

GONE FISHING (AGAIN)



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor's Welcome

Hymn #147 All Things Bright and Beautiful *UMH

Invitation to Mission

Time of Prayer Faye Bond

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Musical Offering Overwhelmed Big Daddy Weave
Erica Plesco and Brian Wright

Doxology #95 UMH

Scripture Luke 5:1-11 **CEB

Message Gone Fishing (Again) Jeff Nelson

Song #344 Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore UMH

Benediction

* United Methodist Hymnal
** Common English Bible

RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers for our church family: Pat Blagg; Joan Johnson; Krista Conyers; Dave & Sue Minch; Jan Carlson; Marilyn Hocking; James Respecki; Kevin Lasky; Bruce and Ginny Conrad; Jenny Lowman; Lee Hoffmann; Inge Wichers; Betty Latimer; Barb Nicholas; Sue Parisi-Reid; Dick LaCombe; Paula Derkowski; Joe Waisanen Jr; Crystal Clark; Marian Kremer; Betty Locke; Bill Young; John Wagster; The Riggs Family

Prayers for our extended family: Effie Lambros; Linda Baker; Steve & Peggy Zelonium; Lorraine Bowden; Joal Brown; Tracy & Paul; Lucy Sieck; Jamie Radick; Pat Callahan; Pam Payne; Tim Bell; Laurie Harris Wiener; Heidi and Dan Grogan; Essential workers and health care providers fighting COVID-19; Marilyn Mansfield; Margaret O'Donnell; Don & Ann Anderson

Senior Spotlight: June Stephan

For the complete Prayer List, please contact our
Pastoral Care Team at prayers@rofum.org.

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

“So, what did I miss?”

That is what Thomas Jefferson asks in the Broadway smash Hamilton, as he returns home from France to a world “turned upside down.” Jefferson comes back to a world very different from the one he left.

I have been away for six months. No trips to France for me; in fact, I hardly left my block here in Royal Oak. Yet, I feel like I too am returning to a world, and the way of being church, that is so many ways have been turned upside down.

So, what did I miss?

I will tell you what I missed - I missed you.

I missed your faces. I missed your voices. I missed hearing about the ups and downs of your journeys. I missed praying with you - although I never stopped praying for you. I missed celebrating the lives of saints like Dick Bryan and Janet Cork. I missed our one and only Fish Dinner!

I just missed you.

I missed the opportunity to meet Pastor James. And I missed the opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to Pastor George.

I missed wrestling with you about what it means to be God's people in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. And I missed the beginning work of what it will mean to be an anti-racist community sparked by George Floyd's tragic death.

I have missed a lot.

So as I return to ministry, there is something I don't want to miss. I don't want to miss the opportunity to say thank you.

Thank you!

Thank you for your grace and your patience with me and my leave. This Sunday, I will tell you more about why I needed it and how I used this time. This gift has meant the world to me.

Thank you to our Compass Team and their leader Brian LaRose for ushering us through this season of upheavals and change. You gave so many extra hours to bring us to today. I am so thankful for your sacrifice and support.

But most importantly, I want to thank this incredible staff team that was called to go above and beyond in this extraordinary time. These are our "essential workers" who have kept the work of the church vital during these most interesting of times.

Thank you to Pastor Myra and Jennifer Tripoli for providing the day-to-day leadership for our congregation. You made the tough decisions that helped keep us connected to God and one another.

Thank you to Tim Schoenherr, Debi Szeliga, Matt Alexander, and Erica Plesco for providing music and worship leadership. Your talent, flexibility, and creativity brought the Word of God to life.

Thank you to Bridget Nelson, Daniele Moody, Jennifer Semivan, and Christine Ryckman for making Christ's love real to our children, youth, and their families.

Thank you to Pastor Bob Goudie, who, along with Daniele Moody, made hundreds of phone calls to check with and pray for our members. You made sure people knew that God was with them during these strange times.

Thank you to Mike Monte, Shirley Harris, Pam Ortner, and Joyce Hollingsworth, who keep our missions and outreach vibrant. I was so proud to learn that our bag lunch program has not missed a single day during the quarantine.

Thank you to Karen Calhoun and Samantha Garrett for keeping the office staffed and our communications flowing. And thank you to Pastor Fred Bowden and Ben Graham for keeping our church building clean, sanitized, and secure during these past months.

I am honored to be rejoining such a great team of dedicated servants.

It is good to be home - even if I don't recognize the lay of the land - I know God is here and among you.

So please plan to join us online this Sunday at 9:00 am or 11:00 am as I have the honor and privilege of sharing a word with you about where God has been at work in my life.

It is good to be back!

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Fred". Below the signature is a simple line drawing of a smiley face with two dots for eyes and a curved line for a mouth. The signature and smiley face are written in a casual, cursive style.