



ROYAL OAK
FIRST
A United Methodist Church

Sunday, June 22, 2025
10:00 AM Worship

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	"Any Dream Will Do" Andrew Lloyd Webber	Kimi Matsumoto, flute
Call to Worship		James Brooker
Opening Hymn	"Let Us Build a House"	
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Jeff Nelson & Jennifer Tripoli
Noisy Bucket		
Baptism		Emilia In der Smitten <i>Daughter of Kim & Simon In der Smitten</i>
Baptism Response	"Gather at the Water" Sarah Hart	Analisa Thomas, Julia Westenberg & Michael Rosas
Children's Moment		
Time of Prayer		James Brooker & Griffin Anspach
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering	"One Voice" Ruth Moody	Analisa Thomas, Julia Westenberg & Michael Rosas
Doxology #95**	"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"	
Scripture Reading*	Genesis 37:1-11	
Message	"The Dream"	Jeff Nelson
Closing Hymn #451**	"Be Thou My Vision"	
Benediction		
Postlude	"Prelude in D Minor BWV554" J.S. Bach	Michael Rosas

**New Revised Standard Version*
***United Methodist Hymnal*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moms at Pubs

(MAP)



MOMS AT PUBS (MAP)

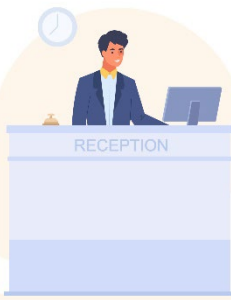
Moms at Pubs (MAP) is a group that meets for fun and fellowship at a local pub, giving moms a chance to relax, laugh, and enjoy the fellowship of other moms. We normally meet (at a different location) on the 4th Thursday of each month, **so our next meeting will be on Thursday, June 26 at 7:00 p.m. at Fifth Avenue (215 W. 5th St., Royal Oak).** This will be our last get-together until September. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at jtripoli@rofum.org.



June Bag Lunch Collection

JUNE BAG LUNCH COLLECTION FOR 007

During June, our Missions Team has chosen to collect lunch items for the Outreach on 7th (007) Lunch Program. The summer and fall are the busiest time of year for their lunch program, serving meals to around 50 visitors each day. Each guest receives both a hot meal and a bag lunch to eat later in the day. **Please bring in individual-size chip bags, fruit/applesauce cups, and 8oz bottled water to help support this important program.** Please leave your donations near the collection bin across from the Welcome Desk.



WE ARE LOOKING FOR AN EVENING RECEPTIONIST

The evening receptionist is the first point of contact for people visiting the church after normal business hours, ensuring all who enter are greeted and made to feel comfortable. **The shift is on Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** Please reach out to Pastor Jennifer Tripoli for more information at 248.541.4100 or jtripoli@rofum.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Gardening Dates

SUMMER GARDENING AT MICAH 6

Come join us on **Saturday, July 12** as we **lend our hands in service at the Micah 6 gardens in Pontiac**. Our friends at Micah 6 work daily to build community and improve the lives of those in their neighborhood. At the heart of their mission is their extensive vegetable gardens where they grow fresh produce to share with their neighbors with limited access to fresh food. We will help with a variety of tasks including: harvesting vegetables, spreading mulch, weeding, planting, and cleanup. Please scan the QR code to sign up.



NOAH at Central



NOAH SUMMER BBQ RETURNS!

Thank you for the impressive response of volunteers to help at the Summer BBQ at NOAH on July 31st! We have more than enough volunteers at this point, but **we could use additional donations of whole watermelons and homemade cookies/brownies**. Please scan the QR code to sign up. **These donations should be brought to church on Tuesday, July 29 and left on the collection table that will be set up across from the Welcome Desk.**



WE NEED COFFEE BAR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE 4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

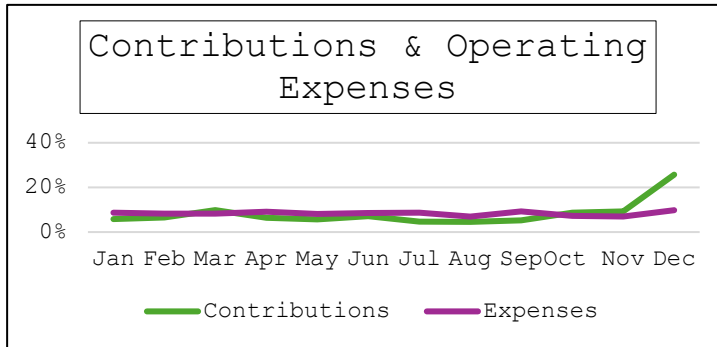
Are you looking for a fun, easy way to connect with other people at church while being of service? We have just the spot for you! **Coffee bar volunteers prepare coffee, tea, water, and snacks all before service. Then after service, they keep the coffee coming and wipe tables and counters while interacting with our congregants.** If this sounds interesting to you, please stop by the Connections Table or scan the QR code.



WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO JOIN THE TEAM!

FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

As Mike McNutt told the congregation during the June 1st service, one of the Finance Committee's goals for 2025 is to be more transparent with the congregation regarding the church's financial position and we plan on sharing financial reports on a quarterly basis moving forward. Mike presented the following chart:



This chart reflects the typical giving pattern of our church, and frankly, most churches. The green line represents the flow of Contributions (or “cash in”) received for our operations. This does not include mission contributions and other special designation contributions.

The purple line shows our average monthly expenses or you could call it “cash outflows” as a percentage of our total annual “outflows” for operating expenses. Operating expense is the cash we spend on things like heat, lights and salaries. The biggest amount every year is for salaries. You can see that Expenses exceed Contributions most of the year. It's only when contributions increase significantly at year-end that our finances break even.

Using contingency funds, we are able to manage to continue paying staff and all our bills. But, it doesn't have to be this way. It is our hope that by sharing this information, you may consider changing the frequency and or method of making pledge payments.

We know not everyone in the congregation has the ability to consistently give each week or month. For those of you that do have the ability to make consistent monthly payments or even front load your annual pledge by paying larger amounts earlier in the year, the church would be able to manage its finances on a more consistent basis.

How can you help?

1. Consider contributing throughout the year on a consistent basis
2. Consider contributing electronically with a set weekly, bi-weekly or monthly amount – it really helps the church plan. This can be accomplished using the automated features on the church's website.
3. Meet privately with Pastor Jennifer Tripoli. After any service or during the week, Jennifer is usually available in her office to help anyone who would like help setting up electronic donations – it's easy and very helpful.

STAFF DIRECTORY

NAME	TITLE	EMAIL	PHONE
Jeff Nelson	Lead Pastor	jnelson@rofum.org	248.541.4100 x 1216
Jennifer Tripoli	Executive Associate Pastor	jtripoli@rofum.org	248.541.4100 x 1225
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Lee Trumbull	Communications Director	ltrumbull@rofum.org	248.541.4100 x 1224
Michael Rosas	Worship & Music Director	mrosas@rofum.org	248.541.4100 x 1119
Karen Calhoun	Operations Manager	kcalhoun@rofum.org	248.541.4100 x 1220
Danielle Moody	Assistant Program Director	dmoody@rofum.org	248.541.4100 x 1315
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Robert Bryson	Outreach on 7 th Coordinator	rbryson@rofum.org	248.541.4100 x1108
Shirley Harris	Kitchen/Meal Coordinator	sharris@rofum.org	248.541.4100 x 1120
Meagan Grammatico	Children's Music Coordinator	mgrammatico@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Sarah Vandervest	Sunday School Coordinator	svandervest@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Griffin Anspach	House Band Coordinator	ganspach@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Fredrick Fife, II	Audio Engineer	ffife@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Kevin Walsh	Online/Video Coordinator	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Natalia Tovarez	Nursery Coordinator & Evening Receptionist	ntovarez@rofum.org	248.541.4100
George Bard	Custodian	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Ben Graham	Weekend/Evening Custodian	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Dave Minch • Allison Hempstead • Jan Albert • Zelda Diamond •
Charles Hardaway • Jenny Lowman • Joan Johnson • Mary Lou Graeber •
Diane George • Michele Prud'homme • Dauroran Thurman • Jerry Elliott •
Ren Renforth • Grace Perkins • LeeAnn Witherspoon • Judy Bryan •
Mark Thatcher • Ann Anderson •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Barbara Witherspoon • Sharon Connors • Lori Mason • Rich Zielinski •
The Everst Family • Cara & Kevin Smith • Halen Alexander • Jessica Boyer •
Troy & Deb Bongard • The Stubitsch Family • Joyce & John Barber •
Marisa Beckford • Ronald Fick • Zach Tyler • Heather Brown Miller •
Scott & Cathy Dawe • Marykay McCaskey • Brett Thatcher • Ellen Delangy •

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



TIME OF PRAYER

All are welcome to the Time of Prayer on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. at church. We review the church prayer list, spend time in silence and pray together in the Sanctuary. This is wonderful opportunity to uplift your personal prayer requests.

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Beloved Community,

The very first Christmas present I bought Bridget while we were dating was a pair of tickets to see "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," starring the one and only Donnie Osmond. I must have done something right there, as that gift was impressive enough to keep her interested in hanging out with me! LOL! And ever since, the tunes from that musical have been woven into the soundtrack of our lives. Let's be honest—she didn't get Donnie, so maybe I was the acceptable consolation prize!

So, when I heard that our neighbors over at Stagecrafters were putting on the show this summer, I felt the urge to revisit the intriguing biblical story that inspired it.

You can find the story of Joseph in the book of Genesis, chapters 37-50. It's one of those epic tales that keeps giving, like a never-ending buffet of drama. Seriously, Joseph's saga reads like a soap opera or an episode of the modern-day "Desperate Housewives." I mean, there's jealousy, deception, imprisonment, and surprise twists that would make any reality TV producer jealous! You have to wonder how a story like this got into our Bible. Surely God wouldn't hang out with families that seem like walking train wrecks—except that is exactly the point. As we journey through Joseph's narrative, we see the often unseen hand of God weaving through the chaos these characters create. And isn't that good news? It's a beautiful reminder that God is still at work in the messy, unpredictable parts of our lives.

This week, we're diving in with Joseph the dreamer. Dreams, imagination, visions—the ability to see a different world and a different life than what's right in front of us is truly a gift from God. But here's the kicker; dreams that challenge the status quo, shake up power structures, or simply suggest we try something new often meet with resistance. And that's where Joseph's story begins, which feels pretty fitting for where we find ourselves as a country and community today. How does the dream of a different world survive when it faces forces that want to deny or even destroy it?

So, let's buckle up and take this journey together this week with our old friend Joseph.

"Go, go, go Joseph, you're doing just fine...you and your Dreamcoat are ahead of its time..."

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink 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.

Jeff Nelson