



THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist

Volume LI

September 29, 2026

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Mission Moment

Rev. Emily Sanford

Church Family,

Did you know that the Rhea House is named for the Rhea family? The Rhea family donated their home to the church in the 1980's and it has served several ministries since that time.

When we decided to join our community assistance outreach with Reelfoot Rural Ministries, we needed a name to honor both First United Methodist and Reelfoot Rural Ministries. We wanted to honor the gift by the Rhea family so "A Ray of Hope at the Rhea House" was formed. Since then we have served so many families in Dyer county with utility assistance and opened the food pantry where families are able to shop for their own needs.

This outreach is funded by FUMC, RRM, and a few grants. At FUMC, we use the "Pastor's Discretionary" fund to provide utility assistance, and the "Food Pantry" fund to assist with the food pantry.

This Sunday our communion offering will benefit the Pastor's Discretionary fund so we can continue the good work in our community.

Grace & Peace,
Kelli Hayes

OCTOBER 4, 2026

USHERS

Walt Bradshaw
Bill Yates
David Wagner
Steven Parker
Baird Lewis

GREETERS

Cindy Taylor
Sandy Prince

LITURGIST

Will Bird

VIDEO RECORDER

David Wagner

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Joe and Patty Yates
Kevin and Sam Petty

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

STEWARDS

Beth & John Feith



"Restoring Hope, One Relationship at a Time."

(731) 285-6454



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 (9/27/26)

Online Worship	94
In Person Worship	91
Sunday School	45

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

UPDATE REGARDING FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Over the next few days, the YMCA will remove their electronics and other office equipment. We are excited to share that, to our understanding, they will leave much of the new exercise equipment they installed when they moved into the facility.

We are also thankful that the YMCA is leaving the building in much, much better condition than when they first took it over. We appreciate the care they have given to the facility during their time with us.

As we transition into this exciting new chapter, we will have very limited access to the Family Life Center throughout October. Groups and/or individuals outside of the FUMC will be restricted access until November 2nd. This will give us time to establish schedules, procedures, and safety protocols for FUMC members and make sure we are ready to use the facility in the best way possible.

We ask for your patience and understanding during this transition. We know many of you are eager to see all that the Family Life Center can become, and we are excited too!

There are many fun opportunities ahead—for fellowship, exercise, ministry, church activities, and community events. We look forward to seeing our Family Life Center filled with laughter, fellowship, and opportunities to serve and grow together.

We have much to look forward to, and we can't wait to see what God has in store for our Family Life Center!

David Wagner



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

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING

Available ONLINE

For anyone who is/will be
working with youth,
children or vulnerable
persons.

Do it once and you're good all year!

<https://min.link/fjj>

NOT GETTING CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS?

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.

Church Mass Email

noreply@shelbynexthms.com

Rev. Emily Sanford, Senior Pastor

emily@fumcdyersburg.com

Matthew Brown, Building Superintendent

mbrown@fumcdyersburg.com

Tori Armstrong, Director of Children's Ministry

tfrazier@fumcdyersburg.com

Karen Kesterson, Office Manager

kkesterson@fumcdyersburg.com

If you're not getting Mass Texts from the church, make sure you look for texts from the number **341-66**. Please reach out if you have other concerns or questions.

Sign up at: <https://min.link/fJJ>

DOWNTOWN DETOUR

31 October, 2026

05:00PM - 07:30PM at FUMC Dyersburg



Hot Dogs, Cocoa,
Popcorn, and Candy

— *Rhea House* —



FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS

SPAM

VEGETABLE BEEF SOUP

CANNED GREEN BEANS



Saturday
10/17
6-8 PM

Kids Welcome
2yr - 5th Grade

The kids will help decide what we do!
Mystery Cards and Challenges help us
decide.



Hope you all enjoy

Fall Break

No Wednesday Night
on 10/7/26

WE WILL BE BACK TO
REGULAR SCHEDULE ON
10/14/26



JOIN US FOR A
Pet Blessing

GATHERING SUPPLIES FOR OUR
LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER AND
BLESSING OUR SWEET PETS

**SATURDAY | OCT 4 | 3:30PM
VESPER RING IN FRONT OF FLC**

ALL PETS WELCOME TO JOIN US!

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SUPPLIES NEEDED: PURINA DOG FOOD, CHEW
TOYS, BLANKETS, LEASHES, AND HARNESSES



Prayer Requests

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

Greg Corley (Bobbie Williams Son-in-law)
Samantha Garcia
Linda DeBerry
Rebecca Sanders (Vicki Dunagan's mother)
David and Sara Hayes
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, October 4, 2026
**Nineteenth Sunday after
Pentecost**

Revised Common Lectionary
Readings:
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalms 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

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

Rev. Emily Sanford, Preaching

**#13490
Periodicals
Paid at
Dyersburg, TN**

Weekly published by

First United Methodist Church

100 McGaughey, P.O. Box 452, Dyersburg, TN 38024

Church: 731-285-6454

Web Page—www.fumcdyersburg.com