



THE ANCIENT WORDS OF
ELIJAH

UNDER THE BROOM TREE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

4:00 PM AFTERNOON WORSHIP



ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
rofum.org • 248-541-4100

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Hymn #577	God of Grace and God of Glory	UMH*
Call to Worship		
Sung Response #2226	Bind Us Together	FWS**
Greeting Your Neighbor		
Invitation to Mission		
Music Ministry	<i>Sweet Hour of Prayer</i> Faye and Bill Bond	
Time of Prayer		
Mission Moment		
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	<i>God Will Take Care of You</i> Faye and Bill Bond	
Doxology #95		UMH
The Ancient Words of Elijah		
	1 Kings 19:3-9	
	Under the Broom Tree	Jeff Nelson
Hymn #557	Blest Be the Tie That Binds	UMH

* United Methodist Hymnal
** Faith We Sing

Welcome to
the Party!

Sunday, August 12
2:00 pm

Contact office@rofum.com or
248-541-4100



CHURCH PICNIC!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

STAR JAYCEE PARK ON 13 MILE RD



Rob Bell at Royal
Oak Music Theater

Saturday, August 25

7:20 pm

Contact the church office

Office@rofum.org

248-541-4100



Sign up to serve
or pre-register
for free admittance
after worship!

Contact

ABE@rofum.org

August Worship Series: The Ancient Words of Elijah



This year, as we celebrate 100 years of worship in our sanctuary, we turn our eyes to the next 100. During the month of July, we said that we will continue to pass on a love for Jesus by learning to "Love like Jesus." Choir Camp reminded us that, wherever we go, we're on this journey together. When we live by faith, we can make it through the tough Tuesdays to the grace-filled Fridays. This month, we're digging into the ancient words of the Bible to tell the story of Elijah. Why? Because in the next 100 years, Royal Oak First will keep telling and retelling the stories that make us who we are. Come, as we hear these ancient words with modern ears, and listen for what they might say about who we are today.

Special Sanctuary Banners

Mary Nahhat has created two lovely new banners for our Sanctuary for our August Worship Series. As always, she had special inspiration from the Bible.

When the life of the great prophet Elijah was threatened, he escaped to the desert, as described in 1st Kings. Exhausted, he came to a broom tree and sat down under it. Broom trees, with soft leaves and fragrant white flowers, are common in the great deserts. Elijah fell asleep under the tree. As he was sleeping, an angel called out and provided him with food and drink to sustain him for the rest of his journey. Strengthened by nourishment, he continued his journey to Mount Horeb.

OPPORTUNITIES

Gift Bag Collection for United Methodist Women

Every winter, our United Methodist Women's group creates and collects hundreds of hats, scarves, gloves, and more for the Developmentally Disabled Adults program at Cass Community Social Services. This year, we would like to make those gifts a bit more special by wrapping them in gift bags. Our goal is to collect 200 plain, medium-sized gift bags before the holiday season. Place any donations in the marked bin in the elevator lobby on the Lower Level.



Cass Community Tiny Homes Work Day

Sunday, August 19, 9:30 am-3:30 pm

The growing Cass Community Social Services Tiny Homes Neighborhood provides housing options for low-income people in the community. We have a chance to help get the next set of six houses ready for people to move into following a special celebration and fundraiser on Labor Day weekend. There are opportunities for volunteers of **all skill levels**. Jobs will include painting, hanging cabinets, installing trim and tile, landscaping cleanup, and more! Sign up at the Missions Table or contact Dave Beatty at tinyhomes@rofum.org for more information.



Tiny Homes Progressive Dinner and Tour

August 30-September 2

Come and support the Tiny Homes project at the annual Progressive Dinner and Tour fundraiser. The evening will consist of a six-course progressive meal by Cass Catering chef Matt Prentice—one course in each of the six newly completed Tiny Homes. Tickets are \$75.00 each or \$100 for two. Also included in the ticket is a copy of *Tiny Homes in a Big City* by Rev. Faith Fowler, and a donation to the project. To choose your evening and reserve your time slot, go to rofum.org/links.

Arts, Beats, and Eats is back!

August 31-September 3



Arts, Beats, and Eats is back! Nearly 400,000 people will visit our community and give us a wonderful opportunity to shine the light of Royal Oak First out. Service positions include being a greeter at the church, being a host for our green space on the front lawn, attending to the baby-changing tent, and keeping the church tidy and hospitable. Sign-up sheets are available at the Here I Am Lord table in the Narthex, or you can visit rofum.org/links to sign up online. If you have any questions, contact Charlene Kondrat and Kay LaCombe at ABE@rofum.org.

Cass Community Annual Charity Golf Scramble

Monday, September 10, 12:00 pm

This fun, well-organized event is one of the biggest fundraisers of the year for Cass, and one of the biggest FUNraisers of the year for the participants. The day includes 18 holes at Plum Hollow Country Club, lunch, snacks, and a wonderful dinner and cocktails! Royal Oak First will cover half of the entry fee, so your price is \$85 per golfer. If you have a 4-some, go to rofum.org/links to register online. If you register online, Royal Oak First will reimburse you for half of the registration fee. If you would like to play, but don't have a 4-some, please contact Jennie Notarantonio at missions@rofum.org.



SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 12

9:00 am	Worship.....	Sanctuary
	Nursery, Preschool, & K-3 –	Fellowship Hall
10:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Worship & Baptism.....	Sanctuary
	Nursery – Fellowship Hall	
	Preschool – Room #405	
	Elementary (K-5) – Room #403	
12:00 pm	Fellowship Hour	Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm	Welcome to the Party	Pastor Jeff’s House
6:00 pm	Vacation Bible Camp.....	Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary, 4 th Floor

Monday, August 13

9:00 am	Core Team Meeting.....	Choir Room
10:30 am	Lunch Program.....	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Directors’ Meeting	Choir Room
6:00 pm	Vacation Bible Camp.....	Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary, 4 th Floor
7:00 pm	Faith Abilities Meeting	Choir Room

Tuesday, August 14

10:30 am	Lunch Program.....	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	Sermon Practice.....	Sanctuary
11:45 am	Roga (Chair Yoga)	Choir Room
2:30 pm	Piano Lessons.....	Choir Room
6:00 pm	Vacation Bible Camp.....	Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary, 4 th Floor
7:00 pm	Women’s Book and Bible Study	Royal Oak Taphouse

Wednesday, August 15

9:30 am	Bulletin Meeting.....	Choir Room
10:00 am	Organ Practice	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Lunch Program.....	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) ...	The Avenue Restaurant
6:00 pm	Vacation Bible Camp.....	Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary, 4 th Floor
7:30 pm	Nar-Anon.....	Room #403
8:00 pm	House Band	Sanctuary

Thursday, August 16

7:00 am	Men's Morning Fellowship.....	Nello's Restaurant
10:00 am	Organ Practice	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Lunch Program.....	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	Vacation Bible Camp.....	Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary, 4 th Floor

Friday, August 17

10:30 am	Lunch Program.....	Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Therapeutic Rehab Sandwich Making.....	Kitchen

Saturday, August 18

10:00 am	Ascend Church Meeting.....	Sanctuary
4:00 pm	Saturday Afternoon Worship	Sanctuary

Sunday, August 19

9:00 am	Worship.....	Sanctuary
	Nursery, Preschool, & K-3 – Fellowship Hall	
10:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Worship.....	Sanctuary
	Nursery – Fellowship Hall	
	Preschool – Room #405	
	Elementary (K-5) – Room #403	
12:00 pm	Fellowship Hour	Fellowship Hall

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for our church family: Laci Marie; Lee Hoffmann; Marianne Peck; Celia Horak; Dona Wells; Ruby Hawkins; Anne Brace; Barb Nicholas; Elizabeth Kincannon; Sherry Giles; Brianna Kingsley; Allison Hempstead; Sue Trescott; Athena Milewski; Pam Shewchuck; Vel Lowman; Jim & Mary Ann Tempest; Bob Reid; Ron & Marianne Peludat; Margaret Simmons

Prayers for our extended family: Delphine Reddy; Chuck Bartley; Heather Griffin; Vickie Zimmermann; Clayton Simons; Nancy Sydanmaa; Marshall Dunlap; James Chamberlin

Homebound Member of the Week: June Stephan

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

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR



“On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross...”

I have found myself singing this old hymn over and over since returning from Lithuania on Monday. I was in Lithuania with three of our leaders to visit United Methodist churches that Royal Oak First has been partnering with for nearly twenty years. The journey was truly transformational!

I have been singing this old hymn because of an unforgettable stop we made just outside of the city of Siauliai in northern Lithuania. It is a remarkable place—a place that really sums up the history of the Lithuanian people and the significance of our mission with them.

During the 50 years of brutal Nazi and Soviet occupation, a time when organized religion was forbidden, crosses by the dozens and sometimes the hundreds would appear on this hill, a symbol of resistance and hope during this time of violent oppression. Every time crosses showed up on this hill, the Soviets would bulldoze them down in an attempt to further crush the resolve of the Lithuanian people. But the crosses would reappear every time! Finally the Soviets stopped taking them down and by 1990, the end of Soviet occupation, it is estimated that over 50,000 crosses were planted into that sacred ground. That hill stood as a testimony that the God made known in Christ Jesus was stronger than all the forces of evil and hatred. It was a reminder that God was still present and at work despite every effort to destroy the faith.

Today this holy site has become a place of pilgrimage for faithful people all over the world. They come to plant a cross of their own, a sign of their trust in the same healing and resurrecting power that the Lithuanians held onto during the darkest hours of their history. Today nearly 200,000 crosses are planted on that hill. Kim and Chris Christopher planted a cross there when our partnership with the Lithuanian Methodists began, our hope joining the hope of the faithful people from around the world.

The ministry of the United Methodist Church in Lithuania faces many odds. They may be small and under resourced but they are like the crosses on that hill—they are a sign of hope! A sign of hope to the people of their communities and to their partners across the ocean.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our brothers and sisters in Lithuania. You are one of their signs of hope!

“I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it someday for a crown”

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Ed