



**KEEP IT SIMPLE**  
**LOVE ONE ANOTHER**



**Sunday, July 30, 2023**  
**10:00 AM Worship**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

<b>Gathering Music</b>	“Alive and Breathing”	House Band
<b>Call to Worship</b>		Erica Plesco
<b>Song</b>	“All Creatures of Our God and King”	
<b>Welcome &amp; Invitation to Mission</b>		Joanna Whaley & Jeff Nelson
<b>Children’s Moment</b>		
<b>Time of Prayer</b>		Jeff Jones
<b>Offering Our Gifts and Tithes</b>		
<b>Musical Offering</b>	“How Great Thou Art”	The Altman Family
<b>Doxology</b>	“Give Thanks”	
<b>Scripture</b>	Psalm 69:1-3	
<b>Song</b>	“Help!” The Beatles	
<b>Message</b>	“Help!”	Jeff Nelson
<b>Song</b>	“Great Are You, Lord”	
<b>Benediction</b>		
<b>Sending Music</b>	“Great Are You, Lord”	

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE AUGUST MEETING

Please join us for our next **Social Action Committee meeting on Tuesday, August 1, at 7:00 p.m. in the church parlor.** We are continuing to work on ways to communicate social action updates to our church community and promote social justice activities in our area. Please feel free to attend even if you have not come to meetings in the past! Please reach out to Christie Mikell at 734.347.4006 or [socialaction@rofum.org](mailto:socialaction@rofum.org) with any questions.



## CHURCH PICNIC IS ON AUGUST 3

Our church picnic is almost here! Join us on **Thursday, August 3 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Normandy Oaks, 4234 Delemere Blvd., Royal Oak, 48073.** Bring a side dish to pass, a chair, and your beverage of choice. There is a kids splash pad, so bring a swimsuit and a towel. We will provide the hot dogs, the fellowship, and the fun. If you have any questions, contact the church office at 248.541.4100 or [office@rofum.org](mailto:office@rofum.org).



## THE PRIDE & ALLY GROUP NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR PRIDE BOOTH

Our Pride & Ally Group is looking for volunteers for our booth at the Royal Oak Pride event on **Friday, August 4 and Saturday, August 5.** Please scan the QR code to sign up! Any questions, please email [prideandally@rofum.org](mailto:prideandally@rofum.org).



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## A WEEK WITH RBI

In an effort to support our friends at the Redford Brightmoor Initiative (RBI), we are planning a full week devoted to supporting their Free Store. We will **send a group of volunteers on Wednesday morning, August 9**, to help sort donations and get the Free Store ready to open. Then on **Saturday, August 12, we will send another group of volunteers** to help staff the Free Store while it is open. Please also look through your homes for household item donations (kitchen, bedding, towels, etc.) and men's and children's clothing (please, no winter clothes until the fall) that you no longer need and bring them to the lower level elevator lobby. Thank you for helping in the ways you are able! Scan QR code to sign up.



SCAN ME

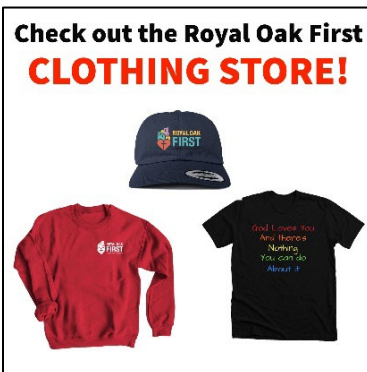


## RBI PRODUCE PROGRAM

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 three shopping volunteers on August 11, and three more on September 8.** Thank you to all who have helped with continued success of this project! Scan QR code to sign up.



SCAN ME



## CHECK OUT THE ROYAL OAK FIRST CHURCH CLOTHING STORE!

Wanna tell everyone that your church is the coolest one around? **Check out our church clothing webpage!** We have t-shirts (short sleeve and long sleeve), sweatshirts, hats and even a t-shirt for your doggie. Scan QR code to order.



SCAN ME

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## FREEDOM DREAMERS

"Freedom Dreamers" ministry for returning citizen's **August "Fresh Expressions Worship" will be held in our parlor on Saturday, August 12, 12:00-2:00 p.m.** A free lunch will be served first, then Pastor David Mayer and returning citizen David Smith will lead an interactive discussion on "Being in the Trenches Together", with thematic music lead by our own Erica Plesco and Jason Sherman. Any members or friends of Royal Oak First are encouraged to come support this unique outreach ministry. A sign-up sheet and information flyer are available at the Connections Table.



## ESSENTIALS PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

The first Saturday of the month, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. the Essentials Pantry is open. **We need volunteers to gather items from our supply inventory and hand out these supplies to those in need.** If you are able to volunteer, please scan the QR code.



SCAN ME



## NOAH PROJECT SANDWICH ASSEMBLY (FROM HOME)

To support our friends at The NOAH Project as they assist the homeless in Detroit, we have signed up to donate 300 sandwiches in August. Please consider signing up to assemble 30 meat & cheese sandwiches or donating bags of chips using the link below, and bring them with you to church on Sunday, August 20. We can also use help making the delivery if you have Monday afternoon availability. Thank you for your added energy and support to our missions projects! Scan the QR code to sign up.



SCAN ME



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## “KEEP IT SIMPLE” LAWN SIGNS

As part of our July sermon series “Keep it Simple”, **we will have lawn signs that say, “Keep it Simple-Love One Another” for you to take home and display.** They are available throughout the gathering space.

## Learn to Plarn!



## LEARN TO PLARN!

The Plarn Mat Project has officially launched for the summer of 2023. **Please stop by our table in the gathering space after service to learn how to make plarn** (yarn made from repurposed plastic grocery bags). This plarn will be used to crochet sleeping mats that are greatly appreciated by our Outreach on 7th lunch guests. If making plarn does not fit in your life currently, **we would still like your extra plastic shopping bags.** Please bring them to church and leave them in the plarn collection box in the gathering space.

## SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION FOR FERNDALE LOWER ELEMENTARY

Late summer brings the return of the Royal Oak First School Supply Collection! We are continuing our partnership with Ferndale Lower Elementary and will be collecting the following items which they requested: glue sticks, Expo markers, plastic pencil boxes, Crayola (24 count) crayons, and kid scissors. Other items are welcome, but those listed are of greatest need. Please drop off school supplies in the big round bins at the Tower entrance or by the Welcome Desk.



# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

## **Prayers for Our Church Family:**

Jenny Lowman • Audrey Fick • Dona Wells • Nancy Reid • Inge Wichers • Carrie Morse • Diana Shornak • Sandra Haywood • Kathi Burger • Betty Latimer • Gloria Knappenberger • Joan Johnson • Al Simmons • Phil Button • Lee Hoffmann • Kathy Seidler • Bill and Faye Bond • Jordan Altman • Allison and Bill Hempstead • Mike Long • Marian Kremer • Sheryl Hunter • Art Miller • Karen Porter • Mary Nahhat • Diane Sexton • Donna Allen • Ann Anderson • Audrey Leenhouts • Charlene Faunt •

## **Prayers for Our Extended Family:**

Pat Parusch • Robert Baker • Glen Baker • Faye Rogers • Julia Rogers • Effie Lambros • Chrystl Roman • Ken Burger • Kyron Bradstrom • James Lovitt • Rachel B. • Lisa Green • JJ • Alex Guiang • Liz Fitch • Jim Slimek • Diana Laginess • Penny Showers • Connie and Ken Warner • Jonathon Larson • Mary Lou Howard • Tom Hill • Judy Gorney • Bob Blonde • Patty Glass • Sharon Pillow • Rachel Timm • Linda Swanson • Harold Baker • Scott Peacor and Kyla Boyse • Larry Campbell • Phillip Makinen • Joan Firestone • Jeff and Marcy Carmichael • Dan Hicks • Brent Miller • James • Carl Jones • Dorothy Follette • Deana Sawicki • Atlas • Kelly • Steve Wurdock •

## **Sympathies to:**

Mark & Cathy Thatcher on the death of Mark's brother, Tom on July 26, 2023  
The Wright Family on the death of Liz's mother, Ellen Tull on July 25, 2023  
The Tripoli Family on the death of their friend, Margaret O'Donnell on July 17, 2023  
The Haines Family on the death of Corey's mother, Yvonne Haines on July 9, 2023  
The friends and family of Marilyn Thompson on her death, June 14, 2023  
Jill Brown on the death of her mother, Penny Wilkie on May 21, 2023

*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,

Two of my new favorite icebreaker questions (nod to “Ted Lasso”) are:

What was your first concert? What was your best concert?

I love the conversations that ensue - full of memories, moments and music.

Growing up in Northern Wisconsin, we were not a destination for big concerts, so it wasn't until college that I saw my first big show. My first concert was Metallica and Guns N' Roses at the Target Center in Minneapolis. And it didn't disappoint. Afterwards, my ears were ringing for a solid week and I'd imagine that Slash was still jamming the guitar or doing his solo to “November Rain”.

The best concert I ever attended was U2's 360 tour in East Lansing late June, 2011. The night was perfect! As Michigan State fans know, the sun setting over Spartan Stadium is magical. We were there with our best friends and Bono and boys were everything I could have ever hoped for. It is cliché for a Gen X pastor like me to say seeing U2 was a spiritual experience, but it was! Singing “One more in the name of love,” with 65,000 of my closest friends – well, let me just say I felt pretty close to God.

This summer Casey went to see Santana. Bridget saw TLC, En Vogue and Shaggy. Sam is hoping to see the Jonas Brothers. Some of you went to Taylor Swift, Ed Sheeran, Beyoncé, Elvis Costello, or Kenny Chesney. Being able to experience so much music is one of the real gifts of living where we do.

Music is powerful and it is truly a passion of mine.

Music is one of the ways I feel most connected to God. About this connection, the great Protestant Reformer Martin Luther once boldly proclaimed, “Music is a gift and grace of God, not an invention of men.”

This next month I am going to be exploring the ancient song book of the church, the Psalms. What were the songs that Jesus would have sung in worship? The Psalms gives some suggestions. And in order to help explore these ancient songs, I am asking for the help of the apostles John and Paul, Lennon and McCartney that is, to shed some contemporary light into these ancient hymns. So through songs like “Help!”, “Let it Be”, “The Long and Winding Road”, and “All You Need is Love”, let's be immersed in the music, both ancient and modern, that brings joy and peace to our hearts.

I'd love to hear your stories of your first concert and your favorite concert. Please feel free to email me your memories.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jeff" followed by a stylized flourish. Below the signature is a simple line drawing of a smiley face with a wide, open mouth and two dots for eyes.

Pastor Jeff Nelson