



ROYAL OAK
FIRST
A United Methodist Church

Sunday, August 3, 2025
10:00 AM Worship

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music	“Long Train Runnin” The Doobie Brothers	House Band
Greeting		Michael Rosas
Song	“Raise A Hallelujah”	
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Jeff Nelson & Jennifer Tripoli
Children’s Moment		
Time of Prayer		Nicole Wilson
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering	“Somewhere Over the Rainbow” Harold Arlen	Kiersten Ciccone
Doxology	“Give Thanks”	
Scripture Reading*	Ephesians 2:1-10	
Song	“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”	
Message	"Amazing Grace"	Jeff Nelson
Sacrament of Holy Communion		
Communion Song	“Great Are You Lord”	
Benediction		
Departing Music		

**New Standard Revised Version*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



JOIN US FOR OUR CHURCH PICNIC ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13


Our Church Picnic will be held on Wednesday, August 13 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Normandy Oaks, 4234 Delemere Blvd., Royal Oak, 48073. Bring a side dish to pass, a chair, and your beverage of choice. There is a kids' splash pad, so bring a swimsuit and a towel. We will provide the hot dogs, the fellowship, and the fun. If you have any questions, contact the church office at 248.541.4100 or office@rofum.org



A WEEK WITH RBI

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



- **Sunday 8/17**, we will **gather in the Parlor**  **SCAN ME** **after church** to repackage donations purchased in bulk into single person sizes.
- **Thursday 8/21**, we will **send a group of volunteers** to help sort donations and get the Free Store ready to open.
- **Saturday 8/23**, 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, and no shoes) 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 the QR code to sign up.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ARTS, BEATS & EATS CHARITY PREVIEW PARTY BENEFITTING OUTREACH ON 7TH

Outreach on 7th is a beneficiary of this year's Arts, Beats & Eats (ABE) Charity Preview Party! Join us for this fun night out to sample great food, custom cocktails and groove to music by ABE artists. **This takes place under the skies on Fifth Street in Royal Oak, between Washington and Center Streets from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 21.** Scan the QR code to purchase your ticket (be sure to select Outreach on 7th as the beneficiary).



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

We invite all children and students to bring their school backpacks to church on **Sunday, August 24** during the **10:00 a.m. worship service** for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks. As a new school year begins, we want to take a moment to support our children, families, and educators with prayer and encouragement. During the service, there will be a special time where each child will receive a blessing for their backpack—a symbol of the year ahead, filled with learning, growth, and new experiences.

AN UNEXPECTED BLESSING EQUALS A FUNDRAISER OPPORTUNITY!

We recently placed an order for our Summer Choir Camp t-shirts, but due to a mix-up, the company accidentally printed them with our church logo instead. The good news? They let us keep the shirts—and rather than let them go to waste, we're turning this little surprise into a fun fundraiser! These limited-edition church logo tees (in both youth and adult sizes) are now available for purchase, and all proceeds will go toward Royal Oak First's Music Guild. Get yours at the Welcome Desk while they last and help support our church in a creative way!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Volunteer Opportunities at Church

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED DURING ARTS, BEATS & EATS

From August 29-September 1, nearly 400,000 people will visit our community during Arts, Beats & Eats (ABE), so we are looking for volunteers. **You will greet Arts, Beats & Eats volunteers, sponsors & artists at the Tower entrance; keep the church outdoor area picked up; offer assistance to ABE Volunteer Command Center Staff as needed. Bonus: Each person that volunteers for a shift will receive free admission to the festival!** Scan the QR code to sign up.



SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION FOR FERNDALE LOWER ELEMENTARY

Late summer brings the return of the Royal Oak First School Supply Collection! We are continuing our partnership with Ferndale Lower Elementary and will be collecting the following items which they requested: **glue sticks, Expo markers, Crayola 24ct crayons, Ticonderoga pencils, and kids scissors.** Other items are welcome, but those listed are of greatest need.



OUTREACH ON 7TH WISH LIST

Outreach on 7th could use the following items:

- Men's Shoes (sizes 10 & 11)
- Bath and Beach Towels
- Easy Opened Canned Fruit and Meat

Please drop off at the church office, Monday-Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check out the Royal Oak First **CLOTHING STORE!**



FALL KICK-OFF IS COMING!

GEAR UP WITH ROYAL OAK FIRST SWAG!

Get ready for the season and show your church spirit in style! **The Royal Oak First Church Clothing Store is open and stocked with awesome gear — from short and long-sleeve tees to cozy sweatshirts, hats, and even a t-shirt for your pup!** It's the perfect time to grab some fresh Royal Oak First swag. Scan the QR code to browse and order from our online store!



SCAN ME

Not Receiving Church Emails?



Stop by the Connections Table
to get signed up today!

NOT RECEIVING CHURCH EMAILS?

The church sends out two weekly emails. One on Monday letting you know about all the upcoming happenings. Our second email is sent on Saturday with the Pastor's letter and a link to that week's Bulletin. If you are not receiving these emails or used to receive them and no longer are, scan the QR code or stop by the Connections Table and we will get you all signed up to receive them. In addition to our Bulletin, they are a great way to know what is happening at church.



SCAN ME

PRODUCE COLLECTION

Volunteers
Needed!

HELP US BRING FRESH PRODUCE TO FAMILIES IN NEED

For the past six years, members of Royal Oak First have generously provided fresh produce each month for the Redford Brightmoor Initiative (RBI) Free Store—often the only source of fresh fruits and vegetables for the families they serve. We're looking for volunteers to help shop for produce in **September**. If you can lend a hand, please scan the QR code to sign up. Your time and effort make a meaningful difference!



SCAN ME

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Don Matson • John Marsh • Kathy MacFarlane • Phyllis Hassberger •
Kristen Turkington • Sue Buxton • Adrienne Loftin • Dave Minch •
Lee Hoffmann • Jan Albert • Mary Lou Graeber • Charles Hardaway •
Joan Johnson • Michele Prud'homme • Jerry Elliott • Grace Perkins •
Judy Bryan • Mark Thatcher • Ann Anderson •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

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

Sympathies to:

The family and friends of former member Roger Martin on his death on July 26, 2025

Joyce Russell on the death of her uncle, John Barber on July 26, 2025

*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

Hey friends,

Whenever I close my eyes and think about my childhood, I can picture myself in the back seat of that old beige Buick from the mid-seventies, squished next to my brother. My parents were in the front, and man, those were the days before air conditioning—windows down, and my dad's comb-over was taking a wild ride in the wind! Almost every other weekend, we'd pile into that car for a two-and-a-half-hour trek to my grandparents' house. We were the family that lived "far away," and my mom always wanted to connect with her people. I can still hear my dad's voice ringing out, "Don't make me pull this car over!" whenever my brother and I started bickering.

Those long car rides were where my love for music really took root. We sang our hearts out to Johnny Cash and Elvis on the 8-track. But, without fail, every journey to Grandma's turned into a mini church session with us belting out hymns—radio off, just our voices filling the car. Songs like "Amazing Grace," "Blessed Assurance," "The Old Rugged Cross," and "Great is Thy Faithfulness" are forever etched in my memory. Now that both my parents have passed on, singing those hymns is my way of feeling close to them. I find myself hopping in the car, driving around, and just letting it all out. (Excuse me for a second—looks like I might need a Kleenex. My eyes are getting a little misty.)

So, this summer, I'd love for you to join me in singing those cherished hymns. Over the next few weeks, we'll dive into the stories behind these classics and the faith they inspire. The church is always evolving, but there are some beautiful things worth holding onto and those hymns are definitely at the top of my list. This week, we'll explore how a former slave ship captain became a priest and went on to write one of the most famous hymns ever.

And hey, if you've got a passion for music, this is a fantastic time to get involved in our music ministry here at Royal Oak First! I'd love for you to consider joining the choir, where we keep those traditional hymns and anthems alive. Michael Rosas, our amazing director, would be thrilled to chat with you about how you can share your voice and gifts.

I'm really looking forward to singing alongside all of you this summer!

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.

Pastor Jeff Nelson