Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 25
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
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 Group – RH

Tuesday, October 27
9:00 p.m. Staff Meeting – UCR

Wednesday, October 28
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast – FH
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. NO Community Assistance – Rh H
5:30 p.m. Parish Choir Meeting– MS

Saturday, October 31
5:00 p.m. Downtown Detour – Upper Lot

Sunday, November 1
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
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 Group – RH

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

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…

Guest Speaker
Delores Smith

Liturgist
Beth Feith

Youth
Bailee Bird
Charlie Caldwell

Acolyte
Miller Baker

Cross Bearer
Mitchell Dishman

Director of Children's Ministry
Tori Armstrong

Music Accompanist
Presley Dishman

Visuals
J Dan Gullett

Sound
Volunteer

First UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
Laity Sunday
October 25, 2026

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

THE GATHERING

Gathering Music

The Chimes

Welcome

✙ Call to Worship
We are all called to recognize and join God's mission of love.
We gather to become more like Jesus.
We learn how grace has met other lives.
We wait for God's empowering presence to open our eyes.
We engage our neighbors, online and in person.
And God's love, power, and justice help repair the world.

Christ in Our Midst

✙ Hymn of Praise
UMH 396 *O Jesus, I Have Promised* ANGEL'S STORY
(vv. 1, 2, 3, 4)

✙ Opening Prayer
Our beloved Father, we honor and praise you for loving each one of us. Help us to show your love to our families and neighbors. Open our hearts and minds to go make disciples, knowing you will be with us. This we ask, in the name of your beloved 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 OLD 100TH
UMH 94

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.

✠ Gospel Reading Matthew 22:34-46 CEB

34 When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees
speechless, they met together. 35 One of them, a legal expert, tested
him. 36 "Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?"
37 He replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your being, and with all your mind. 38 This is the first and
greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: You must love
your neighbor as you love yourself. 40 All the Law and the Prophets
depend on these two commands." 41 Now as the Pharisees were
gathering, Jesus asked them, 42 "What do you think about the Christ?
Whose son is he?" "David's son," they replied. 43 He said, "Then how
is it that David, inspired by the Holy Spirit, called him Lord when he
said, 44 The Lord said to my lord, 'Sit at my right side until I turn your
enemies into your footstool'? 45 If David calls him Lord, how can he
be David's son?" 46 Nobody was able to answer him. And from that
day forward nobody dared to ask him anything.

Response to the Word

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

Hymn of Preparation I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
UMH 402 *I Want to Be a Christian*
(vv. 1, 2, 3, 4)

Epistle Lesson 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 CEB

1 From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy.
To the Thessalonians' church that is in God the Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Grace and peace to all of you.

2 We always thank God for all of you when we mention you
constantly in our prayers. 3 This is because we remember your work
that comes from faith, your effort that comes from love, and your
perseverance that comes from hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the
presence of our God and Father. 4 Brothers and sisters, you are loved
by God, and we know that he has chosen you. 5 We know this
because our good news didn't come to you just in speech but also
with power and the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know
as well as we do what kind of people we were when we were with
you, which was for your sake. 6 You became imitators of us and of
the Lord when you accepted the message that came from the Holy
Spirit with joy in spite of great suffering. 7 As a result, you became an
example to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. 8 The message
about the Lord rang out from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia
but in every place. The news about your faithfulness to God has
spread so that we don't even need to mention it. 9 People tell us about
what sort of welcome we had from you and how you turned to God
from idols. As a result, you are serving the living and true God, 10 and
you are waiting for his Son from heaven. His Son is Jesus, who is the
one he raised from the dead and who is the one who will rescue us
from the coming wrath.

Response to the Word

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

Sermon *Chosen and Called to Follow Christ*

✠ Affirmation of Faith
UMH 883

Affirmation from the United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to prodaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. 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.

Prayers of the People

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.

SENDING FORTH

✠ Sending Hymn *Where He Leads Me* NORRIS
UMH 338 *(vv. 1, 2, 3, 4)*

✠ Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

✠ Benediction

✠ Postlude

Worship

Worship is the single-most important thing we do as a congregation. Worship is more than hymns, prayers, preaching, or a beautiful space. Worship is our way of declaring that God is worthy of our praise. Worship is our way of responding to the God who acts in grace.

From John Wesley's *Sunday Service of the Methodists of North America* in 1784, through the hymnals, rituals, and books of worship of our antecedent denominations, our official worship resources have defined our Church.

In both its diversity and its unity, our worship is an encounter with the living God through the risen Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. When the people of God gather, the Spirit is free to move them to worship in diverse ways.

The Spirit is also the source of unity and truth. The teachings of Scripture give our worship a basic pattern that has proved itself over the centuries and which gives The United Methodist Church its sense of identity and links us to the universal Church.