

THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist Church

Volume L

November 14, 2025

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PASTORAL THOUGHTS

Rev. Steve Lefebvre

Dear Friends in Christ,

I was thrilled with the response I received on Sunday as we kicked off our stewardship campaign, *The Character of a Methodist*. In my sermon on *presence*, I talked about the importance of showing up for one another - especially in a world that is increasingly online and disconnected.

Sometimes, when I'm preaching, the Spirit will gently say something to me mid-sermon. On Sunday, as I spoke about the loneliness that plagues our culture, I truly felt God whisper, "*this church does this so well.*" And it's true! As your pastor, I am continually blessed by the way so many of you come alongside me and often times go way before me and ahead of me in serving the community, caring for the sick, and sharing life together. Presence is one of our great strengths here at FUMC.

This Sunday, we'll turn our focus to our next vow - *prayer*. The following week, we'll talk about *service*. But before we get there, I want to share a thought about another vow that often gets overlooked: *witness*.

The word *witness* can sound intimidating. Some might wonder, "Am I required as a member of The United Methodist Church to blabber on to my barber or the grocery clerk about Jesus?" Maybe — but perhaps not in the way you think. John Wesley gives us a helpful reminder in his essay *The Character of a Methodist*: "Perfect love having now cast out fear, (a Methodist) rejoices evermore. (A Methodist) rejoices in the Lord always."

Wesley goes on to say that "the Spirit itself bears witness." In other words, our *love* is our *witness*, people see and know and experience God's love when we are loving out in the world. As the old hymn says, "*They'll know we are Christians by our love.*"

To bear witness as United Methodists means to be radically loving - to bring joy to others by loving and serving them just as they are. When we live that way, the Spirit speaks volumes through us.

See you Sunday. Let's keep showing up, praying, serving, and loving - so that through us, the Spirit continues to bear witness to Christ in this place in 2026.

Grace and peace,
Steve

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

USHERS

Thomas Lemons
Bill Yates
Tim Taylor
Lowell Beck
Dustin Seratt

GREETERS

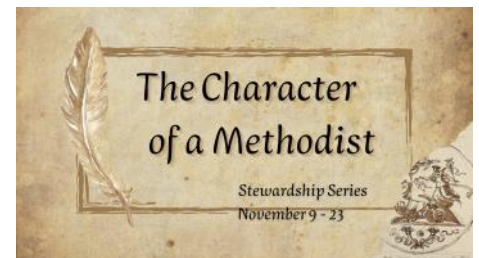
Maralyn Beck
Lena Lewis

LITURGIST

Baird Lewis

VIDEO RECORDER

Walt Bradshaw



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 (11/9/2025)

ATTENDANCE

Online Worship	37
In Person Worship	95
Sunday School	52

OFFERING

Income Year to Date	\$596,102.00
Expenses Year to Date	\$666,401.06
Income (September)	\$87,436.51
Expenses (September)	\$139,958.38
Communion Offering (RRM)	\$164.46

MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

PANTRY FUND

In honor of:
Kelli Hayes

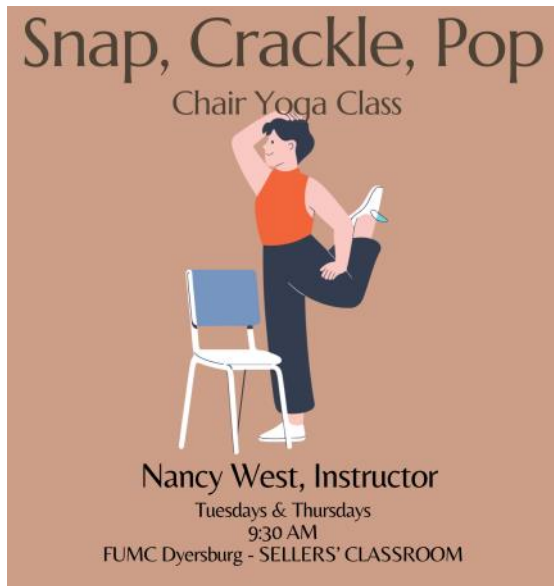
Given by
Tim and Cindy Taylor



...Dr. Charlie Viar and family with the passing of his son, Charlie Viar, Jr. who passed on November 4, 2025.



...Donna Dearing and family with the passing of her husband, Nathan Dearing, III, who passed on October 19, 2025.



If you're interested in taking a bus trip or caravan to watch Josh's recital please let me know at tfrazier@fumcdyersburg.com.



The **November/December** 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.

Youth
SPAGHETTI
Supper

TICKETS ONLINE
<https://min.link/WUw>

Text "supper" to
📞 **731-207-8878**
to get your tickets!




Canned Fruit
Chicken Noodle Soup
Single Toothbrushes
Toothpaste

KID MIN

Progressive Dinner

NOV 30

5:30pm

Start/End: Troy Lot

RSVP to Tori
tfrazier@fumcdyersburg.com
731-285-6454

All kids are welcome to join us as we travel in the Church Bus for our traveling dinner.

Reelfoot Rural Ministries

2025 CHRISTMAS
Toy Drive

Drop toy donations
in the Toy Boxes
in Narthex and
Connect Center

Deadline
NOV 30




Holidays
AT DYERSBURG FUMC

Hanging of the Greens	11/30 10:15AM
Christmas Breakfast	12/7 9:00AM
Plum Pudding	12/14 5:30PM
Advent Family Worship	12/10 5:30PM
Christmas Special	12/21 9:00AM
Lessons and Carols	12/21 10:15AM
Blue Christmas	12/21 5:30PM
Christmas Eve	12/24 5:30PM
	12/24 11:00PM

Sunday, November 16, 2025
The Character of a Methodist: Second
Stewardship Sunday

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 65:17-25

Isaiah 12

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Luke 21:5-19

9:15 am Sunday School
10:00 am Fellowship Time
10:15 am Worship
4:00 pm Parish Choir Practice
4:00 pm Youth at the Rhea House

Rev. Steve Lefebvre, Preaching

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

LOST & FOUND

If you've lost a bracelet it was found on Sunday. Please reach out to the Church Office to describe it.

Prayer Requests

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

Rachel Flynn (Elaine McCormick's granddaughter-in-law)
Tiffany Riggins (Elaine McCormick's daughter)
Nadia Browning
David West
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.*

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>.

TO ORDER ONLINE TEXT

"flower" to 731-207-8878

\$25

Christmas
Poinsettias

proceeds go to the Pastor's
Discretionary Fund

