

connections

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

First United Methodist Church of Dothan

Dr. James B. Sanders III, Senior Pastor | May 13, 2021

Summer Hospitality

COVID-19 has dramatically changed the way we live and work. One of the most interesting changes is the increase in the number of U.S. citizens looking to move. Fifty-six percent of Americans plan to move in 2021, compared to just 35% who moved in 2020! Nearly half of these moves will occur between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

A lot of people will move to Dothan this summer. Many of these new residents will be looking for a new church home. Some of these new residents who have not been active in a church family in the past will be very receptive to becoming involved in a local church now that they have moved to a new city.

Have you seen any new people in your neighborhood this summer? Have you noticed a moving van unloading as you have driven about our community lately?

If so, I encourage you to do three things.

1. Welcome our new neighbors to town and invite them to worship or a small group with you.
2. Call the church with the names and address of these new residents so our Hospitality Team can also welcome them.
3. Make praying for these new residents a personal project. Anyone involved in moving definitely needs some prayers! Thanks for being a welcoming and hospitable family of faith.

I look forward to worshipping with you and your invited guests this Sunday!



Jim
jim@fumcdothan.org
(333-2995)



this week at FUMC



YOUTH

Youth Small Groups

WED. 6:00-6:45

Youth Bible Study

SUN. 6:00-6:45

CHECK FUMCDOTHAN.ORG FOR INFO ON SUMMER TRIPS!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Our Sympathy to:

- ~ Patty Palmer and family due to the death of her mother, Nova Harvey, who died May 3.
- ~ Jerrie and Tommy Bass and family due to the death of her sister, Nancy Watson Adams, who died April 30.

Released from Hospital:

- ~ Gloria Weeks

This week we are especially praying for the ways our church family is reaching out through our support of Wesley Place on Honeysuckle, a home with assisted living, nursing care, and rehabilitation care.

BAPTISM

Evelyn June Clark was baptized Sunday, May 9. Parents are Deavours and Kelsey Clark. Deavours is holding brother, Monroe, and Kelsey is holding June. Also pictured is one of June's godmothers, Juanita Reynolds.



COVID PROTOCOL UPDATE

Now that all Alabamians (16 and older) have had the opportunity to be vaccinated, we are announcing changes to our COVID protocols. These protocols are in effect as of May 3 and will guide our life together during the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please view the updated protocols at fumcdothan.org/coronavirus



SANCTUARY ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers on the Altar are given in loving memory of Dr. Jim Dees by his wife, Joyce Dees, and family in remembrance of his death on May 10, 2020.

GOD AT WORK AT



The Harbor
A Refuge From Life's Storms

Kid's Club!

The Harbor has always found creative ways to reach the surrounding community with the love of Christ and the good news of the Gospel. For the past several years, a team of volunteers from The Harbor have taken one of the big white buses out into the streets and hosted a Kid's Club in the yard of a neighborhood mother. Kids could come after school to learn something about Jesus, play games, eat a snack, and sometimes even make a craft.

then COVID...

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit Alabama, the Harbor had to get even more creative in its outreach efforts to continue ministering to families in need while maintaining safety precautions. For Kid's Club, this meant no longer gathering together as a group, but instead stopping at each child's house for a few minutes of masked conversation and leaving a snack bag for the child to enjoy later. While this was never the plan for those leading Kid's Club, it was a sweet gift from the Lord and an opportunity to spend one-on-one time with kids while giving them some sense of normalcy during a crazy year.

but GOD!

The Harbor was very excited to begin a new chapter for Kid's Club at the beginning of April! Having spent the last few years gaining trust with parents and children alike, the Harbor bus is now able to go out and pick up children from their houses, transport them to the Harbor, and provide a new and improved Kid's Club experience on Thursday evenings. The children are able to continue learning about Christ in a sheltered and safe environment. Instead of just a snack bag (though these are still provided as a treat to take home), the children also get a meal of either pizza or cheeseburgers. With more space and a permanent place, games, crafts, and other activities have much more possibility than ever before! The team of volunteers is also in the process of developing a time of worship, where the kids will learn simple songs like "Jesus Loves Me," which many have never heard before.

Kid's Club is growing fast! As kids begin to tell their friends and neighbors, the team finds themselves picking up more and more kids each week. Ages range from 5 to 15, with many of the older kids finding opportunities to serve the younger ones. The children are currently learning about Jesus, starting with His birth. When Kid's Club met before, several children prayed to accept Jesus as their Savior, and we pray they continue to grow in discipleship with participation in Kid's Club. We also pray that more children come to know Christ as a result of this ministry. Overall, it is abundantly evident that God's hand is on this ministry. The Harbor Kids Club team is excited to see what God will do as the ministry continues to develop!



Interested in the Children's Ministry?

Come to our {simple} training to see how easy & wonderful it is!

WHAT: TEACHER & VOLUNTEER TRAINING FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

WHO: ANYONE WHO LOVES CHILDREN

WHEN: WED., MAY 26, 6:00PM

WHERE: KID'S KORNER

MEAL PROVIDED, SO PLEASE RSVP TO
LEEANNE@FUMCDOTHAN.ORG
BY MONDAY, MAY 24TH



Let's Embrace Alabama Kids

**Tuesday, May 18
4-6pm
Dothan Country Club**

Join us for a celebration with Embrace Alabama Kids, a ministry of the United Methodist Children's Home. As we honor the ministry's impact in our community and celebrate the new chapter of their Alabama ministry, we will enjoy fellowship, refreshments and an opportunity to view Alabama's first traveling mural painted by artists and community volunteers across our state.

Please RSVP to Rebecca Morris at rebecca.morris@letsembracekids.org. We hope to see you there!



VBS Mission Project

Orphanage Emmanuel in Guaimaca, Honduras is the vision of two missionaries who sold everything they owned and moved to Honduras to follow God's call. The orphanage's goal is to evangelize and disciple children so that they may grow up to be living lights and good examples in the ways of God. The mission project for our 2021 VBS participants this year will be to collect needed items for the children who live at Emmanuel.

At this time the orphanage needs the items below for both boys and girls:

- New underwear – all sizes
- New socks – all sizes
- Clothes – all sizes up to young adult

Please drop off donations in the church office.



Let's #LOVEDOTHAN!

WHEN: Saturday, May 22, 8am – 12noon

WHERE: Selma Street Neighborhood

BRING: Yard Tools/Equipment

**CLICK HERE TO
SIGN UP ONLINE!**

The City of Dothan is planning the next Love Your Neighborhood Clean-Up Program in the Selma Street neighborhood. The program is a way for the city and citizens to work together to help beautify and enhance existing neighborhoods, and our church is gathering a group to help serve.

- Bring tools and equipment for yard work.
- We will meet at Selma Street Elementary by 8am.
- For more information email Ryan Deaton: ryan@fumcdothan.org.
- Sign up online for us to have an idea of how many to expect.

LOVE DOTHAN

**Selma Street Neighborhood
Saturday, May 22, 8am-12noon**



REGISTER NOW FOR VBS/SHINE!

Monday, June 14 – Thursday, June 17

At Rocky Railway, kids discover Jesus' power can pull them through life's ups and downs. Rocky Railway is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Sciency-Fun Gizmos™, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the activities. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings®.

VBS

Age: Rising 4P to 4th Graders

Time: 9am – 12noon

SIGN UP

SHINE

Age: Rising 5th and 6th Graders

Time: 5:30pm – 8:00pm

SIGN UP



THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE

CHURCH