



*Woven*  
**The Crown of Thorns**  
 Rev. Sherri Reynolds

Changing Lives by Sharing Christ, Making Disciples, Serving and Giving Hope

**Sermon Notes: Thursday, April 10, and Sunday, April 13**

This Sunday can have two focuses. The sixth Sunday in Lent can be known as Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday. Palm Sunday focuses upon Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem when people waved Palms. Passion Sunday focuses on the events of Jesus’ crucifixion. With the symbol from the Woven series being the crown of thorns with three nails, we focus upon Jesus’ death. This symbol is a mix of both, the kingship of Jesus in the crown (remembering that the people shouted, “Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”) and the thorns which pierced Jesus’ head at the crucifixion. (Matthew 27:27-31)

A crown of thorns may seem like an oxymoron. After all, the crown is the symbol of a king, and thorns and nails are a symbol of suffering. In Jesus, we find both. He is king. He suffered and died for our sins. Jesus’ rule is not in the way that the world expects, but in a way that demonstrates humble love and in turn, changes lives. He left his heavenly throne to empty himself to suffer and save us from our sin. Thanks be to God!

Journeying through Lent with you. Rev. Sherri

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**Worship Opportunities**

**Thursday: Worship, 5:30 pm**

**Sunday Morning: Celebration, 9 am  
 Traditions, 11 am**

*\*In-Person and Livestream or On Demand*  
[www.fumcgadsden.org/media](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media)



**ACOLYTES**

April 13: Luke Barnes  
 April 20: Sara Kate, Carter, and Jake Thornberg

**Tech Team Schedule**

**April 13**  
**Celebration:** Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman  
**Traditions:** Neil Mullin, Wayne Payton, Sheila Freeman  
**April 20**  
**Celebration:** Sheila Freeman, Bill Haller, Rob Reynolds  
**Traditions:** Mark Condra, Sheila Freeman, Brad Barnes

## The Chosen Season 2 Bible Study



Rev. Sherri will be leading a Bible Study of Season 2 of the Chosen starting January 8. Each week will focus on a particular episode, reviewing the corresponding scriptures while engaging both with thought provoking questions. The class will be offered at 11am and 6pm on Wednesdays in room 208. The class will last until April 30 (with the night session skipping March 26 for spring break.)

**Wednesday Fellowship, Room 201**  
**Menu for April 16: Chick-fil-a, Salad, Chips, Fruit**  
**\$7 per person      Children under 11, \$3**

### Wednesday Morning Bible Study @ 11 am, Gathering Room

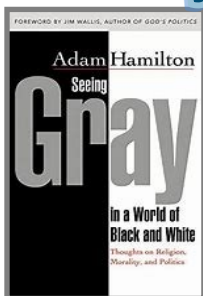
**“The Chosen” w/ Rev. Sherri Reynolds**

### Adult Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesdays, 6 pm

**Rev. Sherri, “The Chosen”, Room 208**

**Harriet Murray, “Fierce”, Room 110**

# Sunday School: New Adult Series for Lent

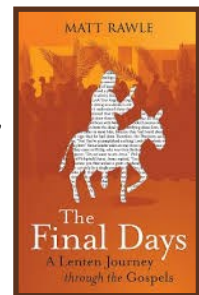


### Transitions 10 am, Room 209

This study encourages thinking persons of faith to model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral, and religious issues that divide us. Hamilton rejects the easy assumptions and sloppy analysis of black and white thinking, seeking instead the truth that resides on all sides of the issues, and offering a faithful and compassionate way forward.

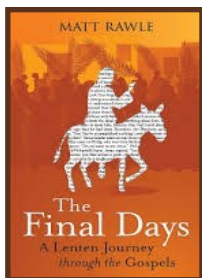
### Pathfinders/Seekers 10 am, Room 208

Join us. Everyone welcome! Dive into *The Final Days: A Lenten Journey through the Gospels* by Matt Rawle, a powerful study that examines the themes of justice, poverty, freedom, and love through the lens of the four New Testament Gospels. Discover how each Gospel offers a distinct perspective on Jesus’ final week in Jerusalem—culminating in the Resurrection hope we all hold dear.



### Living Waters 10 am, Room 116

Dive into *The Final Days: A Lenten Journey through the Gospels* by Matt Rawle, a powerful study that examines the themes of justice, poverty, freedom, and love through the lens of the four New Testament Gospels.



### “Men at the Well” Thursday Mornings, 7:00 am

You are invited to join the weekly Bible study with the “Men at the Well” at the 278 Restaurant.  
*Contact Todd Rains, Mark Condra, Mark Casey, or any of the Men at the Well for more information.*





### ELC NEWS

The annual roses sale for the Sara Rabun Johnson Scholarship Fund runs Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup> through Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>. See flyer for additional details. ELC Easter parties and Bunny Visits will be Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. Dad, Uncles and Granddads: mark your calendars. Our annual Donuts for Dads event will be Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:50 am to 9:30 am.

—Helene Haller



**Youth Group**  
Wednesdays at 6 pm  
Room 211  
(will not meet 3/26)

**Sunday School**  
10 am, Room 211

**Hymns for Hunger**  
Youth will receive donations at the doors of the Sanctuary. Plan to arrive by 1:45 pm to set up and serve.

**Wonderful Wednesday**  
**April 16 – Menu: Chick-fil-a**  
**Adults & Youth \$7 Children 11 & Under \$3**

# Children's Ministry

Stop by the Children's Ministry table in the Chestnut St. Foyer and find out how you can help with the Easter Egg Hunt (April 12, 11 am). Drop off donations of individually wrapped Easter candy. (No chocolate please.)

GFUMC 2025 Kid's Spring Calendar

VALENTINE'S NIGHT 2/12	FAMILY NIGHT 3/19 (GYM)
ASH WEDNESDAY 3/15	SPRING BREAK 3/24-3/28
GFUMC EASTER EGG HUNT 4/12 (GFUMC)	PALM SUNDAY KIDS WILL SING 4/13
Vacation Bible School ROAD TRIP 6/9-6/12	GFUMC EASTER SUNDAY FAMILY PICNIC NOCCALULA FALLS 4/20 5/7

**GFUMC EASTER EGG HUNT**

**APRIL 12** | 11:00 AM  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GADSDEN

515 S.5TH STREET  
GADSDEN, AL

[www.fumcgadsden.org/children](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/children)

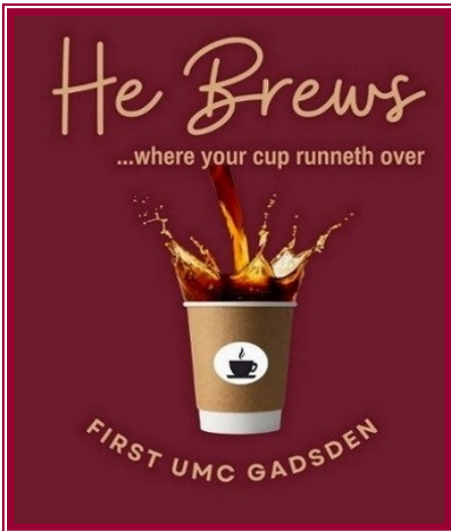
**GFUMC CHILDREN'S APRIL UNIT**

**FULBLOOM**

WEDNESDAY'S AT 6:00

<b>WEEK 1</b> GOD SENT JESUS TO SAVE US.	<b>WEEK 2</b> JESUS UNDERSTANDS WHEN WE'RE HURTING.	<b>WEEK 3</b> JESUS MAKES ALL THINGS NEW.	<b>WEEK 4</b> JESUS CONNECTS US TO GOD.
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"BUT GROW IN THE GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST."  
2 PETER 3:18A (NIV)



**HeBrews Coffee Café**  
**10 am, Chestnut Street Foyer**  
**We Can't Wait to See You There!**





## April Mission Focus

View the mission video for The Barrie Center on the GFUMC Church App!

### GFUMC APRIL MISSION FOCUS



The mission of the James M. Barrie Center for Children, Inc. is to promote hope, healing, and justice for child abuse victims by providing coordinated, trauma-informed services and education in our community.

**April is  
Child Abuse Prevention  
Month**



#### WISH LIST

**Snacks and Drinks  
for Children**  
(Capri Suns, Little Debbie Snacks,  
Chips, Crackers)

**Gift Cards in \$5 or \$10  
Increments**  
(Fast Food, Movies, Gas Cards)

**Donate at Gadsden First UMC  
during the month of April!**



605 S. 4TH ST  
GADSDEN, AL 35901

Find  
out  
more:



## GFUMC



*"By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35*

### Ladle of Love

Fridays, 11:00am-12:00pm,  
at the Portico entrance.

*Donations may be made  
to the Ladle of Love Fund  
in honor or in memory of  
a loved one.*

**Clothes Closet Workdays**  
are Tuesdays before open  
days from 9:00-11:00 am.

Open to Public

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

**April open dates are**

**4/2 and 4/16**

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street Gadsden

Find out more about mission  
and service opportunities @  
[www.fumcgadsden.org/serve](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/serve)

Phone: 256-543-8200

Email:

[fumc@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:fumc@fumcgadsden.org)

**#gfumcreconnect2024**

**Ladle of Love  
Clothes Closet**

February

LOL	400
Clothes Closet	210

**Thanks to our  
Volunteers!**

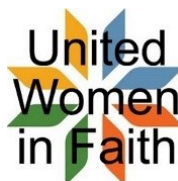
### United Women in Faith

**UWF Bake Sale—Sunday, April 13 Palm Sunday**  
8:30 am-12:30 pm

UWF ladies, please bake and bring 3 items or one large item for the bake sale. Bring your bake goods on Friday, April 11 by 12:00 pm or Sunday morning beginning at 8:30 am.

#### Introducing the Palm Sunday Pie Pantry!

Select any of our four Easter pies to take home. Freezer ready. \$20.00 each  
100 % of proceeds of Bake Sale and Pie Pantry Sales go to meet local needs here at home.



SARA RABUN JOHNSON  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

## Mother's Day Roses Sale

With your donation of \$20 or more, a rose will be placed on the altar on Mother's Day, in honor or in memory of your loved one. *All donations provide direct support for ELC families whose children would not otherwise be able to afford the program.*

**MAKE YOUR DONATION PAYABLE TO GFUMC AND MARK IT "SRJ SCHOLARSHIP FUND". ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SUNDAY, MAY 4.**

**ADDITIONAL DONATIONS TO THE FUND MAY BE GIVEN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**



## UWF BAKE SALE & SILENT AUCTION Chestnut St Foyer



**Sunday, April 13**

**8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM**

Some of our most treasured classic old time  
homemade baked goods will be available at our  
Silent Auction Table for you to bid on!



PALM SUNDAY PIE PANTRY  
*Pantry*

***Introducing the Palm Sunday Pie Pantry!***

***(Open, Sunday, April 13)***

***Select any of our four Easter pies.***

***Made with all fresh ingredients no preservatives  
freezer ready for Easter Sunday.***



Choose from

◆ peanut butter

◆ French coconut

◆ lemon icebox

◆ ham and cheese quiche



***Ever wonder where the UWF bake sale money goes?***

- Snack bags for homeless***
- Shelter for abused women and children***
- Job training for low income women***
- Emergency antibiotics for children***
- Medical assistance for low income***

***When you make a purchase of a homemade cake or pie  
100% of your donation, goes to meet local needs right here  
at home. Thank you for caring and making our community  
a safer and happier place for everyone to live.***

United Women of Faith

First UMC Gadsden



# Holy Week



**Palm Sunday, April 13, 9:00 am & 11:00 am — Woven: The Crown of Thorns**

**Holy Week Noon Day Services, 12:05 pm, followed by lunch in the Gathering Room, 201**

**Monday**-Rev. Michael Robertson, Sweet Home UMC

**Tuesday**-Rev. David Holmes, Retired Elder, FUMC Gadsden

**Wednesday**-Rev. Beth Johnson, Ordained Deacon, worshipping at Southside UMC

**Thursday**-Rev. Sherri Ferguson, Retired Deacon, NAC

**Friday**-Rev. Alan Head, Mid Central District Superintendent

**Maundy Thursday Worship, 6:00 pm — Woven: The Jesse Tree**

**Easter Sunday, April 20, 9:00 am & 11:00 am — Woven: The Butterfly**



*Hosanna!*  
PALM  
SUNDAY  
APRIL 13  
9 AM  
&  
11 AM

TAKE,  
EAT,  
REMEMBER.

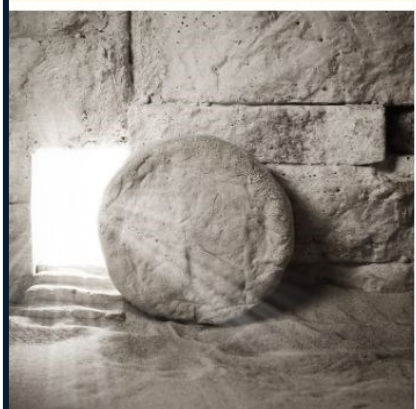


MAUNDY  
THURSDAY  
APRIL 17, 6 PM

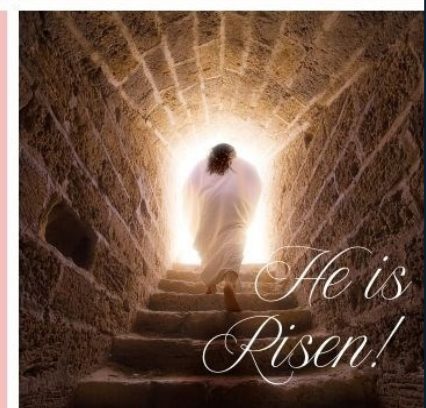
HOLY WEEK  
APRIL 14-18, 2025  
SERVICES DAILY  
MONDAY-FRIDAY  
12:05 PM  
IN THE SANCTUARY  
FOLLOWED BY LUNCH  
IN THE GATHERING  
ROOM



IT IS FINISHED.



EASTER  
WORSHIP  
APRIL 20  
9 AM  
&  
11 AM



*He is  
Risen!*



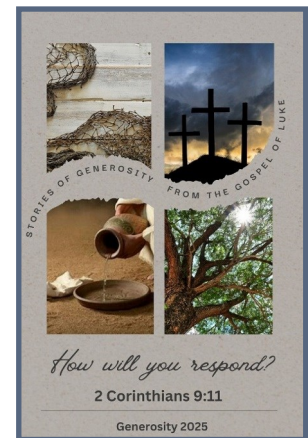
Dogwood trees are blooming, and tulips are making their debut. Signs of spring are all around us, with Easter coming quickly. This means the 2025 Alleluia offering is soon approaching. The Alleluia Offering is a special offering, received at Easter, to fund specific, special ministries within the church. It is a challenge to tithe your income during Holy Week, above and beyond your regular giving to the church. This year's gifts will fund organ maintenance, student ministry and media ministry. Watch your mail in the coming weeks for more information. If you do not receive further information in the mail, please contact the church office. —Rev. Sherri



## Generosity 2025 “How will you Respond?”

*You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us*  
2 Corinthians 9:11

The 2025 “Estimate of Giving” Card can be filled out at any time during the year online @ [www.fumcgadsden.org/give](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/give)



**First UMC Gadsden**  
is a registered charity and can receive donations through Venmo:

**@FirstUMCGadsden**

(Please search in Venmo under charities or follow the link in the QR Code.)



**venmo**

Download our Church App  
Search First UMC-Gadsden  
In the App Store for Android or iPhone.



## Generosity: Ways to Give

In-person, at the offering time during worship.

Online: [www.fumcgadsden.org/give](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/give)

Text to Give: 256-344-8464

Venmo **@FirstUMCGadsden**

Mail your tithe or gift: 115 S. 5th Street, Gadsden, AL 35901



## Secure Online Giving



Scan the QR Code or  
Text to Give: 256-344-8464  
First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

# First UMC Gadsden April 13-19, 2025

## April 13, Sunday

9:00 am-Celebration Worship, Sanctuary  
 10:00 am-Sunday School classes for all ages  
 10:00 am- HeBrews Coffee; **Donkeys & Donuts @ Portico**  
 11:00 am-Traditions Worship, Sanctuary  
**2:30 pm –Hymns for Hunger, Sanctuary**

## April 14, Monday

9:00 am-1:00 pm– ELC  
 9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym  
**12:05 pm-Noon day service**; 12:35 pm-Lunch  
 2:00 to 4:00 pm- Pickleball, Gym

## April 15, Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm– ELC  
 9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet workday  
**12:05 pm-Noon day service**; 12:35 pm-Lunch

## April 16, Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC  
 9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet open  
**12:05 pm-Noon day service**; 12:35 pm-Lunch  
 5:15 pm Fellowship Meal  
 6:00 pm Wednesday Night Activities for all ages  
 Small Groups for Adults, Room 110 & 208  
 Children and Youth Groups Meet  
 6:00 pm Choir Practice

## April 17, Thursday

9:00 am-10:00 pm, ELC  
 9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym  
**12:05 Noon day service**; 12:35 pm-Lunch  
**6:00 pm-Maundy Thursday service**

## April 18, Friday

11:00 am-12:00 pm- Ladle of Love  
**12:05 pm-Noon day service**; 12:35 pm-Lunch

**12:35 pm– lunch served in gathering room daily, following the noon day worship service, \$5 per person, everyone welcome!**

*The rose on the altar is in honor of the birth of*



*Wrenley Faye Calcote  
 March 24, 2025*

*Parents: Will & Julia Calcote  
 Big Brother: Zander*

*Grandparents: John & Mary Ryle*

*The rose on the altar is in honor of the birth of*



*Grayson Lee Phillips  
 March 28, 2025*

*Parents: Dathan & Leigh  
 Siblings: Thea & Harrison*

*Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. Greg Carroll*

*The rose on the altar is in honor of the birth of*



*Lucy Ruth Pate  
 April 2, 2025*

*Parents: Caden & Madison  
 Grandparents: Richard & Ciara Caldwell*

*Given by GFUMC Children's Ministry &  
 Early Learning Center*

### Churchwide Easter Egg Hunt

11 am, Saturday, April 12

Everyone Welcome!

Presented by

GFUMC Children's Ministry

### Week of April 6, 2025

In Person Total-\*121 On Line Total-505  
 Worship Total-626 Thursday service \*9  
 Celebration \*50/243 Traditions \*62/262  
 Adult Sunday School \*37 Children \*4  
 Middle School & Senior Hi SS \*3  
 Bible Study Groups \*26 UWF \*4  
 Children Wed/Sun \*22 Nursery Wed/Sun \*5

### Year 2025

General Offering Budget	\$12,400.00
General Offering Received	13,112.00
YTD Gen. Offering Budget	173,600.00
YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd	188,251.00

### Birthdays

**Apr 14** Jan Humphrey, Blake New, Alex Long  
**Apr 15** Evans Sizemore, James Foster Kelley  
**Apr 16** Gary Atkins, Kathie Ferguson, David Hopper, Harry Hightower  
**Apr 17** Kent Haney, Denise Floyd  
**Apr 18** Lance Watkins, Alyssa McNair  
**Apr 19** Dorothy Robinson, Jared Gladden

### Immediate Prayer

**Concerns** Dottie Rogers  
 Matt Medders (deployed to the border)  
 Lucy Ruth Pate (Madison Caldwell Pate's daughter)  
 Grayson Lee Phillips (Leigh Carroll Phillips' son)  
**Continued Prayer**  
**Concerns** Martha Bullock  
 Mary Tom Hale Jackie Herlong  
 Juanita Hammons Amy Epperson  
 Bob Walden  
 (Olivia Kendrick's father)

### Order an Easter Lily by Monday, 4/14/25



*Lilies will be placed on the altar for Easter Sunday Worship in memory or in honor of a loved one in both services.*

**Cost: \$25.00**     **In Honor of**     **In Memory of**

Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_