



NOVEMBER 4, 2025

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

The **Window**

A Note from the Pastor

Last week on Wednesday Night, we took up an additional question about prayer: How should we think about people that are always talking about praying, but their prayers seem petty or self-centered? What does God think when we pray things like, "Please let the light be green so I'm not late," or, "Lord, don't let them notice me in the bread aisle, I really don't want to talk to them today," or, "Jesus, please let it be a good hair day?"

In one sense, I think God is always glad to have us pray. To be in conversation with God is better than not to be! And God cares; God *really* cares about even the most mundane aspects of our lives. He knows the number of hairs on our head, after all. So, we should feel comfortable praying about whatever is on our heart. And we don't have to filter our prayers so that we only offer our most pious and righteous thoughts to God. God's perfect judgment means that he'll know what to do with even our impious requests. And the Spirit always intercedes for us when we don't have the right words ourselves.

In another sense, we should be aware that God's answers to our prayers might bounce back to us in the form of conviction of sin or invitation to service. When the Spirit bears its fruit in our lives, we should expect our prayers to take a different shape too. They might grow in gratitude as we become more aware of God's great love for us. They might be more oriented towards the needs of our neighbors as we love them as ourselves. Our praise of God might become more theologically rich because we have grown in our understanding of God. We might be more inclined to confess, because God has convicted us about things that need to change in our lives.

There's perhaps no better way to get a sense for what we really believe than to pay attention to what we pray for. If we rarely pray, do we likely wonder somewhere in our hearts if God cares what we have to say. If our prayer is always requests, we might think that God exists to serve our needs rather than the other way around.

How do you pray? What anxieties do you have about prayer? If you'd ever like to talk about those things, I can't imagine a better use of my time than to think through praying with you.

In Christ,
Br. Chad

Angels in Aprons

Nov. 3 - Nov 16 - Stacy Hays and Kiley McNamee

Nov. 17 - Nov. 30 - Beth Raines and Susan Johnson

Church News

Judy Shirley Circle – The Judy Shirley Circle will meet Monday, November 17th, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Hostesses will be Anna Dill, Donna Cook and Gail Foote. We will study chapter 7 in our book Twelve Ordinary Men and prepare our cards for the College Connection. We hope everyone can attend.

Veterans Day – November 11th is Veterans Day, and we will recognize all our veterans on Sunday, November 9th

Poinsettia Time Again - The Judy Shirley Circle will be selling poinsettias again this year to raise funds for its mission projects. The cost is \$20.00, and the deadline for purchase will be December 1st. Please contact Gail Foote if you would like to order. An order form is also available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. If you would like, you may pick up your poinsettias on December 13th, or you may leave them to decorate the church during the Christmas season.



Mark your calendar for upcoming meetings

All meetings will be held in the library.

11/17/25 at 4:00pm CDC Board

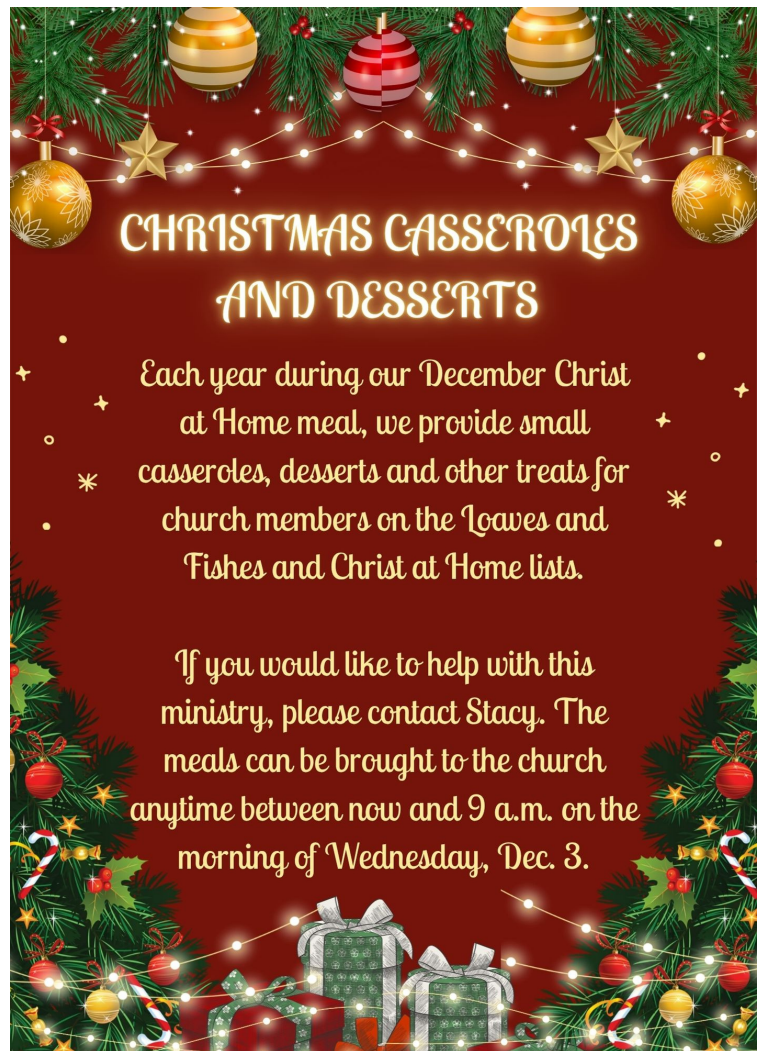
PLEASE JOIN US!

CHURCH-WIDE THANKSGIVING FEAST

November 16th

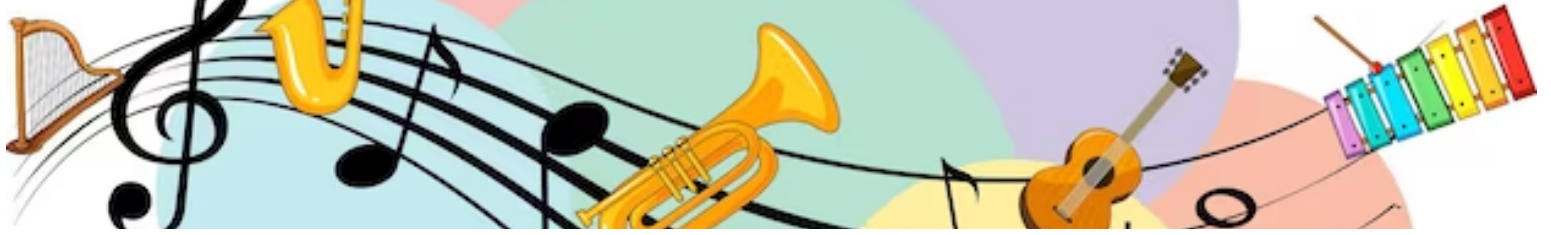
following the church service

FELLOWSHIP HALL



Handyman Crew

You might not notice, but improvements are occurring weekly in our church thanks to this group of dedicated church members: Jimmy Tedford, Gen Thomas, Bob Wyman, Vic Johnson and Ben Thomas. They have installed blinds, repaired doors, tables, and plaster, installed a chair rail, pressure washed the steps, replaced cabinet knobs; and they still have work to do. Please thank them for their efforts and dedication.



MUSIC NOTES

This past Sunday, we celebrated All Saints' Day, a time to remember and give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith. As we sang together, it struck me that our voices were joining not just with those in the sanctuary, but with generations of believers across time and space. That's the beauty of music in worship—it connects heaven and earth.

When we sing hymns like "For All the Saints", we are reminded that faith is bigger than any one moment or person. Each note becomes a thread, weaving our voices with those who once stood where we stand now. The saints who taught us, loved us, and sang beside us are still part of the song.

May we continue to lift our voices in gratitude and hope, knowing that when God's people sing, no one sings alone.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses... let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us" — Hebrews 12:1

NEWS FROM THE CDC



Halloween Pumpkin Contest

Each year the CDC classes have a pumpkin decorating contest. The year the entries were outstanding. The winning pumpkin was submitted by the toddler classroom. It was decorated as the marshmallow and chocolate between two giant graham crackers of a s'more. Infant A won 2nd place and 3rd place with the spider peaking out of the pumpkin was entered by the four year old classroom.

We congratulate all the winners!! Thank you, Caroline Atkins, for judging.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Nov. 2 - Tammy Walters and Shannon Wallace

Nov. 9 - Linda Drake and Shannon Wallace

Nov. 16 - Helen Facella and Shannon Wallace

Nov. 23 - Kristen and Kathryn Williams and Shannon Wallace

Nov. 30 - Jessi Sugg and Shannon Wallace

YOUTH SUPPER HOSTS

Oct. 29 - Dee Echols and Gail Foote

Nov. 5 - Betsy McGlohn and Mary Carr Ecklund

Nov. 12 - Cinzia Duncan and Jane Caston

Nov. 19 - Elizabeth Bailey and Susan Johnson

Nov. 26 - No Youth

CDC CHAPEL VOLUNTEERS

Nov. 3 - Caroline Atkins

Nov. 10 - Elizabeth Bailey

Nov. 17 - Lona Rosetti

Nov. 24 - Caroline Atkins



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 November 2, 2025

Sunday School.....	52
Worship Service.....	85
Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....	15
Total Worship.....	100

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Dugan

Becky Landin
 Deb McGaughey

Traceway

Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

Our Members

Beverly Campbell
 Antonio Facella
 Evelyn & Fox Haas
 Caroline Harrell
 Levi Harrell
 Jordan Helveston
 Austin Hill
 Emerson Houston
 Susan Johnson
 Victoria Johnston
 Kiley McNamee
 Charlotte Messier
 Jerry Mize
 Johnnie Newell
 Mike Reid
 Ben Rosenkrans
 Billy Buck & Judy Staggers
 Gail Wolanek
 Jimmy Wood
 Kathy Wood

Our Family and Friends:

Sandra Bailey
 Ted Berry
 Wayne Brand
 Joe Brownlee
 Edith Carlisle
 Valeda Carmichael
 Mary Margaret Case
 Pam Chambliss (Superior Services employee)
 Mike Colbert (Kiley McNamee's father)
 Caryl Currier (Gloria Bunnell's sister)
 Robert Darsey
 Marcus Davidson
 Ellie Delk (Rachel Wood's niece)
 Martin Edmondson (Tammy Walters' father)
 AnnaBeth Harrison (former children/youth director)
 Rusty Iles
 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
 Dianne Ramsey (Kiley McNamee's mother)
 Susie Purnell Randall
 Robbie Robinson
 James Stockton
 Evelyn Smith (Amy Buckley's mother)
 Debbie Williams (Jason Williams' mother)
 Sheila Wood

Family of Johanna Rice

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 9, 2025

11:00 AM

The Scripture Lesson

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

SERMON

"What Is the Rapture? Should I Believe in It?"

Anthem

"Just Over in Glory-Land" - arr. Mauldin

SOUND TECH: Julie Gray

LAY READER: Dee Echols

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.