



GRADUATION SUNDAY

MAY 16, 2021

ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *Saucy Jazz Tune* Elliot Nielander
Elliot Nielander

Pastor's Welcome Jeff Nelson

Hymn Here I Am, Lord
Kaylee Derkowski

Call to Worship Joey Peck

Recognition of Our Graduates

Invitation to Mission Erica Plesco

Time of Prayer Abby Tripoli

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Musical Offering *Shine* Collective Soul
Youth Band

Scripture John 17:6-19; Psalm 1 *CEB
Christel Samson

Message Josh Wright

Song Send Me Out

Benediction

* Common English Bible

GRADUATES

High School Graduates

Joey Peck Troy High School

Christel Samson Sterling Heights High School

Abby Tripoli*Avondale High School

* Leenhouts Scholarship Recipient

College Graduates

Dr. Elena (Yarmy) Moses..... Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine

Clay Kosnik..... Central Michigan University

Jarod ClarkWayne State University

Justin Watkins..... Michigan State University

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Spring Missions Collection

Certain things are necessities. Everyone needs cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items, and weather protection, but not everyone is able to get them. Many of these crucial supplies are not covered by assistance programs like food stamps. This spring, we are collecting rain ponchos, deodorant (especially men's deodorant), cotton swabs, dish soap, all-purpose cleaning spray, sponges, cleaning pails, and travel-size personal wipes. If you would like to help us with this collection, you can drop off your donations at the church Monday-Thursday, 10-3, or you can make a monetary contribution at rofum.org/giving.

Pentecost Party: Save the Date!

Sunday, May 23, 12-3 pm

Join us as we celebrate Pentecost with style! We all know one of the hardest parts of this pandemic is the isolation from our family, friends, and community. This Pentecost, we are offering an outdoor celebration where we can gather safely and reconnect with our church family. Food, music, and connections await us in the church parking lot, and we can't wait to see you there!



Communications Director Position Available

You can help make a difference and tell the story of Christ's love made real. If you would like to join our team as Communications Director, you can find a full job description at rofum.org/jobs.

In-Person Worship will continue **Sundays at 9 am through the end of May** **Sundays at 9 & 11 am starting June 6**

We are thrilled to announce that our In-Person Worship pilot program has been a huge success and we will continue to offer in-person worship following the end of the program. In order to keep everyone safe, attendance will be limited to 50 people per service. Nursery care will be available for preregistered children age 4 and under. Sign up at rofum.org/in-person-worship.

In-Person Worship



RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers for our church family: Amy Youngquist; Maya Lane Harris; Kimberlyn Palchak; Cece Tamm; Pete Smith; Addison Frachalla; Patricia Callahan; Bill Howell; Diane Shornak; Janet Ramseyer; Florence Martin; Cindy McCarthy; Bob Russell; Carrie Morse; Diane Sexton; Nancy Lorenz; Betty Lawson; Sherry Giles; Fred Bowden; Marilyn McCreedy; Marian Kremer

Prayers for our extended family: Kaylee; Karen White; Vanessa & Katelyn Elrod; Michael McFarlane; Joe Pearcy; Mike J; Tim Bell; Darryl Warren; Sue Sugden; Scott R; Sally Sou; Mary Jo Cady; Teresa Baker; Lorraine Bowden; Essential workers and health care providers fighting COVID-19

Senior Spotlight: Karen Parke

Sympathy to Mike Monte for the death of his brother, Tony Monte, May 7.

Sympathy to Brian Semivan for the death of his mother, Patricia Semivan, May 13.

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

NOTE FROM PASTOR JEFF

Dear Friends,

For the past four weeks, we have been doing a pilot program of in-person worship. These weeks have gone really well as we have worked hard to strike the balance between being hospitable and being safe. A big "Thank You" goes out to Karen Calhoun, our Operations Manager, as she has worked hard to coordinate all protocols, details, and volunteers.

After consultation with our Compass Team, Covid Task Force and the worship and operations staff, I am excited to announce that not only will we continue to offer in-person worship going forward; we will be adding a second service at 11:00 am. Both services will have a capacity of 50 worshipers plus volunteers and for the summer will offer a blended worship experience. A sign-up to attend in the month of June will be available on our website beginning Monday morning. I will be providing a more detailed announcement next week but just want to share the good news. In addition, we are committed to providing a quality online worship experience so that you can experience Royal Oak First at home.

This week in worship, we will celebrate our graduating seniors: Abby Tripoli, Joey Peck and Christel Samson. We are proud of you and who you are becoming! I have asked Josh Wright, one of dedicated youth workers, to bring the message for us this weekend. Thanks, Josh, for all the ways you make Christ's love real!

Grace and 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.

NOTE FROM OUR PREACHER

Dear Friends,

This Sunday is Graduation Sunday. For many of our high school graduates, this is the biggest life transition they've been through since they started kindergarten. But even for our college and grad school graduates, big changes are happening. I know this because I've been through four different graduations myself!

Whether it's the first or fourth graduation day a person has been through, the question is always, "what's next?" It can be a hard question to answer. Getting education and training takes a lot of hard work and focus, but there are clear starting points and ending points. Post-graduation life isn't usually that clear. It can even be scary.

Being followers of Jesus doesn't necessarily make us immune to fear of an unknown future, but the words of Jesus in passages like John 17 can offer us comfort. Verses 9-11 read:

"I'm praying for them. I'm not praying for the world but for those you gave me, because they are yours. Everything that is mine is yours and everything that is yours is mine; I have been glorified in them. I'm no longer in the world, but they are in the world, even as I'm coming to you. Holy Father, watch over them in your name, the name you gave me, that they will be one just as we are one."

Even when the future is frightening, we can take comfort in knowing that we belong to Jesus and that God will watch over us the same way God watched over Jesus.

Josh Wright