

# THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist

Volume LI

September 1, 2026

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## MISSION MOMENT

Rev. Emily Sanford

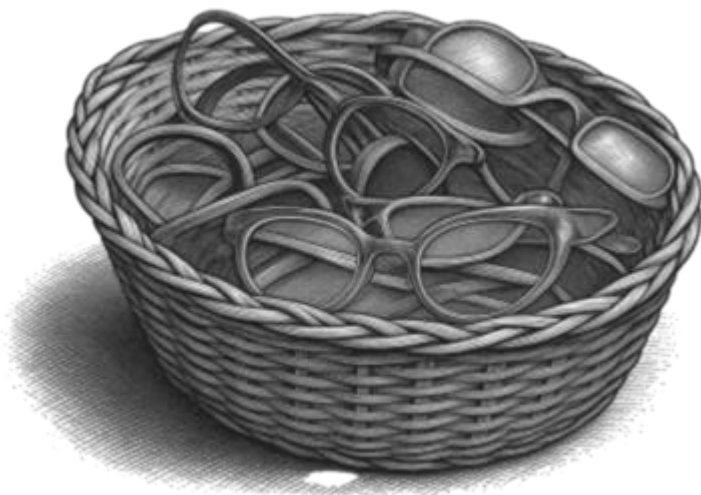
Dear Church Family,

Project 20/20 is a human service program that protects and improves the sight of disadvantaged persons of all faiths in underdeveloped areas of the world where medical care for the poor is very limited. The program provides eyeglasses to medical teams that provide the poor with professional eye care free of charge. This non-profit all-volunteer program is sponsored by the United Methodist Church as a response to people in need regardless of their faith. Project 20/20 is possible because of volunteers and donations from many church denominations, community civic clubs, humanitarian organizations, medical offices, and the Southern College of Optometry.

Through Project 20/20, donations of discarded eyeglasses and sunglasses are transformed into a miracle for the poor in regions of the world with little or no public medical care. Donated glasses are cleaned, screened, and packaged for medical and vision care teams traveling to developing countries. Volunteer optometrists and ophthalmologists dispense Project 20/20 glasses with professional eye exams for free to people in need without discrimination of any kind.

Please bring a donation and/or a pair of old glasses or sunglasses to the chancel rail when you come to partake in communion this Sunday.

Your Mission Team



## SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

### USHERS

Joe Yates  
Lowell Beck  
Charles Brown  
Amy Lewis  
Pierce White

### GREETERS

Vicki Dunagan  
Carolyn Helton

### LITURGIST

Steve Caldwell

### VIDEO RECORDER

Walt Bradshaw

### COMMUNION STEWARDS

John David and Kristen Caldwell  
Eric and Marley Edwards

### HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

#### STEWARDS

Vicki and Eddie Dunagan

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

### ATTENDANCE (8/30/26)

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Online Worship    | 55  |
| In Person Worship | 110 |
| Sunday School     | 55  |

### OFFERING

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Income Year to Date   | \$299,627.80 |
| Expenses Year to Date | \$391,752.92 |
| Income (July)         | \$57,540.96  |
| Expenses (July)       | \$44,574.64  |



♦ ♦ ♦ DYERSBURG ♦ ♦ ♦

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST

Church

### For Children

- 9:15 AM - Birth-Pre-K Sunday School
- 9:15 AM - K-5<sup>th</sup> Sunday School
- 10:15 AM - Birth-Pre-K Children's Church
- 10:15 AM - K-2nd Children's Church
- 4:00 PM - Blankets (2yr-5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### For Youth

- 9:15 AM - 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Sunday School
- 5:30 PM - UMYF (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### For Adults

- 9:15 AM - Koinonia Sunday School
- 9:15 AM - Sojourners Sunday School

### For Everyone

- 10:00 AM - Coffee and Fellowship  
(Gathering Space)
- 10:15 AM - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

We have a place for you!



Our Current Sunday Sermon Series

## CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Church office will be closed on Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Labor Day holiday.



**SOAP**

**SMALL BOXES MAC N CHEESE**

**PASTA SAUCE**

**SMALL JARS OF JELLY**

## CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

This quarter's contribution statements have been sent out. If you do not get yours or need to update something, please call or email, Karen in the church office. 731-285-6454, [kkesterson@fumcdyersburg.com](mailto:kkesterson@fumcdyersburg.com).

## 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.

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Seeking leaders for the conference Board of Laity,  
District Lay Leaders, and District Committees

Nominations are due by  
**SEPTEMBER 15, 2026**

Congregations thrive through the ministry and spiritual leadership of its laity. The conference Board of Laity provides vital direction for lay ministries, supports local church lay leaders, and fosters deeper connections across our conference. The TWK Nominations process is now open for accepting nominations for the conference Board of Laity, District Lay Leaders, as well as a few required District Committees.

We especially seek passionate, dedicated lay members willing to share their gifts and help empower laity across the annual conference. Both self-nominations and nominations are welcome; nominations are due by September 15.

## Key Details & Timeline

**Submission Deadline: September 15 2026**

(Scan QR for submission form)

**Selection/Election Date: November 15, 2026**



## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Please join us for the installation of  
**Reverend Silas Engstrom**

as the Rector of  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
108 North King Avenue  
Dyersburg, TN 38024

**Thursday September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**

Reception to follow

RSVP by September 3<sup>rd</sup>

RSVP to the St. Mary's Church office

731-285-3522 or [office@stmarysdyersburg.org](mailto:office@stmarysdyersburg.org)

# SEPTEMBER 16, 2026 WEDNESDAY

## NIGHTS AT FUMC

### Men's Bible Study



### "Quiet Strength" - Tony Dungy

Rev. Phillip Cook will lead an eight-week study on "Quiet Strength" by Tony Dungy, which combines Dungy's NFL career, Christian faith, and family values. Participants will explore personal questions about their game plan, strength, success, security, significance, and legacy. The book is available for \$5.

### Walking Group



Rev. Emily Sanford will lead a Wednesday Night Walking Group for eight weeks, highlighting the health benefits of walking with others. Each session starts with prayer and a brief devotional, followed by a 30-minute walk outdoors or in the gym, depending on the weather. Join for a fun and healthy experience!

### Adult Craft Class



Jane Bradshaw is hosting an Adult Craft Class focused on "mod-podge" pumpkins. Participants should bring faux or paper mache pumpkins to decorate with provided seasonal napkins, or they can bring their own. Included supplies are white paint, brushes, seasonal napkins, and mod-podge.

### Meal Starts at 5:00pm

This Week's Menu:

- Chicken Pot Pie\*
- Green Beans
- Rolls
- Sweet Tea
- Water

\*There will be offerings weekly for the kids, who may not want the main entree. Kids alternative choices may be Pizza or Chicken nuggets.

More info to come for Children's programming, but there will be offerings for them as well.

1ST THROUGH 5TH GRADE

**19-20 SEPT**

1:00PM -  
10:15AM

KIDMIN FUMCDYERSBURG

**LOCK  
IN**

**REGISTER AT:**

<https://min.link/dsm>

# Prayer Requests

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

Rebecca Sanders (Vicki Dunagan's mother)  
Kelly King  
David Hayes  
Tiffany Riggins (Elaine McCormick's daughter)  
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>.

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

***Sunday, September 6, 2026***  
**Fifteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost**

Revised Common Lectionary  
Readings:  
**Exodus 12:1-14**  
**Psalms 149**  
**Romans 13:8-14**  
**Matthew 18:15-20**

**9:15 am Sunday School**  
**10:00 am Fellowship Time**  
**10:15 am Worship**  
**2:00 pm Parish Choir**

**Rev. Emily Sanford, Preaching**

**#13490**  
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