

What's Happening at FUMC.....

ANGELS IN APRONS

Aug 14-27 Laura Williams/Kristy Alpe

Aug 28-Sept 10 Jane Meeks/Heather Cunningham

Invitation to Join Revive – Revive is a support group for FUMC members who wish to remain in the United Methodist Church. We are women and men who are diverse in age, experience, and opinion, but most, if not all, of us are traditional Methodists. We meet on Tuesdays from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. in the Good Shepherd classroom. Gloria Bunnell leads us in a Bible study, and we welcome all who feel led to be part of our group. For more information, contact Elizabeth Bailey at 662-295-6219 or any Revive participant.

Church Picnic - Plans are already underway for our annual church picnic, Sunday, September 24th at Waverly Waters Pavilion. Thanks to Dee Echols for chairing again this year. We will need volunteers to help set up and clean up. Contact Stacy or Dee if you can prepare baked beans for the event or provide buns, chips or a dessert. We will also need volunteers to set up and clean up.

College Connection – We want to stay in touch with our college bound students. If you have a child that is headed to college this month, please add them to our College Connection list by contacting Stacy. If you already have a student in college, please let us know if their address or other information has changed.

School Supply Drive – We will have a school supply drive throughout the month of August. A drop off box is located at the back of the sanctuary, or you may leave your items in the cart outside the Fellowship Hall. The school supplies will be placed in the Blessing Box. Items needed are notebook paper, notebooks, pens, number 2 pencils, mechanical pencils, index cards, rulers, crayons, colored pencils, glue sticks, and scissors.

Communion Preparation – We have changed the way we do communion set up and clean up. Worship committee volunteers who help with communion will now be doing communion set up AND clean up for just one service. If you are interested in volunteering for the worship committee, please contact Stacy.

Youth Fishing Trip - Revive is sponsoring a Youth Fishing Trip on Sunday, August 20th at the Dill's pond on Churchill Road from 4-7 p.m. We will meet at the Youth House at 3:30 and take the van. You may bring your own fishing pole if you have one, but there will also be some extras available. Bring your friends and enjoy an afternoon of fishing, fellowship, and a hotdog supper with homemade desserts. Hope to see you there!

MUSIC NOTES

Hello Church Family

It is time to start preparing for Children's Choir! Here at FUMC, we offer 2 choirs. Our first choir is for ages K3-K5 and is directed by Mrs. Jessi Sugg. The second choir is for ages 1st-3rd grade and is directed by me. This semester, our theme is "Real Life" which will focus on Job 12:10, "For the life of every living thing is in His hand, and the breath of every human being". We will learn about how God cares for us, how he fights for us, and how living in his love is what real life is all about! Jessi and I have lots of fun things planned, including a play with music which we will present the night of the Fall Festival. We will also sing in at least 2 church services and prepare Christmas music as well.

Choir will begin on September 6th with a big Kick-Off Event in the Fellowship Hall, complete with music, Bible Verses, and games! Registration will begin at 5:00 and Dinner will be served at 5:30. This event will conclude at 6:30.

Normal Children's Choir Rehearsals will begin at 5:30 with dinner and conclude at 6:30.

We also ask that every parent volunteer to help chaperone and set up dinner.



Youth Supper Hostess (es) @ 5:00

Aug. 16 – Church family supper

Aug. 23 – Stacy Hays and Donna Davis Cook

Aug. 30 – Diane Haas/Vandy Stubbs

Calling
all kids!



We began our "Journey to Mars" in Sunday School this past week. We began talking about when God calls Abram to follow him. God told Abram to leave everything behind and follow him. He didn't say, "Pack your bag with your favorite belongings and your toothbrush," like we do when we leave for a trip. He said, "Leave and follow!" And that's exactly what Abram did... and his life was never the same. God wants all of us to follow him. We just have to be willing to listen and go! He may never lead us to Mars, but like Abram, he will take us on a journey we will never regret!

Jessi



Celebrating Our CDC

The Child Development Center is continuing many programs from the last school year. Chapel, organized by Jessi Sugg, resumes on Monday mornings at 10 a.m. beginning on August 14th. Reading Days and Fun Fridays commence on Friday, August 18th. Pam Carson will be recruiting individuals to read to the classes, and Gail Foote will be searching for volunteers to provide snacks to the staff on Fridays. If you would like to help with these activities, you may contact Pam Carson at 662-456-8627 or Gail Foote at 706-217-5293. The Center appreciates all the support it receives from FUMC members.

**Unless told otherwise, we will leave these names on the prayer list for two months. Please update us on anyone you have added to the list.*<http://www.fumcwestpoint.com>*

LET US PRAY...

For our Members:

Beverly Campbell
Jordan Helveston
Deb McGaughey
Mary Anne Weems
Betty Sue Shumpert
Debbie McComic
Louis Facella

For our Family and Friends:

Mary Margaret Case (Daughter of Kenny Dill)
Susie Purnell Randall (Daughter of George and Luann Purnell)
Mary Clair Ford
Polly Briggs (sister of Alice Hughes)
Tommy Briggs (brother-in-law of Alice Hughes)
Robert Rosenkrans (Ben Rosenkrans' nephew)
Catherine Morehead (Caroline Harrell's daughter)
Don Hoover, Jr. (Beth Raines' nephew)
Greg Jolly – friend of Chuck and Pam Carson
Will Soniat – nephew of Chuck and Pam Carson
Family of Helon Delk – (grandmother of Rachel Wood)
Family of Margaret Cunningham
Joseph Swatley (nephew of Stacy Hays)
Family of Gene Dannan (Cindy Thomas Dannan's father in law)
Karen Cliett
Albert Lee (Wilma Lee's husband)

For our Nation and World:

War in Ukraine, Mass shootings in our country, Turkey and Syria
MS tornado victims and recovery

STEWARDSHIP FOR 2023

2023 budget \$610,027.33
Received 8/13/23 \$6161.00
Received to date, Budget \$ 287,644.10
Received 8/13/23 Bldg. \$140.00
Received to date, Bldg. Fund \$ 26,330.00

ATTENDANCE August 13, 2023

Sunday School.....73
8:45 Worship Service.....N/A
11:00 Worship Service.....141
Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....92
Total Worship.....141

SOUND TECH: Ray Purnell
COFFEE & JUICE: Men’s Bible Class
CDC CHAPEL:
LAY READER: 8:45 AM
CHILDREN’S CHURCH: 8/20/ Allison/Colby Brister 8/27 Anna/Jordan Thompson
ACOLYTES: 8/20

STREAM TEAM: Jason McKellar

11:00 AM Bob Seitz
8/27 Anna/Jordan Thompson

**Remember in Prayer
In the Hospital**

Jean Sarsgard
Montez Ganss
Ann Miller
AT HOME
Robert Darsey
Ann Ross
Max Hinshaw

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, August 20, 2023
11:00 AM
Scripture Lesson: Genesis 45:1-15
Sermon – “Letting Go”
Anthem: “God is so Good” - Sharpe and McDonald
Gary Echols, soloist**

DUGAN
Jennie Cantrell
Deb McGaughy
Mary Anne Weems
WAVERLY CARE
Bobbie Tumlinson

TRACEWAY
Evelyn O’Hara Wallace
Betty Sue Shumpert

**Online
Giving**



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

**First United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 293
West Point, MS 39773
CHURCH STAFF
Rev. Dr. Darian Duckworth, 494-5133
Rachel Wood, Music Ministries, 494-2198
Stacy Hays, Family Ministries, 494-2198
Jessi Sugg, Children’s Ministries 494-2198
Lance Dalton, Youth Intern
Julie Gray, Financial Secretary, 494-1658
Melanie Sanders, Office Manager 494-1658
Polly Grimes, Organist
Ron Crawford, Custodian
Paul Fowler, Building Superintendent**

Dated Material
August 14, 2023
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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THE WINDOW
of
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
West Point, Mississippi

August 14, 2023

From The Archive of Isaac’s Insights

I have found a lot of joy and comfort in the past few weeks in old photos, videos, and musings about Isaac the dog. Here is an abbreviated version of an old favorite, titled “Isaac and the Elephant in the Room,” originally published on October 25, 2018.

Isaac jumped off the sofa and pulled out his toy elephant. He tossed the elephant in the air. He chewed on it. He jerked it around. He licked it. He honked all three of its squeakers. The elephant in the room was no match for the paw-stor. After a while, he tucked it under his head and fell asleep. The elephant that he had “fought” so hard had become his pillow. He rested on what had once rattled him.

We’ve all probably heard the phrase, “the elephant in the room,” to designate something that everybody sees but no one wants to address. We avoid something that we must eventually confront. We don’t deal with the tension and conflict that are as impossible to push away as an elephant.

Isaac gave me fresh perspective on how to deal with the issues we want to avoid. Resist the dread, and pull the elephant out of the its “hiding place.” There may be squeaking and pushes and pulls. There may also be relief we would not have found any other way. So often, once we’ve struggled with our elephants in the room, we are able to rest more easily. We may find more in common with the elephant than we imagined. What bothered us may end up comforting us.

Whether animals are real like Isaac or stuffed like the elephant, creation teaches us to learn the basics. Let’s cease dancing around the troubles we don’t want to address. Instead, let’s grab them by the paws and find the rest that God desires for all his children (and pets).

all good things to each of you,
dr. darian