STEWARDSHIP FOR 2017

2017 budget	$555,826.15
Received Apr. 2, 2017 Budget	11,148.25
Received to date, Budget	126,045.87
Received Apr. 2, 2017 Bldg.	995.00
Received to date, Bldg. Fund	13,140.00

ATTENDANCE, APR. 2, 2017

Sunday School	132
Early Service	46
10:55 AM Service	162
Total Worship	208

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USHERS: Larry Pitre, Shane Alpe, Gene Childress, Bob Harrell, Greg Sugg, Ralph Weems, III

COFFEE & JUICE: Word of Life Class

SOUND TECH: Bennie Hitt **LAY READERS**: Confirmands

WORSHIP COMMITTEE FOR APRIL Kristy Alpe & Penny Pearson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Vickie Cooper & Stacy Weems (4/9)
Youth/Cody Westcott (4/16)

PRAYER CHAIN: Norma Atkins

Remember in Prayer

In the Hospital

At Home

Mary Lester	John Lester	Sue Rushing
Jennie Cantrell	Tricia Smith	Randy Jones
Bob Wyman	Fred Zepponi	

PASSION/PALM SUNDAY
Sunday, April 9, 2017
8:45 & 10:55 AM
Matthew 21:1-11
Philippians 2:5-11
"A Bumpy Ride"
SPECIAL MUSIC
"O The Deep Love of the Father"
Bell Choir

Dugan	**WP Living Center**	**The Manor at Traceway**
Mary Frances Miller	Barbara LeBlanc	Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

The 10:55 Worship Service is broadcast on WKBB 100.9 FM.

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First United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 293
West Point, MS 39773

Dated Material
A pril 4, 2017
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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Darian Duckworth, Pastor, 494-5133
Rachel Wood, Music Ministries, 494-2198
Cody Westcott, Youth Ministries
Gail Foote, Program Ministries, 494-2198
Julie Gray, Office Manager, 494-1658
Polly Grimes, Organist, 494-2198
Judy Staggers, Pianist, 494-2198
Ron Crawford, Custodian
Hubert Caston, Building Superintendent
April Acker, CDC Director, 494-6811

THE WINDOW

o f

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
W est Point, Mississippi
A pril 4, 2017

Jesus' First and Last Weeks

Next Sunday we will enter into the holiest week of the Christian year as we remember Jesus' last days on earth. When I began thinking about our worship services in the week leading to Resurrection, we were still in the Advent season, awaiting Jesus' birth. I noticed a number of similarities in Jesus' first week and last week on earth:

There were bumpy rides on donkeys- to Bethlehem at Christmas and Jerusalem at Easter.

There was singing- by the angels on Christmas Eve and by the disciples after the Last Supper.

Mary was present-at the birth of her son as well as at his death.

Over Holy Week, we will talk about these mirror images and what they mean for us as a reflection of Christ in today's world. I hope you plan to worship at First UMC for three special services. The first is Palm/Passion Sunday, when we will welcome our confirmation students into full church membership. They will help lead us at the 10:55 service. On Thursday, April 13, we will observe Holy Thursday with a service at 6 p.m. We will share in Holy Communion, strip the altar, and hear the seven last words of Christ. Of course, the grand finale is Easter Sunday, when we will have one worship service at 10:55 AM. I look forward to worshiping with you as we celebrate redemption and resurrection together!

all good things to each of you,
Pastor Darian

Lectionary Readings for Palm/Passion Sunday
Liturgy of the Palms:
Matthew 21:1-11
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Liturgy of the Passion:
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14-27

SYMPATHY... We extend sympathy to Holly Hitt and her family on the death of her sister Mrs. Dorothy Breakstone who passed away on Thursday, March 30. Services were held on Monday, April 3.

Holy Week Services will be held at noon April 10 through April 13 @ The Episcopal Church and on April 14 @ Mt Herman MB Church.

What's Happening at FUMC.....

ANGELS IN APRONS

Apr. 3 - Apr. 16 - Sherry Storey & Dixie Dukeminier
April 17-April 30 - Debbie Hinshaw & Carolyn Burgess

Confirmation Sunday -This Sunday will be an important day at First United Methodist. The church will welcome four new members into our congregation. Josie Facella, Austin Hill, Camille Jester, and Collins Trolio have been meeting every Sunday with Pastor Darian and Cody to study so they can become contributing members of this church. They have been supported in this journey by their mentors Martha Allen, Carson Miller, Robin McCormick, and Kevin Flurry. After the service, these confirmands, their families, and their mentors will be honored at a luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Judy Staggers is in charge of this event, and she will be assisted by the fifth grade parents and Belk and Stacy Weems. We look forward to welcoming these students into our congregation.

APRIL WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER -The Men's class will host a FISH FRY on Wednesday, April 19 from 5:30 to 6:30 for our April Wednesday night supper. Menu will be Catfish, Hushpuppies, French fries, Slaw, Tea and Dessert. Cost is: under age 2 - no charge; ages 3 to 12 - $3.00; ages 13 and up $5.00 (maximum $25 per family). Please sign up on the bulletin tear off or by calling the church office by Monday, April 17 at noon.

Easter Lilies

Easter lilies will adorn our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 16. If you would like to place an Easter lily in honor or memory of someone, please contact the church office or fill out an Easter lily form found at the back of the sanctuary by Monday, April 10. Please contact the florist of your choice. Lilies should be wrapped in green paper with a white bow. They should be delivered to the church by Saturday, April 15 at 10:00 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 15, at 10:00 a.m. at Jimmy and Kay Bryan's home. A sign-up sheet is on the table at the back of the sanctuary to sign up for food and prizes. Shannon Coker is the chairman of this event.

Let's Go to Day Camp! The Camp Lake Stephens Day Camp will be held July 17-21. It is hosted by Camp Lake Stephens, but it is held at the church. On the last day, the students will take a day trip to Camp Lake Stephens in Oxford. Last year the camp was extremely successful, and the children had a wonderful time. Only twenty-five students may attend, so make sure you put this date on your calendar. The camp is for children age 5 through 4th grade, and the cost is $100 per child. Call the church office or contact Gail Foote @ 706-217-5293 to register.

DUGAN MINISTRY - FUMC provides Sunday school for Dugan during the month of April. Thanks to Judy Rice for chairing this ministry.
APRIL 9
Lesson - Judy Shirley
Singing - Linda Drake
Piano - Jane Caston

The Lunch Bunch -Nineteen people traveled to Aberdeen on Monday for lunch at the Cottage Tea Room. After lunch Polly Grimes graciously opened her lovely home for a tour. Everyone enjoyed the delicious meal, the fellowship, and the tour.
The Lunch Bunch will be meeting for lunch on the **first Monday of every month**. Everyone is welcome to join us for this monthly activity, and suggestions for venues are welcome. The next trip will be Monday, May 1st.

What a Success!! The fern sale for the ***Imagine No Malaria Lenten*** project was a success! The Word of Life, Young Adult and Youth Sunday school classes sold 289 ferns and made over $2,700.00. Thank you, classes, for all your hard work. Other fund-raisers will be announced in the future, so watch the newsletter for other ways that you can participate. If you would like to make a contribution, you may do so by designating your donation for Imagine No Malaria.

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MUSIC NOTES

Hello Church Family! What a wonderful service we had this past Sunday. Something Darian said in her sermon really caught my attention and hasn't let go since. It was when she was talking about Jesus weeping. I have never thought much about that verse. But now I can't stop thinking about it. I always think of Jesus as God, and he most definitely is. But Jesus was also human. And in that one verse, "Jesus wept", we experience his humanity on the deepest level. Have you ever thought that when your heart is broken, Jesus weeps over you? I've heard people say that God cries with you, but actually think about that. When your heart is broken, God actually does weep for you. He experiences your pain with you. And he can help you through it, because after all, he did experience the most gruesome death possible. And even though the physical pain of his death was very extreme, I imagine it was the emotional pain that was the worst to experience. Think about it from his point of view. Here are your "children", those who you weep over, mocking you, spitting on you, and causing you the worst physical pain that can be experienced. Without you, these people would not exist. Without you, they could never experience love, joy, or peace. And yet, you still forgive them and ask The Father to forgive them because you know they are not aware of what they are doing. It's heartbreaking when you think about it. And it was heartbreaking for him. He weeps for us. Can you weep for him? This Sunday, the bell choir will play "O the Deep Love of the Father". I invite you to think on these things during the week, and join us on Sunday to praise and worship the One whose heart breaks over us.

Rachel

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Easter is drawing closer each day, and confirmation is just around the corner. This coming Sunday, April 9th, we'll be celebrating the confirmation of four students in the church. Afterwards, the youth group will have our own welcome party. This is an important season for the church. As we celebrate victory over death and new life in the resurrection of Jesus, we will also be celebrating these new members of the church body and the life they have received by their baptism. I hope you'll take time this week to encourage these young students as well as their parents, and then come see them this Sunday!
CREW- This Wednesday, April 5th, we will continue our lesson series on Exodus. This book is absolutely central to understanding the rest of the bible, and is perhaps the most cherished book in scripture for the ancient Hebrew people. We're going to look at Exodus in depth and go on a spiritual journey with the Israelites as they learn to trust God and live as a holy people. We'll start off with a game of samurai warrior, then we'll compete to see who's smartest with some trivia. Afterwards students are invited to continue the conversation over dinner at La Fiesta Brava.
Sunday - On April 9th we will be welcoming several new students into our youth group as they complete the confirmation process. This is a very exciting time in their lives, and we want to give them a proper welcome! So on the afternoon of April 9th we will meet up at the Harrell's property for a huge welcome event: Crud Day! We'll paint up, play some dodgeball, eat some pie with no hands, and get really cruddy to welcome in our new students. Everyone is welcome!
Shout it from the Mountains- We're kicking the summer off with a big spiritual retreat: Shout it from the Mountains! The trip will be June 8th-11th (Thursday-Sunday). We'll stay in Blue Mountain, Georgia, in a cabin in the mountains. There'll be white water rafting, zip-lining, prayer, meditation, worship, and a gospel centered spiritual experience. During the trip students will dive deep into what the Gospel is, what it means, and how we should respond to it. The cost of the trip is $200, including a $50 deposit. The deposit is due on April 23rd, and the total amount is due by May 24th. Contact Cody for more details.

In Christ, Cody

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS
April 5 - April 11

Wed.	1:30 PM	Bridge Group
	5:15 PM	Bell Choir
	5:30 PM	C.R.E.W.
	6:00 PM	Children's Choir
	6:00 PM	SOYA Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Thurs.	5:30 PM	Vintage Trip - SCT
Sun.	8:45 AM	Early Worship
	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	10:55 AM	Worship Service
	12:15 PM	Confirmation Luncheon
	5:30 PM	UMYF
	6:00 PM	Beth Moore BS
Mon.	12:00 Noon	Holy Week Services @ Episcopal Church
	3:00 PM	Methodist Purls
Tues.	9:30 AM	Beth Moore BS
	9:30 AM	Marcella Joiner Circle @ Henry Clay
	9:30 AM	Lochie Millard Circle
	12:00 Noon	Holy Week Services @ Episcopal Church