



AUGUST 25, 2026

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

The Window



An Invitation to El Salvador

When I was in high school and college, I thought that mission trips were things that we did to help others. When I got to seminary, some of my friends and mentors helped me ask some new questions about short term missions. They pointed out things like, by the time you account for airfare, you could probably pay a skilled worker to do a better job than you would do yourself. And they noted that people in most of the countries that we take mission trips to already had churches that were teaching the Gospel.

These are important questions. The church should evaluate whether our efforts are producing the intended results. But we should also make sure that we ask all of the questions that we need to ask.

The man pictured above is named Angel (AHN-hel). He is one of the most inspiring pastors I have ever met - a faithful preacher and an attentive shepherd to his flock. And he could outwork anyone I've ever seen with a shovel. At over 70 years old you can see the contagious joy that inhabited his entire being.

I met Pastor Angel in El Salvador after my second year of seminary. Where I helped the Methodist Church in El Salvador host short term mission teams. And I saw the relationships that they built with the Salvadorans that they worked with. Some were volunteers. Some worked construction and went home to their families. Some, like Angel, worked construction and then went to church nearly every night to preach. He could outreach men and outwork me. But he taught me something else. If I'd just sent money, I never would have had the chance to see God at work in people like Angel.

Whatever work we do in El Salvador won't be the most important part. The ways that you will meet Christ in the faith and labor of others, in worship (though it will be quite different than ours), and in seeing God's faithfulness to the church in other parts of the world will be.

Maybe God is calling you to join us. I sincerely hope you will. Turn in your deposit!
- Br. Chad

Angels in Aprons

Aug. 25 - Sept. 7 - Dee Berry and Elizabeth Bailey

Sept. 8 - Sept. 21 - Becky Shirley and LaDonna Helveston

Wednesday Bible Study - Brother Chad began a new Bible study on Wednesday, August 11, at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The study focuses on different topics concerning the *Bible* such as: What is it? How did it come to be? How should we read it? Everyone is welcome.

Remember the School Supply Drive - Our annual school supply drive for our Blessing Box began on August 2nd. Place your donations in the box in the back of the sanctuary or purchase from Amazon and have the items sent to the church.



Happy Birthday, Betty Fulgham!

We want to wish Betty Fulgham a happy 90th birthday today. What a blessing she has been to this church! Betty joined this church in 1956, and she has been an active member ever since. Betty was a choir mother and children's Sunday school teacher for many years. She was also a faithful member of the Friendly Fellowship Class and an active member of the Grief Committee. Until they disbanded, she was a member of the Lochie Millard Circle, and each year she would make stockings so they members could fill them with goodies for our shut-ins.

Betty continues to be active today. She has been a star saleswoman during the last two rummage sales, and she is also a member of the kitchen committee. Betty continues to bless this church with her wonderful desserts, especially her famous ice cream cookies! Betty is always at church unless she is visiting her family in Savannah, TN. Please thank her for her service to this church the next time you see her. Happy birthday, Betty Fulgham!!

FISH FRY

Due to the heat, we are rescheduling the fish fry.

Please join us
Wednesday,
Sept. 16 at
5:15 pm in the
Fellowship Hall for
fried catfish, French
fries, hush puppies,
slaw and dessert.

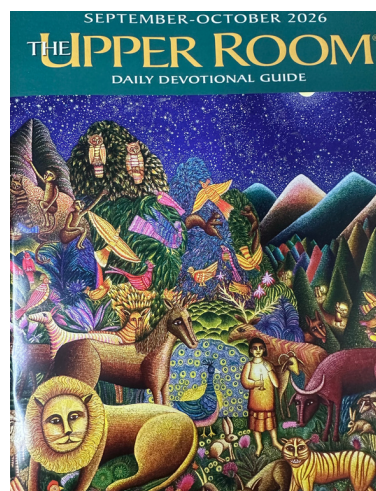
A sign up sheet for desserts is located on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Make plans now for our Mission Trip to EL SALVADOR!

March 6-13, 2027
\$750 per person
\$100 deposit due
September 1, 2026
Remaining balance due
December 31, 2026

We will stay at the
Methodist Mission
and projects
will include church
construction, food
distribution and
Vacation Bible School.

Contact Stacy, Julie or
Chad for
more information.



New Upper Rooms

The new *Upper Room Daily Devotional Guides* are in. They are located on a table at the back of the sanctuary and on the table as you enter the church. Please take one. They are free, or you can place your donation in the box on the wall. We want them to be used.

CHURCH MEETINGS

August 25 @ 6:00 p.m. - Leadership Council
September 21 @ 4:30 p.m. - CDC Board Meeting

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER HOSTS FOR AUGUST

August 12 - Jane Caston and Holly Hitt

August 19 - Susan and Vic Johnson

August 26 - Beth Raines and Jane Caston

CHILDREN'S AUGUST SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

August 2 - Linda Drake
and Shannon Wallace

August 9 - Laura and Elizabeth Stewart
and Tony and Lona Rosetti

August 16 - Gail Foote and Gracy Taylor
Mark and Suzanne Bean

August 23 - Erin and Janae Robinson
and Lucy McKellar

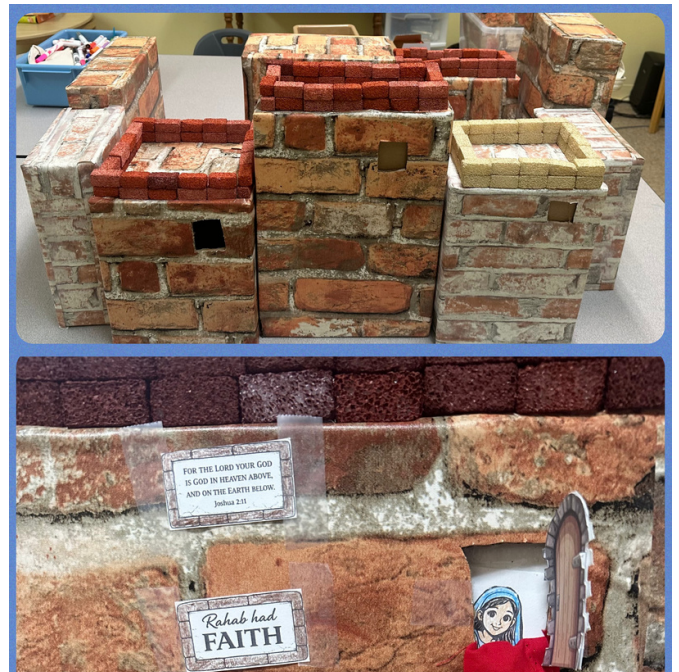
August 30 - Helen Facella
and Lynn Purnell



Wednesday Nights Are Family Affairs

Please join us for our Wednesday night suppers and activities. All ages are welcome, and there are activities for all ages. Supper begins at 5:15, and then at 6:00 the adults move to the Bible Study Class with Bro. Chad, youth go to the Bryan Youth Center with Ken, younger children meet with Rachel and Jessi Sugg will teach the older children. Everyone is welcome.

Last Wednesday night Tammy Walter prepared a delicious meal of lasagna, salad and desserts. We want to thank Susan and Vic Johnson for doing such a great job as supper hosts for the night.



The Walls Came Tumbling Down

The walls of Jericho came tumbling down in the children's Sunday School classes last Sunday! Both classes learned about the faith of Rahab and how she put that faith into action by doing God's will. The children acted out the story with "walls" made of boxes covered in stone-colored paper and other props, including the red cloth that Rahab hung from the window of her house to save herself and her family.



CDC Family Events

The CDC recently had an ice cream social on the first day of the new school year. Parents were able to meet the teachers, and everyone enjoyed ice cream sandwiches. Their next big event will be Grandparents' Day on September 11th.



First United Methodist Church

WEST POINT

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Chad Bowen, Pastor, 494-5133
 Rev. Dr. Ken Pickens - Pastor to Youth
 Rachel Wood, Music Ministries, 494-2198
 Stacy Hays, Family Ministries, 494-2198
 Julie Gray, Financial Secretary, 494-1658
 Gail Foote, Office Manager, 494-1658
 Seth Matlock, Pianist
 Galen Walter, Youth Intern
 Ron Crawford, Custodian
 Kenya Lee, CDC Director, 494-6811

FINANCIAL INFORMATION as of 7/31/2026

Total revenue received in July	\$26,556.04
Total expenses in July	(\$43,021.41)
Year to date revenue	\$232,112.75
Year to date expenses	(\$279,292.70)

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

ATTENDANCE August 23, 2026

Sunday School.....	48
Worship Service.....	80
Virtual 11:00 AM Service.....	18
Total Worship	98

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2026

11:00 AM

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Samuel 2:1-10

SERMON

"Samuel: Not by Might Does Man Prevail"

ANTHEM

"Heading Home Medley" - arr. Mauldin

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.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

In the Hospital

Dugan

Deb McGaughey

Traceway

Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

Our Members

Elizabeth Bailey
 Liv Brand
 Tommy Bryan
 Helen Childress
 Gale Griggs
 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 Wood

Our Family and Friends:

Sara Kate Algood (Donna Cook's daughter)
 Ted Berry
 Wayne Brand
 Joe Brownlee
 Mickey Burgess
 Edith Carlisle
 Caryl Currier (Gloria Bunnell's sister)
 Cora Chandler
 Janice Davis
 Elsie Dixon
 Tina Doster
 Corre & Tommy Foster & Baby Ellis
 Patsy Harrington (Bro. Chad's grandmother)
 AnnaBeth Harrison (former children/youth director)
 Rusty Iles
 Evan Johnson (Vic Johnson's brother)
 David Landin (Becky Landin's brother)
 Chuck Lavender (Gracy Taylor's brother)
 Lynda Mize
 Carole Higgins Morton
 Sid Parker (Beth Raines' brother)
 Susie Purnell Randall

Becky Rackley (Laura Stewart's aunt)
 Evelyn Smith (Amy Buckley's mother)
 Harold Gene Tedford (Jimmy Tedford's brother)
 Ronald Tedford (Jimmy Tedford's brother)
 Scott Trull
 Jeana Whitacre
 Jim & Debbie Williams (Jason Williams' parents)
 Sheila Wood