

***Welcome!** We are so glad you’ve chosen to worship with us today. This is the Lord’s house, and here everyone is truly welcome. Our doors, our hearts, and our minds are open to you.
We invite you to make yourself at home in this sacred space, and to join fully in worship as we sing, pray, and praise God together. When you see an asterisk (*) in the bulletin, please stand as you are able—your presence and participation bring life and joy to our worship.*

Gathering	“Total Praise”	
Lord, I will lift my eyes to the hills, knowing my help is coming from You. Your peace, You give me in time of the storm. You are the source of my strength; You are the strength of my life. I lift my hands in total praise to You. Amen.		
Welcome and Announcements	Marcia Halpin	
Prelude and Receiving the Light of Christ	Jill Jones-Lazuka & Acolytes	
Call to Worship	<i>by Lisa Hancock</i>	Marcia Halpin
Leader:	In a world where powerful people make decisions to lift themselves up and cast others aside, how does God teach us to use our power?	
People:	How good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity!	
Leader:	In a world where power means might, how does God show us what power means?	
People:	God shows us through the midwives’ daring, Peter’s truth-telling, and Jesus’ humility.	
Leader:	In a world where power is held over people’s heads, how does God exercise power?	
People:	God exercises power with—with the oppressed, with the outcasts, with the poor and downtrodden.	
Leader:	Beloved, we gather to recognize our world as it is and to grow as disciples and imitators of Christ. So, how will you use your power today?	
People:	We will side with the vulnerable, build community in the margins, and love all of our neighbors with the exuberant and all-encompassing love of Christ. Amen.	
First Scripture Reading	Exodus 1:8-2:10	Marcia Halpin
	<u>See Insert</u>	
Hymn of Praise	“Welcome”	W&S 3152
Let’s walk together for a while and ask where we begin to build a world where love can grow and hope can enter in, to be the hands of healing and to plant the seed of peace, singing welcome,		
Refrain:		
Welcome to this place. You’re invited to come and know God’s grace. all are welcome the love of God to share ‘cause all of us are welcome here;		

all are welcome in this place.

Let’s talk together of a time when we will share a feast,
where pride and power kneel to serve the lonely and the least,
and joy will set the table as we join our hands to pray,
singing welcome,
Let’s dream together of the day when earth and heaven are one,
a city built of love and light, the new Jerusalem,
where our mourning turns to dancing, every creature lifts its voice,
crying welcome,

Anthem	“Praise God”	Choir
*Prayer	A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition	UMH 607
Hymn of Preparation	“Give to the Winds Thy Fears”	UMH 129
* Second Scripture Reading	Matthew 16:13-20	Pastor Fabian
	<u>See Insert</u>	
Message	“Power”	Pastor Fabian
* Hymn of Response	“Guide Me, O Though Great Jehovah”	UMH 127
Offertory Prayer		Marcia Halpin
Faithful God, you reveal true power not through fear or force, but through love that gives life and builds community. You call us to know who we are because we know whose we are—your people, shaped by Christ and sent for the sake of the world. Receive these gifts as signs of our trust in your way of life over the ways of death, of courage over control, of welcome over exclusion. Use what we offer to strengthen your church as a living witness to your grace, that through our sharing and our serving, others may discover the identity of Christ and the hope found in him. Amen. (Exodus 1:8-2:10, Matthew 16:13-20)		
Offertory Music		Jill Jones-Lazuka
* Congregational Response	“Doxology”	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!		
* Sending Forth	“Total Praise”	Jill Jones-Lazuka & Acolytes
Lord, I will lift my eyes to the hills, knowing my help is coming from You. Your peace, You give me in time of the storm. You are the source of my strength; You are the strength of my life. I lift my hands in total praise to You. Amen.		
* Blessing and Benediction		Pastor Fabian

This Week’s Birthdays

August 27 Gay Teeple
August 30 Debi Maki

Messages & Other Notes

📅 5th Sunday Lunch — Schedule Change

Please note a change to our upcoming 5th Sunday Fellowship Meal!

Instead of gathering at the end of August, we will celebrate our **5th Sunday Meal on the first Sunday in September.**

This will be an extra-special day as we also gather to **celebrate the dismissal of Jennifer, Pastor Fabian’s daughter**, and wish her well.

We are also pleased to welcome an **invited guest preacher** who will share the message with us that morning. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for **worship, fellowship, and a wonderful meal together!**

🎄 BURKS CHRISTMAS SHOPPING COLLECTION 🎁

We’re already preparing for our **Burks Christmas Shopping event in December**, and we would love your help!

A **storage container is located in the hallway** for donated items. We are currently collecting:

- 🧤 Men’s & Women’s Winter Hats and Gloves
- 🧦 Cozy Socks
- 👛 Wallets & Billfolds

Your donations will help make this special Christmas event a blessing for the students and families at Burks Elementary.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support! ❤️

If you have any questions, please see **Suzy Jackson**.

🏡 Our Church Anniversary Is Almost Here! 🎉

September 12 is quickly approaching! As we prepare to celebrate our church’s anniversary, we are putting together a special display honoring the **history, memories, and ministry of our church through the years.**

We would love for you to help us bring our history to life! We are still collecting:

- 📷 Old church photos
- 📖 Bulletins & directories
- 📰 Newspaper articles
- 🏠 Church programs and keepsakes
- ❤️ Other special church memorabilia

Now is the time to bring in your items! Catherine Harris has placed a collection box on the **table in the hallway** for your contributions.

Please be sure to clearly label any items you would like returned.

Thank you for helping us make our **September 12 Anniversary Celebration** a meaningful walk down memory lane!



Scan to Give

If you would like to make a donation, simply scan the QR code with your smartphone.
Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of our church.

MONTEREY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

124 North Holly Street ✕ Monterey, TN 38574

church@montereyumc.com ✕ Facebook @Monterey United Methodist Church

August 23, 2026

13th Sunday After Pentecost

*The Mission of Monterey United Methodist Church is to be servants of God,
by responding to the needs of the Monterey community in such a way that everyone
in Monterey knows the transforming love of Jesus.*



Fabian Valtierra, Pastor

738aquaviva@gmail.com | office: 931-839-2597 | cell: 931-210-0133

Fabian Valtierra, Pastor
Debbie Roberts, Admin. Assistant
Karen Logsdon, Greeter

Frances Eldridge, CLM-Music Director
Jill Jones-Lazuka, Pianist
Marcia Halpin, Liturgist

Sundays	Small Group	9:45 a.m.	-	10:45 a.m.
	Worship	11:00 a.m.	-	12:00 p.m.
	Choir Rehearsal	12:00 p.m.	-	1:00 p.m.
	AA Group	6:00 p.m.	-	7:00 p.m.
Mondays	Agape Thrift	9:00 a.m.		1:00 p.m.
Mondays	Lunch Bunch	11:30 a.m.	-	12:30 p.m.
Fridays	Agape Thrift	9:00 a.m.	-	1:00 p.m.
	Lunch Bunch	11:30 a.m.	-	12:30 p.m.

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Pharaoh's daughter takes Moses in

1:8 Now a new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph.

1:9 He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we.

1:10 Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land."

1:11 Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh.

1:12 But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites.

1:13 The Egyptians subjected the Israelites to hard servitude,

1:14 and made their lives bitter with hard servitude in mortar and bricks and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

1:15 The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah,

1:16 "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a son, kill him, but if it is a daughter, she shall live."

1:17 But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live.

1:18 So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this and allowed the boys to live?"

1:19 The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women, for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them."

1:20 So God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied

and became very strong.

1:21 And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families.

1:22 Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live."

2:1 Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.

2:2 The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months.

2:3 When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river.

2:4 His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

2:5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it.

2:6 When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said.

2:7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?"

2:8 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother.

2:9 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it.

2:10 When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Matthew 16:13-20

The profession of Peter's faith

16:13 Now when Jesus came into the district of
Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples,
"Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

**16:14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but
others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the
prophets."**

16:15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

**16:16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the
Son of the living God."**

16:17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son
of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you
but my Father in heaven.

**16:18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will
build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail
against it.**

16:19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven,
and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven,
and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in
heaven."

**16:20 Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell
anyone that he was the Messiah.**