

Christ The Savior

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

12-6-20

Sermon Notes

“Christ The Savior”

Each Sunday in Advent, and each Wednesday night in our Advent Bible Study, we will be exploring the “Incarnation.” Why did God come to us in Jesus? What was the purpose of the incarnation? What does all that have to do with us today? We will consider the names of Jesus to help us understand these questions. The first Sunday of Advent we looked at Jesus’ royal titles: Messiah, and King. This coming week we will focus on Christ the Savior. When the angel came to Mary, he told her that she would have a son who would be the “Son of the Most High,” and who would receive the “throne of his ancestor, David.” “Of his kingdom there will be no end,” the angel to Mary. Christ the King!

In this week’s Scripture, the angel comes to Joseph and tells him not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife. (Matt. 1: 18-21 NRSV)

His name will be Jesus...for he will save his people from their sins. Jesus...the very name means, “God saves.” Christ the Savior! What does it mean to be “saved?” Who needs “saving?” Saying that Jesus is Savior implies that there is something from which we need to be saved...that maybe we don’t have everything all worked out on our own. When I think salvation on a personal level, I remember an old *D.C. Talk* song. Here are some of the lyrics...

*I keep trying to find a life
On my own apart from you
I am the king of excuses
I’ve got one for every selfish thing I do
What’s going on inside of me?
I despise my own behavior
This only serves to confirm my suspicions
That I’m still a man in need of a Savior*

Why does my mind go to this song? I think it’s because I know that I’m still a man in need of a Savior. Join us Sunday for worship, and let’s all consider what it means that Christ is God’s salvation, provided for us.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Sam

Remember to return your 2021 “Estimate of Giving”
Card in either service or to the church office.

Worship Opportunities

- **Mosaic:** 6:30 pm, Tuesday, Church Courtyard*
- **Thursday Worship:** 5:30 pm, Thursday, Sanctuary*
- **Sunday Celebration Worship,** 9:00 am, Sanctuary* (In person & online)
- **Sunday Traditions Worship,** 11:00 am, Sanctuary* (In person & online)
*All in person worship requires social distancing & masks.

Christmas Eve Worship

4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Reservations* are required for Christmas Eve Worship.

(*limited to 100 per worship service.)
Sign up at www.fumcgadsden.org/worship

- ◆ Select worship time.
- ◆ Make a reservation for each person in your family.
- ◆ Social distancing and masks required.
- ◆ For sign-up assistance, call the church office: 256-543-8200.

Missions for December

White Christmas

Each year during the Christmas season, we are reminded there is no greater joy for us than giving to others. Since 1930, the White Christmas Offering has enabled Methodists to share their blessings with those whose circumstances in life just haven't been fair.

These children and young adults certainly didn't sign up to be in the situation they're in, and with your support, they have the hope of a much brighter tomorrow. Mark your special offering for "UMCH White Christmas" and give comfort and joy this Christmas!



Angel Tree

This year, the Angel Tree is located in the sanctuary. You can sponsor a child this Christmas by selecting an Angel from the tree during worship or by stopping by the church during the week. Follow these simple steps:



1. Select an Angel from the Angel Tree in the Sanctuary
2. Write your name on the back of the Angel and leave the Angel on the tree!
3. Tear list off at perforation and take with you to shop!
4. Label all gift items with code at bottom or list and return to the church! (No need to wrap!)
5. Other instructions can be found on the back of the list!

**If you would like to reserve an angel by phone, please call the church office and we will be happy to assist you in selecting an angel and sending you the shopping list.*

We are here for you!

We are still taking precautions so the church office is still closed to the public. We ask that all business be conducted by email, phone or text whenever possible. In-person visits are by appointment only. You may call for an appointment or if you or someone you know has a need that we can help with, please call us or email us between 8:00 am-4:00 pm, Monday thru Friday. If no answer, please leave a message and a staff member will return your call as soon as possible.

A MASK is required if you are coming to the office for an appointment or attending any service or activity at the church. If you do not have one, we have masks available for you.

Stay Well. Stay Safe —Your Church Staff!

Clothes Closet

Workday

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Open

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street

Gadsden, AL

*Clothes Closet Winter

Needs: Gloves, Scarves, and Coats. Please check your closets and bring any items that you are no longer wearing.

Ladle of Love

Fridays, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm, under the portico

Big Brothers Big Sisters Christmas Party

Living Water, Pathfinders and Seekers Sunday school classes are hosting the annual Big Brother, Big Sister Christmas party. This year the event is scheduled for 12/10 and will be a drop in event with social distancing. If you would like to give or serve at this event, contact Mark Condra or Sheila Freeman. Sheila@fumcgadsden.org.

Church Phone

256-543-8200

www.fumcgadsden.org

fumc@fumcgadsden.org



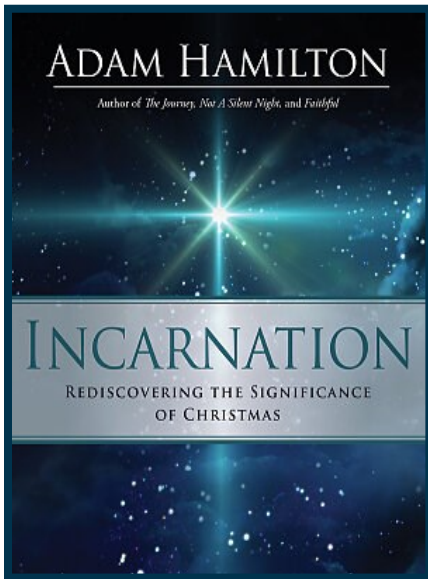
New Zoom Study for Advent

Beginning Monday November 30th @ 6:00 pm for four (4) sessions, we will be studying, Who Needs Christmas? by Andy Stanley. It will be a video/discussion group. The video will last around 20 minutes and we will try to keep sessions to 1 hour total. Please order your study guide. I got mine from Amazon, but you can google the title and it will give you several options. I am very excited about this in depth look at God’s amazing plan! Text me (256) 328-3679 to find out how to join the study! —Barbara Condra

- ♦ **Wednesday Nights 6:00 pm**
(No Bible Study on November 25)
NEW STUDIES for Advent Begin on Dec. 2

Incarnation, Harriet Murray, Room 116, Week 2
Incarnation, Pastor Sam, Sanctuary & Online, Week 1

- ♦ **Thursdays, Men at the Well, 7:00 am, Zoom**
Contact the church office for more information.
- ♦ **Sunday Mornings, 10:00 am, GoToMeeting**
Because of Bethlehem, Love is Born, Hope is Here
by Max Lucado **Begins November 29**
11/29 *God Has a Face – George Varner*
12/6 *Worship Works Wonders – Jeff Poland*
12/13 *God Guides the Wise – Grover Kitchens*
12/20 *Every Heart a Manger – Nancy Smith*



Advent Study: Incarnation by Adam Hamilton “Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas”

Wednesday, December 2– 23 @ 6 pm

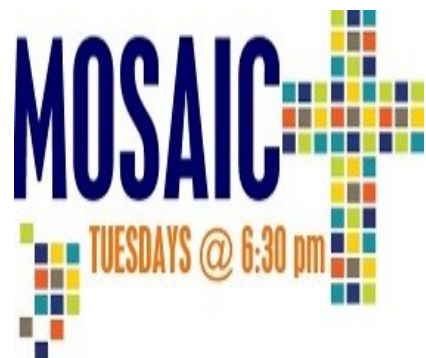
Adam Hamilton’s book, Incarnation is available in the church office for \$15.00. If you would like to purchase a book and are unable to come by the church to make the purchase, please call the office @ 256-543-8200 or email: fumc@fumcgadsden.org for assistance.

You may participate In person (with social distancing and masks in the sanctuary) or you may participate virtually in this Advent study on FacebookLive or the church website or YouTube Channel.

Wednesdays @ 6 pm, Sanctuary or Online

Join Pastor Andy for Mosaic

—A unique worship experience that includes a homily, discussion, and prayer. This service is open to everyone, but is particularly designed for those who have felt hurt or rejected. Come meet with us outside the church in the Courtyard facing 5th Street near the sanctuary on Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm! Social distancing is required. (In case of rain or cold weather, Mosaic will meet in the gym.)



ELC News

On **Thursday, December 3rd**, the ELC will host its 2nd Annual Christmas Pajama Day!! Please join us by wearing your favorite pair of Christmas PJ's.

Thursday, December 10th will be our annual Christmas Program at 9:30 am followed by class parties. The program will be live streamed for everyone to watch. Christmas Break is **December 11th thru January 3rd**. First day back is **January 4th**.

Helene Haller

Youth Ministry News

December 9

Choices & Consequences
Ginger Bread House Building
Youth will be meeting at 6 pm on Wednesday nights in the gym, youth room, & room 108 during December.

Virtual Sunday School

Sundays at 10:00 am

Former Youth- check out our college and career Instagram page to stay up to date with future social distancing gatherings.



Join Andy on Facebook Live
or Instagram
Sunday & Wednesdays, 6pm

Safe Sanctuary Policy: All children and youth volunteers must have Safe Sanctuary Training prior to beginning to work with children or youth and annually thereafter. A background check is required. In addition, volunteers must have been members of the church for 6 months or more, be 5 years older than the group they are working with and there must always be at least 2 unrelated adults present for all activities and events. Other rules apply for field trips or overnight trips. Contact the church office Sheila@fumcgadsden.org for more information.

Children's Ministry News

Children will meet in the gym or room 108 during December on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm. Thee nursery is open during this time.

Children's Break continues on Facebook on Sundays and Wednesdays!

Children's Church meets Sundays during worship at 9 am or 11 am!


Children's Church December Events

- ★ Saturday, December 5
Polar Express at Premiere Cinemas, 5:00
- ★ Sunday, December 6
Virtual Christmas Caroling, 5:00
- ★ Sunday, December 13
Drive-thru Santa Visit, 12:00-1:30
- ★ Wednesday, December 16
Children's Christmas Party, 6:00
- ★ Saturday, December 19
Parent's Day Out, 11:00-2:00




pagesfordeis.org

Polar Express Movie Night



Saturday, December 5

Meet at Premiere Cinemas at 4:30,
movie begins at 5:00
Children are encouraged to wear
your pajamas!





UMW NEWS

Christmas Cards

The 2020 UMW Christmas cards are ready for purchase. The cards are located in the church office. Please call the church office at 256-543-8200 to make arrangements to pick them up.

On **Monday, December 7th from 9 am-3 pm**, the UMW poinsettias will be ready to pick up and deliver to our homebound members. You may also pick up UMW Christmas cards during this time.

Reminder: Don't forget to turn in your UMW pledge or World Thank Offering!

Eileen Graham



Caring Angels

The poinsettias for the homebound members will be available on Monday, December 7th from 9:00 am-3:00 pm at the church. If you would like to take one to a homebound member, please let Eileen Graham know.



Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. 1 John 4:11



The Thrill of Hope

PRESENTED BY
THE CHANCEL CHOIR
FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF GADSDEN

11:00 AM December 13, 2020

"Counting Our Blessings" Estimate of Giving 2021

As of 12/1/20 we have received 58 Cards with a total of \$225,660.00. If you haven't turned your card in, please return it to the church office. Additional cards are available in the church office or in the worship services. Budget planning for 2021 has begun.

Generosity

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

Text to Give: 256-344-8464
Online Giving:
www.fumcgadsden.org/give



Calendar for week of December 6-12, 2020

Dec 6, Sunday

9:00 am, Celebration Worship; Sanctuary

10:00 am, Sunday School, Ken Casey &

George Varner, GoToMeeting

10:00 am, Children's Bible Study, Facebook

10:00 am, Youth Sunday School, Online

11:00 am, Traditional Worship; Sanctuary

5:00 pm, Children, Virtual Christmas Caroling

6:00 pm, Youth, via Zoom or Instagram

Dec 7, Monday

9:00-1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule

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

5:30-7:00 pm, Choir Practice

6:00 pm-Advent Study, Barbara Condra, via Zoom

Dec 8, Tuesday

9:00-1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule

5:30-7:00 pm, Choir Practice

6:30 pm, Mosaic, Gym

Dec 9, Wednesday

9:00-1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule

6:00 pm, Children Activities, Gym, Room 108

6:00 pm, Youth Activities, Gym, Youth Room

6:00 pm, Advent Study, Harriet Condra, Room 116

6:00 pm, Advent Study, Pastor Sam,
Sanctuary and Live Streaming

Dec 10, Thursday

9:00-1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule

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

5:30 pm, Thursday Worship

Dec 11, Friday

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



The poinsettias in the sanctuary today are in honor of all our homebound members.

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Wanda Hemby
Marian Ford
Joanne Hightower
Melba Amberson



Continued Prayer Concerns

Bill Hale Albert Gibson
Ron Garry Charles Cantrell
Herman Humphrey (Jan Humphrey's father)
Mary Nichols (Patsy Blankenship's mother)
The Family of Sonya Cantrell

Honorarium

General Budget Fund

In honor of Bill Hale, on his birthday, given by his granddaughter, Haley Goodwyn.

Week of November 29, 2020

Online Viewer Total 288
*In Person Total *77 Total overall 365
Celebration *30/124 Traditions *42/132
Mosaic *0 Thursday *0
Youth *0 Children *5
Bible Study Groups *32
General Offering Budget \$15,440.00
General Offering Received \$4,037.00
YTD General Offering Budget \$741,120.00
YTD General Offering Rec'd \$682,484.00

*In Memory of
Her Life
Sonya B. Cantrell
November 29, 2020*



Birthdays.....

Dec 6 Anna Katherine Hollingsworth,
Erica Shumate, John Waid

Dec 7 Margie Freeman, Austin Waits

Dec 8 Benilda Kelley

Dec 9 Caroline Culp, Kailie Jackson

Dec 10 Debbie Hiltz, Debbie Leach,

Jamie Bowers, Bo Hayes,

Noah Sherrouse

Dec 11 Bryant Grizzell, Sylvia Johnson,

Kimberly Hayes, Allison Hayes,

Emma Smith

Dec 12 Jessica Hopper,
Sara Catheryne Freeman



Poinsettias

Select the Worship Service and Date / Cost \$20.00 each

Service: Celebration Tradition

Date: December 13 December 20

Donated by _____

_____ In Honor of _____ In Memory of
Name _____