

THE WORD

A publication of Dyersburg First United Methodist Church

Volume L

December 31, 2025

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MISSION MOMENT

Missions Team

Dear Church Family,

Each month, on the first Sunday, we receive a Communion Offering for special projects like Lakeshore Camp. Though the shorter days and freezing temperatures make it hard to picture summer, it is time to think about this hallmark of summers for FUMC Dyersburg. In the 1940s, the Lakeshore camp we've come to know and love in Camden, started one spring with a good and Godly idea where ten preachers dressed in work clothes instead of suits, began helping with construction. Few would have imagined that today, almost 75 years later, the original vision of those workers and the 1944 Annual Conference would still be alive and thriving! Even more remarkable is how Lakeshore has adapted over the years.

Every summer, over 2,000 campers experience fun-filled/Christ-centered activities and worship, as they also develop lasting friendships. Many FUMC kids, youth and adults, plus a few friends, have been amazed at God's work in a Christian camp. Lakeshore's camps include experiences for students from elementary to high school. Alongside the typical camp experience, Lakeshore also offers camps specially designed for the special needs of kids and youth whose lives are more challenged because of extreme poverty, significant loss or special needs. These camps, part of Lakeshore's **Camp Hope Series**, help young people enjoy a time to build community and discover the hope of God's unconditional love.

While camps and retreats carry a cost, the fees charged to participants are well below Lakeshore's actual cost. As a ministry serving the UMC's Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference and beyond, Lakeshore minimizes cost in order to serve all people. Lakeshore has also taken many steps to reduce funding from our annual conference, but must rely more on partner churches like us. This Sunday, please consider leaving a financial gift on the altar rail for our Communion Offering to Lakeshore, and always remember to pray for our Youth and Lakeshore's continued impact in West TN.

With Love,
Your Missions Team



LAKESHORE
united methodist camp & retreat center

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

USHERS

Walt Bradshaw
Lowell Beck
Steven Parker
Charles Brown
Pierce White

GREETERS

Virginia Parker
Vicki Dunagan

LITURGIST

Nancy West

VIDEO RECORDER

David Wagner

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Lena and Baird Lewis
Anna Claire and Miller Lane

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 (12/28/2025)

ATTENDANCE

Online Worship	22
In Person Worship	120
Sunday School (12/14)	30
Special Sunday School (12/21)	60
Sunday School (12/28)	31

OFFERING

Income Year to Date	\$684,215.30
Expenses Year to Date	\$791,205.81
Income (November)	\$43,063.44
Expenses (November)	\$62,009.81



...Bobbie Webb and family with the passing of her brother, George A. Crews, Jr. who passed on December 10, 2025. Services were held in Collierville, Tennessee.

Are you up to date?

Help us make sure your information is accurate at the church. Have you dropped your landline or changed your cell phone number? Have you changed your email address or moved? Please call the church (285-6454) or email (kkesterson@fumcdyersburg.com) and let us know. If you are not sure if you have updated this information at the church, please send it to us anyway.

MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

PANTRY FUND

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>Given by</i>
Nadia Browning	Joan Gilliland
Nadia Browning	Dyersburg Garden Club
Nadia Browning	John & Beth Feith
Nadia Browning	David & Sara Hayes

GENERAL FUND

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>Given by</i>
Nadia Browning	Lyda Zick

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>Given by</i>
Nadia Browning	Patrick & Amy Heckethorn

REELFOOT RURAL MINISTRY

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>Given by</i>
Nadia Browning	Ann McCoin

2025 CONTRIBUTIONS MUST BE TURNED IN BY END OF DECEMBER

In order for your contributions to the church in 2025 to be claimed as a deduction on your 2025 tax form, they must be given in 2025. If they are mailed, they must be postmarked by December 31, 2025. Only those contributions received by the church, or if mailed postmarked by **December 31, 2025 can be credited and claimed** for tax purposes in 2025, regardless of when the check is dated.

REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS

If you are 72 years old and have an IRA, by law you must withdraw a RMD (required minimum distribution) each year. The RMD is taxable to you UNLESS you divert part or all of this distribution to a non-profit organization. This year, when you withdraw your RMD, please consider diverting all or part of your distribution to Dyersburg First United Methodist Church. It's a win/win!

MAKE SURE YOUR RECORDS AND THE CHURCH'S RECORDS MATCH

To ensure that your 2025 church contributions are deductible, please do not file your 2025 income tax return until you have received a statement of your contributions from the church. Your records and our records should match, but it is wise to wait for this year's contributions statement to be sure that the deductions you claim match the records the church has of your giving.

Snap, Crackle, Pop
Chair Yoga Class



Nancy West, Instructor
Tuesdays & Thursdays
9:30 AM
FUMC Dyersburg - SELLERS' CLASSROOM

Happy New Year • Happy New Year • Happy New Year

CALENDAR YEAR STARTS NEW

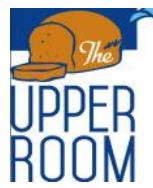
Now is the time to start looking at your calendar and thinking about what you have coming up this year at the church. Please don't wait until after your group or event meets to get on the calendar. This prevents overlapping of events and meetings happening at the same time in the same place at the church. Please call or email Karen in the church office with your upcoming events or meeting schedules.

731-285-6454 or kkesterson@fumcdyersburg.com

Thank You

FOR SUPPORTING THE YOUTH
AND FAMILY MINISTRIES OF
NEW LIFE UNION MINISTRIES.

Neal Chatham
new life
Union Mission



The **January/February** 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.

—Rhea House—



Cream of chicken soup
Cream of mushroom soup
Spaghetti noodles
Small bottles of dawn

Sunday, January 4, 2026
Epiphany Sunday

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:1-18

9:15 am Sunday School
10:00 am Fellowship Time
10:15 am Worship
4:00 pm Blankets
4:00 pm Parish Choir

Rev. Amanda Circe, Preaching



ONLINE GIVING FOR 2026

Dear Online Givers to Dyersburg First United Methodist Church,

Thank you for your generous and ongoing financial gifts to the church! This is a reminder that it's time to update your recurring online gifts to reflect that they will go to the General Fund in 2026. You can do this by logging into your online giving account on the church website (<https://fumcdyersburg.com/donate>) or by contacting Karen in the church office.

Thank you in advance for continuing to support God's work in Dyersburg through DFUMC!

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>.

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100 McGaughey, P.O. Box 452, Dyersburg, TN 38024
Church: 731-285-6454
Web Page—www.fumcdyersburg.com

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)

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.



Monday - Friday

8:30am – 12:00pm

1:00pm – 4:00pm

Offices are Closed 1/1/26