



JULY 15, 2025

**The Newsletter of First UMC  
West Point, Mississippi**

# *The* **Window**

## **A Note from the Preacher**

Greetings from Lake Junaluska, North Carolina!

If we're not already home by the time you're reading this, we'll probably be somewhere on I-20 making our way back to higher temperatures and more comfortable sleeping arrangements.

As I write to you on Monday morning, we're about halfway through our time at M28, a camp that is focused on helping youth live lives as disciples of Jesus. The mornings until lunch and evenings after supper are dedicated to worship, workshops, and small group conversations, all oriented around the theme of "Surrender Everything."

The afternoons are a wide block of free time. Yesterday afternoon included some spirited basketball, tennis, pickleball, and some time in between to cool off in the pool. This afternoon, the boys are convinced it is our destiny to win the camp volleyball tournament. Be sure to ask them how it went when we get back.

In addition to giving you a brief update about what we've been up to, I'd like to share just a few things that have been a blessing to me while we've been here:

- (1) Studies show that this generation of young people is more open to responding to and sharing the Gospel than any generation we've seen in a long time.
- (2) This generation is hungry for and open to inter-generational relationships. They don't necessarily want to be preached at, but they do want to have conversations with people older than them about their lives, and faith, and scripture, and the world. They want you to ask them questions and they want to ask you questions.
- (3) The young men on this trip are funny, energetic, respectful, and eager to grow in their own faith. That's not only a testimony to God's grace at work directly in their hearts and minds, but in the faithfulness of their parents and of our congregation.

It is my prayer that we will not only continue to do the things we are already doing to help our young people mature in faith, but that God would speak clearly to some of you and call you into rich relationships with our young people.

What a gift it is to watch the faith that was passed down to us take root and bear fruit in a new generation!

In Christ,  
Br. Chad



# ANGELS IN APRONS

July 14 - July 27 - Dee Echols and Donna Cook

## CHURCH NEWS

**Annual Rummage Sale** - We are now accepting donations for our annual rummage sale which is scheduled for Saturday, August 2, in the Fellowship Hall. If you have items you would like to donate, please call the church office to arrange a time for drop off. Please do not bring clothing or shoes.

**Weekly Communion** - Brother Chad and our youth intern Jon will be holding Holy Communion each Wednesday at 12 noon in the sanctuary. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Unclaimed Dishes** - There are many dishes in the church kitchen that have not been collected after events. The dishes will be on display in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, and Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. Please stop by and see if any of them are yours.

### Mark your calendar for upcoming meetings

07/17/25	10:00am	Worship Committee	Library
07/20/25	12:15pm	Leadership Council	Library
07/21/25	5:00pm	CDC Board	Library

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING  
DONATIONS  
FOR THE TEXAS FLOOD VICTIMS.



PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO FUMC  
AND WRITE "TEXAS FLOOD" ON  
THE MEMO LINE. DEADLINE TO GIVE IS  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 15TH

**"CARRY EACH OTHER'S BURDENS, AND  
IN THIS WAY, YOU WILL FULFILL THE  
LAW OF CHRIST." - GALATIANS 6:2**



## PLANTING SEEDS OF HOPE



Our church was recognized by the Christian Men's and Women's Job Corps on Sunday for "planting seeds of hope" in the Golden Triangle Community. FUMC provides meals as needed for participants in the program. Linda Todd, job site coordinator, presented a plaque of appreciation on behalf of the organization to Tommy Bryan.

## SPECIAL GIFTS



Susan Donahoo Hallmark grew up and was married in this church. Last Saturday her daughter's wedding was held here. Susan wanted the wedding flowers to be used in honor of the church and all the wonderful memories it has provided for her family. The flowers were arranged and given to shut-ins, church members, and CDC staff members. We would like to thank Dee Echols, Amy Buckley and Gail Foote for fulfilling her wish.



# CHILDREN & YOUTH

## MUSIC NOTES

Prayer isn't always spoken. Sometimes, it's sung. A simple melody, a heartfelt hymn, or a quiet instrumental piece can lift our spirits and carry our prayers straight to the heart of God. Music allows us to express what words alone cannot. Whether it's a joyful anthem or a gentle chorus, our Chancel Choir and musicians help lead us into moments where music becomes a sacred conversation. As Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:17, "Pray without ceasing"—and when we can't find the words, let the music pray for us.



### "Peace Like a River"

On Sunday Rachel talked to the children about the definition of peace. She explained that they could find peace through God. Then they all did a great job of singing "Peace Like a River."

## FUN TIMES IN THE CDC



### Trip to the Movies

The school age children traveled to Starkville to see the movie *Panda 4*.



### Lake Junaluska, here we come!

The youth left Saturday morning to go for a camp with M28 Ministries based out of Oxford, MS. Five youth and Jon Burris, our summer youth minister, and Brother Chad are attending. The keynote speaker will be the gifted preacher Lo Alaman.

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

**July 20** - Becky Shirley

**July 27** - Helen Facella

### YOUTH SUPPER HOSTS

**July 16** - Cinzia Duncan

**July 23** - Linda Drake

**July 30** - Amy Buckley



**WEDNESDAY, JULY 16**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 23**

**5:30pm**

**First UMC  
612 E. Broad, West Point**

We're convinced having fun, sharing meals, singing, and talking about things that matter are some of the most transformative things adults can do with kids.

Bring your kids (or grandkids) to FUMC on Wednesday nights in July (9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>) as we enjoy one another and share in God's joy and grace.



# 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  
Jon Burris, Summer 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 6/30/2025

Total revenue received in June	\$46,442.25
Total expenses in June	(\$36,466.43)
Year to date revenue	\$196,757.02
Year to date expenses	(\$226,557.82)

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

## ATTENDANCE July 13, 2025

Sunday School.....	58
Worship Service.....	81
Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....	16
Total Worship.....	97

## ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



## 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 20, 2025

11:00 AM

## The Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

## SERMON

"Worship: The Proclamation of the Word"

## Anthem

"Trusting God Medley"  
arr. Mauldin

**SOUND TECH:** Ray Purnell

**LAY READER:** Julie Gray

**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.

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### Our Members

Elizabeth Bailey  
Beverly Campbell  
R. B. Davis  
Montez Ganss  
Fox & Evelyn Haas  
Caroline Harrell  
Jordan Helveston  
Austin Hill  
Emerson Houston  
Susan Johnson  
Victoria Johnston  
Charlotte Messier  
Jerry Mize  
Johnnie Newell  
Mike Reid  
Ben Rosenkrans  
Gracy Taylor  
Gail Wolanek  
Jimmy Wood  
Kathy Wood

### Dugan

Deb McGaughey

### Our Family and Friends:

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)  
Rebecca Duncan (Elizabeth Bailey's neighbor)  
Martin Edmondson (Tammy Walters' father)  
Sandra Harpole  
Rusty Iles  
Mike Kellar (Gay Duke's brother-in-law)  
Curtis Lewellen (Lona Rosetti's father)  
Lynette Loud (Rachel Wood's mother)  
Lynda Mize  
Carole Higgins Morton  
Susie Purnell Randall

### Traceway

Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

Robbie Robinson  
Ben Smith  
Evelyn Smith (Amy Buckley's mother)  
Moses Vernon (Amy Buckley's uncle)  
Wes Williamson  
Bob Wilson (Joni Seitz's father)  
Donald Wilson (Terri Myers' father)

Family of Jean Sarsgard