

# THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist Church

Volume LI

April 14, 2026

Copy 15

## PASTORAL THOUGHTS

Rev. Steve Lefebvre

Friends,

You may have noticed the banner on our front lawn that reads, “He is risen.” It will remain there until Pentecost.

Pentecost means *fifty*, because Easter is not just one Sunday — it is a season that lasts fifty days. For the next seven Sundays, we will keep the Paschal candle lit in the sanctuary, and together we will continue to proclaim, “Alleluia! Christ is risen.” After the quiet reflection of Lent, even the return of that word — *Alleluia* — is part of Easter’s joy.

Historically, the Church has used the Easter season to tell the story of the risen Christ appearing to his disciples, his ascension into heaven forty days later, and then, on the great feast of Pentecost, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the world. In Scripture, the Easter story reaches far beyond a single Resurrection Sunday.

So, my invitation to you this Easter season is simple: look for resurrection around you.

In the midst of a world at war, in the midst of political toxicity, when our media and social media so often work to pit us against one another, may “Christ is risen” always be on your lips.

Look for reconciliation and forgiveness.  
Look for healing and newness of life.  
Look for the Kingdom of God dwelling among the poor and the powerless.

May God give you eyes to see and ears to hear the beautiful moments of resurrection unfolding in our community during this Eastertide.

Alleluia, Christ is risen indeed.  
Pastor Steve

## SUNDAY, APRIL 19

### USHERS

Walt Bradshaw  
Dustin Seratt  
Bill Yates  
David Wagner  
Amy Lewis

### GREETERS

Lena Lewis  
David Hayes

### LITURGIST

Beth Feith

### VIDEO RECORDER

David Wagner

### Our Mission Statement

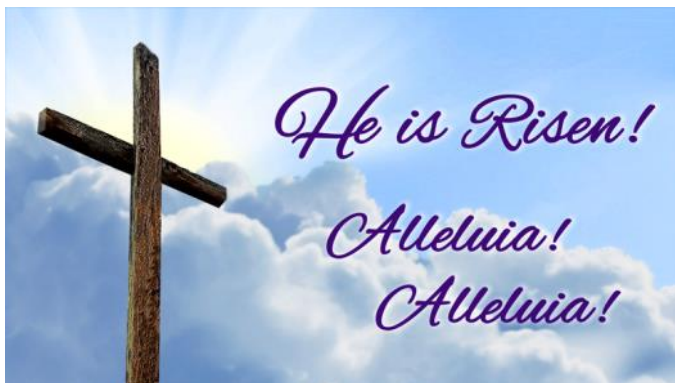
*To Know, Love, Share,  
and Serve Christ*

### 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*



## OFFICE HOURS

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

**RECORD OF LOYALTY (4/5/2026)**

**ATTENDANCE**

Online Worship	26
In Person Worship	205
Sunday School	49

**OFFERING**

Income Year to Date	\$68,521.31
Expenses Year to Date	\$105,569.23
Income (February)	\$30,888.28
Expenses (February)	\$55,082.98
Communion (UMCOR)	\$175.00



**WELCOME NEW BABY**

We'd like to welcome Charles "Charlie" Walter Lane into this world. Chance was born on April 5th to Anna Claire and Miller Lane. Jane and Walt Bradshaw are his grandparents, from our congregation. Cooper is his proud big brother.



Preschool Open Enrollment is Happening Now!

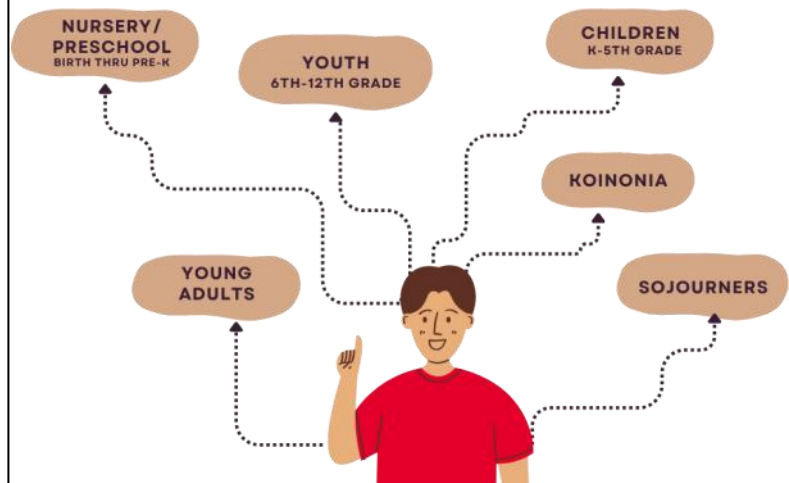
We are excited to share that preschool open enrollment is officially underway! We serve children ages 2-5 years, with flexible program options designed to meet your family's needs—from half days, 2 days a week to full days, 5 days a week (7:00 AM-5:15 PM).

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!



**WHICH SUNDAY SCHOOL SHOULD YOU GO TO?**



## 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.



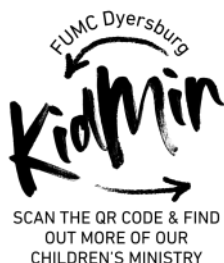
### KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE: SAFE SANCTUARY

At First United Methodist Church of Dyersburg, the safety and well-being of our children, youth, and vulnerable persons is a sacred responsibility. Our Safe Sanctuary policy exists to protect those in our care while also safeguarding the volunteers and staff who serve them — creating an environment of trust, transparency, and accountability for everyone.

Safe Sanctuary training is required for anyone who works with children, youth, or vulnerable persons through the church or any church-sponsored function. This includes volunteers, paid staff, Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, and anyone else serving in these ministry areas. Completing this training is not just a formality — it's a meaningful commitment to the well-being of our church family.

If you serve in any of these areas and have not yet completed your Safe Sanctuary certification — or if your certification needs to be renewed (expires yearly) — please reach out to Tori Armstrong at [tfrazier@fumcdyersburg.com](mailto:tfrazier@fumcdyersburg.com) to get started.

Thank you for helping us make our church a safe place for all.



<https://min.link/Y7e>



BLANKETS 4-5:30PM  
Kids 2yr - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade



FUEL FOR THE SOUL  
4-5:30PM  
Youth 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade



PARISH CHOIR  
REHEARSAL  
4-5:00PM

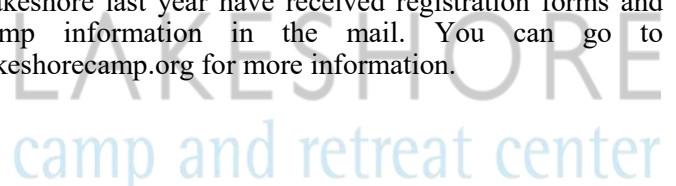


The **March/April** Upper Rooms are in! Please remember to save and recycle your previous devotional. Bring it with you when you pick up your new devotional. Both can be dropped and picked up in the Connect Center.

### 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.



#13490  
Periodicals  
Paid at  
Dyersburg, TN

*Sunday, April 19, 2026*  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

**Acts 2:14a, 36-41**  
**Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**  
**1 Peter 1:17-23**  
**Luke 24:13-35**

**9:15 am Sunday School**  
**10:00 am Fellowship Time**  
**10:15 am Worship**  
**2:00 pm Parish Choir Rehearsal**  
**4:00 pm Blankets - 2yr - 5th Grade**  
**4:00 pm Fuel for the Soul - 6th - 12th Grade**

**Rev. Steve Lefebvre, Preaching**

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



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

**Are you up to date?**

Help us make sure your information is accurate at the church. Have you dropped your landline or changed your cell phone number? Have you changed your email address or moved? Please call the church (285-6454) or email ([kkesterson@fumcdyersburg.com](mailto:kkesterson@fumcdyersburg.com)) and let us know. If you are not sure if you have updated this information at the church, please send it to us anyway.

# Prayer Requests

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

Bobbie Williams  
Janie Stafford  
Raney Webb  
Tiffany Riggins (Elaine McCormick's daughter)  
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.*

---

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

---

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>.