



OCTOBER 14, 2025

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

The **Window**

A Note from the Pastor

I appeal to you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:1-2

This week is shaping up to be the week that folks start missing paychecks because of the government shut down.

When you read that, it probably makes you angry. For most of us, our anger is directed at specific people: the officials or parties that we think are to blame.

But what does it say about the way of thinking of this age that we perceive most things as *political* problems? And if that's the way that this age thinks about it, what does it look like for Christians to have minds that have been *transformed* and *renewed*.

The word that's translated as "transformed," is the same word that is translated as "transfigured" in Matthew and Mark to describe what happens when Jesus and his clothes begin to radiate the glory of God up on the mountain with a few of his disciples.

The transformation of our minds is God's work. It flows from seeing our whole lives as an offering to God. It results in a witness to the world about "the will of God," what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Minds conformed to this age are trapped in believing that the only appropriate response to bad things is to gripe about what is or isn't happening in Washington, D.C. Minds that are being transfigured and renewed will find imaginative ways to get to work and care for real people who are struggling in concrete ways. At most, we get to vote a few times a year. What are we doing with the other 360+ days?

Help a real person whose budget is tight because of the shutdown. Contact the Food Pantry and see if they have needs. Put some extra food in the Blessing Box at the church. Pray. Give to the church's fund that lets us provide utility bill assistance each month.

Be transformed by the renewal of your mind. And offer your body a living sacrifice to the Lord.

In Christ,
Br. Chad

Angels in Aprons

Oct. 6 - Oct. 19 - Jessi Sugg and Stacy Hays

Oct. 20 - Nov. 2 - Dee Echols and Donna Cook

Church News

Charge Conference - Please join us for our Charge Conference on Sunday, October 26th in the FUMC Sanctuary.

3rd Quarter Giving Statements have been emailed. Please check your email to make sure you received one. If you have questions, contact Julie.

FUMC T-shirts - The FUMC t-shirts are in. You may pick yours up in the church office.

United Women of Faith - The Judy Shirley Circle will host the Central District United Women in Faith First Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 18th. Please be in prayer for this group as they organize the new Central District.

Sunday School Announcement - There will be no Sunday school on October 26th due to Worship in the Park.

Mark your calendar for upcoming meetings

All meetings will be held in the library.

10/20/25 at 5:00pm CDC Board

11/03/25 at 5:00pm Leadership Team



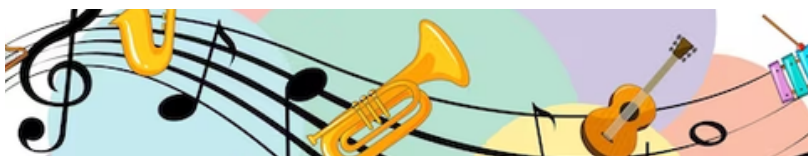
Backpack Meals

Last week Julie, Stacy and Ron loaded the fourteen containers of backpack meals and took them to Southside and Church Hill Elementary Schools. Each month our church members pack 240 bags of food for children in need. These bags are distributed each Friday, so these children will have food during the weekend. If you are interested in helping with this important ministry, please contact Stacy Hays.



Lighthouse Kids

The Lighthouse Kids had a great time learning about Joshua and the Battle of Jericho last Wednesday night.



MUSIC NOTES



Student Ministries Sunday

This past Sunday was Student Ministries Sunday, and what a blessing it was to see our children leading us in worship! They sang, read, and shared their gifts with such energy and joy. What stood out most wasn't just their talent—it was their excitement. They didn't participate out of obligation or habit; they wanted to be there. Their smiles, their voices, and their wholehearted worship reminded us all of what it means to serve God with gladness. As adults, we sometimes let duty overshadow delight. But our children showed us that worship isn't something we have to do—it's something we get to do. May we follow their example and approach every act of service with the same willing, joyful spirit that filled the sanctuary this Sunday.

"Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing." — Psalm 100:2



Good Luck, Swimmers!

Caston McKellar is shown above with his swim coach Helen Facella. He was recognized on Senior Night for his accomplishments in swimming and golf. This Saturday Caston will swim in his final and most important high school competition in Tupelo at the state swim meet. He is seeded first in the state in his two events, the 50 meter freestyle and the 100 meter freestyle.

His four member relay team composed of Caston, Brady Wooten, Charlie Harrell and another of our youth, Tyler Johnson, will also compete. We will keep all of these youth in our thoughts and prayers this week, and we wish them the best of luck!

CDC CHAPEL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Oct. 6 - Mary Carr Ecklund

Oct. 13 - Anna Dill

Oct. 20 - Kenya Lee

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Oct. 5 - Tammy Walters and Shannon Wallace

Oct. 12 - Practice for Children's Sabbath

Oct. 19 - Becky Shirley and Shannon Wallace

Oct 26 - No Sunday school due to
Worship in the Park

YOUTH SUPPER HOSTS

Oct. 1 - Bill and Caroline Atkins

Oct. 8 - Art and Becky Shirley

Oct. 15 - Gloria Bunnell and Nita Wyman

Oct. 22 - Lucy McKellar and Shannon Wallace

Oct. 29 - Dee Echols and Gail Foote



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
Ella Willow, Youth Intern
Ron Crawford, Custodian
Kenya Lee, CDC Director, 494-6811

FINANCIAL INFORMATION as of 09/30/2025

Total revenue received in Sept.	\$28,416.64
Total expenses in Sept.	(\$47,350.22)
Year to date revenue	\$292,340.25
Year to date expenses	(\$345,196.35)

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

ATTENDANCE October 12, 2025

Sunday School.....	55
Worship Service.....	76
Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....	15
Total Worship.....	88

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Dugan

Becky Landin
Deb McGaughey

Traceway

Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

Our Members

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

Our Family and Friends:

Ted Berry
Wayne Brand
Joe Brownlee
Edith Carlisle
Valeda Carmichael
Mary Margaret Case
Pam Chambliss (Superior Services employee)
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 (former children/youth director)
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
Susie Purnell Randall
Robbie Robinson
James Stockton
Ben Smith
Evelyn Smith (Amy Buckley's mother)

Debbie Williams (Jason Williams' mother)
Wes Williamson
Bob Wilson (Joni Seitz's father)
Donald Wilson (Terri Myers' father)

Family of Montez Ganss
Family of Billy Hays
Family of Moses Vernon

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 19, 2025

11:00 AM

The Scripture Lesson

Genesis 1:26-31

SERMON

Glad You Asked: "Did Adam and Eve
Evolve from Neanderthals?"

Anthem

"Carry Me with I Need Thee Every Hour" - Hill

SOUND TECH: Mike Gammill

LAY READER: Bob Seitz

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.