



Fasting from Injustice

AUGUST 22, 2021

ROYAL OAK FIRST: A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	<i>Call on Jesus</i> Arr. Jim Hammerly	Tim Schoenherr
Welcome		Jeff Nelson
Hymn #428 (*UMH)	For the Healing of the Nations	Sanctus Members
Call to Worship		Pam Ortnier (9am) Jane Button (11am)
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	<i>Hold on to Me</i> Lauren Daigle	Rosa Moody
Doxology #95 (*UMH)	Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow	
Scripture (**CEB)	Isaiah 58:1-12	Pam Ortnier (9am) Jane Button (11am)
Message	Fasting from Injustice	Jeff Nelson
Hymn #584 (*UMH)	Lord, You Give the Great Commission	Sanctus Members
Benediction		Jeff Nelson

*United Methodist Hymnal

**Common English Bible

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Back to School Supply Collection

Help support 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, cardstock, 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.



Service Opportunities

From September 3-6, nearly 400,000 people will visit our community during Arts, Beats & Eats. Service opportunities include being a greeter at the church, being a host for our green space on the front lawn, attending to the baby-changing tent, and keeping the church tidy and hospitable. Each person that volunteers for a shift will receive free admission to the festival. Sign-up sheets are available at the Welcome Desk or at rofum.org.



Special Worship Service

We will have only one worship service Labor Day weekend during Arts, Beats & Eats on Sunday, September 5 at 9:30 am on the Country/Americana Stage located at 6th and Lafayette Streets. Worshippers that day get a ticket for free admission to the festival and free parking at Royal Oak High School at 1500 Lexington Blvd. A free shuttle will drop you off and pick you up right next to the stage. If you don't plan on staying for the festival, you can park in the parking structure across the street from the church until 11:00 am. If you have any questions, contact the church office at 248.541.4100 or office@rofum.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Pastor Chat

If you're new to Royal Oak First and you'd like to know more about our church or if you'd like to learn the next steps about how to become part of everything going on here, then come to the Pastor Chat. Questions such as: "How can I help serve the community?"; "I have questions about the beliefs of the United Methodist Church"; or "How can my kids be involved in the church?" will be covered. The next Pastor Chat will be on Sunday, August 22 at 10 am in the Parlor and last no more than 30 minutes. We look forward to seeing you!



Full-Time Custodian Position Available

The Custodian is responsible for the appearance, cleanliness and maintenance of the building and grounds. If you are interested in joining our team, you can find a full job description at rofum.org/jobs or if you have further questions, please contact Jennifer Tripoli at 248.541.4100 or jtripoli@rofum.org.



We Need Ushers and Greeters

You can help make worship a powerful, welcoming experience for others! We have opportunities for people to serve as ushers and greeters. Pick some days to create a regular schedule...like ushering for all the even number months or greeting on the first Sunday of every month. And if you know someone who might like to share some time volunteering with you, send them this information and invite them! Volunteering is a great way to get to know people in your church family! Visit the Welcome Desk or www.rofum.org to sign up.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Stories We Tell

At the August 1st service entitled “The Stories We Tell”, Kathy Peterson and Michael Spath told us their stories of the impact of COVID-19 and their faith. Now it’s your turn. We’d like to know how the pandemic played out in your life and your faith. What did you learn? How did it affect your life? Did you wonder where God went during that year and a half? What would you like others to know about your journey? The goal is to compile a book of our various stories to pass on to future generations. Please send in your stories either by mail (to the church address) or email (stories@rofum.org). Please send your story in by September 3, 2021.



2021 Crop Hunger Walk

Would you like to stomp out hunger? On September 19th, area churches will be joining together with a common goal of raising awareness and funds to feed the hungry, both locally and globally. Show your support by joining the ROFUM team as a walker or by sponsoring our team members with a donation. A \$15 donation will provide a family with egg laying chickens; a \$65 donation will provide a family of four with meals for nearly two months. More information is available at the Welcome Desk or at www.events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/royal-oak-first-united-methodist-church. Please reach out to Lucille Evans at lucilleevans@gmail.com with additional questions.

**SATURDAY
NIGHT
WORSHIP**

Saturday Night Worship

It's Back...Same Night, Same Time, New Format

Please plan to join us on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at 4:00 pm, in the Parlor for the first Saturday Night Worship in over a year! We are planning to meet twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays, but need your help. Pastor Jeff will preach and lead worship once a month and an alternate guest preacher will join us for the other Saturday. We are seeking volunteers to help resurrect this service and are in search of those who can serve as a guest preacher, song leader, support audio needs, or play the piano or a musical instrument on a rotational basis. If you feel called to participate or have any questions, please contact Joyce Russell at 586-758-4729 or russ28@att.net for more information.

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Nancy Lorenz • Marilyn Hocking • Michael Frank • Janice Marsh • Nancy Thompson •
Charlene Faunt • Cynthia Cline • Melinda Loftin • Tom Soboleski • Ed Cline • Karen Wetzel •
Audrey Leenhouts • Lloyd Ramseyer • Janet Ramseyer • Lee Hoffmann • 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 • Fred Bowden • Marian Kremer •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

The Pushman Family • Buddy Budowick • Jessica Simpson • Jack Barlow • Kathy Kearns •
Linda Morrell • Marc Reddekopp • Gina Mirjah • Michael McFarlane • Darryl Warren •
Sue Sugden • Sally Sou • Teresa Baker •

Sympathies to:

Mike and Patti DeTavernier on the death of Mike's sister, Debra Heilman on August 11.

Senior Spotlight:

Bill and Faye Bond

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

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

There is lots going on and lots of things I want to share with you. So here is a little bit about a lot of things. I hope you find this informative.

Fall Kick-Off:

Please mark Sunday, September 12th on your calendar and plan to join us for the kick-off of the 2021-22 program and worship year. Sunday School and Youth Group will begin that Sunday and Holy COW, our midweek music and fellowship program for kids, will start that Wednesday. Whether you join us in person or online for worship, we are looking forward to beginning this journey together.

COVID:

We are in the midst of another COVID spike here in Michigan. We are asking everyone in our congregation to continue to take the necessary measures to keep yourself and others safe. If you need help getting vaccination information or access, please let me know and I will be happy to help you get what you need. We are encouraging you to wear a mask when gathering indoors at church. Our staff will be wearing their masks during this season in order to help keep our most vulnerable safe. As with everything we have learned in the past 18 months, this is an ever-changing reality and we appreciate your flexibility and understanding.

Fred Bowden:

Pastor Fred got in a car accident this past February and is physically unable to return to work. Through our generosity, we have been able to continue Fred's salary and will be able to continue his insurance through September. In addition, you supported a Go Fund Me campaign that helped Fred get some of the help he has needed. There is no doubt that we will miss Fred's kind and gentle spirit. He has been so integral to our ministry for many years. In the weeks to come we will create opportunities to thank Fred with our words and gifts.

Arts, Beats & Eats:

The annual festival of art, music and food is back and with it hundreds of thousands of people will descend on downtown Royal Oak. Our church will continue to be the center for volunteer training and hospitality. If you are willing to help during this weekend, please sign up at the Welcome Desk or by visiting our website www.rofum.org. As is our tradition, on Arts, Beats & Eats weekend, we will have one outdoor worship service at 9:30 am on the Country Americana stage on 6th Street. Worshippers that day get a ticket for free admission to the festival and free parking at Royal Oak High School at 1500 Lexington Blvd. A free shuttle will drop you off and pick you up right next to the stage. Or if you don't plan on staying for the festival, you can park for free in the Lafayette parking structure across the street from the church until 11:00 am.

Saturday Worship:

For over 30 years Royal Oak First has offered a Saturday worship service. We are hoping to rebuild this community by offering a 4:00 pm service on the first and third Saturday of each month. The first one will be on Saturday, September 18. We will begin by worshipping in the Parlor.

Online Worship:

We will continue to offer quality, online worship each week. This has been a true learning curve. We now have staff providing sound, slide projection and video production for each worship experience. In order to best accommodate this expanding ministry, we are moving the sound booth from the middle of the sanctuary to the back. This will require the moving of some pews and installation of cameras. What an adventure!

Annual Church Conference:

Our Annual Church Conference will be held on Thursday, October 14th at 7:00 pm. This meeting with our District Superintendent will be held via Zoom. The link will be provided so that you can attend. This meeting is our chance to organize our service teams for the year. Over the next few weeks we will be seeking your involvement. Please be watching your bulletin and email for chances to serve.

You are a blessing!

Grace and Peace,



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