



THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist Church

Volume L

August 13, 2025

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PASTORAL THOUGHTS

Pastor: Rev. Steve Lefebvre

Dear Dyersburg FUMC Family,

Two things have become abundantly clear to me in my short time here:

1. We are ready to move on from the pain and loss we've experienced as a community over the last few years—but we're not quite sure how.
2. We want to create more meaningful and enjoyable opportunities to be together as a church family—but we're not entirely sure what that should look like.

I believe I have the next right step for us. Starting in September, we will offer Journey to Freedom small groups. These groups were incredibly effective in helping my previous church heal after their painful split. Over eight weeks, they explore themes such as grief, making changes, and discerning God's will. They offer a powerful experience of spiritual formation and community.

Heather and I will lead our first round of groups on Monday mornings and Wednesday evenings. On Wednesday nights, we'll also share a fellowship supper, along with a few other formation and/or fellowship opportunities (more on that soon). While we won't be fully returning to our old favorite, Salt and Light, this eight-week series will give us a chance to see how we might return to regular Wednesday gatherings in the future. You'll find more details in the coming weeks in the newsletter, on Facebook, and in the church bulletin.

My hope for these Journey to Freedom groups is that we will learn to build sacred and safe space for one another, speak honestly from our hearts, and—most importantly—grow in the knowledge and love of God and one another.

For more information on Journey to Freedom small groups visit: restoresmallgroups.org

Grace and peace to you,

Steve

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

USHERS

Charles Brown
Thomas Lemons
Tim Taylor
Baird Lewis
Bill Yates

GREETERS

David Hayes
Sandy Prince

LITURGIST

Nancy West

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*



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

RECORD OF LOYALTY (8/10/2025)

ATTENDANCE

Online Worship	46
In Person Worship	113
Sunday School	61

OFFERING

Income Year to Date	\$410,178.42
Expenses Year to Date	\$403,193.38
Income (June)	\$52,029.36
Expenses (June)	\$69,044.95

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.

MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

PANTRY FUND

In honor of:
Rhea House

Given by
Sojourners Sunday School Class



The **September/October** 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.

ROSS UMC WELCOMING SERVICE

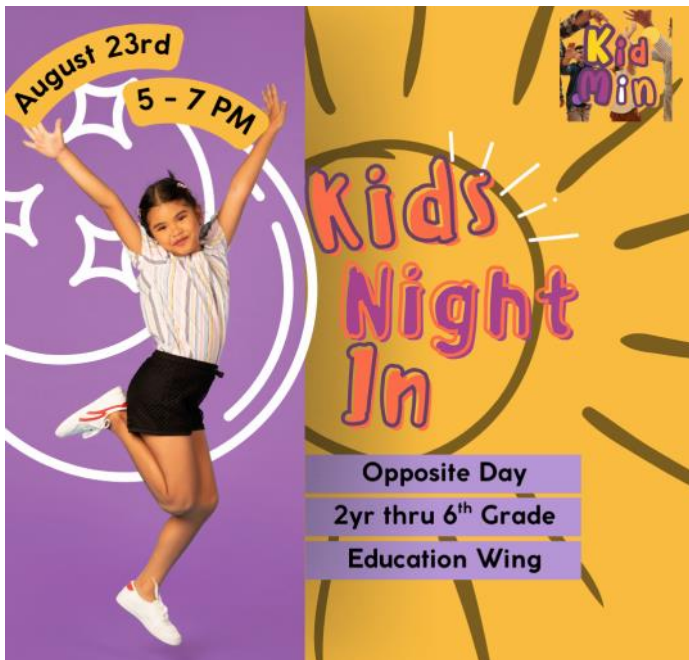
Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is with great joy and heartfelt anticipation that we extend this warm invitation to you and your congregation to join us for the *Welcoming Service of Pastors Davey and Cassandra Parker*, as they officially begin their assignment as the new pastoral leaders of Ross United Methodist Church in Dyersburg, TN.

The service will be held on Saturday, August 16, 2025, at 12:00 noon at our church located at 101 Calcott Avenue, Dyersburg, TN 38024. We are excited to celebrate this new season of ministry with praise, fellowship, and the preached Word of God. Following the service, we will share in a time of fellowship over dinner.

Your presence would mean so much to us, and we would be honored to worship with you as we celebrate what God is doing in and through His church. We hope you will make plans to attend and help us welcome Pastors Parker with love and support. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or if you plan to bring a group.

With love and expectation,
Ross United Methodist Church Family





**30-40 oz Laundry Detergent -
Men's Deodorant - Women's Deodorant -
Feminine Hygeine Products**

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.



Tomato Soup
Chicken Noodle Soup
Vienna Sausage

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**.

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

CARRYING OUT BENEVOLENCE MEANS

"FIRST, DOING NOTHING HARMFUL, AND
 SECOND, DOING ALL WE CAN TO BE
 USEFUL." THE STRENGTH CREATED BY
 THE GRATITUDE WE FEEL FOR WHAT
 THE LORD HAS DONE FOR US HELPS US
 SHARE OUR LOVE WITH OTHERS.

Sunday, August 17, 2025
Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

9:15 am Sunday School
9:45 am Fellowship Time
10:15 am Worship

Rev. Steven 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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