

connections

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

First United Methodist Church of Dothan

Dr. James B. Sanders III, Senior Pastor | September 3, 2020

Music That Leads to God

During a developmental stage in my early adult life, I got the opportunity to really get immersed, not only in popular music, but also in Christian music. I played trumpet in many rock bands and traveled America with a Christian group. This opportunity gave me a reference point in my life where I can compare my experience with how music can positively impact our lives. I remember the difference between playing in a group that was all about self-glorification, and then playing in a group that brought glory to God. I got great satisfaction playing music that changed people's lives. This kind of music helped bring me back to a closer walk with Him as well.

The melody, the rhythm, and the lyrics struck my heart and my mind and moved me deeply. The singing only lasted a few minutes, but each music piece wasn't just another fleeting moment. Each singing was a moment that sent a lasting message to the young Christian me. As I grew in my musical walk, I began to discover that a lot of the lyrics I was hearing in this Christian group were straight scripture. Many times as I have read my Bible I have underlined these passages that I have sung. I was truly learning how to worship God with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Liturgical composer, Father Ricky Manalo, said in an interview: "Music is one of the most powerful symbols and artistic forms to inspire people's imagination...to bring people back to God, through the nuances of the Gospel message. So, I have always believed that music is one of the most important tools for welcoming them back, drawing them in and also initiating new encounters, inviting others."

Music is a gift. It's a wonderful gift. We offer back this gift to our Creator also as a gift by our singing and praising. I love this quote by Saint Augustine: "He who sings prays twice." Music, with our voices singing, our ears listening, our instruments playing and hands creating, enables us to physically express the spiritual joy of our heart. Music has the power to bring the mind, body, and spirit in unison as we reach out to God.



Mike Thomas
Director of Music Ministries



This week at FUMC

CHILDREN

I want to thank everyone who came to our drive-thru Blessing of the Backpacks. We had a lot of fun preparing for this event and we hope it was meaningful to you. It was so good to see so many FUMC faces. We still have a few backpack tags, children's masks, hand sanitizers and yard signs. So, if you missed us on Sunday and would like some of our "cool treats," just let us know! We will be happy to get them to you! Thanks again!

Follow us on Instagram
[@fumc_childrens_ministry](#)

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

TWEENS

Labor Day Weekend is upon us. Labor Day is a day to rest as we celebrate American workers and how their hard work has helped this country to do well and prosper. Our Heavenly Father also took a day of rest.

"By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done."
Genesis 2:2-3

Find time this weekend to rest, and while doing so, offer a prayer of thanks for this amazing country we live in and all the opportunities being an American provides us with.

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

Tweens Time for God Begins September 13th
Sundays: 5:00-5:45pm
OR

Wednesdays 6:00-6:45pm

The Tweens program, Time for God, will begin September 13th and run through November 18th. As group gatherings are limited to a total of 12, everyone will need to sign up in advance. We are offering two opportunities per week - Sunday evenings and Wednesday evenings. Choose the day that works better for you and your tween and visit the SignUp Genius link below to reserve a spot. Wearing masks will be required, temperatures will be taken, and a signed waiver must be completed. We look forward to seeing you!

Tweens Time for God Sign up:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F48ACAF2FA3F58-fumc>

Follow Tweens on Instagram
[@Tweensfumcdothan](#)

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

YOUTH

Zoom Sessions

Sundays at 7pm
Wednesdays at 7pm

Join our Youth Remind
Text **@fumc19-20** to **81010**

Follow Youth on Instagram
[@fumcdothanyouth](#)

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

ADULT MINISTRY

Book Club

Wednesday, Sept. 9
3:30 pm, Room 165.

Fall Small Groups

Information and registration links for both in-person and online small groups can be found at fumcdothan.org/small-groups. Please note: Due to social distancing guidelines and limited class size, in-person groups will require masks and registration beforehand. Online groups will also need to register online. Contact ryan@fumcdothan.org if you have questions.

Participants will need to supply their own books for the following studies:

~ *Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children In A Racially Unjust America*, led by Jim Sanders.

~ *Sermon on the Mount*, led by Lynn Nesbitt.

~ *1st, 2nd, 3rd, John*, led by Amy Thomas.

~ *Matchless*, led by Tracy Pruitt and Mary Beth Pruitt.

RESPITE CARE MINISTRY

Caregiver Meal Night On Us! Thursday, Sept 10

Respite Care will be providing a delicious meal for our caregivers and their loved ones living with memory loss. Email katie@fumcdothan.org to order a meal or to volunteer for this event. Meal pickup will be under the covered Respite Entrance at FUMC.

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:

~ David and Katharine Forrester and family due to the death of David's step-father, John Craig, on August 23.

~ Julia Lee and family due to the death of her husband, Carlos Lee, who died August 26.

In the Hospital:

~ Menzil Helms

Released from Hospital:

~ Danny McGriff

This week we are especially praying for the ways our church family is reaching out through our support for Gordon and Teca Greathouse, missionaries in Brazil.

MEMORIALS

Randy Barnes

Jim & Ann Ellis
Kaye & David Ritchie

Dr. Fred Garrett

Neva Conway

Jo Garrett

Flowers Insurance Agency
Mid America Bottled
Water Association
Southeastern Bottled
Water Association

Prim & Mendheim Law Firm
Mary Kay & Dan Bailey
Jane & Alan Belsches
Nagel & John Byrd
Louann Casper
James & Jeanne Chambers
Dorothy Clark & Betty Coleman
Neva Conway
Jim & Ann Ellis
Kathryn & Tom Foster
Judy Harris
Jennifer & Mike Hebert
Steve McCarroll
Susan & Bob Mueller
Pam & Jim Paxton
Susan Price
Donnie Reese
Kaye & David Ritchie
Annamarie Saliba Arens
Gloria Sorrells
Necie Tarrant
Mary John Thomas
Stanley Thomas
Rosalyn Timbie
William & Mitzi Watson
Cynthia Wells
Jane Williams
Nan Wingo

Clayton Jordan

Ben Bailey
Nagel & John Byrd
Louann Casper
Ben & Cynthia Craven
Jim & Ann Ellis
Kathryn & Tom Foster
Steve McCarroll
Pam & Jim Paxton
Kaye & David Ritchie
Barbara & Bob Stockman
Rosalyn Timbie
William & Mitzi Watson
Jane Williams

Bill Lisenby

Jim & Ann Ellis

Gov. Wayne Mixson

Jim & Ann Ellis

Lillian Ann Robison

Linda Boze
Jim & Ann Ellis
Dorothy Folk
Pam & Jim Paxton
Kaye & David Ritchie
Elinor Ritter Johnson
Rosalyn Timbie
William & Mitzi Watson
Jane Williams
Gwen Williams

Ann Stutts

Mary Kay & Dan Bailey
Jack Blumenfeld
Jim & Ann Ellis
Lenore Hilbert
Gloria Sorrells
Barbara & Bob Stockman
Joanne Stomackin
Rosalyn Timbie
William & Mitzi Watson
Henry & Afrey Wright

Ed Stutts

Henry & Afrey Wright

Hal Tolleson

Nagel & John Byrd

HONORARIUM

Jane Williams

Sharon Church



When's the last time you:
learned something new?
shared your talents with the church?
shared Jesus with thousands of people?

**Join the Live Stream Ministry
and be a part of what God is doing online!**

learn more at fumcdathan.org/live-stream

Military Care Packages

Do you know a currently-deployed
service member from our congregation
or your own family?

Submit names for care packages
to Davis Flowers or Ryan Deaton.



Are you affected by a loved one's drinking? Go to
www.alanon.org and take the quiz to see if Al-Anon can
help you.

DOTHAN HOPE AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP ZOOM MEETING:

Every Tuesday at 5:30pm (Central Time)

BY ZOOM APP: Meeting ID: 281 170 036 Password: 082 321

BY PHONE: Dial (301) 715 - 8592

**You will be asked for the meeting ID and password, each
followed by the # sign*

Would you like more information? Email
DothanHopeAFG@gmail.com or call or text:
Savanna W (334) 798-6502 Angie B: 850-612-0383
Teresa L (334) 798-1688