

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

33112 Grand River Avenue † Farmington, MI 48336

News & Notes November 8, 2026

248 474-6573 or 248 474-6595

Sunday, November 8th	10:00 a.m.	Worship/Children's SSchool
	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour/Bible Study
	12:00 p.m.	Classical Indian Dance Rehearsal
	5:00 p.m.	Chin Church
Tuesday, November 10th	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Study
Wednesday, November 11th	10:00 a.m.	Caring Team
	12:00 p.m.	Anna Circle
	7:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts
Thursday, November 12th	6:00 p.m.	Bells Rehearsal, 7:00 Chancel Choir
Friday, November 13th	5:00 p.m.	Detroit Chin Baptist Church
Sunday, November 15th	10:00 a.m.	Worship/Children's SSchool
	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour/Bible Study
	12:00 p.m.	Classical Indian Dance Rehearsal
		GF Youth Group: Bowling at Perfect Game

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

Pastor Bea

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.

ANNA COOK
Wednesday, November 11, 2026 @ 12 noon
Bring your sandwich.



Women's Circles

UWIF, GENERAL MEETING
Women's Tea
Saturday, December 5th @ 10 a.m.
will include a women's tea.
Invite your daughters, granddaughters,
mothers, grandmothers....
See Carolyn Wik to reserve your spot to ensure seating for all.



Your contributions of time, service, prayers and donations is greatly appreciated to make the 2026 effort a success. Paula Mullan



CRAFTER'S FELLOWSHIP 3rd SATURDAY'S
November 21st 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."
Susan Cook, Coordinator



3rd Mckenzie Hanson
11th Sherry Carnell
11th Christopher Guddeck
13th Connie Lawson
16th Calvin Brunke
24th Susan Sackett
28th Denise Dunham

29th John & Leah Sheppard,

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON
November 15, 2026

PRELUDE — Yaroslav Daniels
WORDS OF WELCOME — Rev. Brian Steele
HYMN — *In the Garden* — UMH #314
OPENING PRAYER — Paula Mullan

Holy Spirit, you are a God who is seeking us. You beckon us forward so that you can do exceedingly more than we could ever imagine. Yet we cannot move forward with you when we are holding onto things that no longer serve us. Help us discover today that which no longer leads us into your presence, and give us the courage to release them so that we can be all you dream we can be. Amen

CALL TO WORSHIP — Paula Mullan

Leader: All things are possible for God.
People: If we trust God with what we have.
Leader: All things are possible for God.
People: If we release what is holding us back.
Leader: All things are possible for God.
People: If we give away what God calls us to give.
Leader: May it be so.
ALL: Amen.

CARILLION CHOIR ANTHEM — *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*
Arr. by Cynthia Dobrinski

HYMN — *How Great Thou Art* — UMH #77
CHILDREN'S MOMENT — Rev. Brian Steele
SCRIPTURE LESSON: — Matthew 19:26 — Paula Mullan
Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God
People: Thanks be to God
SERMON — Church Pick Sunday: Making Room for the God of All Things — Rev. Steele

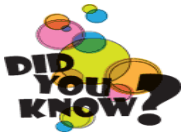
OFFERTORY INVITATION — Paula Mullan
(WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY. PLEASE, GIVE LIKE IT MATTERS, BECAUSE IT DOES.)

- 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 — Pastor Bea Fraser-Soots
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 — *Awesome God* — TFWS #2040
Sing Five Times Through
SENDING — **God can do exceedingly more than we can imagine. Trust in that!** — Rev. Steele
POSTLUDE — Yaroslav Daniels



Did You Know Cass Community Social Services is currently in need of winter clothes. Please bring any donations to the church and drop them off in Brian's office.



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

MEETING ON Monday, December 7th @ 6:30 p.m.

Lighthouse PAY IT FORWARD NOVEMBER 2026



Global Ministries $93.50 - UMCOR $93.50
Alternatives for Girls thanks you for your generous support of $341.00
God's Country Community Ministries expresses heartfelt gratitude for your generous donation.





CARING MINISTRY LIST

CONDOLENCES: Norma Hood Family, Dan Imus Family

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."



1st In loving honor of Liliana's 2nd November 8th Birthday, Love Grandma & Grandpa Aymer
8th In loving honor of FF United Women In Faith
15th In loving memory of Aliene Adams – Gary Adams
22nd Thanksgiving Presentation
29th Paula Mullan
6th Honoring the birth of the Weddell's new granddaughter
13th In loving memory of Irving, Grace, Jerry, Susan, Eric Smith Judith Smith
20th Poinsettias
29th Doolin

The 2027 Altar Flower Calendar will be posted soon $30.00

PRAYER

Gratitude: Kind spouses, growing children and families, helpful neighbors, God's beautiful creation, all those who are expecting a child
General: All conflicts globally and domestically, the victims of wildfires, all our interfaith siblings, the ministry of the Chin Church
Health: Mason and Allison, Dave Rodibaugh, Kim Warner, Jim Dignan (heart attack and stroke), Pastor Bea, Gail Rychinski, Leon Doolin, Nancy Lucas and family.
Kathy (heart issues), Louellen, Tony Tulgetske, Sean Mullan, Bernie Shaw, Claudette Howell, Pat Dygert
Cancer: David M, Anna, Janice, Meredith (family of Connie L), Amy G (friend of Paula M), Pat (Sandy R's cousin), Dawn McCourt, David Shultz
Loss: The families of Norma Hood, James Lanstra, Dan Imus, Charles Sheer, Marjorie Bennett, Ralph Curtiss, Tulgetske, Ruth Yuill, those who have lost somebody to fentanyl overdose, and everyone amidst their grief.



Rev. Brian Steele FFUMC – November 8, 2026

Friends, I'm going to be direct. Persecution isn't having "Holiday Cups" instead of "Christmas cups" at a secular coffee shop. Persecution is proclaiming Jesus is Lord when somebody has a gun pointed at your head.

Persecution isn't when you tell someone Merry Christmas and they roll their eyes. Maybe at worst they give you a snarky, "Happy Holidays." Persecution is when you don't tell someone Merry Christmas because if you do, they might kill you, arrest you, or at best force your church to close its doors. That's what some of our siblings in Christ are experiencing in other countries.

We have a seriously misguided understanding of persecution here in America. There is less religious participation in America today. That can make you feel disappointed and perhaps frustrated. Christianity is not as influential as it once was in our country. True. Our cultural capital isn't what it once was. But lower numbers does not equate to persecution. Having less influence does not equate to persecution. Refusing your business to people because they have different spiritual or religious beliefs than you, and people suing you, does not equate to persecution. Not in the biblical sense. Not in the ancient sense. Not in the modern sense. Persecution does not happen because you're uncomfortable being in the cultural minority.

Persecution is death, being put behind bars and torture. And that still goes on today. It went on in the early church. It has gone on throughout the church's history, and sometimes we have even persecuted ourselves in the Christian family because we had slightly different beliefs. God help us. And it's still going on today.

According to the International Institute for Religious Freedom, which is a peer-reviewed organization, which basically means they can't just make up stuff and get away with it, in 2025 there were more than 4,600 Christians killed across 36 countries, more than 2,800 people abducted and 3,500 forced from their homes. This includes people who were holding a church service in Syria and had a suicide bomber come in with a rifle and explosives. That happened. And that's why we pray today.

And many of these Christians do not ask us to pray for their safety. They ask us to pray for their faithfulness. That they will have the faith to stand firm against threats. These are not individuals who are trying to gain back power in their nations. They are not trying to make Christianity a legal religion of their land. They are trying to be faithful to our Savior.

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