



*I'm just going to*  
**IOWA**  
*I'll be back soon*

Sunday, August 4  
11:00 am Worship

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

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	<i>Communion, Op. 8</i>	Louis Vierne
Hymn	For Everyone Born	
Call to Worship		Mary Lou Graeber
Hymn #393	Spirit of the Living God	*UMH
Greeting and Invitation to Mission		
Time with Children		
Noisy Bucket		
Time of Prayer		
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	<i>By Our Love</i> Kiersten Ciccone	Christy Nockles
Doxology #95		UMH
Scripture	Luke 15:11-32	**CEB
Message	I'm just going to Iowa, I'll be back soon.	Nick Nicholas
Communion	<i>Why Me?</i> Jason Storms	Kris Kristofferson
Hymn #593	Here I Am, Lord	UMH
Postlude	<i>Toccata</i>	John Dixon

\* United Methodist Hymnal  
\*\* Common English Bible



ROYAL OAK FIRST  
**CHURCH  
PICNIC!**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22  
STARR JAYCEE PARK ON 13 MILE RD



*Kick-Off  
Block Party!*

*Sunday, September 8  
12:00 pm*



**NOISY BUCKET  
OFFERING TODAY!**

# OPPORTUNITIES

## Boards, Dice, & Cards: Games in the Parlor

**Sunday, August 11, 1:00-4:00 pm**

As summer rolls in and vacations and camps fill our schedules, it is easier to drift from our church family. Games are a way to bring people back together for a day. Join us for a family-friendly day of board, dice, and card games next Sunday. With old classics and easy-to-learn new games, there will be something for everyone. If you have any questions, contact the church office at [office@rofum.org](mailto:office@rofum.org).



## Gardening And Service



## Gardening and Service

Can you recognize a weed from a weigela or a dandelion from a daisy? We are building a team to help keep the church and parking lot flower beds free of those pesky weeds. Joining the team is easy: stop by the church whenever you can and pick a spot to pull some weeds. With no set schedule, you can fit time to serve into your busy life. You may just run into someone you know and get to catch up, and you may meet some new friends! If you have any questions, contact Charlene Kondrat at [trustees@rofum.org](mailto:trustees@rofum.org).

## Church Picnic

**Thursday, August 22, 6:00-8:00 pm**

**Starr Jaycee Park on 13 Mile Rd**

Get to know your church family, enjoy some food, and have some fun at this year's Church Picnic. You bring a side dish to pass, a chair, and your beverage of choice. We will provide the hot dogs. We can't wait to see you there. If you have any questions, contact the church office at [office@rofum.org](mailto:office@rofum.org).





## Barn Wood Crosses

Cass City United Methodist Church, lead by our dear friend, Pastor Bob Demyanovich, saw an opportunity when scores of old barns in their area were torn down. They took the old wood and repurposed it into barn wood crosses. Proceeds from these crosses will help forward the mission of Cass City UMC and Royal Oak First. Wall crosses are available for \$20 and outdoor crosses (with a stake) are available for \$25. Order forms are available at the Connect Here desk.

# PRAYER LIST

**Prayers for our church family:** Art & Delores Miller; Dick & Judy Bryan; Estelle Knoy; Greg Umstead; Eileen Albers; Marguerite Nowacek; Mary Anne Tempest; Ken Burton; Suzanne Hughes; Marilyn Hocking; Don & Marilyn McCreedy; Vel Lowman; Jim Walbridge; Gil Lewis; Dian Wurdock; Peggy Gill; Lee Hoffmann; Beth Wilson; John Wagster; Dave & Sue Minch; Zenovia Courtney; Anne Brace; Dan Mayer; Nancy Lorenz; Lisa Rye; Pam Shewchuck

**Prayers for our extended family:** Kirby Mirjah; Dianne Parkerson; Carolyn and Ivan Rice; The Wingate Family; Cindy Sheets; Neal Franks; Lynn Popa; Brenda Parsons; Allen Warren; James B.; Helen McGee; Nancy Sydanmaa; Rosie Crean-Glasser; Becky Maas-Kruger & Jason Kriger; Hon. Jamie Wittenberg; Carol Miller; John Orletski; Tom Murray; Shelia Boyer; Kris Beachum; Carl Wilson; George Bartley; David Moser; Carol Barney; Tim Johnson; Brian Boozan; Chuck Bartley; Clayton Simons

**Homebound Member of the Week:** Betty Benson

For the complete Prayer List, please contact  
our Pastoral Care Team at [prayers@rofum.org](mailto:prayers@rofum.org).

**The Altar flowers** are given in celebration of the 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Noel and Patricia Peterson who were married on July 31, 1954, with love from Kathy, Paul, and Daniel. The color blue symbolizes loyalty.

# CALENDAR

## Sunday, August 4

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

## Monday, August 5

9:00 am	Royal Oak Children's Choir .....	Room #414
10:30 am	Lunch Program .....	Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm	Core Team Meeting .....	Pastor's Office
1:30 pm	Director Team Meeting .....	Youth Room
6:00 pm	AA Meeting .....	Parlor
6:00 pm	Refueling Our Faith Using Motors (ROFUM) .....	Duggan's Irish Pub

## Tuesday, August 6

9:00 am	Piano Lessons .....	Parlor
9:00 am	Royal Oak Children's Choir .....	Room #414
10:30 am	Lunch Program .....	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Women's Book and Bible Study Group .....	Royal Oak Taphouse

## Wednesday, August 7

9:30 am	Arts, Beats, & Eats Meeting .....	Fellowship Hall
10:30 am	Lunch Program .....	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Sermon Practice .....	Sanctuary
11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) .....	The Avenue Restaurant
1:00 pm	Piano Lesson .....	Choir Room
3:00 pm	Arts, Beats, & Eats Meeting .....	Fellowship Hall
3:15 pm	Piano Lesson .....	Choir Room

## Wednesday, August 7 continued

4:30 pm	Violin Lesson .....	Parlor
5:30 pm	Arts, Beats, & Eats Meeting .....	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	AA Meeting .....	Parlor
6:30 pm	Arts, Beats, & Eats Meeting .....	Fellowship Hall
7:30 pm	House Band Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
7:30 pm	Nar-Anon .....	Youth Room
7:30 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga.....	Room #414

## Thursday, August 8

9:00 am	Royal Oak Children's Choir.....	Room #414
10:00 am	Lunch Program .....	Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Shawl Ministry.....	Parlor
7:00 pm	Faith and Sexuality Meeting.....	The Office Coffee Shop

## Friday, August 9

10:30 am	As We Gather Bible Study .....	Fellowship Hall
10:00 am	Roga (Chair Yoga).....	Choir Room
10:30 am	Lunch Program .....	Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Therapeutic Rehab Sandwich Making.....	Kitchen
7:00 pm	Straight Spouse Network .....	Parlor

## Saturday, August 10

2:00 pm	Private Party .....	Fellowship Hall
4:00 pm	Worship & Missions .....	Sanctuary

## Sunday, August 11

9:00 am	Worship & Missions .....	Sanctuary
	Nursery & Preschool – Nursery, K-5 – Parlor	
10:00 am	Fellowship Hour .....	Gathering Space
11:00 am	Worship, Baptism, & Missions.....	Sanctuary
	Nursery – Nursery; Preschool – Room #405	
	Elementary (K-5) – Room #403	
12:00 pm	Fellowship Hour .....	Gathering Space
1:00 pm	Boards, Dice, & Cards: Games in the Parlor .....	Parlor

# NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome our preacher of the day, Reverend Nick Nicholas. Nick is an ordained deacon in the United Methodist Church and currently serves as the Director of Youth and Young Adults at Community UMC in Naperville, Illinois. What is most exciting about this invitation is that Pastor Nick is a child of Royal Oak First. This is the congregation that welcomed, nurtured, equipped, called, and then sent Nick into ministry.



Nick is the youngest son of Paul and Bea Nicholas. The Nicholas family were longtime members and in leadership here at Royal Oak First. Having grown up right in the neighborhood, Nick said the church was just a constant fixture in his life. “If the door was unlocked,” he said, “you’d find a Nicholas inside.” Sunday School, confirmation, choir camp, youth group, worship services, and all of the relationships that were formed through these experiences created within Nick a sense that God might have been nudging him to consider full-time ministry as a vocation. Of course, like many others, it took Nick time to trust that God had indeed called him to leadership in the church. One of the moments that began to confirm this call is when Royal Oak First “gave him the keys” and hired him to lead our youth ministries.

A graduate of Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, Nick has served churches in Iowa City Iowa; Naperville, Wilmette, Downers Grove, and Chicago, Illinois; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Manchester, Missouri. He is married to Jane Cheema, a fellow Deacon serving on the staff of Evanston First UMC. Together they have three adult children, Nicole, Calvin, and Tina. Although Nick has been gone from Michigan for some time now, he is proud that his allegiance to the Tigers and Red Wings remain intact—although he does admit that over time he has become a bit of a Cubs fan!

Pastor Nick’s presence with us today stands as a reminder that the local church still matters. Local churches like ours can still be a place where young people are led into a life of mission and service. We pray Nick’s time with us today is not just an encouragement to him but a reminder to us to keep creating a space where people of all ages, races, and backgrounds are encouraged to answer God’s call on their lives.

Welcome Home, Pastor Nick!