

connections

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

First United Methodist Church of Dothan

Dr. James B. Sanders III, Senior Pastor | February 25, 2021



You may have heard the African proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." That simple statement contains a profound truth about the life of hospitality. A life of hospitality is one of the essential principals of living life as Jesus intends. Hospitality is a mark of being a disciple of Jesus.

Through the radical grace of Jesus Christ, we have all been accepted and welcomed into the family of God. That radical grace calls us to offer the same accepting, hospitable grace to this world. We are a people who embrace, include, and reach out to other people. We might not go fast, but we do go forward in life together!

The apostle Paul commends this kind of living to us all in II Corinthians 15: 1-2 (MSG),
"Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, 'How can I help?'"

Jesus seemed to echo the truth of that African proverb when he said, "For where two or three gather together in My name, there I am with them" (Matthew 18:20). I invite you to prioritize your living. We can race through life on our own or we can walk through life hand in hand with others and our Lord.

What's your vision for the days ahead? Do you want to go fast or do you want to go far?

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

Going Far,

Jim

(jim@fumcdothan.org & 333-2995)



this week at FUMC

CHILDREN

B.L.A.S.T Time

SUN. 5:00-6:00
OR
WED. 3:30-4:30

SIGN UP

TWEENS

Twens Time for God

SUN. 5:00-6:00
OR
WED. 3:30-4:30

SIGN UP

Confirmation Class

SUN. 6:00-6:45

YOUTH

Youth Small Groups

WED. 6:00-6:45

Youth Bible Study

SUN. 6:00-6:45

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUN. 9:45-10:30

Classes available for all ages, but not all adult classes are resuming in-person gatherings at this time.

RESPITE MINISTRY

We need BIRD SEED! Respite Care will be taking small bird feeders to our caregivers in the Month of March! If you would like to help, please drop off a bag of bird seed, large or small, by March 17th! We want to fill the feeders for our caregivers and leave them a little bag of seed for refill!!

Seed Donations Deadline
March 17

Assembly & Delivery
March 17, 1:30pm

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Our Sympathy to:

~ Glenn and Sally Northcutt and family due to the death of Sally's father, Paul Hudson, Jr., who died February 16.

~ Eric and Jessica Spivey and family due to the death of their son, Loren Spivey, who died February 14.

Released from the Hospital:

~ Gloria Weeks
~ Martha Wilson (to Brookdale Rehab in Birmingham)
~ Hazel Patton (Extendicare)

This week we are especially praying for the ways our church family is reaching out through our support for Viktor and Kristen Rozsa who serve as missionaries in Hungary.

MEMORIALS

Rev. Dr. Jerry Dooling

Barbara & Bob Stockman

John Hudgens

Ann & Jeff Ruotsalainen
Bo & Martha Thagard

HONORARIUMS

Didi & Mike Cody

Kaye & David Ritchie

McGowan Howell

Mary Ann, Bella, Marbury Spann

NOW HIRING

Know anyone looking for an afternoon/evening job?

We have an open custodian position (12:00-9:00pm) focusing on the daycare classrooms and hallways.

Tell your friends and learn more at fumcdothan.org!

Worship All the Time

Our *More: Life as Jesus Intended* Sermon Series reminds us to place our drudgeries before God.

What drudgeries or chores are you offering to God this week? Here are a few from our congregation:

- Preparing Tax Returns
- Unloading the Dishwasher
- Making the Bed
- Taking out the Trash
- Grocery Shopping
- Completing Paperwork



Pictured: Glow sticks representing drudgeries of our congregation were left as an offering on the altar this Sunday.



Communion will be offered each Sunday of Lent.

If you're worshipping from home, communion elements are available for pick up in the church office.

Meals on Wheels Opportunity

Meals on Wheels has two recipients in need of sponsorship. The cost per recipient is about \$60/per month and provides 5 hot lunches a week to homebound people in our community. This a great opportunity for an individual, a family, or a Sunday school class! If you would like more information or to sponsor a Meals on Wheels recipient, please contact Hannah Chapman at 864-354-8275.

Discipleship Corner



GOAL:

Consider more deeply the role of singing in worship. "I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises." - Hebrews 2:12 (NIV)



ACTION:

An important part of the worship experience is the singing of praise songs or hymns (depending on the style of worship). John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church, gave these instructions for singing in worship to the Methodists:

- Sing them exactly as they are printed.
 - Sing all. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can.
 - Sing lustily and with good courage.
 - Sing modestly.
 - Above all sing spiritually.
- (United Methodist Hymnal p. vii)

Wesley wanted people to sing songs as they were printed because the songs were more than just music or even praise. Songs teach us about God and about ourselves and about our relationship with God. As you participate in worship this week, consider the words to one of the songs that is sung.



JOURNAL REFLECTION:

What was the song on which you chose to focus? What did the words of that song teach you about who God is? How did they inspire or instruct you? What was the difference between singing the words together with others and contemplating them alone?

FUMC Wants to Feed 1,500 Frontline Workers & We Need Your Help!

\$1,363 GIVEN

\$4,137 NEEDED

help us say
THANK YOU!

**To Feed 1,500
Hospital Employees:**

- We need to raise \$11,000.
- We need people to serve meals.

Click Here For Details!

**We still need \$4,137 donated by
Sunday, Feb. 28!**

This outreach will cost \$11,000, with each meal costing \$7.30. The Missions Committee has challenged us to raise \$5,500, and they will provide the remaining \$5,500.

Can you help us reach this goal?

Maybe you'd like to provide a meal for a certain number of employees, or a certain dollar amount.

Give Online or by Check

If you are able to join us in serving lunch on one of these days, we would love for you to sign up to serve with us! Click the links below to sign up!

Join us as we say "thank you!"

Serve at Southeast Health

Serve at Flowers Hospital

Building & Grounds Beautification



Our Building and Grounds Team has been busy with new window installations, tree trimming, painting, and more!

S'mores Bonfire Party



22 children and their families played games and roasted marshmallows in Ed and Leslie Cox's backyard Saturday evening. We had a wonderful time in fellowship with one another!

NOW HIRING

FULL TIME CUSTODIAN

fumcdothan.org



We are hiring a custodian (12:00-9:00pm) for the Weekday Children's Ministry and Church.

Give the gift of...

CLEAN



Accepting donations of
personal hygiene products
for The Harbor
[click for more info](#)

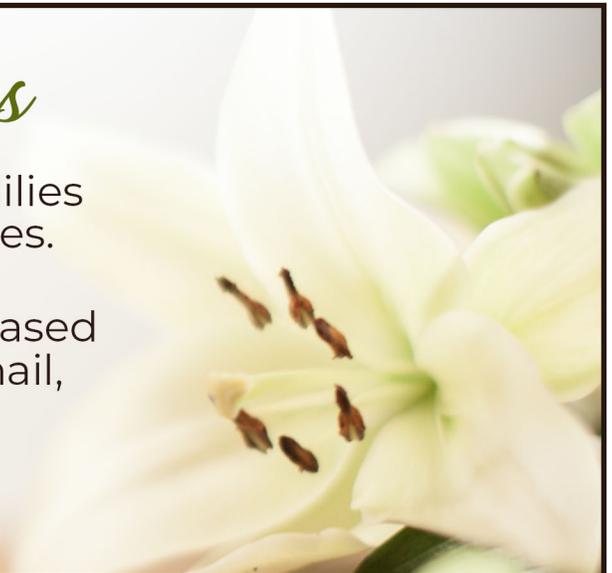
Don't forget! We still need donations for the personal hygiene kits we'll assemble on Palm Sunday.

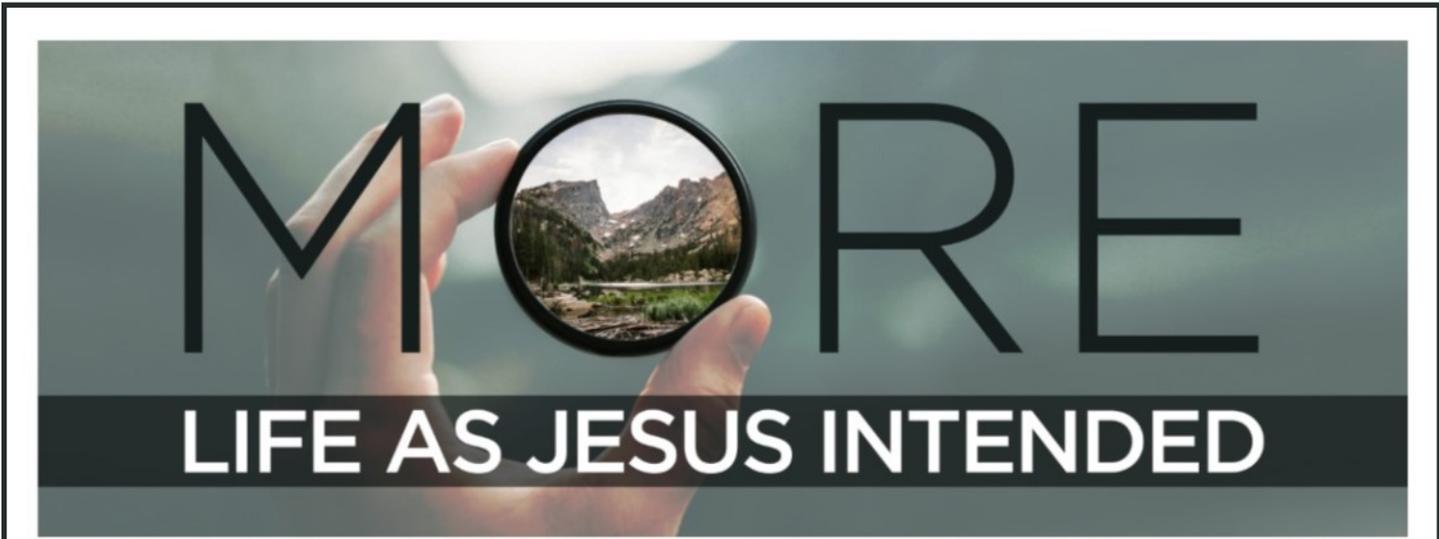
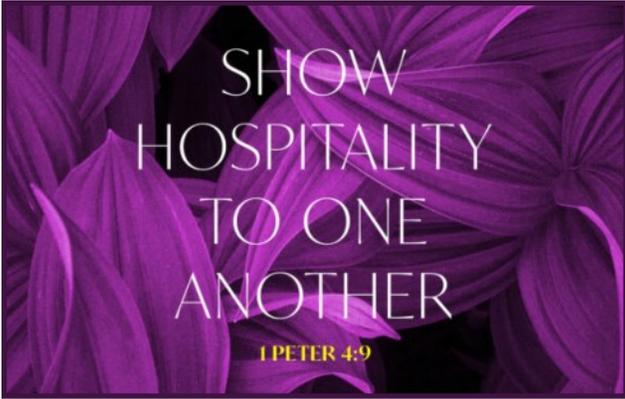
Order Your Easter Lilies

We are now taking orders for Easter lilies in memory or honor of your loved ones.

Lilies are \$25 each, and can be purchased in the church office, with check by mail, or at fumcdothan.org.

[Click for Details](#)





DEEPER DIVES START SOON - CLICK TO SIGN UP TODAY!

"MORE: Life As Jesus Intended" WORSHIP SERIES

MORE Series: DEEPER DIVES

February 21:
Worship All The Time

February 28:
Saying "Welcome, Y'all" as God Does

March 7:
Riding the Wave of God's Love

March 14:
Wrapped in the Word

March 21:
What's Your SHAPE?

March 28:
A Life Fully Lived

February 21 & 24:
How to Have a Devotional Time

March 2 & 6:
Serving Frontline Workers

March 9-11:
Prayer Labyrinth

March 17:
How to Study Your Bible

March 27:
SHAPE Workshop

April 3:
Love Dothan Community Service