

FUMC's Respite Care Ministry names new Executive Director - Samantha Willis

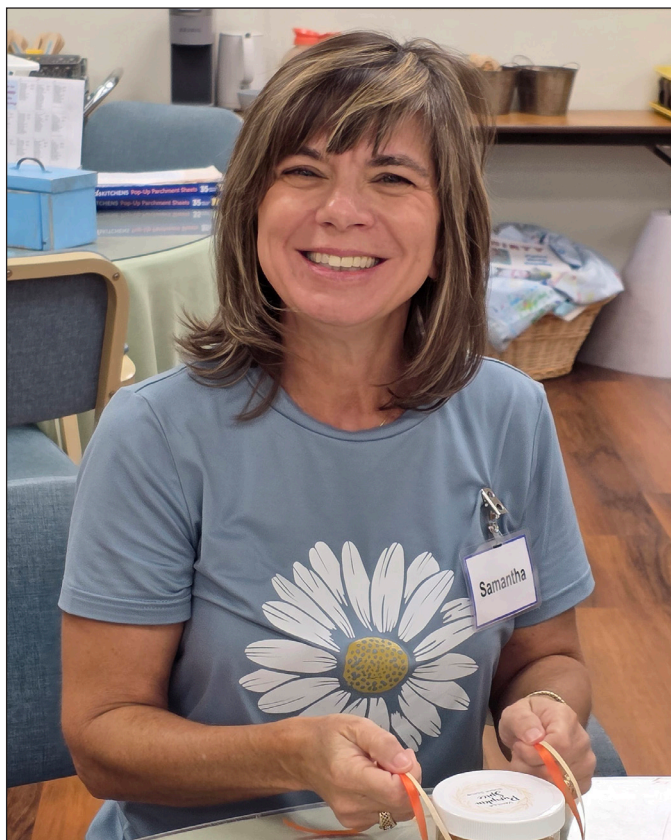
It is with great joy that we welcome Samantha Willis as the new Executive Director of Respite Care Ministry! Many of you already know Samantha from her time volunteering with Respite, where her kindness, creativity, and enthusiasm quickly made her a beloved part of our family.

Samantha comes to this new role after retiring from 30 years of teaching at Rehobeth Elementary and Primary Schools. She holds a master's degree in education from Troy University, and her background in teaching and serving others will be such a blessing as she helps lead and equip our staff and volunteers.

Samantha has a true heart for ministry and service. She is an active member of Covenant Methodist Church and serves year-round with Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse. She and her husband, Billy Willis, have been married for 31 years and are proud parents of two wonderful children, Abby Lee (Taylor) and Adam.

We are excited about the future of Respite Care Ministry under Samantha's leadership. Her experience, compassion, and faith will continue to strengthen our mission of providing connection, purpose, and joy to those we serve.

As we move forward, we are accepting applications for the Assistant Director of Respite Care Ministry. Those interested in applying may email respiteboard@fumcdothan.org, attention Maria Shelor. And don't forget to mark your calendars for several special events coming soon!



Samantha Willis

- **The Great Peanut Auction** – Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 1:15 p.m. - Walker Epps' room
 - **Heart to Heart Singers Concert** – Sunday, Nov. 9 at 2 p.m. - Fellowship Hall
 - **Respite Ten-Year Anniversary Celebration featuring Teepa Snow** – Wednesday, Jan. 21 - Dothan Civic Center
- See page 4 for more information

Each of these events is a wonderful way to celebrate our mission and the joy of community together. We hope you'll join us for all the fun, laughter, and inspiration ahead!

With gratitude,

Katie Holland

Director, Respite Care Ministry

This week & more at FUMC Dothan

CHILDREN

J.A.M. Time (Jesus and Me Time)
Available during the 8:30 & 8:55 a.m. worship services.

Sunday School
Children's Bldg., 10-10:45 a.m.

FB: FUMC Dothan Children's Ministry

IG: fumc_childrens_ministry

YOUTH

Sunday School
Youth Cafe, Sundays, 10-10:45 a.m.

Confirmation Class
Suspended due to Fall Family Fellowship

Sunday evening
Suspended due to Fall Family Fellowship

Tuesday Breakfast
7 a.m. at Chick-fil-A located at 3418 Ross Clark Circle

Wednesday Bible Study
6-7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Served from 4:45 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Menu for Oct. 29
Fried chicken, macaroni & cheese, green beans, salad bar, dessert

THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP

First Light Chapel Communion
Joel 2:23-32
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

Bridge and Sanctuary Worship
"The Best is Yet To Come;
The Best Ambitions"
Philippians 3:10-21

RESPIRE CARE

Volunteer & Caregiver Training
(Next meeting Nov. 12)
The training group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in Rm. 158.

RESPIRE CARE, CONT'D

Respite Ministry Caregiver Support Group
(Next meeting Nov. 20)
The support group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Rm. 165.



Heart to Heart Choir Fall Concert,
Sunday, Nov. 9, 2 p.m. - Fellowship Hall - This performance will consist of a variety of musical selections that will take you back in time, make you laugh out loud, and warm your heart. We hope you will join us!

JOYS & CONCERNS

Our sympathy to:
The family and friends of Marialyce Grubbs. A Celebration of Life memorial service will take place at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25, at Glover Funeral Home. Visitation begins at 1 p.m., prior to the service.

The family and friends of Ray Dempster who died Oct. 9. His memorial service takes place at 11 a.m. Oct. 24, at Glover Funeral Home. Visitation begins at 10 a.m., prior to the service.

Jay & Kelli Marchman and family due to the passing of his mother, Debbie Bragg Davis on Oct. 15.

Lee & Mikell Thomas, Jean & Mike Dagostin, Karen & Steve Etheredge and their families due to the death of Lee, Jean, and Karen's aunt, Rosa Thomas on Oct. 17.

In hospital:
Doug Lurie
David Adkins

Released from hospital:
Alison Lancaster
Ana Flowers
Alan Livingston
Thomas Flowers
Philip Dozier

Happy Birthday to:
Jeannine Jones who celebrated her 94th on Oct. 19.

Let us know if you, or someone you know, has concerns, joys, hospitalizations, upcoming surgeries, or is expecting a baby. Please call the church office at 334-793-3555, or email prayer@fumcdothan.org.

RECREATION MINISTRY

Citywide Church Basketball League Registration - Boys and girls, ages 5 to 18, are welcome to participate. Online registration is open through *Saturday, October 25*, at fumcdothan.org/recreation
Info: adam@fumcdothan.org

JOIN OUR TEAM

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

Positions:

- FT Preschool Director
- Assistant Dir. of Respite Care Ministry
- FT Daycare Worker
- PT Nursery Worker
- PT Associate Worship Arts Dir./Organist

MISSIONARY TO SPEAK



Rev. Rhett Thompson will join us on Sunday, Nov. 9, during the Sunday School hour. Our church has long supported Rev. Thompson's ministry, and we are thrilled to welcome him to FUMC to share all the great things God is doing in Panama.

PEANUT FESTIVAL PARADE

National Peanut Festival Parade - Saturday, October 25, 3:30-5:30 p.m. - Grab your lawn chairs and watch the parade from our church lawn! It begins on East Main Street, downtown and will travel westward. We hope to see you there!

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Charge Conference - Tuesday, October 28, 6 p.m. - Fellowship Hall - We will be greeted by our District Superintendent, Dr. Sterling Boykin, vote on our lay leadership, and set a proposed budget for 2026. All members of the Board of Stewards are voting members of the charge conference; anyone may attend. A nursery and childcare will be provided.

Welcome new members to



Thomas Flowers has joined our church.
He is pictured with his wife, Patti,
who is also a member.



Stephanie Bailey has joined our church.
She is pictured with her fiancé,
Shane Hardenbrook, who is also a member.





**Game Day – Nov. 4,
1 p.m. – Fellowship Hall**

Hosted by 55 Forward Ministries and open to all ages! A variety of games will be available, and you're welcome to bring a favorite game to share with the group. No sign-up necessary—just come and enjoy the fun!

**Senior Day at the Fair,
Nov. 6** - We will meet in the CLC parking lot at 9:30 am. Please sign up to ride the bus or you can meet us at the National Peanut Festival Fairgrounds. The gates open at 10 am and the event ends at 2 pm. The entertainment and program begins at noon in the arena.

**55 Forward
Friendsgiving
Nov. 13** - Friends, Food, and Fun—You're Invited! Join us for a feast among friends at 11 am in the Fellowship Hall. The main entree will be provided but we ask that you bring a side dish to share. **Reservations are required, deadline is Monday, Nov. 10.**

**For more info:
terri@fumcdothan.org
or call the
church office:
334-793-3555**



**FALL
CONCERT** | **Sunday, November 9th
Fellowship Hall | 2 PM**

Presenting one of the world's leading advocates and educators for anyone living with dementia or other forms of brain change

**TEEPA
JANUARY 21, 2026
SNOW**



**Until There's a Cure,
There's Care!™**

Teepa Snow, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA, is an Occupational Therapist with over forty years of rich and varied clinical and academic experience. Her experiences led her to the development of the GEMS® States of Brain Change and the Positive Approach™ training strategies. Her company, Positive Approach to Care® (PAC), provides online and in-person education and products to support those living with brain change. She also co-founded the Snow Approach Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Hillsborough, North Carolina. Teepa presents with extraordinary expertise and humor to audiences throughout the world.



REGISTRATION OPENS DECEMBER 1

For more information call Rosemary House at 334-500-5656

Event Details:

DATE & TIME:
January 21, 2026
9AM-3PM*

LOCATION:
Dothan Civic Center

*Lunch is included
with registration

Hosted by:



Presenting Sponsor:

