

connections

REACHING OUT...IT'S WHO WE ARE!

First United Methodist Church of Dothan

Dr. James B. Sanders III, Senior Pastor | August 20, 2020



We know that parents of school-age children are in a tough spot right now. If they decide to send their child to school, they may be labeled as "selfish" or "taking an unnecessary risk." If parents decide to keep their child at home to do virtual school, these parents may be labeled as "living in fear." Nothing makes sense and nothing feels right for parents of school-age children. So, if you hear parents voice their choice about schooling that is different than yours, we encourage you to *please* extend them grace. Every single one of us is in a hard place right now, with decisions we thought we would never have to make.

Having said that, we want to encourage, uplift, and support everyone in their choices and decisions. Our annual **Blessing of the Backpacks** will look a little different this year. It will take place **Sunday, August 30th from 6:00-7:00 as a drive-thru in the CLC parking lot**. We are offering this event to everyone with any type of bag (backpack, tote bag, briefcase, purse, tool belt, sewing bag....) to surround you in prayer.

Please enter the CLC parking lot on the North Park Avenue entrance. You will remain in your vehicle as you move through stations. At the first station, you will be prayed over and given your prayer tag. At the next few stations you will receive surprises, cool treats and a unique photo booth opportunity. You will end with a chance to wave at our new youth minister, Robbie Amunds, to welcome him into our FUMC family.

Save the date, mark your calendar, and don't miss out on this super exciting opportunity to be back on the church grounds. We miss you and cannot wait to see your smiling faces!

Blessings,

Lee Anne Holland *Sonia Crutchfield*

Lee Anne Holland and Sonia Crutchfield



This week at FUMC

CHILDREN

Sometimes as soon as you wake up in the morning you feel busy, especially now that school has begun! You get dressed, get ready, eat breakfast and leave for school so you will be on time. It is important to do all of these things, but could you be forgetting something very important?

God wants us to remember Him and thank Him. It helps to be thankful toward God at the beginning of the day. Stopping to thank him in the morning gives you peace and joy that can last the whole day. Here's a morning prayer:

Loving God, thank you for giving me another day on earth. Help me be thankful the moment I wake up. Teach me to start thanking you as soon as I start my school day and to not stop thanking you until I go to bed at night. Amen
~ Psalm 100:4

Third Grade Bibles

Do you know any 3rd Graders? Please have their parents contact me, Lee Anne Holland, if they would like their child to receive a Bible in this service. They can contact me at leanne@fumcdothan.org.

Blessing of the Backpacks August 30, 6-7pm

Follow us on Instagram
[@fumc_childrens_ministry](#)

Follow us on Facebook
[@FUMC Dothan Children's Ministry](#)

TWEENS

Did you know pigs can't look up at the sky? It is physically impossible. I'm so thankful for the peace we can experience when we lift our eyes to our Heavenly Father! The lyrics below are from "I Will Lift My Eyes," by Bebo Norman. Check out this song as you lift your eyes to Him.

*I will lift my eyes to the Maker
of the mountains I can't climb
I will lift my eyes to the Calmer
of the oceans raging wild
I will lift my eyes to the Healer
of the hurt I hold inside
I will lift my eyes, lift my eyes to You.*

Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually!
~ 1 Chronicles 16:11

Blessing of the Backpacks August 30, 6-7pm

Follow Tweens on Instagram
[@Tweensfumcdothan](#)

Follow Tweens on Facebook
[@FUMC Dothan Tween Ministry](#)

YOUTH

Zoom Session

Sunday 7:30pm: This will be an opportunity for youth to have a hand in the future vision of the youth group so they can make it a genuine place of their own and focus on growing their relationship with God.

Join our Youth Remind
Text [@fumc19-20](#) to **81010**

Follow Youth on Instagram
[@fumcdothan youth](#)

Follow us on Facebook
[@FUMC Dothan UMYF](#)

RESPITE CARE MINISTRY

Caregiver Zoom Support Group Thursdays at 10:30

If you know a caregiver that needs support, even if they live far away, email katie@fumcdothan.org for Zoom info. We would LOVE for anyone to join us!
~ Katie

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Our Sympathy to:

~ Brett Robison and family due to the death of his mother, Lillian Ann Robison, on August 10.

~ Jason and Ashley McGee and family due to the death of Ashley's grandfather, Carl "Pete" Albright, on August 10th.

In the Hospital:

~ Ann Stutts
~ Evelyn Theune

Released from Hospital:

~ Webb Reyner
~ Celeste Hart

Congratulations to:

~ Happy Birthday to Martha Dean who celebrated her 91st birthday on August 15.

This week we are especially praying for the ways our church family is reaching out through our collection of school uniforms for children in need.

BAPTISM

Blakely Nicole Dutton was baptized in the Bridge service on Sunday, August 16th. Pictured with Blakely are her parents, Justin and Nicole and her big brother, Brayden.





Reaching Out with
FUMC Worship
at Home or Even
on Vacation!
Live or On Demand!



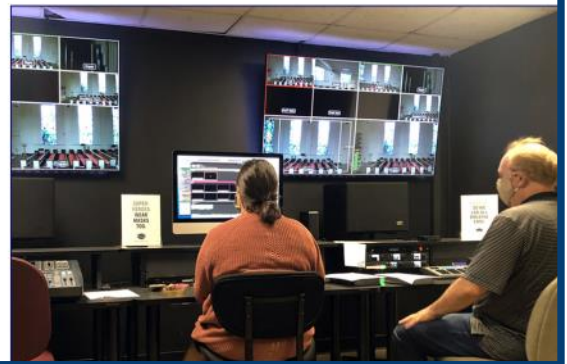
Sound
Lighting

We Need Your Help with the
Live Stream Ministry!

Cameras
Software



Email
[mike.thomas@
fumcdothan.org](mailto:mike.thomas@fumcdothan.org)
to get involved
with serving in this
new ministry



Weekday Children's Ministry

PRE-K AND KINDER
1ST DAY OF SCHOOL



Virtual Caregiver Support Group

Thursdays - 10:30 am
Join us on Zoom!

Support for dementia caregivers, near or far!



FUMC IN THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

EMBRACE UMCH AWARD



HOMES, HEALING & HOPE

PRESENTED TO

DOTHAN FIRST UMC

IN APPRECIATION OF THE EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY TOWARD THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND ALL GOD'S CHILDREN.

K. Blake Horne, Ph.D.
President & CEO



NEED VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR SCHOOL?

CALLING ALL STUDENTS

Respite Care is looking for Student Social Media Volunteers. Contact katie@fumcdothan.org for more information



Military Care Packages

The Military Ministry Committee is looking for names and address of any **currently deployed** service members from our congregation or our family members. We'd like to send a care package on behalf of the church. Please let us know if you have someone in mind.

Davis Flowers: flowergd@gmail.com
Ryan Deaton: ryan@fumcdothan.org



Mark Your Calendars!

August 30th, 6-7pm

Blessing of the Backpacks

Drive Thru Blessings, Prayer, and Fun Treats