



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023, 9:00 A.M.

CHOOSE TODAY:  
DOING GOD'S MINISTRY TOGETHER

*"What Matters Most"*



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

<b>Gathering Music</b>	“As For Me” Chris Tomlin/Pat Barrett	Erica Plesco & Kyle Webber
<b>Song</b>	“Create in Me”	
<b>Welcome &amp; Invitation to Mission</b>		Jennifer Tripoli & Jeff Nelson
<b>Mission Moment</b>	Noisy Bucket	Leonard Benyas
<b>Time of Prayer</b>		
<b>Spotlight on Ministry-Children, Youth and Families</b>		
<b>Offering Our Gifts and Tithes</b>		
<b>Musical Offering</b>	“Autumn Twilight” by Jason Sherman	Jason Sherman
<b>Doxology</b>	“Give Thanks”	
<b>Scripture</b>	Joshua 24:14-17	Sam Nelson
<b>Poem</b>	“Angels and Devils and Hungry Wolves...”	Dimonique Boyd
<b>Message</b>	“Competing Priorities”	Jeff Nelson
<b>Song</b>	“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”	House Band
<b>Benediction</b>		
<b>Departing Music</b>		

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Big Boy Night is Back!**

**Tuesday, October 24, 4-8pm**



## **BIG BOY NIGHT!**

Mark your calendar for **Tuesday, October 24, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. for Big Boy Night!** This is a fundraiser sponsored by Royal Oak First's Music Guild. All proceeds from Big Boy Night will support our summer choir camp. The restaurant is giving us 15% of all sales between 4:00 and 8:00 p.m. We will be at the Big Boy at 30460 John R, between 12 and 13 Mile, in Madison Heights. There will be lots of wonderful items donated by our members as door prizes. Come on out and meet your church family and friends for a tasty dinner, get a door prize or two and support our youth ministry.

## **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, October 26 at 7:00 p.m. at Bar Louie, 510 S. Main Street, Royal Oak.** If you 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.

## **SERVICE**



**ON SUNDAY**

## **SERVICE (FOR OTHERS) ON SUNDAY**

Please plan to participate on **Sunday, October 29, at 10:15 a.m. between services in the Parlor, while we join in service for others.** We will be assembling 150 sandwiches for Outreach on 7<sup>th</sup> Lunch Program.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## SAVE THE DATE! BOBBY JO VALENTINE CONCERT

We invite everyone to join us on Thursday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m. for a Bobby Jo Valentine concert full of heart-opening, award-winning folk/pop music. Bobby Jo Valentine's music exists outside the lines of any genre, but the music's thoughtful, spirit focused lyrics and catchy melodies reach listeners across all walks of life. The poetic nature and spiritual focus of his stories and original songs has resulted in notable awards and a growing, loyal following around the country. Bobby Jo Valentine has toured across the nation at numerous United Methodist Churches. **Tickets (\$10) will be available for purchase at the door.** All proceeds will go towards sponsoring a child to go to Camp Beloved.



## MEN'S WINTER GEAR COLLECTION

To support the Outreach on 7th lunch guests as the weather turns chilly, we will be collecting much needed winter items throughout the month of October. Much appreciated items include: **Men's gloves, hats, and long/thermal underwear in larger sizes (L, XL, 2XL).** Used men's winter clothing is also appreciated. Thank you for supporting this important mission! Also, please consider bringing in some food items to restock our food pantry. Easy to prepare, non-perishable food items are always in high demand.

# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

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

Lee Hoffmann • Audrey Leenhouts • Faye Bond • Randy Riggs •  
Inge Wichers • Phyllis Wagster • Mary Lou Graeber • Mark Thatcher •  
Pam Belecki • Kim Stroud • Heather Diemond • The Perry Family •  
Dauroran Shirina Lee-Thurman • Karen and Yale Porter • Alexa Brinning •  
Mike Long • Ann Anderson • Diana Shornak • Betty Latimer • Carrie Morse •  
Nancy Reid • Dona Wells • Kathy Seidler • Jordan Altman •  
Allison and Bill Hempstead • Marian Kremer • Sheryl Hunter • Art Miller •  
Mary Nahhat • Diane Sexton • Donna Allen • Charlene Faunt •

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

John & Joyce Barber • Adam Hempstead • Neal Gaberdiel • Scott Spaulding •  
Nancy Graves • Dave Beerer, Sr. • Margaret and Robert Maas • Rich Zielinski •  
Laura Cable • Jennifer Gaudette-Wood • Connie Armstrong • Rog Garwood •  
Robert Baker • Glen Baker • Faye Rogers • Julia Rogers • Effie Lambros •  
Chrystl Roman • Kyron Bradstrom • James Lovitt • Lisa Green • JJ • Liz Fitch •  
Jim Slimek • Diana Laginess • Harold Baker • Connie and Ken Warner •  
Jonathon Larson • Tom Hill • Bob Blonde • Patty Glass • Sharon Pillow •  
Scott Peacor and Kyla Boyse • Larry Campbell • Jeff and Marcy Carmichael •  
Dan Hicks • Brent Miller • James • Carl Jones • Dorothy Follette •  
Deana Sawicki • Atlas • Kelly • Steve Wurdock •

## **Sympathies to:**

The friends and family of Alvin Simmons on his death, October 17, 2023

The Peltier family on the death of Polly's brother, John C. Hughes on October 17, 2023

The friends and family of Linda Marean on her death, October 16, 2023

## **Congratulations to:**

Madeline and Kieran McClintock on their marriage on October 6, 2023

Jacquelyn and Colin Stickel on their marriage on September 20, 2023

# STAFF DIRECTORY

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## 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](http://rofum.org/giving) to set up and manage your one-time and recurring gifts.

You can always check out our website, [www.rofum.org](http://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](mailto:jtripoli@rofum.org).

Thank you!

# LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I wanted to share something really cool that happened which you might have missed. Last Saturday, Pastor Bridget and I had the pleasure of spending the evening with six incredible 8th and 9th graders from our congregation as we embarked on their Confirmation Journey. It was an absolute joy!

We spent time talking and sharing our lives, stories, and interests, reminding each other that God loves us in the unique details of our lives. We discussed our hobbies, dream travel destinations, and even the superpowers we would choose (teleportation seemed to be a popular choice). Through these conversations, we discovered the unique ways God has made us and learned to appreciate the uniqueness of others.

We also played the fun game *Heads Up*, with a promised trip to the famous “Pastor Jeff’s Prize Table” for the winners (and those who finished second). In playing, we remembered that God has given us the capacity for fun and joy. It is through shared delight that bonds of community are formed.

Towards the end of the evening, we discussed what it means to be part of a United Methodist Church. We each created a note card to keep in our Bibles, stating why we are United Methodist. Some of the reasons included were: that our experiences matter, our questions are welcomed, our faith is personal and social, our call is to a global movement, and our lives are saved by grace upon grace. We closed the evening with a prayer and even started a group text so we could continue to encourage each other throughout the week.

Little did I know at the time, but I really needed to be at Confirmation that night. It had been a tough week for our world. The ongoing war in Israel and Palestine weighs heavily on my heart. The dysfunction in Congress leaves me disillusioned, and the upcoming election cycle seems daunting. So, spending an evening with bright, funny, engaged, and spiritually curious young people left my heart strangely warmed (as the good old Methodist saying goes!).

Middle school can be tough, which is why I am grateful to be part of a movement that creates space to remind these students that they are truly loved by God and that Jesus wants to help them change the world!

During this season, we are reminding you of all the things God does through your gifts and offerings. I wanted to share this particular story with you. Your generosity helps to make this happen.

Thank you for all that you do to make Christ’s Love Real!

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive 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