



SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

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

The Window

A Note from the Pastor

As I work to answer your questions, I have a question for you: Are you investing in your own spiritual growth?

Over the last few weeks, I've talked some about the judgment of the Lord. Specifically, I've tried to make the case that (1) fearing the Lord rightly can help us live well in light of the Gospel and (2) God's judgment, even when it comes to eternal matters, is trustworthy.

So, what do you think God thinks about your life? About how you use your gifts? About how you steward your time and energy?

I hope you'll sit with that question in prayer with the Lord this week and see what the Spirit has to say to you. It might be a word of conviction: *you've been too lax*. It might be a word of peace and affirmation: *keep up the good work and don't be so hard on yourself*. It might be a word of encouragement: *you're doing well, but you can do better; keep going*.

Whatever it is, I hope you'll respond to God's prompting.

If you're feeling like God is calling you to invest a bit more, small steps can lead to tremendous growth, and I have a concrete challenge for you: **Be intentional in engaging with the questions we're thinking about as a church.** Putting in your own work on these questions will likely prove to be more transformative than simply listening to Sunday's sermon.

Before worship on Sunday morning, ponder the question: What's your short answers? Why would someone ask the question? What's at stake if we get it wrong? What's the payoff if we get it right? What Biblical passages might be relevant? Should the question be asked differently? What experiences might shape how people think about the question? What must/must not be said when answering this question?

After the sermon, do you feel confirmed? Disappointed? Challenged? More informed? Surprised? What will be your primary takeaway(s)? What questions still linger? What's one thing you might talk with about with someone else?

In case it's helpful (and so you know I really hope you'll do it!) we've put together some notebooks that you can use to jot down your thoughts about these things and reference them as we learn together and maybe even reference down the road. They're available in the back of the sanctuary. Each week, we'll have the next week's question printed on a label so that you can add it to your notebook and start your work.

Growing with you,
Br. Chad

ANGELS IN APRONS

Sept. 8 - Sept. 21 - Becky Shirley and LaDonna Helveston
Sept. 22 - Oct. 5 - JoAn Tedford and Barbara Bryan

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!

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.

Lunch Bunch - The Lunch Bunch will go to Magnolia's at the Ritz on Friday, September 19th. We will meet at Magnolia's at 11:30. Please call Gail Foote or Donna Cook to sign up.

CHURCH PICNIC
WAVERLY WATERS
PAVELION

Sunday, Sept 28,
following the
church service

The graphic features a blue and red checkered border. At the top, the text 'CHURCH PICNIC' is in large, bold, red letters. Below it, 'WAVERLY WATERS' is in smaller, bold, red letters, and 'PAVELION' is in bold, red letters. At the bottom, there is a red rounded rectangle with the text 'Sunday, Sept 28, following the church service' in white. Three small photos are included: one of people at a picnic table, one of people standing outdoors, and one of people sitting at a picnic table.

There is a sheet at the back of the sanctuary for people to sign up to bring food items.

on Missions



Mums for Missions

We are now taking orders for mums. One gallon is \$10 and a three gallon is \$20. Yellow, bronze, white, red and lavender are the colors available. Call the church office at 662-494-1658 to place your order. Deadline to order is Sunday, September 28. Pick up will be Saturday, October 4 from 9-11 a.m. at the Bryan Youth Center. All proceeds will go toward our next mission trip in 2026.

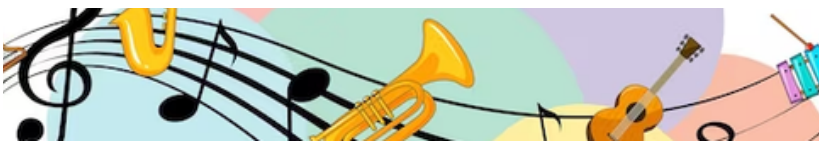


FUMC, We Have a Problem!

The CDC Board voted to put a snack machine in the daycare for the staff. Kenya Lee, the director, worked with a company to make that happen. Unfortunately, when the machine arrived, it was too large to go through the door. Everyone said, "I'll bet Bob Wyman can solve this problem for us." Well, Bob came through with help from Robbie Robinson. He took all the door facings down which allowed the machine to go through the door. Thank you, Bob, for all your hard work.

Mark your calendar for upcoming meetings

All meetings will be held in the library.	
09/22/25 at 5:30pm	Personnel and Nominations
09/29/25 at 5:00pm	CDC Board
10/06/25 at 5:30pm	Leadership Council



MUSIC NOTES

This past Sunday was a reminder of just how much we love and need one another. When our dear brother Gary suffered a heart attack, our hearts were filled with fear—but immediately, they were also filled with prayer. We cried out to God together, and He heard us. Gary, we are so thankful that you are on the road to recovery! Please know that your church family loves you and is continuing to lift you and your family before the Lord. Your life, your talent, and your faith are such gifts to this congregation. We rejoice in God's mercy and healing, and we can't wait to welcome you back among us. "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).



Members Support Members

Twenty-four church members turned out on Sunday to support Julie Gray in her role as Lady Bird Johnson in the West Point/Clay County Arts Council production of *Tea for Three*. We are so proud of her and her work with the Louise Campbell Center for the Arts. Our own Holly Hitt did a fabulous job of coordinating the refreshments and table settings for the play. Everyone enjoyed the performance and the Jubilations cheesecake, coffee and water. Thank you, Julie and Holly, for helping to bring the arts to the people of Clay County.



Grandparents Day at the CDC

Grandparents Day in the CDC was a tremendous success. Grandparents visited with the children in the classrooms and enjoyed a breakfast of sausage biscuits, fruit and juice.

CDC CHAPEL VOLUNTEERS

Sept. 8 - Caroline Atkins

Sept. 22 - Linda Drake

Sept. 29 - Lona Rosetti

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Sept. 7 - Caroline and Bill Atkins

Sept. 14 - Gail Foote and Shannon Wallace

Sept. 21 - Linda Drake and Shannon Wallace

YOUTH SUPPER HOSTS

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



Judy Shirley Circle

Gracy Taylor presented a wonderful lesson on the disciple Phillip at the Judy Shirley Circle. All members brought different goodies to share with the group. Plans were discussed for the Central District United Women in Faith First Annual Meeting that the groups will host on Saturday, October 18th.



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 8/31/2025

Total revenue received in Aug	\$27,868.10
Total expenses in Aug	(\$32,807.77)
Year to date revenue	\$263,923.61
Year to date expenses	(\$297,846.20)

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

ATTENDANCE September 14, 2025

Sunday School.....	53
Worship Service.....	90
Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....	15
Total Worship.....	88

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



In the Hospital

Becky Landin - Golden Triangle (Columbus)

Our Members

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

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Dugan

Deb McGaughey

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)
AnnaBeth Harrison
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
Linda Neely

Traceway

Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 21, 2025

11:00 AM

The Scripture Lesson

Matthew 26:36-39 and Deuteronomy 6:4-5

SERMON

"Glad You Asked: If God and Jesus Are the Same,
Who Hears Jesus' Prayers?"

Anthem

"The Lighthouse" - arr. Mauldin

SOUND TECH: Julie Gray

LAY READER: Jay Wood

STREAM TEAM: Jason McKellar

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.