# CONNECTIONS First United Methodist Church of Dothan - November 16, 2023



"As Jesus entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ...they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him."

This story from Luke 17 is filled with amazing breakthroughs for the listener. One is that faith comes when we are able to see that from which we have been healed. This season of thanksgiving I encourage you to peer inward and be mindful of the many ways you have been healed by God. It is precisely when we break through our limited selfish vision and truly recognize that we have been saved, that we are actually able to return to God in praise and thanksgiving.

Jesus saw a man filled with grateful joy joined with a humble faith. Christ admired one of ten lepers whom he healed that day – he lifted up the one who returned thanks. How could those other nine not see God's deliverance? It turns out to be easier than not. Only one in ten expressed gratitude by giving thanks to God for their bles



Dr. David R. Saliba

giving thanks to God for their blessings. The question we are left with is: are we in the ninety percent or the ten percent?

Jesus commended the Samaritan who returned in thanksgiving to worship God with a glad-heart. This is the one in which Christ found a saving faith. The healing miracle begins with God seeing our need, meeting our need, and delivering us. But the miracle is not complete until we respond in faith and gratitude. Gratitude is probably the purest measure of one's character and spiritual condition. According to Christ it is not only an expression of our faith but is synonymous with faith.

This November, may we all take a prayerful pause and learn from the grateful leper, that it is a life of gratitude that will teach us faith; whereby we trust that God is full of grace and Christ does save. In the timeless words of the apostle Paul, "Rejoice in the Lord always, do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer with thanksgiving present yourself to God...and the peace of God which passes all understanding will keep vour heart and mind in Christ Jesus." That is how we celebrate true Thanksgiving!

God's Peace, David



Sunday Worship Service Times: First Light Chapel Communion – 8 a.m. | Sanctuary Traditional Worship – 8:30 and 11 a.m. The Bridge Contemporary Worship – 8:55 a.m. | Sunday School – 10 a.m. | Phone: 334-793-3555

# This week at FUMC Dothan

# CHILDREN

#### J.A.M. Time (Jesus and Me Time)

Suspended for Family Sunday.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** Children's Bldg., 10-10:45 a.m.

**C.R.E.W. & CHOIR** (Christians Ready, Equipped & Willing) Suspended for Thanksgiving holiday.

B.L.A.S.T.

(Bible Learning And Sharing Together) Suspended for Thanksgiving holiday.

FB: FUMC Dothan Children's Ministry

**IG:** fumc\_childrens\_ministry

# TWEENS

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL Rising 5th & 6th Graders Tween Rm. 266, Sundays, 10-10:45 a.m.

**C.R.E.W. & CHOIR** (Christians Ready, Equipped & Willing) Suspended for Thanksgiving holiday.

**CONFIRMATION** Suspended for Thanksgiving holiday.

S.W.A.G. (Saved With Amazing Grace) 5th & 6th Graders Suspended for Thanksgiving holiday.

FB: FUMC Dothan Tween Ministry

IG: Tweensfumcdothan

# YOUTH

#### **SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH** Suspended for Thanksgiving holiday.

BIBLE STUDY Suspended for Thanksgiving holiday

IG: Fumcdothanyouth

#### **BLOOD DRIVE**

LifeSouth Blood Drive, takes place Sunday, November 19, from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center (CLC) parking lot.

# **JOYS & CONCERNS**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Ray Dempster who celebrated his 92nd birthday on November 6.

Alice Allred who celebrated her 92nd birthday on November 8.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Catie & Stetson Nichols on the birth of their daughter, Selah West Nichols, born November 9. Grandparents are Cara & Mark Dennis

Nikki & Vance Parker on the birth of their son, Luke David Parker, born November 8. Grandparents are Sharon & Larry Williams.

> IN THE HOSPITAL: Trip Wheelless

#### **OUR SYMPATHY TO:**

Colin, Claire & Ella Robbins due to the death of their father, Dr. Scott Burton Robbins who died October 28.

### **55 FORWARD**

The Prophecy performance (featuring the music of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra) will take place at the Dothan Civic Center, **December 1.** If you would like to join us, tickets are \$72. Scholarships are available. Please call the office at 334-793-3555 for more information or to sign up by *November 17*.

Movie Day at the Theater, November 21, at 4883 Montgomery Highway. Showtime at 1:50 p.m. We'll enjoy the new Christmas movie, Journey to Bethlehem.

Shopping Day in Sandestin,

**November 30.** Meet us here at 7:30 a.m., to catch the church bus for a great day of outlet shopping, lunch and fellowship. Shopping ends at 4:30 p.m., and we will arrive back at the church by 6:30 p.m. If you'd like to come with us, please call the church office by *November 23*, to save your spot!

#### Christmas Brunch in the Parlor takes place at 10:30 a.m.,

**December 6.** If you would like to fellowship with us, please sign up by *November 27*, by calling the church office at 334-793-3555. Afterwards, we hope you'll join us for lunch and our Midday worship service beginning at 11:45 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall.

# JOIN THE FUMC STAFF

For job descriptions, and how to apply for the positions listed below, please visit our website at fumcdothan.org/join-our-team

#### POSITIONS:

- PT Music Intern
- PT Nursery Worker
- FT Daycare Worker
  - FT Custodian

### **RESPITE CARE MINISTRY**

#### VOLUNTEER & CAREGIVER TRAINING

(Next meeting Dec. 13) The training group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in Rm. 158.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP (Next meeting Dec. 21)

The support group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Rm. 165.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

#### November 29 Menu

Adults: Catfish filets, cheese grits, coleslaw, green beans, hush puppies, dessert, beverage

**Children:** Fish nuggets, cheese grits, green beans, hush puppies, dessert, beverage

# THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP

#### FIRST LIGHT CHAPEL COMMUNION

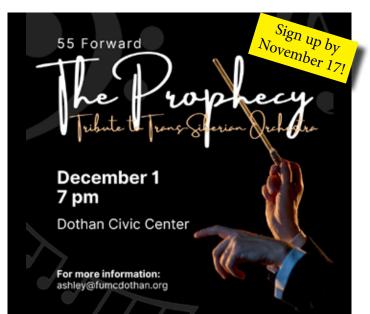
Judges 4:1-7 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30

#### **BRIDGE AND SANCTUARY WORSHIP**

"My Three Sons: Isaac, Jacob, Joseph" Genesis 32:22-32

# HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Church offices close at noon Wednesday, November 22, in observance of Thanksgiving.





# HONORARIUM

**Dottie Johnson** Susan & Pervis Hester

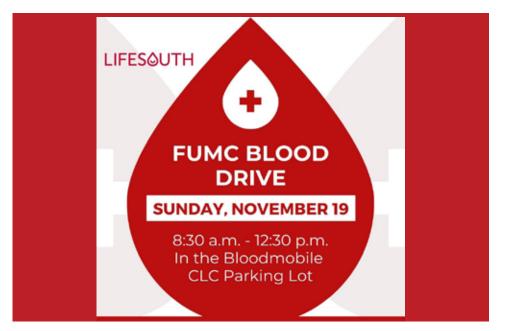
### MEMORIAL

**Ranny Cauthen** Donna & Tyrone Parrish Hazel Patton **Betty Coleman** Helon Kirkby **Furnie Johnston** Cathy & Dan Denny Barbara & Paul Flowers Susan & Alan Livingston Lisa & Ben Martin Donna & Tyrone Parrish Dale Prophet Mitzi & William Watson Jane & Tom Ziegenfelder Mary Jane McArthur Donna & Tyrone Parrish **Corbin McGriff** Susan & Pervis Hester **Rhone Parrish** Donna & Tyrone Parrish Dale Prophet Moe Sigmon Susan & Pervis Hester Loyd Smilie Babs & John Blanks Cathy & Dan Denny Susan & Pervis Hester Susan & Alan Livingston Donna & Tyrone Parrish Mitzi & William Watson **Barbara Stockman** Susan & Pervis Hester Helon Kirkby Susan & Alan Livingston Lisa & Ben Martin Donna & Tyrone Parrish Rachel Sugg Lisa & Ben Martin **Anita Williams** Donna & Tyrone Parrish

# Cornbread Dressing Sale

# Order pickup day: November 19 in the Parlor.







# SENIOR ADULT SHOPPING DAY NOVEMBER 30 IN SANDESTIN!

The church bus will depart at 7:30 a.m. and will return by 6:30 p.m.

For more info, email ashley@fumcdothan.org



