



ROYAL OAK
FIRST
A United Methodist Church

Sunday, September 7, 2025
10:00 AM Worship

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music	"Lion"	House Band
Call to Worship		Olivia Miller
Opening Hymn	"Let Us Build a House"	
Affirmation of Faith		
Gloria Patri #70*	"Glory Be to the Father"	
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Jeff Nelson & Jennifer Tripoli
Children's Moment		
Time of Prayer		Nicole Wilson
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering	"Live Again"	
Doxology	"Give Thanks"	
Scripture Reading**	John 9:1-12,24-25,39	
Message	"A New Way of Seeing"	Jeff Nelson
Sacrament of Holy Communion		
Communion Hymn #620*	"One Bread, One Body"	
Closing Hymn	"Sing a New Church"	
Benediction		
Postlude	"Build Your Kingdom Here"	

**United Methodist Hymnal*

***Common English Bible*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



TWO WORSHIP SERVICES RETURN

NEXT 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!

NEW HERE? COME TO PASTOR CHAT

NEXT SUNDAY!

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!



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 one more volunteer to shop**

for produce for September 12, in addition to more volunteer slots needing to be filled in the upcoming months. If you can lend a hand, please scan the QR code to sign up.



SCAN ME

ANNOUNCEMENTS



“MAKIN’ IT REAL: EMBRACING CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST” SMALL GROUPS

All are welcome to join a small group as we read "Makin' it Real: Embracing Connections in Christ" written by our own **Pastor Jeff Nelson** this fall. Small groups are a great way to meet some new people you go to church with, and grow in your faith at the same time! This book will match up with the Sunday sermons this fall as we seek to grow in our understanding of who Jesus is and what it means to be a follower of Christ. We look forward to good conversation and opportunities for reflection. **Groups will start the week of September 21.** Scan the QR code to sign up today!



PRIDE & ALLY ADULT SOCIAL GROUP

Royal Oak First is restarting our **Pride & Ally Social Group**, open to anyone looking for community, connection, and fun. We'll meet on the first Monday of each month, beginning **October 6th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at church**. This is a safe and affirming space for all—whether you identify as LGBTQIA+ or as a supportive ally. Come as you are, bring a friend, and join us in building a vibrant and inclusive community.

Then join us for our **first social outing on Sunday, October 12 right after the 11am service at Pronto!** (right next door to the church) for brunch and conversation. Everyone will pay for their own meal and beverages, but we'll all sit together and enjoy great food and fellowship. Families are welcome! **Please RSVP by October 6 so we can give the restaurant an accurate head count at prideandally@rofum.org.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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.



SOCK IT TO ME SEPTEMBER (UNDERWEAR TOO!)

Our friends at NOAH at Central give out over 10,000 pairs of socks annually as part of their work supporting the homeless of Detroit. It is our goal to contribute 1000 pairs of socks or underwear to NOAH this year, in addition giving 1000 pairs to Outreach on 7th. **Please bring a package of NEW MEN'S CREW SOCKS or NEW MENS UNDERWEAR to church during the month of September.** Please drop off socks in the white bin near the Welcome Desk by the Lafayette entrance. Sock-It-To-Me!



YOUNG ADULTS GROUP-MONTHLY MEETUPS!

Are you a young adult looking to connect, grow in faith, and build community? Our Young Adults Group meets on the **last Tuesday of every month**, and we'd love for you to join us! Each month we gather at a **different location and time**, so make sure you're in the loop! To stay updated on meeting details, contact **Pastor Bridget Nelson** at **248.541.4100** or **bnelson@rofum.org** to be added to our **Google Group**. You'll receive notifications with all the info you need for our next get-together. We can't wait to meet you!

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
Bridget Nelson	Associate Pastor of Programs	bnelson@rofum.org	248.541.4100 x 1102
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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:

Rita Nicholas • Karen Porter • Brian Harris • Janie Castle • Jan Albert •
Michele Prud'homme • Mary Lou Graeber • Marian Kremer •
Laurie O'Donnell • Megan McKenzie-Grimm • Don Matson • John Marsh •
Kathy MacFarlane • Phyllis Hassberger • Kristen Turkington • Sue Buxton •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Marge Lewandowski • Ann Marie Rogers • Dorothy Follette •
Karen Cunningham • Carol • Joan • Missy Winter • Brett Thatcher •
Joyce Barber • Margie Reese • Deb Ingraham • Sharon Connors •
Lori Mason • Rich Zielinski • The Everst Family • Cara & Kevin Smith •
Halen Alexander • Jessica Boyer •

Sympathies to:

The McKinnon and Backes families on the death of Scott McKinnon's nephew,
Jonathan Kieffer on September 2, 2025

Audrey Fick on the death of her brother and Amy Rhoades and Jennifer Bowen
on the death of their uncle, Phil Makinen on August 29, 2025

The Whitney family on the death of Tim's brother, Jimmy Whitney on August 21,
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

Dear Beloved Community,

Well, friends, it's that time of year again! The air is turning crisp, the leaves are beginning to change, and we are gearing up for the start of a new school year, a fresh church program year, and yes, a brand new football season! Fall is a time of new beginnings, and I'm so excited to welcome you back to Royal Oak First United Methodist Church.

This season, we're diving into phase two of our "Makin' it Real" initiative, and our focus is on serving others. There's truly no better way to draw closer to Christ than through the simple, yet profound act of service.

This Sunday, I invite you to join us for our Ministry Fair! There will be so many opportunities to get involved and lend your heart and hands to the mission we share. Whether you feel called to be an usher, a greeter, help with worship, or share your gifts in music, sound, or video, we have a spot for you! We also need warm-hearted folks to assist with our outreach initiatives and our lunch program—there's truly a place for everyone. And yes there will be hot dogs for lunch!

Additionally, we're teaming up with the NOAH Project, which serves as a vital food and social service resource in Detroit. Throughout this month, we're collecting socks and underwear, aiming for a goal of 2,000 pairs! Half of what we collect will stay here for our Outreach on 7th. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of those who need it most.

As we embark on this exciting year, I can't help but feel a little competitive knowing that this Sunday, my Packers will be facing off against the Lions. Let's keep each other in prayer and remember that no matter who wins, we're all friends in Christ!

I can't wait to see all the wonderful things we will accomplish together this fall. Thank you for being such an important part of this community!

Grace and peace to you all,

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