

JUNE 2, 2026

The Newsletter of First UMC  
West Point, Mississippi

# *The* Window

## A Note from the Pastor

As we have walked around some of New Orleans this weekend, Joan has been constantly disturbed by the trash that she sees along the way. "Daddy, straw." "Momma, cup."

The only answer at hand has been, "Yes, Joan. Not everyone picks up their trash, but that doesn't mean that they shouldn't."

It's been one of many reminders that living in a small town like West Point is often underrated. There have also been unsheltered neighbors napping on the sidewalk and others asking for some cash to buy a meal or a bottle of water.

It's been harder to explain to Joan why she shouldn't pick up the trash herself. There are many obvious reasons that it isn't a good idea – the frequency that a two year old puts her hands in her mouth, sparse handwashing availability, and the possibility that she might pick up something less benign than a bottle cap. And it's sometimes hard for me to justify when I do or don't give money to help someone out.

It's hard to argue with an impulse to be a part of the solution. Even if Joan isn't the source of the litter, she's willing to help clean it up. And yet, sometimes helping can bring undue risk to us or codependence with our neighbors.

I think the balance between wanting to help and being mindful of the vulnerabilities that helping can bring is one of the hardest ethical questions that we face as Christians. I'm pretty convinced that there isn't a one size-fits all answer. Neither self-preservation nor self-martyrdom will do as a faithful response at all times.

Sometimes, when I don't know exactly what to do, I feel hard-hearted for refusing to help or like a easy mark for having helped. It feels like a lose-lose situation. But if there isn't a one sized fits all answer, it means that we should be wrestling with it. And it means that sometimes, we're likely to get it wrong.

I hope you find yourself wrestling with whether or how to help in the near future. You might not get it right, but God's grace is sufficient for that. I think, as Christians, we have to keep trying. The danger may be when we get so complacent or blind to the needs of others that we stop asking altogether.

Serving Christ with you,  
Br. Chad



### Angels in Aprons

**June 2 - June 15** - Julie Gray and Lona Rosetti

**June 16 - June 29** - Stacy Hays and Amy Buckley

**Construction Work** - During the construction work, please do not use the stairs beside the Fellowship Hall. Instead use the elevator or the stairs by the elevator to go to the first floor.

**Summer Office Hours** - The Personnel and Nominations Committee approved summer office hours of 8:30 a.m. to 12:30pm Monday - Thursday beginning Monday, June 1, through at least through July 31. Then we will reevaluate.

**June 3 Communion** - There will be NO Communion on June 3 because Brother Chad will be at Annual Conference.

**June Communion Offering** - The Communion offering for June will benefit the Good Samaritan Local Mission Fund. This fund helps individual who are struggling to pay for their utilities. Make checks out to First United Methodist Church and earmark them Good Samaritan Fund.

### CHURCH MEETINGS

**June 15 @ 4:30pm** - CDC Board Meeting

**June 23 @ 6:00pm** - Leadership Council

**June 30 @ 10:00am** - Worship Committee



# RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, Aug 8  
Fellowship Hall



You may now drop off your items for the rummage sale. Please contact the church office to arrange a time. No clothes or shoes please.

### Loave and Fishes for May


We appreciate the work of Elizabeth Bailey, Mary Carr Eckland, Shannon Wallace and Betsy McGlohn this month. They provided our Loaves and Fishes meal to some of our members and they also provided snacks for the CDC on Fun Friday. We also want to thank Jane Caston, Gary Echols, Ladonna Helveston, Nina Millard and Beth Raines who delivered the Loaves and Fishes meal.

First United  
Methodist Church

# Vacation Bible School

## The Potter's Clay

Monday, June 8-Wednesday, June 10  
5:15 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
Ages 3 years to rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders  
Fellowship Hall  
Meal Provided



For more information, call the  
church office at  
662-494-1658

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

**June 7** - Linda Drake  
and Shannon Wallace

**June 14** - Helen Facella  
and Shannon Wallace

**June 21** - Kristen and Kathryn Williams  
and Shanon Wallace

**June 28** - Laura and Elizabeth Stewart  
and Shannon Wallace



### Using the Shield of Faith Against Challenges

Ephesians 6:16 discusses the shield of faith. The upper elementary class spent time learning how Christians can wield the Shield of Faith using the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego as an example of how strong faith and obedience to the one true God saved them from the fire and changed the heart of a king. We talked about how we may not have a king ordering us to worship a false idol, but we can use this story as encouragement whenever we face challenges that require bravery. Our faith helps shield us from fear, evil and wrongdoing.



### Youth Interns

Jon Burris will be working with the youth again this summer during June and part of July. Galen Walter goes to MS State, and he will be here during June and July. Please welcome these young men to our church

## Lighthouse Kids June Adventures

Join us in June for two adventures with Lighthouse Kids! Each trip is packed with fun, fellowship, and great memories.

**Friday, June 12**  
Fayette Aquatic Center  
🕒 Leave at 9:00 AM. Return at 3:00 PM.  
🍕 Lunch:  
Concession stand available with pizza, hot dogs, chips, candy, and more.

**Wednesday, June 24**  
Movie Day - Over the Hedge (Columbus Malco Cinema)  
🕒 Leave at 9:15 AM. Return at 2:00 PM.  
🍔 Lunch at Chick-fil-A after the movie

**Important Notes**

- Please send money for lunch on each trip.
- Comfortable clothes and closed-toe shoes are recommended.

Text Rachel Wood 662-889-6757 with any questions.



# 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  
 Jon Burris, Youth Intern  
 Galen Walter, Youth Intern  
 Ron Crawford, Custodian  
 Kenya Lee, CDC Director, 494-6811

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION as of 4/30/2026

|                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Total revenue received in Apr. | \$26,429.55    |
| Total expenses in Apr.         | (\$34,652.73)  |
| Year to date revenue           | \$134,620.38   |
| Year to date expenses          | (\$150,018.37) |

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

## ATTENDANCE May 31, 2026

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Sunday School.....            | 46 |
| Worship Service.....          | 70 |
| Virtual 11:00 AM Service..... | 15 |
| Total Worship .....           | 85 |

## ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



# REMEMBER IN PRAYER

## In the Hospital

### Dugan

Deb McGaughey

### Traceway

Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

## Our Members

Elizabeth Bailey  
 Liv Brand  
 Tommy Bryan  
 Helen Childress  
 Donna Cook  
 Evelyn Haas  
 Caroline Harrell  
 Jordan Helveston  
 Austin Hill  
 Emerson Houston  
 Susan Johnson  
 Victoria Johnston  
 Charlotte Messier  
 Jerry Mize  
 Johnnie Newell  
 Charlotte Portera  
 Ben Rosenkrans  
 Billy Buck & Judy Staggers  
 Jimmy & Kathy Wood

## Our Family and Friends:

Ted Berry  
 Wayne Brand  
 Joe Brownlee  
 Edith Carlisle  
 Pam Chambliss (Superior Services employee)  
 Caryl Currier (Gloria Bunnell's sister)  
 Cora Chandler  
 Elsie Dixon  
 Tina Doster  
 Tims Dowdle - Jane Caston's brother  
 Corre & Tommy Foster & Baby Ellis  
 Patsy Harrington (Bro. Chad's grandmother)  
 AnnaBeth Harrison (former children/youth director)  
 Rusty Iles  
 David Landin (Becky Landin's brother)  
 Curtis Lewellen (Lona Rosetti's father)  
 Buddy McGee  
 Bonnie Miller (Gail Foote's friend)  
 Lynda Mize  
 Carole Higgins Morton  
 Vickie Ogle (James Gammill's mother-in law)

Susie Purnell Randall  
 Evelyn Smith (Amy Buckley's mother)  
 Harold Gene Tedford (Jimmy Tedford's brother)  
 Ronald Tedford (Jimmy Tedford's brother)  
 Debbie Williams (Jason Williams' mother)  
 Sheila Wood

Family of Lee Coleman



The children in the CDC are having so much fun finger painting.

## Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 7, 2026

11:00 AM

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

I Kings 19:1-11

## SERMON

"The Lord's Supper:  
Strength for the Journey"

## ANTHEM

"My Shepherd Knows" - arr. Purifoy

**SOUND TECH:** Julie Gray

**LAY READER:** Linda Drake

**STREAM TEAM:** Andy Gray

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.