



**IT'S NOT  
THE END  
OF THE WORLD**



**ROYAL OAK  
FIRST**  
A United Methodist Church

**Sunday, June 14, 2026**

**10:00 a.m. Worship**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

|                                  |                                      |   |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Gathering Music</b>           | “Make Heaven Crowded”                | House Band  |
| <b>Welcome / Call to Worship</b> |                                      | Tracy Boals   |
| <b>Song</b>                      | “Cornerstone”<br>(Hillsong Worship)  |   |
| <b>Invitation to Community</b>   |                                      | Jeff Nelson   |
| <b>Children’s Moment</b>         |                                      |   |
| <b>Conference Update</b>         |                                      | Ann Brown   |
| <b>Time of Prayer</b>            |                                      | Nicole Wilson   |
| <b>Invitation to Offering</b>    |                                      | Jennifer Tripoli  |
| <b>Musical Offering</b>          | “Morning Has Broken”                 | Bridget Nelson  |
| <b>Doxology</b>                  | “Give Thanks”                        |   |
| <b>Reader’s Theater</b>          | “The Noise”                          | Dale Milford<br>Charlotte Ryckman<br>James Brooker<br>Jonathon Parker<br>Jeff Jones |
| <b>Message</b>                   | “Apocalypse: But Not the Scary Kind” | Jeff Nelson   |
| <b>Baptism</b>                   |                                      | Sylvie Berry<br><i>Daughter of James and Erin Berry</i>                             |
| <b>Closing Song</b>              | “What A God”                         |   |
| <b>Benediction</b>               |                                      |   |
| <b>Departing Music</b>           |                                      |   |

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## SERVICE FOR OTHERS ON SUNDAY

Sunday, June 21 | after service

Sunday, June 28 | after service

Join us in Service for Others on Sunday in June. On Sunday, June 21, right after service, we will be repackaging items for the Essentials Pantry. Then on Sunday, June 28, right after service, we will be making sandwiches for Outreach on 7<sup>th</sup>.

## B-BALL & BBQ WITH THE BOYS

### JUNE COLLECTION AND JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup> EVENT

Monday, June 22 | 5:00-7:30 p.m.

The Missions Team will be returning to the Methodist Children's Home (MCHS) to host a basketball party. We are looking for volunteers to play basketball with the boys and others to help serve food. In addition, we want to bring new summer clothes for each of the boys who lives at MCHS. For the June Missions collection, we will be collecting summer teen boy clothes (athletic shorts, t-shirts, sandals, and swim trunks, sizes Adult S-XXL). If you would like to pick up all the items for one boy, please head to the Connections Table after service to select a care tag with that boy's sizes. Scan the QR code to sign up to shop for clothes or volunteer at the June 22<sup>nd</sup> event.



SCAN ME



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT PRIDE EVENT

Sunday, June 28

Our Pride & Ally Group needs volunteers for our Royal Oak First booth at Berkley Pride on Sunday, June 28. Scan the QR code to sign up! If you have any questions, please email [prideandally@rofum.org](mailto:prideandally@rofum.org).



SCAN ME

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## “FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS”

### EPISODE 2: IT'S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD!

**Sunday, June 28 | 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Zoom**

Do you ever avoid the news because it seems like all we hear about is war and violence? Are you struggling with rhetoric from political leaders who use “Christian” language that doesn’t seem to reflect your faith? If so, you’re not alone.



SCAN ME

Our second Zoom discussion will take place on Sunday, June 28 at 7:00 p.m. We’ll take a deeper dive and explore how we can hold onto God’s vision of restoration rather than the violent rhetoric of the world. Join Pastor Jeff for teaching intermixed with discussion in breakout rooms. Scan the QR code to purchase the optional guidebook.

## WELCOME INN COMMUNITY WORK DAY

**Saturday, July 18 | 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**Welcome Inn, 1717 W. 13 Mile Road, Royal Oak, 48073**

*Hosted by the South Oakland Faith Alliance in partnership with the Welcome Inn*

Join faith communities and community partners from across Southern Oakland County as we come together to prepare the Welcome Inn for the important work ahead.



SCAN ME



We will: organize common spaces, sort clothing & supplies, clean & declutter, prepare guest areas, and more. No special skills required as this is an elbow-grease day, with no major construction or painting. There will be coffee, water and simple snacks. Scan the QR code to sign up. Questions, contact Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at [jtripoli@rofum.org](mailto:jtripoli@rofum.org).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## GREEN MISSIONS ENVELOPES

Traditionally, Royal Oak First has reserved the second Sunday of each month as our Missions Sunday. We often welcome one of our community partners to speak during the Mission Moment and also will distribute green Missions envelopes inside the bulletins. The donations collected in these green envelopes fund our Missions budget for the year. Thank you for your continued support!



## CHOIR REUNION WEEKEND

**October 16-18, 2026**

Zenee (Courtney) Kidd remembers a decision that her mother Zenovia Courtney made for her eight children to join Royal Oak First United Methodist Church: “Mom always said that she chose for our family to join Royal Oak First over Berkley UMC because of its music programming. It would’ve been a little easier to walk a few blocks to Berkley UMC from our house. We were fortunate that Mom made that decision for our family and we all had rich experiences with choir and camp. I remain grateful to her for this.” Pictured to the left are Paul Courtney and Daniel Peterson at Choir Camp in the summer of 1977. Please come join us for the Choir Reunion. We will be telling stories, eating good food, and for those who wish to participate, singing together at October 18 service.



## CLOTHING CLOSET NEEDS BLUE JEANS

The Outreach on 7th’s Clothing Closet needs donations of **MEN’S BLUE JEANS** sizes 32-38 waist. Please drop off at the church office, Monday-Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES



ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

  
AUGUST 10-13



6-8PM

  
TODDLER TO  
5<sup>TH</sup> 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.



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## 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



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# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

## Prayers for Our Church Family:

Margie Carrington • Jerry Elliott • Barb Simmons • Kiersten Williams •  
Wendell Bell • Myra Pollard • John Marsh • DJ Hinman • Sam Nelson •  
Jerry Haymond • George Bard • Pam Payne • Joyce Russell • Kay Nowaczok •  
Ann Anderson • Mark Thatcher • Bob Prud'homme • Michele Prud'homme •  
Kathy MacFarlane •

## Prayers for Our Extended Family:

John Barber, Jr. • Mike T. • Effie Lambros • Pamela & Richard Rush •  
Tracy Zawaski • Olivia LaCasse • Donna Bartley • Pete & Darlene Beaulieu •  
Ann Mills • Judy Gombert • Kerry Doty • Huntley Thatcher Reed • Faye Rogers •  
Julie Rogers • Ken Rogers • Latha Ravi • Marietta Cunningham • Sharon Connors •  
Jen Moore • Megan Colett • Adarsa • Jeanie & Michael John Hoops •  
Christina Buchanan • Mike • Craig Brooks • Jim • Beverly Bazzell • Carol Marshall •  
Robert Williams • Jean Murphy • Ron & Betsy Fisch • Kelli Hackbardt • Russ Dore' •  
Elma Holloway • Richard Long • Jean Foster • James • Barbara Anderson •  
Bill Gnegy •

## Sympathies to:

The Witherspoon family on the death of LeeAnn's mom, Barbara Witherspoon on  
June 10, 2026

The friends and family of member Dorothea "Dottie" Schuldeis on her death on June  
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).*

# LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Beloved Community,

Of all the sermon series I expected to preach this summer, a series on the apocalypse was not high on the list. Methodists are not exactly known for gathering around charts, calculating dates, or arguing about the Antichrist. Yet here we are.

Part of the reason is the cultural moment we're living in. It doesn't take much scrolling to find predictions about the end times, speculation about world events, warnings about spiritual warfare, and endless debates about Revelation, Armageddon, the rapture, and just about everything else. People are hearing these messages. People are wondering. People have questions. And if I'm honest, this is an area where I haven't done enough to help us.

The truth is that the Bible does contain apocalyptic language. Jesus talks about it. The prophets use it. Revelation is filled with it. But these passages were never meant to make us fearful. They were written to help people remain faithful and hopeful during difficult times. That is why we're spending these three weeks together in a series called *It's Not the End of the World*.

Not because we're trying to decode secret messages or predict the future. Quite the opposite. We're trying to learn how to read these texts well so that fear doesn't get the final word. Because Christians have a much better story to tell. A story where Christ is still risen. A story where love is stronger than fear. A story where God is not abandoning the world but redeeming it.

Alongside the series, we've also created a companion handbook that digs a little deeper into topics like the rapture, the Antichrist, spiritual warfare, and other questions that often swirl around these conversations. You can pick one up at church. And on Sunday, June 28 at 7:00 p.m., we'll host a Zoom conversation for anyone who would like to go deeper, ask questions, and continue the discussion.

One quick note. I know we've been creating a lot of resources lately. None of this is about selling books or building a platform. Every handbook is priced simply to cover printing costs. That's it. We're creating these resources because people are asking good questions, and helping one another grow in faith is part of what a church does.

So if you've ever been confused by Revelation, curious about the rapture, nervous about the end times, or simply interested in learning how Methodists approach these passages, I hope you'll join us. After all, it's not the end of the world. And even when it feels like it might be, God is still God.

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