

# THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist Church

Volume LI

March 9, 2026

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## SEASONAL REFLECTION

Your Worship Committee

### 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, MARCH 15

### USHERS

Charles Brown  
Sam Petty  
Lowell Beck  
Steven Parker  
Pierce White

### GREETERS

Maralyn Beck  
Lisa Traverse

### LITURGIST

Steve Caldwell

### VIDEO RECORDER

Will Bird

### 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*

## LENT 2026

18

FEB

### ASH WEDNESDAY

12:00 PM Service-Chapel  
5:30 pm Meal - Fellowship Hall  
6:00 PM Service-Chapel

29

MARCH

### PALM SUNDAY

9:15 AM - Sunday School  
10:15 AM - Worship

2

APRIL

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:00 - 7:00 PM Service - Sanctuary



3

APRIL

### GOOD FRIDAY

6:00 - 7:00 PM Service - Sanctuary

5

APRIL

### EASTER SUNDAY

6:30 AM - Sunrise Service - Vesper Ring  
10:15 AM - Worship - Sanctuary

## OFFICE HOURS

**Monday - Friday**  
8:30am - 12:00pm  
1:00pm - 4:00pm

## RECORD OF LOYALTY (3/1/2026)

### ATTENDANCE

Online Worship	25
In Person Worship	117
Sunday School	56

### OFFERING

Income Year to Date	\$37,633.03
Expenses Year to Date	\$5,680.61
Income (January)	\$37,633.03
Expenses (January)	\$5,680.61
Communion Offering (Preschool)	\$1,061.00

## MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

### PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>Given by</i>
Max Maddox	David and Sara Hayes
Max Maddox	The Bloch Family
	Betsy, John, Elliot, and Nina
	Matt, Avery, Parker, and Henry

### LAKESHORE SUMMER CAMP

While you are looking forward to the warm days of summer and making plans for your children's activities, don't forget our United Methodist camp, Lakeshore. Lakeshore is for kids from seven-years-old through Senior High School. There are also specialty camps.

For years, Dyersburg FUMC has encouraged our kids to attend Lakeshore by paying \$100 toward the camp fee. **This year, the church will pay \$200 of each of our camper's fees.** Those of you whose child attended Lakeshore last year have received registration forms and camp information in the mail. You can go to [lakeshorecamp.org](http://lakeshorecamp.org) for more information.

LAKESHORE  
camp and retreat center

### 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.



**Easter  
FLOWERS**

This year, you are invited to order Easter Flowers to place in the Sanctuary in memory or in honor of a loved one on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026. All memorials and honorariums will be included in the order of worship on Easter morning.

Scan the **QR code** to order your flowers, text 'easter' to **731-207-8878**, or go to the **church website**. You may also contact the church office if you'd like a paper form. The last day to turn in forms is Sunday, March 29, 2026.

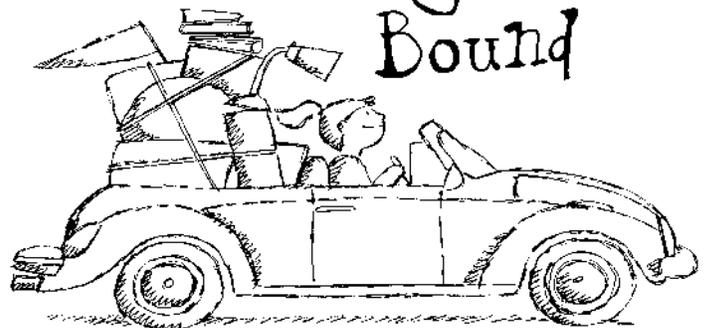
### DEADLINE TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS

The deadline to order Easter Flowers is Sunday, March 29th. Use the QR code or visit the church website to order.

### ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Do you have information to be printed in the newsletter? Maybe you have a birth announcement, a wedding announcement, a prayer request/update, or an upcoming Sunday School social. Please send your information to Tori in the church office. It's easy. Call 731-285-6454 or email - [tfrazier@fumcdyersburg.com](mailto:tfrazier@fumcdyersburg.com)  
**Deadline is Tuesdays at noon the week before.**

## College Bound



If you have a child going off to college, now would be a great time for them to sign up on the church's webpage to get e-newsletters from the church. It's a great way to keep in touch with some home town news. <https://fumcdyersburg.com/media/newsletters>

# LENT STUDIES

Wednesdays  
3/4, 3/11,  
3/25, 4/1

**5:30-  
7:30** PM



The **March/April** 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.



Preschool Open Enrollment is Happening Now!

We are excited to share that preschool open enrollment is officially underway! We serve children ages 2–5 years, with flexible program options designed to meet your family’s needs—from half days, 2 days a week to full days, 5 days a week (7:00 AM–5:15 PM).

Enrollment is quick and easy—just scan the QR code to access registration information and get started. Spaces fill quickly, so don’t wait!



We can’t wait to welcome our church families and friends into the preschool!



We’re making a small but important adjustment to better serve our church family.

Beginning this month, our church newsletter will now be sent on the **Tuesday of the following week**. This shift allows us to include more complete information, improve clarity, and ensure everyone receives timely and organized updates about what’s happening in the life of our church.

What does this mean for submissions? If you would like an announcement included in the newsletter, we will now need your article or information **one full week before** the Tuesday you’d like it shared. This will help us prepare and distribute content accurately and consistently.

Additionally, everyone in our church directory will now receive the newsletter. We believe it is an essential part of our overall communication strategy and an important way to keep our church family connected and informed.

If you prefer not to receive the newsletter, you are welcome to contact the church office, and we will be happy to update your preferences.

Thank you for helping us communicate well and stay connected as a church family!

A colorful promotional poster for "OPERATION: RESCUE KIDMIN RETREAT". It features a group of children in scout-like attire around a campfire in a forest. The text includes: "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", and "SUNNY DAYS, HAPPY HEARTS, AND NEW ADVENTURES!". The bottom of the poster features the URL "https://min.link/Y2h".

*Sunday, March 15, 2026*  
Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

#13490  
Periodicals  
Paid at  
Dyersburg, TN

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:  
1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

9:15 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Fellowship Time  
10:15 am Worship  
2:00 pm Parish Choir Rehearsal

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100 McGaughy, P.O. Box 452, Dyersburg, TN 38024  
Church: 731-285-6454  
Web Page—[www.fumcdyersburg.com](http://www.fumcdyersburg.com)

Rev. Nancy Johnston Varden, Preaching



**Vegetable Beef Soup**  
**Canned Fruit**  
**Small Jelly**  
**Toothpaste**

#### LITURGICAL COLORS

During this season, the liturgical color of the paraments in the chancel is purple. This color designates seasons of preparation (Advent and Lent) and represents both royalty and penitence. This color will be used throughout the Lenten season as we prepare for Easter. On that day, white will be used to designate the beginning of a festival season and to symbolize the joy of Christ's Resurrection.



## Prayer Requests

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

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>.