

Inclement Weather Policy for Orchard United Methodist Church

It is important to everyone at Orchard United Methodist Church that you exercise care and caution when our area is experiencing inclement weather. We make every effort possible to ensure a clean parking lot and cleared walks, but during a snow storm it may be impossible to keep the walks and lots perpetually clear. If you are worried about the weather, please stay home so you can *stay safe!*

General Policy

If Farmington Public Schools cancel classes, all morning scheduled activities at church are canceled. A determination for evening scheduled activities will be made by 2 p.m. by the office staff. Cancellation notification will be communicated on the church web site, on the church Facebook page, and/or through a Caring Connection email.

Church-wide Communication

- In the event of a closing or delayed opening due to inclement weather or other emergency, an announcement will be placed prominently on the church website and/or distributed through the Caring Connection.
- Office staff will attempt to notify the contact person for affected activities.
- A determination of church program status will be made and communicated as expeditiously as possible. Check the local news station for Farmington Hills school closings and the Orchard website at www.orchardumc.org and/or the Orchard UMC Facebook page. The goal is to make a determination by 8:00 am for morning and daytime operations and activities, and by 2:00 pm for evening activities. Sometimes there are circumstances that make these timelines unrealistic. We appreciate your understanding.

Worship Services, Sunday Programs, and Special Events

- Every effort will be made to conduct Sunday morning worship and Sunday school. Only extremely hazardous weather, impassable travel conditions, severe damage to facilities, and/or a power outage at the church will cause a cancellation.
- If at all possible, weddings, funerals, and major one-time special events will be conducted as scheduled.
- Cancellation of Sunday youth evening programs will be posted on the Orchard Facebook page, or distributed via electronic means to the youth and parents by the youth leaders.

Weekday Office Operations

The church office will remain open whenever possible. The Lead Pastor will determine if the weather conditions are too extreme for the office to open. In the event that the office is closed, an announcement will be available on the Orchard website and/or on the Orchard Facebook page.