

JOURNEY THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

This Sunday, we begin a journey together.

Over the next nine months, we will immerse ourselves in Gospel of John. We will begin this Sunday with the opening words, "In the beginning was the Word," and continue through John's stories, signs, conversations, questions, promises, conflicts, and miracles until we finally stand with the disciples before the risen Christ next spring.

My hope is that this will be more than a sermon series. **I hope it will become a journey for our entire congregation: a coming to know Jesus more deeply.**

John tells us exactly why he wrote his Gospel: "These are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). Everything John includes points us toward that purpose. He wants us to see Jesus, believe in Jesus, and discover the abundant life that is found in Jesus. Along the way, we will meet people whose lives were changed by an encounter with Christ. We will stand beside Nicodemus as he comes to Jesus with questions in the darkness. We will sit beside a Samaritan woman at a well and hear Jesus offer living water. We will watch Him turn water into wine, feed a hungry multitude, give sight to a man born blind, and call Lazarus out of the tomb. We will listen as Jesus tells us, "I am the bread of life," "I am the good shepherd," "I am the resurrection and the life," and "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." Eventually, we will follow Him to the cross, discover an empty tomb, and hear the risen Christ calling His disciples once again to follow Him. John continually invites us to find ourselves in the story as the Jesus who called them to believe and follow is still calling us today.

Our first series is appropriately called **First Things First**. Before Jesus asks anything of us, John wants us to understand who Jesus is: the eternal Word, the Light shining in the darkness, the Lamb of God, the Son of God. When we see Jesus clearly, everything else begins to find its proper place. That is why one of the earliest invitations in John's Gospel may also be the perfect invitation for the months ahead. When two curious disciples ask Jesus where He is staying, He simply tells them:

"Come and see." (John 1:39)

That is my invitation to you. "Come and see."

Bring your Bible. Read along during the week. Worship with us as consistently as you can. Talk about what you are discovering with your family, your Sunday school class, your small group, and your friends. If you miss a Sunday, catch up online and keep going. Let's immerse ourselves in this Gospel journey together.

I believe God can do something extraordinary in a congregation that spends nine months fixing its attention on Jesus. So this Sunday, we begin at the beginning. And wherever you are in your faith, there is a place for you on this journey.

Come and see.

God's Peace,
David

**GO DEEPER WITH OUR WEEKLY
SERMON STUDY GUIDES**

Visit fumcdothan.org/studyguides

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 & 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.

YOUTH

Sunday School

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

Youth Kickoff (Grades 6-12)

Sunday, Aug. 16, 4:30-6:30

p.m. - Youth Room - Kick off

the new school year by meeting our new volunteers, and staff.

Weather permitting we will go to the greenspace for a game involving water. Dress accordingly.

BOARD OF STEWARDS



Board of Stewards Meeting

Sunday, August 23, noon
Fellowship Hall

55 FORWARD

Mahjong Monday - Monday, Aug 17, 1 p.m. - Parlor - Come enjoy an afternoon of free play, friendly conversation, and a little friendly competition.
No sign-up needed.

Movie Day - Wednesday, Aug 26, 2:30 p.m. - Room 165 - Come spend the

afternoon in fellowship with others as we watch *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Popcorn and snacks will be served. Feel free to bring a friend.
No sign up necessary.

Game Day - Tuesday, Sept 1, 1 p.m. - Fellowship Hall - Join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. We will have games available, and you are welcome to bring a favorite game to share with the group. All are welcome to attend.

THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP

First Light Chapel Communion

Genesis 45:1-5
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

Bridge and Sanctuary Worship

John 1:1-18
"First Things First -
In the Beginning"

JOYS & CONCERNS

Released from Hospital

Moose Spears - Home on Hospice
Don (Jimmy) Mendheim

Out of Town Hospitals:

Riley Marie Thomas

Happy Birthday to:

Sue Byrd who celebrated her 94th birthday on August 12.

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.

JOIN OUR TEAM

Available positions:

- PT Preschool Teacher
- FT Daycare Worker
- PT Nursery Worker

More info:

fumcdothan.org/join-our-team

RESPIRE CARE



Volunteer & Caregiver Training (Next meeting Sept. 9)

The training group usually meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in RM. 165.

Caregiver Support Group (Next meeting Aug. 20)

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

MILITARY COMMITTEE



The FUMC Military Ministry Committee would like to know of any currently deployed service members who would enjoy receiving a care package. Please email ryan@fumcdothan.org with mailing information or any questions.

CHANCEL CHOIR

Chancel Choir rehearsals resume

Wednesday, August 12, 6-7 p.m.
in Room 255.

Info: erin@fumcdothan.org

MEMORIALS

Robert Flowers

Abby & Jed Downs
Donna & Mike Howell
Fran & Mike Jones
Nancy & Charlie McDaniel
MidSouth Bank
Nina & James Morrow
Debby Randall
Merian Saliba
Lisa & Jimmy Todd
Doug Lurie, Sr.
Nancy & Charlie McDaniel

**SCAN THIS
CODE TO VIEW
CHURCH PHOTOS
ONLINE!**



**OR VISIT
FUMCDOTHAN.ORG/PHOTOS**



Congratulations to our FUMC Softball Team!

Our team brought home the Summer Church League Championship! We're proud of everyone who took the field and represented FUMC this season.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR
STUDENTS AS THEY
HEAD INTO THE NEW
SCHOOL YEAR!**



3rd Grade

BIBLE

PRESENTATION

Aug 16, 8:55 AM
During the Bridge

**AUG
16**

MARRIEDUP

date night

EVENING OF WORSHIP, LAUGHTER, AND
PRACTICAL MARRIAGE TEACHING

DINNER PROVIDED

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

WITH
**DAN & DANIELLE
MACAULAY**

REGISTER AT: FUMCDOTHAN.ORG/EVENTS
4:30-6:30 PM • FELLOWSHIP HALL

YOUTH KICKOFF

CAPTURE THE FLAG:
WATER + FIRE EDITION

AUG 16 | 4:30-6:30 PM

YOUTH ROOM

Dress appropriately. Join us to
meet the staff and volunteers
for the upcoming school year!

MIDWEEK RECHARGE

BIBLE STUDIES + ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

Fall Studies begin August 19!

Supper: 4:45-6 PM | Cheerful Chimers: 5:30 PM

Bible Studies for all ages: 6-7 PM | Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 6-7:30 PM

Adult Studies

6 PM

*Co-ed Bible Study with Pastor David
Begins Aug. 19

*Men's Discipleship Group
Begins Sept. 2

*Cojourners Training with Jason Keel
Begins Sept. 9

*Nursery and childcare provided
For more upcoming studies
visit fumcdothan.org/adult-studies

Wednesday Night Age Levels

6 PM

Children Nursery • 6 weeks - 2 years

Praise & Play • 3P - 4P

Choir + Bible Studies • K5 - 5th Grade

Youth

Confirmation • 6th Grade

On Campus Small Group • 7th - 10th Grade

Off Campus Small Group • 11th - 12th Grade Girls

7 PM

Off Campus Small Group • 11th - 12th Grade Boys

FUMCDOTHAN.ORG/MIDWEEK-RECHARGE

A collage of images showing various community service activities. In the top left, a group of people are working together to pack supplies. In the top right, a man and a woman are talking. In the middle, a man is using a circular saw to cut wood. In the bottom right, a woman is working on a sewing machine. The background is a mix of green and blue with a dotted pattern.

PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS UNITE AT FUMC DOTHAN

30+ MINISTRIES & COMMUNITY MINISTRY PARTNERS REPRESENTED

MISSION IMPACT SUNDAY

30 AUG 2026 10:00 - 11:00 AM CLC GYM

FUMCDOTHAN.ORG/EVENTS