

What's Happening at FUMC.....

ANGELS IN APRONS

Jul 31-Aug 13 Gen Thomas/Judy Stagers

Aug 14-27 Laura Williams/Kristy Alpe

College Connection – We want to stay in touch with our college bound students. If you have a child that is headed to college next 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 will be 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.

Family Night Supper – Family Night Supper for the month of August will be held Wednesday, August 16th at 5:30. The Joe Stephens Class will host. Chicken, green beans, and salad will be served. You may sign up by calling the church office or on Eventbrite. Deadline to register is Sunday, August 13th. Cost is \$7 for 13 and up; \$4 for ages 3-12 and no charge for 2 and under. Maximum \$30 per family.

Art Exhibit - The West Point Clay County Arts Council invites you to the Opening Art Exhibit featuring Ralph Null on Sunday, August 13 at 2:00PM at the Louise Campbell Center for the Arts.

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.

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 hamburger/hotdog buns, chips or a dessert. We will also need volunteers to set up and clean up.

MUSIC NOTES

Hello Church Family

I would like to thank you all for the many encouraging words, prayers, flowers, food, and thoughts concerning the passing of my grandmother. I am so very grateful for getting to spend 39 years with her. She was an amazing woman who constantly shared with me her immovable and deep, personal faith. Without her, I would not be a great many things. Her passing is very sorrowful for me and my family, but I am convinced that she is with our Lord, probably singing at the top of her lungs and giving “advice” to all the angels! Thank you all from the bottom of my heart. I look forward to worshipping with you soon!

Rachel



Youth Supper Hostess (es) @ 5:00

Aug. 9 – Mary Carr Ecklund/Elizabeth Bailey

Aug. 16 – Church family supper

Aug. 23 – Stacy Hays and Donna Davis Cook

Aug. 30 – Diane Haas/Vandy Stubbs

Youth Fishing – Join us for fun, food and fishing @ the Dill Farm - Sunday, August 20th •4:00 – 7:00pm

Calling
all kids!



3, 2, 1...blastoff! Sunday morning we will begin an exciting new series called “Journey.” We’ll travel through space and time and find out how the Bible hero Abraham’s journey began. Praise and Worship will begin at 9:45am. Please join Rachel and Jessi in the Fellowship Hall!

August 13 is our Back to School Party for all ages! Details will be sent on Remind this week.



Celebrating Our CDC

The Child Development Center is continuing many programs from the last school year. Monday, July 31st, was the first day of the new school year in the West Point School System, and the CDC van began collecting students from the schools for the afterschool program. Chapel, organized by Jessi Sugg, resumes on Monday mornings at 10 a.m. beginning on August 14th. Finally, the 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

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

Thank you for the generous amount
collected for Contact Helpline - \$727.00

STEWARDSHIP FOR 2023

2023 budget	\$610,027.33
Received 8/6/23	\$8,559.00
Received to date, Budget	\$ 281,483.10
Received 8/6/23 Bldg.	\$710.00
Received to date, Bldg. Fund	\$ 26,190.00

ATTENDANCE August 7, 2023

Sunday School.....	76
8:45 Worship Service.....	N/A
11:00 Worship Service.....	149
Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....	42
Total Worship.....	149

SOUND TECH: Mike Gammill
COFFEE & JUICE: Men’s Bible Class
CDC CHAPEL:
LAY READER: 8:45 AM
CHILDREN’S CHURCH: 8/13 Abbey and Andrew Dichiara 8/20/ Allison/Colby Brister
ACOLYTES: 8/13 8/20

STREAM TEAM: Jason McKellar

**Remember in Prayer
In the Hospital**

Jean Sarsgard
Montez Ganss
Ann Miller

AT HOME
Robert Darsey
Ann Ross
Max Hinshaw

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, August 13, 2023
11:00 AM
Guest preacher – Tommy Bryan
Anthem: “I Stand Amazed” arr. Kirkland**

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

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 7, 2023

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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WEST POINT, MS
PERMIT NO 7**



THE WINDOW
of
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
West Point, Mississippi

August 7, 2023

Discernment and Next Steps

Dearly Beloved Friends,

Last Thursday, the Administrative Council met to vote on a recommendation from the discernment committee. The majority of the committee had recommended that the Council ask the district superintendent (DS) to call a church conference, which would be a church-wide vote on disaffiliation from The United Methodist Church. The majority of the Council approved this recommendation, and the DS has been contacted to schedule the vote.

We’ll be sharing more information in the weeks ahead about the date, time, and other logistics of the church conference. In the meantime, I want to encourage you to do three things:

1. Prayerfully revisit our discernment website, and review what the committee assembled. Seek clarity on any questions you may have.
2. Intentionally converse with people you both agree and disagree with. Even though this recommendation to have a church conference was approved by the majority, neither the discernment committee nor the Administrative Council were unanimous in their decisions. I share this detail to remind us that division is present in our congregation, and God desires for us to respond rightly to the reality of division. As the Holy Spirit leads you, reach across the aisle to one another in love. Listen to one another.
3. Most importantly, spend time alone with the Lord. Immerse yourself daily in His Word and prayer. Take deep breaths as you slowly let His Word wash over you. Allow him to transform you from the inside out.

Even though the discernment committee’s work is technically done, the work of discernment never stops for the body of Christ. Let us continue to listen to him together. Above all things, beloved, do not cease to give thanks. Give thanks for what God has done. Give thanks for who he is. Give thanks for how he is at work among us and within us. To him belongs the glory.

all good things to each of you,
dr. darian