

What a Fellowship



JULY 11, 2021
ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	<i>The Long and Winding Road</i> The Beatles	Tim Schoenherr
Welcome		Jeff Nelson
Song	<i>Home</i> Phillip Phillips	House Band
Call to Worship		Chris Mikell
Hymn #393 (*UMH)	Spirit of the Living God	Tim Schoenherr
Invitation to Mission		Erica Plesco
Children's Moment		Jeff Nelson
Time of Prayer		Jeff Nelson
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Hymn #133 (*UMH)	Leaning on the Everlasting Arms	Sanctus Members
Doxology #95 (*UMH)		
	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow	
Scripture (**CEB)	Exodus 15:1-21 Acts 2:43-47	Chris Mikell
Message	What a Fellowship	Jeff Nelson
Song	<i>Child of Love</i> We The Kingdom	House Band
Benediction		

*United Methodist Hymnal
** Common English Bible

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I Wonder Vacation Bible School

August 8-11, 6-8 pm

In this four-part series for Vacation Bible School, we're going to engage kids' imaginations! Kids will not only get curious about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, but also about the God who created it all! Cost is as follows: \$20 for the first child in a family; \$10 per additional child; \$50 maximum per family. At Royal Oak First, we strive to ensure that cost is never a reason to exclude a family. If the cost of I Wonder Vacation Bible School is prohibitive for your family, contact our Sunday School Coordinator, Christine Ryckman, at cryckman@rofum.org. To register your child, visit rofum.org/vbs.



Backyard Gatherings Three Dates Still Available!

Be sure to sign up for any of the remaining three different backyard gatherings this summer. We will gather in the backyards of various church families to reconnect, socialize and eat! There will also be one Zoom gathering for those who would rather socialize virtually. In-person gatherings will be potluck style, so bring your favorite side dish or dessert. Remaining dates are July 16, July 19, August 5 (Zoom), and August 11. Sign up online at rofum.org/backyards.

Coffee Hour

Service Opportunities



Coffee Hour Service Opportunities

Coffee hour is an integral part of the Sunday experience and we are thrilled to be able to bring it back. We need volunteers to get the coffee made, food items prepared and then just enjoy the best part of interacting with your fellow church members! If you would like to help serve, contact Mike Monte at mmonte@rofum.org.

Shawl Ministry is Back!

The Shawl Ministry is starting back up again! The purpose is for those with a love of needlework to gather to knit or crochet shawls and afghans and then give those shawls to persons in need of prayer, comfort, or blessings. Our next meeting will be Thursday, July 22 at 1pm in the Parlor.



Men's Summer Clothes Collection

In addition to food, our lunch program distributes clothing to those in need in our community. Summer is here, and the weather is heating up. We are getting a lot of requests for men's summer clothes to help them keep cool in the increasing heat. If you have any gently used men's summer clothing you can donate, you can drop it off at the church on Sundays during worship or during office hours Monday-Thursday, 10-3.

RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Cynthia Cline • Mary Lou Graeber • Karen Wetzel • Lloyd and Janet Ramseyer
Ed Cline • Bob Russell • Sue and Dave Minch • Audrey Leenhouts
Patricia Callahan • Neil Franks • Lee Hoffmann • Todd Wells • Sarah Beth Wells
Sherry Giles • John Wagster • Bill Howell • Tom Soboleski • Maya Lane Harris
Amy Youngquist • Kimberlyn Palchak • Diane Shornak • Cindy McCarthy
Carrie Morse • Nancy Lorenz • Betty Lawson • Fred Bowden • Marian Kremer

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Margie Reese • Linda Morrell • Dora Jackler • Marc Reddekopp • Gina Mirjah
Kaylee • Karen White • Vanessa & Katelyn Elrod • Michael McFarlane • Mike J.
Darryl Warren • Sue Sugden • Scott R. • Sally Sou • Teresa Baker

Congratulations to:

Tyler and Chelsea Cohoon on the birth of their daughter, Cora on July 5

Sympathies to:

Wendell Bell on the death of his brother, Tim on July 3

Senior Spotlight:

Brad Ather

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

NOTES

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you're doing the impossible."

—Francis of Assisi

"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."

—Romans 8:18

"Just keep swimming."

—Dory from "Finding Nemo"

Dear Friends,

We made it! Together, through self sacrifice, prayer, mutual support and a deep well of patience, we have persevered as a community and have arrived at this weekend. So it is with humility and gratitude that I proudly proclaim that Royal Oak First is open for worship, fellowship and service. No need to make a reservation. Masks are optional (please know now that you are welcome to wear them without judgment. Do what is right for you!) We can sing. The offering plate will be passed. Our kids will have programming. And there will be coffee and snacks. (YES!)

It has been nearly 18 months since we have been able to gather in this way. It will truly be a joy to be together.

I am sure you will notice that some things are different around here. We have new faces on our staff team. (We will be introducing them to you in the weeks to come.) We have an expanded sound and video booth and mounted cameras in the sanctuary, as quality online worship will continue to be a vital part of our ministry. And I have emerged from this season with a different commitment to emotional health and self care as spiritual practices. I trust that these different faces, technologies and approaches will deepen our connection to God and with each other.

I am also sure you will discover that so many things about Royal Oak First will have remained the same. We are still committed to making "Christ's Love Real," and ensuring that "All are Welcome." You will find our community friendly and caring. Our commitment to mission and service is still central to our expression of faith. Children and youth still matter. We love to make music. Royal Oak First is still a place where you can experience real love, form real friendships, and make a real difference.

Your prayers and generosity have kept so much of what has made this place special and vital intact. I give thanks to God for each of you.

I am sure we will have lots to learn (and relearn) as we move back into community life together. We will take the lessons learned during this season with us and look toward our future with both joy and anticipation. Together, with God's help, we have been through the storm and are emerging on the other side with a story to tell and a song to sing!

Don't forget to grab your tambourine! (I'll explain Sunday!)

Grace and Peace,





**Experience Real Love, Form Real Friendships,
Make a Real Difference**