



BE CAREFUL  
WHEN YOU  
INVITE JESUS  
TO CHURCH

JANUARY 31, 2021  
ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude                      *Mary Did You Know?*                      arr. Carol Tornquist  
   Jennifer Semivan

Pastor's Welcome

Song                              Ancient Words  
                                 Neal Harris, Mary Nahhat, Alison Harris, Suzanne Bianchi

Invitation to Mission    Karen Calhoun

Time of Prayer    Amy Youngquist

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Musical Offering                      *Be Thou My Vision*  
   Amy Rhoades

Scripture                      Mark 1:21-28                      \*CEB

Message    Be Careful When You Invite Jesus to Church    Jeff Nelson

Closing Song                      *Build Your Kingdom Here*  
   House Band

Benediction

\* Common English Bible

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Share the Love!

Help us share some love! In the week leading up to Valentine's Day we hope to send a card to every member of our church. During Valentine's Day weekend, we hope to make and deliver 100 bags of treats and notes. So, we need everyone's hands! We need people to send cards, people to bake, kids to make cards, people to assemble bags and people to deliver. [Click here to sign up](#) or contact Danielle Moody at [dmoody@rofum.org](mailto:dmoody@rofum.org) if you have any questions.

## Ash Wednesday

**February 17**

It is almost the beginning of Lent and our journey to Easter. Visit [rofum.org/live](http://rofum.org/live) at 7:00 pm for an online worship service. You can also stop by the church 7:00 am-7:00 pm to receive ashes, pray, and partake in Holy Communion.

## Lenten Retreat

**February 19 & 20**

We are blessed to have Rev. Kevin Smalls from Hope UMC and our own Pastor Jeff host a special Lenten retreat. We will come together over Zoom with our siblings from Hope UMC for a time of reflection, prayer, and conversation with God and each other. [Click here to sign up](#).

## Lenten Book Study

**Wednesdays February 24-March 24, 10:00-11:30 am or 7:00-8:30 pm**

Join Pastor Jeff for this study on the deeper meaning of the days of Holy Week. Each class will begin with a talk from Pastor Jeff and then the group will be split into smaller groups with discussion leaders. Studying this book through Lent will prepare us for a deeper understanding of the events of Holy Week, so we can experience it in a new way. [Click here to sign up](#).

## **Men's Retreat**

**March 5 & 6**

Calling all the men of the church! It's been too long since we were able to get together and be in fellowship with one another. Join Pastor Jeff online for this chance for men to connect with God and each other! No preparation necessary, just a zoom friendly device and some time to share with other men from your church family. [Click here to sign up.](#)

## **Week of Prayer**

**March 15-18**

One of the hardest parts of this pandemic is being away from our sanctuary. Find a time this week to come in, spend some time in the sanctuary and pray for the people in your life, the people in our church and our community and world. This can be for an individual or a household group. There will be music playing and a candle you can light. Join us in this special week of prayer and reconnecting with our most sacred space. [Click here to sign up.](#)

## **Enneagram Retreat**

**March 26 & 27**

One of the most ancient spiritual ways of understand human beings is the Enneagram. Whether you already know "your number" or not, come learn about this enlightening tool of self-discovery. We will be led by Laura Witkowski from the Michigan Conference staff, who has been trained in helping others grow through the Enneagram. [Click here to sign up.](#)

# RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

**Prayers for our church family:** Cheryl Buxton; Neil Franks; Bruce Conrad; Carol Hardt; Sue Minch; Jeff Harris; Joe & Jean Foster; Lee & Shirley Gnegy; Bill Howell; Peggy Waisanen; Jake Tripoli; Ron & Marianne Peludat; Joe Waisanen. Jr.; Kristin Frey; Joe McGee; Janice Martin; Krista Conyers; The Richardson Family; Marianne Peck; Todd Menig; Joyce Hollingsworth; Marian Kremer; Inge Wichers; Betty Lawson; Nancy Lorenz

**Prayers for our extended family:** Mindy Grissom; Anni Richardson; Lori Karoitt; Mary Ann Standing; Scott R; Juli Sweet; Laurella Perser; Paul Brown; Jim Brown; Tara Bouck; Sally Sou; John McClure; Mary Sleeman; Joe & Dionne Chzanowski; Kelly & Charley Connolly; Lorraine Murdoch; Paul Edward; Richard Gifford; Cheryl & Jimmy Clark; Anthonne Tracy; Mary Jo Cady; Teresa Baker; Kathy Kearns; Lorraine Bowden; Essential workers and health care providers fighting COVID-19

**Senior Spotlight:** Charles White

**Sympathy** to Rick & Cheryl Buxton for the death of Cheryl's mother, Christine Jones, January 27.

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

## NOTE FROM THE PREACHER

Dear Friends,

I wanted to take a minute and update you on some of the happenings with the leadership of Royal Oak First. At our 2019 Church Conference, the church adopted a one board model of governance. This was done in hopes of streamlining the administration and governance functions of the congregation while at the same freeing the membership to be focused on discipleship and mission. We called our one board The Compass Team. Like a compass, it is designed to help point the direction to where God is calling us to move.

Our new Compass Team formed in early January and was positioning to lead us into our next steps in our journey. But as we all know, 2020 provided its fair share of challenges. With staff changes, pastoral leaves, and the COVID-

19 global pandemic, The Compass Team was called into a season of crisis management. We owe this dedicated group of lay leaders our deep appreciation and thanks for navigating this unforeseen journey. We want to acknowledge and thank Brian LaRose for leading this team, who, after three previous years as our Staff Parish Relations Chair, is taking a much needed and well-deserved sabbatical from formal leadership.

Our 2021 Compass Team is made up of the following members:

Our team leader is Carrie Beerer. Carrie will lead our meetings and be the liaison with our District Superintendent on official matters relating to our church.

Tim Ryckman will serve as our assistant team leader. In addition to helping advise and support Carrie, he will also be chiefly responsible for getting our support teams up and functioning.

Ann Brown is our Lay Leader. Ann will take a lead role in helping us develop deeper spiritual formation and caring ministries for our congregation. In addition, Ann is one of our representatives to the Annual Conference, the yearly meeting for the Michigan Area United Methodist Church.

New to The Compass Team this year is Christine Gilbert. Christine will function as our recording secretary and as a part of the core team of Compass.

Jeff Vickers will continue as our finance person. Along with Jennifer Tripoli and other church leaders, Jeff reviews our financial data and ensures that we are good stewards of the financial resources entrusted to the church.

Robin Richardson will be the primary leader on personnel. Robin will work with me and other leaders to ensure that we have strong policies and procedures for supporting our staff.

Jay Dunstan will continue on The Compass team, giving leadership in the areas of building and properties. Jay will help our church think strategically about how to best maintain and expand our physical assets. This season Jay will continue leading our COVID Task Force, helping us navigate these ever-changing times.

In order for you to get to know these members better and learn more about the work of our Compass Team, we are hosting two Wednesday Night

Livestreams this month. Tune in on the 3rd and the 10th at 7:00 pm at [rofum.org/wnll](http://rofum.org/wnll) to learn more about what is happening with our Compass Team. In addition, you can contact The Compass Team by emailing [compassteam@rofum.org](mailto:compassteam@rofum.org).

We are grateful for each of these people and their dedication to the life and welfare of our congregation. Please keep them and the work of our church in your prayers.

Grace & Peace,

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