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Sunday, May 15, 2022 9:00AM
ROYAL OAK FIRST: A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music	“Almighty” arr. Kevin McChesney	Carillon Ringers
Song	“There’s Nothing That Our God Can’t Do”	Congregational Singing
Song	“Revelation Song”	Congregational Singing
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Kyle Webber & Jeff Nelson
Sacrament of Holy Baptism		Harmony Abela-Godfrey <i>Daughter of Shannon and Kim Abela-Godfrey</i>
Song 2051 (**TFWS)	“I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry” (Stanzas 1,2,1)	Congregational Singing
Time of Prayer		Erica Plesco
Response	“Build My Life”	Congregational Singing
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		Erica Plesco
Musical Offering	“Rondo Jubilee” Brenda E. Austin	Carillon Ringers
Doxology	“Give Thanks”	Congregational Singing
Prayer of Dedication		Jeff Nelson
Scripture (*NIV)	Mark 12:18-24,27	Erica Plesco
Song	“There Will Be a Day” Jeremy Camp	Tim Schoenherr
Message	A Very Different Choice	Jeff Nelson
Song	“The Shelter”	Congregational Singing
Benediction		Jeff Nelson
Sending Music	“Acclamation in G Minor” arr. Karen Thompson	Carillon Ringers

**New International Version*
***The Faith We Sing*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



PRIDE & ALLY-PLANNING MEETING

Join us right after the 11:00 a.m. service concludes today in the Parlor to discuss the two upcoming Pride events that Royal Oak First will be participating in and to gauge interest in forming a group that would get together for social gatherings, such as: dining out, bowling, and movies. A light lunch will be served.



MICAH 6 BLOCK BLITZ- CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

On Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21, Royal Oak First will be sending teams of volunteers to be hands-on support to our neighbors in Pontiac. We will give a quick burst of light to this community during the Micah 6 Block Blitz neighborhood cleanup event. Many hands make light work, and that's what we are hoping to contribute. To double your impact, we will also be matching all volunteer shifts with a financial donation to Micah 6. Please scan this QR code or visit www.rofum.org for more information and to sign up!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



CAMP FUNDRAISING CONCERT HAS BEEN POSTPONED

Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, this concert has been postponed. Please look for further details about a new date in the fall.



CHOIR CAMP STAFF APPLICATIONS

After two years of not having an overnight camp experience for our kids, I am happy to say we are going back to Camp Ohiyesa in Holly...WooHoo! It is time to start thinking about campfires, Olympics, swimming, and all the fun we have! **Camp will be the week of July 17-23 and we need volunteers! Camp staff applications will be available in the church office and on the Information Table in the Narthex.** The deadline for submission is Sunday, May 22. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at 248.703.8805 or email her at jtripoli@rofum.org.

PLANT HOPE TELETHON

Join us on Facebook Live on Tuesday, May 24, Wednesday, May 25 and Thursday, May 26 from 12:00 – 12:30 p.m. for the Plant Hope Telethon where we will be raising money for Ukrainian refugees with live musical performances for you to enjoy and the opportunity to participate in our Plant Hope Initiative. Our performers will be Erica Plesco, Jason Sherman, Kyle Webber and Liz Wright. Please plan to join us!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Pride Sunday Worship

PRIDE SUNDAY WORSHIP

Are you interested in helping to plan and design worship for Pride Sunday, June 12, 2022? If you are interested in helping to write liturgy, give a testimony, or write a poem, the worship staff wants to hear from you as we celebrate our LGBTQIA+ community. If you are interested, there is a sign-up sheet on the Information Table in the Narthex or please email our Worship Director, Kyle Webber at kwebber@rofum.org.



MAY BABY SHOWER & DIAPER DRIVE

In honor of Mother's Day, Royal Oak First is hosting a "Baby Shower" collection to benefit the many, many single mothers and families supported through Redford Brightmoor Initiative (RBI) and the Methodist Children's Home & Society (MCHS). **We are collecting diapers, wipes, and gently used infant and older youth clothing and gear.** We've set a goal of collecting 2022 diapers in May. Please bring your donations to church on Sunday mornings or during regular office hours.

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WE NEED YOUR HELP to reach our Plant Hope Initiative goal of raising **\$20,000** for the over five million displaced Ukrainian refugees.

We have raised over \$17,000 so far and are so close to our goal!

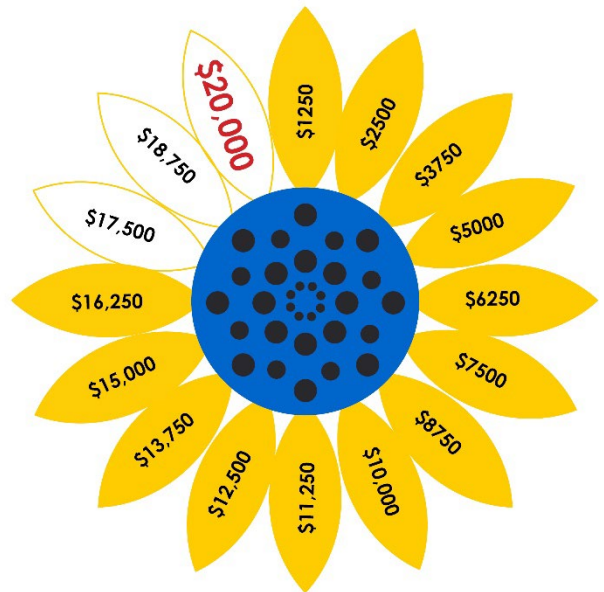
Donations of \$25 dollars or more come with two packets of sunflower seeds (one for you and one to share with a neighbor) and a Plant Hope yard sign.

Visit the Information Table in the Narthex after service OR visit this link:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/YNP/G/campaign/C-12JWJ> OR scan the QR code below.



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PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Art Miller • Dona Wells • Karen Porter • Barb Nicholas • Adrienne Loftin • Martha Pascoe • Jaime Luczak • Joyce Negrich • Lisa Rye • Bob Foote • Tom Soboleski • Bruce Conrad • Audrey Leenhouts • Mike Long • Charlene Faunt • Marilyn Hocking • Betty Latimer • John Wagster • Marian Kremer • Diana Shornak •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Kelly • Joanne Monte • Hannah Williams • Dan Inch • Steve Wurdock • Dorothy Follette • Mike Murray • Joan Firestone • Grandma Johnson • Harold Baker • Pam Payne • Margaret O'Donnell • Frank Cataldo • Tom Dunstan • Beth Roselle • T.B. • Chrystl Roman • Jethro Horton • Evert & Kay Burchell • Darryl Warren • Sue Sugden • Teresa Baker •

Congratulations to:

Alex and Erika Peck on their marriage on May 14, 2022

Sympathies to:

Kim Christopher on the death of her stepson, Tim Christopher on May 6, 2022

Prayers for All That Have Been Impacted by COVID-19

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List, please contact Danielle Moody at prayers@rofum.org.

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Our faith while personal is never private.

Our faith cannot be separated from the world around us and it cannot protect us from the toughest issues we face as people and as a community.

In fact, our faith is the vehicle that informs the ways we live and interact with the world and it is our faith that helps us both understand and engage the cultural issues that surround us.

And like every generation, ours is facing complex, tough and often divisive issues. In the last weeks, the cultural conversations around the Supreme Court's 1973 decision, Roe v. Wade and the legality of abortion have taken up center stage. These conversations can be among the most heated and hurtful, so much so that too often I have simply opted to not say anything about them, so as not to risk hurting or offending.

But certainly our faith has something to say about this moment and these issues we are grappling with as a nation, doesn't it?

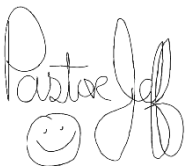
As United Methodists, we have a unique theological method, a method that helps us discern where God is at in the midst of these conversations and how God may be asking us to respond. This method is different from many other faith traditions and I have found returning to it so helpful when engaging in these complicated cultural moments.

So this Sunday, I will use my sermon time to engage the questions of life and choice that we are facing once again as a people. I won't be telling you what to believe. I simply hope to explore a way that might help each of us clarify what we believe and why we believe it.

Our faith invites us to have these tough conversations.

Please join us online or in person as together we engage this moment as followers of Christ.

Grace and Peace,



Pastor Jeff