



STILL HERE



Sunday, May 24, 2026

10:00 AM Worship



ROYAL OAK
FIRST

A United Methodist Church



TOGETHER...we are.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music	“Free”	House Band
Welcome		Jeff Nelson
Song	“Made For More”	
Endowment Team		Bobby Hoekstra
Noisy Bucket	“Make a Joyful Noise”	
Children’s Moment		
Time of Prayer		Nicole Wilson
Invitation to Offering		Jennifer Tripoli
Musical Offering		Joel Palmer
Doxology	“Give Thanks”	
Scripture Reading*	Acts 1:6-11	
Message	“Ascension”	Jeff Nelson
Closing Song	“The Church”	
Benediction		
Postlude		

** Common English Bible*

MEMORIAL DAY

As we observe Memorial Day, we pause to remember and honor the brave men and women who have given their lives in service to our nation. Their sacrifice is a profound testament to the love and commitment they held for their fellow citizens and the ideals of freedom and peace. Let us keep their families in our prayers, asking for God's comfort and strength. **Please note: The church office will be closed on Monday, May 25. We will re-open on Tuesday, May 26 at 10:00 a.m.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moms at Pubs

(MAP)



MOMS AT PUBS (MAP)

Thursday, May 28 | 7:00 p.m.

MAP (Moms at Pub) is a relaxed, welcoming space for moms to connect, share a meal, and enjoy meaningful conversation. We gather once a month on Thursdays, September through June, at restaurants around Royal Oak. Our next gathering will be Thursday, May 28 at 7:00 p.m. at HopCat (430 S. Main Street, Royal Oak). Email Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at jtripoli@rofum.org to be added to our email.

“FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS”

NEW ZOOM DISCUSSION SERIES

Sunday, May 31 | 7:00 p.m.

Do you avoid the news because it feels filled with war, violence, and division? Do you hear political rhetoric using “Christian” language that doesn’t seem to reflect your faith? You’re not alone. Join us for a new Zoom discussion series exploring what we believe and why some of the “Christian” messaging we hear today can feel out of step with the Gospel. Using guidebooks written by Pastor Jeff, we’ll engage in thoughtful conversation and reflection together. Part one of the series is *Resisting Christian Nationalism*. You can purchase the guidebook online (scan the QR code) and read ahead, or simply come ready to listen and discuss.



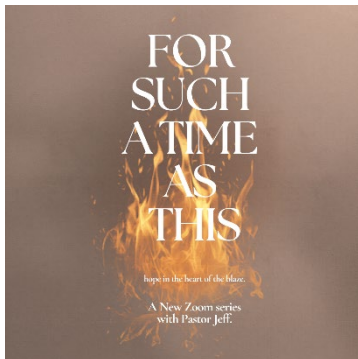
SCAN ME

Purchase
Guidebook



SCAN ME

Zoom
Link



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT PRIDE EVENTS

Wednesday, June 10 & Sunday, June 28

Our Pride & Ally Group needs volunteers for our Royal Oak First booth at two June Pride events. We will be at Family Pride Night at the Royal Oak Farmers Market on Wednesday, June 10 and Berkley Pride on Sunday, June 28. Scan the QR code to sign up! If you have any questions, please email prideandally@rofum.org.



SCAN ME

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CELEBRATE PENTECOST WITH A CHURCH BLOCK PARTY

Sunday, June 7 | Following the 10:00 a.m. service

Join us for a joyful Church Block Party at Royal Oak First on Pentecost Sunday, June 7, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service! This rain-or-shine celebration, sponsored by our Endowment Team, will include great food, entertainment, and activities for all ages. Whether you're catching up with friends or meeting someone new, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Come celebrate, connect, and experience the spirit of our community!



PENTECOST SUNDAY: WEAR RED!

Sunday, June 7

Join us for our Pentecost Sunday Block Party on Sunday, June 7, right after worship! We invite everyone to wear red as we celebrate together. Order your red church t-shirt from our new online store, "Shop on Sunday," and be sure to order soon so it arrives in time for Pentecost Sunday. We'll also take a church-wide group photo after worship, so don't miss it!



PRIDE & ALLY GROUP MEETING

Monday, June 8 | 6:30-8:00 p.m.

There's energy growing in our Pride & Ally Group, and we'd love your voice in it. We're continuing to shape our mission, expand outreach, and prepare for Pride Month events in our community. Volunteers are still needed for upcoming Pride events, and all are welcome to be part of this meaningful ministry of welcome and affirmation. Join us for our next meeting on Monday, June 8, from 6:30–8:00 p.m. Whether you've attended before or are simply curious, you are welcome here. To be added to the email/text list, call 248.541.4100 or email prideandally@rofum.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



VITAMINS FOR LITHUANIA MISSION TRIP

Pastor Jennifer Tripoli and Ann Brown will travel to Lithuania from June 18-30 alongside a mission team from Neenah, Wisconsin. Their work will include: reconnecting with ministry partners; meeting local church leaders; sanctuary painting projects, community outreach, supporting ministry efforts throughout the region. The congregation in Lithuania has shared a need for regular vitamins. If you would like to help, donations of standard-sized vitamin bottles (no gummy vitamins, please) may be dropped off at the church.



MAY MISSIONS COLLECTION

Outreach on 7th helps meet the basic needs of our neighbors by opening Royal Oak First showers on Fridays for unhoused guests. Each guest also receives clean socks, underwear, and an undershirt. For our May Missions Collection, we are collecting: Men's undershirts (L, XL, 2XL); Boxer briefs (M-2XL); Men's socks. Donations may be dropped off in the round bin by the Welcome Desk Mon.-Thu., 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., or on Sundays.



CHOIR REUNION WEEKEND

October 16-18, 2026

Mary Nahhat (pictured here in 1988) was a Director of Children's Choirs from circa 1970-1985. She was also a prominent member of the Sanctus Choir for decades, singing Soprano, and frequently a featured soloist. One of the favorite hymns of the Sanctus Choir is "What a Fellowship (Leaning on the Everlasting Arms)." We will be singing that hymn together on Sunday, October 18, and remembering all the great choir members and Music Directors that have made the music program at Royal Oak First an integral part of worship and celebration. Please come join us for a weekend of food, fellowship and music. We miss you and we want to see you again.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES



ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL


AUGUST 10-13



6-8PM


TODDLER TO
5TH GRADE

CALLING ALL SUPERHERO KIDS!

Get ready for an action-packed week at Hero Academy! Kids (toddler-5th grade) will discover what it means to be God's heroes—full of heart, wisdom, hope, and courage.

Each night includes games, music, creative activities, and meaningful lessons that help kids shine God's light in the world.

August 10-13 | 6:00-8:00 PM

Cost: \$25 first child, \$15 each additional (max \$60/family)

Join us Sunday, August 16 at 10:00 AM to sing and celebrate!

REGISTER BY SCANNING QR CODE:

Note: Registrations after June 30 will not receive a t-shirt.



SCAN ME

BE A HERO: VOLUNTEER!

We're looking for amazing volunteers to help make this week unforgettable for our kids!

Whether you love leading games, helping with crafts, leading groups, decorating, or welcoming families—there's a place for you.

No experience needed—just a willingness to serve, have fun and share God's love!

Come be part of something meaningful and make a lasting impact in a child's life.

SIGN UP BY SCANNING QR CODE:

Questions?
Contact Tori Kozan at
tmazur511@yahoo.com



SCAN ME

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Cynthia Cline • Kirsten Williams • Wendell Bell • Myra Pollard • John Marsh • DJ Hinman • Sam Nelson • Jerry Haymond • George Bard • Bill Young • LeeAnn Witherspoon • Riley Combs • Pam Payne • Joyce Russell • Kay Nowaczok • Ann Anderson • Mark Thatcher • Bob Prud'homme • Michele Prud'homme • Bernie Stubitsch • Kathy MacFarlane •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Olivia LaCasse • Pete & Darlene Beaulieu • Joseph Guarino • Ann Mills • Judy Gombert • Kerry Doty • Huntley Thatcher Reed • Faye Rogers • Julie Rogers • Ken Rogers • Latha Ravi • Marietta Cunningham • Sharon Conners • Jen Moore • Megan Colett • Adarsa • Jeanie & Michael John Hoops • Christina Buchanan • Mike • Craig Brooks • Jim • Beverly Bazzell • Effie Lambros • Carol Marshall • Robert Williams • Jean Murphy • Ron & Betsy Fisch • Kelli Hackbardt • Russ Dore' • Elma Holloway • Richard Long • Jean Foster • John Bartley • Susie Wilkinson • James • Barbara Anderson • Bill Gnegy • Margie Reese •

Sympathies to:

Ann Cline on the death of her brother-in-law, George Thomas Perser on May 18, 2026

The friends and family of member Elsa Reynolds on her death on May 15, 2026

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

Beloved Community,

This Sunday, we begin our summer worship rhythm. From Memorial Day through Labor Day, we gather for one worship service at 10:00 a.m.

I love this season because there's something good about being in the same room for a while-together. The early service people and the later service people. The folks who love the band and the folks who love the organ. The people who arrive early and the people who slide in right at the opening hymn. All together.

Summer gives us a little room to breathe. To worship. To linger. To talk a little longer after church. To remember that church is not just a place we go, but a people we belong to.

This week, our "Still Here" sign keeps growing with us. The words are: "Still Here-Together...we are." And that feels right. Because it's not only that God is still here. Not only that Jesus is still here. Not only that the Spirit is still moving among us. We are still here too.

This Sunday, we'll add our thumbprints to the sign as a simple way of saying: Count me in. I'm a part of this. I'm a part of this beloved community. That's a holy thing. And it also points us toward our Pentecost Block Party on June 7. This year's theme is "Rain or Shine," which feels pretty perfect for Royal Oak First.

Since 1838, this church has been here on this corner, making Christ's love real in all kinds of weather. Good seasons and hard seasons. Familiar seasons and changing seasons. Sunny days and soggy ones. Still here...Rain or shine.

I'm grateful to our Endowment Team for sponsoring this year's block party and helping us create a day for the whole community to gather, eat, play, laugh, and enjoy being together. And yes, because it is an outdoor church event, we will pray for good weather while also pretending not to be nervous about it.

Friends, summer is a gift. Come to worship. Stay a little longer. Say hello to someone. Let yourself enjoy the goodness of God. We don't have to do this alone.

Still Here-Together...we are.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jeff Nelson". The signature is stylized and includes a simple smiley face drawn below the name.

Pastor Jeff Nelson

