

Reconnect

Prayers

Presence

Gifts

Service

Witness

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

4-25-21

Sermon Notes

Do you remember the song "I Get By With a Little Help From My Friends"? Well, do you get help from your friends? It's so important for us to help each other out in the faith community. We aren't supposed to walk through this life alone. Jesus talks about it in John 15:9-17. We are commanded to love one another as Christ has loved us. Join us on Sunday as we discuss getting the help we need from others, the importance of being part of the church in action, and being present to help our friends.

John 15:9-17 New Revised Standard Version

(9) *As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. (10) If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. (11) I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. (12) "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. (13) No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. (14) You are my friends if you do what I command you. (15) I do not call you servants [a] any longer, because the servant [b] does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. (16) You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. (17) I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.* **Pastor Andy**

Fourth Sunday of Easter

"Reconnect: Presence"

Worship Opportunities

- **Mosaic:** 6:30 pm, Tuesday, online and in person
- **Thursday Worship:** 5:30 pm, Sanctuary

Sunday Worship

Celebration Service 9:00 am
(In person in the Sanctuary and online)

Traditions Service 11:00 am
(In person in the Sanctuary and online)

www.fumcgadsden.org/media or
on facebook live: @fumcgadsden

CHESTNUT STREET LOBBY

Honoring Women in Our Lives Who Mentor, Teach, Love, Care and Share!

Sweet Treats Candy Bar Sunday, May 9

COME AND FILL A TREAT BAG WITH CANDY FROM THE CANDY BAR!

"Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate." Proverbs 31:31

Tech Team Schedule

April 25

Celebration: Will Brookshire, Bill Haller, Brynn Crain, Carmen McKiven

Traditions: Matthew Vance, Tammy Hayes

May 2

Celebration: Mark Condra, Tammy Hayes, Carmen McKiven, Jacob McKiven

Traditions: Matthew Vance, Tammy Hayes



There is still time to give to the Alleluia Offering during this Easter season! Your Alleluia Offering may be given in the offering plates in the sanctuary or returned to the church office or through eGiving* marked **“Alleluia Offering”**.

Consider your gift to this special offering that will expand the missions and ministries of Gadsden First UMC in new and exciting ways in 2021.

- ◆ **New Children’s Worship Space** created in room 108 and 106, including a stage, state of the art sound system, monitors and more *and named in memory of Joanne Hightower!*
- ◆ **Technology Upgrades**—Including Permanent Wiring for Our Online Worship Services
- ◆ **Missions– “Showing Love”** through our Clothes Closet and “Ladle of Love” Soup Kitchen and to Healthcare Workers, Our Adopted School, Striplin Elementary, as well as, Special Mission Projects like Ohatchee Tornado Relief
- ◆ **Capital Improvements** for the Building and Grounds

***eGiving is available through the GFUMC App: First UMC Gadsden, or the website @ www.fumcgadsden.org/give or through Text to Give: 256-344-8464.**

Jane Newman has retired from her job as our Financial Secretary after 22 years of service. She has been helping lately in a consultant's role, but all that will end on April 30. While we will not be able to have a formal farewell reception for her, we do want to show our love and appreciation for her years of service. If you would like to contribute to the love offering that will be given to Jane on May 1, then please send your check by Monday, April 26. You can make your check payable to GFUMC, and notate that it is for Jane's gift.



Any questions about offerings, gifts or financial issues for the church should be directed to Sheila Witherspoon. She is currently serving as our interim Financial Secretary.

You can reach Sheila Witherspoon at the church office at 256-543-8200 or email at giving@fumcgadsden.org.

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Church website:
www.fumcgadsden.org/media

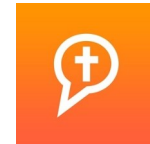


or on facebook live:
[@fumcGadsden](https://www.facebook.com/fumcGadsden)



Church YouTube Channel: Gadsden First UMC

Online Worship Livestream



Sermon.net App
First United Methodist Church of
Gadsden (search ministries)

Worship On Demand

Church App:
FUMCGadsden
(Available in the
App Stores for
Android or iPhone/)



Worship Services are available on demand in the media tap on the app or church website.

Or Church website: www.fumcgadsden.org/media

Follow GFUMC on Instagram: [first_umcgadsden](https://www.instagram.com/first_umcgadsden)
Use our hashtag to Tag and Share your pictures of church activities: [#gfumcreconnect2020](https://www.instagram.com/hashtag/gfumcreconnect2020)



Instagram



Generosity-Ways to Give

- www.fumcgadsden.org/give
- Text to Give:
256-344-8464
- Mail your tithe or gift:
115 S. 5th Street
Gadsden, AL 35901

ELC News

This week we enjoyed a visit from The Dog House for lunch on Tuesday. On Thursday we honored our dads with donuts. The next three weeks will be busy as we finish our Spring 2021 semester. Our Mother's Day Roses Sale continues through May 2nd. Please consider supporting this great cause. Wednesday, May 5th we will honor our Moms with Donuts for Divas Then on Thursday, May 13th, we will finish strong with our annual End of Year Program, 4K graduation and class parties. Details regarding attendance to these functions will be sent home with students. *Helene Haller*



Youth Ministry News

Wednesday Night Youth Group
6:00 pm Room 211/Gym

Sunday School
@ 10 am, in-person

Upcoming Events:

- May 8th - Max Cochran 5K Run @ Noccalula Falls
- May 23rd - Senior Recognition Sunday

Coming Summer 2021

Summer service day opportunities— more info coming soon!

Junior High Camp @ Camp Sumatanga

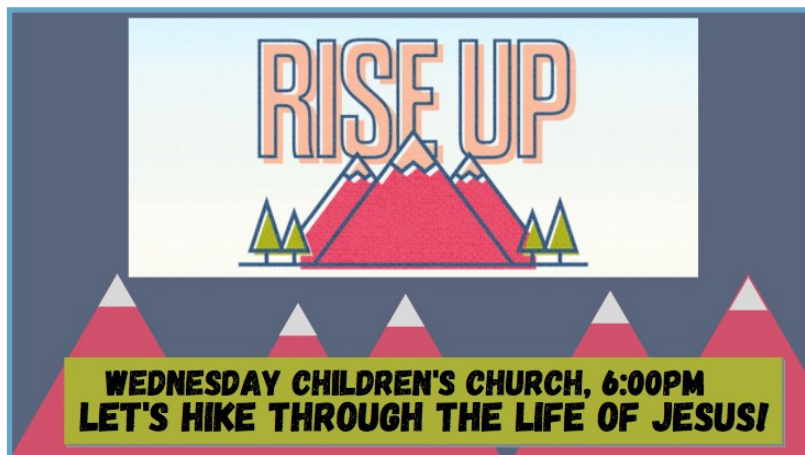
Dates: June 6-11

Age: 6th-8th Grades

Ministers: Andy Yarnell & David Thompson



Children's Ministry News



Wednesday Night
Children's Church,
Room 108 & Gym
6:00 pm (in person)



"Celebrate
Wonder"
Children's
Sunday School
In-Person,
10:00 AM

MAY MISSIONS UPDATE



Fill a Bucket for the Disaster Relief Warehouse

Tornado season is upon us and many of our North Alabama communities have already been hit. *Please join us as we help UMCOR, United Methodist Committee on Relief, replenish the tornado buckets that help bring God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by these natural disasters.*

Buckets will be available beginning May 2nd at both services and then throughout the month of May. There will be a list inside with very specific items to be placed in your bucket.

Please bring your filled bucket back by Sunday, May 30th.

Thank you for helping us get our Disaster Relief Warehouse ready to share God's love when disaster strikes. —GFUMC Mission Team



The UM Disaster Relief Warehouse of the North Alabama Conference is located at 3220 Highway 31 South, Building F, Decatur, AL 35603

Motto: *Everything in the warehouse is doing no one any good. Let's get it out where it can do some good!*

Volunteer To Serve: *If you or your Journey Group/Sunday School Class would like to volunteer at the U.M. Disaster Warehouse please visit the Volunteer Page to find out more and sign up: <https://umdisasterwarehouse.com/volunteering/> Or you can call for more information: 256-341-9961*

You are my servant, I have chosen you... do not fear. Isaiah 41:9b

UMW NEWS

The UMW Luncheon for May, will be Monday, May 10th at noon in the gym. We will continue with masks and social distancing. The board will meet at 10:30 am in the Gathering Room.

The Jean Holtsford Circle is in charge of decorations and clean up. Remember to make your reservation for lunch with your circle leader or text/call Delores Abney at 256-458-0376 before noon on Friday, May 7th.

Watch for updates for the announcement of our program in May.



GFUMC



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

Clothes Closet

Workdays

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Open to Public

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street Gadsden

Ladle of Love

Fridays, 11:00am-

12:00pm, at the portico

entrance

Find out more about mission and service opportunities @ www.fumcgadsden.org/serve

Church Phone

256-543-8200

fumc@fumcgadsden.org

SARA RABUN JOHNSON
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Mother's Day Roses Sale

With your donation of \$20.00, a rose will be placed on the altar 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 \$20 DONATION* BY MAY 3, 2021, PAYABLE TO GFUMC AND MARK IT "SRJ SCHOLARSHIP FUND".



This program was established to honor Sara Rabun Johnson who began what is now known as the Early Learning Center (ELC) at First United Methodist Church –Gadsden. Sara's love for children and her desire to show them Christ's love and instill the love of learning is the reason we honor her.

Monies collected are used to cover tuition expenses for qualified students of the ELC. All students will be required to pay registration fees when enrolling and supply fees at designated times. Students may qualify for full or partial monthly tuition assistance based on need, availability of funds and enrollment space. Each family will go through an application review. A three (3) member panel, selected by the ELC Board, oversees the application process and makes recommendations of qualified candidates and award levels back to the ELC board for review and approval. The Early Learning Center Director coordinates the applications and notifications to the candidates.

For the 2020-21 school year, three students are receiving full scholarships. Their involvement with our program would not have happened without the congregation's support. To date, this program has serviced 7 families covering 9 children. Every family has expressed gratitude for this program and prays that it will continue.

Donations are solicited through the Annual Mother's Day Roses Sale. The sale takes place each spring with donations covering a rose placed on the altar in honor or memory of loved ones. Monies collected are administered through a separate designated fund overseen by the Finance Committee and the ELC Director.

Mother's Day Roses Sale
Benefiting the
Sara Rabun Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund

Purchase a \$20 rose in honor or memory of your mother, mother-in-law, grandmother or just that special lady in your life. Please make checks payable to: First United Methodist Church and designate Mother's Day Roses Sale or Sarah Rabun Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Service (Bouquets at both): Celebration Traditions

In Memory of: _____

Given By: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given By: _____

Deadline for Orders: Monday, May 3rd

Other giving levels available:

Full Year Sponsorship: \$2,000

Half Year Sponsorship: \$1,000

Summer Sponsorship: \$350

Other: _____

Additional donations to the fund may be given throughout the year.

Calendar for April 25-May 1, 2021

April 25, Sunday

9:00 am, Celebration Service, in Sanctuary and live streamed

10:00 am, Sunday School, Children & Youth

10:00 am, Pathfinders & Martin Sunday School Classes in person

10:00 am, online Bible Study, with Ken Casey, George Varner, and Grover Kitchens

11:00 am, Traditional Service, in Sanctuary and live streamed

April 26, Monday

ELC, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

5:00 pm, Trustees, gotomeeting.com

6:00-7:00 pm, Choir Practice

April 27, Tuesday

ELC, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

5:00 pm, Finance team, gotomeeting.com

6:00 pm, Board of Stewards, gotomeeting.com

6:30 pm, Mosaic, In person/Livestream

April 28, Wednesday

ELC, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

11:00 am, Bible Study w/Pastor Sam, Room 116

6:00 pm, Bible Study w/Pastor Sam, online

6:00 pm, Bible Study w/Harriet Murray, Room 116

6:00 pm, Children's Activities, Room 108/gym

6:00 pm, Youth, Room 211/gym

April 29, Thursday

7:00 am, Men at the Well Journey Group, Zoom

ELC, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

9:00 am-10:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym

5:30 pm, Thursday Worship, Sanctuary

April 30, Friday

11:00-12:00 pm, Ladle of Love, Portico



Church Picnic
May 12
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Noccalula Falls
Kiwanis Pavilion


Honorariums and Memorials

Children's Worship Center:
In memory of Marvin Meek, given by Paul & Sherri DeJong.
In memory of Marvin Meek, given by Ken & Peggy Casey.

Immediate Prayer Concerns

The Family of Angela Keck
Glen Pierson B.J. Crow Jane Jones
Donny Gray Virginia Yocum

Ruby Christine Poland (granddaughter of Jeff & Cathea Poland)
Meg (Ryan) Casey (granddaughter of Dotty Ivey)





Welcome
Shelby Russell

Continued Prayer Concerns

Dr. Ed Thompson Dot Thompson Pat Martin George Fant
Wanda Hemby Ina Davis June Longshore

Yvonne Humphrey (Jan Humphrey's step-mother)
Mary Nichols (Patsy Blankenship's mother)

Birthdays.....

Apr 25 Tyler Trotter
Apr 26 Ellen Bridges, Kelsey Freeman
Apr 27 Joshua Holloway
Apr 28 Adair Arthur
Apr 29 Benny McNair, Pat Walker, Becky Thompson
Apr 30 Crystal Cornett, Dr. Charlie Newman, Joseph Jones
May 1 Suzy Haney, George Hightower, Julia Ryle, Charles Newman



Week of April 18, 2021

*In Person Total *215 Overall Total 478
Online Viewer Total 263 Mosaic *9
Thursday *14 Sunday School *25/10
Bible Study Groups *5/15
Youth *32 Children *19
General Offering Budget \$15,200.00
General Offering Received \$15,681.00
YTD General Offering Budget \$243,200.00
YTD General Offering Rec'd \$234,827.00

**2021 Estimate of Giving Cards:
72 for \$300,076.00**

**2021 Alleluia Offering
\$14,138.00**