

What Are We Waiting For?



ADVENT 2021

Rooted in Patience

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	“A Christmas Lullaby” arr. Anna Laura Page	Carillon Ringers
Song	“Awake to the Day”	Congregational Singing
Song	“Ancient Words” Michael W. Smith	Congregational Singing
Introduction to Advent		Erica Plesco
Lighting of the Advent Candle		Stephens Family
Musical Response	“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Stanza 4	House Band
Invitation to Mission		Jeff Nelson
Time of Prayer		Jeff Nelson
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	“Joy to the World” arr. Ron Mallory	Carillon Ringers
Give Thanks		Congregational Singing
Prayer of Dedication		Jeff Nelson
Scripture (**CEB)	Micah 5:2-5	Erica Plesco
Message	What Are We Waiting For?	Jeff Nelson
Song	“Go Light Your World” Chris Rice	Congregational Singing
Benediction		Jeff Nelson
Sending Music		House Band

***Common English Bible*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LAST NIGHT! CHILDREN'S STORYTIME WITH PASTOR JEFF IS TONIGHT!

Join Pastor Jeff this Sunday evening, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. on Facebook Live for an online story that will get you in the spirit of the season.

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.



Sunday, December 26

Only one service at 11:00 a.m.



WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

Remember, there is only one worship service at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 26. Also, there will be no Sunday School that day, but the nursery will be open. We will return to our normal services of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 2.



Holiday Office Hours

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be closed on Monday, December 27, Tuesday, December 28 and Monday, January 3.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



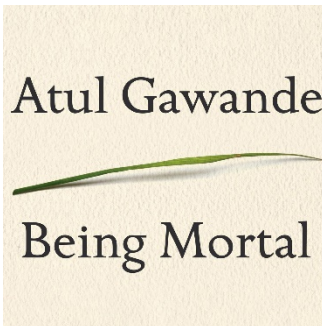
AT HOME LUNCH MAKING OPPORTUNITY

For families over winter break - 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 bring them to church on Sunday, January 2. The church will deliver them to the NOAH Project. Visit www.rofum.org to sign up or see Karla after service to sign up for this much needed service project.



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.



“BEING MORTAL” BOOK DISCUSSION

Using the bestseller “Being Mortal”, we will engage in conversations about how to live a life with meaning to the last with dignity and joy. We will uncover our deepest wishes and find ways to live more fully now and how we can encourage that for others in our lives. Purchase or borrow book. Beginning Wednesdays, January 26-February 23 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Visit www.rofum.org to sign up.

MEN'S WINTER GEAR COLLECTION



NEW NEEDS FOR MEN'S WINTER GEAR!

We need the following items: men's gloves/mittens, **men's winter boots**, men's winter hats, **long/thermal underwear tops and bottoms (L, XL, XXL)**, men's winter socks and **sleeping bags**. Thank you for supporting our Lunch Program guests!



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCES

We are asking you to help us prepare for Christmas Eve by letting us know when you will be attending. Think of this as a tool for preparing for a safe and meaningful worship experience, not a reservation that will be checked at the door. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

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

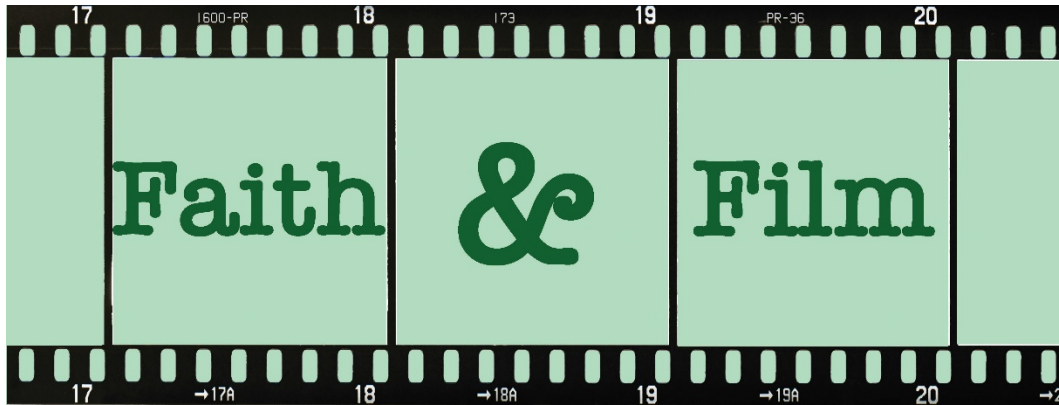
"Blue Jean Christmas" - a modern worship experience. Come as you are and worship with us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. We will also have a service of candlelight as part of our worship.

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:

Grace Perkins • John Wagster • Michael Frank • Lillian Cook • Brian Cook •
Ron Peludat • Don McCreedy • Bruce Conrad • Yvonne Bashur • Don Matson •
Rachel Fitzpatrick • Beckham Boozan • Phil and Jane Button • Dortha 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:

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

Sympathies to:

Heather Diemond on the death of her aunt, Mary Tucker.

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

Dear Friends,

This Sunday we will light the fourth and final candle on the Advent Wreath. We are making our way towards Christmas. Let me use this letter today to simply remind you of a few things that are coming up in the weeks to come.

Christmas Eve: We are having four in-person gatherings on Friday to celebrate Christmas. The services at 4:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. will be live streamed as well.

- 4:00 p.m. with Children and Families Service
- 7:00 p.m. Blue Jeans Christmas with members of our Praise Team
- 9:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve with Communion
- 11:00 p.m. Community Witness short service on the front lawn with singing, candlelight and Silent Night

We are asking you to help us prepare for Christmas Eve by letting us know when you will be attending. Think of this as a tool for preparing for a safe and meaningful worship experience, not a reservation that will be checked at the door. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

December 26th: The Sunday after Christmas we are having **one service at 11:00 a.m.** I will be bringing the message that morning and would love it if some of you would be there to worship along with me!

Christmas Week Office Hours: In order to give our church staff and leaders some rest and time with family, we will close the church offices on Monday, December 27 and Tuesday, December 28 and again on Monday, January 3.

Faith and Film: Lots of you have asked if we are going back to the movies this January. I am excited to report that we are! We will be looking for theological themes and life lessons in some of this season's most popular films. We are partnering with our friends at MJR Troy, on the corner of Maple and Main. They are offering an \$8.50 ticket. If you are interested, please join me at 7:00 p.m. to see the following films:

- January 10 - "West Side Story"
- January 17 - Family Night with "Sing 2" (All kids 16 and under will be free)
- January 24 - still to be determined.

I am looking forward to sharing these moments with you either in person or online. Again, I thank you for wearing your masks while inside the church building. Your sacrifice helps keep everybody safe.

As always, call or email us at the church (office@rofum.org or 248.541.4100) if we can be of any service to you, answer any questions or offer any prayer support.

Grace and Peace,

