



# SIMPLY CHRISTMAS

JOY

**December 17, 2017**

**9:00 am Worship**

**Royal Oak First United Methodist Church**

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

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Hymn #224	Good Christian Friends, Rejoice	UMH*
Call to Worship		Karla Ringeisen
Response	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	
Greeting Your Neighbor		
Invitation to Mission		
Children's Time		
Lighting of the Advent Candles		The Orletski Family
Music Ministry	<i>Shepherd's Hymn</i> Carl Gladstone	Carl Gladstone
Time of Prayer		
Prayer Song #228	He Is Born	UMH
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	<i>What a Glorious Night</i> House Band	Sidewalk Prophets
Scripture	Luke 2:8-18	CEB**
Message	Joy	Caleb Williams
Hymn #246	Joy to the World	UMH

\* United Methodist Hymnal

\*\* Common English Bible



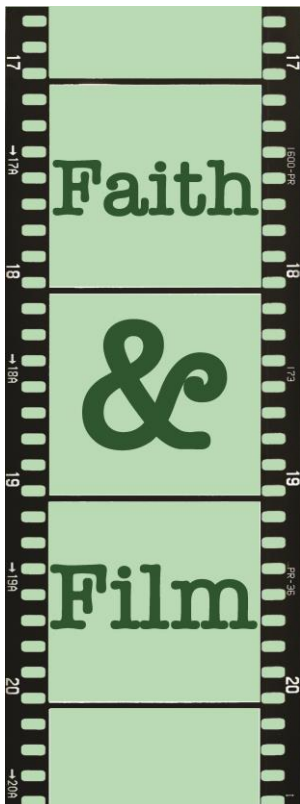
THE LONGEST NIGHT:  
A BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

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](mailto:lodonnell@rofum.org) or Mary Blazeovich at [micommunitycore@gmail.com](mailto:micommunitycore@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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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