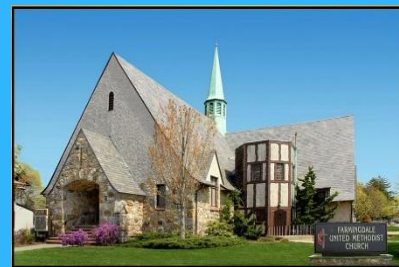




Farmingdale United Methodist Church

407 Main Street, Farmingdale, NY 11735
516-694-3424



www.farmingdaleumc.org

Pastor Claire Wu

THE MESSENGER

March 2025

Volume: 9 Issue: 3

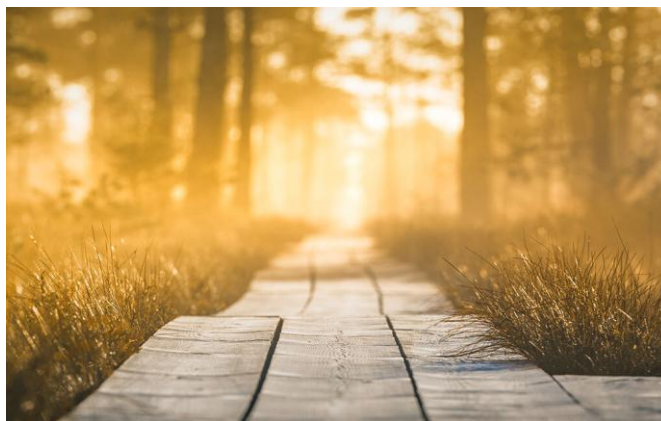
Grace and Peace to you in the name of our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer!

Advent and Christmas are seasons when we focus especially on our Creator. As we celebrate the birth of Christ, we reflect on our beginnings and the life we walk with God toward perfection. Lent is a season dedicated to

remembering our Redeemer; when we contemplate Christ's death, we acknowledge our salvation and the eternal life we receive through Him.

In the dark days of February and March, we can shift our focus to the third person of the Trinity: the Holy Spirit, who sustains us through all challenges.

And we all need a little sustaining about now, don't we? Something to uplift us when the sky is gray, warm us when the weather is cold, and cheer us up when the short days leave us feeling down. We could use some extra energy to recover from the latest flu bug, a bit more love after the Christmas season, and a little more happiness when all the visits, parties, and special events are over.



We often feel that we need something, even if we aren't sure what it is. However, God knows exactly what we need. God anticipated our needs long before we existed. What we truly need is the presence of God – the warm, loving, sustaining presence of God. We need to be embraced by

it, surrounded by it, and immersed in it. This presence can protect us from harm, sustain us through challenges, and give us the strength to face any task ahead.

And God has provided for our needs. He has sent us the Holy Spirit—His presence among us—as a comforter, advocate, and helper. We owe God our gratitude, not only for this life and the one to come but also for the comfort, care, and sustaining presence that support us through all our days. During these bleak winter months, remember the Holy Spirit and feel God's presence with you!

Blessings,

Pastor Claire Wu





Sunday Church Service 9:30AM

Church will be open for in-person worship at 9:30am.

We will continue to hold our worship service on ZOOM as well.

ZOOM <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5166943424?pwd=TWtTVElWUHNXbjVNcnNMaG9wTVJrZz09>

(Meeting ID: 516 694 3424, Password 11735)



Alternate Giving may be done through [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly).

There are three methods of giving - pick what works best for you.



1 - Farmingdale UMC website: From the home page, go to the Donate tab, then Online & General Giving, then click on the "Donate" button. This will direct you to the giving page for our church.

2 - Or use the direct URL link to the giving page for our church. <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1697513>

3 - You can also download the App onto your mobile phone. Download the "[Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) Finance" app with green logo. It will next prompt you to look for our church - enter Farmingdale United Methodist Church. You will be directed to the giving page for our church.

FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mission Statement

Our mission is sharing God's unconditional love by serving our neighbors, connecting with all God's children in Christian fellowship and providing safe spaces for everyone to grow in faith and love.

FUMC Code of Conduct Statement

In alignment with our Mission Statement to provide safe spaces to grow in faith and love, Farmingdale United Methodist Church expects appropriate and respectful behavior at all church meetings and functions. Behavior that is hurtful, divisive and destructive will not be condoned.



Availability of Space and Rooms



Our Fellowship Hall is now available for ongoing programs, meetings, parties, etc., and we have several other rooms that can be used for smaller groups or private worship. If you know anyone who may be interested in utilizing space, please have them call the office at 516 694-3424.



FUMC Events



Congrats to our newest Confirmation students.



May God bless you on your journey.

**Ella A Zandbaf, Ashley Stroud,
Savannah Stroud, Mason Karimi**



Thanks to all who donated to our Souper Bowl collection to support our food ministry.

Once again you predicted the winner - go Eagles!



BISHOP THOMAS J. BICKERTON

It was a full house at Commack UMC for Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton's annual visit to the Long Island East District. A delicious dinner was provided, and Bishop Bickerton, as usual, gave a wonderful talk on how we can build up our churches and better serve our communities. After questioning the attendees, Bishop concluded that the basic five words that describe United Methodism are:

GRACE, HOPE, JOY, JUSTICE, and LOVE!



ASHES TO GO

Pastor Claire Wu of the Farmingdale United Methodist Church will distribute ashes to anyone in the community regardless of faith or denomination in front of the church at 407 Main Street on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 from 11:30AM to 12:00PM. All are welcome.

LENT BEGINS

ASHES TO STAY

Our church service will be at 7:00PM, all are welcome there, too!



Our **2025 Lenten Study** will take place on the six Sundays in Lent, **March 9th through April 13th**, with a program led by Dr. Robert Carle, former theology professor, on church history. Topics will include the development of The New Testament, the Trinity, the Protestant Reformation, and the rise of Methodism.

Meetings will be held after service at **11:00AM** in Fellowship Hall. Please bring your own snack/lunch to enjoy during the program. Drinks will be provided. Any questions, please contact Karen Gierie Newman, newman1309@aol.com.



Notes From the Loft



PSALMS 34:1-4 reads, "I will extol the LORD at all times. His praise will always be on my lips. My soul will boast in the LORD. Let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the LORD with me. Let us exalt His name together. I sought the LORD, and He heard me. He delivered me from all my fears."

In his commentary on the book of PSALMS Mike Raiter wrote:

One of the encouraging features of singing is that it is one of the few things we can all do together as a church. God's Word is proclaimed by the preacher. Normally, someone leads the church in prayer. But singing is one dimension of public worship in which we all participate. In Paul's words, we teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (Colossians 3:16).

Perhaps Psalm 34 is one of those songs we can learn from. In the heading for Psalm 34 we are told that David composed this song after he pretended to be mad, and so escaped from the Philistines (see 1 Samuel 21:10-22:1). While on the run from Saul,

David took refuge in a Philistine city, feigning insanity so they wouldn't kill him. While this clever subterfuge was successful, David recognized that God was his true deliverer.

We too can testify to times when the Lord has come to our help. So, David invites us to sing with him: "Let us exalt his name together" (Psalm 34:3). It's a joyful, confident assertion that "the LORD will rescue his servants" (v. 22). This is the main theme of the song.

Mike Raiter asserts that the psalmist David's main theme in Psalm 34 is "Let us exalt His name together. ... the LORD will rescue His servants." Is this the main theme in the song of your life too? In Christ we can be rescued from sin and delivered from all of our fears. This is what we celebrate every week at FUMC: We have a Savior! And we want everyone to know Him too!

How about coming to church this Sunday and singing about it!? We'll all be there singing with you!



NOTICE FROM THE TRUSTEES

Please, please do not tape anything to any wood surface - door, pew, whatever.
Thank you!

REQUEST RE VISITORS' DESK

Please do not use the desk as a dumping ground. It is difficult to work there when it is covered with papers, discards and all kinds of things. Thank you!

NOTE FROM MEMBERSHIP

We are updating records and need your help. Much of our information is sent via email but we are missing many addresses. If you have not been receiving our Messenger newsletter or regular communication from us, please provide your correct email address. And if you have a new residence address within the past two years, please provide the update. All info should be sent to newman1309@aol.com. Thank you for your cooperation.



Upcoming Events

Zoom Meetings:

Saturdays weekly Men's Bible Study, 8 AM
 Wednesday weekly Bible Class 10:30AM
 Fridays weekly Ladies Small Group 7:30PM

Wednesday 3/5 Ashes to Go, 11:30AM-12:00PM
 Church Service, 7:00PM

Sundays 3/8-4/13 Lenten Program, Fellowship

Regular Meetings:

Sunday 4/13 Easter Cantata, 9:30AM
 Tuesday 4/15 Meditation Service, Risen Rock
 Bansuk Korean UMC, 7:30PM

Thursday 4/17 Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00PM
 Friday 4/18 Good Friday Service, 7:00PM
 Sunday 4/20 Easter Service, 9:30AM

Village Events

Tuesday 3/4 Open Mic & Jam Session, 7:00PM-8:30PM
 Sunday 3/16 St. Patrick's Day Parade, Main Street, 2:00PM
 Saturday 4/12 Easter Bunny & Egg Hunt, Village Green, 11:00AM

Shrove Tuesday - March 4, 2025 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - 5-7PM

UWF PANCAKE SUPPER



Farmingdale UMC, 407 Main Street
 Pancakes, Syrup, Sausage, Coffee/Tea
 Adults - \$6.00 Children under 12 - \$3.00
 Everyone is invited!

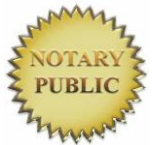
Please see Karen GN, Jackie Suwalski or Evelyn Laky for tickets or RSVP to Karen
 at newman1309@aol.com.
 Thank you for your support!

MARCH SCRIPTURE QUOTE! CAN YOU SOLVE IT?

One letter simply stands for another. This month's quote comes from 1 John 4

Hint: Q=E

XQYQLS, SJQL, GLW SMXL SD BDW, ED SJGS
 ZDMX ECLE FGZ IQ KCYQW DMS...

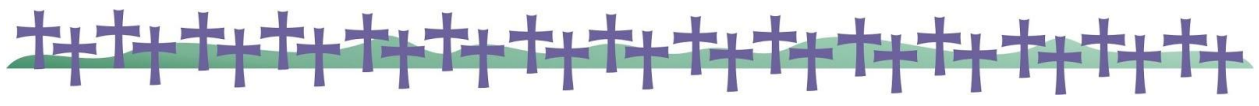


In need of a
 Notary
 Public?
 Contact
 Joan Ganz
 or Karen
 Gierie
 Newman.



Do you know someone in need of some cheer, support,
 or good wishes, please contact Diane Puchta at (934)
 500-9034 (text or call) or dmpuchta@gmail.com.

Please include name, address or email address.



FUMC's Calendar of the Month

MARCH 2025

Worship Service also available on Zoom.
Click the link below:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5166943424?pwd=TWtVEiUWUHNXbjVncnNmMGMG9wTVJrZz09>
Meeting ID: 366 885 6897 password 981708 OR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Farmingdale United Methodist Church (516) 694-3424 Email: office@farmingdaleumc.org Website: www.farmingdaleumc.org				
2 9:30 Worship Service <i>Transfiguration Sunday</i>	3 7 pm Church Council Meeting (<i>Feb Mtg</i>)	4 5 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	5 ASH WEDNESDAY 11:30 am Ashes to Go 7 pm Worship Service	6	7 5:30 A.A. 7:30 Ladies' Covenant Grp.	8 8 am Men's Bible Study
9 9:30 Worship Service <i>1st Sunday in Lent</i> Lenten Study 11 am	10	11 7:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting	12 10:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Food Outreach Ministry/ Cooking Night	13	14 5:30 A.A. 7:30 Ladies' Covenant Grp.	15 8 am Men's Bible Study
16 9:30 Worship Service <i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i> Lenten Study 11 am	17	18	19 10:30 am Bible Study	20	21 5:30 A.A. 7:30 Ladies' Covenant Grp.	22 8 am Men's Bible Study
23 9:30 Worship Service <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i> Lenten Study 11 am	24 7 pm Church Council Meeting	25	26 10:30 am Bible Study	27	28 5:30 A.A. 7:30 Ladies' Covenant Grp.	29 8 am Men's Bible Study
30 9:30 Worship Service <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i> Lenten Study 11 am	31					



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407 Main Street

Farmingdale, NY 11735

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