



THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist Church

Volume XLVIII

August 23, 2023

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PASTORAL THOUGHTS

Mary Beth Bernheisel, Senior Pastor

Dear Dyersburg FUMC Family and Friends,

I just received a text from our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. David Weatherly, in order to set up a date and time for our Church Conference, and I thought this might be a great time to share a little bit about what a Church Conference is and why we have one each year.

The Church Conference, according to The United Methodist Book of Discipline, is the basic unit of governance of the local church. While we make and vote on many decisions at our bimonthly Church Council meetings, there are some items that can only be voted on at the annual Church Conference. Those things are recommendations for ministry candidates, the compensation for the pastor and other appointed staff, membership matters, and the church leaders submitted by the committee on nominations and leadership.

In my time serving as a clergyperson in the Memphis Conference, and now the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference, of the United Methodist Church, I have experienced a shift in the approach to Church Conferences. While they *can* be dry, boring business meetings, our District Superintendents have been intentional in their efforts to create an environment of *celebration* in our Church Conferences. They have made our Church Conferences a time for looking back to where we were and where God has led us, and a time for looking forward to anticipate all that God might do with us in the future.

As soon as I know the date and time for our annual Church Conference, I will communicate to all of you, and I hope that all of you will make plans to attend. It will be a time of joy and celebration together, and I *know* it will be a blessing for all of us.

Grateful for our church's life together,

Mary Beth

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

VIDEO RECORDER

Walt Bradshaw

LITURGIST

Delores Jones

USHERS THIS WEEK

Charles Brown, Patrick Lemons,
Tim Taylor, Steven Parker, and
Mark Hayes

GREETERS THIS WEEK

David Hayes
Sandy Prince

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*



Beginning Monday, August 21, the church office will be closed from 12:00—1:00 pm Monday through Wednesday, and Friday. The office will remain open during that time on Thursdays to accommodate our assistance ministry. Please note that phone calls received during that time will go to voice mail and doors will not be accessible without a key card. Thank you for helping us honor our staffs' needs for an uninterrupted lunch time!



...Mrs. Carolyn Lanier and family in the recent death of her sister, Shirley Wells, of Dresden, TN.

RECORD OF LOYALTY (8/20/2023)

ATTENDANCE

Online Worship	133
In Person Worship	123
Sunday School	45

OFFERING

Approved Budget, 2023	\$784,797.00
Weekly Needs	\$15,092.25
Weekly Giving	\$2,881.00
Needed to Date	\$528,228.75
Received to Date	\$347,237.00

GUEST PREACHER THIS SUNDAY

Rev. Dr. David P. Comperry served 45 years as a pastor in the Tennessee and Memphis Conferences of the United Methodist Church. The son of a Methodist pastor, David grew up in Middle Tennessee and began his ministry in the Tennessee Conference before transferring to the Memphis Conference. He received his B.A. from Vanderbilt University and his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Emory University. David has served in a variety of positions in both Annual Conferences, including chairing the Memphis Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, and has served as a delegate at three Jurisdictional Conferences and alternate delegate to General Conference twice. David and his wife, Nancy, have two daughters, Cindy Comperry, who lives in Nashville, and Betsy Little, who lives in Jackson with her husband Brad Little and their children, Rowan and Ben.



PRESCHOOL OPENINGS

The Preschool currently has student openings for four-day three-year-old class, two-day three-year-old class, four-day four-year-old class and the Fab Fives. For more information, please call the Preschool Director, Paula Brandt at 731-287-1251.



by Kathy Kail

George Beverly Shea, "America's beloved gospel singer," has traveled with the Billy Graham evangelistic team since 1946. He was born in 1909 in Winchester, Ontario, where his dad served as pastor of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Bev's mother, the church organist, had a piano and became a "human alarm clock" for the family. Every weekday morning she played the piano and sang Eliza Hewitt's song, "Singing I Go." On Sundays, she chose a different selection, Isaac Watt's hymn, "Lord, in the Morning."

When Bev was 21, he began working for the Mutual Ins. Co. of New York. Among those who came into the office was Fred Allen, host of a coast-to-coast radio talent show. Learning that Bev liked to sing, Mr. Allen arranged an audition, and a few weeks later Bev found himself singing "Go Down Moses" to a nationwide audience on the National Broadcasting Company. Though he lost the contest to a yodeler, he received fifteen dollars and a taste of widespread fame.

One Sunday shortly afterward, Bev sat down at his mother's organ to practice for the morning church service. His eyes fell on a clipping she had left for him there, a poem written in 1922 by Mrs. Rhea Miller. As Bev read the words, they spoke to him about his own aims and ambitions in life. An appropriate melody came easily practically composing itself.

In church that morning, Bev sang "I'd Rather Have Jesus" publicly for the first time. It became his "signature song" expressing his own decisions in life.

I'll be playing this beautiful song during the Offering this Sunday.

From *Then Sings My Soul* by Robert Morgan.

Want to help out during worship?

Looking for help to run the soundboard, run the slides, and more.

Contact Tori to learn more!
tfrazier@fumcdyersburg.com

KIDMIN KORNER



Registration Fee

\$70

UPWARD SPORTS REGISTER NOW!

Ages: K5 - 5th Grade
 Sports: Basketball & Cheerleading
 Registration link:
<https://registration.upward.org/UPW84471>



Hello!

I have felt so welcomed these last few weeks. On Sunday, I was very happy to get to meet with the Youth and hang out while playing games. It was so much fun getting to see their different personalities shine through as they were competitive, strategic, collaborative, and just down right funny. My hope is to be able to foster a youth that laughs easily together and worships even better. It was also important to me that I get their perspective on what they want out of Youth Group and I hope that going forward I can identify more areas where the Lord can be feeding them.

Katy Allen

Matthew

Walking in the Way of Jesus

August/September Sermon Series

- August 13: Don't Be Afraid (Matthew 14: 22-33)
- August 20: Keep Asking (Matthew 15: 21-28)
- August 27: Know Who You're Following (Matthew 16: 13-20)
- September 3: Take Up Your Cross (Matthew 16: 21-28)
- September 10: Stay Accountable (Matthew 18: 15-20)
- September 17: Forgive (Matthew 18: 21-35)
- September 24: Celebrate Mercy (Matthew 20: 1-16)

During the months of August and September, we will be exploring and experiencing what it means to Walk in the Way of Jesus! We hope you'll join us for worship in person and online at 10:15 every Sunday morning!

ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Do you have information to be printed in the newsletter? Maybe you have a birth announcement, a wedding announcement, or an upcoming Sunday School social. Please give your information to Karen in the church office. It's easy. Call—285-6454 or email—kkesterson@fumcdyersburg.com.
Deadline is Tuesdays at noon each week.

MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

PANTRY FUND

In memory of:

Richard McCormick

Given by:

Danny and Merrill Lemon

Memorials not listed this week will be listed in next week's issue.



Hospitality Corner

From the Evangelism Team

Observe your life for a moment. Take a look at yourself as though you are staring into a mirror. Are you exhibiting lavish love and radical hospitality?

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.



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>.



Needs for August

Corn, Tuna fish, Instant potatoes,
Spam/Treet



HOSPITAL AND RECENTLY ILL

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

Bishop McAlilly
Cherry Robertson
Nancy Hardin
Greg Corley (Bobbie Williams' son-in-law)
Carolyn Joslin (Bobbie Williams' friend)
Patty Rosemeyer - friend of Ginger Voss
Jason Jones - Hubert and Delores Jones' son
Marie Hardy
Amy Pope McIntosh - Steven Parker's cousin
Jerry and Carolyn Cooper - Bells Nursing and Rehab.
Center, 213 Herndon Drive, Room 218, Bells,
TN 38006
Jake Gold - Ginny Acree's nephew
LoAnn Burgess - Deb Lowrance's sister-in-law
Andrea Young Pope - Steven Parker's Mom
Joann Lewis
Eddie Anderson
Bill Troy
Jimmy Wilkes
Patti Hill
Lorna Donaldson

**Please continue to remember the Home Bound.*

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

Sunday, August 27, 2023
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8-2:10
Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

9:00 am Sunday School
9:45 am Fellowship
10:15 am Worship
Rev. Dr. David P. Comperry,
preaching

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