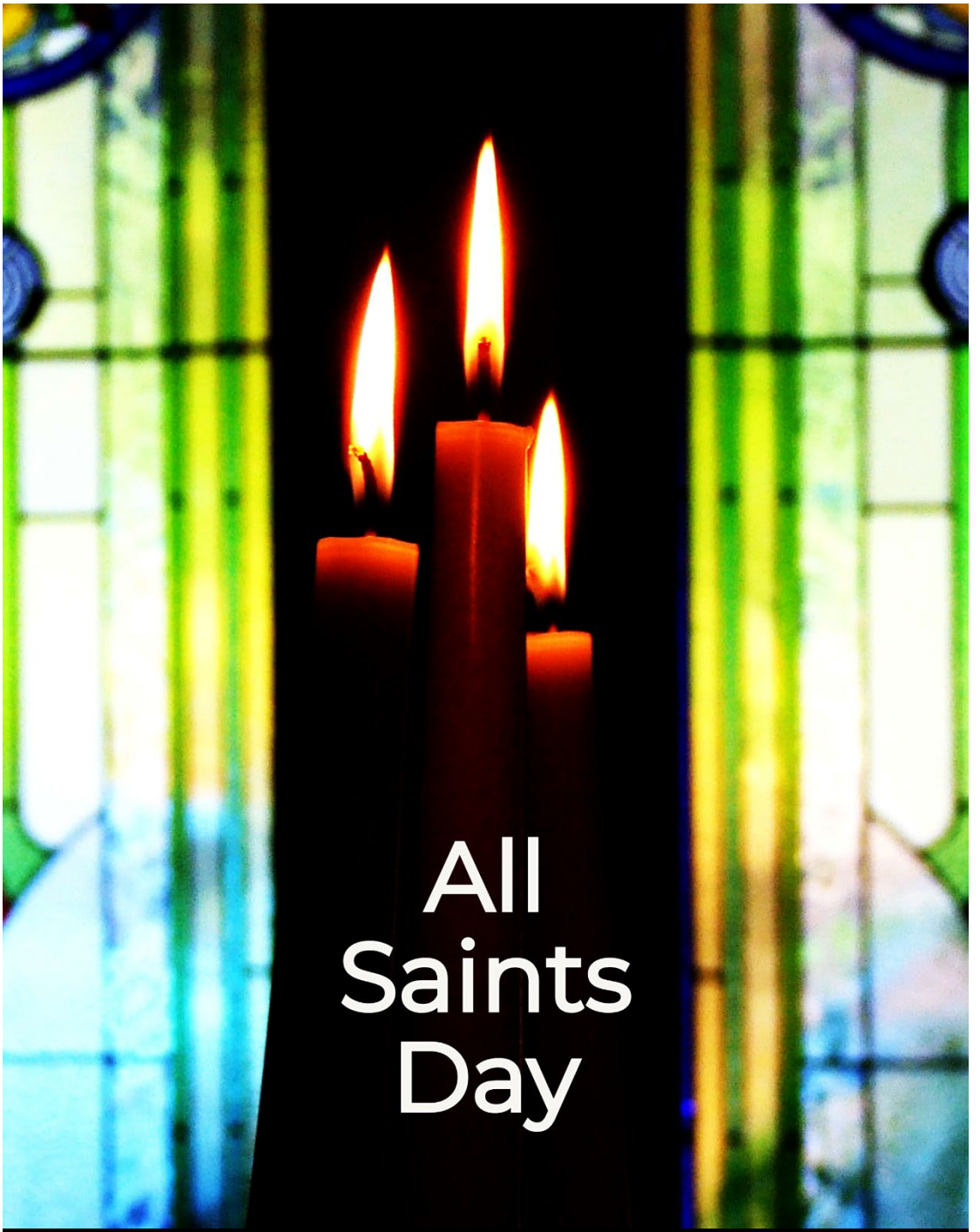

Sunday, November 22, 2026 9:00AM
ROYAL OAK FIRST: A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music	“Place For You”	House Band
Call to Worship		Michael Joy
Opening Song	“Yes And Amen”	
Invitation to Community		Jeff Nelson
Finance Moment		Mike McNutt
Noisy Bucket		
Time of Prayer		Nicole Wilson
Making Christ’s Love Real		Jennifer Tripoli
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering	“I Can Only Imagine” (Bart Millard)	Analisa Thomas & Stephanie Yu
Doxology	“Give Thanks”	
Scripture Reading*	John 14:1-3, 18-19, 27	
Message	“But You Will See Me”	Jeff Nelson
Liturgy for All Saints		
Response Song	“Look For Me”	
Closing Song	“Fear is Not My Future”	
Benediction		
Departing Music		

**Common English Bible*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT MISSION PROJECT

For this year's Advent Mission Project, we will be collecting Christmas gifts for children in area families who are struggling financially. There are two special giving opportunities to participate in, each supporting a different organization.

Adopt a Family — Metro Detroit Youth Club

Help make Christmas special for an entire family of children through the Metro Detroit Youth Club, based in Royal Oak. To adopt a family, contact Heather McNutt, Missions Coordinator at missions@rofum.org **before November 23**. You will be asked to purchase two gifts and a stocking stuffer for each child. Families range in size from 1–6 children, so you can request a family size that works best for you. **You can drop these off at the church office.**



Giving Tree — Cass Community Social Services

You can also help bring Christmas joy to children in Detroit by participating in our Giving Tree! Simply select one or two tags from the tree on the Connections Table in the Gathering Space, purchase the suggested gifts, and **return them unwrapped to the church collection bin near the Connections Table by December 8.**

You are also welcome to donate any fun, unwrapped toy of your choice—the Giving Tree tags are simply there to provide ideas. These gifts will help stock the Cass Community Social Services Christmas Store, where nearly 300 Detroit families will "shop" for Christmas gifts for their children.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SALE

Sign up by Sunday, November 29

We invite you to purchase a poinsettia or contribute to UMCOR in honor or memory of a loved one. Poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 20 and Christmas Eve. Donors and those honored or remembered will be listed in the December 20 Bulletin. To participate, complete the form below and return it to the Connections Table OR scan the QR code by **Sunday, November 29.** Payment must accompany this order form.

___Enclosed is $18.00 for a 1 stem red poinsettia

___Enclosed is $33.00 for a 2 stem red poinsettia

___I will pick up my plant(s) following the 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

___Enclosed is my donation of $_____ for UMCOR in place of a poinsettia.

This will be a memorial to _____

OR in honor of _____

Given by _____

Phone_____

SCAN ME



ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHILDREN'S STORYTIME WITH PASTOR JEFF

Every Sunday in Advent beg. 11/29 | 7:30 p.m.

Starting November 29 at 7:30 p.m., join Pastor Jeff on Facebook Live every Sunday evening in Advent (11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20) for a reading of a story that will get you in the spirit of the season.



ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

Monday, November 30 | 7:00-9:00 p.m.

All women of the church are invited to enjoy an evening of speakers and music as we prepare for the Christmas season. A program in the Sanctuary will be followed by dessert in the Parlor, Gathering Space and Fellowship Hall. Contact Pastor Bridget Nelson at bnelson@rofum.org with any questions.



FEAST OF CAROLS

Sunday, December 6 | 3:00 p.m.

Join us for the 72nd annual "Feast of Carols" Christmas Concert: The Brightest Night, featuring the ensembles of Royal Oak First including our Sanctus Choir, Carillon Ringers, Children's Choirs, Youth Choir, and House and Youth Bands, in addition to guest instrumentalists. Be sure to take in the sounds of Christmas at Royal Oak First for an afternoon of glorious music. After the concert, join us for cookies and punch in the gathering space organized by the Music Guild.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SCAN ME

SPREAD THE CHEER THIS CHRISTMAS!

Saturday, December 5 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.

This Christmas season, let's make sure everyone in our church family feels remembered and loved!

Christmas Cards:

Purchase or create Christmas cards and mail them any time before Christmas. For some of our church family, your card may be the only one they receive this season. A simple card can mean so much!

Christmas Cookies & Treats:

Help us continue our Christmas Cookie Delivery tradition! Bake or purchase two dozen of your favorite cookies or holiday treats before Sunday, December 5, and bring them to church that day. Together, we'll assemble plates and bags of goodies to deliver to members of our congregation who could use a little extra love this season.

Deliveries & Fellowship:

We also need volunteers to deliver these treats and spend a little time visiting with the recipients. Sharing conversation and fellowship is just as meaningful as the goodies themselves!

There's a way for everyone to participate, kids and adults alike! Whether you make or mail cards, bake or buy treats, help package goodies, or make deliveries, you can help make Christ's love real this Christmas season. Scan the QR code to sign up and spread some Christmas joy!



WINTER ESSENTIALS NEEDED

Our Outreach on 7th is currently in need of:

Long Underwear (sizes adult medium to 2XL); Winter Hats (skull caps); Winter Gloves; Hand Warmers. These winter essentials help us provide practical support and a warm welcome to our Outreach on 7th guests. **Donations may be dropped off at the Clothing Closet on the lower level, just down the stairs from the 7th Street entrance.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ADVENT TRANSFORMATION RETREAT WITH PASTOR JEFF

Saturday, December 12 | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | in the Parlor

This Advent we are inviting you to Make Room and join us for a Transformation Retreat. This Saturday morning we will take time to get to know one another and acknowledge the things we have to set down in order to make room, and we will spend time with Joseph's story. We will explore Joseph's willingness to say yes to making room and living a life he had not planned. We hope you will join us for this time of community building and spiritual reflection. Sign up coming soon.



SANTA IS COMING TO ROYAL OAK FIRST

Sunday, December 13 | 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Santa is making a special stop at Royal Oak First this Christmas season! Mark your calendars and plan to stop by for a little holiday cheer and a chance to visit with Santa. More details to come, but for now, save the date! We hope to see you there!



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 20 | 11:00 a.m.

Plan to attend our annual Children's Christmas Pageant which will take place at the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 20. We will be looking for stage help to assist with costumes and props on Wednesdays, December 9th & 16th and on pageant day, December 20. This year we are also looking for some help refreshing our costumes. If this is something you might be interested in, please contact Danielle Moody at dmoody@rofum.org.

ROLL OF REMEMBRANCE

November 21, 2025 – November 19, 2026

Members We Have Lost

Donna Allen
Margie Dallavo
Brian Harris
Gloria Knappenberger
Kay LaCombe
Bob McCafferty
David Minch
Pam Payne
Patti Peterson
Allen Pollard
Elsa Reynolds
Dorothea "Dottie" Schuldeis
Nancy Schuman
Don Seidler
Barbara Simmons
Al Young
Anne Young

Loved Ones and Their Families We Have Lost

Ryan Adams	Lee & Debbie Adams' son
Harold Baker	Diana Shornak's brother
Joseph Bamsey	The friends & family of Joe Bamsey
Joyce Barber	Joyce Russell's aunt
John Beedle-Gee	Rev. Pam Beedle-Gee's husband
Samantha Berger	Ed Berger's daughter
George Bluga	Jeff Jones' cousin
John Bluga	Jeff Jones' uncle
Diana Boyd	Renee Ott's sister
Merlin Bratberg	Steve Bratberg's father
Michael Carr	Ann Cline's son
Douglas Couture	Brandon Couture's father
Tom Dunstan	Jay Dunstan's brother
Lawrey Edwards	Deb Schultz's nephew
John Howard Gabler, Jr.	Carolyn Gabler's nephew
Bernice Graham	Camden Youngquist's grandma
Richard Grimm	Megan Grimm's father
Joseph Guarino	Patty Dunstan's father

Dan Habel	Christie Mikell's uncle
Mark Jahnke	James Jahnke's father
Jacquelyn Janney	Sheryl Hunter's mother
Yolanda Lewis	George Bard's aunt
Rev. Marvin H. McCallum	The friends & family of Rev. Marvin H. McCallum
Melissa McMahon	Sue Schuldeis' sister-in-law
Bob McNutt	Mike McNutt's father
Ann Mills	Beth Simms' mother
Mary Jane Newman	The Simms family
Jack O'Connor	Bridget Nelson's uncle
George Thomas Perser	Ann Cline's brother-in-law
Albert Prud'homme	Bob Prud'homme's brother
Terry Reed	Jan Matsumoto's brother
Charles Smith	Bob & Michele Prud'homme's brother-in-law
William David Starling	The friends & family of William David Starling
John Tedder	Joan Johnson's cousin
Rosalie Tennison	Jeanette Maylen's friend
Anthonee Tracy	Amber Evans' friend
Joe Waroquier	Delores Grier's brother
Barbara Witherspoon	LeeAnn Witherspoon's mom
Carl Youngquist	Amy Youngquist's father

MEMORIAL BANNER HANGING IN THE SANCTUARY ON ALL SAINTS DAY

The Memorial Banner is dedicated to God's glory and carries 543 bells in memory of loved ones from 1995 until 2002. The banner was created in two colors: GREEN for the celebration of life. GOLD for the glory of God and Christ's eternal victory over death. We remember with thanksgiving those persons who touched us with their love.

Happy Thanksgiving

Royal Oak First Family!

We give thanks for the many ways God's love shows up in our lives, and one of the greatest blessings is you. We are grateful for the kindness, generosity, and spirit of service that fill this community and makes Royal Oak First a place where Christ's love is made real every day!



With gratitude and blessings for the season,
Royal Oak First United Methodist Church Staff

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Peyton Valentine • Don Matson • Jenny Cattran • Lee Ross • Janie Castle • Gerson Vasquez • Carolyn Kubacki • Joan Johnson • Tom Janes • Tim Murphy • Lori Vickers • Phil Button • Mark Thatcher • Liz Malama • Linda Anderson • Lee Gnegy • Mike Dabney • Margie Carrington • Myra Pollard • Carrie Morse • Lee Hoffmann • Megan Mckenzie-Grimm • Elizabeth Kincannon • Phyllis Hassberger • Ann Anderson • Michele & Bob Prud'homme • Jerry Elliott • Kay Nowaczok • Kathy MacFarlane •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Olivia Matlachin • Holly Hempstead • Karen Cunningham • Brent Routkowski • Russ and Judy Dore' • Amy Fausone • Cindy Mulvahill • Bill Mahaffy & Family • The Klipfel Family • Linda Frank • Donna Bartley • Rachel Hopkins • Lee Potter • Jean Murphy • James Cudejko • Noah Armstrong • Russhele Dohnal • Patricia Guarino • Mike Sopheia • Sue & Harold Williams • Latha Ravi • Angie Grose • Ashley Mink • Kathy Latham • John Barber, Jr. • Doug Zorn • Ron Gilmour • Tracy Zawaski • Kerry Doty

Sympathies to:

The Tripoli family on the death of Jim's mother, Pam Payne on November 17, 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

Dear Friends,

This Sunday, we will do one of the most tender and beautiful things we get to do as a church. We will remember people we love. During worship, we will speak aloud the names of 17 people from our congregation who have died in the past year. Seventeen. It's easy to hear that as just a number. But these are people we knew and loved. Al and Patty and Gloria, Bob and David, Anne and Elsa, and so many others whose lives became part of our lives.

I knew most of them well. Some really well. I loved them. One of the gifts of being their pastor was knowing their families, hearing their stories, and celebrating the wonderful, ordinary, extraordinary lives they lived. I have little memories of each of them. A conversation here, a laugh there, a particular smile or something they always said. And even as I sit here writing this letter, those memories are coming back to me. As we Methodists like to say, my heart is strangely warmed. Isn't that something? Even in the sadness of missing someone, there can be such joy in remembering them.

Of course, Sunday isn't just about those 17 names. We will make room for all the people we carry in our hearts. Some we lost just recently. Others have been gone for years, but we still find ourselves wishing we could pick up the phone, hear their voice, or sit across the table from them one more time.

I think about my dad and my best friend from high school, both of whom I miss dearly. And my mom, who has been gone for nearly 30 years. I'm grateful for a Sunday when I don't have to pretend I don't still miss them; when I can simply bring that love and that longing with me to church, knowing I'll be surrounded by people doing the very same thing.

The church traditionally celebrates All Saints Day on November 1. We've set aside this Sunday for our own service of remembrance, making room in a busy season for something that matters so much.

And so, I've been wondering; Who will you be remembering this weekend? Whose smile comes to mind? Whose laugh can you still hear? Whose love is still making a difference in the person you are becoming?

I hope you'll come on Sunday. Bring your memories, your gratitude, your tears, and maybe even a good story or two. There is room for all of it. And there's room for all of them, too.

All the love,
Pastor Jeff Nelson