

With Us
Advent 2018

Saturday, December 1
4:00 pm Afternoon Worship

Behold



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Hymn #213	Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates	*UMH
Call to Worship		Marian Kremer
Hymn #240	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Stanzas 1 and 2	UMH
Greeting Your Neighbor		
Invitation to Mission		
Lighting the Advent Wreath		Don & Kathy Seidler
Time of Prayer		
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	<i>Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus</i> Bill and Faye Bond	Charles Wesley
Doxology #95		UMH
Scripture	Luke 2:8-20	**CEB
Message	Behold	Caleb Williams
Communion		
Communion Music	<i>Of the Father's Love Begotten</i> Bill and Faye Bond	
Hymn #234	O Come, All Ye Faithful Stanzas 1, 3 and 4	UMH

*United Methodist Hymnal

**Common English Bible



Events

Family Book Club & Cookie Decoration

Sunday, December 2, 12:30 pm

Christmas Concert: A Feast of Carols

Sunday, December 9, 2:00 & 4:00 pm

Christmas Sweater Weekend

December 15 & 16

Christmas Sing-Along Supper Club

Saturday, December 15, at 5:30 pm

Church-Wide Community Caroling

Sunday, December 16, 4:00 pm

The Longest Night

Thursday, December 20, 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Services

Traditional Worship—11:00 am

Children's Christmas Pageant—3:00 pm

The story of the first Christmas, told by children

"Blue Jeans" Christmas Eve—7:00 pm

Christmas Eve with a praise band, youth choirs, and candlelight

Festive Traditional Service—9:00 pm

Traditional candlelight service, with Sanctus and Carillon Bells

Candlelight & Communion—11:00 pm

Traditional candlelight service with communion

OPPORTUNITIES

Angel Tree



ANGEL TREE

A Program of Prison Fellowship

Christmas can be especially difficult for children with incarcerated parents. We have partnered with the Lifeline Prison Ministry "Angel Tree" Christmas program to bring joy and light to the children of incarcerated parents. We will be providing gifts for 100 children in our area whose incarcerated parents have signed them up.

You can participate in two ways - by purchasing and wrapping gifts, or by delivering the gifts to the children's homes on Saturday, December 22.

- **Purchasing Gifts:** Take a card from the Welcome Table in the Narthex and sign the sign-up sheet. Bring the wrapped and labeled gift (\$25 minimum) to the front of the Sanctuary by Thursday, December 20.
- **Driving:** Sign up at the Welcome Table. Meet at the church at 9:30 am on Saturday, December 22, to deliver the gifts.

Contact Erica Plesco at angeltree@rofum.org if you have any questions.

Reverse Advent Boxes

You may have an Advent Calendar in your home, one that gives you candy or toys. Here at Royal Oak First, we do Advent calendars differently. We do them in reverse. Each day, you discuss a short message and add an item to the box. Bring your filled box to church with you on Christmas Eve. Pick up your Reverse Advent Box today and fill it with items like socks, hats, gloves, travel-size toiletries, peanut butter, rice, and canned goods.



Family Book Club & Cookie Decoration



Sunday, December 2, 12:30 pm

Enjoy reading Christmas Stories by Laura Ingalls Wilder with your family and then join us on December 2, following the 11:00 am worship service to discuss the book and decorate Christmas cookies. Please contact Danielle Moody at dmoody@rofum.org to sign up and receive a copy of the book.

Refueling Our Faith Using Motors

Monday, December 3, 6:00 pm

Calling all car enthusiasts! Our monthly auto appreciation group, ROFUM (Refueling Our Faith Using Motors) is moving to the first Monday of each month at Duggan's Irish Pub on Woodward Ave. Enjoy food, stories, and discussions about everything from how to mix carburetion to salvation. Use your love for cars to plan fun things and do work for others. If you have any questions, contact Brian Baker at cars@rofum.org.



United Methodist Women Program and Meeting

Thursday, December 6

Executive Committee: 10:30 am in the Choir Room

General Meeting & Program: 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall



United Methodist Women cordially invite all to our annual Advent/Christmas meeting, "50 Years of Christmas in Story and Song". Mary Nahhat will share heartwarming stories along with group carol singing, a welcome way to joyfully prepare for a special season.

A Christmas dessert table will follow the program.

Parents' Day Out

Saturday, December 8, 12:00 pm-4:00 pm

Please join us for Parents' Day Out on December 8, immediately following the Christmas Concert Rehearsal until 4 pm. We will provide a fun afternoon with a pizza lunch, crafts, games and a Christmas movie. This will be a donation-based fundraiser for our youth. Please sign up ahead of time with Danielle Moody at dmoody@rofum.org.



Christmas Concert: A Feast of Carols

Sunday, December 9, 2:00 pm & 4:00 pm



Amid all the bustle of the Christmas Season, we all need a moment of low-stress joy, love, and music. This year, the combined music ministries of Royal Oak First present the annual *Christmas Concert: A Feast of Carols*. Children's choirs, handbells, instrumentalists, and our adult choir, Sanctus, will join forces to offer you an hour of wonderful music! Contact Caleb Williams at caleb@rofum.org with any questions.

Christmas Sing-Along Supper Club

Saturday, December 15, 5:30 pm

Christmas is a time to experience the love and joy of God with your family and friends. Join us for good food, good friends, and great entertainment on Saturday, December 15, at 5:30 pm. Our Christmas Sing-Along, featuring the songs of the season brought to us by Caleb Williams and Sam Garrett, is sure to be

wonderful fun! Show off your cooking skills (or your buying skills) and bring your favorite dish or dessert. If you have any questions, contact Myra Moreland at mmoreland@rofum.org.



Community Caroling

Sunday, December 16, 4:00 pm

Help us spread the love and light of Christmas to our community and make some new friends doing it! Meet at the church on Sunday, December 16, then go out into the community to sing Christmas Carols and shine the light! If you have any questions, contact Caleb Williams at caleb@rofum.org.

Christmas Pageant

Monday, December 24, 3:00 pm

We would love your children to be part of our Christmas Pageant at the 3:00 pm worship service on Christmas Eve! All children, preschool through 5th grade who are in town for the holiday, are invited to be part of this event.

Our rehearsals will be:

Wednesday, December 12, 6:00 - 7:30 pm.

Wednesday, December 19, 6:00 - 7:30 pm.

Sunday, December 23, 12:30 - 1:00 pm, following 11:00 worship.

Please consider joining us for this very special event. No choir experience necessary! Contact Jennifer Semivan at jsemivan@rofum.org by Sunday, December 9, to let us know how many of your family can participate.





Winter Activities Weekend

January 25-27, 2019

Invite your friends and join us for a weekend of winter activities, January 25-27, in Roscommon, MI. Cross Country Skiing, Snow Shoeing, Ice Fishing, and Bowling are conveniently located near our base lodge adjacent to North Higgins Lake State Park.

Sign up at the Welcome table or contact Bob Berard at 248-545-8668 or ski@rofum.org if you have any more questions. Make your reservations by January 4!

Bring Your Favorite Holiday Treat!

Do you have a special baked goodie that you make for Christmas? 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, Sign up by emailing the church office at office@rofum.org. If you are willing to share your recipe, we would be happy to print copies for you to share.



Transportation Ministry

Our Transportation Ministry seeks to help some of our most faithful members by providing people with transportation issues a way to get to church, and by providing drivers with wonderful opportunities to get to know people they may not have the chance to meet otherwise. If you would like to be a driver on weekends or throughout the week, sign up at the Welcome Table in the Narthex, or contact Nancy Thompson at transportation@rofum.org.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Each year we offer the chance to provide a poinsettia for our worship space or contribute to UMCOR in honor or memory of a loved one. The poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 23, and our Christmas Eve services. The names of the donors and those to be honored or memorialized will be printed as a bulletin insert on Sunday morning, December 23. If you wish to participate, return this form to the church office on or before ***Sunday, December 9.***

Please use one (1) form per poinsettia/UMCOR tribute.

Money must accompany your order (checks payable to First United Methodist Church)

___ Enclosed is \$11.00 for a poinsettia (please indicate color below)

Color: ___ Red ___ White ___ Pink

___ I will donate and deliver my plant to a homebound member on Sunday morning, December 23. (The church will provide the name and address of a homebound member.)

___ I will pick up my plant following the 11:00 pm candlelight worship service on Christmas Eve.

___ I will order my own plant & deliver it to the church on Friday, December 21.

___ Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ for UMCOR in place of a poinsettia.

This will be a memorial to _____
(Please Print)

OR in honor of _____
(Please Print)

Given by _____
(Please Print)

Phone # _____

Additional forms are available in the church office and at the Welcome Table.

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for our church family: Mary Anne Tempest; Gwen Ross; Jackie Bell; Alice Bentley; Janet Cork; Jenny Lowman; Kris Hanstrom; Dian Wurdock; Don & Marilyn McCreedy; Ken Burton; Lloyd Ramseyer; Roger Johnson; Suzanne Hughes; Anne Brace; Bill & Nancy Schuman; Ann Anderson; Ed Rowe; Dona Wells; Rebecca McNaughton; Stephanie Smallwood; Charles White; Lee Hoffmann; Sherry Giles; Pam Shewchuck; Vel Lowman; Ron & Marianne Peludat; Margaret Simmons

Prayers for our extended family: Annie Richardson; Julie Fuller; James Chamberlain; Susie Inch; Nichelle Marshall; Jackie Pingel; Dave Jensen; Susan Chamberlain; Pat Strelecki; Beth Zimmerman; Patrick Tamm; Gerald Sessions; Barbara Mitchell; Brian Boozan; Helen McGee; Judy Gettel; Chuck Bartley; Clayton Simons; Nancy Sydanmaa; Marshall Dunlap

Homebound Member of the Week: Betty Cairns

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

The Chancel Flowers are dedicated to the glory of God, and in honor of Dian Wurdock's 87th birthday and her 85th year at Royal Oak First. With love from her children: Steven, Deborah, and Peter.



Wednesdays
7:30 pm

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 2

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; Lower Elementary (K-2) – Room #402; Upper Elementary (3-5) – Room #403; Middle School (6-8) – Room #414	
12:00 pm	Fellowship Hour.....	Fellowship Hall
12:30 pm	Family Book Club and Cookie Decorating	Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm	Cantata Eurotour Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
5:30 pm	Youth Choir Rehearsals	Choir Room and Room #414
6:45 pm	Youth Group & Dinner	Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 3

9:00 am	Core Meeting	Choir Room
9:00 am	Mason's Candies	Kitchen
10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Directors' Meeting.....	2 nd Floor
6:00 pm	Refueling Our Faith Using Motors (ROFUM)	Duggan's Irish Pub
6:30 pm	Relationships in Transition	Room #414
7:00 pm	Boy Scouts.....	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Sanctuary
8:00 pm	Music Guild Meeting	Choir Room

Tuesday, December 4

9:00 am	Mason's Candies	Kitchen
10:00 am	Pastor Jeff's Book and Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	Sermon Practice	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Roga Chair Yoga	Choir Room
3:30 pm	Piano Lessons	Choir Room
6:00 pm	Sing Out, Detroit!	Choir Room, Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Men's Basketball	Addams Elementary School
7:00 pm	Pub(lic) Theology.....	HopCat
7:00 pm	Women's Book and Bible Study	Contact Myra Moreland
9:00 pm	Sing Out! Detroit.....	Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 5

9:00 am	Mason's Candies	Kitchen
9:30 am	Bulletin Meeting	Choir Room
10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out)	The Avenue Restaurant

Wednesday, December 5 continued

12:00 pm	Piano Tuning.....	Sanctuary, Choir Room, Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm	Piano Club	Choir Room
3:15 pm	Piano Lesson	Choir Room
5:30 pm	Holy COW (Church On Wednesday) Dinner.....	Fellowship Hall
6:15 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsals.....	Choir Room, Rooms #403 & #414
6:30 pm	Carillon Bell Choir.....	Sanctuary
6:30 pm	The Hobbit Devotional Book Study	Church Office
7:30 pm	House Band Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 pm	Nar-Anon	Room #403
8:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Room #414

Thursday, December 6

7:00 am	Men's Morning Fellowship.....	Nello's Eatery
9:00 am	Mrs. Mason's Candies	Kitchen
10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
10:30 am	United Methodist Women Executive Committee.....	Choir Room
1:00 pm	United Methodist Women Program	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Friday, December 7

9:00 am	Mason's Candies	Kitchen
9:30 am	As We Gather Bible Study.....	Choir Room
9:30 am	Organ Tuning.....	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Therapeutic Rehab Sandwich Making	Kitchen

Saturday, December 8

9:15 am	Carillon Bell Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10:00 am	Christmas Concert: A Feast of Carols Rehearsal	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	Parents' Day Out	Fellowship Hall
4:00 pm	Worship.....	Sanctuary

Sunday, December 9

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	
	Lower Elementary (K-2) – Room #402	
	Upper Elementary (3-5) – Room #403	
	Middle School (6-8) – Room #414	
12:00 pm	Fellowship Hour	Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm	Christmas Concert: A Feast of Carols.....	Sanctuary
4:00 pm	Christmas Concert: A Feast of Carols.....	Sanctuary
5:30 pm	Cantata Eurotour Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Deck the halls! It's time for Christmas decorations! A wonderful team of folks led by Emily Baker worked hard last Sunday to get your church in the holiday spirit. At home, we all have some sort of decoration ritual. For Colleen and me, it's about making some mulled cider and double-checking that no breakable ornaments are in range of the dog's tail. We're getting the apartment ready because it helps get our hearts ready.

Our trees, banners, and stars at church serve the same purpose. Like cleaning up the house before relatives come over, we're getting our community ready for the arrival of Jesus, the God-with-us! Yes, God's showing up as a little baby in our Christmas pageant, but the Christ is also showing up in visitors, neighbors, Salvation Army bell-ringers, strangers, or in our own family. Now, it's up to us to make room in our hearts and lives for this miracle to "be born in us today!"

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen Baker', with a stylized flourish at the end.

P.S. One more good way to prepare our hearts is to attend next weekend's Christmas Concert, Sunday, December 16, 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm!