

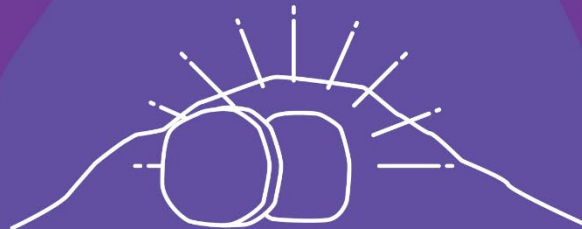


**ROYAL OAK
FIRST**
A United Methodist Church



Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31, 2024
9:00 AM Worship



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music	“Raise a Hallelujah”	House Band
Song	“Jesus Does”	
Song	“God Really Loves Us”	
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Erica Plesco & Jeff Nelson
Time of Prayer		
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering	“New World Coming” Nina Simone	Mark Sleeman
Doxology	“Give Thanks”	
Scripture	John 20:1-18	
Message	“I Have Seen the Lord”	Jeff Nelson
Song	“This Is Our God”	
Benediction		
Departing Music		

Please note that the Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 1

ANNOUNCEMENTS



NEXT MISSIONS TEAM MEETING

The next Missions Team planning meeting has been set for **Thursday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 305**. We will be planning out the spring, summer, and early fall missions calendars. Please come join the team and bring your ideas and energy for missions! If you have contributions, but cannot attend, please email Karla Goetz at missions@rofum.org.



PILLOWCASE ASSEMBLY WORKSHOP

Our next Pillowcase Assembly Workshop has been set for **Wednesday, April 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the 2nd floor Youth Room**. We hope you can join! No sewing skills are needed, and all pillowcases will be donated to Detroit area youth experiencing housing insecurity. In addition to using your hands to help create the pillowcases, we are hoping one or two of you also have a Serger machine to bring to help speed the process along. If you know anyone with this type of sewing machine, please invite them! **Scan the QR code to sign up!**



SCAN ME



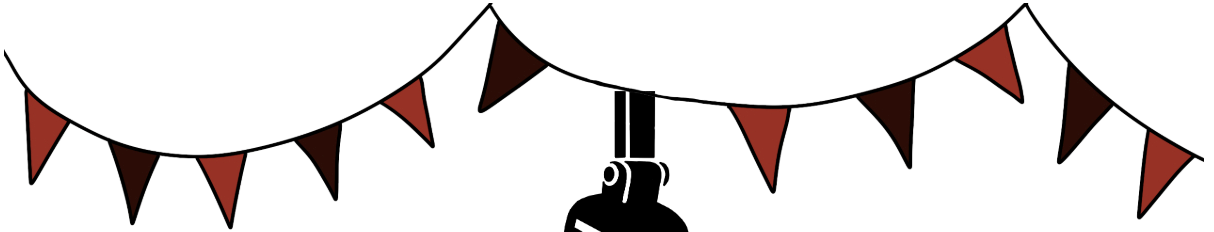
WOMEN'S RETREAT IS BACK!

We are bringing back the Women's Retreat!! Friday, **April 12 through Sunday, April 14**, join women from Royal Oak First for a weekend of fun, fellowship and faith! We will be at Lake Huron Retreat Center, just north of Port Huron from Friday evening until Sunday morning. Take some time to get away, enjoy a beautiful place and meet some new friends from church. **Scan the QR code for more information and to sign up!**

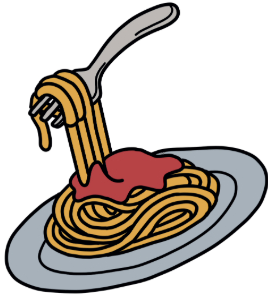


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ANNOUNCEMENTS



SUNDAY, APRIL 7
5-7PM



SPAGHETTI DINNER
VARIETY SHOW

SPAGHETTI DINNER VARIETY SHOW!

Join us on **Sunday, April 7 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.**, where the Music Guild will be putting on a Spaghetti Dinner Variety Show! Dinner is first at 5:00 p.m. (\$12 adult/\$8 kid with kids under 5 eating free, with tickets purchased at the door) and is followed by the show portion of the evening at 6:00 p.m. Proceeds will go toward kids going to summer camp. **Last call to sign up to be a part of the variety show! Scan the QR code to sign up for the variety show by April 1.**



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SPAGHETTI DINNER NEEDS VOLUNTEERS (KIDS & ADULTS!)

We can use volunteers! We need help with setting up, cooking, ticket sales, washing dishes, cleanup at the end of the night, along with ushers for the variety show itself. This is an opportunity for youth to volunteer at the dinner to help offset their individual cost of going to camp. **Scan the QR code to sign up to volunteer.**



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ANNOUNCEMENTS



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PRIDE & ALLY GROUP BRUNCH

You are invited to join the **Pride & Ally Group for brunch on Sunday, April 14 following the 11:00 a.m. worship service at Pronto's.** (Everyone is responsible for their own brunch bill). We will spend time getting to know each other and discussing the upcoming Pride Events. All are welcome to join us...and all means all. If you would like to receive our emails, please email prideandally@rofum.org.



SAVE THE DATE! FOR ZOOM ALL-CHURCH TOWN HALL FOCUSED ON RESULTS FROM VISIONING DAY

We will hold a **church-wide Zoom meeting on Sunday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m.** (Zoom link to follow) to go over a synopsis of the Visioning Day itself and then present the priorities that were chosen and discuss the next phase. We hope you can attend that meeting so we can share the results of all your efforts from Visioning Day!



MAY GROWTH LAB

Join us for the May Growth Lab: New Season, New Practices. The dawn of Spring brings an invitation to look for places of new growth and fresh starts. **On Saturday, May 4, from 9:30 a.m.-noon,** we will discuss why it can be helpful to add new practices into our ways of encountering the Divine. We will also have time to practice some embodied ways of connecting to God. **Scan the QR code to sign up.**



SCAN ME

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Grace Perkins • Richard and Dorie Rush • Art Miller • Mark Thatcher •
Marcy Courtney • Al and Gloria Knappenberger • Margie Dallavo •
Yvonne Bashur • Leonard Benyas • Joyce Negrich • Marilyn Alexander •
Lisa Forzley • Lee Hoffmann • Sinead Valentine • Betty Latimer •
Linda Wilson • Diane Sexton • Judy Bryan • Inge Wichers • Ann Anderson •
Kim Stroud • Dauroran Shirina Lee • Diana Shornak • Carrie Morse •
Dona Wells • Kathy Seidler • Allison and Bill Hempstead • Marian Kremer •
Mary Nahhat • Donna Allen • Charlene Faunt •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

MaryVonne Gray • Sydney Wagner • The Hempstead Family • Shelly & Jerry •
Robin Myers • Frank O'Brien • Cathy Embry • Steve Sealander •
Jim Kincannon • Ken Hendrickson • Suzanne Buxton • Ann Vee •
Earl Hendrickson • Darren Bowie • Kerry Franks • Effie Lambros •
Ellen Delangy • Claire Jones • Harold Baker • Jeff and Marcy Carmichael •
Ellen Carmichael • Rob Tencza • John and Joyce Barber • Neal Gaberdiel •
Scott Spaulding • Laura Cable • Jennifer Gaudette-Wood • Connie Armstrong •
Robert Baker • Glen Baker • Faye Rogers • Julia Rogers • Kyron Bradstrom •
James Lovitt • Liz Fitch • Jim Slimek • Jonathon Larson • Bob Blonde •
Sharon Pillow • Scott Peacor and Kyla Boyse • Larry Campbell • Dan Hicks •
Brent Miller • Carl Jones • Dorothy Follette • Deana Sawicki • Atlas •
Steve Wurdock •

Sympathies to:

Diana Shornak on the death of her sister, Nancy Graves on March 25, 2024

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

STAFF DIRECTORY

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Ben Graham	Weekend/Evening Custodian	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

There is something about Mary...

I know it is Easter and my focus should be on Jesus (and it is), but when I have looked to Him these past days it seems like Mary Magdalene is always right there as well.

Mary Magdalene had a special place among the followers of Jesus. Mary was among the few that stayed at the cross with Jesus. Mary was at the tomb to anoint the body of her dear friend. And to whom did Jesus appear first on that inaugural Easter morning?

It was Mary. She is the first witness to the resurrection.

Church tradition tells the story that after Jesus' ascension, Mary Magdalene boldly presented herself to the Emperor in Rome to proclaim the resurrection of Christ. She did so with an egg in her hand to illustrate the message.

Holding the egg out to him, she exclaimed for the first time what is now the universal Easter proclamation, "Christ is risen!"

While there is certainly no Easter without Jesus' resurrection, I think it is also fair to say that there is no Easter without Mary's witness.

And that's what we come here to say this Sunday: "Christ is risen!"

And not just risen in a single, historical moment; Christ is risen right now in our lives and in our world.

Christ rises in every act of mercy, kindness and justice.

Christ rises when forgiveness is offered and peace is made.

Christ rises when the hungry are fed and the prisoner is visited.

And Christ rises in us - in you and in me - every time we chose love over hate, and solidarity over exclusion.

Like Mary we are the witnesses. We are the ones who say to the watching world, "Christ is risen!"

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