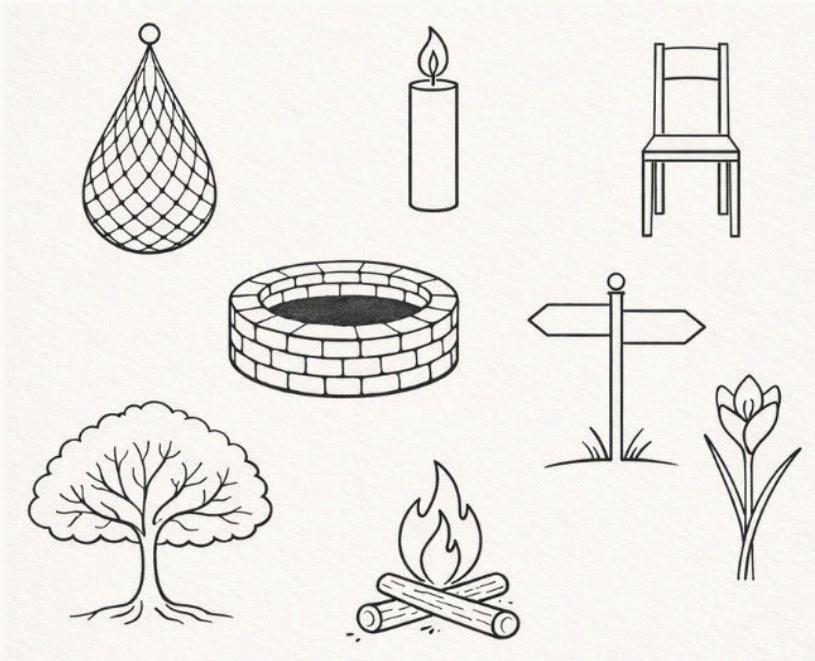


# SEEN AND CALLED

*Encountering the God Who Sees Us First*



**Sunday, March 8, 2026**  
**11:00 AM Worship**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## PRIDE & ALLY ADULT SOCIAL GROUP

Pride & Ally Adult Social Group meetings are held at church on the second Monday of each month. Our next meeting is on **Monday, March 9 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** We'd also love for you to join our Facebook Group to stay connected, so scan the QR code!



## RBI PRODUCE COLLECTION

Thank you for your continued support in providing fresh produce monthly to the families served through Redford Brightmoor Initiative's Free Store! We are in need of shopping volunteers for **Friday, March 13** in addition to the upcoming months. Scan the QR code to sign up.



## Knowledge Circle Craft Sale



## KNOWLEDGE CIRCLE CRAFT SALE

Join the ladies of Royal Oak First's Knowledge Circle at their Craft Sale during the Fish Dinner on **Friday, March 13 from 4:00-7:30 p.m.** in the Narthex. There will be a variety of crafts for sale such as crocheted items, floral silk arrangements, and quilts. All proceeds will be used to help one or two Royal Oak First families in need during Eastertime.

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HYMN?

*Let Us Know!*



## 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



## YOUTH BAKE SALE AT FISH DINNERS

Our Youth Group (ROY) will be selling baked goods at all of our Fish Dinners and you can help! All proceeds will go towards the Youth Group's summer service trips. If you would be willing to bake something for any of their sales, scan the QR code to sign up.



## FISH FRY SEASON IS HERE!

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 **Fridays, March 13 and 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!



## HYACINTH AND EASTER LILIES SALE

We are excited to offer the choice of purchasing a hyacinth or lily or contributing to United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) in honor or memory of a loved one. The lilies 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 before **Sunday, March 15** to either purchase a lily or a hyacinth or contribute to UMCOR.



# 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 Sundays, heating the food at church each evening, transporting it to the shelter, and serving the meal. Please sign up by scanning the QR code.



## PRIDE BRUNCH AT PRONTO

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.



## SERVICE FOR OTHERS-MARCH 15

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## 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. It is always a memorable service day for all who participate! 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.



## 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.**

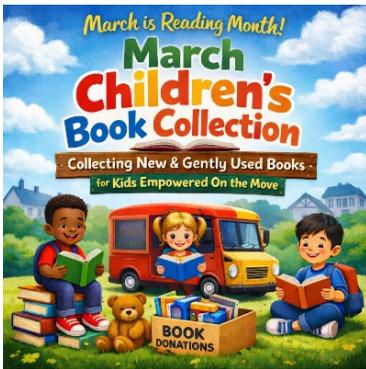


# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## 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**.



## 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.



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

### "CLOTHING CLOSET" NEEDS

The Outreach on 7th's Clothing Closet can use: Men's Winter Socks, Women's Underwear (sizes small to 3X), Women's Sports Bras (sizes medium to 3X) Please drop off at the church office, Monday-Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

# **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.

# STAFF DIRECTORY

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>	<b>PHONE</b>
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
Nicole Wilson	Pastoral Intern	nwilson@rofum.org	248.541.4100 x 1218
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/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
Kiersten Ciccone	Nursery Coordinator	kciccone@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
Lori Newton	Evening Receptionist	lnewton@rofum.org	248.541.4100
George Bard	Custodian	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Ben Graham	Weekend/Evening	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100

# TWO MORE FISH DINNERS LEFT!

**Fridays, March 13 & 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:

John Marsh • Elizabeth Kincannon • LeeAnn Witherspoon • Scott Cummings • Joyce Russell • Ginny Panone • Kay Nowaczok • Carolyn Gabler • Larry Oberdier • Ann Anderson • Mark Thatcher • Jerry Elliott • Arthur Jemison • Bob Prud'homme • Michele Prud'homme • Bernie Stubitsch • Lee Hoffmann • Joyce Negrich • Bill Bond • Kathy MacFarlane

## Prayers for Our Extended Family:

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

## Sympathies to:

Joyce Russell on the death of her aunt, Joyce Barber on March 3, 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 PASTOR

## Beloved Community: An Alternative Vision

We are living in a time that trains us to sort people—by politics, by income, by zip code, by who “deserves” help. But the gospel keeps offering an alternative vision: Beloved Community. A world where people are not problems to manage, but neighbors to welcome. A world where no one is disposable.

One of the clearest places we see that alternative vision taking shape is around food.

On Wednesday evening, Holy COW fed more than 100 children and parents. It’s more than a meal. It’s a space where families are welcomed, kids can be kids, and community forms.

Right here in our building, Outreach on 7th continues daily, making sure unhoused neighbors and those in vulnerable situations have food and care. Fridays are especially full: the clothing closet, laundry, showers, and connections to county and city resources—along with the steady gift of a meal and a warm welcome. This is Beloved Community in action.

Our Lenten Fish Dinners carry that same spirit. Yes, they support ministry—but they are far more than a fundraiser. They are a chance to work shoulder to shoulder and offer hospitality to the wider community. Last week we served over 500 meals. People come for the food, and they return for the welcome.

And throughout the winter we’ve partnered with the new family shelter in Pontiac, one of the few family shelters in Oakland County. Royal Oak First has provided 300 meals a month—a total of 1,200 meals this winter—supporting about 50 families as they work toward stability.

This is what an alternative vision looks like: ordinary people showing up with care, food becoming community, and the church practicing the world we pray for. Thank you for being part of it.

Grace and Peace,

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

Pastor Jeff Nelson