

# connections

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

## First United Methodist Church of Dothan

Dr. James B. Sanders III, Senior Pastor | November 24, 2020



We're really focused on Thanksgiving at this time of year. Today, I'm thankful that Bishop Graves has appointed Reverend Alecia Glaize to our church on a part-time basis beginning December 7<sup>th</sup>. Reverend Glaize is a lifelong Methodist and an Ordained Deacon in the UMC.

Reverend Glaize has served on the staff of several large churches in our conference, including Auburn UMC, First UMC of Montgomery, and Dauphin Way UMC in Mobile. She also has served on the faculty of Jefferson Davis Community College and Huntingdon College. She currently serves as Director of the Alabama Course of Study School, which provides basic biblical and theological education for part-time UM local pastors in the North Alabama and Alabama-W. Florida Conferences. As of Dec. 1, she will serve our community as Wiregrass Director for the Alabama Kidney Foundation.

Alecia is married to Dr. Ed Glaize, our current Dothan District Superintendent. She is the mother of the late Curtis Glaize and of Anna Glaize, a senior at Yale Divinity School and a clergy candidate in the AWF conference.

Reverend Glaize will focus her energies on congregational care. She will organize our members for ministry with those who are homebound, ill and/or hospitalized and will also bless many with her personal visits and contacts. I'm thankful for Alecia and know you will give her a warm FUMC welcome!



I'm thankful for many things these days. Here are a few more.

I'm thankful:

- ~ my childhood was filled with dirt, sweat, and bruises from playing outside all the time.
- ~ for indoor plumbing and indoor bathrooms.
- ~ for Orphanage Emmanuel.
- ~ for tears that give me voice when actual words escape me.
- ~ for dreams, both the daytime and nighttime variety.
- ~ for Christ-followers who have already turned in their 2021 *Living Well* Commitment Cards.
- ~ for people who work in medicine and medical research.
- ~ for our local merchants, entrepreneurs, businesswomen, and businessmen.
- ~ for the music of Scooter and the Big Man, and the band.
- ~ for the sanctifying grace of Jesus.
- ~ for those who are flexible because they will not be bent out of shape when things change.
- ~ for my granddaughter Claire, who I'm told is the best granddaughter in the world. At least, that's what Sally says!
- ~ for sunsets and sunrises.
- ~ for those who embody I Corinthians 13:5b, "love does not insist on its own way."
- ~ for people who get up after they have fallen down.
- ~ for people who don't judge others who have fallen down.
- ~ for my blessings; they far outnumber my problems.
- ~ for people who love others enough to wear masks.
- ~ for those who ask: "How can I help?"
- ~ for forgiveness that I do not deserve.
- ~ for my positive, faithful wife.
- ~ for now. Living in "the now" seems to be much healthier than living in yesterday or tomorrow.
- ~ for people who have a heart for God.
- ~ for you!

Inhale Faith; Exhale Fear,  
*Jim Sanders*  
([jim@fumcdathan.org](mailto:jim@fumcdathan.org) & 333-2995)



# this week at FUMMC

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**9:45-10:30am**

Classes for children, tweens, youth, and adults are available. No registration required. Please check [fumcdothan.org](http://fumcdothan.org) and/or our Facebook page to check the status of in-person Sunday School.

## SMALL GROUPS

### TWEEN ADVENT COUNTDOWN

**Sunday, Nov. 29, 5:00-5:45pm**

Come and create an Advent countdown chain that will remind us of the story of Christ's birth each day of the Advent season.

**Sign Up Here**

### 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

Sunday 5:00-5:45pm

### 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> YOUTH SMALL GROUP

Wednesday 6:00-6:45pm

\* *Mask and Waiver Required for all children, tween, and youth activities.*

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

### Our Sympathy To:

~ James and Sydney Edmonds and family due to the death of James' father, Bob Edmonds, who died Nov. 16.

### In the Hospital:

~ Pervis Hester, Hughston Clinic, Columbus, GA.

### Birthdays:

~ Happy Birthday to Jack Frazier who celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on Nov. 18.  
~ Happy Birthday to Hilde Caldwell who celebrated her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday on Nov. 19.

*This week we are especially praying for the ways our church family is reaching out through our continued care for Respite participants and families.*

13th Annual  
**Interfaith**  
*Thanksgiving*  
**Service**

This service will be live-streamed only.  
Join us on Facebook, YouTube, or at [fumcdothan.org](http://fumcdothan.org).  
Tuesday, November 24th at 6:00 pm

### LIVING WELL GOAL UPDATE

Commitments Received  
**\$1,430,033**

CARDS: 248      OUR GOAL: \$2,249,172

*Give Thanks*

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CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  
WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY

United Methodist Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

**UMW Board Meeting, Dec. 1, 11:00AM, Room 165**  
**UMW Meeting, Dec. 1, 11:45AM, Room 165**

Since Houston County is "High Risk," we will not have our Christmas Program, but we would like you to bring about 10 of your favorite cookies to share (homemade or store bought). Don't forget to bring the recipe. We will have cookies and sing Christmas Carols to get into the holiday spirit!

# Discipleship Corner

Dr. Phil Maynard, Director of Discipleship Ministries

Pray for someone who needs a blessing from God.

*I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people. (1 Timothy 2:1)*

These words were written by Paul to his young friend and protégé, Timothy. Intercession is the act of seeking God's blessing in the life of another person. It is a form of prayer where we seek to be a blessing to others. Visualize someone in your life who could definitely use a blessing from God. As a form of praying, hold your hands together, palms up, and visualize lifting this person up into the presence of God.

Write down the names of three people whose current situations could benefit from a Godly intervention:

\_\_\_\_\_

Lift them up in the manner suggested above, and for a real bonus, let them know you did. What was it like to pray for them? What thoughts and feelings passed through your mind during and after this time of prayer? How would this type of prayer affect the way you extend yourself to them?



Feeling  
**DISCONNECTED**  
???



**CONNECT** class

10 AM on Sundays: Nov. 29, Dec. 6

Join us as we talk about the Bible, discipleship, faith, and why FUMC matters in our community.



**Christmas Caroling**  
with your church family

Thursday, Dec. 17 at 6:00pm  
Saturday, Dec. 19 at 3:00pm

Email [jack@fumcdothan.org](mailto:jack@fumcdothan.org)  
or [katie@fumcdothan.org](mailto:katie@fumcdothan.org) for info!



**Advent** **DAILY TEXT MEDITATIONS**  
Begin Nov. 29th

Text "@fumcadvent"  
to the number  
81010 to sign up.



**Poinsettias are Coming!**

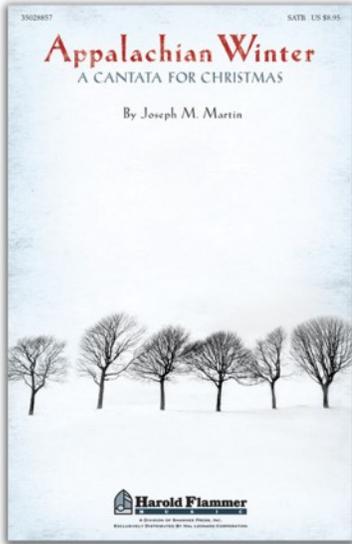
Christmas Poinsettias Deadline  
is Sunday, Dec. 13th.

Poinsettias are \$25.00 each.

Order at [fumcdothan.org](http://fumcdothan.org) or  
by calling/visiting the church office.



# 2020 CHRISTMAS CANTATA



presented by:  
FUMC Ensemble & String Quartet

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 6

8:55 AM  
11:00 AM

will also live stream on  
Facebook, YouTube and [fumcdothan.org](http://fumcdothan.org)

Appalachian Winter  
Reprinted by permission of Hal Leonard LLC

## DECEMBER 3, 3-6PM



Donate a frozen turkey  
or \$10 grocery store  
gift card and...

receive a **FREE JOYFM T-SHIRT**

## CLC PARKING LOT



## Christmas with The Harbor

(2020 style!)

**Friday, 12/4**  
Shopping for Gifts

**Sunday, 12/13**  
Wrapping Gifts and Packing Meals

**Wednesday, 12/16**  
Delivering Gifts and Meals  
to Children and Families



Every December, our youth ministry is proud to take part in "Christmas with the Harbor". At Christmas with the Harbor, we provide Christmas to kids who would otherwise go without on Christmas day. We buy them presents and provide a Christmas dinner to show them they are loved and cared for. In the past, we have all gathered together in the fellowship hall, served a large dinner, and passed out their gifts. Of course, with COVID this year, we've had to re-evaluate and change it up. We are still shopping and wrapping (Dec. 4 and Dec 13), but we won't gather as a large group to feed and celebrate together. Instead, on Dec. 16, we will personally deliver food and gifts to each household! This new way allows us the opportunity to truly meet them where they are and have individual and personal time with each family! We get to be intentional in asking how we can pray for and support each family! Each family will receive gifts, groceries, and a cooked meal! Our plan is to reach around 50 kids this Christmas and we would love for you to join us if you'd like. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to help!

God Bless,  
Robbie Amunds  
[robbie@fumcdothan.org](mailto:robbie@fumcdothan.org)

# Bethlehem



# on Burdeshaw

*A Drive-Thru Nativity Experience*

**WHEN:** Thursday and Friday  
December 10th and 11th  
6:00-8:00 pm  
No RSVP Required

**WHERE:** E. Burdeshaw St. behind FUMC  
(Enter at Fellowship Hall/CLC  
parking from Main St. and exit  
Burdeshaw at Pariton Ave.)

## Join Us!

Bring the whole family for a ride  
through our living nativity  
with narration, actors, and animals.