

OCTOBER 27, 2026

The Newsletter of First UMC
West Point, Mississippi

The Window

A Note from the Preacher

In *The Magician's Nephew* by C.S. Lewis, the main character, Digory, is sent by Aslan, the creator, to get fruit from a tree with magical properties far away. The fruit can only function rightly if it sought for someone else, rather than one's own sake. Digory is sorely tempted to eat this beautiful fruit, but manages to avoid falling in to the temptation. The evil witch Jadis, however, has no such restraint. When Digory encounters her near the tree, her face is covered in the juice of the fruit.

When Aslan is explaining it all to Digory once he returns, Digory is hopeful that the fruit's magical properties won't work for the witch. Aslan's answer is striking:

> *Things always work according to their nature. She has won her heart's desire; she has unwearying strength and endless days like a goddess. But length of days with an evil heart is only length of misery and already she begins to know it. All get what they want; they do not always like it."*

While Digory was somewhat tempted to eat the fruit himself, there was an even greater temptation: to take it to his mother, who was at the point of death, so that she might be healed. Healing his mother was Digory's greatest desire. Aslan explains that if Digory had taken the fruit to her, he too would have gotten what he wanted and not liked it.

In Narnia, even a magical fruit that can heal deadly illness and give unwearying strength and endless days is only good when it's used in service of Aslan's purpose. Otherwise, these things become a curse.The same is true in our world. We could add wealth, romance, success, power, and pleasure to the list too. Desirable fruit that can become quite sour.

The same is true in our world. The Lord is the only one who can satisfy the longings of our soul in a way that never goes sour. And if we long for the Lord, we will receive him. Seek ye first the Kingdom, and all these things will be added unto you. Knock and the door will be opened. Ask and you shall receive.

We're going to get what we want. May we pray fervently that the Lord would transform our hearts to want the right things.

Desiring the kingdom,
Br. Chad

Angels in Aprons

Oct. 20 – Nov. 2 - Jessi Sugg and Stacy Hays
Nov. 3 - Nov. 16 - Stacy Hays and Kiley McNamee

All Saints' Day – All Saints' Day will be Sunday, November 1. Please join us for this special service as we celebrate and remember those members of our congregation who have moved into the Church Triumphant during the past year.

Veterans Day - November 11th is Veterans Day, and we will recognize all of our veterans on Sunday November 8th.

Thanksgiving Meal - Our annual church-wide Thanksgiving meal will be held Sunday, Nov. 15th following the church service.

CHURCH MEETINGS

October 29 @ 10:00 a.m. - Congregational Care
November 16 @ 4:30 p.m. - CDC Board Meeting
November 17 @ 6:00 p.m. - Leadership Council

Wednesday Night Hosts

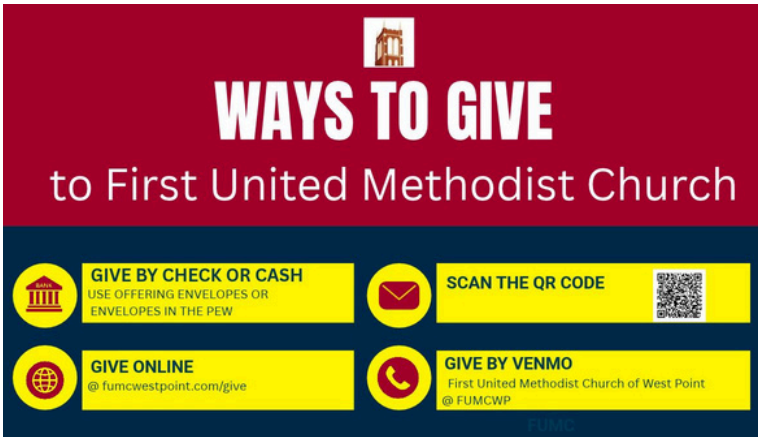
October 7 - Holly Hitt and Jane Caston
October 14 - Susan Johnson, Jean Dill and Wilma Hinshaw
October 21 - Art and Becky Shirley
October 28 - Barbara Iles and Becky Landin



October Backpack Snacks

Stewardwardship 2026









Wednesday Nights Are Fun Nights

Last week Tammy fixed a delicious meal of chicken spaghetti, lima beans, and salad. We also had cupcakes to celebrate Ken Pickens' 49th birthday. We want to thank Art and Becky Shirley and Jane Caston for helping. This Wednesday night Tammy will feature Mexican food. Come and join us!
After last week's meal, the groups went to their various locations. The children worked on their worship song for the month, "God Is So Good." They also learned that God provides his people with everything they need just like he did for the Israelites. To emphasize this message, the children made some of these necessities out of clay.



Great Job, Collier!

We are so proud of Collier Sugg. He volunteered to be a lay reader, and this job is one that adults often refuse to do. However, Collier read the extremely long scripture with poise and expression, I know the entire congregation was amazed and impressed as he pronounced the Biblical names with ease. Very few fifth graders would have accomplished this task as well as he. Thank you so much Collier! You are an inspiration to all of us.



Christian Behaviors

The children have been learning about Christian behaviors. One Sunday they studied Jesus' parable of the sheep and the goats. The children played a game to identify "sheep" behaviors, like sharing with others, and "goat" behaviors, like calling others hurtful names. They also talked about what a parable is. They decorated a wooden book and filled it with examples of Jesus' parables.
Last Sunday they learned about sharing. In order to spread the word of Jesus more efficiently and effectively, the apostles and the members of the early church "shared everything they had," the Book of Acts tells us. In Sunday school, the children learned about Christian sharing. They made paper quilts which illustrated how Jesus shared and how they can share.
We want to thank our teachers: George and Luann Purnell; Laura, Jon Marlin and Elizabeth Stewart; Lona and Tony Rosetti and Dee Echols and Gail Foote. Without our teachers and our curriculum developer Gracy Taylor, Sunday school would not be a success.



October Ministries

We want to thank Gracy Taylor, Laura Stewart, Katie Bowen, and Jessi Sugg for providing Loaves and Fishes meals for the of our members this month. They also provided snacks for the CDC's Fun Friday.. Thank you so much for helping with these ministries.

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

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints Sunday
November 1, 2026
11:00 AM
SCRIPTURE LESSON
1 Samuel 11:14 - 12:18
SERMON
"Samuel: Responding to God's Mighty Deeds"
ANTHEM
"Just Over in the Glory-Land" - arr, Mauldin

SOUND TECH: Julie Gray
LAY READER: Dee Echols
STREAM TEAM: Jason McKellar

FINANCIAL INFORMATION as of 9/30/2026

Total revenue received in Sept.	$27,971.20
Total expenses in Sept.	($57,932.06)
Year to date revenue	$306,668.88
Year to date expenses	($379,961.32)

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

ATTENDANCE October 25, 2026

Sunday School	53
Worship Service	84
Virtual 11:00 AM Service	15
Total Worship	99

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

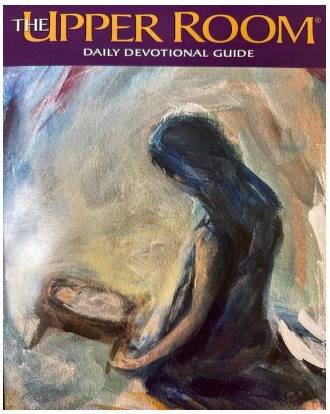
In the Hospital

Dugan
Deb McGaughey

Traceway
Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

Our Members
Elizabeth Bailey
Liv Brand
Tommy Bryan
Helen Childress
Kenny Dill
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)
Susan Benson
Ted Berry
Wayne Brand
Joe Brownlee
Mickey Burgess
Edith Carlisle
Caryl Currier (Gloria Bunnell's sister)
Cora Chandler
Janice Davis
Elsie Dixon
Tina Doster
Micki Dowdle (Jane Caston's niece)
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)
Brad Judson
Bruce King
David Landin (Becky Landin's brother)
Chuck Lavender (Gracy Taylor's brother)
Lynda Mize
Carole Higgins Morton
Oak Hill Faculty, Staff and Students
Susie Purnell Randall
Becky Rackley (Laura Stewart's aunt)
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



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. We want them to be used.