



God's Love Threads

Sunday, December 30
11:00 am Traditional Worship

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	<i>Go, Tell It on the Mountain</i>	Michael Hassell
Hymn #230	O Little Town of Bethlehem Stanzas 1, 2, and 4	*UMH
Call to Worship		Faye Bond
Hymn #251	Go, Tell It on the Mountain	UMH
Greeting and Invitation to Mission		
Time with Children		
60 th Wedding Anniversary		Phil & Jane Button
Music Ministry	<i>'Round the Glory Manger</i> Members of Detroit Lutheran Singers	K. Lee Scott
Time of Prayer		
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	<i>Candlelight Carol</i> Members of Detroit Lutheran Singers	John Rutter
Doxology #95		UMH
Scripture	1 John 3:1-3 and 1 John 4:11-16	**CEB
Message	God's Love Threads	Phil Button
Hymn #89	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee Stanzas 1-3	UMH
Postlude	<i>Toccatina on God Rest Ye, Merry Gentleman</i>	Doug Wagner

OPPORTUNITIES

New Royal Oak First Mugs are Here!

New year, new mug! Be sure to buy your new Royal Oak First mug before they are gone. There are two styles of travel mugs available for \$10 each and the classic ceramic mugs are available for \$5 each. Contact George Marck at gmarck@rofum.org or stop by the Welcome Table this weekend!



Winter Activities Weekend

January 25-27, 2019

Invite your friends and join us for a weekend of winter activities 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.

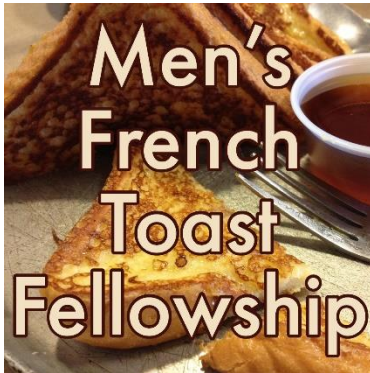
Sign up at the Welcome table or contact Bob Berard at 248-545-8668 or ski@rofum.org if you have any more questions. Make your reservations by January 4!

Spring Trek

April 1-6, 2019

Royal Oak First Adventures is pleased to announce Spring Trek 2019 at Fall Creek Falls State Park, Spencer, TN. The fun includes camping, hiking, rock climbing, and rappelling. This is organized as a family-oriented gathering, but with special arrangements to accommodate unaccompanied youth whose parents are unable to participate. Informational meetings are scheduled for Monday January 7, at 7:00 pm and Wednesday January 9, at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall (same information at both meetings). Contact Jon Cline by text at 248-561-2975 or by email at springtrek@rofum.org for more information.





Men's French Toast Fellowship

Saturday, January 26, 9:00 am

It's a new year and a great time to ignite our men's ministry here at Royal Oak First. Join us for breakfast and fellowship as we plan an exciting future together. We will gather to eat and share our hopes for 2019. God is calling the men of our congregation to join together and catch the Spirit that is already hard at work here on 7th Street.

If you are interested, sign up at the Welcome table, or contact Neal Harris at MensFellowship@rofum.org or 248-765-5618.

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for our church family: Josh Kremer; Ed Rowe; Eileen Albers; Jayden Bryant; Nancy Lorenz; Paul Kremer; Vel Lowman; Gene Davis; Brad & Judy Ather; Charlene Faunt; Mary Anne Tempest; Jenny Lowman; Nate DeAngelo; Lisa Rye; Jackie Bell; Janet Cork; Kris Hanstrom; Dian Wurdock; Don & Marilyn McCreedy; Suzanne Hughes; Anne Brace; Bill & Nancy Schuman; Ann Anderson; Stephanie Smallwood; Charles White; Pam Shewchuck

Prayers for our extended family: Michelle Rutowski; Larry Buger; Tim Johnson; Hermann Fleisshmann; Dan Grogan; Julie Fuller; James & Susan Chamberlain; Susie Inch; Jackie Pingel; Dave Jensen; Beth Zimmerman; Patrick Tamm; Brian Boozan; Helen McGee; Chuck Bartley; Clayton Simons; Nancy Sydanmaa; Marshall Dunlap

Homebound Member of the Week: Joyce Nelson

Sympathy to the Brian, Julie, Andrew, and Matt Baker on the death of their mother and grandmother, Jackie Pingel, December 20

Sympathy to Betty Latimer on the death of her son, James Chamberlain, December 21.

Sympathy to Neal & Shirley Harris on the death of their sister, Gloria Hendrickson, December 22.

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

The Chancel Flowers are in celebration of Phil and Jane Button's 60th wedding anniversary.

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 5. You can pick them up on Saturday, January 5, between 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm in Fellowship Hall or after both services on Sunday, January 6. 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 the

Welcome Table 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 sharris@rofum.org.

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 # and/or email address _____

Meat _____

Vegetarian _____

Total # _____ x \$5 = _____

Pick-Up time: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Saturday, January 5 _____

Sunday, January 6, following 9:00 service _____

Sunday, January 6, following 11:00 service _____

Questions or allergy considerations? Contact Shirley Harris at 248-765-5617 or sharris@rofum.org.

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 Emerge 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.) Contact the church office at 248-541-4100 or office@rofum.org.

January 7 – *Welcome to Marwen*

When a devastating attack shatters Mark Hogancamp and wipes away all memories, no one expected recovery. Putting together pieces from his old and new life, Mark meticulously creates a wondrous town where he can heal and be heroic.

January 14 – *Mary Poppins Returns* (all kids 12 and under are free!)

The mysterious Mary Poppins returns to Depression-era London to visit Jane and her brother Michael, now a father of three, and helps them rediscover the joy they knew as children.

January 21 – *Aquaman*

When Arthur Curry learns that he is the heir to the underwater kingdom of Atlantis, he must step forward to lead his people against his half-brother, Orm, who seeks to unite the seven underwater kingdoms against the surface world.

January 28 – *The Upside*

Inspired by a true story, *The Upside* is a heartfelt comedy about a recently paroled ex-convict who strikes up an unusual and unlikely friendship with a paralyzed billionaire.



CALENDAR

Sunday, December 30

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	
12:00 pm	Fellowship Hour	Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 31 – New Year’s Eve

Office Closed

10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
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Tuesday, January 1 – New Year’s Day

Office Closed

10:30 am	Lunch Program	Fellowship Hall
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Wednesday, January 2

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
2:00 pm	Piano Lesson	Choir Room
3:15 pm	Piano Lesson	Choir Room
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

Thursday, January 3

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 Meeting	Choir Room
1:00 pm	United Methodist Women General Meeting.....	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

Friday, January 4

9:00 am	Mason’s Candies	Kitchen
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

Saturday, January 5

8:00 am	Music Guild Pasty Making	Kitchen and Fellowship Hall
10:00 am	Ascend Church	Sanctuary
4:00 pm	Worship	Sanctuary

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Let me introduce and welcome our preacher of the morning, Reverend Dr. Phil Button. Phil has been a good friend and a great theological conversationalist to me over the past five years. Along with his wife Jane, Phil has connected to the movement here at Royal Oak First and can be found worshipping most Sundays at our 11:00 service.

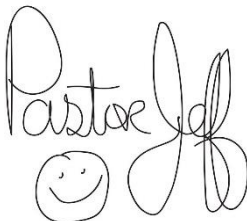
Phil and Jane are natives of Kewanee, Illinois. Jane was one year ahead of Phil in school and because she was his sister's best friend, he never thought that she would ever want to even talk to him. Well, they began dating in 1957, were engaged a month later and were married in December of 1958. Today we celebrate 60 years of committed partnership and covenantal love with the Buttons.

Phil attended Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC where he received his Master of Divinity. He was certified a chaplain in the then Methodist Episcopal Church and served local congregations in Illinois. Phil felt God calling him beyond ministry in the local church and so enrolled in the University of Illinois where he received a second masters in special education. God used Phil's passion for education and ministry to call both Jane and he to serve in prison ministry for the bulk for their professional lives. Phil and Jane saw Gods work in some powerful ways among the inmates they had the privilege to meet and share their ministry with. In 2011, Phil went back to school at Memphis Theological Seminary where in earned his Doctorate of Ministry with a special emphasis on the pastoral care needs of LGBT families.

Phil and Jane, along with their dogs, Kodiak and Lexi, live at Beaumont Commons in Dearborn where I have had the pleasure of visiting them over the years. It is a real joy to watch Phil spread God's love to all the residents of their community, checking on their blessing and reminding them that they are loved. He is like the resident chaplain and local mayor all wrapped into one!

We welcome Pastor Phil and look forward to the word he will bring us today.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Phil". Below the signature is a simple line drawing of a smiley face with two dots for eyes and a curved line for a mouth.