

Pastor Brian

Sunday, April 5, 2026

The risen Christ comes amidst lives that appear ruined and invites them to rise up. The resurrection was not just a one-time event. This is a resurrection that gives us purpose every day when our feet hit the floor. Jesus Christ doesn't come to just give us a run-of-the-mill type of existence. He comes with an ABUNDANCE. Let me define what that means. I'm not talking about an abundant bank account. Jesus isn't into get-rich-quick schemes. He offers something more lasting than that. Abundance is what St. Irenaeus wrote in his book, "Against Heresies": "The glory of God is a human being fully alive." The glory of God is a human being fully alive. Irenaeus was probably referring to the glory of God being found in the risen Christ. So that means we find the abundant life when we identify with the risen Christ. When we find our identity with the risen Christ, we become fully alive. Fully abundant. We are our best selves. We don't have to let our light dim. In fact, it's heresy to let our light dim. To paraphrase a friend from seminary, "It is just as much of a sin to think less of yourself than it is too much of yourself." Friends, Jesus didn't walk out of the grave for you to hide your light. Jesus didn't walk out of the grave for you to pretend like you have nothing to offer. Jesus didn't walk out of the grave because He just thinks you're halfway decent. He walked out of the grave because He thinks you're terrific. The late Tony Campolo compares God to a grandmother up in heaven showing off your picture that they carry with them in their purse. Do you know about my boy Johnny, my girl Susie? They're amazing. God sees more potential in you than you see in yourself. Jesus isn't holding you in the tomb anymore. So don't hold yourself there either. He walked out of the grave for you to go and do what St. Ignatius of Loyola said, "Go and set the world on fire." Jesus doesn't ask you to hide yourself. Jesus asks you to go be your beautiful, quirky self and go love the snot out of the world. Friends, it's right there in our Scripture: Why do you look for the living among the dead? Why indeed?! Jesus is alive! That means we can be too. Our world doesn't need dead people, they need living people.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

33112 Grand River Avenue
Farmington, MI 48335

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

7:00 P.M. Good Friday Worship Service

April 12, 2026

PRELUDE

Yaroslav Daniels

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Brian Steele

HYMN

He Has Made Me Glad

TFWS #2270

CALL TO WORSHIP

Susan Cook

Leader: Knock Knock

People: Who's there?

Leader: Death

People: Death who?

Leader: Exactly! We don't know death anymore. Death is defeated!

People: Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen indeed!

OPENING PRAYER

Susan Cook

God of joy, we thank you for the gift of laughter. We thank you that you have turned death into a laughing matter. May we discover you in our laughter today. Help us to find you in the joy, silliness, and everything in between. We praise you that you have given us to find laughter amidst a world that has too often forgotten that the joy of the Lord is our strength. Let us rejoice! God is here and God laughs with us! Amen.

ANTHEM

Blessed Assurance

Carillion Choir

HYMN

Joyful! Joyful! We Adore Thee

UMH #322

CHILDREN & YOUTH MOMENT

Julia Hanson

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Psalm 126:1-3

Susan Cook

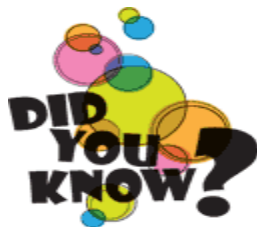
Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON

Dad Jokes from a Pastor. God Help Us All.

Rev. Steele



OFFERTORY INVITATION

Susan Cook

(WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY. PLEASE, GIVE LIKE IT MATTERS, BECAUSE IT DOES.)

- Please place your Connect Cards in the offering plate along with any financial gifts you wish to give.

OFFERTORY PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Susan Cook

OFFERTORY MUSIC

How Firm a Foundation

Yaroslav Daniels

*SUNG PRAISE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #94

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Rev. Steele

LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

Rev. Steele

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WAYS TO CONNECT

Rev. Steele

HYMN

Undignified

See Insert

SENDING FORTH:

Go and Live with Contagious Laughter!

Rev. Steele

POSTLUDE

Yaroslav Daniels

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

2026
CROP HUNGER WALKS

ENDING HUNGER
ONE STEP AT A TIME

It's that time of year again -- the CROP Walk is coming -- and as usual, Farmington First will host the Walk. The Walk will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2026. There will be two options for the Walk: a one mile course and a 3.5 mile course. Check in and t-shirt distribution will start at 12:30. Team pictures at 1:00. At 1:15 we will enter the Sanctuary for our kick-off meeting and then cross Grand River promptly at 1:30 to begin.

The preferred method of donating is online giving. To donate online click on this link [2026 CROP Hunger Walk - Farmington MI FUMC](#) and then click on the "Donation" box. If you do not want to make an online donation, make your checks payable to "CWS/CROP" and drop off in the office for John Sheppard. DO NOT make checks payable to the church. NO CASH will be accepted.

If you want to participate in the Walk, click on this link [2026 CROP Hunger Walk - Farmington MI FUMC](#) scroll down and click on the "Join The Team" box. It is very important that you register online if you want to participate because that also includes the waiver.

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/team/farmington-mi-fumc>

If you have any questions, please contact John Sheppard. See you at the Walk!!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Rainforest Falls:

Exploring the Nature of God

COMING THIS SUMMER: August 10-13, 2026

K-5TH GRADE

MULTIPLE CHURCH VBS

HOSTED BY: NARDIN PARK UMCHURCH

Step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature

of God. They will discover what it means to be rooted in a relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms.



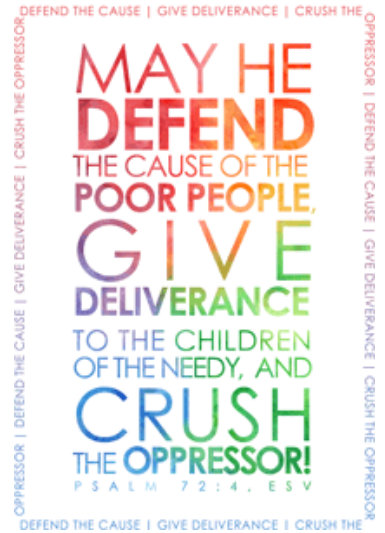
MEETING ON Monday, April 13th @ 6:30 P.M.

BALDWIN CENTER
Feed, Clothe, Educate, Empower

PAY IT FORWARD
choice for APRIL 2026
CCMM3036



God's Country
Community Ministries
thank you for your
recent generous cash
donation.



CARING MINISTRY LIST
STRENGTH & WISDOM DEALING WITH
HEALTH & LIFE CHALLENGES:

CONDOLENCES Dean Koppin made his transition on
March 20th – Memorial to be planned.

Bernie Shaw broke her hip

Maggie Clewley, Pat Dygert, Claudette Howell, John Hopeck,
Bonnie Kennedy, Paul King, Cathy Kwasky, Scott Lodge,
Denise Rogers, Denise Ruff, Oliver Schultz, Sharon Scott,

Darrell Simmons, Bill & Suzanne White, Sandy Welling, Ruth Yuill

The Caring Ministry keeps those who are shut in, hospitalized or sick and unable to attend church connected to the church through visits, cards, and phone calls. "Please notify our office via call or email: office@farmingtonfumc.org or pastor of any requests by Monday to be included in the bulletin and by Thursday for verbal announcements. Names will be removed after 60 days unless otherwise requested."



12th in loving memory of David H. Trombley who left this
earthly life a year ago April 11th.

We miss you, Love Jim & Carolyn Aymer

19th Paula Mullan



Basement Burger Bar

Go after
worship any
Sunday and
20% of profits
come back to
the church!

Hands with
DETROIT

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 25 | 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Cass Community Social Services
& Methodist Children's Home



The following committees are looking for additional members:
Methodist Men, Finance, Outreach, Trustees, The Streaming Team, and Website Team.



If you are interested in any of these committees, please contact Pastor Brian at (269) 274-0029.

Our teller team could use your help. Looking for 3 or 4 more volunteers that are willing to help count the offering after Sunday service. It takes about 30-60 minutes to complete depending on the Sunday. We schedule 2 tellers per Sunday. Commitment would be for no more than 2 Sundays a month depending on the scheduling. There may be a month that you may not be required to count. Scheduling is flexible.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A LITURGIST?

Liturgists are responsible for leading the opening prayer, reading the scripture lesson, leading the offering prayer, and reading the explanation of offering options. If you are interested in joining the liturgist team, please contact Jill Burress at jillb69@aol.com.

“HOW TO LIVESTREAM OUR WORSHIP SERVICE”

You can view our worship services live each Sunday morning, even if you don't have a Facebook page/account. Here is how to connect:

1. Go to: www.farmingtonfumc.org/watch or
2. Access the church's Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/farmingtonfumc/
3. Once on the church's Facebook page, select the video marked **Live** in red.
4. You can now view the livestream of our worship service.



DID YOU MISS THE WORSHIP SERVICE?

You can view all previous worship services and sermons on our YouTube Channel, Facebook Page, or Website:

- Youtube: www.youtube.com/@farmingtonfumc1829/videos
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/farmingtonfumc/videos.
- Website: www.farmingtonfumc.org/watch-live

YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED

Thank you for continued prayerful and financial support of the church. If you would like to make a gift to the church, please use one of the following methods:

1) Drop-off or Mail-in your gift to:

First United Methodist Church of Farmington - 33112 Grand River Ave
Farmington, MI 48336

2) Use PayPal, and select: First United Methodist Church of Farmington

3) Scan the QR code and follow the prompts.



GIVE TODAY



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM @farmingtonfumc



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

33112 Grand River Avenue † Farmington, MI 48336

News & Notes April 6, 2026

248 474-6573 or 248 474-6595

Tuesday, April 7th

10:00 a.m.

Bible Study

7:00 p.m.

Bible Study

Wednesday, April 8th

10:00 a.m.

Caring Ministries

6:30 p.m.

Growth & Hospitality

7:15 p.m.

Boy Scouts

Thursday, April 9th

6:00 p.m.

Hand Bell Rehearsal in the bell room

7:00 p.m.

Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 10th

5:00 p.m.

Detroit Baptist Chin

Saturday, April 11th

2:00 p.m.

Liturgical Dance Rehearsal

Sunday, April 12th

10:00 a.m.

WORSHIP/SS Coffee Hour follows

11:30 a.m.

Bible Study

12 noon

Classical Indian Dance

5:00 p.m.

Detroit Chin Baptist Church

Church Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday

11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Pastor Bea

Tuesday-Thursday

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Pastor Brian

is in the office from 10-3:00

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

And, available by phone 269-274-0029

every day except Friday.

YOU ARE A BLESSING FROM GOD: We grateful for all our guest, let us know you are here. Please scan the QR code to complete a: **CONNECTION CARD**



ANNA COOK CIRCLE FELLOWSHIP

May 13, 2026 @ 12 noon

BRING YOUR SANDWICH & BEVERAGE

LYDIA CIRCLE FELLOWSHIP

CRAFTER'S FELLOWSHIP

3rd Saturday's of the month

April 18th 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Bring a project to work on, a sandwich, and see what we are creating.

Susan Cook, Coordinator




United Women in Faith

Sat. April 25th
@ 10 a.m.

MEETING

John Dresden, president of the Farmington Area Good Fellows will speak on the great work of this organization.

ALL (including men) ARE WELCOME!



4th James Aren, Ray Barry Pat Fleming

7th Ryan Berry, 11th Noelle Montgomery

12th Evan Portner, 14th Tom Hanson

15th Dan Gertiser, 19th Elijah Greene

20th Geri Doolin, 23rd Marion Ringe

24th Lois Holmes, Aidan Riley

26th Diane Kreimes, Joy Baum

28th Elaine Malafouris, 29th Janine Shymanski

30th Mark Keach

17th James & Marilyn Totten TX