



NOVEMBER 18, 2025

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

# *The* **Window**

## **A Note from the Pastor**

*And they brought it. And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? And they said unto him, Caesar's. And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. And they marvelled at him.*

Mark 12:17 KJV

One of the questions that was asked for our current sermon series that I won't be able to get to was a simple, yet profound one: "Can you preach a sermon on finances?"

One of the reasons that the question is profound is because it's not directly about giving. When we do a stewardship campaign, there's always an ask: What will you give to the church in the coming year? Giving is important. And I hope that the eternal impact that our church hopes to have makes giving to the church one of the most compelling things that you can do with your money.

But thinking about our finances is about so much than our giving. It's about faith: do we trust the Lord to provide our daily bread or do we trust our bank accounts and our insurance plans to provide for us? It's about love: do we love our neighbors as ourselves, or are we keeping/spending in ways that care for our own comforts and pleasures before others needs? It's about worship: do we want to honor God or do we want the status that comes from money and possessions? It's about freedom: do we own our stuff or does our stuff own us?

This verse from Mark is one of my favorites of Jesus' sayings. The religious leaders are trying to get him to choose between God and the empire. And Jesus gives this pithy response. Caesar's picture is on the coin. If you're going to live in Caesar's empire and use his money for trade, you've got to pay Caesar's taxes. But you should render unto God what is God's. And what has God's image on it? Every single person. Our lives belong to God. Our bodies belong to God. Every moment, every thing we love, every bit of energy and activity, give it all to God.

The nitty gritty details of our finances – earning, budgeting, saving, giving – is something I feel we should talk and teach more about. I'm hoping to do something like that soon. In the meantime, if you want to think more about the spiritual components of your finances, come by and let's talk!

In Christ,  
Br. Chad



### Angels in Aprons

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

**Dec. 1 - Dec. 14** - Shannon and Lannie Wallace

### Church News

**Wednesday Communion** - Wednesday Communion will be postponed until Wednesday, December 3rd.

**Thanksgiving Schedule Changes.** - The church office will close at noon on Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, to allow the church staff time with their families. There will be no newsletter on Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>.

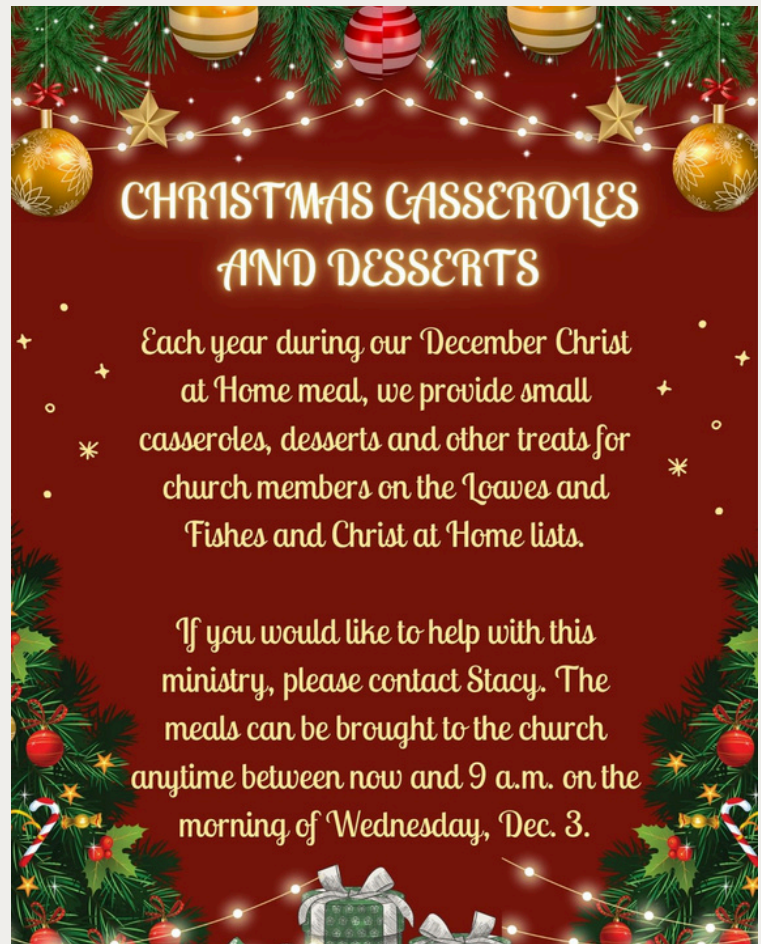
**Hanging of the Greens** - Hanging of the Greens will be Sunday, November 30th, during the morning worship service. Everyone is invited to attend as we celebrate the beginning of the Advent season.

**Chancel Choir Christmas Program** - The Chancel Choir Christmas program will be Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 pm. A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the program. Everyone is invited to attend.

**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.



### on Missions



### THE WEST POINT MUSIC COTERIE PRESENTS

WE WELCOME CHRISTMAS

**DECEMBER 4  
7 P.M.**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW**





## MUSIC NOTES

The Christmas season is upon us, and with it comes one of the most joyful events of the year—our Christmas program is on Sunday, December 14, at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary! This year's celebration will feature beloved traditional carols accompanied by a beautiful string quartet, and the best part is that everyone has a part to sing.

Each carol will include a congregational verse, giving every person in the pews a chance to lift his or her voice in worship and celebration. There's something deeply special about hearing the whole church sing together—the harmonies of faith, joy, and community blending into one voice. It's a reminder that Christmas isn't just a story we tell—it's a song we share. So bring your family, your friends, and your Christmas spirit. Let's fill the sanctuary with sound and celebration as we remember the greatest gift of all.



### Youth Accomplishments

Hayden Wallace was recognized as a rising scholar at Hebron. He took the Pre-ACT test, and his scores were in the top 10% of those taking the test.

Caston McKellar had a great time finishing his high school swimming career. He competed in the North South All-Star Swim Meet where he won 1<sup>st</sup> in the 200 free style relay and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 400 free style relay.

We are so proud of these youth!!

## THANKSGIVING FEAST



### Thanksgiving Feast

Our Thanksgiving feast was definitely a success!! The food was delicious, and the fellowship was even better!! We want to thank Stacy Hays for coordinating this event and Holly Hitt and Julie Gray for creating such a festive setting. We also want to thank everyone who provided the wonderful food, especially Dee Berry for preparing and donating the hams. Finally, thanks to all the wonderful people who set up and cleaned up. Sometimes we do not think about all the planning, organizing and work that goes into an event of this type. It takes a village to make it happen. We hope this meal helped everyone get into the spirit of Thanksgiving.

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

**Nov. 23** - Kristen and Kathryn Williams and Shannon Wallace

**Nov. 30** - Jessi Sugg and Shannon Wallace

### YOUTH SUPPER HOSTS

**Nov. 19** - Elizabeth Bailey and Susan Johnson

**Nov. 26** - No Youth

### CDC CHAPEL VOLUNTEERS

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 10/31/2025

Total revenue received in Oct.	\$29,794.54
Total expenses in Oct.	(\$33,067.55)
Year to date revenue	\$322,134.79
Year to date expenses	(\$378,263.90)

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

## ATTENDANCE November 16, 2025

Sunday School.....	52
Worship Service.....	85
Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....	10
Total Worship .....	95

## 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  
 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)

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 Evelyn Lantz  
 Family of Leann Simpson  
 Family of Cheryl Sundbeck

## Christ the King Sunday Sunday, November 23, 2025

11:00 AM

### The Scripture Lesson

Matthew 10:34-42 and 1 Peter 2:1-10

### SERMON

"Did Jesus Come to Bring Peace or a Sword"

### The Anthem

"Peaceful Spirit Medley" - arr. Mauldin

**SOUND TECH:** Mike Gammill

**LAY READER:** Gracy Taylor

**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.**