



JANUARY 27, 2026

The Newsletter of First UMC
West Point, Mississippi

The Window

A Note from the Pastor

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

(1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

When I was in high school, my youth minister's children were some of my best friends.

Every time we left their house, their dad (and my mentor), would say, "Remember who you are and whose you are." This was his refrain. Rather than the more common, "Be safe!" or "Be home by curfew!" or "Stay out of trouble!" or "Don't embarrass us," he offered his children this.

In high school, I noticed that it was different, but I couldn't have really told you why. Today, I know what it is. Most parents are inclined to be behavior oriented. But his reminder touched something deeper. He wanted them to remember their identity. And he wanted that identity to be tied to a God and a family that loved them.

I told you last week that I believe it's of the utmost importance that we remember that what we do is not all of who we are.

That truth is why baptismal remembrance is such a profound act. Paul says it even more directly than my youth minister: If the Holy Spirit lives within us, that makes our bodies temples, dwelling places for God. We are no longer our own. God purchased our lives with a price: nothing less than the life of his own Son.

When we know who we are and whose we are, it changes how we live. When we do dangerous things, or when we overindulge, or when we act selfishly without consideration of others, we have forgotten who we are and whose we are.

Righteousness is always rooted in our experience of God's abundant, unmerited, unending love. What you do doesn't define you. Neither your career, nor your most embarrassing moment, nor your most egregious sin, nor your greatest accomplishment get to determine who you are. YOU are who God says you are: beloved, accepted, called, gifted, God's son or daughter. Remember who you are and whose you are.

Abiding in Christ,
Br. Chad

Angels in Aprons

Jan. 26 - Feb. 8 - Gen Thomas and Stacy Hays

Feb 9 - Feb 22 - Jane and Jenny Caston

Communion Offering - Our Communion offering for February will go to the Clay County Food Pantry.

Ash Wednesday - February 18 is Ash Wednesday. We will have services at 12:00 noon and 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary.



The Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch enjoyed their outing to Georgia Blue. Their next trip will be to Harvey's in Columbus on Friday, February 13. The van will leave the church at 11:00am. Call Gail Foote or Donna Cook to sign up.

on Missions



Our Missions Continue

As we begin a new year, we are reminded that there are those who are not as fortunate as we. Volunteers prepared meals for children and adults in January. The Blessing Box has been extremely needed and used during this cold spell, and we are seeing an increased number of homeless individuals who need help. Please let Stacy know if you would like to help with the Backpack Snacks, the Christ at Home meals or the Blessing Box. Donations and volunteers are needed. You can also go to Facebook to order items for the Blessing Box.

SHROVE TUESDAY
Pancake Supper
Feb. 17, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

If you would like to pick up your meal, sign up by calling the church office or on the sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary. Pick up orders will be available from 5:00-5:30 under the portico.

CHURCH MEETINGS

Feb. 23 @ 5:00 CDC Meeting

Feb 24 @ 6:00pm Leadership Council



MUSIC NOTES



This week, we will gather to celebrate the life of Beverly Campbell, a beloved member of our church and choir family. For thirty-three years, Beverly lifted her voice in the choir, sharing not only her beautiful singing, but her kindness, joy, and unmistakable spirit. She had a way of making everyone feel seen and welcomed, and her fun, artsy nature brought light into every room—and every rehearsal.

Though her voice is no longer among us, the choir is still full of her presence. We hear her in the laughter, in the shared memories, and in the music that continues to rise from our hearts. Beverly's love for song, community, and worship lives on through each of us who were blessed to sing beside her. She will forever be part of this choir, this church and the songs that we continue to sing together.

A Celebration of Life will be held for Beverly on Saturday, January 31 at 10:30am in the sanctuary. Visitation will be held on Friday, January 30, from 4:30pm - 7:00pm at the church.

CDC CHAPEL VOLUNTEERS

Feb. 2 - Mary Carr Ecklund

Feb. 9 - Elizabeth Bailey

Feb. 16 - Charlotte Messier

Feb. 23 - Linda Drake

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Feb. 1 - Bill and Caroline Atkins and Shannon Wallace

Feb. 8 - Art and Becky Shirley and Shannon Wallace

Feb. 15 - Shannon Wallace

Feb. 22 - Linda Drake and Shannon Wallace

CHILDREN & YOUTH

YOUTH SUPPER HOSTS

Jan. 28 - Tammy Walters and Jenny Caston

Feb. 4 - Bill and Caroline Atkins

Feb. 11 - Susan Johnson and Holly Hitt

Feb. 25 - Shannon Wallace and Lucy McKellar



Lighthouse Kids

The Lighthouse Kids resumed on February 14 at 5:15. They learned about John the Baptist and how even though he was great, he was not as great as Jesus. They discovered that John the Baptist ate locusts and honey. Then the children played a game where they stacked honeycomb cereal on each other's faces to see who could make the highest tower.

A new 2026 schedule for Lighthouse Kids volunteers is on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Volunteers are responsible for picking up food at Sun Fresh at 4:45pm, serving the food at 5:15pm, cleaning up, then helping with the children with an activity/craft from 6:15 to 6:45. If you are interested in helping, please sign up or contact Rachel Wood.



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 12/31/2025

Total revenue received in Dec.	\$83,268.64
Total expenses in Dec,	(\$37,885.89)
Year to date revenue	\$531,994.88
Year to date expenses	(\$555,640.33)

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

ATTENDANCE January 23, 2026

Sunday School.....	
Worship Service.....	
Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....	30
Total Worship	30

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

In the Hospital

Dugan

Deb McGaughey

Traceway

Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

Our Members

Tommy Bryan
 Evelyn 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 & Kathy Wood

Our Family and Friends:

Ted Berry
 Wayne Brand
 Joe Brownlee
 Edith Carlisle
 Mary Margaret Case
 Pam Chambliss (Superior Services employee)
 Mike Colbert (Kiley McNamee's father)
 Caryl Currier (Gloria Bunnell's sister)
 Marcus Davidson
 Ellie Delk (Rachel Wood's niece)
 Patsy Harrington (Bro. Chad's grandmother)
 AnnaBeth Harrison (former children/youth director)
 Stewart Hays (Stacy Hays' grandson)
 Rusty Iles
 Wilma Lee
 Mary Carolyn Lewellen (Lona Rosetti's stepmother)
 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
 Andy Williams
 Evelyn Smith (Amy Buckley's mother)
 Debbie Williams (Jason Williams' mother)
 Sheila Wood
 Charlotte Yarbrough (Hunter Brewer's mother-in-law)

Family of Beverly Campbell
 Family of Fox Haas

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, February 1, 2026

11:00 AM

SERMON

"From Dead in Sin to Alive in Christ"

Special Music

"In Christ Alone" - Getty and Townend

Rachel Wood, soloist

SOUND TECH: Mike Gammill

LAY READER: Andy Gray

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.