

Pastor Brian

November 16, 2025

Here's the gist of Haggai's message. Yes, the temple is not what it was before. Yes, your land is in ruins. Yes, you have significant obstacles. No, this is not an easy fix.

Do it anyway. Do it anyway and God will show up. In fact, God is already here. God is already present. You just have to be willing to participate in what God is calling you to do in this place and in this time. You can't go back to the way things were before. Solomon's temple is gone. Life as you knew it has changed. You didn't want to go through this but since you're going through it anyway, you might as well just lean into God. Haggai tells them the truth of their situation--they aren't giving priority to God. They are more focused on taking care of their personal lives, which frankly aren't going great either. But Haggai also tells them there is hope. Even with the risk, even with the difficult reality, there is hope for a future. This is what prophets do. The late Walter Brueggemann, an Old Testament scholar, would say that prophets have two main functions: To criticize and to energize. This is what Haggai is doing. He is criticizing the reality of people not being all-in on their spiritual lives. He is criticizing them giving into the local resistance. He is criticizing their spiritual apathy. But he is also energizing them by telling them that if they do this, God will be with them. He is energizing them with a new hope. He is energizing them with possibility. The temple of the future is going to be different than the temple of the past.

And, friends, the church was forever changed five years ago. Our church was changed. And it has been hard. I'm guessing it has been discouraging at times. Thousands of years ago, these people of faith were wondering if the temple still mattered. Does showing up for worship matter? Do my prayers matter? Does my giving matter? They were questioning if what they did still mattered. And Haggai tells them it not only matters, but it is crucial. And God is with you.

Friends, we have a God who shows up in the rubble. We have a God who isn't afraid of spiritual homes that have been brought down. In fact, it is often these types of situations where God can best become known because it is in these situations where we need God more than any other time. It is in these times where God calls us to lean in more than any other time. It is in these times where faith actually grows.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

33112 Grand River Avenue

Farmington, MI 48335



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

November 23, 2025

PRELUDE		Yaroslav Daniels
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Rev. Brian Steele
CHORAL INTROIT	Sanctuary	Chancel Choir
HYMN	Come, Ye Thankful People, Come UMH #694	Yaroslav Daniels
CALL TO WORSHIP		Paula Mullan
Leader: We come to worship the king of kings and lord of lords!		
People: A King who reigns with gentleness.		
Leader: A King who aligns with the least of these.		
People: A King who lays down His life.		
Leader: A King who afflicts the comfortable and comforts the afflicted.		
People: Let us worship that King and nobody else.		
ALL: Amen.		
OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)		Paula Mullan
God, you are a jealous God. Not because you are lacking, but because of your outlandish love for us. It breaks your heart when we settle for lesser Gods. May we worship you, the crucified Savior, today and every day. Even when we are tempted to look elsewhere, may we keep our eyes fixed on you. Amen		
MINISTRY OF DANCE	Thank You Isn't Enough	Liturgical Dancers
CHORAL ANTHEM	Come, Christians, Join To Sing Arr. By Gordon Young	Chancel Choir
HYMN	Bring Forth the Kingdom TFWS #2190	Yaroslav Daniels
CHILDREN & YOUTH MOMENT		Pastor Bea
SCRIPTURE LESSON:	Luke 23:33-43	Paula Mullan
Liturgist:	The word of God for the people of God	
People:	Thanks be to God	
SERMON	Christ the King Sunday: Kingship Redefined	Rev. Steele
OFFERTORY INVITATION		Paula Mullan
(We APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERFUL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THIS COMMUNITY OF FAITH.)		
● FOR THOSE WORSHIPPING VIRTUALLY: Giving options will appear on your screen. ● FOR THOSE WORSHIPPING IN-PERSON: You may place your tithes and offerings in the collection plate, or in one of our offering boxes. As the ushers come to receive our gifts, please sign the attendance pad, and pass it along to your neighbor. Guests, please place your completed <u>CONNECTION CARD</u> in the collection plate.		
OFFERTORY PRAYER OF DEDICATION		Paula Mullan
OFFERTORY MUSIC		Yaroslav Daniels
*SUNG PRAISE	Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH #94	
JOYS, CONCERNS, & CONGREGATIONAL 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.

HYMN

Lift High the Cross UMH #159

Yaroslav Daniels

SENDING FORTH: **You Are A Blessing From God. Now Go Be A Blessing!**

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Benediction

Chancel Choir



7 p.m. on Mondays
December 1st – 22nd
\$14.00 book covers postage
& \$1.00 Ministry to Shares
Please RSVP by Sunday 11/23
office@farmingtonfumc.org



Sunday School Classes

are available to Children in Kindergarten through Fifth Grades throughout the school year.



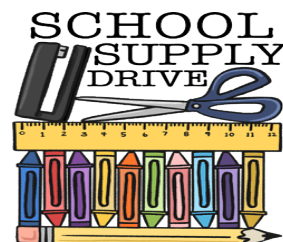
At this time, we are not able to provide Nursery Care for our youngest participants. Please know that children of all ages are welcome in worship, especially when they are making "joyful noises to the Lord". Our future plans *include* developing a "Family Center" where parents will have a comfortable space to experience worship service via live stream in a space that is hospitable for them.



ANNA COOK CIRCLE FELLOWSHIP

January 14, 2026 @ 12 noon

BRING YOUR SANDWICH & BEVERAGE



INNOVATION ACADEMY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

We are still collecting:

Clear Backpacks, Corded Headphones,
Pack of Pencils (not mechanical),
Packs of erasers, Spiral Notebooks,
Scissors, Glue Sticks Colored Pencils,
Pack of Red Pens, Highlighters (multi colors), Expo Markers with Eraser,
3x5 Index Cards

The donations box is outside of the Admin. Office Bev King Coordinator

CRAFTER'S FELLOWSHIP

3rd Saturday's of the month

January 17, 2026

9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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



MEETING ON December 1st/January 6th @ 6:30 P.M.



Samaritan Counseling Center is our of Southeastern Michigan

PAY IT FORWARD
choice for November

2025 # CCMM 3050

We appreciate your generosity.



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

Pat Bradley *please pray for Pat Bradley as he is under hospice care and preparing for transition eternal glory*, Maggie Clewley, Pat Dyert, Bev Ellis, John Hopeck, Bonnie Kennedy, Paul King, Dean Koppin, Cathy Kwasky, Scott Lodge, Denise Rogers, Denise Ruff, Oliver Schultz, Sharon Scott, Bernie Shaw, *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."



2nd In loving honor of Liliana's 1st Birthday – Aymer family
9th In recognition of United Women in Faith - UWIF
16th In loving memory of Aliene, Mike, and Kevin Adams.

23rd **THANKSGIVING PRESENTATION**
30th **AVAILABLE**

7th In loving memory of our nieces: Ola Igwe, Phyllis Walter & Verlinda Powell who made their transition in 2025 and are forever in our hearts- Igwes
14th **AVAILABLE**
28th Doolin





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 November 16, 2025

248 474-6573 or 248 474-6595

Tuesday, November 18th

10:00 a.m. Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Mental Health Workshop

Wednesday, November 19th

5:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting
7:15 p.m. Boy Scouts

Thursday, November 20th

6:00 p.m. Hand Bell Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 21st

5:00 p.m. Detroit Baptist Chin

Saturday, November 22nd

2:00 p.m. Liturgical Dance Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Mullan Event

Sunday, November 23rd

10:00 a.m. Worship Service/SS Coffee Hour follows
9:30 a.m. Blood Drive
11:30 a.m. Bible Study
12 noon Classical Indian Dance
5:00 p.m. Detroit Chin Baptist Church

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday
10:00 am to 2:30 pm
Phyllis out Dec. 3rd, 5th, 12th

Pastor Bea

Tuesday-Thursday
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Pastor Brian

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 10-3
Please call/text 269-274-0029 to make
certain I am available.
Rest & REfreshME happens on Fridays!

SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

Announcements/information to be
shared in the order of worship/weekly
News & Notes, please email your
information to Phyllis Anderson
(phyllisa@farmingtonfumc.org) no later
than 11:00 a.m. on Monday mornings.



UWIF GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, December 6th

at 10am in Wesley Hall

ALL ARE WELCOME

MEN & NON-UWF MEMBERS, too

Help us welcome our speaker, Ron Sandison,
speaking on autism, faith, and parenting.

NOVEMBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

3rd McKenzie Hanson
7th Jerry Thomas
11th Sherry Carnell
11th Christopher Guddeck
13th Connie Lawson
13th Marilyn Totten
16th Calvin Brunke
24th Susan Sackett
28th Denise Dunham

Anniversary

29th John & Leah Sheppard, Jr.



Worship Schedule
FOR CHRISTMAS

Hanging of the Greens Sat. 29th 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Advent Bible Study: On the Way to Bethlehem Dec. Mondays 7 p.m.

Hope for the Holidays, Grief Support 6th 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

After Glow for "Light Up the Grand" 6th 6:30 p.m.

Longest Night Service at West Bloomfield, 17th @ 7p.m.

Christmas Cantata 21st @ 10 a.m.

Christmas Eve Worship 24th Jesus' Birthday Party @ 4 p.m.

Traditional Candlelight with Communion @ 8 p.m.