

connections

First United Methodist Church of Dothan

November 4, 2021



For some of us, the word "saint" conjures up a plaster statue of someone who lived long ago; others of us envision a figure in stained glass. In scripture, however, a saint is one who belongs to Christ, one made holy because Christ is holy. Paul wrote the epistle to "all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints." We are, if we belong to Christ, all called to be saints.

For over 1700 years the church has had a day to remember all God's saints who have gone before us, the day of All Saints, celebrated on November 1. In our congregation we take the first Sunday of November to give thanks to God for those of our church family whose earthly lives have ended since last All Saints Sunday. In worship we will have a candle representing each life and the ways they shone forth the light of God, and additional candles that we may light to remember other saints in our lives from years past. On this day we rejoice that we are joining the chorus of praise that even death cannot silence, and that the Lord who created and redeemed our loved ones, loves and keeps them in God's care.

I am blessed beyond measure to serve Christ with you, the Saints of God at First United Methodist Church of Dothan!
-Lynn

I am grateful for the many households who have already turned in a 2022 **Together We...** card. Thus far, our church family has made financial commitments of \$704,220.00 toward God's work in and through our church in 2022. Our congregation has also committed to pray for FUMC 249 times a week, participate in worship 1318 times, serve Christ through 376 different ministry commitments, and to invite 136 people to worship! Thanks to all who have offered their **Together We...** cards and to all who will do so this week.
-Robin



Thank you, Lord, for these your servants.

- Joyce Lamb Moseley
- Jack Frazier
- Chuck Allen Dunseth
- Rev. Dr. Jerry M. Dooling, Sr.
- John Frank Hudgens
- William G. "Bill" Hause
- Susan Morrison
- Martha Estelle Wilson
- John Keith Selfe, Sr.
- Jon Alan Ramsey
- Frank Moss Gaines, III
- Nova Pearce Harvey
- Billy J. Wilson
- Rev. Dr. George W. Gilbert, Jr.
- David Hall Marshall
- Robert Henry "Bob" Stockman
- Walt Loftin
- Michael Lee Owen
- Mary Jo Woodham
- Morris C. "Pete" Wash, Jr.
- Wiley Richard Sprayberry
- Bobby Sirmon
- James "Jimmy" Sass
- James Russell "Jim" Dayton
- Betty Kimbrough Hendricks
- Pat Flowers
- Mary Alice Cleveland
- Cleve Creel
- Archie Clayton Allen, Jr.

This Week at FUMC

CHILDREN

BLAST TIME

We have three times for the same program; so, you can choose what works best for your family!

Sunday, November 7

1st -4th grade only

- 5:00-6:00 pm

Wednesday, November 10

4P-4th grade

- 3:30-4:30 pm
- 5:30-6:30 pm

[Click to Sign Up for BLAST](#)

 FUMC Dothan Children's Ministry

 fumc_childrens_ministry

TWEENS

SWAG:

Saved With Amazing Grace!

2 opportunities (same program, different times) to choose from each week as we draw closer to Christ.

Sunday, November 7

- 5:00-6:00 pm

Wednesday, November 10

- 3:30-4:30 pm
- **NO 5:30-6:30 SWAG**

[Click to Sign Up for SWAG](#)

 FUMC Dothan Tween Ministry

 tweensfumcdothan

YOUTH

Sunday, November 7

- Bible Study 6:00-7:30 pm

Tuesday, November 9

- Breakfast 7:00-7:30 am

Wednesday, November 10

- Small Groups 6:00-7:30 pm

 FUMC Dothan UMYF

 Fumcdothanyouth

RESPITE CARE MINISTRY

RESPITE VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Wednesday, Nov. 10
10:00 am-12:00 noon

Email katie@fumcdothan.org for more information.

**ITEMS NEEDED FOR
RESPITE CARE PEANUT AUCTION**
Thursday, Nov. 11
1:30 pm

Our participants LOVE to bid on items! We need items to auction off such as cookies, a cake, Auburn/Alabama items, puzzles (24-35 large pieces) or peanut butter anything!!! You can get creative! It is one of our most loved events of the year!

JOYS & CONCERNS

Our Sympathy to:

~ Holly and Ben Braswell and family due to the death of Ben's grandmother, Mary Jeanette Braswell, who died October 20.

~ Vivian and Bill Veale Sr., and Mary Alice and George Veale and family due to the death of Bill and George's brother, Robert Veale, who died October 27.

Released from Hospital:

~ Beckett Nichols
~ Mary Hugh Wheelless

Congratulations:

~ Happy Birthday to Louie Grimes who celebrated his 90th birthday on October 25.

~ Sheila and Joe Kelly who are announcing the birth of a granddaughter, Lucy Overton Kelly, born October 15. Parents are Meghan and Whit Kelly.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome Andrew Davitz, who joined October 31. Andrew is pictured with his wife, Sarah Beth.



MEMORIALS

Clayton Allen

Alan & Susan Livingston

Mary Alice Cleveland

Diana & Bob Hagler

Alan & Susan Livingston

Cleve Creel

Diana & Bob Hagler

Pat Flowers

Betty Hendricks

Randy Smith, Jr.

Alan & Susan Livingston

Wiley Sprayberry

Frank, Carolyn & Eloise Morgan

Nicole Stovall

Hugh Wheelless

Diana & Bob Hagler

HONORARIUMS

Minna Appleby

Frances Bailey

Ray & Tillie Dempster

Zay Deaton

Morning Exercise Ladies Group
c/o Barbara Ivey

Marialyce Grubbs

Helen Hargrove

Sallie Harper

Dottie Johnson

June Lewis

Ray & Tillie Dempster

Rev. Lynn Nesbitt

Molly Blalock

Hazel Patton

Sarah Shepard

Ray & Tillie Dempster



RESPITE NIGHT

WEDNESDAY

November 17, 5:30-7:30 pm

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
for a fun night of serving
individuals with disabilities.
Join us for games, crafts,
food, and fellowship!

**Set
your
clock
back
one
hour!**



Christmas Cookie Jars!



RESPITE NEEDS INGREDIENT DONATIONS

Christmas Cookie Jars are coming back to the Respite Shop in December. If you'd like to help with supplies for our participants to assemble, please donate items from our wish list. You can leave items in the Respite shop or the church office through November 28.

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Mason Jars - Quart Size
- White Sugar
- Brown Sugar
- Chocolate Chips
- Red and Green M&Ms
- Chocolate Kisses



Ministry Fair Recap

We had a wonderful display of support at the ministry fair. Ministry representatives from Children, Tweens, Youth, Adults, Recreation, Music, Worship, The Harbor, Communities of Transformation, Technology and Communications, Congregational Care and Prayer, Missions, and Respite Care were available to answer questions and to encourage serving in their areas.

Anyone who signed up to serve and took a picture at the communications photo booth was encouraged to sign up for our prize drawing. It's our way of saying, "Thanks for serving with FUMC."



The prize winner is Sarah Lillian Gannaway, pictured here with her mom. Congratulations!

A Note from Robin

Unnecessary Words

They made an appointment together to come to show him sympathy and comfort him. And when they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him. And they raised their voices and wept, and they tore their robes and sprinkled dust on their heads toward heaven. And they sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great. - Job 2:11-13 ESV

Sometimes, there just aren't words. The hard moments in life come and there seem to be no words of comfort to offer, no gesture seems worthy to convey the deepest sense of love, sorrow, or empathy that we would like to express to friends in their time of need. We desperately want to say something, anything, to lessen their pain, to bring them hope, to distract them from that which hurts; yet we flounder for the language which never comes out right.

I've been there. Gracious, often times I *live* there. There are hundreds of articles and blogs that will give suggestions about how to talk to friends who are suffering or grieving, but I find that there sadly is no script of the appropriate thing to say. But this should never stop us from trying to reach out and show that we care. I hear countless stories of how moved people are by phone calls, cards, notes, casseroles, visits, prayers, and presence of those who are with them during suffering or grief. Even if they were in too much pain for a visit, just knowing that someone cared enough to send a card or bring by a jar of jellybeans or bake a cake meant the world. Even if someone stumbled over words at a visitation, the family has never forgotten that they cared enough to come to show love through the ministry of presence.

It doesn't take words to show you care. If you look at the book of Job, his friends showed much more compassion by their presence than by their words. So make the gesture, write the note, pick up the phone, sit with brothers and sisters in their time of need without saying a word. Be the compassionate presence of the Body of Christ in this world.

Yours,
Robin