



**ROYAL OAK**  
**FIRST**  
A United Methodist Church

**Sunday, August 24, 2025**  
**10:00 AM Worship**

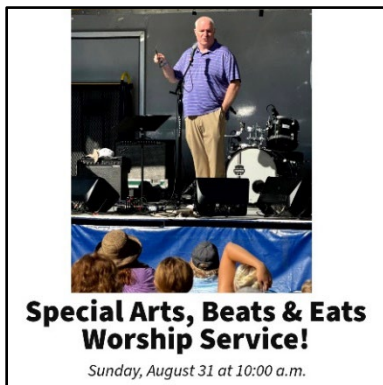
# ORDER OF WORSHIP

|  |  |                                  |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>Gathering Music</b>                     | “How Great Thou Art”<br>arr. Griffin Anspach | House Band                       |
| <b>Greeting</b>                            |  | Griffin Anspach                  |
| <b>Song</b>                                | “Great Things”                               |                                  |
| <b>Welcome &amp; Invitation to Mission</b> |  | Jennifer Tripoli & Nicole Wilson |
| <b>Finance Moment</b>                      |  | Rick Buxton                      |
| <b>Children’s Moment</b>                   | “Blessing of the Backpacks”                  | Jamie Luczak                     |
| <b>Blessing of School Workers</b>          |  |                                  |
| <b>Mission Moment</b>                      | “Noisy Bucket”                               |                                  |
| <b>Time of Prayer</b>                      |  |                                  |
| <b>Invitation to Offering</b>              |  |                                  |
| <b>Musical Offering</b>                    | Spirituals Medley                            | Maria Moro                       |
| <b>Doxology</b>                            | “Give Thanks”                                |                                  |
| <b>Scripture Reading*</b>                  | Colossians 1:15-20                           |                                  |
| <b>Sermon Song #77**</b>                   | “How Great Thou Art”                         |                                  |
| <b>Message</b>                             | “How Great Thou Art”                         | Jennifer Tripoli                 |
| <b>Song</b>                                | “This Is Our God”                            |                                  |
| <b>Benediction</b>                         |  |                                  |
| <b>Departing Music</b>                     |  |                                  |

*\*New Revised Standard Version updated edition*

*\*\*United Methodist Hymnal*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## SPECIAL ARTS, BEATS & EATS SERVICE

We will have **only one worship service during Arts, Beats & Eats on Sunday, August 31 at 10:00 a.m. on the outdoor stage located at 6th and Lafayette.** If you don't plan on staying for the festival, park in the parking structure across and down the street from the church until 11:00 am. If you are planning to attend the festival after worship, all worshippers that day get a ticket for free admission to the festival, free parking at Royal Oak High School (1500 Lexington Blvd.), along with a free shuttle from the high school to drop you off and pick you up right next to the stage.



## DON'T MISS THE LAUNCH OF OUR 2025-26 WORSHIP YEAR!

Join us on **Sunday, September 7** for an exciting day filled with community, connection, and celebration! Enjoy **hot dogs, ice cream, and sign up** for Fall activities and find your place to grow, serve and connect. Don't forget to **bring socks** as we kick off Sock-it-to-Me September with a BIG goal—2,000+ pairs of socks for those in need! And be sure to **wear your Royal Oak First Gear!** Visit our online Church Clothing Store and show your spirit—scan the QR code to order! It all starts at Fall Kickoff—be there, bring a friend, and be part of something big!



SCAN ME



## NEW HERE? COME TO PASTOR CHAT!

Are you new to Royal Oak First or just curious to learn more about our church? Want to find out how to get involved? Join us for **Pastor Chat**—a relaxed, informal time to meet the pastor, ask questions, and discover your next steps at Royal Oak First. **The next Pastor Chat will be on Sunday, September 14 at 10:15 a.m. in the Parlor** and last no more than 45 minutes. We'd love to meet you!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TWO WORSHIP  
SERVICES RESUME ON  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14  
AT 9AM AND 11AM**



## TWO WORSHIP SERVICES RETURN ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Join us as we return to our **normal worship times of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. beginning Sunday, September 14.** Our 9:00 a.m. service is a more contemporary service and our 11:00 a.m. service is a more traditional service. Join us at one or both services!

## TRANSFORMATIVE RETREATS WITH PASTOR JEFF: “ENCOUNTERING CHRIST”

Are you longing for a deeper connection with Jesus? Join us for a series of **monthly Saturday morning retreats**, led by Pastor Jeff, designed to help you pause, reflect, and open your heart to encountering Christ in new ways. Each retreat offers a sacred space for prayer, conversation, and spiritual renewal. From **9:30-11:30 a.m. once a month on Saturdays beginning September 27.** Come as you are. Bring a friend. Let's make space for Christ together. Get the full schedule and sign up by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.rofum.org](http://www.rofum.org). Scan the QR code for details about each retreat and to sign up.



SCAN ME



## SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION

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: **tissues, wide-rule spiral notebooks, glue sticks, Expo markers, Crayola 24ct crayons, Ticonderoga pencils, and kids scissors.** Other items are welcome, but those listed are of greatest need. Please drop off in the white bin located near the Welcome Desk at the Lafayette entrance.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## OUTREACH ON 7<sup>TH</sup> WISH LIST

Outreach on 7th could use the following items.

- A La-Z-Boy Recliner
- Men's jeans 30-34" waist / 32-36" length
- Men's shoes sizes 8 & 9
- Tarps or tents (generally smaller sizes)

Drop off items at church Mon-Thu from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Or give Robert Bryson a call at 248.541.4100 for more information.

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 at our Fall Kickoff on September 7!

**The Royal Oak First Church Clothing Store is open and stocked with awesome gear —**

**from short and long-sleeve tees to cozy sweatshirts, and hats!**

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!



## 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.



# STAFF DIRECTORY

| NAME              | TITLE                                   | EMAIL                 | PHONE               |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Jeff Nelson       | Lead Pastor                             | jnelson@rofum.org     | 248.541.4100 x 1216 |
| Jennifer Tripoli  | Executive Associate Pastor              | jtropoli@rofum.org    | 248.541.4100 x 1225 |
| Bridget Nelson    | Associate Pastor of Programs            | bnelson@rofum.org     | 248.541.4100 x 1102 |
| 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 |
| Karla Goetz       | Missions Coordinator                    | missions@rofum.org    | 248.541.4100        |
| Robert Bryson     | Outreach on 7 <sup>th</sup> Coordinator | rbryson@rofum.org     | 248.541.4100 x1108  |
| Shirley Harris    | Kitchen/M 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                     | ntovarez@rofum.org    | 248.541.4100        |
| Lori Newton       | Evening Receptionist                    | lnewton@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:

Michele Prud'homme • Mary Lou Graeber • Marian Kremer •  
Hudson Williams • Laurie O'Donnell • Megan McKenzie-Grimm •  
Don Matson • John Marsh • Kathy MacFarlane • Phyllis Hassberger •  
Kristen Turkington • Sue Buxton • Adrienne Loftin • Dave Minch •  
Lee Hoffmann • Jan Albert • Charles Hardaway •

## Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Dorothy Follette • Karen Cunningham • Carol • Joan • Missy Winter •  
Brett Thatcher • Margie Reese • Deb Ingraham • Sharon Connors •  
Lori Mason • Rich Zielinski • The Everst Family • Cara & Kevin Smith •  
Halen Alexander • Jessica Boyer • Ellen Delangy • Troy & Deb Bongard •  
The Stubitsch Family • Ronald Fick • Heather Brown Miller •  
Scott & Cathy Dawe • Marykay McCaskey •

## Sympathies to:

The Frey family on the death of Mike's father, Marvin Frey on August 19, 2025  
The Wells family on the death of Todd's father, Wayne Wells on August 15, 2025

## Congratulations to:

Maggie Obermeyer and Hans Leisman on their marriage on July 11, 2025

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

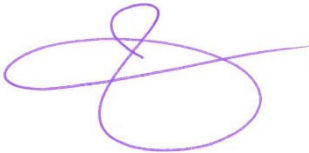
Friends,

This week in our Hymn Series, we'll reflect on "How Great Thou Art." Inspired by a storm and a rainbow, this timeless hymn reminds us of God's power, presence, and care.

Just this past weekend, I experienced a storm firsthand up north. Power lines split, a tree fell, and yet God kept us safe. It was one of those moments that makes you stop and remember that He's right there with us in every storm we face.

I'd love to see you this Sunday as we celebrate God's greatness together. And don't forget it's also our *Blessing of the Backpacks*! Whether you're a student, a teacher, or just someone who carries a bag to work, bring it along. We'll be praying over you and the year ahead, asking God to go with you into every classroom, office and place you step into.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal stroke and a smaller loop.

Pastor Jennifer Tripoli