

Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 23  
10:00 a.m. First Cup Fellowship – GS  
10:15 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary  
2:00 p.m. Parish Choir – MS  
4:00 p.m. Blankets – EW

Monday, August 24  
5:30 p.m. Church Council – FH

Wednesday, August 26  
6:30 a.m. Men’s Prayer Breakfast – FH  
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. NO Community Assistance – Rh H

Sunday, August 30  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. First Cup Fellowship – GS  
10:15 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary  
2:00 p.m. Parish Choir - MS  
4:00 p.m. Blankets – EW  
4:00 p.m. Youth Group – RH

EW – Education Wing  
FH – Fellowship Hall  
GS – Gathering Space – Room 217  
MS – Music Suite  
Rh H – Rhea House  
RH – Rawles Hall

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 mail them or give online. Checks can be mailed to P.O. Box 452, Dyersburg, TN 38025, online @ <https://fumcdyersburg.com/donate>, or scan the following QR code with your phone.



Assisting in Worship...

The Rev. Emily Sanford  
Pastor

Pierce White  
Liturgist

Acolyte  
Sawyer Hollingsworth

Cross bearer  
Mitchell Dishman

Tori Armstrong  
Director of Children’s Ministry

Presley Dishman  
Director of Music

Volunteer  
Visuals

Volunteer  
Sound



ORDER OF WORSHIP  
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 23, 2026

✚ Please rise in body or in spirit. **Bold words** are spoken responsively.

THE GATHERING

Gathering Music

The Chimes

Welcome

✚ Call to Worship  
Our help is in the name of the Lord our God,  
**the Maker of heaven and earth,**  
who comes to our aid in times of need,  
**who gives us the courage to do what we know is right,**  
who invites us to turn away from the influences of the world around us  
**and confess Him alone as Savior and Lord.**  
This is our God!  
**Let’s worship together.**

Christ in Our Midst

✚ Hymn of Praise  
UMH 127      *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*      CWM THONDDA  
(vv. 1, 2, 3)

✚ Opening Prayer  
*Almighty and merciful God, you know us better than we know ourselves, and your love encircles us. Grant that your church, gathered by your Holy Spirit, may walk in your truth, love one another, and serve you with joyful hearts through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Celebration of Young Disciples  
Afterwards, children ages birth through 2nd grade may join Mrs. Tori and Mrs. Todameka in the back of the sanctuary for Children's Church.

Bringing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music

✠ Doxology UMH 94 OLD 100TH  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination  
*Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit that,  
as the Scriptures are read and the Word proclaimed, we may hear with  
joy what you say to us today. Amen.*

Epistle Reading Romans 12:1-8 CEB  
<sup>1</sup>So, brothers and sisters, because of God’s mercies, I encourage you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice that is holy and pleasing to God. This is your appropriate priestly service. <sup>2</sup>Don’t be conformed to the patterns of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God’s will is – what is good and pleasing and mature. <sup>3</sup>Because of the grace that God gave me, I can say to each one of you: don’t think of yourself more highly than you ought to think. Instead, be reasonable since God has measured out a portion of faith to each one of you. <sup>4</sup>We have many parts in one body, but the parts don’t all have the same function. <sup>5</sup>In the same way, though there are many of us, we are one body in Christ, and individually we belong to each other. <sup>6</sup>We have different gifts that are consistent with God’s grace that has been given to us. If your gift is prophecy, you should prophesy in proportion to your faith. <sup>7</sup>If your gift is service, devote yourself to serving. If your gift is teaching, devote yourself to teaching. <sup>8</sup>If your gift is encouragement, devote yourself to encouraging. The one giving should do it with no strings attached. The leader should lead with passion. The one showing mercy should be cheerful.

Response to the Word  
The Word of God for the people of God.  
*Thanks be to God.*

✠ Hymn of Preparation UMH 399  
*Take My Life, and Let It Be* MESSIAH  
*(vv. 1, 2, 3)*

Old Testament Reading Exodus 1:8-2:10 CEB  
<sup>8</sup>Now a new king came to power in Egypt who didn’t know Joseph. <sup>9</sup>He said to his people, “The Israelite people are now larger in number and stronger than we are. <sup>10</sup>Come on, let’s be smart and deal with them. Otherwise, they will only grow in number. And if war breaks out, they will join our enemies, fight against us, and then escape from the land.” <sup>11</sup>As a result, the Egyptians put foremen of forced work gangs over the Israelites to harass them with hard work. They had to build storage cities named Pithom and Rameses for Pharaoh. <sup>12</sup>But the more they were oppressed, the more they grew and spread, so much so that the Egyptians started to look

at the Israelites with disgust and dread. <sup>13</sup>So the Egyptians enslaved the Israelites. <sup>14</sup>They made their lives miserable with hard labor, making mortar and bricks, doing field work, and by forcing them to do all kinds of other cruel work. <sup>15</sup>The king of Egypt spoke to two Hebrew midwives named Shiphrah and Puah: <sup>16</sup>“When you are helping the Hebrew women give birth and you see the baby being born, if it’s a boy, kill him. But if it’s a girl, you can let her live.” <sup>17</sup>Now the two midwives respected God so they didn’t obey the Egyptian king’s order. Instead, they let the baby boys live. <sup>18</sup>So the king of Egypt called the two midwives and said to them, “Why are you doing this? Why are you letting the baby boys live?” <sup>19</sup>The two midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because Hebrew women aren’t like Egyptian women. They’re much stronger and give birth before any midwives can get to them.” <sup>20</sup>So God treated the midwives well, and the people kept on multiplying and became very strong. <sup>21</sup>And because the midwives respected God, God gave them households of their own. <sup>22</sup>Then Pharaoh gave an order to all his people: “Throw every baby boy born to the Hebrews into the Nile River, but you can let all the girls live.”

<sup>1</sup>Now a man from Levi’s household married a Levite woman. <sup>2</sup>The woman became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She saw that the baby was healthy and beautiful, so she hid him for three months. <sup>3</sup>When she couldn’t hide him any longer, she took a reed basket and sealed it up with black tar. She put the child in the basket and set the basket among the reeds at the riverbank. <sup>4</sup>The baby’s older sister stood watch nearby to see what would happen to him. <sup>5</sup>Pharaoh’s daughter came down to bathe in the river, while her women servants walked along beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds, and she sent one of her servants to bring it to her. <sup>6</sup>When she opened it, she saw the child. The boy was crying, and she felt sorry for him. She said, “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children.” <sup>7</sup>Then the baby’s sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Would you like me to go and find one of the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” <sup>8</sup>Pharaoh’s daughter agreed, “Yes, do that.” So, the girl went and called the child’s mother. <sup>9</sup>Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I’ll pay you for your work.” So, the woman took the child and nursed it. <sup>10</sup>After the child had grown up, she brought him back to Pharaoh’s daughter, who adopted him as her son. She named him Moses, “because” she said, “I pulled him out of the water.”

Response to the Word  
The Word of God for the people of God.  
*Thanks be to God.*

Sermon *Lessons in Leadership: Power*

Affirmation of Faith *The World Methodist Social Affirmation*  
UMH 886  
We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people; and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us, who died and rose again; and in the Holy Spirit, present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.

*We believe; God, help our unbelief.*

We rejoice in every sign of God's Kingdom; in the upholding of human dignity and community; in every expression of love, justice and reconciliation; in each act of self-giving on behalf of others; in the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to us that all may have enough; in all responsible use of the earth's resources.

*Glory be to God on high;  
and on earth, be peace.*

We confess our sin, individual and collective, by silence or action: through the violation of human dignity based on race, class, age, sex, nation, or faith; through the exploitation of people because of greed and indifference through the misuse of power in personal, communal, national, and international life; through the search for security by those military and economic forces that threaten human existence; through the abuse of technology which endangers the earth and all life upon it.

*Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.*

We commit ourselves individually and as a community to the way of Christ: to take up the cross; to seek abundant life for all humanity; to struggle for peace with justice and freedom; to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love, praying that God's kingdom may come.

*The kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.*

✠ Gloria Patri *Glory Be to the Father* MEINEKE  
UMH 70  
*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen. Amen.*

Pastoral Prayer  
Invitation: Lord, in your mercy,  
Response: **hear our prayer.**

The Lord’s Prayer  
*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom  
come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day  
our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who  
trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us  
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.*

✠ Invitation to Christian Discipleship

SENDING FORTH

✠ Sending Hymn UMH 557  
*Blest Be the Tie That Binds* DENNIS  
*(vv. 1, 2, 3, 4)*

✠ Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

✠ Benediction

✠ Postlude