

THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist Church

Volume L

August 20, 2025

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PASTORAL THOUGHTS

Pastor: Rev. Steve Lefebvre

Dear Dyersburg FUMC Family,

Our youth will gather again starting this Sunday night with a pool party at the Bird's house! All 6th–12th graders are welcome. If you have any questions, reach out to Kristen.

After Labor Day, we'll launch a new youth gathering called *Fuel for the Soul*. Join Pastor Steve and our team of parent volunteers in Rawls Hall from 4:00–5:30 p.m. We'll share snacks, play games, dive into Scripture, take communion, and maybe even sing a camp song or two.

Since we're relaunching youth after a summer break, I want to share a bit about my approach to youth ministry. I believe there's no discipleship quite like youth discipleship. If you think back to your teenage years, you'll remember that this is when life starts to get real. It's often the first time you experience heartbreak, failure, humiliation, or loss. Teen years are “ground zero” for what it means to be human—which means the church has a tremendous opportunity to help restore the image of Christ in young people through love and belonging.

The best youth ministry is about contextualization: hanging out, exploring the world, and interpreting our experiences through the lens of Scripture. We want to help youth move from a childlike faith of “*Jesus loves me, this I know*” to a lived faith where they can see, feel, and experience God's love in the world and in the people around them.

But here's the truth: what makes a youth group truly rich isn't just programs—it's relationships. Our students need safe, loving, and Christ-centered relationships with other adults in the church. Even if it's just once a month, we'd love for you to join us in youth or children's ministry on Sunday nights. Tori is doing an amazing job with our little ones, and she could always use a hand showing them the love of Jesus and making them feel safe and welcome in our church.

If you have any questions about children's or youth ministry, please don't hesitate to reach out to Tori or me. And above all else, please be praying for our kids and youth—they matter more than you know.

Grace and peace to you,

Steve

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

USHERS

Charles Brown
Thomas Lemons
Tim Taylor
Baird Lewis
Bill Yates

GREETERS

David Hayes
Sandy Prince

LITURGIST

Will Bird

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*



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

RECORD OF LOYALTY (8/17/2025)

ATTENDANCE

Online Worship	48
In Person Worship	97
Sunday School	55

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
Communion Offering (Backpack Program)	\$175.00

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
Walt and Jane Bradshaw



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.



RECEIVING THE WORD NEWSLETTER

Hello Church Family,

As we look ahead, we anticipate some necessary changes in how *The Word* is shared. To help us plan, we are asking every household to let us know how you would like to receive the newsletter—or if you would prefer not to receive it at all. You can complete the form online (link below) or fill out the paper version included with this newsletter and return it to the church office by **September 22**. This change is needed because we are soon to fall below the minimum number of recipients required for the USPS bulk mail rate. Your response will help us continue sharing *The Word* in the best way possible.

Peace & Grace
Tori

<https://min.link/V25>



1ST THROUGH 6TH GRADE

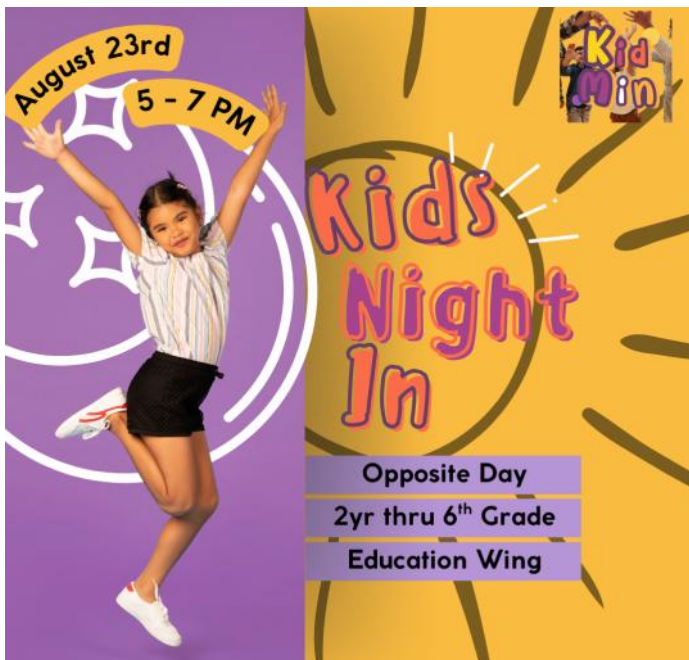
20-21 SEPT
12:45PM -
9:45AM

KIDMIN FUMCDYERSBURG

**LOCK
IN**

REGISTER AT:

[HTTPS://MIN.LINK/V23](https://min.link/v23)



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.



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



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**.

Nadia Browning
 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 24, 2025
Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

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

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

9:15 am Sunday School
10:00 am Fellowship Time
10:15 am Worship

Rev. Steven Lefebvre, Preaching

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