

STEWARDSHIP FOR 2021

2021 budget \$ 608,213.00
Received January 3, 2021 Budget 2,713.00
Received to date, Budget 2,713.00
Received January 3, 2021 Bldg. 355.00
Received to date, Bldg. Fund 355.00

ATTENDANCE JAN. 3, 2021

Sunday School.....NA
Worship Service.....50 (includes ushers and leaders)
Virtual 11:00 AM Service..217
Total Worship.....267



THE WINDOW

o f
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

W est Point, Mississippi

J anuary 5, 2021

SOUND TECH: Mike Gammill
LAY READER: Elizabeth Bailey

TECH TEAM: Art Shirley & Colby Brister

PRAYER CHAIN: Norma Atkins
Remember in Prayer

In the Hospital

At Home
Martha Bivens Boyce McNeece - Fulton
Sue Rushing Billy Buck Staggers
Laney Wooten Foster Kennedy
Jean Sarsgard Betty Sue Shumpert

**Baptism of the Lord Sunday
Sunday, January 10, 2021
11:00 AM
Psalm 29
"Climbing Trees"**

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



Dugan
Martha Priest
Bitsy Weaver
Geonette Pendley
Jennie Cantrell

The 11:00 AM worship Service is broadcast on WKBB 100.9 FM and can be found on Facebook Live or You Tube.

First United Methodist Church *Dated Material*
P. O. Box 293 *January 5, 2021*
West Point, MS 39773 **ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

U.S. POSTAGE
NON-PROFIT
WEST POINT, MS
PERMIT NO. 7

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Darian Duckworth, 494-5133
Rachel Wood, Music Ministries, 494-2198
Gail Foote, Family Ministries, 494-2198
Kyle Chickvara, Youth & Children's Ministries, 494-2198
Julie Gray, Office Manager, 494-1658
Polly Grimes, Organist, 494-2198
Jace Ferraez, Pianist, 494-2198
Ron Crawford, Custodian
Paul Fowler, Building Superintendent
Georgia Graham, CDC Director, 494-6811

The Season After Epiphany Worship Series:

A New Year of Spiritual Resolutions

A happy new year and blessed Epiphany to each of you. I hope these past couple of weeks have revealed the joy of Christmas to each of you. As I shared on Sunday, we have embarked on a new worship series all about resolutions/goals/intentions/(insert your word of choice) to help us grow closer to Jesus. In this first newsletter of the year, I'm providing you with upcoming Scriptures and sermon titles in the hope you will read those passages ahead of time in preparation for what the Spirit might teach us together. I'm also including a verse of poetry/song from the Bible for you to meditate upon or to sing. I look forward to growing with you as part of the wonderful body of Christ in this season of light!

January 10	"Climbing Trees"	Psalm 29
January 17	"Seeing the World"	John 1:43-51
January 24	"Leaving Our Boats Behind"	Mark 1:14-20
January 31	"Celebrating What God Has Done"	Psalm 111
February 7	"Preaching the Gospel"	1 Corinthians 9:16-18

In honor of the Epiphany this week, let us sit with the prophet Isaiah. Take a moment to pause at the end of each line and re-read the line, letting its truth sink into your soul. Try adding your own melody to it and sing to the Lord, too.

*Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
~ Isa iah 60:5*

all g ood things to each of you,
Dr. Darian

* Our church's COVID-19 task force plans to meet the week of January 11 to reassess guidelines for our gatherings. Please continue to pray for these wonderful leaders as we listen to the Holy Spirit's voice together.*

NEW BABY... We congratulate Hillary and Steven White on the birth of their daughter, Harper Louise White who was born Sunday, January 3, 2021. Welcoming new baby home is big sister, Meri Brett. Proud grandparents are Roxanne & Steve Brown.

SYMPATHY... We extend sympathy to the family of Mrs. Ann Portera who passed away on Wednesday, December 30th. A celebration of life will be held at a later time.

We extend sympathy to Chuck Pearson and his family on the death of his father, Mr. Billy Pearson who passed away on Monday, January 4. Arrangements are incomplete at this time.

What's Happening at FUMC.....

ANGELS IN APRONS

Jan. 4 - Jan. 17 - Debbie Hinshaw & Carolyn Burgess

UPCOMING BIBLE STUDY - The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will begin "Seamless" by Angie Smith on Tuesday, January 19th at 10:00AM in the Wesley Wasson classroom. Cost is \$20 per person. Sign up by January 10th. Masks will be required at the Bible Study.

UPPER ROOM - The Upper Rooms for January/February are in. If you would like us to drop one by your house or mail you one, please call the church office.

FLOWER CALENDAR - We have one open date on the 2021 Flower calendar - October 31. If you would like to place flowers on the Altar on this date in memory or honor of a loved one, please contact the church office to reserve this spot.

ADOPT A FAMILY - What a wonderful Adopt a Family event we had this year! We had great participation, and everyone was so enthusiastic about helping. We wanted to let our members know everything our Adopt-a-Families received this year.

*Presents for all family members, Bucket of cleaning supplies, Personal hygiene items, Bibles, Food which included the following: green beans, cream corn, sweet potatoes, cake mix, corn flakes, rice, rolls, sugar, flour, corn meal, oranges, apples, bananas, coffee, bread, celery, onions, cranberry sauce, peanut butter, candy, eggs, milk, butter, chicken, ham, toilet paper and soap. We could not have done this project without all the people who helped!! Thanks goes to:

- The Shoppers: the Alpes, the Cokers, the DeSantis, the Facellas, the Fretzes, the Jesters, the McNamees, the Tinsleys, the Jason Williamses, Pam Carson, Gail Foote, Diane Haas, Debbie Hinshaw, Janet Jameson and Lynne Posey.
- The Wrappers: Kristy Alpe, Debbie Bond, Joyce Brister, Pam Carson, Shannon Coker, Jean Dill, Diane Haas, Debbie Hinshaw, Wilma Hinshaw, Kiley, McNamee, Ethlyn Mortimer, Gracy Taylor, Laura

Tinsley and Stacy Weems.

- The J.B. Cook Class for purchasing all the toys for the children
- The Seekers Class for providing Bibles
- The Word of Life Class for providing personal hygiene items
- The Good Shepherd class for providing a bucket of cleaning supplies
- Stacy and Belk Weems and Julie Gray for organizing the food items
- Shane, Kip & Price Alpe and his staff for ordering and delivering the food
- The Deliverers: Kip and Price Alpe, Elizabeth and Eugene Bailey, Monte Brasfield, Hubert Caston and Eli and Jason McKellar, Eunice Coleman and Harlow Ellis, the DeSantis family, Gary Echols, the Facella family, the Bryan Harrell family, Jim & LaDonna Helveston, Debbie Hinshaw, Chris Jester, Ethlyn Mortimer, the Marc Stewart family, Laura Williams, Bob Wyman, Stacy Weems, and Michelle Zimmerman and Faith Taunton.

A special thanks goes to Ron Crawford and Julie Gray for helping in numerous ways.

Thanks also goes to those who donated to this special project including the Joe Stephens Class, the Wesley Wasson Class and individual church members. As you can see, it takes a village to provide all the necessary goods and services. Many families were blessed by all of you, and those who helped were blessed by helping. A special thanks goes to Bob and Joni Seitz for chairing this project and to Stacy and Belk Weems for coordinating the food. It was a huge success!!!



MUSIC NOTES

Hello Church Family! I hope that you had a wonderful

Christmas and a spectacular new year! I know that we are all happy to put 2020 behind us. The pain of this pandemic is evident in every face that I see. Many of us are doing our best to count our blessings instead of our hardships, but every day we find it more and more difficult. I feel a bit like the Israelites.

We know God's promise.... God is with us and he will see us through. But we don't quite understand why we still seem to be wandering around aimlessly in the desert so we grumble and complain. The longer this pandemic lasts, the more I realize that I am an Israelite. I'm just tired and I want it all to be over. One of the things I find most interesting is that The Israelites were actually very close to "The Promised Land". They were literally right beside it but just couldn't quite get there. That's the way I am. I know God's promise is right there, I just can't quite see it. So what should we do? I read a beautiful reflection this morning talking about how we must get through this together. The reflection asked me to take a breath while saying "Together" and exhale the breath saying "Not alone". We are in this together and we must depend on each other. We are family.... We are not alone. I will rely on you and you must rely on me.

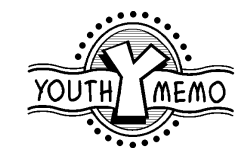
If you would like to sing in our next virtual choir, please email me at rachel@delkwood@gmail.com or call the office. You do not need to be part of our regular choir. In fact, you can live far away and still join us! I will send you all the materials you need. Just ask!

Rachel



Happy New Year! I hope you all had a very blessed holiday season full of new memories and fun times! I know I did! Now that we're back, I'm looking forward to a new year in our children's

ministry! We're working hard to come up with some fun and safe ways for us to continue our fellowship with our kids so be on the lookout in the coming weeks for updates on what that will look like!



Here we are in a new year! I hope you all have had a very happy and healthy holiday season! Now that we are

back, I'm looking forward to another great season of Youth Ministry! Over the next few weeks as we will be shifting back into a routine of community and discipleship so be on the lookout for news and updates! In the meantime, be sure to follow along with our Luke Bible study on our Instagram page. We've been making our way through Luke's Gospel with N.T. Wright's Bible study guide and it's been very insightful! If you would like a physical copy of N.T. Wright's Luke Bible study, let me know and I will be happy to give you one!

In the meantime, I pray for a smooth transition into 2021 for each of you and I look forward to seeing you all soon!

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

We received 61 pledge cards for the operating account for a total of \$278,462.00 or 46% of the Operating Budget and 42 pledge cards for the Building Fund for a total of \$36,370.00 or 55% of the Building Fund budget. We will continue to accept cards throughout January. You may bring your pledge card to church office, mail it to P.O. Box 293, or call Julie at 494-1658 to turn in your pledge. Thank you for your continued support of the FUMC ministries.

PRAYER CONCERNS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Steve Brown | Betty Sue Shumpert |
| Mary Margaret Case | Lila Usry |
| Foster Kennedy | Susie Purnell Randall |
| Emily Braddock Jones | Mamie Seitz |
| Billy Buck Stagers | Lavern Fowler |
| Howard Miskelly | Ann Miskelly |
| Sherry Drago | Peyton Williams |
| Kim Fears | Mike Meeks |
| Ashley Britt | Price Brister |
| Anne Hinshaw Noble | Ginger Martin |
| Ralph Nichols | Donnie Hammack |
| Norma Hubbard | Kim Wofford Pepper |
| Ellis Atkins | Twila Alpe |
| Helen Facella | John Facella |
| Cathy Rogers | Buddy Rushing |
| Hillary White & baby Harper Louise | |

Family of Mrs. Ann Portera
Family of Mr. Billy Pearson