

APRIL 22, 2025

The Newsletter of First UMC
West Point, Mississippi

The Window

A Note from the Preacher

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished.

*If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. **But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead**, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. **The last enemy to be destroyed is death.***

The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

This passage from 1 Corinthians 15 is one of the clearest in all of scripture about the meaning of Easter.

In rising from the dead, Jesus hasn't just conquered death for himself. He hasn't just proven that he's exactly who his disciples hoped he would be, the Messiah, the Son of the Living God. He's made a way, through his own faithfulness, to give us hope stronger than death.

And the day is coming that Jesus will cast out every competing power and authority in this world such that God's kingdom has come in its fullness and God's will is done on earth as it is in heaven.

I can't imagine better news for a world that seems to be constantly mired in fear and longing for a peace that we have no idea how to achieve.

Christ has been raised from the dead. Mary saw the Lord. And the other disciples, too.

If God has done that (and he has) is there anything God can't do?

In sure and certain hope,
Br. Chad



ANGELS IN APRONS

Apr. 21 - May 4 - Elizabeth Bailey and Dee Berry

\$82,000

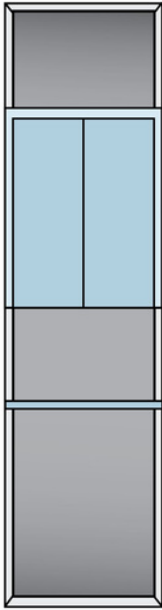
\$69,226

Be lifted up,
O ancient
doors, That
the King of
glory may
come in!

Elevator
Replacement
Fund



First United Methodist Church



ELEVATOR FUND

We have received a total of \$69,226 for the Elevator Fund which leaves us with a balance of \$12,774. Your donations make a big difference as we aim to meet our goal.

EASTER

What a joyful Easter service we had!! Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this service. The altar was refurbished with the items that had been removed on Maundy Thursday in preparation for Good Friday. The choir sang several special selections and ended the service with the "Hallelujah Chorus." Brother Chad preached a wonderful sermon, and we celebrated Holy Communion. Many positive comments have been received from the 152 people who attended. Hallelujah! He is risen!



on Missions

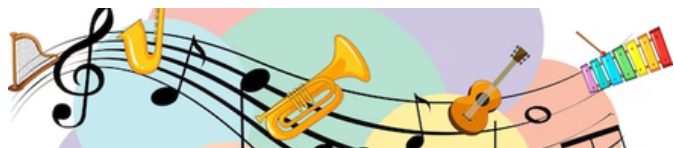
Communion Offerings during Holy Week

Almost one in five people in Mississippi doesn't have enough to eat. Food banks are struggling to meet the demand as federal programs are cut. Our Communion offerings from Maundy Thursday and Easter will go to our Project Homestead Food Pantry in Clay County which does an excellent job meeting the needs of our community. **A total of \$701.00 was collected.**

MAUNDY THURSDAY



We had an especially meaningful Maundy Thursday Service. The choir sang one of their favorite anthems, "In the Shadow of the Cross." Those who felt comfortable participated in foot washing representative of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples as a symbol of love and humility. The congregation also celebrated Holy Communion. Finally, the altar was stripped for Good Friday before everyone left the service in silence.



MUSIC NOTES

I am so proud of our choir and how they fill the sanctuary with God's praise every Sunday. Easter was no different as the choir sang the good news of Jesus's Resurrection from their hearts. Thank you, Chancel Choir, for your dedication, sacrifice, and servant's heart! I am proud to know you and call you family! - Rachel



ADULT NEWS

JOIN THE
WOMEN'S CLASS
FOR OUR NEXT STUDY

ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER

a 12 week study exploring what Scripture has to say about the value God places on your life and how He notices all that you are doing.

Good Shepherd classroom #107 | Every Sunday at 9:45AM

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

GAME NIGHT

Please join us for our second Holy Rollers Game Night on Wednesday, May 14, at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will have hot dogs, so please contact Stacy if you can provide a pan of beans, some chips or a dessert. You may also sign up on the list at the back of the sanctuary. Even if you don't want to play, come and enjoy the food and fellowship. We hope to see you there!

LIGHTHOUSE KIDS

Children's Sunday School Teachers

Apr. 27 - Jessi Sugg



The children had an Easter egg hunt after their Sunday school lesson on Sunday. Thank you, Cheryl Bowen for teaching and arranging this fun activity.

YOUTH NEWS

Senior Sunday

Save the Date!

Sunday, May 4

Senior recognition during the 11 a.m. service followed by a church-wide luncheon honoring our high school seniors in the Fellowship Hall

We will hold a church-wide luncheon Sunday, May 4, after the worship service to honor our high school seniors: Louis Facella, Kayleigh McNamee, Locke Myers, Kathryn Williams and Hazard Zepponi. Please contact Stacy if you can help serve/cleanup .

YOUTH SUPPER HOSTS

Apr. 23 - Elizabeth Bailey

Apr. 30 - Kathy Wood

May 7 - Mary Carr Ecklund and Betsy McGlohn



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/>

ATTENDANCE April 20, 2025

Sunday School.....59
 Worship Service.....152
 Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....15
 Total Worship.....167

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

In the Hospital

Evelyn O'Hara Wallace - NMMC WP

Dugan

Deb McGaughey

Trinity

Jean Sarsgard

Our Members

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

Our Family and Friends:

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
 Mark Landin (Becky Landin's brother)
 Lynette Loud
 Linda Mize
 Carole Higgins Morton
 Susie Purnell Randall

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 Jimmy Harrison



Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 27, 2025

11:00 AM

The Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-22

SERMON

Rev. Chad Bowen
 "Receiving the Spirit"

Special Music

"Who Am I?" - Goodman
 Gary Echols, soloist

SOUND TECH: Mike Gammill

LAY READER: Elizabeth Bailey

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.