

STEWARDSHIP FOR 2021

2021 budget \$ 608,213.00
Received Sept. 12, 2021 Budget 12,137.00
Received to date, Budget 314,168.37
Received Sept. 12, 2021 Bldg. 2,745.00
Received to date, Bldg. Fund 31,341.65

ATTENDANCE SEPT. 12, 2021

Sunday School.....46
8:45 Worship Service.....28
Worship Service.....72 (includes ushers and leaders)
Virtual 11:00 AM Service..64
Total Worship.....164

SOUND TECH: Ray Purnell

STREAM TEAM: Melanie Sanders

LAY READERS: 8:45 AM 11:00 AM Elizabeth Bailey

PRAYER CHAIN: Norma Atkins

Remember in Prayer

In the Hospital

At Home

Sue Rushing Martha Bivens
Deb McGaughey Betty Sue Shumpert
Jean Sarsgard Robert Darsey
Elaine Jones Stokes Smith
Gail Wolanek Billy Buck Staggers
Boyce McNeece

CODE

DUGAN

Martha Priest
Bitsy Weaver
Geonette Pendley
Jennie Cantrell

The 11:00 AM worship Service is broadcast on WKBB 100.9 FM and on Facebook Live at First UMC of West Point and YouTube.

First United Methodist Church Dated Material
P. O. Box 293 September 14, 2021
West Point, MS 39773

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Darian Duckworth, 494-5133
Rachel Wood, Music Ministries, 494-2198
Stacy Hays, Family Ministries, 494-2198
Judy Sanders, Children’s Ministries, 494-2198
Camden Shock, Interim Youth Director
Kaeley Tackett, Youth Intern
Julie Gray, Office Manager, 494-1658
Polly Grimes, Organist, 494-2198
Jace Ferraez, Pianist, 494-2198
Ron Crawford, Custodian
Paul Fowler, Building Superintendent
Dr. Barbara Ann Foster, CDC Director, 494-6811

**17th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 19, 2021
8:45 & 11:00 AM
Mark 9:30-37
“The Mediator”**

ONLINE GIVING QR



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THE WINDOW

o f
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
West Point, Mississippi

Sep tember 14, 2021

Eyebrow Therapy

This past Sunday, I shared in the sermon about a former parishioner who taught me about carrying the cross. She was quite a character, and I wrote a blog post in April of 2019 about her, shortly after her death. Here is a modified version of that post. If you'd like to read the whole story, visit my website at www.darianduckworth.com/musings

Out of all the things seminary prepared me to do as a minister, eyebrow painting was not one of them. Yet here I was, removing a lightly tanned stick from a white make-up bag and literally painting eyebrows on one of my church members. After breaking her hip and the slow recovery that followed, Mrs. S. had become bedridden. Of the many everyday tasks she had to give up and grieve was applying her own make-up. When I walked in for our regular visit, the last thing I expected to hear was the command, “Get my make-up bag, and draw me some eyebrows!”

Mrs. S. had a way about her that when she spoke a command, everyone obeyed, whether or not we thought it was a good idea. Me as a makeup artist was definitely not a good idea, but I complied. When I held up a mirror for her to see my meager offering, her smile was worth a thousand thank-you. Then she told me to get the lipstick...

Mrs. S. had experienced a lot of loss in her life. She lost her only son to cancer when he was barely out of college, and the loss of her husband had left her a widow for many years. Putting on her makeup daily was a small task that got her up and out of the house, moving forward in the midst of her sadness. As she grieved that little bit of normalcy, I'm thankful that God entrusted me with the honor of restoring her peace in such a simple routine.

We often don't know the suffering someone is carrying, or how heavy the cross they bear might be. Yet sometimes we can serve as a balm of Holy Spirit comfort in simply showing up for each other and providing what is needed. How will you serve in the midst of another's suffering this week?

all good things to each of you,
Dr. Darian

SYMPATHY... We extend sympathy to Martha Bivens on the death of her sister, Mrs. Barbara McLemore who passed away on Saturday, September 4. Services were held on Tuesday, September 7th.

What's Happening at FUMC.....

ANGELS IN APRONS

Sept. 13 - Sept. 20 - Jane Caston & Jason McKellar

CHURCH PICNIC POSTPONED:

The chairpersons for the church picnic have decided to postpone the event until a later date. The Fall Festival will be held Saturday, October 24th at the church. More details on the festival coming soon.

The **Sandy Henley Circle** will meet Thursday, September 16, @ 10AM in Room 206 at the back of the Sanctuary. If any ladies are interested in joining a daytime circle, we would love for you to join.

Update from Covid Task Force - August 19, 2021: The Task Force will meet on September 20 to reassess.

Worship Service: We will continue to offer in-person worship at 8:45 and 11AM and virtual worship at 11AM. We would appreciate it if you would wear a face covering while in the church building and spread out in the sanctuary during both services as an added precaution.

Small Groups and Sunday School: Some of our small groups and Sunday school classes have already decided to meet virtually or to postpone their in-person meetings, and we thank them for making those decisions. We ask that the adult classes and small groups decide among themselves about whether or not to meet. We plan to continue offering Sunday school for youth and children as scheduled. If any of our teachers for youth and children are not comfortable teaching right now, please let us know, as we want to honor your decision and can make other plans in your absence.

Wednesday Night Children's Activities: We have tentatively rescheduled the start of children's choir to September 22 and will assess the covid numbers in our community closer to then.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Dream Center of

the Golden Triangle is now located at the Mission in West Point. This organization builds beds for local children who have been screened by Child Protective Services. On Saturday, October 9, we need volunteers to help build the beds at the Mission. The Dream Center will provide all the needed materials and tools, all we have to do is provide the volunteers. We will also be accepting donations to outfit the beds. A total of \$175 is needed to completely construct and outfit the bed with pillows, sheets, and bedspreads/comforters as well as provide a Bible for each child, a Bible for the family and a hygiene kit for the parents. Once the beds are ready, we will also be seeking volunteers to set up the beds in the homes at a later date. Donations can be sent to the church and earmarked for the Dream Center. We would like to invite our Sunday school classes and other groups to get involved and raise money for a bed or beds. To put this project into perspective, John Almond, executive director of the Dream Center, said there have been 264 beds recently placed in homes just in the Golden Triangle area and many more children awaiting beds. If you would like to volunteer or need more information, contact Stacy at 494-2198 or joeystacy@bellsouth.net

MUMS for MISSIONS: We will be selling MUMS through September 24th to benefit the Dream Center. 8 inch are \$12 and 10 inch are \$20. Colors available are yellow, bronze/orange, red, and lavender. Pickup will be Saturday, October 2, from 9-11am. To place your order, please call the church office or email Stacy at joeystacyhays@bellsouth.net.



MUSIC NOTES

Hello Church Family! Lately, I've really been feeling the need to slow down. You know how life goes... there is so much to do and so little time to do it in. You also know that the hurry doubles when you have children. I've been feeling so stressed out and so hurried that I can't seem to enjoy anything. I realized a few weeks ago that God had a lot of healing to do in my heart. I didn't know how He could heal me because it wasn't a physical ailment I was suffering from. But I knew He was the only one who could. I began to force myself to take time throughout the day. Just ten minutes here or ten minutes there. Sometimes I read scripture.

Sometimes I meditate (I would highly recommend using Lectio Divina which is, according to Wikipedia, "a traditional monastic practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's word. In the view of one commentator, it does not treat scripture as texts to be studied, but as the living word." I found an online guide and just 10 minutes of this practice has changed my day completely!). Sometimes I do Christian Yoga and sometimes I just sit and listen to music. In one such session, I found a song called "No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus" by Moore, Bowie, Ingram and Gretzinger. I fell in love with this song and I plan on singing it to you in worship sometime soon. The lyrics are:

If my heart could tell a story
If my life would sing a song
If I have a testimony
If I have anything at all
No one ever cared for me like Jesus
His faithful hand has held me all this way
And when I'm old and grey
And all my days are numbered on the earth
Let it be known in you alone
My joy was found
Let my children tell their children
Let this be their memory
That all my treasure was in heaven
And you were everything to me
I'm still in love
You're still enough for me
Still all I want

I deeply challenge you to MAKE time this week. Just ten minutes here or there. You don't have to speak.... You don't even have to read.... Just stop and be still. The Lord will speak to you and he WILL heal you. Who do you say Jesus is? This week, Jesus is my healer but even more than that.... He is my friend.

Rachel



With September being the opening of our new church year, I want to wish a very special Happy Birthday to the

following boys and girls:

Price T. Brister
Helen Avery Wood
Madelynn Myers

Little Message to the Younger Children:

How many of you enjoy looking at the stars at night? God made all the stars you can see in the sky. He even made more stars than you and I can see.. God tells the stars to come out every night. Did you know that God has given every star a name? Wow! If God cares that much about the stars, just think HOW MUCH HE CARES ABOUT YOU!!!
Scripture: Isaiah 40:26.

Little Message to the Older Children:

A half-shekel or drachma tax was equal to about two days' wages. This tax was collected each year from every man over 20 years of age. The tax was used for the upkeep of the temple. Since kings did not tax their own sons, technically, Jesus, as God's Son, was exempt from this tax. However, to avoid offense, He gave Peter a way to pay the tax on behalf of Himself and Peter. How did Jesus do this?

Read Matthew 17: 24-27 and learn the story of the fishy money!

Little Message to the Parents:

Today everything we get comes with a manual. Someone once said, " It would be great if children came with a manual on how to parent." They do! The Bible furnishes a complete set of instructions on parenting. God's Word tells us how to teach, train, and discipline our children.

Just like with most manuals, we never read them cover to cover.....so it is with God's Word. In order to know how to deal with children at every age, we must go to the manual! I encourage parents to start with Proverbs 22:6 and Ephesians 6:4. Everything begins at HOME!

God bless you all! Miss Judy



Hello everyone, we will be having in person youth this Wednesday and Sunday at the Harrell's barn. We will have dinner provided starting at 5:30.