

# THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist Church

Volume LI

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## PASTORAL THOUGHTS

Rev. Steve Lefebvre

Friends in Christ,

Last night was one of the more powerful Ash Wednesday services I have ever been apart of. I don't know if it was the symbolic nature of turning forty and beginning the second half of my life, putting ashes on my own son for the first time, or just the fact that we have experienced so much death and loss these last few months together... I was so grateful this past Ash Wednesday to have the Spirit remind me so clearly that I am not alone in my human condition.

Now that Lent has begun, I want to let you know what we have planned for Holy Week this year (March 29 - April 5). This is one of the most meaningful weeks in the life of the church, as we walk together through the story of Jesus' final days, his death, and the joy of resurrection. So, I strongly urge you to prioritize them.

### **Palm Sunday — March 29 — 10:15 AM (Sanctuary)**

We will begin Holy Week by processing with palms and singing "Hosanna" as we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. This joyful service helps set the stage for the journey ahead.

### **Maundy Thursday — April 2 — 6:00 PM (Sanctuary)**

On Maundy Thursday, we will gather in the sanctuary to tell the story of the Upper Room, share Holy Communion, and strip the altar. This deeply moving service invites us into the intimacy and gravity of Jesus' final night with his disciples.

### **Good Friday — April 3 — 6:00 PM (Stations of the Cross)**

We will offer an interactive Stations of the Cross service for all ages. Together we will read scripture, sing, and carry the cross around our church campus, remembering the path Jesus walked to the crucifixion.

### **Easter Sunrise — April 5 — 6:00 AM (Vesper Ring)**

In addition to our principal Easter worship service at 10:15 AM, we will gather for a Sunrise Service at 6:00 AM in the Vesper Ring by the Family Life Center. The tradition of proclaiming "He is risen!" as the sun comes up, is one of our most ancient Christian traditions.

I simply cannot wait to walk through this Lenten wilderness with you.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Steve

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

### USHERS

Tim Taylor  
Mark Hayes  
Joe Yates  
Dustin Seratt  
Charlie Caldwell

### GREETERS

Cindy Taylor  
Sandy Prince

### LITURGIST

Elizabeth Lemons

### VIDEO RECORDER

David Wagner

# YOUNG ADULT

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:15AM

Room 218

### 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*

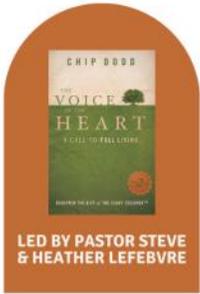
### Our Values

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



# Wednesday Night Bible Studies

During Lent



LED BY PASTOR STEVE  
& HEATHER LEFEBVRE



LED BY  
DR. MATTHEW STAFFORD



LED BY KELLI HAYES &  
PASTOR ROBERT CRAIG

ADDITIONALLY: CHILDREN'S CLASS WITH MS. TORI (AGES 2-12)

5:30 SUPPER | 6:00PM SMALL GROUPS  
WEDNESDAYS: FEBRUARY 25 - APRIL 1  
Gather in the Fellowship Hall



SCAN QR CODE  
TO REGISTER  
For Wed. Night classes



APRIL 10-12

1ST - 5TH GRADE

# OPERATION: RESCUE

## KIDMIN RETREAT

REGI: \$75

ADDRESS: NACOME RETREAT CENTER  
3232 SULPHUR CREEK ROAD,  
PLEASANTVILLE, TN 37033

Safe, engaging, and unforgettable — our retreat is the perfect place for kids to learn, grow, and create lasting memories

SUNNY DAYS, HAPPY HEARTS, AND NEW ADVENTURES!

<https://min.link/Y2h>



Our Kid's Ministry has been full of joy, learning, and lots of excitement lately! Each week, our children are growing in their understanding of God's love through Bible stories, worship, games, and small group time.

We've been focusing on helping kids understand that God is always with them, and we are so encouraged by the questions they ask, the prayers they pray, and the way they are building friendships with one another.

We are looking for two more amazing Children's Ministry Assistants who want to make a lifelong impact on our kids. Your time, energy, and love will plant seeds of faith that will last a lifetime!

Thank you, church family, for continuing to support our children and invest in the next generation. Please continue to pray for our kids, our leaders, and the families we serve!

Peace & Grace,  
Tori

## THE SEASON OF LENT

Lent is the season where we identify with the passion and death of Jesus. Its aim is the renewal of our faith. Lent begins with a special day of repentance on Ash Wednesday and concludes with the crucifixion of our Lord on Good Friday.

The Lenten season developed over a thousand years or so. It began as an observance lasting 40 hours in the church of the first century because the Lord's body rested in the tomb that length of time between burial and resurrection. Later, the season was stretched to six days of fasting and special observance called Holy Week. In the fourth century, Holy Week was practiced in Jerusalem by going to various sites associated with the passion of our Lord, later referred to as the stations of the cross.

Next, six days grew into 36 days, a title of the number of the days in the year. Around 730 A.D., four days were added to total 40. The significance of 40 refers to the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, the 40 days Moses was on Mount Sinai to receive the commandments and the 40 days our Lord was tempted by Satan.

Sundays were never considered a part of Lent, since Sunday was always celebrated as the Lord's resurrection day. The purpose of Lent is to help us enter the redemptive drama of Christ's death. The aim is transformation and renewal. Lent helps us experience anew Jesus' death and resurrection.

*Sunday, February 22, 2026*  
First Sunday of Lent

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

**Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7**

**Psalm 32**

**Romans 5:12-19**

**Matthew 4:1-11**

**9:15 am Sunday School**

**10:00 am Fellowship Time**

**10:15 am Worship**

**2:00 pm Parish Choir Rehearsal**

**4:00 pm Blankets**

**4:00 pm Fuel For The Soul**

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Church: 731-285-6454

Web Page—[www.fumcdyersburg.com](http://www.fumcdyersburg.com)

Rev. Steve Lefebvre, Preaching



**Monday - Friday**

**8:30am – 12:00pm**

**1:00pm – 4:00pm**



**Vegetable Beef Soup**

**Canned Fruit**

**Small Jelly**

**Toothpaste**

# Prayer Requests

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

John Reaves Family

Maddox Family

Tiffany Riggins (Elaine McCormick's daughter)

David West

Carolyn Cooper - Bells Nursing and Rehab. Center,

213 Herndon Drive, Room 218, Bells, TN 38006

Bill Troy

George Robertson

Cherry Robertson

Linda Jones

*\*Please continue to remember the Home Bound.*

*\*If you'd like to send cards, contact the church office for addresses if you need them.*

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## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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The mission and ministry of Dyersburg FUMC is now more vital than ever. Although you can bring your offerings with you to church on Sunday, you can also still mail them or go online. It's easy: mail your check to the church at P.O. Box 452, Dyersburg, TN 38025 OR give online by going to <https://fumcdyersburg.com/donate>.