

Makin' it Real



Sunday,
October 5,
2025

11AM
service

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	“Theme and Variations on ‘At the Name of Jesus’” Var. 1, 2, & 4 (Christopher Hoyt)	Michael Rosas
Call to Worship		Allison Plaxton
Opening Hymn #185***	“When Morning Gilds the Skies”	
Affirmation of Faith		
Song of Praise #2033*	“Glory to God” (verse 1)	
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Jeff Nelson & Jennifer Tripoli
Time of Prayer		
Scripture Reading**	John 1:29-32, 35-50	
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering	“I Say ‘Yes,’ Lord”/ “Digo ‘Sí,’ Señor” (Donna Peña)	Sanctus Choir
Doxology	“Gratefully Offer Talents and Service” (verse 1)	
Scripture Reading**	Matthew 16:13-20	
Message	“What Shall We Call Him?”	Jeff Nelson
Closing Hymn #2087*	“We Will Glorify the King of Kings”	
Benediction		
Postlude	“Theme and Variations on ‘At the Name of Jesus’” Var. 5 & 6 (Christopher Hoyt)	

**The Faith We Sing*

***New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*

****United Methodist Hymnal*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



2025 Church Conference

**Sunday, October 5 at 3:00 p.m.
Zoom**

JOIN US FOR THE 2025 CHURCH CONFERENCE TODAY AT 3:00PM!

Join us today, Sunday, October 5 at 3:00 p.m. for our **Annual Church Conference on Zoom**. We will be conducting our business meeting, electing our leadership for the next year and learn of what is happening in the wider connection of the United Methodist Church. This is an important meeting and will give you a chance to help shape the direction of our congregation. **This meeting will be held on Zoom only and a link was emailed to everyone on our church email list on Thursday, October 2nd. Please let us know if you did not receive.**



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



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 October 10, 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.



BIG BOY NIGHT-TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Join us for an evening of fellowship and support for our Music Guild's summer Choir Camp! On **Tuesday, October 14, from 4:00-8:00 p.m.**, the Troy Big Boy (200 W. Maple, Troy) will donate **15% of all sales** to our cause when you present a card from the Connections Table at checkout. There will also be wonderful **door prizes donated by our members**—you won't want to miss it! Come enjoy a good meal, connect with friends, and help make Choir Camp possible for our youth.



OUTREACH ON 7TH WISH LIST

Outreach on 7th could use the following items.

- Men's shoes sizes 9-10
- Sleeping bags
- Plastic grocery bags
- Sweatshirt hoodies

Drop off items at church Monday-Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



TRANSFORMATIVE RETREATS WITH PASTOR JEFF: *"ENCOUNTERING CHRIST"*

Join us for a series of **monthly Saturday morning retreats from 9:30-11:30 a.m.**, 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. Sign up by scanning the QR code.



October 18-

"In the Quiet Place – Rhythms of Prayer & Sabbath"

Join us in exploring our life with Jesus through rhythms that draw us closer to Christ.

November 15-

"If You Are Willing – The Healing Ministry of Jesus"

What can we learn from the healing ministries of Jesus about our own healing journeys & transformation of the world around us? Together we will reflect on the ways we can be agents of healing in our communities.

December 20-

"Come to the Manger"

We invite you to take a moment to be present at the nativity. This retreat will allow you to draw nearer to the heart of the Christmas story & reflect on its meaning in our lives today.



NOAH SANDWICH ASSEMBLY (FROM HOME)

Would you like to spend additional time this Fall in service? We've designed an opportunity for many households to sponsor another NOAH at Central lunch together. **You can sign up to make 30 sandwiches at your home to be delivered to church on Sunday, October 19. Additionally, we are collecting individual size bags of chips to donate with the sandwiches.** Please scan the QR code for more information and to sign up!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



OCTOBER IS
PASTOR
APPRECIATION
MONTH

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE PERSONNEL TEAM-BECKY KRIEGER

October is Pastor Appreciation Month! Our team again this year will be providing some gifts and treats to our favorite Pastors!

After spending some time with Pastors Jeff, Bridget and Jennifer they would actually love to hang out with us and help Outreach on 7th! We will be planning an event for early 2026 after the holiday season to show our appreciation to them. More details on that in January.

In the meantime, please feel free to give them a token of your appreciation whether it be a gift, treat, card or even a quick email. We are all so truly blessed to have them in our lives!

SPRING CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE!

We are planning to host a **Rummage Sale in the spring (May 8 & 9)** to support the ministries of our church. Please start saving your donation "treasures"! **Items we will be accepting from May 1-4:** kitchen gadgets/dishes, housewares, toys, small furniture, electronics, small appliances, holiday, collectables, antiques, art, yard/garden (not gas powered), jewelry, purses, accessories, home decor, luggage/backpacks, pet supplies, books, bikes. **Note: NO clothing, baby furniture, baby car seats, linens or plush toys (unless new with tags).** **ADVANCE HELP NEEDED:** Looking for donated rentals of a storage unit and a dumpster which will be needed for this event. Please contact the church office at 248.541.4100 if you can help us with contacts for these items.



PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Nick Harris-Ko • Rita Nicholas • LeeAnn Witherspoon • Ann Cline •
Maggie Blum • Karen Porter • Megan Mckenzie-Grimm • Leonard Benyas •
Mary Lou Graeber • Joel Palmer • Phyllis Hassberger • Kathy MacFarlane •
Ann Anderson • Heather Diamond • Ian Filipp • Don Matson • Dennis Allen •
Janie Castle • Bill Courtney •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Amanda Lewandowski • Kimberly • Bruce Snyder • Ron & Denise Bell Haines •
Bob Payne • Penny Carolin • Ann Marie Rogers • Dorothy Follette •
Karen Cunningham • Carol • Joan • Missy Winter • Brett Thatcher •
Joyce Barber • Deb Ingraham • Sharon Connors • Lori Mason • Rich Zielinski •
Cara & Kevin Smith • Halen Alexander • Jessica Boyer •

Sympathies to:

The Hempstead family on the death of their friend, Marge Lewandowski on
September 30, 2025

Diana Shornak on the death of her brother-in-law, Bill Graves

The Leisman family on the death of Hans' grandfather, Arv Leisman

The Knappenberger family on the death of their granddaughter-in-law, Jamie
Beckwith on September 23, 2025

Congratulations to:

Marisa and Max Ritter on the birth of their daughter, Isla Jane Ritter on September
27, 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,

As I write this week's letter, I find myself reflecting on a significant milestone that passed just last Friday—the one-year anniversary of my father's passing. As the day approached, I felt a warm and gentle joy take up residence in my spirit. It was a welcome and pleasant surprise. While I certainly miss my dad, I was pleasantly surprised that I wasn't feeling all that sad; rather, I felt a real sense of gratitude for the love we shared.

Over the years, Jesus had a profound hand in helping my father and me cultivate a wonderful friendship. We learned to love and accept each other for who we were, forgiving the imperfections and misunderstandings that had once created distance between us. During the last season of his life, our conversations grew deeper, and for the first time, he would ask me to pray with him (what good is it to have a son as a pastor if you can't have him pray with you, right?). We often recited together The Lord's Prayer and the 23rd Psalm, and in those sacred moments, I felt the presence of Christ binding us together in a way that transcended the challenges we had faced.

While I hold onto the hope of being reunited with my parents in the life beyond this one, I want to emphasize that my joy is rooted not in that future promise, but rather in the life and love we shared before death. This is what it means to make Christ's love real—to recognize and celebrate the fullness of God's love in our relationships right here and now.

As we journey together in faith, may we all find ways to embody this love in our interactions with one another, reflecting the grace that has been so generously given to us. Let us continue to support one another, share our stories, and inspire each other to see beyond ourselves, connecting with the divine love that surrounds us.

Come and See what it means to be the beloved community!

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jeff" with a simple smiley face drawn below the name.

Pastor Jeff Nelson