



THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist Church

Volume XLIX

January 3, 2024

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PASTORAL THOUGHTS

Mary Beth Bernheisel, Senior Pastor

Each month, on the first Sunday, we receive a Communion Offering for special projects like Lakeshore Camp. Though the shorter days and freezing temperatures make it hard to picture summer, it is time to think about this hallmark of summers for FUMC Dyersburg. In the 1940s, the Lakeshore camp we've come to know and love in Camden, started one spring with a good and Godly idea where ten preachers dressed in work clothes instead of suits, began helping with construction. Few would have imagined that today, almost 75 years later, the original vision of those workers and the 1944 Annual Conference would still be alive and thriving! Even more remarkable is how Lakeshore has adapted over the years.

Every summer, over 2,000 campers experience fun-filled/Christ-centered activities and worship, as they also develop lasting friendships. Many FUMC kids, youth and adults, plus a few friends, have been amazed at God's work in a Christian camp. Lakeshore's camps include experiences for students from elementary to high school. Alongside the typical camp experience, Lakeshore also offers camps specially designed for the special needs of kids and youth whose lives are more challenged because of extreme poverty, significant loss or special needs. These camps, part of Lakeshore's *Camp Hope Series*, help young people enjoy a time to build community and discover the hope of God's unconditional love.

While camps and retreats carry a cost, the fees charged to participants are well below Lakeshore's actual cost. As a ministry serving the UMC's Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference and beyond, Lakeshore minimizes cost in order to serve all people. Lakeshore has also taken many steps to reduce funding from our annual conference, but must rely more on partner churches like us. This Sunday, please consider leaving a financial gift on the altar rail for our Communion Offering to Lakeshore, and always remember to pray for our Youth and Lakeshore's continued impact in West TN.

With Love,
Your Missions Team



BRINGING OUR GIFTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

LITURGIST

Mark Hayes

VIDEO RECORDER

Pierce White

USHERS

Walt Bradshaw
Jamison Gullett
Billy Ozment
Lowell Beck
Steven Parker

GREETERS

Virginia Parker
Jake Browning

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Tim and Cindy Taylor
Joe and Patty Yates

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION STEWARDS

Eddie and Vicki Dunagan
Ginger Voss and
Alyce Ann Lecklitner
John and Beth Feith

Our Mission Statement

To Know, Love, Share,
and Serve Christ

Our Vision Statement

We seek to love God above
everything and to love our
neighbors as ourselves

Our Values

Hospitality, Outreach, Loving,
Tradition, Community, Teaching,
Family



...Dr. John K. Legan and family in the death of wife, Mrs. Marilyn Legan, who passed away on December 28, 2023. Mrs. Legan was a member of our church since 2002. Mrs. Legan is also the mother of Dr. Mark Legan and Mrs. Laura Busch.

....Mr. and Mrs. Billy Ozment, Mrs. Julia Smith and family in the death of their brother and father, Mr. Jere Ozment, who passed away on December 28, 2023. Mr. Ozment has been a member of our church since 1940.

..Mr. Oneal Spoon and family in the death of his daughter, Mrs. Debbie Spoon Barnett, who passed away on December 23, 2023.

RECORD OF LOYALTY (12/31/2023)

ATTENDANCE - 12/24/23

Online Worship	382
In Person Worship (Morning)	150
In Person Worship (Christmas Eve)	150
Sunday School (Christmas Special)	95

ATTENDANCE - 12/31/23

Online Worship	487
In Person Worship	149
Sunday School	52

OFFERING

Monthly Income (October)	\$27,434.00
Monthly Expenses (October)	\$70,366.60
Income Year to Date	\$436,420.80
Expenses Year to Date	\$547,210.22
December Communion (Hannah's Hope)	\$579.00

WITH GRATITUDE TO MELINDA EVANS

With deep gratitude and heavy hearts we share that our faithful, cat-loving, beautifully singing, always-encouraging Financial Secretary, Melinda Evans, will be leaving us this week. Melinda has been with us since 2017, and we are unspeakably grateful that she has shared her gifts with us for all this time. Melinda says that, "It's been an honor to work with the awesome volunteers and different staff members who've helped me grow and from whom I've learned much--job-wise and life-wise." She shares that this is a new season of life for her to spend more energy and time in other pursuits.

Thank you, Melinda, for being such a blessing to us all!

PACK THE PANTRY

Would you like to help stock the pantry by buying the groceries that go in the pantry? You can go to Walmart.com and place orders on the church's registry page. Walmart will even deliver them here for you. Here's some directions to help you find it on their website. Click on the following areas as prompted: Services—Registry, Lists, Gifts—Registries—Spark Good—Support a Local Charity—First United Methodist Church—Donate Products now. That's it!

Thank you for your support.



PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION For 2024-2025 School Year

Registration for church members and currently enrolled begins **January 8**. Registration opens to the public on **January 15**.

Registration forms will be available at the preschool, church's website (<https://fumcdyersburg.com/connect/preschool>) and on the preschool's Facebook page (FUMC Preschool).

Students should have their birthday by August 15, 2024, to register for the 2024-2025 School Year.

If you want more information about our preschool or would like to tell someone where to find more information, please check out our website. The preschool has up-to-date information and a great video to watch about the program (<https://fumcdyersburg.com/connect/preschool>).

For more information also feel free to call Paula Brandt, the Preschool Director, at 731-287-1251.

Happy New Year *Happy New Year* *Happy New Year*

CALENDAR YEAR STARTS NEW

Now is the time to start looking at your calendar and thinking about what you have coming up this year at the church. Please don't wait until after your group or event meets to get on the calendar. This prevents overlapping of events and meetings happening at the same time in the same place at the church. Please call or email Karen in the church office with your upcoming events or meeting schedules.

731-285-6454 or kkesterson@fumcdyersburg.com

KIDMIN KORNER

It's a new year! Are you ready to look ahead and plan for a more successful, beneficial, and fulfilling year? I've certainly had those thoughts, but this year, my focus is on something else.

I'm determined to love more, following the example of Jesus. With everything happening around me—in the community and the world—I sometimes feel overwhelmed and unsure where to begin.

But I'm reminded of Corinthians 16:14, 'Do everything in love.'

So, no matter what life throws my way, regardless of the twists and turns, and whoever is around, my commitment is to love like Jesus!

Upward® Sports

Volunteers are STILL NEEDED: <https://dyersburgfumc.shelbnextchms.com/external/form/f541c1a2-eed2-4ae4-b165-dcdf4408303c>

Games start Jan 13, 2024.

We need Referees, Concession Stand Helpers, and Devotion Leaders. Bonus roles: Scoreboard and time clock keepers

KIDMIN EVENTS

Joyful Journey Retreat

(1st - 6th Grade Children and Friends)

May 3—5, 2024

@ NaCoMe Camp & Retreat Center, Pleasantville, TN

REGISTER HERE: <https://min.link/Frg>

Kid's Night In

Jan 20 @ 2—5 pm

Fellowship Hall

Coffee Talk

Jan 26 @ 7:45—9:15 am

Green Frog Coffee

The **January/February** Upper Rooms are in! Please remember to save and recycle your previous devotional. Bring it with you when you pick up your new devotional. Both can be dropped and picked up in the Connect Center.



Koinonia Class Party

Koinonia Sunday School Class will have a "Happy New Year Burgers and Bingo Night" for all class members on Wednesday, January 17th at 6 pm in the fellowship hall. Please sign up with Nita Jones (731-445-9556) or Nancy West (731-445-0701).

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE

- When a member of your family is admitted to the hospital.
- When there is a death in your family.
- When your class or group plans to use the church facilities for a meeting or a function.
- When either your home or business phone number or address changes.
- When a new baby arrives in your family.
- When a member of your family leaves for college or establishes their own residence.
- When you change your name.
- When a new family moves into your neighborhood.
- When you feel the pastor, staff, or church can assist you in any way.

CATCHING UP ON MEMORIALS

If you would like to do memorials and can't remember to stop by or write a check on Sunday, you can do memorials online. Go to the church's webpage, <https://fumcdyersburg.com/donate>. There is a place to type in memorial names after you select one of the memorial funds.

MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

PANTRY FUND

In memory of:

Jerry Weaver

Jerry Weaver

Given by:

Chuck and MaryAnn Fussell and

Kathy, Dickie and Jennilyn

Stan and Lynn Young

GENERAL FUND

In memory of:

Johnny Burks

Dick McCormick

Jere Ozment

Jerry Weaver

Given by:

The Lecklitner Family

The Lecklitner Family

The Lecklitner Family

The Lecklitner Family

Memorials not listed this week will be listed in next week's issue.



Hospitality Corner

From the Evangelism Team

Jesus values all people. He sees their worth and knows their intrinsic value. The image of God is imprinted on all our lives.

MAKE SURE YOUR RECORDS AND THE CHURCH'S RECORDS MATCH

To ensure that your 2023 church contributions are deductible, please do not file your 2023 income tax return until you have received a statement of your contributions from the church. Your records and our records should match, but it is wise to wait for this year's contributions statement to be sure that the deductions you claim match the records the church has of your giving.



Needs for January

Peanut Butter
Grape Jelly
Vienna Sausage

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP FROM ANYWHERE

Our Sunday morning service is viewable each Sunday morning at 10:15 am from our church's webpage at <https://www.fumcdyersburg.com/media> or our Facebook page at Dyersburg First United Methodist Church. You can also watch previous sermons on either site.



HOSPITAL AND

In order to keep our teams informed about persons you've requested prayer for, please send updates every three weeks.

Patti Lou Parker—Cane Creek, 180 Mt. Pelia Rd., Room 313, Martin, TN 38237

Patty Johnson

Brady Heidenreich

Veronica Merrell

Cherry Robertson

Amy Pope McIntosh - Steven Parker's cousin

Jerry and Carolyn Cooper - Bells Nursing and Rehab. Center, 213 Herndon Drive, Room 218, Bells, TN 38006

Jake Gold - Ginny Acree's nephew

Andrea Young Pope - Steven Parker's Mom

Joann Lewis

Eddie Anderson

Bill Troy

Jimmy Wilkes

Patti Hill

Lorna Donaldson

Charles and Angela Brown

**Please continue to remember the Home Bound.*

FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Family Life Center Walking Track is available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 am - Noon and 1 - 4 pm. It's available Thursdays 8:30 am to 4 pm. To gain access to the building call the church office at 731-285-6454 when you get to the FLC.

Send form #3579 to The Word, P.O.Box 452, Dyersburg, TN 38025, FUMC

Sunday, January 7, 2024
Epiphany Sunday

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

9:00 am Sunday School
9:45 am Fellowship
10:15 am Worship
Rev. Dr. Mary Beth Bernheisel,
preaching

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