



The FUMC Dothan Confirmation class (pictured with Pastor David, far left) at Butter and Egg Adventures in Troy, Alabama. Also pictured, back row, from far left, Swayze Gholson - Middle School Ministry Director, Robbie Amunds - Student Ministry Director, Austin Khan - Ministry Intern, Erin Smith - Worship Arts Director, and Sonia Crutchfield - Confirmation Coordinator.

Adventure, Questions, and Faith:

Confirmation class kicks off their journey with a fun retreat in Troy

This past weekend, eighteen members of our new Confirmation class headed to Butter and Egg Adventures for an overnight retreat to begin an important journey together. Between laser tag, ziplining, rock-wall climbing, swimming, plenty of laughter, and not quite enough sleep, we began learning, growing, questioning, and discovering what it means to follow Jesus.

We started our weekend by inviting our confirmands to ask questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, the Church, faith, doubt, or religion. I believe one of the greatest gifts the Church can give young people is a safe place to bring their real questions and discover that our faith is strong enough to wrestle with them. From there, we spent three sessions exploring the Holy Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Confirmation is much more than a class or a ceremony at the end of the year. It is a season of intentional Christian formation. Many of these young people were baptized as infants or children, when their parents and congregation made promises on their behalf. During Confirmation, they explore the Christian faith for themselves and ultimately decide whether they are ready to profess that faith and claim those baptismal promises as their own. That makes Confirmation incredibly important to me.

These young people are at a pivotal age. They are beginning to ask deeper questions about who they are, what they believe, what matters, and what kind of people they want to become. While so many voices compete to shape their identity, the Church has the privilege of

helping them discover who they are as beloved children of God and disciples of Jesus Christ. That is why I devote a significant amount of my time each year to Confirmation.

For nine months, I meet with these young people nearly every week, along with two overnight retreats. We study Scripture, theology, worship, the sacraments, our Wesleyan heritage, and Christian discipleship. We ask hard questions, build relationships, and, most importantly, keep pointing one another toward Jesus.

I am grateful to serve a congregation that supports me in using my time this way. A pastor's schedule can quickly fill with preaching, pastoral care, meetings, administration, and countless other responsibilities. Investing deeply in the next

generation of disciples is the ministry of the Church. When we invest in these eighteen young people, we are doing more than preparing for Confirmation Sunday. We are helping form disciples who, by God's grace, will carry the faith into another generation.

I ask you to join me in one very important part of their Confirmation journey: pray for these eighteen young people. Pray that they will grow in their knowledge and love of God, ask honest questions, form meaningful friendships, experience the work of the Holy Spirit, and come to know more deeply the love of Jesus Christ and his invitation to follow him.

What a privilege it is for our church to walk beside them.

**God's Peace,
David**

This week & more at FUMC Dothan

PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN

Preschool Worship for 3P& 4P

Available during the 8:30 & 8:55 a.m. worship services in the Rainbow Room.

J.A.M. Time Kid's Worship (Jesus and Me Time) K5-5th grade

Available during the 8:30 & 8:55 a.m. worship services in Kids Korner.

Sunday School

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

Children's Chimes - Wednesday

5:30 p.m., Room 203

Play & Praise - Wednesday

Drop off begins at 5:45 p.m.
Nursery available: 6 wks - 2 years

Children's Choir & Small Groups

Wednesday, 6-7 p.m., sign in:
Children's Building, 2nd floor

YOUTH

Sunday School - 6th-12th graders
Youth Cafe, Sundays, 10-10:45 a.m.

Youth Worship & Snack Supper
Suspended due to Labor Day holiday.

Tuesday Youth Prayer Breakfast

7th-12th graders
7 a.m., at Chick-fil-A located at
3418 Ross Clark Circle

Wednesday Bible Study

6th-10th graders meet on campus
6-7 p.m.
11th-12th graders meet off campus
6-7 p.m. and 7-8 p.m.

55 FORWARD



55 Forward - Book Club - Wed., Sept. 9, 3 p.m. - Room 165 - Our September book is *The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife* by Anna Johnston.

Lunch Bunch -

Thurs., Sept. 10, 11 a.m. - Firestone Pizza (250 S. Oates Street) - Reservations required by Tuesday, Sept. 8.

Info: hchapman@fumcdothan.org or call the church office.

55 FORWARD - cont'd

Movie Day - September 23, 2:30 p.m. Room 165 -

Join us for popcorn and the movie, *The Sheep Detective*.
No sign up necessary.

THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP

First Light Chapel Communion

Exodus 12:1-14
Romans 13:8-4
Matthew 18:15-20

Bridge and Sanctuary Worship

John 2:1-12 -
"Revealed His Glory"

JOYS & CONCERNS

In the hospital:

Riley Marie Thomas
Hayes Ziegenfelder

Released from hospital:

Helen Hargrove

If you or someone you know has a prayer need, hospitalization, surgery, or is expecting a baby, please call 334-793-3555 or email prayer@fumcdothan.org.

JOIN OUR TEAM



Available positions:

- PT Respite Activities Director
- PT Preschool Teacher
- FT Daycare Worker
- PT Nursery Worker

More info:

fumcdothan.org/join-our-team

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Served from 4:45 to 6 p.m.

Sept. 9 Menu: Beef or chicken tacos, rice, beans, nacho bar, salad bar, dessert

FUMC FALL FAMILY DAY



FUMC Fall Family Day Early Bird Savings - This weekend ONLY!

SAVE THE DATE! - Sunday, Oct. 25, 3:30-6:30 p.m. - CornDodgers Farm,

1555 Knowles Rd., Headland - Our church family will enjoy an afternoon of family fun with farm attractions, a seven-acre corn maze, wagon rides, pony rides, mini golf, and more!

Special discounted tickets are available September 4-6 only through the CornDodgers Farm Facebook page.

Visit:

facebook.com/CornDodgersFarm

RESPITE 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

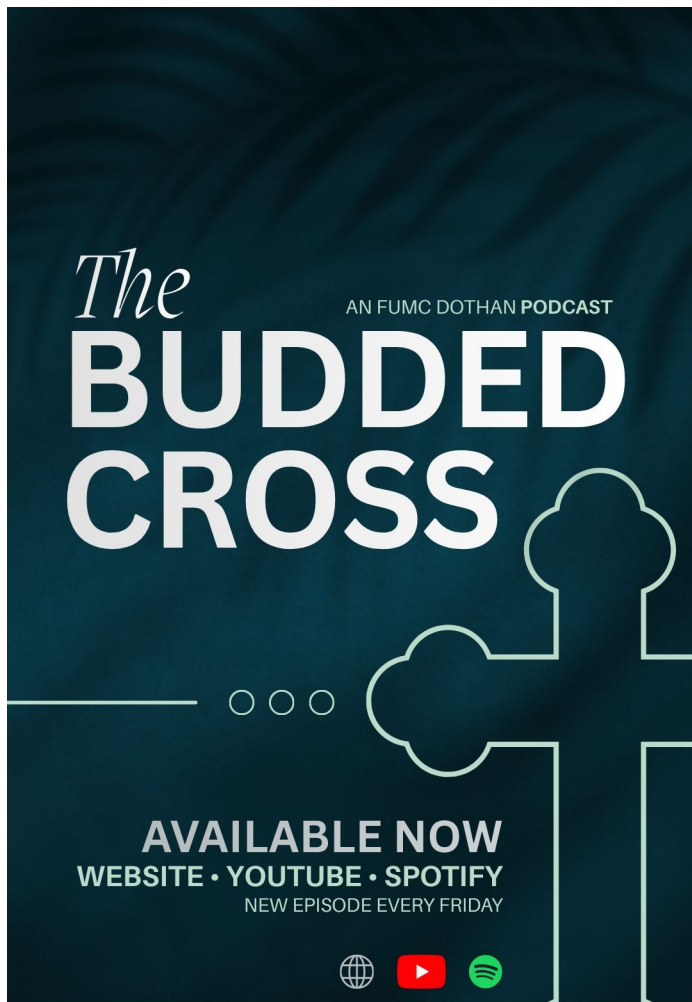
(Next meeting Sept. 17)

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

HOLIDAY HOURS

Labor Day - Monday, Sept. 7 -

In observance of the holiday, all church offices, the gym, Respite Care Ministry, Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC), The Shepherd School, and Wesleyan Day School will be closed.



Baptism



Walton Everett Ashwander was baptized August 30. He is pictured with his parents, Carolayne & Walt Ashwander, and siblings, Annie and Millie. His grandparents are Cara & Mark Dennis.



"Let the little children come to me ..."

Matthew 19:14





More photos from the Confirmand retreat at Butter and Egg Adventures in Troy, Alabama.



MIDWEEK RECHARGE

BIBLE STUDIES + ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

Fall Studies are underway!

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

Bible study on the Gospel of John
Pastor David • Fellowship Hall • Underway

Men's Discipleship Group
Ryan Deaton • Rm 165 • Begins Sept 2

Cojourner's Training
Jason Keel • Rm 233 • Begins Sept 9

The Way of the Chosen (Season 3)
Mark Saliba + Larry Williams • Rm 157 •
Begins Sept 9

Women's Bible Study
Jessica Robinson • Parlor • Begins Sept 16

Wednesday Night Age Levels

6 PM

Children Nursery • 6 weeks - 2 years
Praise & Play • 3P - 4P
Choir + Bible Studies • K5 - 5th Grade

Youth On Campus Small Group • 6th - 10th Grade
Off Campus Small Group • 11th - 12th Grade Girls

7 PM

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

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

FUMCDOTHAN.ORG/MIDWEEK-RECHARGE