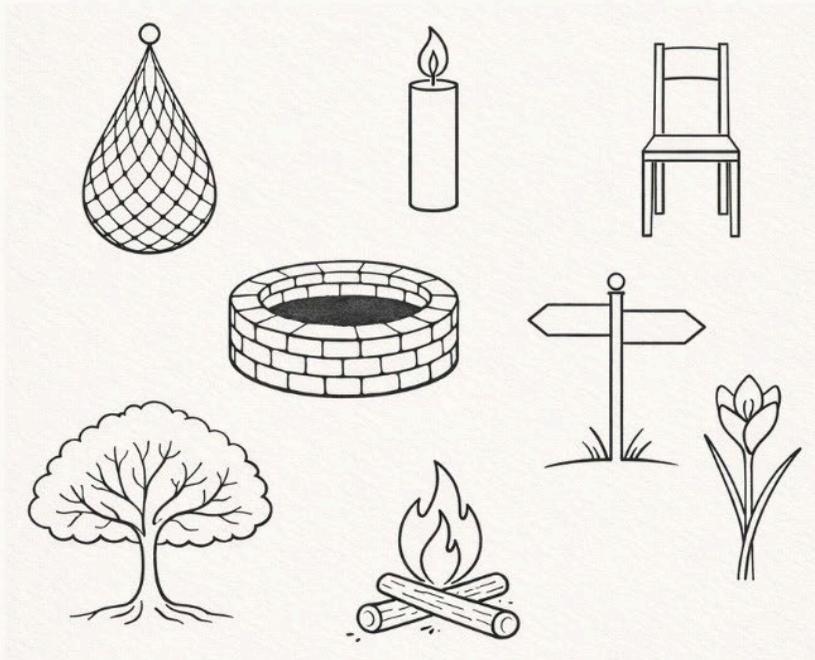


# SEEN AND CALLED

*Encountering the God Who Sees Us First*



**Sunday, March 15, 2026  
11:00 AM Worship**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

<b>Prelude</b>	“The Gift of Love” (arr. by John Carter)	Jennifer Semivan
<b>Call to Worship</b>		Liz Wright
<b>Opening Hymn #526*</b>	“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”	
<b>Prayer of Confession &amp; Assurance of Pardon</b>		
<b>Song of Praise</b>	“Kyrie Eleison”	
<b>Welcome &amp; Invitation to Mission</b>		Jeff Nelson & Jennifer Tripoli
<b>Finance Moment</b>		Rick Buxton
<b>Hymn #348*</b>	“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling” (verses 1,2,4)	
<b>Time of Prayer</b>		
<b>Invitation to Offering</b>		
<b>Musical Offering</b>	“Be Thou My Vision” (arr. Dan Forrest)	Sanctus Choir
<b>Doxology #95*</b>	“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”	
<b>Scripture Reading**</b>	Luke 10:38-42	
<b>Message</b>	“Mary and Martha: Called to Presence”	Nicole Wilson
<b>Closing Hymn #384*</b>	“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”	
<b>Benediction</b>		
<b>Postlude</b>	Main Titles from “The Cider House Rules” (Rachel Portman)	

*\*United Methodist Hymnal  
\*\*Common English Bible*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## LAST DAY TO ORDER! HYACINTH AND EASTER LILIES SALE

Today is the last day to purchase a hyacinth or lily or contribute to United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) in honor or memory of a loved one. The lilies and hyacinths will decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 5. The names of the donors and those to be honored or memorialized will be printed in the Easter Sunday Bulletin. Scan the QR code to order hyacinth or lilies or stop by the Connections Table for a paper order form by **Sunday, March 15** to either purchase a lily or a hyacinth or contribute to UMCOR.



## SERVICE FOR OTHERS TODAY!

Join us **Sunday, March 15** after either service in service for others. We will be prepping and assembling meals in the kitchen for our Family Shelter Meals mission project.



## PRIDE BRUNCH AT PRONTO IS TODAY

It's time for another Family Brunch at Pronto! The Pride & Ally Group is gathering after the 11:00 a.m. service (so around 12:15 p.m.) on **Sunday, March 15** at Pronto in Royal Oak. All are welcome. Everyone pays for their own meal, but the fun and fellowship are free! Please let us know if you can attend and how many people will be in your party by scanning the QR code.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Help with Family Shelter Meals

One week each month throughout winter



We need volunteers to:  
Prep Food / Heat Up Food / Transport Food / Serve the Meal

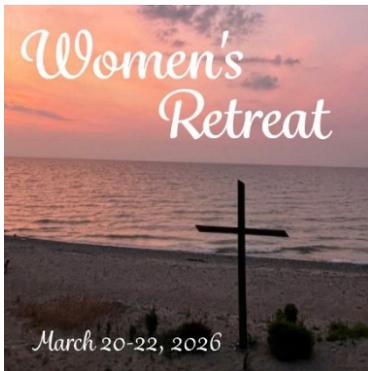
## FAMILY SHELTER MEALS--LAST WEEK!

The Royal Oak First Missions Team has partnered with “Kids Empowered: On the Move” to provide meals at a new family shelter in Pontiac. This is the last week that our church is sponsoring meals. We need help the week of **March 15-20**; prepping the food on Sunday, heating the food at church each evening, transporting it to the shelter, and serving the meal. Please sign up by scanning the QR code.



## 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

All women ages 18 and up are invited to a relaxing and joy-filled weekend retreat at the Lake Huron Retreat Center, just north of Port Huron. Join us **Friday, March 20 beginning at 7:00 p.m. through Sunday morning on March 22** for a meaningful time of faith, fellowship, and fun as we explore the story of Mary and Martha, enjoy a change of scenery, rest, play games, and get creative together. For questions or more information, contact Bridget Nelson at [bnelson@rofum.org](mailto:bnelson@rofum.org) or 248-541-4100. Scan the QR code to sign up.



## WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF

During the past three winters, Royal Oak First has sent dozens of volunteers to World Medical Relief in Southfield to help sort medical supplies to be sent in aid shipments throughout the world. Our next date has been set as **Saturday, March 21, 8:45-11:30 a.m.** Plan to wear comfortable shoes, as most volunteers will be standing, but some sitting tasks are available too. This is a great service opportunity for teens and adults. Please scan the QR code for additional information and to sign up.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Moms at Pubs

(MAP)



## MOMS AT PUBS

Calling all moms! Whether your babies are 10 days old, 15 months old, or fully grown, you're invited to join us for Moms at Pubs. We meet on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. to share conversation, enjoy a meal, and relax over a drink together. Come connect, laugh, and unwind with other moms who understand the joys (and challenges!) of motherhood. Please contact Pastor Jennifer at [jtripoli@rofum.org](mailto:jtripoli@rofum.org) to be added to the email blast to find out where our next meeting will be held.

## Last Fish Dinner



Friday, March 27

## DON'T MISS OUR FINAL FISH DINNER

We have the final famous fish dinner on Friday, March 27, so bring your family and friends and join us for yummy food and fellowship. Our fish dinners benefit our children and youth where proceeds are used to send them to camp. Carryout is also available (adult meals only)--park in our lot, come in Tower entrance, order and carry out.

## WE COULD USE A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR LAST FISH DINNER

Our Fish Dinners are underway, and we're grateful for the strong start! This beloved tradition welcomes our community in and helps us Make Christ's Love Real around the table.

We still need volunteers for **Friday, March 27**.

Whether you can cook, serve, greet, or clean up, there's a place for you. Every dinner supports camp scholarships for our youth — and kids who volunteer receive credit toward their camp costs! Scan the QR code to sign up for one (or all!) of the remaining dinners. Let's keep it going!

**FISH DINNERS  
VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



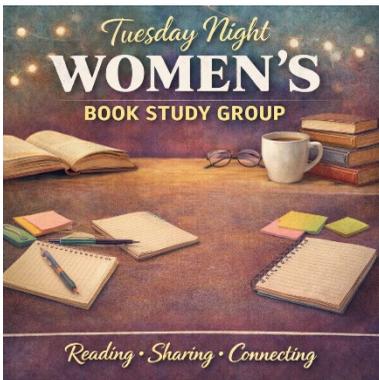
## EASTER EGG FILLERS COLLECTION

The kids and youth of Royal Oak First are collecting donations of individually wrapped pieces of candy, toys/trinkets, and plastic eggs for their annual 'Egg My House' fundraiser through **Sunday, March 29**. A collection bin is at the Connections Table. If you prefer to shop from home and have it delivered, simply scan the QR code to order from our Amazon Wish List by **Sunday, March 29**.



## GET READY FOR "EGG MY HOUSE"!

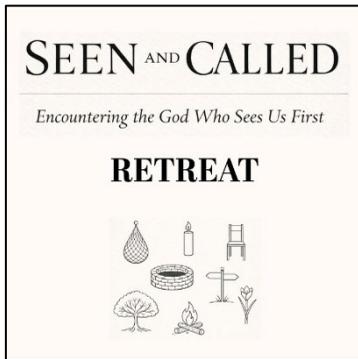
Make Easter morning "egg-stra" special for your kids with a yard full of candy and toy-filled eggs delivered by Royal Oak First! Purchase twenty-four (24) eggs for \$25 or double the fun with forty-eight (48) eggs for \$50. All proceeds support the Youth Mission Trip. Order by scanning the QR code before Sunday, March 29.



## TUESDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY

This welcoming group of women has been meeting at Royal Oak First for about 10 years to explore a variety of books, from Bible studies to spiritually rich novels and personal growth titles. We meet Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at church during fall and spring and on Zoom in the winter months. Our next book is "*The Let Them Theory*" by Mel Robbins, beginning March 31 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Room. If you have questions, please contact Pam Belecki at [pbelecki@wowway.com](mailto:pbelecki@wowway.com).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



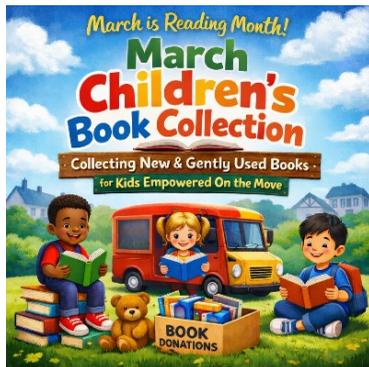
## “SEEN AND CALLED” RETREAT

Join us for a special two-part retreat for anyone who has been reading “*Seen and Called*” with us!

**Friday, April 10 | 7:00-9:00 p.m.** We'll begin our time together by reflecting on one of the most foundational truths of our faith, that God truly sees us. Come ready to slow down, open your heart, and be reminded of how deeply and personally you are known by God.

**Saturday, April 11 | 9:30-11:30 a.m.** We'll continue our retreat by turning our eyes forward. Together, we'll explore the new things God may be inviting each of us into, the callings, opportunities, and next steps being placed before us.

Whether you've read every chapter or are just catching up, all are welcome. Come expecting to encounter God in a fresh way. *We can't wait to see you there!*



## MARCH CHILDREN'S BOOK COLLECTION

In honor of "March is Reading Month", the Missions Team will be collecting new and gently used children's books to be shared with “Kids Empowered: On the Move.” They run a program that delivers books to low income families around Oakland County. Please scan the QR code to shop from our Amazon Wish List, or shop local at The Caboose: Sidetrack Bookshop for Kids on Washington Ave.



## DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE HYMN?

We would love it if you would share some of your favorite hymns and songs with us so we can use them in worship planning for our upcoming series. You can scan the QR code for the Google Form or write the hymn on a slip of paper and put it in a basket on the Connections Table. We look forward to singing what you share.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## OUTREACH ON 7<sup>TH</sup> "CLOTHING CLOSET" NEEDS

- Men's Winter Socks
- Women's Underwear (sizes small to 3X)
- Women's Sports Bras (sizes medium to 3X)
- Men's Shoes/Boots: sizes 10 to 12
- Men's Belts: 30-44 waist
- Backpacks

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



## SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

On Friday, May 15th, we will have a Euchre Night (more details to follow) benefitting Outreach on 7th, and there will also be a Silent Auction. We invite local businesses and individuals to donate items, services, or unique gifts to be auctioned. Your generosity will make a meaningful difference and help us continue supporting those who need it most. To donate to our Silent Auction, please contact Scott Mckinnon at [smckinnon61@gmail.com](mailto:smckinnon61@gmail.com).



# **holy** *week*

*at Royal Oak First*

## **PALM SUNDAY**

*Sunday, March 29, 2026, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. services (in-person and online)*

Join us as we celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with palms to wave and joy to spread. Any children that are here can participate in a Palm Parade at both services.

## **MAUNDY-THURSDAY**

*Thursday, April 2, 2026, 7:00 p.m. service (in-person and online)*

Join us for a worship experience at 7:00 p.m. where we will remember the Last Supper and reflect on how Jesus built community around the table, inviting us to do the same.

## **GOOD FRIDAY**

*Friday, April 3, 2026, noon service (in-person and online)*

Join us for a traditional and impactful Good Friday worship service remembering Jesus' final day. This is a service of deep reflection. Come to the foot of the cross and experience the Passion of Jesus.

## **7 LAST WORDS POETRY/MUSIC SLAM**

*Friday, April 3, 2026, 7:00 p.m. (in-person and online)*

You don't want to miss this live event where poets and musicians muse on Christ's last words from the cross. Unique, poignant, and compelling, "7 Last Words" offers insights into Christ's humanity and divinity in his final moments.

## **EASTER SUNDAY**

*Sunday, April 5, 2026, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. services (in-person and online)*

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Join us for a morning of worship and celebration featuring our House Band at the 9:00 a.m. worship service, and the Sanctus Choir accompanied by a brass quartet at the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

# ONE MORE FISH DINNER LEFT!

Friday, March 27  
4:30-7:00PM

*Did you know that proceeds from our fish dinners benefit our children and youth?*

**Kids Meal (5 & under)---FREE**

Choice of: Baked or Deep Fried Cod, Chicken Tenders and either Baked Potato or French Fries.  
Includes: Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

**Kids Meal (ages 6-15)---\$10**

Choice of: Baked or Deep Fried Cod, Chicken Tenders and either Baked Potato or French Fries.  
Includes: Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

**Chicken Tenders Plate---\$16**

Includes: 1/2 lb. Chicken Tenders, choice of either Baked Potato or French Fries, Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

**Petite Cod Plate---\$18**

Includes: 1/3 lb. Deep Fried Cod, choice of either Baked Potato or French Fries, Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

**Full Cod Plate---\$20**

Includes: Choice of 1/2 lb. Deep Fried or Baked Cod, choice of either Baked Potato or French Fries, Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

**Zander (Pike Perch) Plate---\$20**

Includes: 1/2 lb. Deep Fried Zander (Pike Perch), choice of either Baked Potato or French Fries, Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

**Carry out also available  
(adult meals only)**



# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

## Prayers for Our Church Family:

Elsa Reynolds • Andrew Sluss • Scott Cummings • Rick Buxton • Rachel Salazar • Pam Payne • Joyce Russell • John Marsh • Elizabeth Kincannon • LeeAnn Witherspoon • Kay Nowaczok • Larry Oberdier • Ann Anderson • Mark Thatcher • Jerry Elliott • Arthur Jemison • Bob Prud'homme • Michele Prud'homme • Bernie Stubitsch •

## Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Tony Thomas • Felix Thurman • Mark Hall • Robert Williams • Huntley Thatcher Reed • Jean Murphy • Ron & Betsy Fisch • Kelli Hackbardt • Russ Dore' • Elma Holloway • Richard Long • Jean Foster • John Bartley • Susie Wilkinson • James • Barbara Anderson • Dr. Eisenshtadt • Bill Gnegy • Debbie Motherwell • Margie Reese •

## Sympathies to:

Bob and Michele Prud'homme on the death of Bob's brother, Albert Prud'homme on March 7, 2026

*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 PREACHER

Beloved Community,

I frequently see the 21<sup>st</sup> century referred to as “The Age of Distraction.” And honestly, I see why. With our cell phones and smart watches, we can be bombarded with constant notifications. With 24-hour media, we never have far to look for someone who will try to tell us how to think or feel about any plethora of issues or for someone or something working to intentionally distract us so we can numb our thinking and feeling selves.

I think that’s why I love coming to Royal Oak First. Sure, there are still plenty of distractions, but they are real life distractions rather than digital ones. They are the distractions of laughing or crying babies and toddlers, the running of children, the stories and noises and smells of tragedy and triumph. They are the distractions of presence.

We will never live in a world without distraction, but we can still seek to practice presence. We can choose to listen to the people in front of us rather than the people we see through a screen. I am so grateful for the people who I run into every week who are here to be a listening ear and a helping hand, for the people choosing presence.

I am grateful for Myra, Paul, Mike, Larry, Tim, Kris, and others who volunteer time to make meals and prepare spaces to receive people. I’m grateful for Linda who brings joy as she answers phones and fills in wherever she can. I’m grateful for the team of people, including Griffin, Maria, Analisa, Fred, Mike (x3), Wayne and all the others, who practice and use music to create an atmosphere. I’m thankful for the choir who faithfully blesses us in worship.

This week I am especially grateful for Megan Grammatico and Jennifer Semivan who are stepping in to lead the adult choir and accompany the choir and congregation while we sing.

So, today, I thank all of you for making Royal Oak First a beloved community.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicole Wilson". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and personal.

Nicole Wilson