

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love. I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do. I love story, 'twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love. I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant what seems, I tell it, more sweet. I*

**I Love  
to tell the  
Story**

*the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love. I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.*

**ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Sunday, April 21, 2024  
9:00 AM Worship**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

<b>Gathering Music</b>	“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” arr. Joel Raney	Kyle Webber
<b>Song</b>	“Everlasting God”	House Band
<b>Song</b>	“Way Maker”	
<b>Welcome &amp; Invitation to Mission</b>		Jennifer Tripoli & Jeff Nelson
<b>Sacrament of Holy Baptism</b>		Skye Hebert <i>Daughter of Marshall and Lisa Hebert</i>
<b>Time of Prayer</b>		
<b>Invitation to Offering</b>		Erica Plesco
<b>Musical Offering</b>	“Lead on Good Shepherd”	Cassandra Wilson
<b>Doxology</b>	“Give Thanks”	
<b>Scripture</b>	John 15:1-11	
<b>Message</b>	“Learning to Abide”	Nicole Wilson
<b>Song</b>	“Great Are You Lord”	
<b>Benediction</b>		
<b>Departing Music</b>		

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## HANDS WITH DETROIT SERVICE DAY

The Hands with Detroit Service Day, put on by the Greater Detroit District UMC, is returning on **Saturday, April 27**. Royal Oak First's own Susanna Webber organizes this event for the District! Join in service with volunteers from other United Methodist Churches throughout our district to make an impact. Morning and afternoon shifts are available and you can select the tasks that you prefer: kitchen help, grounds cleanup, light maintenance projects, document destruction, or doormat assembly. This service day is designed for ages 10+. **Please scan QR code to sign up.**



## SAVE THE DATE! FOR ZOOM CHURCH-WIDE MEETING FOCUSED ON RESULTS FROM VISIONING DAY

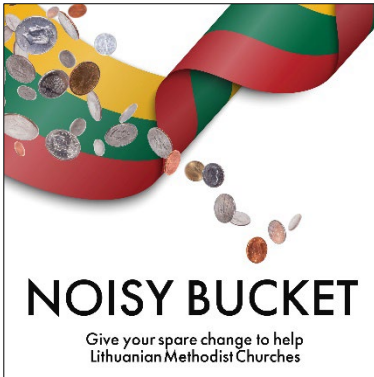
We will hold a **church-wide Zoom meeting on Sunday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m.** (Zoom link to follow) to go over a synopsis of the Visioning Day itself, then discuss what has been done so far, and next steps for the future. We hope you can attend that meeting so we can share the results of all your efforts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



## PASTOR CHAT-SUNDAY, APRIL 28

If you're new to Royal Oak First and you'd like to know more about our church or if you'd like to learn the next steps about how to become part of everything going on here, then come to the Pastor Chat. The next **Pastor Chat will be on Sunday, April 28 at 10:15 a.m. in the Parlor** and last no more than 30 minutes. We look forward to seeing you!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## SAVE YOUR LOOSE/SPARE CHANGE FOR NOISY BUCKET

Bring in your spare change in on **Sunday, April 28 at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services** 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!

## MAY GROWTH LAB

The dawn of Spring brings an invitation to look for places of new growth and fresh starts. **Join us 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 practice some embodied ways of connecting to God. **Scan the QR code to sign up.**



SCAN ME



## Cinco de Mayo Carry-Out Tacos



## CINCO DE MAYO **CARRY-OUT** TACOS— SUNDAY, MAY 5, 4:30-6:30 P.M.

This is a fundraiser sponsored by Royal Oak First's Music Guild and all funds from this event will benefit our Summer Choir Camp. Each meal is \$15 and includes 3 tacos in flour or corn shells, with chips and salsa. Options include: **Seasoned Ground Beef; Pulled Pork; Shredded Chicken Salsa Verde; Steak**; AND (new this year!) a vegetarian option of **Seasoned Tofu** topped with grilled onions and bell peppers, lettuce and pickled onion. Scan the QR code to place your **pre-order** and **reserve your pick-up time**.



SCAN ME

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Cinco de Mayo Carry-Out Tacos



### CINCO DE MAYO CARRY-OUT TACOS— VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need kitchen prep help, carry-out runners and dishwashers on **Sunday, May 5** from **2:00-7:00 p.m.** This is a fundraiser sponsored by Royal Oak First's Music Guild and all funds from this event will benefit our summer choir camp. Scan the QR code to pick a spot to volunteer!



## 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, April 25 at 7:00 p.m. at Royal Oak Brewery, 215 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Royal Oak, 48067.** 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.

### “START THE PARTY”

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 17-20, 2024, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Jesus gives us the most amazing reason to party! That's why we believe the Gospel of Jesus is the best news ever! Come and join us as we “Start the Party” at Royal Oak First this summer! Cost is as follows: \$20 for the first child in a family; \$10 per additional child; \$50 maximum per family. Any questions, please contact Beth Simms at [Beth.Simms@gmail.com](mailto:Beth.Simms@gmail.com). NOTE: Due to ordering restrictions, any registrations submitted after May 30 will not receive a t-shirt. Scan the QR code to sign up.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## ROFUM BLOCK PARTY!

**Sunday, June 2 following the 10:00 a.m. service**

Join us for complimentary food from food trucks, music & fellowship! Kids' activities include games, a bounce house and face painting. This event is sponsored by the ROFUM Endowment Fund. Let's celebrate summer!



## PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS NEEDED

Please bring in your used but clean plastic grocery bags! Our supply of bags has been depleted. We use these both for the plan mat project and daily with our Outreach on 7th Lunch Program. If you have extra plastic bags at home, please drop them off in the collection box near the Welcome Desk. Thanks!



## CONFIRMATION WORSHIP ON APRIL 28

We are excited to have five of our youth being Confirmed this year. This group has spent time together in monthly gatherings learning about God, their faith, their church and themselves. **On April 28, the 11:00 a.m. service will be a service of Confirmation.** All are welcome! We just wanted to give notice that it will not feel entirely like a usual 11:00 a.m. service. Come join us and celebrate this milestone moment in the lives of these young people.

# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

## Prayers for Our Church Family:

Deana Sawicki • Janice Marsh • Al and Gloria Knappenberger •  
Marcy Courtney • Ginny Panone • Leonard Benyas • Grace Perkins •  
Richard and Dorie Rush • Allison and Bill Hempstead • Mark Thatcher •  
Art Miller • Joyce Negrich • Margie Dallavo • Marilyn Alexander •

## Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Oya Graeber • Dennis Kipp • John and Joyce Barber • Scott Spaulding •  
Effie Lambros • Kathleen Scherr • Paula Cudney • Michael Retaskie •  
Sydney Wagner • MaryVonne Gray • Shelly & Jerry • Robin Myers •  
Frank O'Brien • Cathy Embry • Steve Sealander •

## Sympathies to:

Elizabeth Kincannon on the death of her brother-in-law, Jim Kincannon on  
April 16, 2024

The Howard-Brown family on the death of Susan's cousin, Sharon Pillow on  
April 16, 2024

*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 PREACHER

Good Morning,

For those of you who I haven't met yet, let me introduce myself. I am Nicole Wilson, the resident "spiritual director". If you are unfamiliar with the term, you join the majority of Americans. A simple definition is that I have training to companion people on their journeys with God.

In my first career I was an English teacher, so it is safe to say I have always been intrigued by the things we can learn about ourselves and others through the stories we tell and the stories we hear. I pursued training as a spiritual director because I want to listen well to people's stories, and I want to help people listen to themselves.

One of the first things I learned in this training is that in order to listen, first, I have to abide. I have to choose to be present to the person I'm with. This isn't naturally easy for me. Sometimes I would rather do the talking, but I learn more (about others and myself) when I am listening.

This morning, I am grateful to Pastor Jeff and the team here at Royal Oak First for giving me the opportunity to do some talking about abiding. I would also enjoy the opportunity to listen to some of your experiences with abiding. If you would like to share and learn practices that help us abide with Jesus, I invite you to attend the Growth Lab on May 4. Scan the QR code below to sign up.

Learning to Listen,  
Nicole

