



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

33112 Grand River Avenue † Farmington, MI 48336

News & Notes September 20, 2026

248 474-6573 or 248 474-6595

Sunday, September 20 th	10:00 a.m.	Worship/Children's Sunday School
	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour/Bible Study
	12:00 p.m.	Community Cookout
	12:00 p.m.	Classical Indian Dance Rehearsal
	5:00 p.m.	Detroit Chin Baptist Church
Tuesday, September 22 nd	10:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday, September 23 rd	5:00 p.m.	Worship Committee
	7:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts
Thursday, September 24 th	1:00 p.m.	Education Committee
	6:00 p.m.	Bells Rehearsal, 7:00 Chancel Choir
Friday, September 25 th	5:00 p.m.	Detroit Chin Baptist Church
Saturday, September 26 th	9:00 a.m.	Rummage Sale Drop off until 12
	11:00 a.m.	"Bibles and Brunch: A Study on Ezekiel"

Church Office Hours
Tuesday 10:30 am - 4:30 pm
Wednesday 10:30 am – 4:30 p.m.

Pastor Bea
Tuesday – Thursday
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Pastor Brian
is in the office from 10:00 a.m. --3:00 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.
Please text to confirm availability.
And, available by phone 269-274-0029
every day except Friday.

UWIF, GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, October 3rd @ 10 a.m.

Speaker Rev. Joelynn Stokes, Esq. lawyer,
counselor & mediator, and an ordained Elder in the
African Methodist Episcopal Church, speaking on a
subject of her choice.

All are invited, including men. 

ANNA COOK

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 @ 12 noon
Bring your sandwich.



2026 RUMMAGE SALE Friday, October 16th 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday, October 17th 9 a.m. - 12 noon
DROP OFF SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th 9 a.m.– 12 noon
or by appointment 248-514-2423 Paula Mullan



2nd Yvonne Christensen, Tom Horton, Ana Palmer
5th Carolyn Danielson, 6th Susanna Arun, Beverly King
7th Beulah Arun, 8th Edwin Arun, 10th Lee Imus
13th Dan Latimer, 14th Heather Shymanski,
19th Melanie Stevenson, 20th Debbie Muncey
24th Janice Pohl, 25th Mary Sue Duffy, Loni Stevenson
26th Claude Christensen

3rd James & Karla Aren, 6th Larry & Loni Stevenson
16th Scott & Pamela Lodge, 19th David & Janice Pohl
24th Tom & Elaine Malafouris, 25th Sam & Sherry Carnell



CRAFTER'S FELLOWSHIP

3rd Saturday's OCTOBER 17TH 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

"Kickstart your weekend with creativity! Join us every 3rd Saturday morning to work on your chosen craft or to learn new crafting skills and meet fellow makers. No experience needed. Coffee and tea provided."

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

September 27, 2026

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

HYMN

Bring Forth the Kingdom

Yaroslav Daniels

Rev. Brian Steele

TFWS #2190

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave Kennedy

Leader: The river of mercy is flowing once again...

People: Let us join in the flow of mercy.

Leader: The path of peace is before us...

People: Let us follow it and study war no more.

Leader: The waters of justice are being stirred again...

People: Let us be stirred to action.

ALL: Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Dave Kennedy

God of life, your river of life has flowed through us and revived our dry bones. Now let us flow with you to the places that are parched. May our lives be the testimony to your waters of life. We are but one stop on your way toward restoration. Bind us together to make us a people who journey together in love and service to a world that is far too dry. Let our dry bones live so that others can live, too. Amen.

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM

With One Heart

Amy Ridings-Sciannella, flute

By Mark Patterson

HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

UMH #451

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Brianne Steele

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Ezekiel 47:1-12

Dave Kennedy

Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON

Dry Bones Live

Rev. Steele

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Dave Kennedy

(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

Dave Kennedy

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Yaroslav Daniels

*SUNG PRAISE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #94

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Rev. Steele

LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

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

The Summons

TFWS #2130

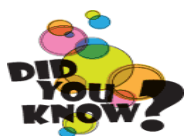
SENDING:

We are alive for a purpose. Let us go and serve with joy!

Rev. Steele

POSTLUDE

Yaroslav Daniels



Did you know...your third quarter giving statements and giving information for 2027 will be hitting your physical mailboxes and e-mail inboxes soon. Stay tuned and please make sure we have your updated contact information.



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.



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM @farmingtonfumc



MEETING ON Monday, October 5th @ 6:30 p.m.



PAY IT FORWARD
September 2026
Memo# CMM3028



God's Country Community Ministries expresses heartfelt gratitude for your generous donation.



CARING MINISTRY LIST
CONDOLENCES Denise Ruff, Ruth Yuill, Bev Ellis, Dean Koppin
STRENGTH & WISDOM DEALING WITH
HEALTH & LIFE CHALLENGES:

Bernie Shaw, Maggie Clewley, Pat Dygert, Claudette Howell, John Hopeck, Bonnie Kennedy, Paul King, Cathy Kwasky, Scott Lodge, Denise Rogers, Oliver Schultz, Sharon Scott, Darrell Simmons, Bill & Suzanne White, Sandy Welling

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."



- 6th In loving memory of Dave Brichford Karen Brichford
- 13th In loving honor of the FFUMC family Ann St. John
- 20th In loving memory of Scott & Carol Riley parents:
Jim & Betty Kitson and Randy & Joyce Riley
- 27th In loving honor of my grandchildren Teagan, Cadena and Dawson
Janice Pohl
- 4th In loving honor of my 3 children, 8 grandchildren & 2 great grandchildren
Connie Lynn

This is another monthly update from Michael Weddell, your Head Treasurer. Sorry that this update is a bit delayed. These figures include donations received through Sunday offerings, by PayPal and other electronic means, and through checks mailed to the church:

Donations from Identified Givers			
	Budget	Actual	
	2026	2026	Difference
Aug. 2026	\$16,213.00	\$18,112.73	1,899.73
YTD 2026	\$13,530.00	\$22,685.35	\$9,155.35

Thank you for your financial support! You've \$22,685.35 more than we anticipated! August donations were strong in part because we budgeted a low amount for the month (based on recent history) plus there were five Sundays during August. Extra donations are especially helpful because our 2026 budget plans that our general fund will have a \$35,475.82 deficit. I post more details about our church's finances on a bulletin board in the basement in the hallway leading to Wesley Hall. The full treasurer's report on the bulletin board focuses more on profits or losses compared to our 2026 budget.



Rev. Brian Steele FFUMC – September 20, 2026

Here at our church, our traditions are rooted in the larger traditions of the United Methodist Church. Today in 2026, I believe God is calling us to remember the traditions of the United Methodist Church. I'm not just talking about *what* the United Methodist Church does. I'm talking about *who* we are.

Tradition One. Why did John and Charles Wesley and their merry band of misfits get into so much trouble? Because they were fiercely committed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They were called

Bible Bigots. They were called enthusiasts, which wasn't as pleasant sounding as it is today. They had a fire for the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Tradition Two. Why did John, Charles and their merry band of misfits *continue* to get into so much trouble? Because they were so on fire for the Gospel of Jesus Christ that it led them to live lives that irritated the status quo of those inside the walls of the church. They did obnoxious things like visiting death row inmates, advocate for the abolishment of slavery, which was unfortunately more controversial than it should have been, and go and proclaim the Gospel to those who had no business showing up in any proper church of the day.

Our United Methodist traditions are being justice oriented, being inclusive with all the wrong people, and being on fire for the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And that leads me back to Ezekiel. Ezekiel was training to be a priest, kind of like John Wesley. But then the people of God had forgotten their traditions. They had forsaken their traditions of following God for traditionalism. Tradition transcends time. Ezekiel had held the traditions of his faith close. The books of the law--the tradition of his time--were written on his heart. But the people of God had fallen into the trap of traditionalism. Traditionalism keeps people static. It's like the play-doh that doesn't get played with. It becomes crusty, stuck. And God can do nothing with it. Social injustice. Mistreatment of the poor and vulnerable. Believing that God was for them and nobody else. This was what led to the exile. It was rough. It brought disillusionment. Questions. Many abandoned the faith. Some adopted the gods of the Babylonians. But a stubborn remnant refused to give up on the God who they knew had rescued them and their ancestors before them.

And then their dry bones were brought back to life. In a graveyard of death, God comes and breathes the hope of new life. Dry bones lived again. Bones that people thought were destined for death; bones that people thought were no longer relevant; bones that people thought had lost their purpose, were breathing, were walking, were living again.

Dry bones lived.

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