



**ROYAL OAK**  
**FIRST**  
A United Methodist Church

**Sunday, August 20, 2023**  
**10:00 AM Worship**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

<b>Gathering Music</b>	“Awake My Soul”	House Band
<b>Call to Worship</b>		Erica Plesco
<b>Song</b>	“Be Thou My Vision”	
<b>Welcome &amp; Invitation to Mission</b>		Kyle Webber & Jeff Nelson
<b>Children’s Moment</b>		
<b>Time of Prayer</b>		
<b>Offering Our Gifts and Tithes</b>		
<b>Musical Offering</b>	“The Lord’s Prayer” Malotte	Polly Tan, Piano
<b>Doxology</b>	“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”	
<b>Scripture</b>	Psalm 121	
<b>Song</b>	“The Long and Winding Road” The Beatles	
<b>Message</b>	“The Long and Winding Road”	Jeff Nelson
<b>Song</b>	“My Help”	
<b>Benediction</b>		
<b>Sending Music</b>	“The Long and Winding Road”	

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Moms at Pubs

(MAP)



## MOMS AT PUBS (MAP)

MAP is a group that meets for fun and fellowship at a local pub, giving moms a chance to relax, laugh, and enjoy the fellowship of other moms. **This month we will meet on Thursday, August 24 at 7:00 p.m. at the Brown Iron Brewhouse, 30955 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak.** Please join us! If you have any questions or want to be added to our email list for upcoming events, please contact Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at [jtripoli@rofum.org](mailto:jtripoli@rofum.org) or phone/text 248.703.8805.

## Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 27, 10:00 a.m.

## BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Your children are invited to bring their backpacks to church on **Sunday, August 27** to receive a special **blessing** as we head into the new school year. Blessing of the Backpacks will take place during the 10:00 a.m. service.

## NOISY BUCKET

Give your spare change to help  
Lithuanian Methodist Churches

## SAVE YOUR LOOSE/SPARE CHANGE FOR NOISY BUCKET

Bring in your spare change in **on Sunday, August 27 at the 10:00 a.m. service** and we will collect it for our efforts to support the United Methodist churches in Lithuania. Don't miss out on making the bucket noisy!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION FOR FERNDALE LOWER ELEMENTARY

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.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED DURING ARTS, BEATS & EATS

From September 1-4, nearly 400,000 people will visit our community during Arts, Beats & Eats (AB&E), so we are looking for volunteers. **You will greet Arts, Beats & Eats volunteers, sponsors & artists at the Tower door; keep the church outdoor area picked up; offer assistance to AB&E Volunteer Command Center Staff as needed. Bonus: Each person that volunteers for a shift will receive free admission to the festival!** Scan the QR code to sign up.



SCAN ME



## ARTS, BEATS & EATS WORSHIP SERVICE

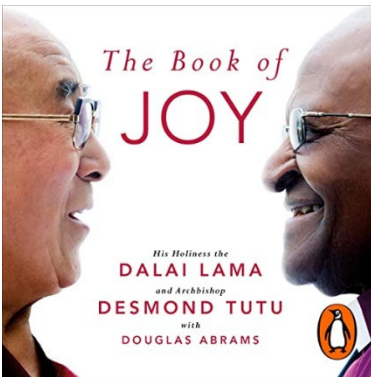
We will have **only one worship service during Arts, Beats & Eats on Sunday, September 3 at 10:00 a.m. on the outdoor stage located at 6th and Lafayette.** If you don't plan on staying for the festival, park in the parking structure across and down the street from the church until 11:00 am. If you are planning to attend the festival after worship, all worshippers that day get a ticket for free admission to the festival, free parking at Royal Oak High School (1500 Lexington Blvd.), along with a free shuttle from the high school to drop you off and pick you up right next to the stage.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS





## FALL KICKOFF SUNDAY

Please mark **Sunday, September 10** on your calendar and plan to join us for the kickoff of the **2023-24** worship year. We will have one outdoor service (under the tent) at **10:00 a.m.** that morning followed by a **block party on 7<sup>th</sup> street**. There will be food trucks, music, a bounce house and games for the kids! We ask you to bring a pair of socks for our traditional "Sock-it-to-Me-September" sock drive. Nursery care and supervised play space for kids available. We hope you can join us in person for service and/or the block party!



## “THE BOOK OF JOY” BOOK DISCUSSION

Come join us for three weeks to discuss "The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World" by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu. Archbishop Desmond Tutu has never claimed to be a Saint and the Dalai Lama considers himself to be a simple Buddhist Monk. They look back on their long lives and answer a single burning question: How do we find joy in the face of life's inevitable suffering? They offer us their reflection on their real lives filled with pain and turmoil and how they have found peace, courage and joy in the midst of it. Together, they explore the true nature of joy, the obstacles to joy, and the eight pillars of joy which provide the foundation for lasting happiness. Join us for engaging fellowship and thoughtful discussion. **We will meet at the church for three Sundays, September 10, 17 and 24 from 10:30 a.m.-12 noon.** Scan QR   code to sign up.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## “RECONNECT WITH YOURSELF”

### SOUL RETREAT

This full-day women’s retreat on **Saturday, September 16 from 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**, led by **Dr. Christie Mikell and Haley Hall**, is a safe and holding space for your feelings, experiences, truths, darkneses, and light. On this full day retreat, there is space to re-center and reset, explore harmful messages and patterns that keep you stuck, and connect deeply and joyfully with other women. It is an honor to hold this space for you and we look forward to accompanying you on your journey of self-healing. We are inclusive of all cis women, AFAB and non-binary folx. The cost is \$35 which includes a light breakfast and lunch. Scan QR code to sign up.



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**TWO WORSHIP SERVICES RESUME ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 AT 9AM AND 11AM**

## TWO WORSHIP SERVICES RESUME ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Join us as we return to our normal worship times of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. beginning Sunday, September 17. Our 9:00 a.m. service is a more contemporary service and our 11:00 a.m. service is a more traditional service.



## SUPPORT FOR MAUI WILDFIRE VICTIMS

Wind-driven wildfires on Maui have prompted evacuations and caused significant loss of life and widespread damage. UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) is coordinating with the California-Pacific Annual Conference to process an initial grant for emergency supplies such as shelf-stable food, water, hygiene items and tools to help survivors recover belongings. All of the donations made to UMCOR this month using the QR code will be sent to the Hawaii Wildfire Advance fund. Scan QR code to donate.



SCAN ME

# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

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

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

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

Michael Hempstead • Giovanni Wright • Connie Armstrong • Rog Garwood •  
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 • Liz Fitch • Jim Slimek •  
Diana Laginess • Connie and Ken Warner • Jonathon Larson • Tom Hill •  
Judy Gorney • Bob Blonde • Patty Glass • Sharon Pillow • Rachel Timm •  
Linda Swanson • Scott Peacor and Kyla Boyse • Larry Campbell •  
Joan Firestone • Jeff and Marcy Carmichael • Dan Hicks • Brent Miller • James •  
Carl Jones • Dorothy Follette • Deana Sawicki • Atlas • Kelly • Steve Wurdock •  
Harold Baker •

## **Sympathies to:**

The Johanson family on the death of Rob's father, Bob Johanson on August 15, 2023

Sheryl Hunter on the death of her brother, Dennis Janey on August 12, 2023

Renee Grieme on the death of her mother, Diana LaBrecque on August 10, 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

*"We the church don't have a mission. The mission has a church."*

--Reggie McNeal

Dear Friends,

I love this quote by Reggie McNeal. It reminds us that the church's mission is to be in mission. We were invited by Jesus to be in loving service to our neighbors and are called to share with each other, and the community around us, from the blessings we have been given. I have heard it said that the Church of Jesus Christ is an organization that exists for the sole benefit of its non-members.

I am proud of all the ways Royal Oak First's mission is to be in mission. Together we share God's love locally, regionally and around the world. I want to suggest three ways you can continue to make our mission of making Christ's love real.

## **Ferndale Lower Elementary:**

We want to ensure that every student in this one school can start the school with all the "stuff" they need to be successful. Throughout the month of August we are collecting glue sticks, Expo markers, plastic pencil boxes, Crayola (24 count) Crayons and kids' scissors. Please drop off school supplies in the big round bins at the Tower Entrance or by the Welcome Desk. Let's make sure to get these kids off to a great start!

## **Personal Essentials Pantry:**

In April of this past year we launched our newest mission, a non-food essentials pantry. We want to help low-income families get basic hygiene and cleaning products. As we know, these items can be fairly expensive. We offer this pantry on the first Saturday of every month and have had as many as 60 households receive assistance on a given Saturday. The Personal Essentials Pantry is always in need of paper towels and toilet paper. If you are at the store and are able to grab an extra pack of these items from time to time, just know that your purchase goes a long way to helping families in need.

## **Maui Wildfires:**

Many of us have watched in shock and disbelief as wind-driven wildfires on Maui have devastated the local population. If you are like me, you wonder, how can I help? One of the blessings of being a part of the United Methodist Church is our offerings support a global relief organization known as the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). UMCOR is already on the ground working with local UMC Churches on the island to provide food and water, support shelters and begin the long cleanup. You can make a donation to the UMCOR Hawaii Wildfire Advance Fund by scanning this QR code or visiting our church website.



Again, I am so proud to be a part of this movement. God is doing very powerful work through us. Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jeff Nelson