

APRIL 8, 2025

The Newsletter of First UMC
West Point, Mississippi

The Window

A Note from the Preacher

*And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?*

*'Tis mystery all! Th'Immortal dies!
Who can explore His strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine!*

*He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace;
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race*

Charles Wesley's words in *And Can It Be?* are some of the most powerful in all of Christian hymnody. And they invite us to gaze upon the incredible gift of love that Jesus offers us at Calvary: his own life.

I can't believe that we're in the final stretch of Lent, where we begin to direct our attention directly at the cross of Jesus. I pray that your God's grace and your Lenten disciplines have been preparing you well to observe the events of holy week.

Whatever your Lenten Discipline has been, and however it has gone, I hope that you'll add one more in these final days of the season:

Read the passion narratives

Start in the garden and go all the way through Jesus' burial.

You'll find those stories in Matthew 26:36-27:66; Mark 14:32-25:47; Luke 22:39-23:56; and John 18:1-19:42.

The four Gospels all emphasize different things about Jesus' life and ministry. But when it comes to the climax of the story, they are all consistent. They give extended attention to Jesus' arrest, crucifixion, and resurrection. It was important to them, and there's nothing more important for us. Reading about his passion invites us to see the lengths to which Jesus goes to save us. It welcomes us into the mystery of the Gospel.

Read them slowly over the next two weeks. Or take a different window for each Gospel account and read it all the way through. And ask yourself, "Amazing love, how can it be, that Thou, my God, would die for me?"

In the glory of the crucified one,
Br. Chad



ANGELS IN APRONS

Apr. 7 - Apr. 20 - Becky Shirley and LaDonna Helveston

Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast - Please join us Sunday, April 13 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a church-wide pancake breakfast. Donations will be accepted with all proceeds going to the Elevator Fund. Thanks to Tommy Bryan for chairing this event

Lunch Bunch - The Lunch Bunch will go to lunch at Market Street Café in Louisville on Friday, April 11. The van will leave the church at 10:30. Call Gail Foote or Donna Cook to sign up.

Elevator Fund - Brother Chad involved the children in explaining about the elevator funding. The new elevator will cost \$82,000, and a sizeable amount has already been donated. He let the children guess that amount and place their answers on the chart during the children's sermon. Then he announced that \$51,000 has been contributed toward this fund. Collier Sugg then placed the elevator door at the \$51,000 mark on the chart.



on Missions



Backpack Snacks

Have you ever thought about steps for preparing backpack snacks? First Stacy has to order the food, and when it arrives, Ron brings the boxes of food upstairs to be unpacked. Then the volunteers open the boxes and organize them on the tables for packing. Finally, the volunteers can begin filling the 200 bags which are placed into tubs, so Stacy can take them to Church Hill Elementary for the students. Organization and teamwork produce a successful mission project each month. We appreciate everyone who takes part in this ministry of our church.

CHURCH CLEANUP DAY

Mark your calendars for our Church Cleanup Day on Saturday, April 26th, from 8-12. Please call the church office if you plan to help.

Helen Facella has already been working to improve our church. She cleaned out and organized the shelves in the church library. They look so much better!! She has also been helping Anna Dill organize areas of the CDC.

Vic Johnson and Bob Wyman went above and beyond the call of duty to clean cobwebs off the sanctuary ceiling.

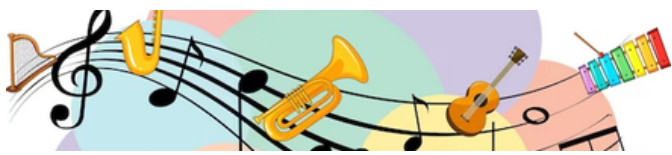


Upcoming Events

Pick up after the Easter Service

APRIL 13	Pancake Breakfast 9 a.m. Palm Sunday Service 11 a.m.
APRIL 17	Maundy Thursday Service 6 p.m.
APRIL 18	Good Friday Service 12 noon
APRIL 20	Easter Service 11 a.m. Pick up hydrangeas.

Please join us on Sunday mornings
Sunday School at 9:45 and Worship Service at 11



MUSIC NOTES

Easter is approaching and the Chancel Choir is hard at work preparing to praise the Name of The Lord! What are some of your favorite Easter Hymns to sing? I have always enjoyed “Christ the Lord is Risen Today.” I love to hear the sanctuary filled with our congregation’s Alleluias! I know that God enjoys it as well. When Easter arrives, don’t let anything hold you back! Sing your praises loud and fill our sanctuary with our Redeemer’s praise!

-Rachel



“Victory” on Sunday

The choir did a great job on Sunday as they sang “Victory.” Rachel had encouraged them to sing from the heart, and that’s what they tried to do. Hopefully, the congregation received a blessing from this anthem.

YOUTH NEWS



The youth enjoyed playing pickleball after they studied John 8:12, “I Am the Light of the World.” They have been studying all of the “I am” statements in the Bible.

YOUTH SUPPER HOSTS

Apr. 9 - Cinzia Duncan

Apr. 16 - Gloria Bunnell and Amy Lee

Apr. 23 - Elizabeth Bailey

Apr. 30 - Kathy Wood

LIGHTHOUSE KIDS



On Wednesday night the Lighthouse Kids learned about Peter’s confession that Jesus is the son of God. Then they went outside and enjoyed the beautiful weather on the playground.

Children’s Sunday School Teachers

Apr. 13 - Linda Drake

Apr. 20 - Cheryl Bowen

Apr. 27 - Jessi Sugg



Fern Distribution

Fern distribution went smoothly on Saturday. We want to thank Shannon and Hayden Wallace; Jason and Eli McKellar and Stacy Hays for their help. We especially want to thank Julie Gray who was in charge of this project. A total of \$1,320 was made and it go toward Missions.

CHURCH MEETINGS

Meetings will be held in the church library.

04/28/25 5:30 pm CDC Board Meeting

04/30/25 10:00am VBS Planning Meeting



First United Methodist Church

WEST POINT CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Chad Bowen, Pastor, 494-5133
 Rachel Wood, Music Ministries, 494-2198
 Stacy Hays, Family Ministries, 494-2198
 Ella Willow, Youth Intern
 West Loden, Youth Intern
 Julie Gray, Financial Secretary, 494-1658
 Gail Foote, Office Manager, 494-1658
 Kindal Gammill, Pianist
 Ron Crawford, Custodian
 Kenya Lee, CDC Director, 494-6811

FINANCIAL INFORMATION as of 03/31/2025

Total revenue received in Mar. \$34,901.46
 Total expenses in Mar. (\$43,125.91)
 Year to date revenue \$95,615.66
 Year to date expenses (\$112,740.60)

More detailed financial information is available here:
<https://fumcwestpoint.com/monthly-financial-summary/>

In the Hospital

Our Members

Elizabeth Bailey
 Beverly Campbell
 Louise Campbell
 Donna Cook
 Anna Dill
 Montez Ganss
 Fox & Evelyn Haas
 Jordan Helveston
 Austin Hill
 Emerson Houston
 Victoria Johnston
 Carolyn Lott
 Phil McClellan
 Charlotte Messier
 Jerry Mize
 Johnnie Newell
 Kay Powell
 Mike Reid
 Ben Rosenkrans
 Abby Scott
 Gracy Taylor
 Jimmy Wood
 Kathy Wood

Dugan

Deb McGaughey

Our Family and Friends:

Jenn Barnhill
 Annie Barnes
 Ted Berry
 Joe Brownlee
 Edith Carlisle
 Mary Margaret Case
 Caryl Currier (Gloria Bunnell's sister)
 Robert Darsey
 Marcus Davidson
 Ellie Delk (Rachel Wood's niece)
 Martin Edmondson (Tammy Walters' father)
 Sandra Harpole
 Campbell Helveston
 Rusty Iles
 Marty Ivy
 Mark Landin (Becky Landin's brother)
 Lynette Loud
 Linda Mize
 Carole Higgins Morton
 Susie Purnell Randall

ATTENDANCE April 6, 2025

Sunday School.....51
 Worship Service.....87
 Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....21
 Total Worship.....108

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Traceway

Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

Trinity

Jean Sarsgard

Robbie Robinson
 Ben Smith
 Evelyn Smith (Amy Buckley's mother)
 Moses Vernon (Amy Buckley's uncle)
 Tammy Walters
 Larry West (West Loden's grandfather)
 Wes Williamson
 Donald Wilson (Terri Myers' father)

Family of Bob Lee
 Family of Shirley Coleman Stewart (Nita Wyman's
 Cousin)



Sixth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, April 13, 2025

11:00 AM

The Gospel Lesson

John 17:1-27

SERMON

Rev. Chad Bowen

"Sanctified in the Truth, United in the Father"

Anthem

"He Leads Medley" - arr. Mauldin

SOUND TECH: Mike Gammill

LAY READER: Linda Drake

STREAM TEAM: Andy Gray

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.