



# STILL HERE

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**LOVE • MERCY • TOGETHER**



**ROYAL OAK  
FIRST**  
A United Methodist Church

**Sunday, April 26, 2026 | 9:00 AM Worship**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

<b>Gathering Music</b>	“No Fear” (Jon Reddick)	House Band
<b>Welcome</b>		Jeff Nelson
<b>Song</b>	“Good Plans”	
<b>Noisy Bucket</b>		
<b>Time of Prayer</b>		Nicole Wilson
<b>Invitation to Offering</b>		Jennifer Tripoli
<b>Musical Offering</b>	“Be the Light”	Joel Palmer
<b>Doxology</b>	“Give Thanks”	
<b>Scripture Reading*</b>	John 20:19-23	
<b>Message</b>	“Peace Be With You”	Jeff Nelson
<b>Baptism Remembrance</b>		
<b>Song</b>	“Promises”	
<b>Closing Song</b>	“Fear Is Not My Future”	
<b>Benediction</b>		
<b>Departing Music</b>		

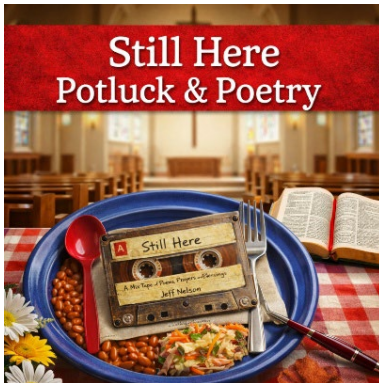
*\*Common English Bible*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 CONFIRMANDS!

Conor Carrier • Logan Haines • Nicholas Harris-Ko •  
Sophie Nader • Bianca Whitney



## STILL HERE POTLUCK & POETRY

Saturday, May 2, 2026 | 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Join us Saturday, May 2 at 6:00 p.m. for *Still Here* Potluck & Poetry! All are welcome for a festive potluck, followed by readings from Pastor Jeff Nelson's book *Still Here: A Mixtape of Poems, Prayers, and Blessings* at 7:00 p.m. Books will be available for purchase and signing. The church will provide chicken—please bring a salad, side, or dessert. Volunteers are also needed for setup and cleanup. We will have childcare available that evening. Scan the QR code to sign up.



## FAMILY SANDWICH/LUNCH MAKING FROM HOME

Sunday, May 3 and Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Are you looking for a one-time service opportunity this spring? We've designed an opportunity for many households to sponsor another NOAH at Central lunch together. You can sign up to make 30 sandwiches or 30 lunches at your home to be delivered to church on Sunday, May 3. Additionally, we are hoping for 2 volunteers to help drive the meal downtown on Tuesday, May 5. Please scan the QR code to sign up!



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## RBI PRODUCE COLLECTION

Friday, May 8, 2026

Thank you for your continued support in providing fresh produce monthly to the families served through Redford Brightmoor Initiative's Free Store! **We need 3 shoppers for May.** Scan the QR code to sign up.



## SILENT AUCTION & EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

Friday, May 15 | 6:30-9:30 p.m.

5th Avenue Grill in Downtown Royal Oak

Join us for a traditional Midwest Euchre tournament designed for fun, friends and fellowship. There will be a silent auction with many amazing gifts donated by friends and local businesses committed to supporting our Outreach on 7th program. (Even if you not a Euchre player, we absolutely want you to be part of the evening! There will be ample opportunity to mix, mingle and bid on some wonderful items.) Cost will be \$50 donation a person and will include food and non-alcoholic beverages. A cash bar will be available. All proceeds will go to support Outreach on 7th. To donate to our Silent Auction, please contact Scott Mckinnon at [swmckinnon61@gmail.com](mailto:swmckinnon61@gmail.com).



## 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, May 17 at 10:15 a.m. in the Parlor and last no more than 45 minutes. We'd love to meet you!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



Wear  
**RED**  
on  
Pentecost  
Sunday

## WEAR RED ON PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 7!

Our Pentecost Sunday Block Party will be on Sunday, June 7 right after service. We want to encourage everyone to wear red and we made it super easy for you to do so. Check out our new online church store “Shop on Sunday” and order yourself one (or more!) of our red t-shirts!



SCAN ME



## ESSENTIALS PANTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The first Saturday of the month, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. the Essentials Pantry is open. We need volunteers to gather from our supply inventory and hand out these supplies to those in need. If you are able to volunteer, please scan the QR code to sign up.



SCAN ME

## STEP INTO SUPPORT:

### Men's Sneakers & Shorts Needed

The Outreach on 7th Clothing Closet is currently in need of men's sneakers in sizes 10, 10.5, and 11, along with basketball shorts in sizes 34, 36, 38, and 40. These everyday essentials make a real difference for our neighbors navigating challenging circumstances—offering comfort, dignity, and the ability to move through the day with confidence. If you're able to donate new or gently used items, your generosity helps us continue making Christ's love real in practical, tangible ways. Please drop off at the church Monday-Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## **SAVE THE DATES FOR CHOIR REUNION WEEKEND** **October 16-18, 2026**

The picture at the bottom of this page is of the Sanctus Choir in 1987 (photo taken by Clarence W. Phillips). There are several members of the choir that are still members of Royal Oak First United Methodist Church today, in 2026. See if you can recognize them: Joan Johnson, Phyllis Hassberger, Susanne Buxton, Grace Perkins, Eileen Schroeder, Audrey Fick, Rick Buxton, Melanie Fick Brown, Bill Bond, Kay LaCombe and former Choir Director, Christopher Hall.

Come join those of them who can be there, and many other choir members from the past and present, at our Choir Reunion Weekend October 16-18, 2026. Clarence W. Phillips, who took this photograph, is no longer on earth, but his son Don Phillips will be at the reunion. Please join us.



# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

## Prayers for Our Church Family:

Jerry Haymond • Elsa Reynolds • George Bard • Bill Young •  
LeeAnn Witherspoon • Riley Combs • Scott Cummings • Pam Payne •  
Joyce Russell • Kay Nowaczok • Ann Anderson • Mark Thatcher •  
Bob Prud'homme • Michele Prud'homme • Bernie Stubitsch •

## Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Latha Ravi • Marietta Cunningham • Sharon Connors • Jen Moore • Megan Colett •  
Adarsa • Jeanie & Michael John Hoops • Christina Buchanan • Mike •  
Craig Brooks • Sandra Brooks • Burnie Davis • Jim • Beverly Bazzell •  
Effie Lambros • Carol Marshall • 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 •  
Margie Reese •

## Sympathies to:

The family and friends of John Beedle-Gee on his death on April 19, 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

Dear Beloved Community,

This Sunday, five of our eighth graders will be confirmed.

Over the past year, they've been gathering one Saturday a month, laughing, asking honest questions, and trying to make sense of faith and life. And this community has been right there with them, showing up, making room, and walking alongside them.

We haven't asked them to have it all figured out. We've simply tried to help them trust one important truth: that grace comes first.

So when they make mistakes they'll know what to do. They'll know where to come. They won't be afraid to come back.

You may notice the sign this week has a little more tape on it. Nothing dramatic—just reinforced. That feels about right. When life feels uncertain, we don't start over—we press the promise down again and remind each other it still holds.

Confirmation is one of those moments. Not just for them, but for all of us.

So whether you're in the room at 11:00 a.m. service or not, this is your moment too. A moment to remember that you are held, that grace comes first, and that you belong.

Still here.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jeff" in a cursive style. 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