

connections

First United Methodist Church of Dothan - February 16, 2023

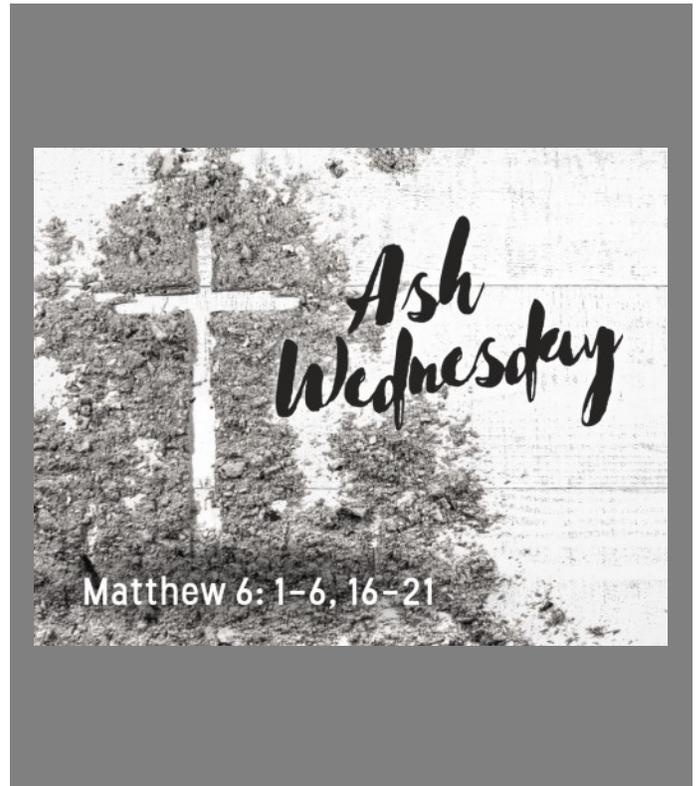
February 22 is Ash Wednesday, the first day of the Season of Lent in the Christian Year. It is always 46 days before Easter and it marks the beginning of our season of penitence.

Ash Wednesday is a day we remember our sins, embrace our mortality from which we believe only Christ can release us, and begin our season of self-examination and prayerful reflection.

The eve of Ash Wednesday is known as Shrove Tuesday, a day where the early church reminded its congregations to prepare a mental list of all the sins that needed to be "shriven" or forgiven. A disciple of Jesus was encouraged to use the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday to consider all of their sins and possibly indulge in the food and festivities that would be sacrificed during the Season of Lent. Pancakes were eaten because of their fatty and sugary ingredients that were often abstained from during the Lenten Fast.

Persons began to call Shrove Tuesday Pancake Tuesday. Then carnivals were added to increase the fanfare and celebration before the penitential season and the day became known as Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, when indulgences were celebrated. However, the original point of Mardi Gras was to rid the "body" of its sinful desire so one might better observe a holy Lent — only those who would devote themselves to the spiritual disciplines of the Season of Lent were called upon to participate in the Shrove Tuesday festivals.

Unfortunately, the Church has lost its influence over Mardi Gras in most areas of the Western World. But, we still call on our congregations to observe a Holy Lent. Today, we focus on our individual relationships with God through a focused spiritual practice, often choosing to give up (fast) something and to give of ourselves in some way to love others for the cause of Christ. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the



wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan. Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter", a celebration of Jesus' victory over sin and death.

On Ash Wednesday, we use ash from burned Palm branches (from the previous year's Palm Sunday Celebration) to make the sign of the cross on our foreheads as an outward sign of our sorrow and repentance for our sins.

We will celebrate Shrove Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and Ash Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All persons are invited to participate in these wonderful opportunities.

I pray you and your family will find a way to celebrate this holy time.

God's Peace,
Pastor David

This week at FUMC Dothan

CHILDREN

J.A.M Time (Jesus and Me Time)
Room 217, Sundays during worship

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

C.R.E.W.
(Christians Ready, Equipped & Willing)
Suspended due to holiday weekend.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR
Suspended due to Ash Wednesday service.

B.L.A.S.T.
(Bible Learning And Sharing Together)
Suspended due to Ash Wednesday service.

 FUMC Dothan Children's Ministry
 fumc_childrens_ministry

TWEENS

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

C.R.E.W.
Suspended due to holiday weekend.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES
(for 6th graders)
Suspended due to holiday weekend.

S.W.A.G.
(Saved With Amazing Grace)
5th & 6th Graders
Suspended due to Ash Wednesday service.

 FUMC Dothan Tween Ministry
 Tweenfumcdothan

YOUTH

YOUTH
Sunday p.m. meeting suspended due to holiday weekend.

TUESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST
Begins at 7 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY
Wednesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. bring your own food!

 Fumcdothanyouth

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:

- **Administrative Assistant**
- **Music Intern**

JOYS & CONCERNS

OUT OF TOWN HOSPITALS:
~Ann Ellis - M.D. Anderson, TX

OUR SYMPATHY TO:
~Bob & Kathy Cleveland and family due to the death of his brother, Richard "Doss" Cleveland, Jr., who died Feb. 7.

~The family of Patricia "Patty" Roberts who passed away Feb. 10.

~Jim & Sally Sanders upon the death of his mother, Frances Summar Sanders who passed away Feb. 15.

RESPIRE CARE MINISTRY

RESPIRE CARE MINISTRY
VOLUNTEER & CAREGIVER
TRAINING
(Next meeting March 8)

The training group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in Rm. 158.

RESPIRE CARE MINISTRY
CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP
(Next meeting March 16)

The support group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Rm. 158.

HONORARIUM

Bill Lee III
Melissa Nichols

MEMORIALS

Celeste Hart
Nancy & Ron Harrell

Helen Hudson
Sis & Bill Lee
Elaine Robertson
Juleann Torrence

Wilbur Walton Jr.
Pat & Mike Conaway
Paula & Patricia Mathis

SEEKING SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS FOR WESLEY PLACE

Teachers are sought for the Sunday School class that takes place from 9 - 9:30 a.m. each Sunday morning on the assisted living wing at Wesley Place. If you would like to volunteer to teach a class of up to ten people, please contact Ryan Deaton at 334-793-3555.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
Supper
4:30 - 6:00P

Feb. 22 menu: Adults: Fried or baked Catfish, cheese grits, butterbeans, hush puppies, coleslaw, dessert, and beverage
Children: Fish nuggets, cheese grits, butterbeans, hush puppies, dessert, and beverage

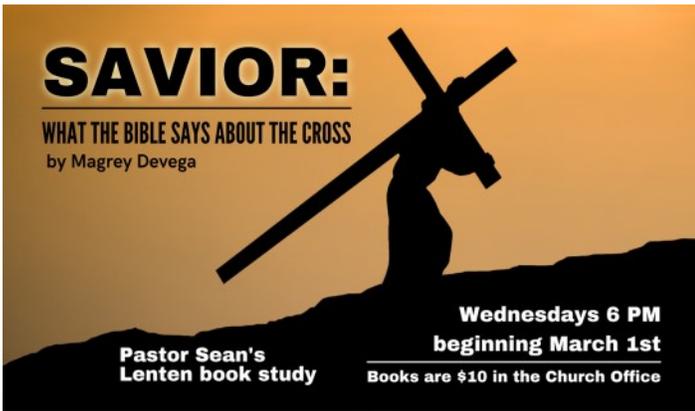
Welcome
our
New Members!



Melissa & Web Gholson
joined our church on Feb. 12.

SAVIOR:

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT THE CROSS
by Magrey Devega



Wednesdays 6 PM
beginning March 1st

Pastor Sean's
Lenten book study

Books are \$10 in the Church Office

Mardi Gras

PANCAKE DINNER

Tuesday, Feb 21
5:00pm
Fellowship Hall

- pancakes
- bacon
- sausage
- fruit bar



Singing, Instruments,
Games, Worship Leadership

Cherub Chanters 4P-1st Gr	Wesley's Warblers 2nd-6th Gr	4:30 - 5:15 p.m. Wednesdays
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Westminster Handbell Choir

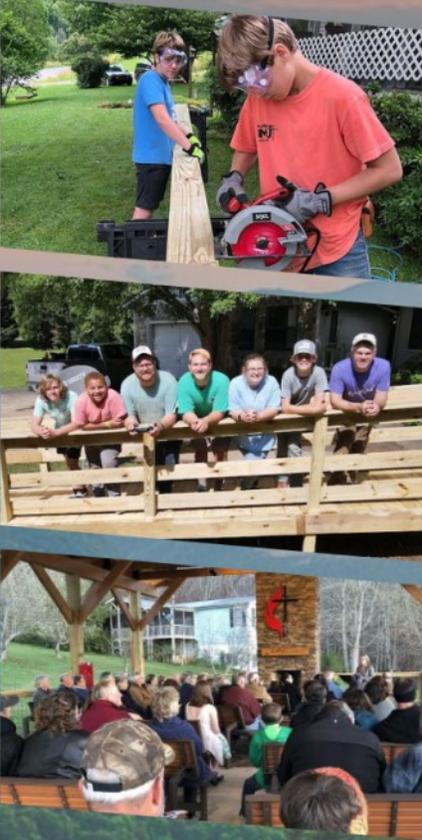
Sundays, 6-7 p.m.
Experience req.

Children's Chimes

Sundays, 4:15 - 5 p.m.
Grade 3-6



HINTON CENTER, HAYESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA



FUMC Dothan Summer Short-Term Mission Trip



June 25-29, 2023
\$150 per person

- Sunday afternoon arrival, work Mon-Wed, depart after Thursday breakfast
- Programming and worship led by Hinton Rural Life Center staff: Appalachian Culture Night, a poverty awareness activity, two worship services, devotional booklet for each participant, daily group devotional times, and much more!
- Jobs could consist of home repair, painting, firewood ministry, etc.
- Family friendly

 **INFORMATIONAL MEETING:**
Sunday, February 26 @ 10 a.m.
Conference Room (Room 134)

Contact Ryan Deaton
for more info
334-793-3555 or
ryan@fumcdothan.org

Lenten Luncheons

Lenten Luncheons will take place in our Fellowship Hall each Wednesday during the season of Lent (March 1 - April 5). We will provide a delicious meal, music and a message. On Wed., March 1, Dr. Joseph Johnson, Pastor of Evergreen Presbyterian Church will be our speaker. Menu: Baked or Fried Chicken, Red Roasted Potatoes, Cut Green Beans, Mardi Gras Salad and a Traditional Salad Bar. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. and the program is noon - 12:50 p.m. Suggested donation \$8 per person. For more information, please visit fumcdothan.org.

UPDATE: Email outage information

Dear Church family,

Due to server issues at the church, clergy and church staff members were not able to reliably send or receive emails from the morning of February 13 through February 15.

Any email that was sent to clergy and staff members during that time period, may never be retrieved due to technical circumstances that are beyond our control. If you sent

information to an email address containing fumcdothan.org, please resend any important information or contact us in another manner.

If you need to reach out to the pastors or any staff member, please call the church office at 334-793-3555.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused, and we appreciate your patience.



BLUE LAKE

CAMP ENERGIZE
JUNE 19-23

For current 3rd-5th graders
Early Bird Price: \$355
Regular Price: \$375 (after April 1)

INFORMATIONAL MEETING
FEB 26 10:00a.m.
Kids Korner

INFORMATIONAL MEETING



Sunday, March 12 at 10 a.m.
Conference Room 134

• Disaster Response Team

We will discuss the possible formation of a Disaster Response Team (DRT) to assist communities in the Alabama-West Florida Conference area in the event of a natural disaster.

Contact Ryan Deaton if interested ryan@fumcdothan.org

• Helping Hands

In conjunction with the DRT, we will discuss forming a ministry of service to be known as "Helping Hands" as an outreach to those in our congregation/community who may need help with simple home maintenance due to age or disability.

Contact Steve Courtoy if interested scourtoy@gmail.com



Church
offices will
be closed
Monday,
Feb. 20, in
observance
of
President's
Day