



THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist Church

Volume L

July 23, 2025

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PASTORAL THOUGHTS

Rev. Steve Lefebvre

My dear friends in Christ,

As I write this, I'm sitting in my brand-new office just across from the atrium fountain. I moved here because the view of the courtyard is spectacular—and because I want to be in a space where people feel free to stop by. If my doors are open (and they usually are), please don't hesitate to come in and visit. I want to personally thank Joe Yates and Matthew Brown for their leadership in getting the space renovated.

Last Sunday, it felt like my sermon struck a nerve. I'm thankful for the Holy Spirit's work in speaking to all of our hearts. Even though it's been a couple of years since "*the vote*," it's clear there's still a lot of hurt, sadness, and anger that many of us are carrying. I've also heard others say it's time to move on—and I agree. But the most spiritually rich way to move forward is to grieve what we've lost.

This fall, we'll create space for that. We will launch small groups designed to help us take spiritual inventory and consider the changes God might be calling us to make. We'll also open a counseling center led by my wife, Heather. Of course, my door is always open if you need someone to talk to or process with.

My hope is that this kind of spiritual work will help us embrace the new world we're living in—and give us the courage to dream new dreams within it.

Wherever you are in your journey, I encourage you to keep sharing your feelings with one another. Keep meeting each other's stories with patience and grace. Pray that God gives us all eyes to see and ears to hear what's next for FUMC.

Grace and peace,
Steve

SUNDAY, JULY 27

USHERS

Pierce White
Lowell Beck
Charles Brown
Mark Hayes
Dustin Seratt

GREETERS

Baird Lewis
Carolyn Helton

LITURGIST

Steve Caldwell

VIDEO RECORDER

John 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*

RECORD OF LOYALTY (7/13/2025)

ATTENDANCE

Online Worship	75*
In Person Worship	140
Sunday School (Lefebvre Reception)	66

OFFERING

Income Year to Date	\$258,149.06
Expenses Year to Date	\$334,148.43
Income (May)	\$61,341.91
Expenses (May)	\$118,411.04
Communion Offering (School Supplies)	\$50.00

*We are trying to get an accurate number of our online views. So we are using the interactions that our livestreams are getting, directly. That is why this number may seem drastically smaller.



The **July/August** 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.



WELCOME NEW BABY

We'd like to welcome Jim Rainey Henson into this world. He is the son of Ashley and Dallas Henson. He was born on July 16th. He is the grandson of Karen and Mike Kesterson.




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 and Karen in the church office. It's easy. Call 731-285-6454 or email - tfrazier@fumcdyersburg.com kkesterson@fumcdyersburg.com.

Send to both emails to make sure we get your information correct and into the newsletter.

Deadline is Tuesdays at noon each week.



NOT GETTING CHURCH EMAILS?
 We have been experiencing undeliverable emails for church members' accounts. If you regularly get emails from any of the staff, please add us to your email contacts and safe sender list. Our emails are not always getting through. This will help keep it from getting blocked or going to spam and junk mail.

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.

THANK YOU!

We greatly appreciate all who reached out and gave us encouraging words, well wishes, and most importantly the prayers for Ashley and Baby Jim. Thank you for being a kind church family to me and my family.

Karen Kesterson & Family

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 Matthew Brown, Building Superintendent
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 Karen Kesterson, Administrative Assistant
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 Desiree Dolan, Director of Music & Worship Arts
ddolan@fumcdyersburg.com
 Paula Brandt, Preschool Director
fumcpreschooldirector100@gmail.com



TREET Chicken Noodle Soup Tuna

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>.

prayer Requests

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

Ashley Henson and Baby Jim
Texas Flood Victims and Families
Ardis Phillips
Carolyn Cooper - Bells Nursing and Rehab. Center,
213 Herndon Drive, Room 218, Bells, TN 38006
Bill Troy
Ron Gathright
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.*

HOSPITALITY CORNER

FROM YOUR EVANGELISM TEAM



WE ARE THANKFUL TO OUR CREATOR FOR
EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD, BUT MOST
ESPECIALLY FOR LOVING US. WHEN WE
KNOW HOW MUCH GOD LOVES US, WE
CANNOT HELP LOVING GOD IN RETURN.
LOVING GOD FORMS A BENEVOLENT HEART
TOWARDS OTHERS BECAUSE WE KNOW OF
GOD'S LOVE FOR THEM.

Sunday, July 27, 2025
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

Hosea 1:2-10
Psalm 85
Colossians 2:6-19
Luke 11:1-13

9:00 am Sunday School
9:45 am Fellowship Time
10:15 am Worship
Rev. Stephen Lefebvre, Preaching

Monday August 18, 2025
Church Council - 5:30pm
Fellowship Hall

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

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