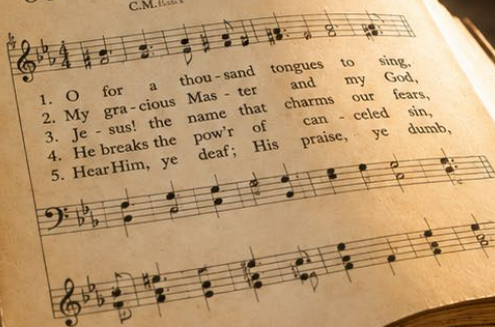


Sunday
August 9, 2026
10:00 AM Worship

57 O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING
C.M. 1880s



THE SONGS
THAT
SHAPE US



THE GRACE WE SING



ROYAL OAK
FIRST
A United Methodist Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music	"Get Together"	Carl Gladstone & House Band
Welcome/Call to Worship		Tracy Boals
Opening Hymn #57**	"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (verses 1,2,3,4,7)	Debbie Morales
Invitation to Community		Jennifer Tripoli
Children's Moment		Jaime Luczak
Mission Moment		Karla Goetz, Maggie Goetz, Sue Showers, Dave Enerson
Making Christ's Love Real		Jonathon Parker & Julie McKeeman
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering		Joel Palmer
Doxology #95**	"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"	
Scripture Reading*	John 1:43-51	
Message	"Grace Comes Before Us"	Nicole Wilson
Sacrament of Communion		
Communion Hymn #58**	"Glory to God, and Praise and Love" (selected verses)	
Closing Song	"And Are We Yet Alive" (Carl Gladstone)	
Benediction		
Departing Music		

**New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*

***United Methodist Hymnal*



THE SONGS THAT SHAPE US

THE GRACE WE SING

CHARLES WESLEY

AUGUST 2026

The Songs That Shape Us: The Grace We Sing

About This Sermon Series

Did you know that while John Wesley was working to start the Methodist movement, his brother Charles was writing poetry and hymns that helped people remember what they were learning?

For generations, these hymns have carried the heart of the Wesleyan vision of grace—not as museum pieces from another century, but as living songs that continue to shape ordinary disciples today. Long before most of us could define words like *prevenient grace*, *assurance*, or *holiness*, we were already singing them.

Through four familiar hymns, we will trace the movement of God's grace: the grace that comes before us, frees us, forms us together, and sends us into the world in love.

Our guiding conviction is simple: **We are a grace-first people.**

Every week invites us to hear these beloved songs with fresh ears, discovering that they have been quietly forming our faith all along.

Before we could explain grace, we were already singing it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SERVICE FOR OTHERS TODAY!

Sunday, August 9 | in the Parlor after service

Join us today, Sunday, August 9 after service in service for others in the Parlor. We will be making sandwiches for Outreach on 7th's Lunch Program.



PRIDE & ALLY GROUP BRUNCH AT PRONTO!

Sunday, August 23 | 11:15 a.m.

It's time for another Family Brunch at Pronto! The Pride & Ally Group is gathering after the 10:00 a.m. service (so around 11:15 a.m.) on Sunday, August 23 at Pronto! in Royal Oak. All are welcome! Everyone pays for their own meal, but the fun and fellowship are free!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED DURING ARTS, BEATS & EATS

Friday, September 4-Monday, September 7

From Friday, September 4 through Monday, September 7, nearly 400,000 people will visit our community during Arts, Beats & Eats (ABE), so we are looking for volunteers. You will greet Arts, Beats & Eats volunteers, sponsors & artists at the Tower entrance; keep the church outdoor area picked up; offer assistance to ABE Volunteer Command Center Staff. **Bonus: Each person that volunteers for a shift will receive free admission to the festival!** Scan the QR code to sign up.



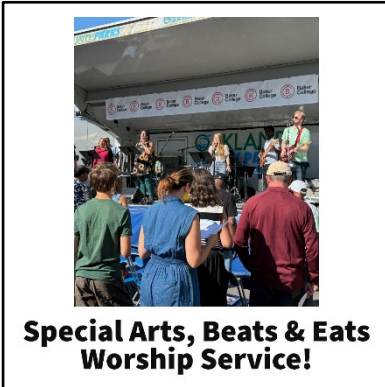
ANNOUNCEMENTS



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday, August 30 | during worship

We invite all children and students to bring their school backpacks to church on Sunday, August 30 during the 10:00 a.m. worship service for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks. As a new school year begins, we want to take a moment to support our children, families, and educators with prayer and encouragement. Each child will receive a blessing for their backpack—a symbol of the year ahead, filled with learning, growth, and new experiences.



SPECIAL ARTS, BEATS & EATS SERVICE

Sunday, September 6 | 10:00 a.m.

We will have only one worship service during Arts, Beats & Eats on Sunday, September 6 at 10:00 a.m. on the outdoor stage located at 6th and Lafayette. If you don't plan on staying for the festival, park in the parking structure across and down the street from the church until 11:00 a.m. If you are planning to attend the festival after worship, all worshippers that day get a ticket for free admission to the festival, free parking at Royal Oak High School (1500 Lexington Blvd.), along with a free shuttle from the high school to drop you off and pick you up right next to the stage.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION

Late summer brings the return of the Royal Oak First School Supplies Collection! We are continuing our partnership with Ferndale Lower Elementary and will be collecting the following items: glue sticks, Expo markers, Crayola 24ct crayons, Ticonderoga pencils, 1-subject wide rule notebooks, and kids scissors. Other items are welcome, but those listed are of greatest need. School starts before Labor Day this year, so bringing items in sooner is greatly appreciated. Please drop off items in the bin by the Welcome Desk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



OUTREACH ON 7TH WISH LIST

Outreach on 7th is desperately low on feminine hygiene supplies. Folks who use these products have unique struggles while they are unhoused, and it is heartbreaking to see them go without these medically necessary supplies. Our Essentials Pantry program uses all varieties of menstrual products (panty liners, tampons and pads). The lunch program distributes a high volume of heavy bladder control pads as well (like Poise with a 6 or higher absorbency). Thank you for meeting our neighbors needs whenever you are asked. Please drop off at the church office, Monday-Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.



RBI PRODUCE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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 the upcoming months and we hope YOU can help out. Scan the QR code to sign up.



ENJOY AN INCREDIBLE SUMMER NIGHT— WHILE SUPPORTING OUTREACH ON 7TH!

Friday, August 28 | 5:30-8:30 p.m.

We're thrilled to share that Outreach on 7th has been selected as a beneficiary of this year's Arts, Beats & Eats Charity Preview Party! It is a celebration previewing the music, art and food coming to Arts, Beats & Eats that takes place Friday, August 28 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. on the 5th Street Plaza. When purchasing your tickets, be sure to select **Outreach on 7th** in the "I'm supporting" drop down box. Out of your ticket purchase, 75% will be donated directly to Outreach on 7th, helping support our mission to serve neighbors in need right here in our community. Scan the QR code to buy tickets.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



ESSENTIALS 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.



2027 SERVICE TRIP

TO HENDERSON SETTLEMENT

June 20-26, 2027

The Missions Team is planning a service trip to Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky for the week of June 20-26, 2027. The youth group will be traveling there at the same time as a church-wide (mostly adult) group, but we will be sleeping in different quarters. If you would consider joining this trip, please scan the QR code to fill out the linked interest form to help guide our planning of the trip. Thanks!





Royal Oak First Choir Reunion Weekend

October 16-18, 2026



What Memories Do You Have from Royal Oak First's Choir Camp?



- K.P. duty in the dining hall
- Dorothy Durbin's lemon cake
- Campfires nightly with singing & smores
- Songs we sang around the campfire
- Tug of war over the creek (at Lakeside Camp)
- Daily cabin cleanup inspections
- Swimming by the dock
- Buddy checks
- Choir practice
- Talent shows
- And more



Come share your memories of choir camp the weekend of October 16-18, 2026. We look forward to seeing you.

**Scan the QR code to get more
details and to RSVP!**



SCAN ME



PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Pam Payne • Megan Grimm • Kathy Border • Elizabeth Kincannon •
Barb Simmons • Rita Nicholas • Phyllis Hassberger • Myra Pollard •
Ann Anderson • Michele Prud'homme • Joyce Negrich • Margie Carrington •
Jerry Elliott • Kay Nowaczok • Mark Thatcher • Bob Prud'homme •
Kathy MacFarlane •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Kathy Latham • Tom & Ann Thompson • Bud & Debbie Tucker • Russ Dore' •
John Barber, Jr. • Richard Grimm • Doug Zorn • William McMahon •
Effie Lambros • Ron Gilmour • Pamela & Richard Rush • Tracy Zawaski •
Donna Bartley • Judy Gombert • Kerry Doty • Huntley Thatcher Reed •
Faye Rogers • Julie Rogers • Ken Rogers • Latha Ravi • Marietta Cunningham •
Sharon Conners • Jen Moore • Megan Colett • Christina Buchanan •
Craig Brooks • Jim • Beverly Bazzell • Carol Marshall • Jean Murphy •
Ron & Betsy Fisch •

Sympathies to:

Lee and Debbie Adams on the death of their son, Ryan Adams on August 3, 2026
The friends and family of former member, Marilyn Murley on July 31, 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.



Royal Oak First is always grateful when people give of their TIME, TALENT and/or TREASURE.

Did you know that there are several different ways to give financially?

Text to Give: Text the amount you wish to give to 855.566.0093.

In Person: You can place a check or cash in an offering envelope and drop it in the offering plate when it goes by or in one of the offering collection boxes just outside the Sanctuary.

Giving App: Download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app to set up one-time or recurring donations.

Online: Visit rofum.org/giving to set up and manage your one-time and recurring gifts.

You can always check out our website, www.rofum.org for **Volunteer Opportunities** or subscribe to our weekly email, by going to this link: <http://eepurl.com/c9m7L9> or by stopping by the Connections Table in the Gathering Space.

For more information, contact Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at 248.541.4100 ext. 1225 or email jtripoli@rofum.org.

Thank you!

STAFF DIRECTORY

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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 Custodian	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

This week I have enjoyed listening to the stories of people coming back from camp, especially the stories of songs sung around campfires, and I am reminded of the degree to which music gets into our bones. I am amazed how there are songs like “Pass It On” and “Father. I Adore You” that have unified millions of campers across decades and traditions through the memory of putting their arms around their friends and swaying and singing around a campfire.

Because music matters.

And, it's not just true at church. We all have a soundtrack that has run through seasons of our lives. I can't hear a Peter Gabriel song without picturing John Cusack, in a trench coat, holding a boom box over his head. Or hear Celine Dion or Whitney Houston and not remember sitting in a crowded movie theater, before they were full of recliners, watching *Titanic* or *The Bodyguard*. Music somehow seeps into our soul.

Here at Royal Oak First, one of the ways we prepare for the chaos of Arts, Beats, & Eats, is by spending August thinking about the ways God meets us in music. We notice the ways certain songs meet us where we are and comfort us, how others stretch us, and how some might challenge us. This year we are going to focus on hymns written by Charles Wesley, one of the founders of the Methodist movement, looking at how the songs we sing give us words to understand the grace God offers us.

This month I invite you to come and listen, to think about the songs that have helped you know what you believe, and to sing along. I also invite you to sign up to be part of the chaos of Arts, Beats, & Eats by being a welcoming presence to those working the festival. Or, to enjoy a pre-chaos night on the town by buying a ticket to the Charity Preview Party while supporting Outreach on 7th.

Looking forward to seeing you and singing with you this month!

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicole Wilson". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a long, sweeping underline.

Pastor Nicole Wilson