

What Shall We Do While We Wait?



ADVENT 2021

Rooted in Patience

Sunday, December 12, 2021 9:00AM
ROYAL OAK FIRST: A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Song	“Awake to the Day”	House Band
Introduction to Advent		Erica Plesco
Lighting of the Advent Candle		Luczak Family
Invitation to Mission		Jeff Nelson
Baby’s First Christmas		Bridget Nelson
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	“Waiting for the World to Change”	Tim Schoenherr
Give Thanks		Congregational Singing
Prayer of Dedication		Jeff Nelson
Scripture (**CEB)	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Erica Plesco
Message	What Shall We Do While We Wait?	Jeff Nelson
Song	“Light of the World” Lauren Daigle	Erica Plesco
Song	“O Holy Night” Adolphe Adam	Mary Nahhat
Song	“How Can I Keep from Singing”	Congregational Singing
Benediction		Jeff Nelson
Sending Music		

ANNOUNCEMENTS



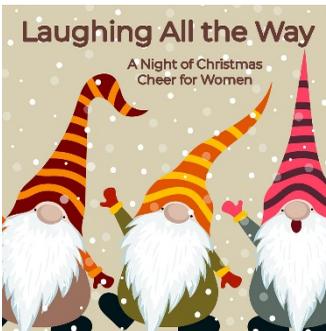
CHILDREN'S STORYTIME WITH PASTOR JEFF

Join Pastor Jeff every Sunday evening in Advent (12/12, 12/19) at 7:00 p.m. on Facebook Live for an online story that will get you in the spirit of the season.



COMMUNITY-WIDE CAROL SING TODAY!

On Sunday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m., join us on our front lawn for cookies, hot chocolate and a good ole Christmas Carol sing. Bring the whole family along for this special event - it will be sure to get you in the Christmas spirit.



LAUGHING ALL THE WAY: A NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR WOMEN

On Monday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m., put on your Christmas pajamas, grab your favorite snack and beverage and join us online via Zoom for an evening of storytelling and cheer. All women are welcome! Hosted by Jennifer Tripoli and Bridget Nelson. A Zoom link will be emailed out on Monday, December 13 at noon.



CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY

Sunday, December 19 at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. Wear your favorite Christmas sweater - "ugly" or not! Come and spread the joy of the season with your best Christmas get-up!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Longest Night Service



LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m. Whether mourning the loss of a loved one, dealing with an illness, navigating financial struggles or simply not feeling the spirit of Christmas; this service is a quiet, prayerful moment acknowledging the difficulties of the season.

NEW YEAR SANDWICH/LUNCH MAKING FROM HOME



Sign up for a one time family mission opportunity this winter. We have signed up to sponsor a meal – 300 sandwiches and 300 lunches – with the NOAH Project. You will assemble your portion at home and will bring them with you to church on Sunday, January 2. Then the church will deliver them all to the NOAH Project. Please visit www.rofum.org to sign up or see Karla after service to sign up for this much needed service project.



MUSIC GUILD MEETING

All are invited to the monthly Music Guild meeting, Monday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor. No experience required – just an interest in our youth, Choir Camp and our general music program! Hope you can join us.

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.





Christmas Eve Worship Experiences

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCES

4:00 p.m. - Sanctuary/Livestream

Children's Christmas Pageant - A service for children and families. The children of Royal Oak First will present the story of the First Christmas.

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary/Livestream

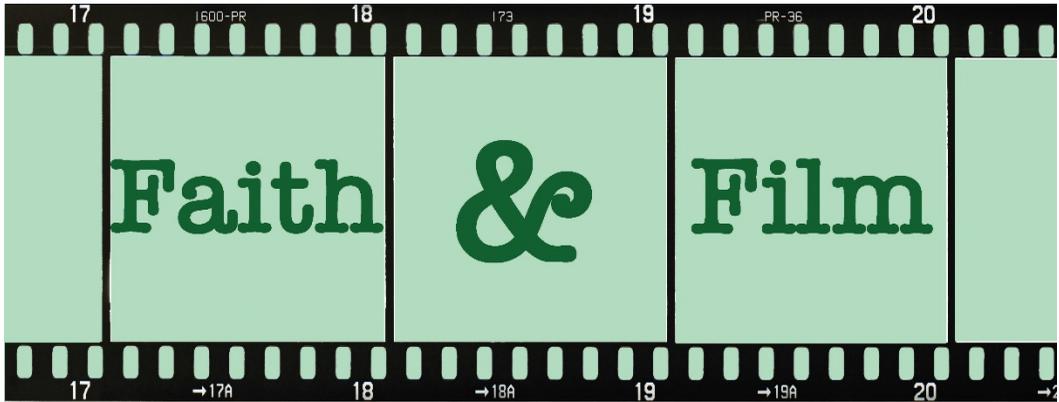
"Blue Jean Christmas" - a modern worship experience. Come as you are and worship with us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. We will also have a service of candlelight as part of our worship.

9:00 p.m. - Sanctuary/Livestream

Traditional Christmas Eve worship service with organ and piano accompaniment. We will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion and have a service of candlelight.

11:00 p.m. - Outside

Join us outside on our front lawn for a simple, yet Holy worship experience in the dark of night as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Communion will be served and a service of candlelight will be included.



FAITH & FILM IS BACK!

Royal Oak First is going back to the movies! For three Monday nights in January, we will head over to the MJR Troy Movie Theater at Maple and Livernois Roads at 7:00 p.m. to see a current movie together. Tickets are only \$8.50. If you have any questions, contact the church office at 248.541.4100 or office@rofum.org.

Monday, January 10—WEST SIDE STORY

Love at first sight strikes when young Tony spots Maria at a high school dance in 1957 New York City. Their burgeoning romance helps to fuel the fire between the warring Jets and Sharks -- two rival gangs vying for control of the streets.

Monday, January 17—SING 2

Can-do koala Buster Moon and his all-star cast of animal performers prepare to launch a dazzling stage extravaganza in the glittering entertainment capital of the world. There's just one hitch -- he has to find and persuade the world's most reclusive rock star to join them. What begins as Buster's dream of big-time success soon becomes an emotional reminder of the power of music to heal even the most broken heart.

Monday, January 24—This film will be announced soon, so keep watching this space!

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Don McCreedy • Bruce Conrad • John Wagster • Michael Frank • Lillian Cook •
Brian Cook • Yvonne Bashur • John Marsh • Don Matson • Brian Nader •
Rachel Fitzpatrick • Beckham Boozan • Phil and Jane Button • Dorthea Schuldeis •
Dorothy Matsumoto • Carl Sweet • Al Simmons • Barb Simmons • Laci Basel •
Todd Wells • Nancy Lorenz • Lisa Rye • Charlene Faunt • Marian Kremer •
Tom Soboleski • Janet Ramseyer • Neil Franks • Dave Minch • Patricia Callahan •
Maya Lane Harris • Kimberlyn Palchak • Diane Shornak • Carrie Morse •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Tom Dunstan • The Broderik Family • Beth Roselle • T.B. • Chrystl Roman •
Tina Bell • Jethro Horton • Flora Jones • Deni Bartley • Earl Hendrickson •
Evert & Kay Burchell • Neil Mullins • Effie Lambros • The Pushman Family •
Marc Reddekopp • Michael McFarlane • Darryl Warren • Sue Sugden • Sally Sou •
Teresa Baker •

Sympathies to:

Donna and Jim Yates on the death of Donna's father, Donald Avesian on December 2, 2021

Rose Simon on the death of her husband, Chuck Simon on December 8, 2021

Prayers for All That Have Been Impacted by COVID-19

For the complete Prayer List,
please contact Danielle Moody at prayers@rofum.org.

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

*"Sing, sing a song
Sing out loud
Sing out strong..."*

Dear Friends,

Recently I watched the cutest Sesame Street montage. You can watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sUOMIJI-ii0>. It had a whole bunch of celebrities, folks like Anita Baker, Gloria Estefan, R.E.M., Garth Brooks, Katie Couric, and others all singing along with our favorite Muppets:

*"Don't worry that it's not
Good enough for anyone
Else to hear
Just sing, sing a song."*

I have not thought about this song in over 45 years and there I was, with tears running down my cheeks, singing every single word. Music has a way of unlocking us. Music can carry us through the hard times and music can make the best of times even better. We need music. We need to sing.

If there is one thing Royal Oak First loves - it is music. From Sanctus Choir and Praise Band, to handbells, violins, ukuleles and African drums - this church has always made music. And perhaps the greatest time for music at Royal Oak First has been Christmas. We have loved to sing the hymns and the carols. The highlight of the season has often been our annual Christmas Concert: A Feast of Carols.

Things are different this year. Because of COVID precautions, we won't be able to have our annual concert. But we need to sing. We need our music. So we are taking it to the streets. This Sunday, we will be gathering outside on the church lawn at 3:00 p.m. for a group singalong. Tim Schoenherr and Erica Plesco, along with our music and worship team, will be leading us in singing all of our favorites. We will have chairs for those who need to sit. There will hot chocolate and cookies. And most importantly we get to see each other!!!!

So please plan to join us this Sunday afternoon. Let's make music together. It is truly a gift from God as it is our gift back to God.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor J
