

Pastor Brian
November 9, 2025

The Israelites have been under oppression from the Assyrian empire. The Assyrian empire is home to the great and powerful city of Nineveh. Nineveh is where the prophet Jonah did not want to go because of how horrific and violent these people were. But in Jonah we learned how God wanted to show mercy because the people of Nineveh still mattered to God. So Jonah went and by some miracle, the people of Nineveh repented and God showed mercy. Well, now some time has lapsed and the people of Nineveh seem to have forgotten what Jonah told them. They have gone back to their violent and dominating ways. And Nahum comes and tells them God's not having it. That there are consequences for the way they have oppressed and dominated and that they are no longer going to be the king of the hill. Enter the new empire in town: Babylon. Throughout history, no empire lasts forever. Assyria is not just defeated by Babylon, they are humiliated much like the way Assyria humiliated the Israelites. The Israelites had been waiting for their oppression under Assyria to end, and they have finally been delivered. Assyria is no more.

Here's what we can learn from Nahum. No nation can hold ideologies that lead to domination and violent takeover and believe that God will continue to bless them. No nation, no group of people, can worship violence and domination and claim they are worshiping God.

Church, we simply cannot participate in empires built on domination and violence and worship a crucified savior who was murdered at the hands of a violent empire.

Nahum has shown that God is a God of justice. Just not always on our timeline. It is said that justice delayed is justice denied. And that's true. Luke 18 we have a widow who refuses to accept an unethical judge's ruling and she pesters him to the point where he just gives in. We do not just stand passively by and accept injustice. But sometimes no matter what we do, injustice still reigns. Sometimes justice is denied. And when that happens, we look to prophets like Nahum and remind ourselves that we can still trust God in unjust situations because God will ultimately bring justice.

Because God doesn't leave evil unpunished. Yes, God is merciful. But when people receive mercy, that should lead to a change in life. Yes, God is slow to anger, but that doesn't mean God doesn't get angry. Yes, God is patient. Absurdly patient. But God is also building a new kingdom that grows through peace and God can't build a kingdom of peace if humanity keeps being violent. Yes, God is gentle, but God is not soft. Yes, God is love, but love is not niceness. Yes, God is kind, but God's kindness is also being truthful.

When people are harmed; when people are dominated; when people are conquered; when people are oppressed, God cares. And God will eventually reveal to the perpetrators that they have gone against God's desires for the world.

The book of Nahum is not just about the fall of Assyria. It is about the fall of every power hungry, arrogant and violent empire out there that has fallen prey to the idols of violence and power. When cities or nations are built on the blood of the innocent, God is not pleased. That is not in line with the way of Jesus Christ, a crucified savior, who taught His followers that if they live by the sword, they will die by the sword.

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 16, 2025

PRELUDE		Yaroslav Daniels
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Rev. Brian Steele
CHORAL INTROIT	Sanctuary	Chancel Choir
HYMN	<i>Here I am to Worship</i>	Insert
CALL TO WORSHIP		Edwin Arun
Leader: This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!		
People: We rejoice in God's presence that sustains from generation to generation.		
Leader: For God has not forgotten us. God has not left us. God is with us!		
People: May we not forget the Lord, our God. May we make God's priorities, our priorities.		
Leader: Let our worship propel us toward a revitalized spiritual life!		
ALL: May it be so. Amen.		
OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)		Edwin Arun
God, you have gathered us here to remind us that you are worthy of all our devotion. As you pour out your love on us, may we remember to pour out our lives in return. Give us the courage of hope today, Lord. Give us a passion full of zeal for your priorities. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us so that we can be energized for the ministry that you have called us to do. Amen.		
CHORAL ANTHEM	TBA Arr. By TBA	Chancel Choir
HYMN	<i>Wonderful Words of Life</i>	UMH #600
CHILDREN & YOUTH MOMENT		Pastor Bea
SCRIPTURE LESSON:	Haggai 1:1-2	Edwin Arun
Liturgist:	The word of God for the people of God	
People:	Thanks be to God	
SERMON	Major on the Minors: Haggai	Rev. Steele
OFFERTORY INVITATION		Edwin Arun
(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		Edwin Arun
OFFERTORY MUSIC		Yaroslav Daniels
*SUNG PRAISE	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	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

Great is Thy Faithfulness

UMH #140

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

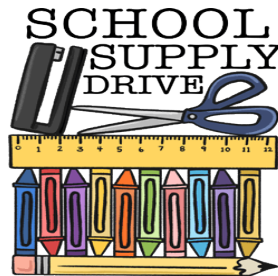
CHORAL BENEDICTION

Benediction

Chancel Choir



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.



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



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



ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Great job!

**Thank you so very much for your
help in making this annual
endeavor a success**

Paula Mullan, Coordinator



Basement Burger Bar

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

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



After Glow for Light up the Grand
December 6th, potentially 7 p.m.



Tuesday, November 18, 2025
2:00p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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



Hope for the Holidays
Saturday, December 6th
2:00p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



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 9, 2025

248 474-6573 or 248 474-6595

Tuesday, November 11th Veteran's Day
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 12th
7:00 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study
12 noon Anna Circle
7:15 p.m. Boy Scouts

Thursday, November 13th
6:00 p.m. Hand Bell Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 14th
5:00 p.m. Detroit Baptist Chin

Saturday, November 15th
9:30 a.m. Crafter's
2:00 p.m. Liturgical Dance Rehearsal

Sunday, November 16th
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



Sunday, November 16th
11:30 a.m. Wesley Hall



ANNA COOK CIRCLE FELLOWSHIP
November 12th
January 14, 2026 @ 12 noon
BRING YOUR SANDWICH & BEVERAGE

CRAFTER'S FELLOWSHIP

3rd Saturday's of the month
November 15th
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



Saturday, November 29th
10:00a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday
10:00 am to 2:30 pm

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.



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.



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.