bin in Fellowship Hall.



Friday Fun Night: White Elephant Christmas Party

Friday, December 22, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm



Join us for a White Elephant gift exchange. Bring a silly gift to give away. Look around the house for something you don't need or want. Perhaps that lovely purse that Aunt Jo gave you and you never used!

We will also learn how to decorate Christmas cookies like a pro! You can decorate Christmas cookies and share them with someone you love (or maybe eat them yourself!)

You can create an ornament or two to hang on your Christmas Tree or give as a gift. Gift-wrapping stations will be available.

Contact Laurie O'Donnell at lodonnell@rofum.org or Mary Blazeovich at micomcommunitycore@gmail.com for more information.

What is Your Favorite Holiday Recipe?

Do you have a special baked goodie that you make for Christmas? Maybe it's a special family recipe, or maybe you found it on the internet and want to try it out. We are looking for people to bring their favorite holiday desserts for coffee hour during Advent (the month of December). If you have a recipe you have always wanted to share, consider signing up now for a Sunday in December by emailing George Marck at gmarck@rofum.org. If you are willing to share your recipe we would be happy to print copies for you to share.



First Adventures Spring Trek 2018

April 2 – 7, 2018



Six days of fellowship with some semi-serious hiking, rock climbing, and rappelling. This is being organized as a family oriented gathering but with special arrangements to accommodate unaccompanied youth whose parents are unable to participate. Go your own way or stick with the pack. Our base camp will be Fall Creek Falls State Park in Spencer, Tennessee, located on the Cumberland Plateau. We will hold informational meetings on Sunday, January 7, at 1:00 pm and Wednesday, January 10, at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall (same information at both meetings). Contact Jon Cline at 248-561-2975 or email at justjon123456@outlook.com for more information.

INFORMATION

New Online Giving Carrier

We recently changed our merchant carrier for online giving. If you would like to sign up to make online contributions, go to rofum.org/giving and click "Sign In/Sign Up" then click "Create your Give+ account". If you have any questions about the sign-up process, contact Jennifer Tripoli at jtripoli@rofum.org.



Have you been getting our emails?



For the past few weeks, we have been sending weekly emails with the featured announcements and links to the church calendar and the weekend worship bulletins. If you have not been receiving these emails, send an email to sgarrett@rofum.org saying "I would like to be added to the email list!" Get a sneak peek of the weekend and stay informed if you can't make it to church.

Please Stay Clear of Construction Zones

For the safety of our members and construction crew, we ask that all members please refrain from entering the construction zone when visiting the church. With dust, trip hazards, fall hazards, and power tools, the construction zone is dangerous.

PARDON OUR DUST

Please stay clear
of construction zones.



Music Guild Greens Sale Update



Music Guild would like to thank all who participated in the Greens Sale. With your help, we raised \$2,500 for Choir Camp and new choir robes. Thanks to you, 14 youths earned money towards camp. Thank you again!

PRAYERS

Prayers for our church family: Jon & Lisa Rye; Sherry & Bob Giles; Tommy Rodriguez; Lee Hoffmann; Dian Wurdock; Phil Button; The Lowman Family; Art Miller; Ray Lawson; Sue Buxton; Pam Shewchuck; Bob Demyanovich; Marilyn Hocking; Dori Bridson

Prayers for our extended family: Gail Baker; Jim & Marlene Yates; Cathy Wyker; Bill Kincannon; Richard Hoglund; Richard Long; Ryan Monte; Robert Lechner; Charles Prud'homme

Homebound Member of the Week: Vera Miller

The Chancel Flowers are celebrating 41 years married to my wonderful wife, Pam, given by Andrew Sluss. She is a very patient woman.

Please contact our Pastoral Care Team at pgill@rofum.org with any prayer concerns.

PASTY SALE

“If I Knew How Good They Were...”



This quote was heard more than once from those who bought pasties at the last Pasty Sale. Don't be left out. The next Pasty Sale is Saturday, January 6. You can pick them up on Saturday, January 6, between 1:30 pm and 4:00 pm in Fellowship Hall or after both services on Sunday, January 7. The cost is \$5 each. You can order one of two mouth-watering kinds: meat or vegetarian. Just fill out the order form below

and turn it in to Shirley Harris after Sunday services or leave it in the office. Another option is to call or text Shirley with your order at 248-765-5617 or by email at shirlnealharris@gmail.com.

The proceeds will be split between youth missions and choir camp. Don't be one of those who said with great regret: “If I knew how good they were...”

Pasty Order Form

Name _____

Phone # _____

Meat _____

Vegetarian _____

Total # _____ x \$5 _____

Pick-Up time: 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm Saturday, January 6 _____

Sunday, January 7, following 9:00 service _____

Sunday, January 7, following 11:00 service _____

Questions? Contact Shirley Harris at 248-765-5617 or shirlnealharris@gmail.com

ADVENT SCHEDULE

December 17

4:00 pm: Christmas Caroling

5:30 pm: Youth Christmas Party

December 20

12:30 pm: Warm Your Heart Wednesday Caroling

December 21

6:30 pm: The Longest Night: Blue Christmas Service

December 22

7:00 pm: Friday Fun Night

December 23

4:00 pm: Saturday Evening Worship Service

December 24

9:00 am Worship Service

11:00 am Traditional Worship Service

3:00 pm: Children's Christmas Pageant Service

7:00 pm: Accoustic Christmas Eve Service

9:00 pm: Traditional Christmas Eve Service

11:00 pm: Candlelight & Communion Christmas Eve Service

FAITH & FILM

Royal Oak First is going back to the movies! Our second annual Faith and Film series comes home to Royal Oak. Monday nights in January, we will head over to the Emagine Theatre at 11 Mile and Main at 7:00 pm to see a current movie together. Tickets are only \$7 (a \$5 discount at this premiere theatre.)

January 8 – The Last Jedi

The Skywalker saga continues as the heroes of The Force Awakens join the galactic legends in an epic adventure that unlocks age-old mysteries of the Force and shocking revelations of the past.

January 15 – The Greatest Showman

Inspired by the imagination of P.T. Barnum, The Greatest Showman is an original musical that celebrates the birth of show business & tells of a visionary who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that became a worldwide sensation.

January 22 – Ferdinand (all kids 12 and under are free!)

The story of a giant bull with a big heart. After being mistaken for a dangerous beast, he is captured and torn from his home. Determined to return to his family, he rallies a misfit team on the ultimate adventure. Set in Spain, Ferdinand proves you can't judge a bull by its cover.

January 29 – The Post

Steven Spielberg directs Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks in The Post, a thrilling drama about the unlikely partnership between The Washington Post's Katharine Graham, the first female publisher of a major American newspaper, and editor Ben Bradlee, who overcome their differences as they risk their careers—and their very freedom—to help bring long-buried truths to light.



SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 17

9:00 am	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
4:00 pm	Caroling	Downtown Royal Oak
5:30 pm	Youth Christmas Dinner & Party	Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 18

10:00 am	Core Team Meeting	Choir Room
10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga	Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 19

10:00 am	Tuesday Morning Pastor's Book Group.....	Fellowship Hall
10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	Sermon Practice	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	ROga (Royal Oak Chair Yoga).....	Choir Room
3:30 pm	Piano Lessons	Choir Room
7:00 pm	Finance Meeting	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Men's Basketball.....	Addams Elementary
7:00 pm	Women's Book & Bible Study	Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 20

10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out)	The Avenue Restaurant
12:30 pm	Warm Your Heart Wednesday Caroling	Downtown Royal Oak
5:30 pm	Holy COW (Church On Wednesday) Dinner	Fellowship Hall
6:15 pm	Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
6:15 pm	Holy COW Choirs	Choir Room, Room #405, & Room #403
6:30 pm	Carillon Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 pm	Nar-Anon	Room #403
7:30 pm	House Band Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

Thursday, December 21

7:00 am	Men's Morning Fellowship.....	Fellowship Hall
10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	As We Gather Service	Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Longest Night: Blue Christmas Service	Sanctuary
7:30 pm	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Friday, December 22

9:30 am	As We Gather Bible Study	Choir Room
10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Therapeutic Rehab Sandwich Making.....	Kitchen
7:00 pm	Friday Fun Night	Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 23

12:00 pm	Harris Family.....	Fellowship Hall
4:00 pm	Saturday Afternoon Worship Service	Sanctuary

Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
12:15 pm	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall
3:00 pm	Children's Christmas Pageant.....	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Contemporary Christmas Eve Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 pm	Traditional Christmas Eve Worship	Sanctuary
11:00 pm	Candlelight & Communion Worship	Sanctuary

LETTER FROM THE PREACHER

'Twas the week before Christmas and all through the pews
People flipped through their bulletins, reading the news:
The stewardship series called "Now Is the Time"
Surpassed all its goals and has been set to rhyme.
The money, you see, is the means, not the ends,
Creating a chance to make new life-long friends,
To worship, to welcome, to care, to forgive,
And to make a real difference right here where we live.
And just like the presents tucked under your tree,
The money you're spending, that isn't the key.
It's loving each other, it's lending a hand,
It's singing or playing guitar in the band,
It's serving Thanksgiving, it's knitting a shawl,
It's sharing a vision of God's love for all.

(Yes, setting this message in verse is quite cheesy,
And maybe perverse, but it sure wasn't easy.)

What a joy it was last Sunday night as around 500 people squeezed into the sanctuary for this year's Feast of Carols. We're already planning for next year to make sure that everyone who wants to be there has a spot to park both their car and themselves. To anyone there that night, it was obvious that this congregation cares deeply about kids and about music. It's just that simple.

If you care about changing lives through music too, there is room for you. Join the excitement by making a meal on Sunday or Wednesday evenings. Play bells, dust off your guitar, or sing and laugh with the choir. You can even click slides, edit video, counsel at Choir Camp, invite a friend, or spread the word on social media. Your help, through the Worship & Arts Ministries, is changing lives.



Caleb Williams, Minister of Worship and Arts