



BIRMINGHAM FIRST
A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
...gathered here for good!™

VBS MOMENT

Beth Torrey

VBS SONG

God Is
Brian White

Sam Mizell

Can you imagine a love that will never end? God is! Can you imagine a King who calls you a friend? God is! God is the Creator and powerful King. God knows the biggest and smallest of things. He loves you more than the moon and stars. He's everywhere you are. God is!

If you wonder if his arms are really open, if you wonder if there really is a heaven, if you wonder if you can really know him, He gave his Son so you can live. God is the Creator and powerful King. God knows the biggest and smallest of things. He loves you more than the moon and stars. He's everywhere you are. God is! God is! He's the Creator and King. God is!

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Chad Oyer

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Jesus Loves Me
Chancel Choir

John Ferguson

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, he who died the heaven's gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in.

Jesus loves me, he will stay close beside me all the way.
He calls children to his side, saying, "Come with me abide."

***DOXOLOGY #94**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN #405**

Seek Ye First

SCRIPTURE Matthew 10: 24-39

MESSAGE *Unacceptable Excuses* Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr.

***HYMN #144** *This is My Father's World*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Toccata on Amazing Grace* J. Christopher Pardini

**WE WELCOME AND THANK TODAY'S
GUEST ORGANIST, EDWARD POSTON**



*The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Karl and Bill Klipfel by the Klipfel family.*

*The Mission Candle is lit to the glory of God and in loving memory
of Kate Hameister by her children, grandchildren and
great-grandchildren.*



FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Blood Drive – July 7

Join us on Tuesday, July 7, from 12:30–6:30 p.m. and help save lives through the gift of blood donation. Our goal is to collect at least 41 units of blood, with 75 appointment slots available. Every appointment represents a patient who may be facing surgery, cancer treatment, trauma, or a medical emergency. Filling the schedule is critical to maintaining a reliable blood supply for local hospitals, helping prevent delays in care, and ensuring patients in our community receive lifesaving treatment when they need it most. Please consider making an appointment and helping us reach our goal. Sign up at www.gatheredhereforgood.org.

Celebrating Refugees

Ten years ago, Birmingham First welcomed two refugee families from Syria, surrounding them with housing, financial support, healthcare, and friendship. Today, both families are thriving - each member is now a U.S. citizen, the children have graduated and begun successful careers, and one family recently purchased a home. Since then, our congregation has also helped furnish homes for more than 100 Afghan refugees. Today, our partnership continues through the Samaritas New Americans Mission Project, supporting ESL classes, a Refugee Youth Career Fair, and donation drives. To learn more or get involved, email FUMCSamaritas@gmail.com.

Thank You for an Amazing Week of Vacation Bible School!

What an incredible week we shared at Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School! We were blessed to welcome children from Birmingham and Berkley First, along with families from our surrounding communities, for a week filled with faith, fun, music, and friendship. A heartfelt thank you goes to the many volunteers who made it all possible - those who prepared snacks and lunches, led small groups, organized crafts, transformed our spaces with beautiful decorations, and served in countless other ways. Your time, creativity, and love helped create a memorable week where children experienced the love of Christ. Thank you for making VBS such a wonderful success!

You are invited...

... to attend the Bon Voyage Concert of the 2026 England Choir Tour, to be held this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Show your support for our IXOYC Choir as they travel "across the pond" to sing, learn and share their faith.

Celebrating Our Clergy and Their Ministries

As we prepare for upcoming pastoral transitions, we invite you to join us in celebrating and giving thanks for the faithful ministry of Rev. Rachael and Rev. Zack Dunlap. The celebration is today at Berkley First (2820 12 Mile Road, Berkley) from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Art as Liberation, Art as Reflection

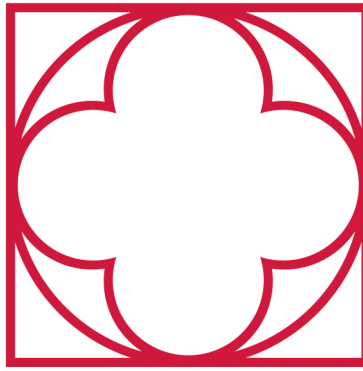
This special exhibit features artwork donated by incarcerated artists in Michigan through the University of Michigan Prison Creative Arts Project (PCAP). Through creativity and artistic expression, these works offer reflection, humanity, and insight into lived experiences often unseen. The exhibit will be on display at Berkley First beginning today and will run through June 24. The exhibit will then be at Birmingham First from June 25-28. We invite the congregation and community to visit and engage with this meaningful collection of art and storytelling.

England Youth Choir Tour

Please keep our England Youth Choir Tour participants in your prayers as they prepare to travel from June 24-July 6. The group includes 36 youth and 6 adult leaders who will represent this church through music, worship, and fellowship. Pray for safe travels, meaningful experiences, growing friendships, and opportunities to share Christ's love throughout their journey.

Visit the Circuit Rider Bookstore Today

Looking for a meaningful Father's Day book to share with a little one? The Lord's Prayer by Tim Ladwig brings the beloved prayer to life through beautiful illustrations and a heartwarming story. Set in a modern city, the book follows a father and his young daughter as they help a neighbor in need, offering a fresh and meaningful perspective on the words of the Lord's Prayer for today's generation. Stop by the Circuit Rider Bookstore after worship to pick up your copy.



Rev. Dr. Charles S. G. Boayue, Jr., Senior Pastor

Rev. Sarah B. Alexander, Associate Pastor

Rev. Rachael M. Dunlap, Associate Pastor

Casey Proch, Executive Director

Worship, Music & Operations

Doris Hall, Organist

Rev. Gary Haller, Bishop Laurie Haller,

Rev. Dr. John E. Harnish, & Rev. Dr. William A. Ritter,

Pastors Emeriti

BULLETIN COVER

This week's bulletin cover celebrates our 2026 Vacation Bible School theme: "Rainforest Falls - Exploring the Nature of God". Throughout the week our children learned a daily lesson: that God is our Creator, that God knows everything, that God is our safe place, that God is love, and that God is forever. Thank you to the staff and volunteers who made this memorable week possible.

"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.
His faithful love endures forever." Psalm 136:1

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For more information about Birmingham First, or to make an online donation, please visit our website at www.gatheredhereforgood.org, or scan the QR code with your cell phone's camera.