



AUGUST 26, 2025

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

The **Window**

A Note from the Pastor

There was a buzz of excitement this week before worship as folks thought about what questions they might want to ask. One person said, "I've got to take this home and think about it. I think we should call it 'Stump the Preacher!'" I pray that that energy is contagious.

As we finish the sermon series on worship this week and turn our attention to a new series next week, I am praying for our church and our work of discipleship together. Will you pray the following things with me over our work together this fall?

- That we will recognize that all of our lives, and therefore how we answer all of our questions, are shaped by the truth, beauty, and goodness of the Gospel. There is nothing in this world that is not impacted by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- That connecting our Sunday morning sermons to our Wednesday night conversations will provide a good starting point for fruitful conversation and mutual growth
- That folks who've not always been involved in Wednesday nights might jump in and grow with us
- That if folks find something edifying, interesting, challenging, or true about our conversations, they'll share it
- That our conversations will provide organic ways for you (yes, YOU, reader!) to spark curiosity in your friends about how our faith impacts our lives and open the door for you to invite them to enjoy what God is doing at FUMC.

In short, I pray that giving attention to your questions will give you a chance to deepen your faith and to share it with others. Evangelism isn't always knocking on doors or passing out tracts. It is always inviting people into the good and interesting things that God is up to in our world.

Hoping in the one who is reconciling all things to himself,

– Br. Chad

ANGELS IN APRONS

Aug. 25 - Sept. 7 - Dee Berry and Elizabeth Bailey

Sept. 8 - Sept. 21 - Becky Shirley and LaDonna Helveston

Labor Day - The church office and the CDC will be closed on **Monday, September 1st for Labor Day.**

Newsletter - There will be **NO** newsletter next week.

Glad You Asked! (Sermons) - On September 7th, Bro. Chad is going to begin a sermon series on questions you have about the Bible and our Christian faith. You can [click here to use our online form](#). There are also some forms on the back table in the sanctuary.

Glad You Asked! (Study) - Sometimes a sermon isn't enough! As we consider questions on Sunday mornings, you might find yourself wanting to agree, argue, analyze, affirm, or ask about the sermon. There may also be some questions that we can't get to on Sunday mornings that we can consider together on Wednesday nights. We'll start next Wednesday at 5:30. Don't miss it!

School Supply Drive - We are holding our annual school supply drive. We have a box at the back of the sanctuary for you to place your donations, or you may order directly from Amazon and have the items sent directly to the church. The school supplies will be placed in our Blessing Box.

Retirement Celebration - On September 26, we'll celebrate Karen Cliett's (more than three decades!) faithful service in the CDC and wish her well as she enters retirement.

Child Development Center Chapel - The CDC Chapel has resumed. Please call the church office or Anna Dill if you are willing to help with this important ministry.

CDC Fundraiser - The CDC is selling t-shirts as a fund-raiser. Adult shirts are \$20.00 and children's shirts are \$15.00. Orders may be placed by calling the church office or by signing the order sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary. **The deadline is this Sunday, August 31st.**

Elevator - The elevator installation began on Aug. 13 and was completed last week. We are just waiting for it to be inspected by a qualified inspector. We will let you know as soon as it can be safely used. We can be thankful that we will then have a new and improved elevator that will hopefully serve us another forty years.

Mark your calendar for upcoming meetings

09/11/25 12:15pm Congregational Care Library

09/29/25 5:00pm CDC Board Meeting Library



Loaves and Fishes

Donna Cook, Dee Berry, Gale Griggs and Robin McCormick provided the August meal for Loaves and Fishes. The recipients were treated to ham, hash brown casserole, butter beans, butter muffins and cheesecake. We want to thank these ladies and the six deliverers: Jane Caston, Beth Raines, Elizabeth Bailey, Charlotte Messier, Tommy Bryan, and Gary Echols.



"Rain or Shine" Raines Is an Appreciated and Dependable Volunteer

Every week Beth Raines comes and volunteers in the church office. She is the person who gets the newsletter envelopes ready to mail. She also folds and stuffs the bulletins with the scripture for the week. Everything she does benefits the entire church. Please express your appreciation when you see her. The staff so appreciates the many volunteers that help make our church successful.



Our congregation is AMAZING! On Sunday, I asked for donations for a meal we are providing for the WPHS football team on Wednesday, Sept 24th. And let me tell you - ya'll really stepped up! We have all of the food, except the hotdogs and condiments, donated. If you would like to make a monetary contribution toward the cost of this meal, please let me know. We will be preparing 160 meals. We could also use a few more people to help us prepare and deliver the meal. I appreciate each of you! - Stacy

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Aug. 31 - Caroline and Bill Atkins

YOUTH SUPPER HOSTS

Aug. 27 - Stacy Hays and Dee Berry

Sept. 3 - Betsy McGlohn and Mary Carr Ecklund

Sept. 10 - Cinzia Duncan and Jane Caston

Sept. 17 - Anna Dill and Donna Davis

Sept. 24 - Barbara Iles and Elizabeth Bailey



Congratulations!

Tyler Johnson and Caston McKellar participated with other West Point swimmers in a swim meet in Oxford where they qualified for the state meet. Caston got second overall in the 50 yard freestyle and swam his best time of 23. Tyler also swam his best time of 30. Caston qualified in three events and Tyler qualified in two. The West Point High School Boys' Swim Team placed 6th overall out of ten teams. This season has been their best yet! They are coached by Helen Facella. Congratulations to Tyler, Caston, Helen and the swim team!

HOLY ROLLERS GAME NIGHT



**FOOD
FELLOWSHIP
FUN**

Wed
Aug 27
5:30 p.m.

Fellowship
Hall

BBQ.
Beans,
Dessert

Bring the family
and enjoy
playing
or just
watching the
competition!

Feel free to bring you
own games!

**The Lighthouse Kids and the youth
will participate in Game Night this
Wednesday. EVERYONE, please join
us for this night of fun!**



Welcome Back!!!

We are so glad to have Ella Willow and Conner Stingley back at FUMC. Ella is our youth intern, and Conner is back as a tenor in the choir. Ella worked at St. Jude's over the summer. Both of them will be seniors at Mississippi State this year. We are so fortunate to have both of them, and we look forward to working with them this school year.



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
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 7/31/2025

Total revenue received in July	\$39,298.49
Total expenses in July	(\$38,480.61)
Year to date revenue	\$236,055.51
Year to date expenses	(\$265,038.43)

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

ATTENDANCE August 24, 2025

Sunday School.....	53
Worship Service.....	84
Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....	13
Total Worship.....	97

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



In the Hospital

Fox Haas - NMMC (WP)
Billy Buck Staggers - Baptist (Columbus)

Our Members

Elizabeth Bailey
Beverly Campbell
Montez Ganss
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

Our Family and Friends:

Ted Berry
Wayne Brand
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)
Steve Mitchell (Charlotte Portera's son-in-law)
Lynda Mize
Carole Higgins Morton

Dugan

Deb McGaughey

Traceway

Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 31, 2025

11:00 AM

The Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 58:9b-14 and Luke 13:10-17

SERMON

"Worship: Empty Religion or Life-Giving Ritual"

SOUND TECH: Mike Gammill

LAY READER: George Purnell

STREAM TEAM: Art Shirley

**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

Susie Purnell Randall
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 Cy Phyfer