

NOVEMBER 3, 2026

The Newsletter of First UMC
West Point, Mississippi

The Window

A Note from the Preacher

There's not much I get more excited about than seeing our church invest in ministry. Over the last few years, our church (YOU!) have poured yourself into one another, our community, and our mission in ways that are bearing good fruit.

One of the most obvious examples is your investment in our student ministries. Revive, with Jane Caston leading the charge, made sure our youth had a meal every week. Ray Purnell, along with some interns, made sure there was lesson and some fun. Rachel Wood, with some key volunteers, did the same for our youth. In the spring, Tammy Walters joined the team to cook food for all ages, with the Kitchen Committee providing support. This summer, Rev. Ken Pickens has come on board to lead the youth. Participation has grown so much that, many nights, our youth and kids have to break into two groups.

And there are exciting things beginning all the time. Right now, our Congregational Care Committee is in high gear. Jim Helveston and I are working to develop a visitation ministry to take communion to shut-ins on Wednsdays. (If you want to know how you can help help, come talk with us about it after communion on Wed. Nov. 11.) Nita Wyman and Wilma Hinshaw are mobilizing folks to write cards and make phone calls to check in on our members more regularly. (If you want to help, let us know in the church office!)

I'm proud of our ministry plan for next year and of the budget that we've put together to fund it. Our ministry leaders have prayerfully considered what they need for their ministry areas and made requests. Our Leadership Team has received those requests and sought to honor the ministry that they represent. Our Personnel and Nominations Team has worked to make sure to try to help our staff's wages keep up with inflation.

All of that work results in a budget that is a $32,000 increase over last years'. Much of that increase is reflective of money that we're already spending: Wednesday Night meals, a year-round youth leader, adding an organist, and addressing inflation on things like utilities. Other things are one time purchases, like a new copier. While an increase may mean that we run a deficit for another year, I and your Leadership Team believe, that we are being good stewards of your gifts and our church reserves as we do the work that God has set before us.

And I hope that you will prayerfully consider how God is calling you to invest in our church's ministry in the next year. Not just with your pledge and tithes, though we need that, but also by praying and serving in the ways God is prompting you.

Serving Christ with you,
Br. Chad

P.S. If you missed Ray Purnell's Stewardship message this week, check it out on Youtube.

Angels in Aprons

Nov. 3 - Nov. 16 - Stacy Hays and Kiley McNamee

Judy Shirley Circle – The Judy Shirley Circle will meet on Monday, November 16, in the Fellowship Hall. Hostesses will be Gail Foote, Donna Cook and Anna Dill. Gracy Taylor will lead the lesson.

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.



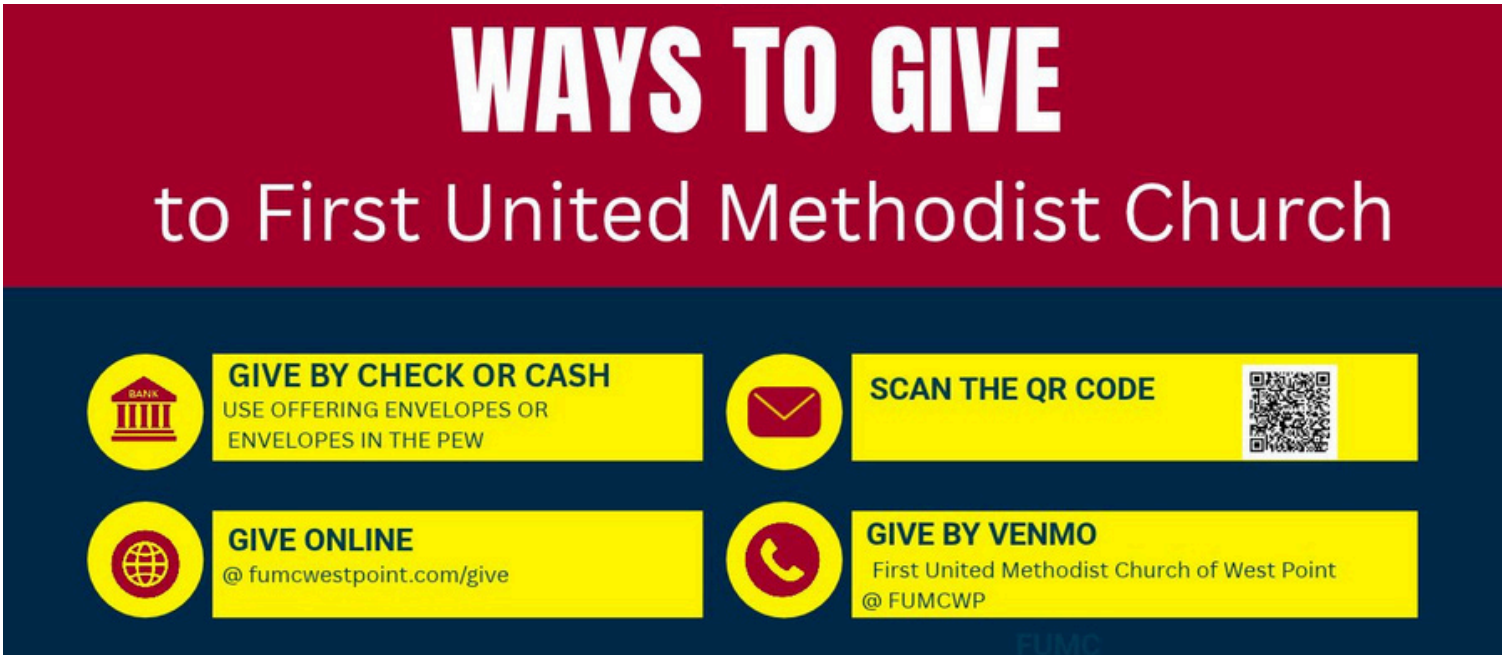


CHURCH MEETINGS

November 9 @ 5:30 p.m. - Mission Team Meeting
November 12 @ 5:30 p.m. - Personnel & Nominations
November 16 @ 4:30 p.m. - CDC Board Meeting
November 17 @ 6:00 p.m. - Leadership Council

Wednesday Night Hosts

November 4 - Gloria Bunnell, Becky Shirley and Jane Caston
November 11 - Barbara Iles, Becky Landin and Jennie Taylor
November 18 - Becky Landin and Jennie Taylor





New Church First Aid Kit

The church wants to keep everyone safe. A new first aid kit has been purchased, and it is located on the left wall as you enter the kitchen. Please make yourself aware of its location in case it is needed if someone becomes injured. Thank you, Vic Johnson, for making sure that we have this important item in our church.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

November 1 - George and Luann Purnell and Shannon Wallace
November 8 - George and Luann Purnell and Jessi Sugg
November 15 - Kristen and Kathryn Williams and Helen Facella
November 22 - Laura and Elizabeth Stewart and Mark and Suzanne Bean
November 29 - Bill and Caroline Atkins and Art and Becky Shirley



Pumpkin Decorating

The FUMC Child Development Center decorated pumpkins last week., and they did a great job!!



Learning about Giving

The children have been learning about Christian behaviors in Sunday school. Last Sunday they studied Paul's trip to the island of Malta and how the people were so generous to Paul and his traveling companions. They learned that God loves a cheerful giver. To emphasize this concept, they made flowers which they gave to members of the congregation.

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-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026
11:00 AM
SCRIPTURE LESSON
1 Samuel 13:1-15
SERMON
"Samuel: The Dangers of Foolish King"
ANTHEM
"Thou Art Worthy" - arr, Schrader

SOUND TECH: Mike Gammill
LAY READER: Vic Johnson
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 November 1, 2026

Sunday School	55
Worship Service	80
Virtual 11:00 AM Service	14
Total Worship	94

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

In the Hospital

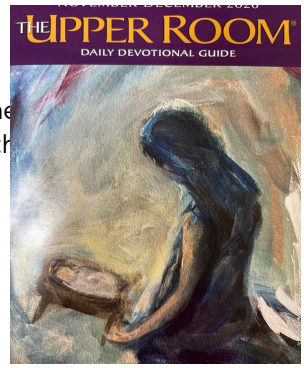
Our Members
Elizabeth Bailey
Liv Brand
Tommy Bryan
Helen Childress
Kenny Dill
Gale Griggs
Evelyn Haas
Caroline Harrell
Jordan Helveston
Austin Hill
Emerson Houston
Susan Johnson
Victoria Johnston
Charlotte Messier
Jerry Mize
Johnnie Newell
Charlotte Portera
Ben Rosenkrans
Billy Buck & Judy Staggers
Jimmy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

Dugan
Deb McGaughey

Traceway
Evelyn O'Hara Wallace

Our Family and Friends:
Sara Kate Algood (Donna Cook's daughter)
Susan Benson
Ted Berry
Cheryl Boxen
Gene Bramblett
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 grandmothe
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
Jim & Debbie Williams (Jason Williams' parents)
Sheila Wood

Family of Mary Anne Weems



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.