



ROYAL OAK
FIRST
A United Methodist Church

Sunday, August 6, 2023
10:00 AM Worship

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music	“Up Close” by Joanna Whaley	Joanna Whaley
Call to Worship		
Song	“Praise to the Lord (Joyful, Joyful)”	
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Erica Plesco
Children’s Moment		Jaime Luczak
Time of Prayer		Maria Moro
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	“Be Still, My Soul” arr. Sally DeFord	Liz Wright
Doxology	“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”	
Scripture	Psalm 46	
Song	“Let It Be” The Beatles	
Message	“Let It Be”	Erica Plesco
Sacrament of Holy Communion		Jennifer Tripoli
Song During Communion	“O Lord, You’re Beautiful”	House Band
Song	“Fear is Not My Future”	
Benediction		
Sending Music	“Let It Be”	

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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!**

Sign-up sheets are available at the Connections Table or scan the QR code.



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.



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 two shopping volunteers on August 11, and two 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



A WEEK WITH RBI

In an effort to support our friends at the Redford Brightmoo Initiative (RBI), we are planning a full week devoted to supporting their Free Store.

- **Sunday 8/6**, we will gather in the Parlor after church to repackage bulk donations into single person sizes.
- **Wednesday 8/9**, we will **send a group of volunteers** to help sort donations and get the Free Store ready to open.
- **Saturday 8/12**, 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



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 is available at the Connections Table.



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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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 sign up to assemble 30 meat & cheese sandwiches or donating bags of chips, 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.** Scan the QR code to sign up.



SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION FOR FERNDAL 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.

“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, darknesses, 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 folk. The cost is \$35 which includes a light breakfast and lunch. Scan QR code to sign up.





Royal Oak First is always grateful when people give of their time, talent and/or treasure.

Did you know that there are several different ways to give financially?

Text to Give: Text the amount you wish to give to 855.566.0093.

In Person: You can place a check or cash in an offering envelope and drop it in the offering plate when it goes by or in one of the offering collection boxes just outside the Sanctuary.

Giving App: Download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app to set up one-time or recurring donations.

Online: Visit rofum.org/giving to set up and manage your one-time and recurring gifts.

You can always check out our website, www.rofum.org for **Volunteer Opportunities** or subscribe to our weekly email, by going to this link: <http://eepurl.com/c9m7L9>.

For more information, contact Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at 248.541.4100 ext. 1225 or email jtripoli@rofum.org.

Thank you!

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 •
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 • 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 • 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:

The Yago Family & Bonnie Barber on the death of Suzanne Ortiz on July 31,
2023

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

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

"Before I can tell my life what I want to do with it, I must listen to my life telling me who I am."

-Parker J. Palmer, "Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation"

"Be still and know that I am God."

Psalm 46:10

"There will be an answer."

"Let it Be" The Beatles

Dear Friends,

I remember once being at a workshop where the facilitator had a big bowl on the stage. The fish bowl was full of water. She then proceeded to stir several large scoops of dirt into a bowl until the once clear water was completely clouded. We no longer could see clearly because of the swirling mess.

The facilitator then went to say that this is a metaphor for how life unfolds sometimes. A lot of "stuff" can stir into our lives, making it hard to both see where we are and where we need to go. Then with a stirring stick in hand, she said our response to these cloudy moments of life is too often to keep stirring things up, as if more activity and more anxiety would bring clarity.

She then said, let's see what happens if we leave it alone for a while. And sure enough, the simple act of just leaving the mess alone, over the course of the workshop, the dirt slowly gave way to clarity.

She was making her point: Sometimes you just have to let things settle. Sometimes you just need to let it be.

I am more of a Type A personality, but over this last season of my life, I am learning to be more of a Type "Let it Be" person. Learning to let things settle. To simply let that time be is truly a spiritual act of trust. When we are able to take our hands off the "stirring stick" of our lives, we can trust that God will bring a clarity we cannot fully create on our own. Learning to sit still, breathe, listen and wait have all been practices I have had to learn (some of them the hard way!)

The Nelson family will be getting away this weekend. We are traveling to the Hocking Hills of Ohio for a few days to simply be together. We will rest. We will read. We will play some Euchre (my Type A personality still makes me pretty competitive...but I am working on it!) We will take in the sights - I am excited about seeing the Pencil Sharpener Museum! But the main thing we will be "doing" is just "being together".

Bringing our Beatles message, "Let it Be," this week our Worship Leader will be Erica Plesco. She will be assisted in worship by Pastor Jennifer Tripoli and our Ministry Intern, Joanna Whaley.

I hope you will be able to be with them this week.

Grace and Peace,



Pastor Jeff Nelson