

Pastor Brian Steele

March 1, 2026

God is not punitive. God does not seek to punish. God seeks to restore. Even after Adam and Eve do the worst thing they could have possibly done, God still seeks them. There are consequences for their behavior, and we have consequences. But consequences and punitive punishment where one party actively tries to violently harm the other, is different. God isn't the punitive one. We are.

Adam Hamilton says it really well, "I believe it is we who needed Jesus' death, not God. It was to change our hearts, not to change God's heart. God can forgive anyone God chooses and does not require God's Son torturous death in order to appease his anger." Penal Substitutionary Theory helps us confess our sin nature. We need that. But only holding that one theory can make God out to be a God that doesn't look much like Jesus. And the one thing we can know about God is that God looks like Jesus. That's why discussions around the cross and these atonement theories are like a puzzle. We need all the pieces for a clear picture.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

33112 Grand River Avenue

Farmington, MI 48335



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

10:00 a.m.

March 8, 2026

| | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| PRELUDE | | Yaroslav Daniels |
| WORDS OF WELCOME | | Rev. Brian Steele |
| CHORAL INTROIT | <i>Through It All</i> | Chancel Choir |
| HYMN | <i>This is a Day of New Beginnings</i> UMH #383 | Yaroslav Daniels |
| CALL TO WORSHIP | | Dave Kennedy |
| Leader: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us. People: Therefore, let us keep the feast with joy! Leader: The Lamb who was slain is worthy. People: By his blood we are redeemed, from every tribe and nation. All: Blessing and honor and glory be to Christ, our Redeemer and King! | | |
| OPENING PRAYER | | Dave Kennedy |
| Holy God, as we continue our journey to the cross, we give thanks for the liberation your cross has given us. You have delivered us from sin, death and isolation to transformation, resurrection and community. Your cross is a message of forgiveness, but let us not stop at forgiveness. May we take the freedom the cross gives us to live a new life of transformation so that we can more fully bring your Kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven. Amen. | | |
| ANTHEM | A Miracle Man By Joel Raney | Chancel Choir |
| HYMN | <i>Lamb of God</i> TFWS #2113 | Yaroslav Daniels |
| CHILDREN & YOUTH MOMENT | | Pastor Bea Fraser-Soots |
| SCRIPTURE LESSON: | 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 | Dave Kennedy |
| Liturgist: | The word of God for the people of God | |
| People: | Thanks be to God | |
| SERMON | Why Did Jesus Have to Die: The Liberating Cross | Rev. Steele |
| OFFERTORY INVITATION | | Dave Kennedy |
| (WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERFUL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THIS COMMUNITY OF FAITH.) | | |
| • Please 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. | | |
| OFFERTORY PRAYER OF DEDICATION | | Dave Kennedy |
| OFFERTORY MUSIC | | Yaroslav Daniels |
| *SUNG PRAISE | <i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i> UMH #94 | |
| COMMUNITY 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.

WAYS TO CONNECT

Rev. Steele

HYMN

Nothing But the Blood UMH #362

Yaroslav Daniels

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

Rev. Steele

BENEDICTION

Christ, We Do All Adore Thee

Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE

Yaroslav Daniels

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

2026
CROP HUNGER WALKS

ENDING HUNGER
ONE STEP AT A TIME

It's that time of year again -- the CROP Walk is coming -- and as usual, Farmington First will host the Walk. The Walk will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2026. There will be two options for the Walk: a one mile course and a 3.5 mile course. Check in and t-shirt distribution will start at 12:30. Team pictures at 1:00. At 1:15 we will enter the Sanctuary for our kick-off meeting and then cross Grand River promptly at 1:30 to begin.

The preferred method of donating is online giving. To donate online click on this link [2026 CROP Hunger Walk - Farmington MI](#)

[FUMC](#) and then click on the "Donation" box. If you do not want to make an online donation, make your checks payable to "CWS/CROP" and drop off in the office for John Sheppard. DO NOT make checks payable to the church. NO CASH will be accepted.

If you want to participate in the Walk, click on this link [2026 CROP Hunger Walk - Farmington MI](#) [FUMC](#) scroll down and click on the "Join The Team" box. It is very important that you register online if you want to participate because that also includes the waiver.

If you have any questions, please contact John Sheppard. See you at the Walk!!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Rainforest Falls:

Exploring the Nature of God

Save the date: August 9-13, 2026

Step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They will discover what it means to be rooted in a relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms.





MEETING ON Monday, April 13th @ 6:30 P.M.



UNITED METHODIST MINISTRIES is our **PAY IT FORWARD** choice for March 2026



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

Maggie Clewley, Pat Dyert, Claudette Howell, 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."



1st Judith Smith
15th Connie Haase
22nd Happy St. Patrick's Day from Patty Tschudi
28th Tanner Tulgetske



Basement Burger Bar

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





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 March 1, 2026

248 474-6573 or 248 474-6595

Monday, March 2nd

6:30 p.m. Outreach Committee

Tuesday, March 3rd

10:00 a.m.

Bible Study

7:00 p.m.

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, March 4th

7:00 p.m.

Growth & Hospitality

7:15 p.m.

Boy Scouts

Thursday, March 5th

5:30 p.m.

Thursday Nights Together

6:00 p.m.

Hand Bell Rehearsal in the bell room

7:00 p.m.

Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 6th

5:00 p.m.

Detroit Baptist Chin

Saturday, March 7th

5:00 p.m.

Game Night

Sunday, March 8th

10:00 a.m.

Worship/SS Coffee Hour follows

11:30 a.m.

Bible Study

12 noon

Classical Indian Dance **GFYG Temple Beth EL 12:15**

5:00 p.m.

Detroit Chin Baptist Church

Church Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday

11:00 am to 3:30 pm

Currently, I work from home on

Mondays and Fridays

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.



ANNA COOK CIRCLE FELLOWSHIP

March 11, 2026 @ 12 noon

BRING YOUR SANDWICH & BEVERAGE

LYDIA CIRCLE FELLOWSHIP Friday, March 20th

Thursday Nights Together

Lenten Bible Study

Dinner 5:30 p.m. Study 6:30 p.m.

February 26th – March 26th



March 8th

CRAFTER'S FELLOWSHIP

3rd Saturday's of the month

March 21, 2026

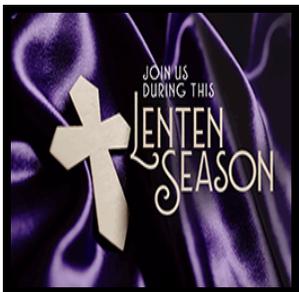
9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Bring a project to work on

and a sandwich and see what

we are creating.

Susan Cook, Coordinator



FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, March 7th

5 p.m. – 8 p.m.



18th Don & Connie Haase

29th Tanner & Susanna Tulgestke

1st Claudette Howell, Linda Peckham

8th Michael Weddell

13th Denise Ruff

14th Ben Niemiec

15th Ella Hanson

16th Scott Riley

20th Don Haase

22nd Jodi Imus, John Welling

24th Sandra Welling

26th Doug Tonkovich

27th Brenna Drake

28th Maggie Clewley

31st Rachel Burrell, Emily Carnell

John Sheppard

24th John & Sandra Welling