

connections

First United Methodist Church of Dothan

October 21, 2021

Churchwide Fall Fellowship

Fall is doing its best to show up here in Dothan and at First United Methodist Church! Signs have begun to appear that the Pumpkin Patch is in full swing, leaves are beginning to change colors and cover our yards, preparations are in the making for the Peanut Festival, and tiny hints of cooler weather are being felt. So, it's time for the church to **THRIVE OUTSIDE!**

We are wrapping up the month with a time of fellowship at Aplin Farms. What a perfect way for everyone to step outside, to spend some time together just hanging out and to enjoy fall. This is a time for our ENTIRE church family to gather and enjoy the beauty of a local farming community while spending time with friends, both old and new.

A \$6.00 admission fee allows you entry to the farm, a wagon ride, time in the animal barn, and the playground. For \$12 you can enjoy the above along with a train ride, inflatables, corn maze, hamster wheel, duck races, and pumpkin bowling. Who doesn't enjoy a hay ride and the chance to get your picture taken up close with a donkey? Can't you just see the youth challenging one of our pastors in a duck race, or maybe you want to take on the dare? This is also the perfect time to enjoy a picnic dinner as you visit the concession stand for hotdogs, hamburgers, BBQ, nachos, funnel cakes, fried Oreos or cobbler in a cone, yum. At 4:30, we will gather in the pumpkin patch to hear a short message on how God uses each of us in our uniqueness to shine His light on others.

We are hopeful you will be a part and **THRIVE OUTSIDE** with your church family!

Sonia Crutchfield

Sonia Crutchfield
Director of Tween Ministries
sonia@fumcdothan.org

Join us on October 31!

4-6 pm at Aplin Farms

2729 N County Road 49, Dothan, AL 36305

This week at FUMC

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays, 10:00-10:45 am

Sunday School is available for all ages, children, tweens, youth, and adults. We would love for you to join one of our classes.

Our Progressors Class is available on Zoom each Sunday for any adult wishing to join a class from home.

Contact Gene McGriff
for the Zoom link.

gmcgriff7618@gmail.com

CHILDREN

BLAST TIME

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

Sunday, October 24

1st-4th grade only

- 5:00-6:00 pm

Wednesday, October 27

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!

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

Sunday, October 24

- 5:00-6:00 pm

Wednesday, October 27

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

[Click to Sign Up for SWAG](#)

 FUMC Dothan Tween Ministry

 tweensfumcdothan

YOUTH

Sunday, October 24

- Bible Study 6:00-7:30 pm

Tuesday, October 26

- Breakfast 7:00-7:30 am

Wednesday, October 27

- Small Groups 6:00-7:30 pm

 FUMC Dothan UMYF

 Fumcdothanyouth

RESPIRE CARE MINISTRY

RESPIRE VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Wednesday, Nov. 10

10:00 am-12:00 noon

Email katie@fumcdothan.org for more information.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR RESPIRE 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!

INGREDIENT DONATIONS FOR COOKIE JARS

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

JOYS & CONCERNS

Our Sympathy to:

Carla Barnett and family due to the death of her husband, Mike Barnett, who died October 11.

In the Hospital:

~ Molly White
~ Beckett Nichols
~ Arlene Swallows

Congratulations:

~ Happy Birthday to Tillie Dempster who celebrated her 94th birthday on October 15.

~ Allison Pratt and Ben Hession who were married October 7. Allison is the daughter of Ginger and Win Pratt.

This week we are especially praying for the ways our church family is reaching out through In Christ's Name, as we supply food and funds to those in need in our community.

MEMORIALS

Clayton Allen

Betty Corbin
Mary Ann & Marbury Spann
Bo & Martha Thagard
William & Mitzi Watson

Mary Alice Cleveland

Joe & Sheila Kelly
Dawn Saltzstein

Cleve Creel

Jamie & Nelma Flowers
Joe & Sheila Kelly

Jim Dayton

Juanita Dicks

Nova Harvey

Betty Hendricks

Bobby Sirmon

Wiley Sprayberry

Bob Stockman

Bo & Martha Thagard

The Pumpkin Patch is open for another 10 days. Support our ministries by shopping the patch!

Mon- Fri 10-6

Sat: 8-7

Sun: 12-6

MINISTRY FAIR

Learn more about
ministry opportunities and
get plugged in!

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 31ST
9:45 - 11:00 / PARLOR

Ministries Represented:

Church Party
Meals on Wheels
Missions
Adult Choir
The Harbor
Prayer Shawls
Ignite
Congregational Care
Baked Blessings
We Care
Photography
Children's Ministry
Tween Ministry
Youth Ministry
Recreation
Note Cards
Westminster Handbells
And more...



VBS



Respite Care



Tweens - Nerf Wars



Live Stream



In Christ's Name



Youth Missions



UMW Meeting

Tuesday, November 2, 11:45 am
In Fellowship Hall

Speaker: Vivian Veal

Lunch will be served; make your reservation by calling the church office, 793-3555, signing up on attendance register, or by sending an email to betty@fumcdothan.org.

Board Meeting:

11 am in Room 165



A Note from Robin

Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.
- Galatians 1:10

I wish everyone had the opportunity to work with the fine staff we have here at First UMC. Truly, their hearts are focused on doing Christ's work in our church and in our world. There is a sense of shared mission and friendship that permeates the building. We laugh a lot, even when most of it is in response to the questions of the interim lead pastor! The SPRC had a staff appreciation luncheon for us this week, and it meant so much to each of us...especially to those who led the church these days during COVID, where everything was new and hard.

In my discussions recently with staff, I've found that many of them have creative and innovative ideas that they would like to unleash! Yet somehow, many feel reluctant to move on their ideas because they do not want to displease or disappoint members here. I write this to you, the congregation, because I want you to hear my response to that sentiment.

I have told them this: they are not hired to please a constituency, they are here to lead this congregation in making disciples of Jesus Christ! We get to please God while we love and lead with God's people! We need our staff to have the joyful support to follow God and lead God's people, just like we need every church member to feel joyful support in following God and leading God's people! We are all in this together, and we are not a timid and fearful congregation; after all, we have this amazing God who promised to be with us always, even to the end of the age!

I feel that way about our stewardship campaign as well. Together, we are strong as we share our gifts and talents! Together, we are bold as we launch into God's future plans without fear! Together, we live joy-filled lives that cannot help but witness to the salvation offered to the world through Jesus the Christ! I promise you this: while together these next several months, I will give the staff and the laity of this church my full love and support as we love God and neighbor together. Will you join me?

Yours,
Robin