

Monday, November 2 Read 2 Corinthians 5:7; Romans 8:31; Psalms 23:4; **“So he answered, ‘Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.’ And Elisha prayed, and said, ‘Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.’ Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha”** (2 Kings 6:16-17). The prophet Elisha had been warning the king of Israel where the Syrians were hiding, and the king of Syria thought there was a spy in their midst, only to be told a man of God kept warning the Israelites. The Syrian king sent his army to bring Elisha back, and they surrounded the city of Dothan where Elisha was staying. Elisha’s servant went outside and saw they were surrounded, and Elisha told his servant, “Do not fear.” Then he prayed for God to open the spiritual eyes of his servant, and when He did, the servant could see that there were even more angels surrounding them than the Syrians. When we live our lives by what we see and what we hear, chances are we will live in fear because the world is full of negative reports. Just watch the evening news; see how many positive stories they run each night compared to the negative ones. When we walk by faith, however, we do not have to live in fear. 2 Corinthians 5:7 tells us we are to walk confidently, and to do this we must “walk by faith, and not by sight.” Do you feel trapped by your circumstances? Has the enemy surrounded you and your house? “Do not fear, for those who are with (you) are more than those who are with them” (2 Kings 6:16). God’s angels outnumber Satan’s by a 2:1 ratio according to Revelation 12:4. Most importantly, regardless of the ratio, God versus Satan is no contest. There is a best-selling “how to”-book out there that tells you how to walk by faith. It also gives you all kinds of promises that are guaranteed by the author. The best part: the Author put it in writing, and the Guarantor covered it with blood. So next time you feel outnumbered and overwhelmed, pick up the book, and you’ll see the good guys win in the end.

Tuesday, November 3 - **“And God heard the voice of the lad. Then the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said to her, ‘What ails you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is”** (Gen. 21:17). Hagar was Sarah’s Egyptian maidservant who bore Abraham’s first child, Ishmael. Sarah got ahead of God and asked Abraham to try to have a child through Hagar since she was barren. Once Hagar conceived, Sarah immediately became jealous and mean-spirited towards her. Then, when Sarah bore Isaac, she told Abraham to send both Hagar and Ishmael away. Reluctantly, Abraham agreed and sent them off on their own in the wilderness with only water and bread. Hagar ran out of water, set Ishmael down under a shrub and fully expected them both to die there. God heard Hagar and Ishmael cry out and sent an angel to tell her to fear not. **“Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the skin with water, and gave the lad a drink. So God was with the lad; and he grew and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer”** (Gen. 21:19-20). Hagar was an Egyptian, a foreigner, yet God heard her cries just as he heard the cries of His Israelite children. The good news for us Gentiles is that God does not show partiality. Romans 2:11 says, **“For there is no partiality with God.”** Where are you today? Are you dry and thirsty physically? Emotionally? Spiritually? Cry out to the Lord, and He will meet you where you are. Ask Him to open your eyes and show you where the well is so you can drink and nourish your body, soul, mind, and spirit. Sometimes we just need to cry out to the Lord. I can assure you He is fine with this. God heard Hagar and Ishmael’s voices in their despair and immediately met their needs. Peter says in Acts 10:34 (KJV), **“that God is no respecter of persons,”** which means what He did for Hagar He will do for you. “What ails you, [insert your name here]? Fear not!”

Wednesday, November 4 - Read Psalms 51:12 **“For the seed shall be prosperous, the vine shall give its fruit, the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew—I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these. And it shall come to pass that just as you were a curse among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so I will save you, and you shall be a blessing. Do not fear, let your hands be strong”** (Zech. 8:12-13). Israel and Judah had been punished for their sin, being sent into captivity for seventy years in Babylon. The prophet Zechariah was actually born in Babylon, so he had lived through the worst of times in Israel’s history, but now God is promising restoration to the remnant that has returned. Do you feel like you have messed up so badly that there appears to be no way out? God said David was a man after His own heart, yet David committed adultery and murder. So you need to know that no matter how deep a pit you are in, God is ready and willing to lift you out. When you find yourself in a hole, the first thing you need to do is look up. God has given us a fail-proof recipe for restoration. **“If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land”** (2 Chron. 7:14, NIV). Your part is to humble yourself, pray, and repent; then God will hear, forgive, and heal. David said, **“I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord!”** (Ps. 27:13-14). David did not lose heart, and you should not either. Wait on the Lord. The apostle Paul tells us, “neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:39, NIV). Do not fear; there is nothing that can separate [insert your name here] from God’s love. I repeat: nothing can separate you from God’s love!

Thursday, November 5 - **“Those who contended with you, those who war against you shall be as nothing, as a nonexistent thing. For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, ‘Fear not, I will help you”** (Isa. 41:12-13). Back in the days of the Hatfields and McCoys, when you messed with one member of the family, you basically picked a fight with the whole clan. Right or wrong, your family was behind you. I believe that is God’s message here; anyone who messes with you has Me to contend with. Don’t underestimate the value of the Lord holding your hand either. Sometimes we just need the encouragement of someone standing along beside us to give us the strength to fight the battle. **“Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken”** (Eccles. 4:12). When God is part of your cord, there is certainly no reason to fear. So what are you anxious about today? What is weighing you down? Or maybe something is weighing down your friend, your spouse, or perhaps your child. If you are a believer, then you are part of the body of Christ. You may need to be Jesus to someone today, His arms or His hands. Maybe today you will need to be the one who comes alongside someone and hold their right hand or wrap your arms around them. Remember when you were a child and had a bad dream, and you needed someone to hold your hand or hug you and reassure you that everything would be okay? Maybe they told you, Don’t be afraid, mommy and daddy are here to protect you. Well, your Heavenly Father wants you to know the same thing: “Fear not, I will help you.” If fear is venom, the anti-venom would be Psalm 91. On any day you’re feeling particularly fearful or worrisome, read this entire Psalm. **“He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him”** (Ps. 91:15, NIV). You can call upon God any time of any day, and you’ll never reach a busy signal. Plus, you have unlimited minutes on His calling plan. **“Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you”** (1 Pet. 5:7, NIV).

For a complete study guide, visit covenantdothan.org/messages/archive/no-fear-november/.

THE COVENANT HAPPENINGS

WORSHIP AT COVENANT

11.01.20

Sundays

CovKids

8:15 | Traditional Service
AM Sanctuary

9:45 | Contemporary Service
AM Sanctuary

11:00 | Contemporary Service
AM Christian Life Center Gym

Wednesdays

6:00 | 1st Wednesday
PM Sanctuary

CovStudents

Sundays at 8:15, 9:45 & 11:00 am

Nursery & Toddlers - Nursery Hall
2 year olds - Preschool - The Treehouse
K - 2nd Grade - Children’s Worship Center
3rd - 5th Grade - Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays at 5:30 pm

Nursery & Toddlers - Nursery Hall
2 year olds - Preschool - The Treehouse
K - 5th Grade - Children’s Worship Center

6th-12th Grade - CLC Gym

6th-8th Grade - 5:30-6:15 pm
9th-12th Grade - 7:00-7:45 pm

Online Campus

No matter where you are on Sundays, you can join us for worship on our Online Campus. Visit our online campus at covenantdothan.org/locations/ online for more information.

Livestream: covenantdothan.online.church
Facebook Live: [facebook.com/covumcdothan](https://www.facebook.com/covumcdothan)
YouTube: Search Covenant Dothan UMC

Welcome!

We are excited to welcome you back on campus for all worship services! Our online campus will continue as usual. Activities are available for children and students.

Visit us online for worship:

Livestream: covenantdothan.online.church

Facebook Live: [facebook.com/covumcdothan](https://www.facebook.com/covumcdothan)

YouTube: Search Covenant Dothan UMC

Can’t join us on Sunday mornings? Worship with us on Sunday & Monday evenings.

Sundays at 6 pm - Traditional, Mondays at 6 pm - Contemporary

A Note From the Finance Office

“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.” 2 Corinthians 9:11

Giving is a way of opening ourselves to opportunity. When we choose to be God’s opportunity of help and love for another person, we place ourselves in God’s design for giving and receiving from one another. One of the ways God turns us into more generous, thankful, joyful people is by blessing us so that we can give it back to the kingdom and “result in thanksgiving to God.” Will you join us in becoming a thankful people by giving back to the kingdom?

We offer many easy options to give and we would love to share more about them with you. Contact Annette Lovrich at (334) 944.6208 for more information on how to give with online, text to give and automatic draft options. Thank you for your continued support and generosity through this Thanksgiving season.

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THE COVENANT APP
Search & download
“Covenant UMC Dothan” on
any phone or tablet device.



November Sermon Series

Fear saturates our society. Everywhere we turn we're faced with a new security threat, informed about a new health risk, or warned about some kind of impending doom. We invite you to join us for our new series **"No Fear November"** as we unpack the presence of fear in our lives and learn to focus our fear so we can discover the kind of peace God wants for us.

Baptism

We believe baptism is an important step of obedience in our faith journey. It shows that we have personally trusted Jesus for our salvation, and just as Jesus was baptized on earth, we do this to follow his example. Your baptism symbolizes the new life you have found in Christ just as Jesus rose to life again. If you have questions about baptism or would like to be baptized, contact Rev. Kyle Gatlin at kyle@covenantdothan.org.

Fall Gathering

November 17 at 6:30 pm, Christian Life Center Gym The Fall Gathering is a place for the women of Covenant to come together to build deep, Godly relationships with other women through worship and a meaningful message. During our time together we will also pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Help us spread the good news of Jesus out into the world by bringing items to help fill shoeboxes for boys and girls around the world. This event is open to women of all ages, so invite your sisters, mothers, grandmothers and girlfriends. To register or for more information, visit covenantdothan.org/events.

Upcoming Opportunities to Serve

Barbi Nolan, Missions Coordinator - barbi@covenantdothan.org, (334) 944-6217

Love Dothan Saturday, November 7 from 8 am-12 noon - You are invited to participate in "Love Your Neighborhood" - part of the City of Dothan's "Love Dothan" campaign. During this time we will be working in the Harmondale (also known as Lakeview) neighborhood. The coordination point will be Jerry Lee Faine Elementary School located at 1901 Stringer Street. Please bring your lawnmower, gloves, rake, shovel, weed eater, edger, or whatever tools you would like to work with so we can help our neighbors better care for their properties.

SARCOA Santa for Seniors 2020 SARCOA Area Agency on Aging will be doing their Santa for Seniors program differently this year. Rather than an open wish list, they will be providing specific items for the Senior Christmas boxes. For the 2020 Request List, visit covenantdothan.org/events. Donations can be dropped off on December 4 & 5 and December 12 between 9 am and 6 pm at the former National Guard Armory, 2755 Choctaw Street, Dothan. Volunteers are needed to wrap gift boxes and assemble cleaning buckets on Tuesday, November 17 from 8 am-12 noon and 1:30-4:30 pm at the armory.

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Help us send the good news of Jesus out into the world by packing a shoebox. Each box is an awesome way for a boy or girl to experience the love of God in a tangible way. Grab a shoe box from one of our displays on campus and return your packed shoe box back to the church on or before November 15. If you would like to pack a box virtually, visit covenantdothan.org/events for more information.

Volunteering at the OCC Processing Center Another fun way to be a part of this worldwide ministry is to volunteer at the OCC Processing Center in Atlanta. We will be taking a small team to Atlanta on December 8 to work the 10 am-4 pm (ET) shift. Be prepared for fast paced work and lots of standing! We will leave Dothan at 5 am and return around 8 pm. Please contact Barbi Nolan if you would like to join us.

Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery will NOT meet in-person for the next several weeks. Though we are unable to meet together in our building, our ministry will still continue. We hope you will join us on our Covenant Facebook page for a message or testimony on Thursdays at 6 pm, beginning tomorrow night and during the month of November. We continue to pray for our leaders and each of you as we navigate this season.



Stay connected with our CovKids on Facebook & Instagram!

Facebook: [facebook.com/CovKids](https://www.facebook.com/CovKids)

Instagram: [instagram.com/covkids_](https://www.instagram.com/covkids_)

Our weekly lessons are available on our website at covenantdothan.org/connect/covkids.



Stay connected with CovStudents!

For the latest news and information for students, visit the CovStudents Facebook or Instagram pages.

Facebook: [facebook.com/CovStudents](https://www.facebook.com/CovStudents)

Instagram: [instagram.com/covstudents](https://www.instagram.com/covstudents)

Small Groups

Wendy Hicks, Small Groups Coordinator - wendy@covenantdothan.org

God created us to be in community with one another and experience life with other people. Small groups exist to bring people together and to make life-changing relationships relevant and accessible to God's people. Covenant offers a number of ways to get connected through small groups. Be on the lookout for our new Small Groups Directory coming soon. Contact Wendy Hicks at 793-4440 for more information.

Covenant News & Happenings

Are you interested in receiving a weekly eNewsletter, Sermon Notes and other Covenant news by email? This is a great way to stay up to date on upcoming events, registration, prayer concerns and more. Email Courtney Hardy at courtney@covenantdothan.org to sign up.

Covenant Concerns

Sympathy

The Pastors and congregation would like to express our deepest sympathy to Zach & Abby Rogers and Jeremy & Valerie Vinson on the death of Zach & Valerie's father, *Rod Rogers*.

Recent Prayer Concerns

Daphne Willis, Martha Doty, Densie Williams, Thomas Evans, Sandy Lisenby, Sandra Matthews, Jo Peterson, Virginia Hornsby, Dwight Jeffcoat, Gene Kearley, Paul Hall, Lori Lamb Weathington, Sharon Jenkins, Carrie Mathis Allday, Gianna Allday, Steve Morrell, Jennette Gayer, Ava Blackburn, Beth & Tom Sherrer, Ronnie Brannon, Molly Tew, Tom Renshaw Sr., Margaret Wilson, David Cunningham, Linda Griffith, Chris Smith, John Babinski, Tim Koogler, Linda Avera, Carrie Williams, Beverly Youse, Tammy Reese, Family of Patsy Bowling, Johnathan Berry, Carla Lawrence, Wallace Family, JJ Price Family, Alan Tidwell, Terri Daughtry, Lori Burns, Dr. Bill Lies, Lisa Silcox, Natalie Faulk, Christy Goodwin Bullard, Mary Lisenby, George Stokes, Mark Arrington, William Brown, Peter Collins Jr., Jill Walden, Sue Reynolds, Hays McKay, Helon Scott, Jeanne Stringfellow, Dutch Holland, Lucy Cline, Carolyn Benton, David Johnston, Yvonne Reid, Cher Hicks, Happy Fox, Pete Shelley, Lisa Henry, Karen Medley, Gayle Moores, Lamar Spence, Martha Jane Shannon, Jerry Dooling, Tipton Family, Kathy Clark, Wynn Arkle, June Granberry, Evie Riley, Tony Justice, Richard Duncan, Sarah Grantham, Charles Meeks, JoAnn Gamble, Laurie Axtell, Allwyn Nilsson, Trip and Haley Moseley & family, Avery Wells, Jeffrey Bostwick, Scott Berry, Jennie Lawson, Scott Brown, Angie Goodson, Janis Caddell, Shelby Clark, Kendrea White, Kelly Armstrong Smith, Bobby Simmons, Michael Buntin, Bernice White, Beverly White, Audrey Miller, Carolyn Thomley, Bob Drummond, Connie Moore

Currently Deployed Jerrad Anderson

Contact Information Request

Connection and interaction is essential during this time of uncertainty and it is important to stay grounded in God's Word and in community with others. We want to make certain that Covenant has current information so that we may stay connected with you. If you have not already, please visit covenantdothan.org/contact-info to update your information or you can contact us at 793.4440.