

# Witness

by Rev John Hice

Sunday, November 24  
9:00 am Worship

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

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Song Do Something

Song You Say

Welcome

Invitation to Mission

Noisy Bucket

New Members

Time of Prayer

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Towel and Basin Award

Scripture	Acts 1:1-11 Janet Kinney	*CEB
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Message	Witness	John Hice
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Song Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

\* Common English Bible

# OPPORTUNITIES

## Decorative Cross Sale

Saturday, November 23, through Sunday, December 1, decorative crosses will be available for purchase following worship services to support the Lunch Program. Small crosses will be \$12 and large crosses will be \$15. These lovely crosses are all unique and a wonderful gift idea for the coming Christmas season. If you have any questions, **contact Diane Sexton at 586-350-1751.**



## Christmas Greens Sale for Choir Camp Ends this Weekend

### Greens Sale



Music Guild will be taking pre-paid orders for wreaths, roping, grave blankets, etc. after Sunday Services. 20% of each purchase helps offset the cost of Choir Camp for our children. Stop by the table after worship to place your order. Pre-paid orders are due Sunday, November 24.

Pick-up will be after Thanksgiving on Friday, November 29, from 1:30 pm to 6:00 pm and on Saturday November 30, from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm at Bruce and Cathy Baker's home in Royal Oak. If you have any questions, **contact Cathy Baker at 248-288-2125.**

If you would like to help the Greens Sale in another way, you can also help pick up the greens at Eastern Market or help prepare them for distribution.

## Nut Order Pick-Up

The Nut Orders for United Methodist Women have arrived and are available for pick up and payment in the Parlor. There are extra nuts available for purchase if you did not get the chance to place a preorder. The proceeds from this sale go to support local, national, and international missions. The United Methodist Women would like to thank everyone who has supported these important missions.





## Royal Oak First Mug Sale

How many Christmas gifts are you planning on buying this year? If that number is intimidating, we have an idea that can help you cross off a few entries on your list. Our travel mugs make excellent Christmas gifts. There are two styles of travel mugs available for \$10 each. **Contact George Marck at [gmarck@rofum.org](mailto:gmarck@rofum.org)** or sign up at the Connect Here Desk to place an order.

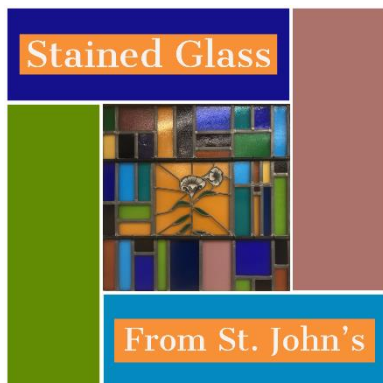
## God Loves You Grocery Bags for Sale

These sturdy and colorful bags are a great way to reduce plastic waste while spreading our message: God loves you, and there is nothing you can do about it. For only \$5 each, the sale of these bags will go to support our Creation Care Environmental Ministry, including expanding our reuse and recycling activities at the church. If you have any questions, please **contact Nancy Thompson at 248-541-6008**.



## St. John's United Methodist Church Stained Glass Silent Auction

**Saturday, November 23, 3:00 pm, through Sunday, November 24, 1:00 pm**



Before St. John's UMC was demolished, their beautiful stained glass windows were removed and brought here for preservation. Many of these panels were used in our renovation in the sanctuary, chapel, and the new Northwest Entry staircase. There are approximately 20 panels that were not used and it would be a shame for them to sit in storage unseen. The Trustees' Committee will hold a silent auction in Fellowship Hall this weekend. Successful bidders will be notified as soon as the auction closes and items can be picked up at that time or by appointment. If you have any questions, **contact Charlene Kondrat at [trustees@rofum.org](mailto:trustees@rofum.org)**.

## Men's Chorus

**Rehearsals are on Sundays, 12:30 pm**

Singing together brings people together, but not all of us can commit to a weekly choir. Caleb Williams is putting together a one-off men's choir to sing a brand new arrangement of the lively Caribbean carol The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy at our Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 8. If you have any questions, **contact Caleb Williams at [caleb@rofum.org](mailto:caleb@rofum.org)**.



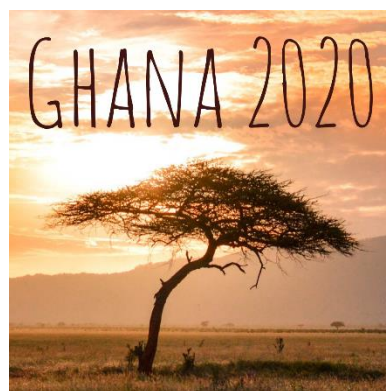
## Bring Your Favorite Holiday Treat!

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 treat you have always wanted to share, **contact Mike Monte at [mmonte@rofum.org](mailto:mmonte@rofum.org)**. If you are willing to share your recipe, we would be happy to print copies for you.

## Mission Trip to Ghana Interest Meeting

**Sunday, December 1, 12:15 pm**

A few weeks ago, Pastor Myra announced in her sermon that the church will be leading a mission trip to Ghana in November of 2020. If you think you may be interested in joining this trip, you are invited to a meeting to gauge interest and begin planning the trip. If you aren't sure you can commit to the trip yet, you are still encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, **contact Amy Brown at [ghana2020@rofum.org](mailto:ghana2020@rofum.org)**.



## Christmas Concert presented by United Methodist Women

Thursday, December 5, 1:00 pm



United Methodist Women cordially invite all members and friends to enjoy an afternoon of holiday music to begin our musical adventure into the Advent and Christmas season. We are honored to welcome the "L'Anse Creuse High School Select Ensemble" as they bring us joyful holiday and Christmas selections. John Paul Clark is Director of choirs and Suzanne Nahhat Bianchi is accompanist for this festive program.

Please put this date on your "to do" calendar to happily begin the Advent season with us and also remember to invite friends and family. Refreshments in the parlor will follow the program.

## Christmas Poinsettias and UMCOR Contributions

**Orders due on Sunday, December 8**

Each Christmas, our Sanctuary is decorated with Poinsettias and special contributions are made to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) in honor or memory of a loved one. The poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 22, and during our Christmas Eve services. The names of the donors and those to be honored or memorialized will be included in the bulletin that weekend. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia or make a special contribution to UMCOR, fill out an order form at the Connect Here desk or online at [rofum.org/umcor](http://rofum.org/umcor).



## Advent by Candlelight

**Tuesday, December 10, 7:00 pm**

All the women of the church are invited! Join us for Advent by Candlelight which will include a program of speakers and music followed by dessert and fellowship. Come be inspired by the true meaning of the season! Sign up to host a table or to simply attend. Child Care is provided. If you have any questions, **contact Bridget Nelson at [bnelson@rofum.org](mailto:bnelson@rofum.org)**.

## **Bake Sale and Live Auction for St. Jude's Sunday, December 15, 12:15 pm**

Royal Oak Youth member Tyler Young is holding a bake sale to support St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Sign up to bring baked goods at the Connect Here desk and stop by the parlor on the 15<sup>th</sup> for the bake sale and live auction. If you have any questions, **contact Myra Moreland at [mmoreland@rofum.org](mailto:mmoreland@rofum.org)**.



## **Christmas Collection for Ferndale Lower Elementary School**



### **Free Store open Wednesday, December 18**

Our new mission partner, Ferndale Lower Elementary School, is providing a free Christmas store for their students to shop for Christmas gifts for themselves and their families. We are collecting small, \$5 toys, puzzles, and gifts to fill this free store so each child can choose three gifts to brighten the Christmas season. Bring your gifts to the collection tree in the Narthex by December 15. If you have any questions, **contact Myra Moreland at [mmoreland@rofum.org](mailto:mmoreland@rofum.org)**.

## **Join a Grow Group**

The ConnectGrowServe Ministries at Royal Oak First work to help us connect to each other, grow in faith and knowledge, and serve others in the name of Christ. Our next set of Grow Groups begins in January. For more information about these classes, check out our course catalogue or **contact the church office at [office@rofum.org](mailto:office@rofum.org)**.



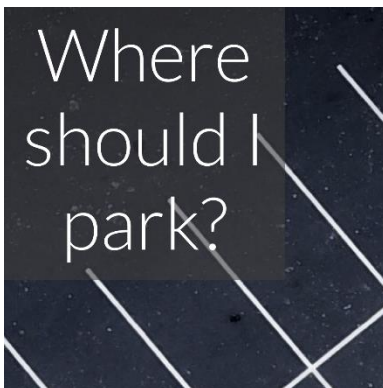
## Hospitality Service Opportunities Available



In order to make sure everyone feels welcome at coffee hour, we have created a new position on the hospitality team. Roaming Coffee Hour servers will help make sure that everyone has a place to sit, snacks and beverages to enjoy, and someone to talk to after worship. If you are a friendly person with a passion for making others feel welcome, **contact Mike Monte at [mmonte@rofum.org](mailto:mmonte@rofum.org)** to join the team.

## The Mitten Tree

Each year, we fill the United Methodist Women's Mitten Tree with new adult-sized hats, gloves, scarves, and socks for our daily lunch program. This year, we are adding food for the lunches, too. Helpful food items include peanut butter, fruit cups, pudding, raisins, individual serving chip bags, cookies, granola bars, cheese or peanut butter crackers, and juice boxes. You can drop off your donations at the tree in the tower entrance. If you have any questions, **contact Kathy Riggs at 248-390-4345.**



## Parking on Sundays

We are a bustling church, especially on Sundays, and we have a small parking lot. We ask that those who are able park in the free parking structure on Lafayette at 5<sup>th</sup> St, to make sure there is room in the parking lot & on the streets around the church for visitors and our more vulnerable members. If you have any questions **contact Jennifer Tripoli at [jtripoli@rofum.org](mailto:jtripoli@rofum.org)**.

## Lunch Program Collection

Every weekday, our lunch program provides a bagged lunch and a hot meal for 30-40 people in our community. In addition to food, the lunch program provides personal care items and the inventory is running low. They are looking for standard personal care items, like soap, razors, deodorant, and shampoo, along with things that are especially useful during the coming winter, like lip balm, lotion, and hand warmers.



**LUNCH  
PROGRAM  
COLLECTION**

## RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

**Prayers for our church family:** Sue Buxton; Inge Wichers; Suzanne & Jack Hughes; Lee Hoffmann; Janice Marsh; Marissa Haight; Margery Youngs; James Ansell; Debi Harmon; Vel Lowman; James Respecki; Karen Parke; Dick LaCombe; Judy Ather; Dick & Judy Bryan

**Prayers for our extended family:** Carl Wilson; Norma Jean Wilke; Marilyn Tovarez; Josie Nunez; Schodowski Family; Nancy Siddall; Vickie Zimmerman; Kris Beachum

**Senior Spotlight:** Karen Parke

This list includes prayer concerns from the past six weeks.  
For the complete Prayer List, please contact our  
Pastoral Care Team at [prayers@rofum.org](mailto:prayers@rofum.org).

# CALENDAR

## Sunday, November 24

9:00 am	Royal Oak Children's Choir.....	Room #307
9:00 am	Worship .....	Sanctuary
	Infants & Toddlers – Nursery	
	Sunday School (Preschool-Grade 8) – Bible Times Square	
10:00 am	Fellowship Hour .....	Parlor & Gathering Space
11:00 am	Worship .....	Sanctuary
	Infants & Toddlers – Nursery	
	Sunday School (Preschool-Grade 8) – Bible Times Square	
12:00 pm	Fellowship Hour .....	Parlor & Gathering Space
12:15 pm	Christmas Decorating .....	Full Church
12:30 pm	Advent by Candlelight Rehearsal .....	Chapel
12:30 pm	Men's Choir .....	Choir Room
5:30 pm	Cantata Academy Chorale .....	Sanctuary
5:30 pm	Youth Group Dinner .....	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	Youth Group .....	ROY Commons
7:00 pm	Youth Choir Rehearsals .....	Choir Room & Sanctuary
8:00 pm	Youth Group Seniors Small Group .....	National Coney Island

## Monday, November 25

9:30 am	Director Team Meeting .....	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room
10:30 am	Lunch Program .....	Fellowship Hall
3:00 pm	Royal Oak Children's Choir.....	Room #307
3:30 pm	Piano Lessons .....	Sanctuary
6:00 pm	AA Meeting .....	Parlor
7:00 pm	Scout Troop 1601 .....	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga .....	Chapel

## Tuesday, November 26

9:00 am	First Friends.....	Nursery
9:00 am	Organ Tuning.....	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Lunch Program .....	Fellowship Hall
3:30 pm	Piano Lessons .....	Parlor
6:00 pm	Sing Out Detroit! .....	Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Men's Basketball.....	Addams Elementary School

## Wednesday, November 27

10:30 am	Lunch Program .....	Fellowship Hall
11:30 am	ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) .....	The Avenue Restaurant
6:00 pm	AA Meeting .....	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room
7:30 pm	Nar-Anon .....	ROY Commons
7:30 pm	Soul Stretch Yoga .....	Chapel

## Thursday, November 28 – Thanksgiving

Office Closed

10:00 am	Lunch Program .....	Fellowship Hall
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## Friday, November 29

Office Closed

9:30 am	As We Gather Bible Study .....	Fellowship Hall
10:30 am	Lunch Program .....	Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Therapeutic Rehab Sandwich Making .....	Kitchen
4:30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal .....	Sanctuary
6:00 pm	AA Meeting .....	Parlor

## Saturday, November 30

9:30 am	Wedding .....	Sanctuary, Gathering Space, & Parlor
1:00 pm	Private Party .....	Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
3:00 pm	Stained Glass Silent Auction .....	Fellowship Hall
4:00 pm	Worship & Communion .....	Sanctuary

## Sunday, December 1

9:00 am	Royal Oak Children's Choir .....	Room #307
9:00 am	Worship & Communion .....	Sanctuary
	Infants & Toddlers – Nursery	
	Sunday School (Preschool-Grade 8) – Bible Times Square	
10:00 am	Fellowship Hour .....	Parlor & Gathering Space
11:00 am	Worship & Communion .....	Sanctuary
	Infants & Toddlers – Nursery	
	Sunday School (Preschool-Grade 8) – Bible Times Square	
12:00 pm	Fellowship Hour .....	Parlor & Gathering Space
12:15 pm	Ghana Trip Interest Meeting .....	Fellowship Hall
12:30 pm	Men's Choir .....	Choir Room
5:30 pm	Youth Group Dinner .....	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	Youth Group .....	ROY Commons
7:00 pm	Youth Choir Rehearsals .....	Choir Room & Sanctuary

# NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear friends,

Today I am pleased to welcome my friend and colleague the Reverend John Hice back to preach at Royal Oak First. John is currently serving as the District Superintendent of the East Winds District of the Michigan Area of the United Methodist Church, which includes Flint and the surrounding communities. John helps the churches in his charge organize for mission and ministry.



Prior to joining the Bishop's cabinet, Pastor John served as pastor right here at Royal Oak First. From 2008 to 2016, John led this congregation through the merger with St. John's United Methodist and the decision to go "all-in" on The ROFUM Rebirth. The Rebirth set in motion the vision that ultimately led to our historic building renovation. John had every intention of leading this church through this project and to be here at its reopening and revitalization of

ministry in this corner of God's Kingdom. But when you are a United Methodist Pastor you agree to go where God calls and when God calls. So, it is our joy to welcome Rev. Hice and his family back to Royal Oak First to see the fruits of their vision coming to life.

John is a graduate of Dearborn High School. He went on to Michigan State and then to Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary. Before coming to Royal Oak, John served churches in Hartford, Traverse City, and Northville and as the District Superintendent of the former Grand Rapids District of the then West Michigan Conference. John is remembered here as a gifted teacher, a caring pastor, an advocate for God's good creation and an ecumenical leader in the greater Royal Oak Community.

Welcome back to Royal Oak First, Rev. Hice!

We are glad you are here!

Grace and Peace,

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