



I am Forgiven

TED

Sunday, September 19, 2021 9:00AM
ROYAL OAK FIRST: A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude		Tim Schoenherr
Welcome		Tim Schoenherr
Song 2022 (*TFWS)	Great Is The Lord	House Band
Song	"We Fall Down" Chris Tomlin	House Band
Invitation to Mission		Jeff Nelson
Baptism Moment		Eli Luczak Son of Brandon and Jaime Luczak
Time of Prayer		Jeff Nelson
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	"Peace" Bethel Music	Erica Plesco
Scripture (**CEB)	Psalm 103:8-18	Erica Plesco
Poem	<i>Forgive Everybody Everything</i>	Jeff Nelson
Song	"Amazing Love" Chris Tomlin	Tim Schoenherr
Message	I am Forgiven	Jeff Nelson
Song	"Shelter" Jars of Clay	House Band
Benediction		Jeff Nelson

*The Faith We Sing
**Common English Bible

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LUNCH



PROGRAM

LUNCH PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Lunch Program is looking for a few people to come in once a week or every other week to make sandwiches for our program. Volunteers can choose their day and times. **To volunteer, please contact Mike Monte at mmonte@rofum.org or call the church office at 248.541.4100.**



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. Volunteering is a great way to get to know people in your church family! **Visit the Welcome Desk at church or www.rofum.org to sign up.**

Sock-It-To-Me



SOCK-IT-TO-ME SEPTEMBER IS BACK!

New socks are one of the most important items for homeless folks in the winter. Our friends at The NOAH Project (at Central UMC) give out over 10,000 pairs of socks annually as part of their work supporting the homeless of Detroit. We've set a goal to contribute 2021 socks this year. **Bring a package or two of NEW MEN'S TUBE SOCKS to church between now and October 3rd.**

SATURDAY NIGHT WORSHIP

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Our first Saturday Night Worship was on September 18, the first one in a year! Please join us on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 4:00 pm in the Parlor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHURCH-WIDE, ONE-DAY RETREAT – ROOTED IN APPRENTICESHIP

Saturday, October 9, 10:00 am-3:00 pm

We will explore Jesus' criteria for choosing his group of men and women disciples and learn how his holistic and integrated teaching approach of apprenticeship was designed to produce transformed and spiritually mature followers. We will practice apprenticeship by having fun fellowship, a shared meal, practical teaching, thoughtful discussion and small group break-outs. Lunch and childcare will be provided. Co-Leaders: Pastor Jeff Nelson and Joyce Hollingsworth. **Register in advance at www.rofum.org or call 248.541.4100.**



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, September 25, 9:00-10:30 am

Join the men of the church for breakfast at church! Take some time for fellowship as we move into a busy fall season. When the men of the church are growing in faith and friendship, the whole church benefits. All men are welcome!

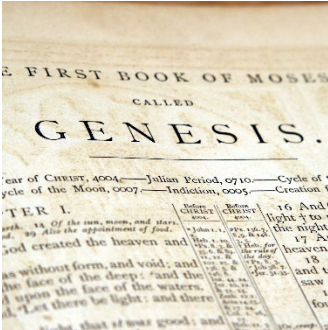


TIME OF REFLECTION

Wednesdays, September 22-November 10, 6:30-7:30 pm

In our busy lives, we struggle to slow down and spend time with God. We will have some time of silence and use the process of Lectio Divina to hear the scripture in new and interesting ways. The timing of this class will work for anyone bringing children to Holy COW. Co-Leaders: Bridget Nelson and Jennifer Tripoli. **Register at www.rofum.org or call 248.541.4100.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



APOCRYPHAL TALES: READING BETWEEN THE TESTAMENTS

Wednesdays, September 29-November 3, 6:30-8:00 pm

This will be a reading and discussion group covering the “apocrypha” the books that appear in some versions of the Old Testament but not in our Bibles. This includes the Additions to Daniel, Tobit, Judith, 1 & 2 Maccabees, Wisdom of Solomon, and Sirach. Every week we will read and discuss a different book. Leader: Joshua Wright. **Sign-up at www.rofum.org or call 248.541.4100.**



SALVATION MEANS CREATION HEALED

Tuesdays, September 14-November 9, 7:00-8:30 pm

This course for children, adults and families will highlight simpler things we can do to be stewards of God’s abundant and beautiful Creation. We will start out with a fun hands-on workshop to create your own nutrition-rich soils from organic matter to compost. We will then follow through with a Creation Care book study utilizing the book “Salvation Means Creation Healed”. We will have copies of the book available for purchase. Co-Leaders: Bob and Michele Prud’homme. **Sign-up at www.rofum.org or call 248.541.4100.**



BASEBALL AND CHURCH CHAT

Thursdays, September 16-October 21, 7:00-9:00 pm

Please join us at Royal Oak Taphouse (714 Washington, Royal Oak) as we get together (men and women invited) to chat about our beloved game of baseball and Christian parallels. We promise not to heckle any Yankees fans (shhh - I am one). At each meeting there will be topics to discuss centered on the game of baseball and how God is truly present in all things. There is sure to be stories shared of old memories of our youth and the game. Leader: Dave Haight. **Sign-up at www.rofum.org or call 248.541.4100.**

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Marian Kremer • Carol Hardt • Dave Minch • Aloma Mirjah • Michael Frank •
Nancy Thompson • Janice Marsh • Laci Basel • Bob Prud'homme • Nancy Lorenz •
Marilyn Hocking • Charlene Faunt • Cynthia Cline • Melinda Loftin •
Tom Soboleski • Ed Cline • Karen Wetzel • Audrey Leenhouts • Lloyd Ramseyer •
Janet Ramseyer • Lee Hoffmann • John Wagster • Neil Franks • Patricia Callahan •
Maya Lane Harris • Kimberlyn Palchak • Diane Shornak • Carrie Morse •
Cindy McCarthy • Betty Lawson • Fred Bowden •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Earl Hendrickson • Evert & Kay Burchell • Neil Mullins • Effie Lambros •
Lucille Gunnels • Carl Gunnels • The Pushman Family • Jessica Simpson •
Jack Barlow • Kathy Kearns • Linda Morrell • Marc Reddekopp • Gina Mirjah •
Michael McFarlane • Darryl Warren • Sue Sugden • Sally Sou • Teresa Baker •

Sympathies to:

Family and friends of Dolores Bratta on her death, May 27, 2021

Family and friends of Betty Cairns on her death, September 15, 2021

Senior Spotlight:

Judy Bryan

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

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

“For me, forgiveness and compassion are always linked: how do we hold people accountable for wrongdoing and yet at the same time remain in touch with their humanity enough to believe in their capacity to be transformed?”

-bell hooks

“To err is human; to forgive, divine.”

-Alexander Pope

Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they’re doing.”

-Luke 23:34

Dear Friends,

In his short story “The Capital of the World”, Ernest Hemingway tells the story of a father and his teenage son Paco, set in Spain. Desiring to become a matador and to escape his father’s control, Paco runs away to the capital of Spain, Madrid. His father, desperate to reconcile with his son, follows him to Madrid and puts an ad in a local newspaper with a simple phrase: “Dear Paco, meet me in front of the Madrid newspaper office tomorrow at noon. All is forgiven. I love you.” Hemingway then writes, “The next day at noon in front of the newspaper office there were 800 Pacos all seeking forgiveness.”

That is the letter God has been sending humanity for millennia: Meet me. All is forgiven. I love you. God sends this message into the universe hoping, like all those Pacos, that we will show up.

Forgiveness is God's great gift to us. It sets us free. It gives us the chance to start over and try again. It is the reminder that all things are possible.

Forgiveness is the act that gives Yogi Berra's affable baseball quip, "It ain't over till it's over," cosmic significance. With forgiveness in play, nothing is ever truly over - everything has the potential to be born anew.

Forgiveness can open every closed door.

This Sunday we explore the invitation to be rooted in God's forgiveness.

Like Paco, I hope you hear God's invitation to Him/Her there (yes, in worship, but more importantly in the place of forgiveness.)

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.

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

