



Sunday, March 19, 2023 9:00AM  
ROYAL OAK FIRST: A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Gathering Music

**Song** "Build Your Kingdom"

**Song** "Joy of the Lord"

**Welcome & Invitation to Mission** Kyle Webber & Jeff Nelson

## Sacrament of Baptism

**Mission Moment** Freedom Dreamers David Mayer

**Time of Prayer** Erica Plesco

## Offering Our Tithes and Gifts

**Musical Offering** "Worthy"  
by Mark Burrows Elementary Choir

**Doxology** "Give Thanks"

**Scripture\*** John 9:1-21

**Message** "You're Asking the Wrong Questions" Joanna Whaley

**Song** "Love Can Change the World"

## Benediction

**Sending Music** Youth Band

*\*The Message*

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR SPARE CHANGE FOR NOISY BUCKET  
NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 26!**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

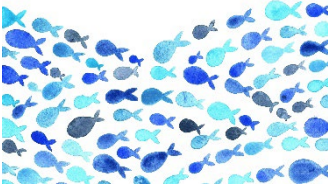


## YOUTH BAKE SALE IS TODAY!

We have had 10 middle school students gathering this year to learn about their faith and to grow in Christian love in preparation for their Confirmation. On Sunday, March 19 after both the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services, they are sponsoring a bake sale where all of the proceeds will go to fund their Kingdom Projects that will support various non-profits in the metro area.

## ONLY ONE FISH DINNER LEFT!

Friday, March 24, 4:30-7:00PM



## DON'T MISS OUR FINAL FISH DINNER!

On Friday, March 24 from 4:30-7:00 p.m., bring your family and friends and join us for yummy food and wonderful fellowship for one last fish dinner. Did you know that proceeds from our fish dinners benefit our children and youth? So swing by to enjoy some fish, baked potatoes/french fries, coleslaw and dessert!



**VOLUNTEERS  
Needed for  
Fish Dinners**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FISH DINNER!

Friday, March 24, 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Help us make the last fish dinner a success by volunteering! Please scan the QR code to sign up. Kids that volunteer get credit towards camp!



SCAN ME



## EGG MY HOUSE

Let your kids wake up to a yard full of candy and toy filled eggs on Easter morning! Twenty four (24) eggs are \$25 or forty eight (48) eggs are \$50. All proceeds go to the Youth Mission Trip. To place an order by Sunday, April 2, scan the QR code.



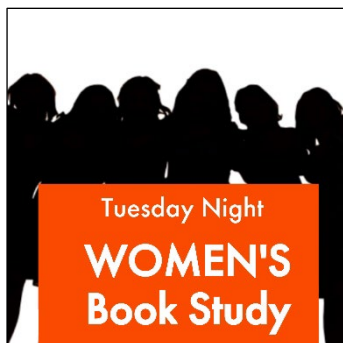
SCAN ME

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## EASTER EGG FILLERS COLLECTION

The youth are collecting donations of individually wrapped pieces of candy, toys/trinkets, and plastic eggs for their annual 'Egg My House' fundraiser. Donations are being accepted through Sunday, April 2. A collection bin will be set up at the Connections Table on Sunday mornings.



## TUESDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY

The Royal Oak First Tuesday Night Women's Book Study gathers informally each week to discuss a few chapters of the current book selection. We explore meaningful questions of life and faith and connect with each other in lively conversation. We are not serious scholars, but we are serious about fostering a deeper relationship with God and with each other. Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4 in the Youth Room, to begin "The Gifts of Imperfection" by Brene Brown. This book "...shows you how to embrace your inner flaws to accept who you are instead of constantly chasing the image of who you're trying to be because other people expect you to act in certain ways." Any questions, email Pam Belecki at [pbelecki@wowway.com](mailto:pbelecki@wowway.com).



## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE KICK-OFF

Ever felt powerless and hopeless following a national or community tragedy? The Social Action Committee at Royal Oak First (The Justice League) is a place for you to begin political engagement/advocacy and will serve as a resource for the church's social justice community outreach efforts. Please join us for our kick-off event on Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Royal Oak Taphouse. Please contact Christie Mikell with any questions ([christie.mikell@gmail.com](mailto:christie.mikell@gmail.com) or 734.347.4006).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## SECOND HALF SAGES

Join us on Sunday, April 16 at 12:30 p.m. in the Parlor to gauge interest in forming a group of men and women aged 50+ from the church getting together throughout the year for fun social gatherings such as: dining out, movies, plays, book discussions, and sporting, cultural or music events. A light lunch will be served as we get your input and ideas for this group. Questions, please contact either Joyce Hollingsworth (312.330.7632 or [jhollingsworth@rofum.org](mailto:jhollingsworth@rofum.org)) or Lee Trumbull (248.541.4100 or [ltrumbull@rofum.org](mailto:ltrumbull@rofum.org)).



## DIAPERS AND TOILET PAPER COLLECTION

Through the remainder of Lent we will be collecting both Diapers and Toilet Paper. We are hoping to fill the church from top to bottom with these highly needed items. Diapers will be donated to RBI and MCHS Family of Services. There is greatest need for diapers size 4 and larger. Toilet paper will be donated to Outreach on 7th and RBI.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO BUY PRODUCE

Thank you for your continued support in providing fresh produce monthly to the families served through Redford Brightmoor Initiative's Free Store! We still need shopping volunteers for April and May. If you are interested in making a monetary donation in support of this project, or if you have time to shop but would need reimbursement, both of those contributions are greatly appreciated! Scan QR code to sign up.



# holy week

at Royal Oak First 

*Sunday, April 2, 9:00AM and 11:00AM -- IN PERSON & ONLINE*

## **PALM SUNDAY**

Join us as we celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We will be led by our House Band and our children will participate in a Palm Parade. The Abide Men's Fellowship is sponsoring a **SUNDAY BRUNCH** after both services on Palm Sunday. There is no cost for the brunch and reservations are not necessary.

*Thursday, April 6, 7:00PM -- IN PERSON & ONLINE*

## **MAUNDY-THURSDAY- "The Living Last Supper"**

Leonardo da Vinci's Renaissance masterpiece "The Last Supper" is brought to life in this remarkable work created by Ruth Elaine Schramm through character monologues, expressive melodies, and dramatic enhancements for an unforgettable communion celebration. Musicians featured will be our Sanctus Choir and Orchestra.

*Friday, April 7, 12:00PM -- IN PERSON & ONLINE*

## **GOOD FRIDAY**

Join us in person or online for an impactful Good Friday worship service remembering Jesus' final day. This is a service of deep reflection.

*Friday, April 7, 7:00PM -- IN PERSON & ONLINE*

## **7 LAST WORDS POETRY/MUSIC SLAM**

Don't miss this live event where poets and musicians muse on Christ's last words. Unique, poignant, and compelling, the 7 Last Words Poetry/Music Slam offers insights into Christ's humanity and divinity in his final moments.

*Sunday, April 9, 9:00AM and 11:00AM -- IN PERSON & ONLINE*

## **EASTER SUNDAY**

Christ is risen! Hallelujah! Join us for a morning of worship and celebration featuring a brass quintet and Sanctus Choir. This is a morning celebration not to be missed!



# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

## Prayers for Our Church Family:

Gloria Knappenberger • Oscar Updyke • Jordan Altman • Kathy Sestok • Heather Diamond • Sue Genschoreck • Ann Cline • Michelle Prud'homme • Marian Kremer • Kim Abela-Godfrey • Jane Sledd • Sheryl Hunter • Lisa Rye • Mike Long • Al Knappenberger • David Salvette • Kathi Burger • Tom Soboleski • Art Miller • Woody Siddall • Betty Goodrich • Polly Tan • Lee Hoffmann • Karen Porter • Jim Shumaker • Mary Nahhat • Jen Irish-Minewiser • Diane Sexton • Donna Allen • Ann Anderson • Mary Lou Graeber • Audrey Leenhouts • Charlene Faunt •

## Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Mary Lou Howard • Tom Thatcher • Allison and Bill Hempstead • Larry Mead • Tom Hill • Judy Gorney • Bob Blonde • Patty Glass • Jim Castellani • Suzanne Ortiz • Mary McKinnon • Dolores Mason • Victor Burgess • Margaret O'Donnell • Rick Hocking • Scott Morrell • Sharon Pillow • Rachel Timm • Linda Swanson • Scott Peacor and Kyla Boyse • Mike Pilon • Larry Campbell • Phillip Makinen • Joan Firestone • Dan Hicks • Brent Miller • Jeff and Marcy Carmichael • James • Carl Jones • Dorothy Follette • Deana Sawicki • Atlas • Kelly • Steve Wurdock • Harold Baker • Darryl Warren • Sue Sugden •

*If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List,  
please contact Danielle Moody at [prayers@rofum.org](mailto:prayers@rofum.org).*

# LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

God has a way of bringing you the right people at the right time. This past year we were in search of the right person to lead our sound ministry. This has become a more critical role with the expansion of contemporary music and online broadcasting of worship and other special events. We searched but couldn't find the right fit to continue the ministry that others have built over the years. That is when a former colleague of mine put me in touch with Joanna Whaley.

Joanna came to us with over a decade of worship and pastoral ministry in larger non-denominational churches in the Downriver community. It was clear from meeting her that she was not just a skilled audio technician, she also had a deep heart for God, a knowledge of scripture and pastoral call to serve. Joanna is also a talented musician, worship leader and songwriter. You can listen to her song, "Shell of Me", right here: <https://youtu.be/Bie4yd0rTPg>

Joanna has recently started a chaplain residency at U of M Hospital where she sits with all kinds of people in some of life's most vulnerable moments. She joined our church this fall and is in discernment about pursuing the Licensed Local Pastor path into ministry.

Joanna loves spending time with her three daughters.

This weekend we welcome Joanna as she brings us the word.

Thank you for being such a kind and generous community.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script 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.

Pastor Jeff Nelson