



# THE STORIES WE TELL

AUGUST 1, 2021

ROYAL OAK FIRST: A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy! God Almighty</i> arr. Carol Tornquist	Tim Schoenherr
Welcome		Jeff Nelson
Hymn #559 (*UMH)	Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation	Sanctus Members
Call to Worship		Nancy Thompson (9am) Mike and Sarah Foss (11am)
Hymn #393 (*UMH)	Spirit of the Living God	Tim Schoenherr
Invitation to Mission		Bridget Nelson
Children's Moment		Jeff Nelson
Time of Prayer		Jeff Nelson
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
	<i>Adoration</i> Felix Borowski	Allison Harris
Doxology #95 (*UMH)		
	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow	
Scripture (**CEB)	Matthew 16:13-19	Nancy Thompson (9am) Mike and Sarah Foss (11am)
Music Meditation	<i>I Love to Tell The Story</i>	Erica Plesco
Message	The Stories We Tell	Jeff Nelson
Personal Testimony		Kathy Peterson Michael Spath
Communion		
Hymn		Sanctus Members
Benediction		Jeff Nelson

\*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 Vacation Bible School is prohibitive for your family, contact our Sunday School Coordinator, Christine Ryckman, at [cryckman@rofum.org](mailto:cryckman@rofum.org). To register your child, visit [rofum.org/vbs](http://rofum.org/vbs).



## **August School Supply Collection**



This month we will be supporting our Ferndale Lower Elementary School partnership with a 'Back to School' supply collection. High-need items include: Crayola 24 pack crayons, Crayola 10-12 pack markers, Elmer's glue sticks, Ticonderoga pencils, Expo Dry Erase markers, plastic pencil boxes, backpacks, Kleenex tissue, wipes, and hand sanitizer, but any other supplies/brands will be welcomed also. Bring your donations to Royal Oak First on Sunday or turn in at the office during the week. Thank you for helping to support the families in our community! We will conclude the month with a blessing of all our students' backpacks on Sunday, August 29, at both services.

## **Thank You For Your Support**

Our Lunch Program would like to offer our thanks to Vera Asian Restaurant at 305 S. Main Street in downtown Royal Oak. They have generously donated meals every month for more than a year and a half to our Lunch Program. In return, please give them your support by patronizing their business and enjoy some of the amazing foods that they offer!



# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

## Prayers for Our Church Family:

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

## Prayers for Our Extended Family:

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

## Sympathies To:

The friends and family of Bill Howell on his death, July 23, 2021

## Senior Spotlight:

Betty Benson

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

# LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I have a confession. I am a serial “ranker.” I like to rank things. I am one of those guys who has lots of lists, and opinions to back them, about who and what are the greatest in just about any given category.

## **Greatest 🎵 Albums 🎵 of All Time:**

1. Songs in the Key of Life: Stevie Wonder
2. Purple Rain: Prince
3. Blood on the Tracks: Bob Dylan
4. Achtung Baby: U2
5. Kind of Blue: Miles Davis

## **Greatest 🏈 Quarterbacks 🏈 of All Time:**

1. Tom Brady (it pains me to admit it, but it cannot be argued anymore)
2. Joe Montana
3. Peyton Manning
4. Brett Favre
5. Drew Brees

## **Greatest 🍭 Candy 🍬 of All Time:**

1. Snickers
2. Twizzlers
3. Reese's Peanut Butter Cups
4. Baby Ruth
5. Rolos

## **Greatest Comedy 🎬 Movies 🍿 of the 80's:**

1. Ghostbusters
2. Ferris Bueller's Day Off
3. National Lampoon's Vacation
4. Back to the Future
5. The Princess Bride

Other things like Pizza, Hamburger Places, Bands, First Basemen, Presidents, Musicals, Simpsons Characters, Episodes of The Office...I have opinions and a list to back them up.

I think we like to rank things because rankings help us clarify our likes, our interests, and our values. And once we have them clarified it is fun to debate our rankings with others. (You should listen to Casey and I argue about how to best rank the Star Wars films. I will



never understand his fascination with the prequels! I feel like it is a parenting failure on my part.)

Jesus was once asked, "Of all the religious commandments (and there are a lot of them), what is the greatest?"

Jesus answered with his list:

1. Love God
2. Love your neighbor (as you love yourself). *I am learning that self care is a spiritual discipline.*

That was it, he said. Everything else was simply commentary on those two.

Jesus' ranking of The Greatest Commandments of All Time tells us exactly what was important to him: Love.

Not doctrine.

Not theology.

Not worship.

Not politics.

Love.

And that is what we are trying to be about here at Royal Oak First. Finding ways to love God, to love ourselves, and to love each other and our community.

Thanks for being on this journey with us.

Grace and Peace,



# STAFF DIRECTORY

NAME	TITLE	EMAIL	PHONE
Jeff Nelson	Lead Pastor	jnelson@rofum.org	248.541.4100 ext. 1216
Jennifer Tripoli	Executive Director	jtripoli@rofum.org	248.541.4100 ext. 1225
Bridget Nelson	Children, Youth & Family Ministries Director	bnelson@rofum.org	248.541.4100 ext. 1102
Mike Monte	Community Support Director	mmonte@rofum.org	248.541.4100 ext. 1108
Lee Trumbull	Communications Director	ltrumbull@rofum.org	248.541.4100 ext. 1224
Karen Calhoun	Operations Manager	kcalhoun@rofum.org	248.541.4100 ext. 1220
Tim Schoenherr	Music Director	tim@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Jennifer Semivan	Children's Music Director	jsemivan@rofum.org	248.541.4100 ext. 1219
Erica Plesco	Worship Coordinator	eplesco@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Tim Coleman	Audio Engineer/ Production Manager	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Kevin Walsh	Online/Video Coordinator	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Danielle Moody	Congregational Care & Family Ministries Coordinator	dmoody@rofum.org	248.541.4100 ext. 1315
Ashley Erard	Nursery Coordinator	aerard@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Christine Ryckman	Sunday School Coordinator	cryckman@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Joyce Hollingsworth	Adult Discipleship Coordinator	jhollingsworth@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Karla Goetz	Missions Coordinator	missions@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Shirley Harris	Kitchen/Meal Coordinator	sharris@rofum.org	248.541.4100 ext. 1120
Fred Bowden	Building Manager	fbowden@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Ben Graham	Weekend/Evening Custodian	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100



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