

Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 30

- 9:00 a.m. Fifth Sunday Breakfast – FH
- 10:00 a.m. First Cup Fellowship – GS
- 10:15 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Blankets – EW
- 5:30 p.m. Youth – Bird’s Home

Wednesday, September 2

- 6:30 a.m. Men’s Prayer Breakfast – FH
- 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Community Assistance – Rh H

Sunday, September 6

- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. First Cup Fellowship – GS
- 10:15 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary

EW – Education Wing
FH – Fellowship Hall
GS – Gathering Space – Room 217
Rh H – Rhea House

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...

Pastor
The Rev. Emily Sanford

Liturgist
Will Bird

Acolyte
Jim Agee

Cross bearer
Miller Baker

Director of Children’s Ministry
Tori Armstrong

Music Accompanist
Presley Dishman

Visuals
J Dan Gullett

Sound
Steve Guttery



ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026

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

THE GATHERING

Gathering Music

The Chimes

Welcome

✚ Call to Worship
God calls us from a burning bush.
We are standing on holy ground!
The Spirit calls us to proclaim God’s name to all generations.
We are standing on holy ground!
Jesus calls us from the cross: come and follow me.
We are standing on holy ground!

Christ in Our Midst

✚ Hymn of Praise
UMH 451 Be Thou My Vision SLANE
(vv. 1, 2, 3)

✚ Opening Prayer
Surprising God, you have an uncomfortable habit of showing up where we least expect you: in a burning bush, in the face of an enemy, in a livestock feed trough, on a rough wooden cross. Turn our lives upside down with your radical love. Help us fully embrace your surprises, even as we revel in the joy of being fully embraced by your all-encompassing grace and mercy. We pray in the name of your most amazing surprise of all: your Son, Jesus Christ. 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.

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15 CEB

¹Moses was taking care of the flock for his father-in-law Jethro, Midian’s priest. He led his flock out to the edge of the desert, and he came to God’s mountain called Horeb. ²The LORD’s messenger appeared to him in a flame of fire in the middle of a bush. Moses saw that the bush was in flames, but it didn’t burn up. ³Then Moses said to himself, “Let me check out this amazing sight and find out why the bush isn’t burning up.” ⁴When the Lord saw that he was coming to look, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” Moses said, “I’m here.” ⁵Then the Lord said, “Don’t come any closer! Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground.” ⁶He continued, “I am the God of your father, Abraham’s God, Isaac’s God, and Jacob’s God.” Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God. ⁷Then the LORD said, “I’ve clearly seen my people oppressed in Egypt. I’ve heard their cry of injustice because of their slave masters. I know about their pain. ⁸I’ve come down to rescue them from the Egyptians in order to take them out of that land and bring them to a good and broad land, a land that’s full of milk and honey, a place where the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites all live. ⁹Now the Israelites’ cries of injustice have reached me. I’ve seen just how much the Egyptians have oppressed them. ¹⁰So get going. I’m sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” ¹¹But Moses said to God, “Who am I to go to Pharaoh and to bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” ¹²God said, “I’ll be with you. And this will show you that I’m the one who sent you. After you bring the people out of Egypt, you will come back here and worship God on this mountain.” ¹³But Moses said to God, “If I now come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ they are going to ask me, ‘What’s this God’s name?’ What am I supposed to say to them?” ¹⁴God said to Moses, “I Am Who I Am. So, say to the Israelites, ‘I Am has sent me to you.’” ¹⁵God continued, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your ancestors, Abraham’s God,

Isaac’s God, and Jacob’s God, has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever; this is how all generations will remember me.”

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

✚ Hymn of Preparation

UMH 578

God of Love and God of Power

UNSER HERRSCHER

(vv. 1, 2, 3, 4)

✚ Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:21-28 CEB

²¹From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and legal experts, and that he had to be killed and raised on the third day. ²²Then Peter took hold of Jesus and, scolding him, began to correct him: “God forbid, Lord! This won’t happen to you.” ²³But he turned to Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan. You are a stone that could make me stumble, for you are not thinking God’s thoughts but human thoughts.” ²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. ²⁵All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me will find them. ²⁶Why would people gain the whole world but lose their lives? What will people give in exchange for their lives? ²⁷For the Human One is about to come with the majesty of his Father with his angels. And then he will repay each one for what that person has done. ²⁸I assure you that some standing here won’t die before they see the Human One coming in his kingdom.”

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

Sermon
Lessons in Leadership: Acceptance

Affirmation of Faith

from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 & Colossians 1:15-20

UMH 888

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit.

Christ is the head of the body - the church - and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. Amen.

✚ Gloria Patri

UMH 70

Glory Be to the Father

MEINEKE

*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

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 338

Where He Leads Me

NORRIS

(vv. 1, 2, 3, 4)

✚ Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

✚ Benediction

✚ Postlude

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*Lessons in Leadership*

As we transition from summer to fall, we are called back together to work out how we will live in community as a witness to our faith. As a part of the “Lessons in Leadership” sermon series, consider today’s emphasis on *Acceptance* as a way of shaping the body of faith that we seek to be. This is not a how-to with specifics for each communal situation, but an attitude check, a value inventory to ask who we will be together as we build up the church.

Worship is a gathering where we can help one another move through our resistance toward the acceptance of God’s call in our lives. Though we all have unique calls, we share a mission to live as the body of Christ and to build the kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven, or, as the Council of Bishops recently articulated, “to form disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.” However we describe our mission, we can probably all agree that it’s not an easy task. There are many barriers to loving boldly, serving joyfully, and leading courageously in our world. Thankfully, worship is a time when we help address those barriers through prayer, song, and proclamation.