



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

33112 Grand River Avenue † Farmington, MI 48336

News & Notes September 13, 2026

248 474-6573 or 248 474-6595

Sunday, September 13 th	9:00 a.m.	Blood drive
	10:00 a.m.	Worship/Children's Sunday School
	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour/Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Detroit Chin Baptist Church
Monday, September 14 th	6:30 p.m.	Outreach
Tuesday, September 15 th	10:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday, September 16 th	6:30 p.m.	Growth & Hospitality
	7:00 p.m.	"Men's Group: Pub Theology at Grand Tavern
	7:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts
Thursday, September 17 th	1:00 p.m.	Education Committee
	6:00 p.m.	Bells Rehearsal, 7:00 Chancel Choir
Friday, September 18 th	5:00 p.m.	Detroit Chin Baptist Church
Saturday, September 19 th	9:30 a.m.	Craft Gathering
	11:00 a.m.	"Bibles and Brunch: A Study on Ezekiel"
Sunday, September 20 th	10:00 a.m.	Worship/Children's Sunday School
	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour/Bible Study

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.

2026 RUMMAGE SALE Friday, October 16th 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Saturday, October 17th 9 a.m. - 12 noon
or by appointment 248-514-2423 Drop off Saturday, September 26th 9 a.m. – 12 noon

YOU ARE A BLESSING FROM GOD "We are grateful for all of our guests, please fill out the Connect Card in our program or scan the QR code if you prefer."



CRAFTER'S FELLOWSHIP

3rd Saturday's Sept. 19th 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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

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. Women's Circles

ANNA COOK

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 @ 12 noon

Bring your sandwich.



Basement Burger Bar

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



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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

September 20, 2026

PRELUDE

Yaroslav Daniels

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Brian Steele

HYMN

Come, Let us Dream

See Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP

Paula Mullan

Leader: We wonder, can our dry bones live again?

People: Yes! The Spirit is sending new life!

Leader: We question, can our mourning be turned into dancing?

People: Yes! The Spirit is waking us again!

Leader: Come, let us dream again!

People: The God of life is here!

ALL: Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Paula Mullan

Adapted from Rev. Elizabeth Dilley

God of resurrection, your Spirit is blowing! One breath from you and we are rescued from the valley of dry bones. You have given us muscles of joy, renewed hearts, and visions of hope. Fill us with the abundance of life your Spirit has come to give. Let that which has lain dormant burst into bloom, and what we once thought was inevitable death may be revealed as but sleep before the emergence of new life. Amen

HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

UMH #110

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Steele

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Paula Mullan

Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON

Dry Bones Live

Rev. Steele

"CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY"

Rev. Steele

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Paula Mullan

(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

Paula Mullan

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

My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep from Singing)

TFWS #2212

SENDING: **God is not finished with us yet. The dry bones are alive!**

Rev. Steele

POSTLUDE

Yaroslav Daniels



Did you know....we now have a Sunday School class for 6th-12th graders! Any youth are welcome to join after the Children's Moment.



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, September 14th @ 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."



- 9th In loving honor of the wonderful people of First FUMC - Ann St. John
16th In loving memory of Sally & Jake White's heavenly anniversary Paula Mullan
23rd In loving honor of my son Patrick's birthday and all church members with August birthdays and anniversaries and in loving memory of my father, John Downing. Patty Tschudi
30th In loving memory of my son, Jeremy Cook: Susan Cook
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 our parents:
Jim & Betty Kitson and Randy & Joyce Riley. Scott & Carol 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

PRAYERS

Gratitude: Kind spouses, growing children and families, helpful neighbors, God's beautiful creation, Kate and Zac who have moved to Phoenix for medical school, Stephanie & Nick Antilla who are expecting a child.

General: All conflicts globally and domestically, the victims of wildfires, all our interfaith siblings, the ministry of the Detroit Baptist Chin Church

Health: Gail Rychinski, Robert Weddell, Leon Doolin, Nancy Lucas and family, Kathy (heart issues), Ana, Ben and Allison, Louellen, Cameron, Olivia, Nikki, Tony Tulgetske, James Lanstra, Sean Mullan, Bernie Shaw, Claudette Howell

Cancer: Anna, Janice, Meredith (family of Connie L), Amy G (friend of Paula M), Pat (Sandy R's cousin), Dawn McCourt, David Shultz

Condolences: The families of the Tulgetskes, Ralph Curtiss (Carolyn 's cousin) who lost his father after a heart attack, Denise Ruff, David O'Shea (Cathy Kwasky's brother), Ruth Yuill, Dean Koppin, Beth Ellis, Judith Young Mayo, Peter Kalakailo, Bob Cook, those who have lost somebody to fentanyl overdose, families and everyone amidst their grief.



Rev. Brian Steele FFUMC – September 13, 2026

In the Gospel of John, Jesus has this fascinating encounter with a sick man. Jesus doesn't just heal the man. He asks him, "Do you want to get well?" And the man gives an excuse as to why he can't get better. Then Jesus tells him to move. And he does.

Leading up to this time of exile, God was asking these Israelites, "Do you want to get well?" And they said no, time and time again. For centuries. God was exceedingly patient and then God had to accept the reality, this group of redeemed people were not going to choose to turn it around.

So God had to take a remnant of people who remained, would be willing to be reshaped and work with them. And Ezekiel is reframing how they should approach this time in exile. They need to see exile as an opportunity for transformation.

Friends, there will be seasons where it feels like we are in exile. They may be of our doing or they may be a result of the world we live in. But they are always presenting us with an opportunity.

A few weeks ago I found our church historical records. More than a year in, I'm still finding your goodies from the past 100+ years. I came upon a church newsletter from 2016 that had our average offering for the month. Our average offering from 10 years ago would make for a really good offering for us today. It's a number that we still reach on our good weeks, but our average giving is often below that.

That was in 2016. That was when a McDonald's Big Mac Combo cost about \$6.00. Now it's about \$10. In 2016--this is according to Google--the cost of an average house in Farmington Hills was about \$250,000. Now it's more than \$400,000.

This is our reality: We have less money and less people to do some of the same things that now cost more than they did 10 years ago.

We can give up. We can think that God has left the church. That's what some of these ancient Israelites did. As soon as the first batch of exiles got taken away, a bunch of the people left behind started worshiping other Gods in the temple because, well, our God must not be as powerful as we thought God was.

We can complain. Again, been there, done that. Back in the time of the Exodus after the Israelites had been freed from Egyptian slavery, the journey through the wilderness was taking longer than they thought it would and some of them wanted to go to Egypt.

We can cry and weep. Again, there's a time and place for that. It's even faithful. Read the Psalms. There are a lot of tears in that book for situations like these. But that time of lament can't be forever.

We can rant and rave. But if you just stand there stomping your feet day after day, where are you? You're still standing in the same place stomping your feet. Trust me I see from a certain beloved 2-year-old more than I'd like to admit.

Or we can let God reshape us. We might be pulled in a direction that's a little difficult at first. It might even feel unnatural. Maybe even a little painful. Stretching new muscles isn't easy. Spiritually or physically. But then we start to notice how we can do things we didn't think we could previously do.

We have tremendous opportunities before us. In a time such as this, God is still here. God is still moving. God is still calling. Come and let me reshape you again.

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