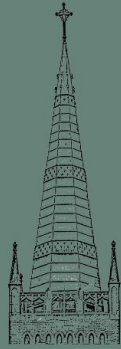


#WeAreFirst



Transformation

Ezekiel 36:26
Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, Feb 5 & Sunday, Feb 8, 2026

The prophet Ezekiel offers this promise from God, “A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.” (Ezekiel 36:26) Just as the prophet shared that God would bring change to the people of Israel, so God continues to the work of resurrection and transformation. We believe that God can make all things new! This includes us. Maybe that is why the leadership landed on this mission statement for the church: *Changing Lives by Sharing Christ, Making Disciples, Serving People, and Giving Hope*. My prayer is that lives are changing in Jesus through First United Methodist Church of Gadsden. Will you continue to work and pray with me?

We Are First,
Rev. Sherri

Wednesday, Feb 11, 6 pm
Burning of the Palms, Portico



Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Imposition of Ashes, 12 pm-1 pm, Sanctuary
Ash Wednesday Worship, 6 pm

Feb 18 Fellowship Dinner @ 5 pm
(We will begin serving 15 minutes early.)

Everyone is Welcome! RSVP: Text 256-490-5018

(If you have a standing Wednesday night reservation, you do not need to rsvp, unless you want to modify your reservation.)

\$7 per person, \$3 under 11, \$20 Family Max

Muffalettas, Red Beans & Rice, & Jambalaya, King Cake

Kids Menu: Chicken Fingers

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Page 1- Sermon Notes; Ash Wednesday, Feb 18; Tech Schedule; Acolytes, Thursday Worship Security
Page 2- New Bible Studies & Small Groups; Adult Studies for Sunday School Classes
Page 3- ELC News; Student Ministries; Youth Calendar of Activities; Children’s Ministry
Page 4- **Ash Wednesday, February 18; “Woven Continued” Sermon Series Begins**
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Page 8- Calendar; Parent’s Night Out, Prayer Concerns; Births; Deaths; Memorials; Birthdays; Weekly Reports

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

Security for Thursday Worship

February 5: Mark Casey February 12: Kirk Mabeus

ACOLYTES

Feb 8: Sara Echols, Luke Barnes, Brooks Bone
Feb 15: Volunteer

Tech Team Schedule

February 8

Celebration: Mark Condra, Bill Haller, Carmen McKiven

Traditions: Mark Condra, Neil Mullin, Brad Barnes

February 15

Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Rob Reynolds

Traditions: Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman

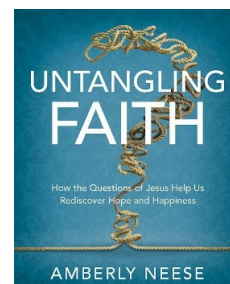


Bible Studies & Small Groups for Adults

Join Rev. Sherri for a Bible Study based on *The Chosen* (Season 3) starting **January 7**. Each week will focus on a different episode with a Bible Study of the scripture behind the scenes and each week will stand alone, so you can plug in as your schedule permits. **Classes will be at 11 am and 6 pm in Room 208**. (Skipping February 18 for Ash Wednesday and April 1 for Spring Break/Holy Week). The classes will end at the church picnic in May.

Untangling Faith by Amberly Neese, Wednesdays, 6 pm —Your questions can lead to a deeper faith and trust in God. Have you ever felt you struggled to find your faith footing? Join Amberly Neese in she explores the questions Jesus asked as a way to reclaim that faith. Chapters explore our own questions like Can God Be Trusted? and How Can I Grow in Faith. **We look forward to seeing you on January 7—Harriet Murray**

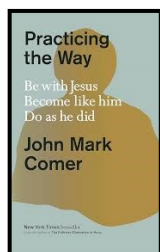
Amberly’s unique humor and wit help the whole group find their way through deep and rich issues of personal faith, doubt, and growth.



Wonderful Wednesday Dinner: Chicken Fingers
February 11, \$7 Per Person, \$3 age 11 & Under
Please text 256.490.5018 to make or change a reservation.

Sunday School: New Adult Studies

Transitions 10 am, Room 209



A new adventure begins January 11th in Room 209! You are Invited!

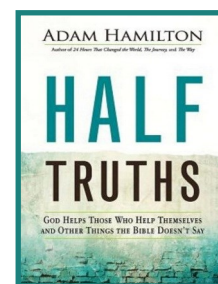
Practicing the Way by John Mark Comer—The disciples spent 3 years being apprentices to Jesus. They watched His every move and hung on every word. They were with Him 24/7. As a result, they, over time, became more and more like Him and began to do many of the things He did. With the Spirit’s help, with John Mark Comer as our guide, and with each other as encouragers, we too can learn to walk in Jesus’ steps.

Join Rev. Dawson Harmon for this new small group study! Everyone is welcome!

Pathfinders/Seekers 10 am, Room 208

Half Truths by Adam Hamilton—Beginning in January 2026

They are simple phrases. They sound Christian—like something you might find in the Bible. We’ve all heard these words. Maybe we’ve said them. They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in important ways.



Living Waters 10 am, Room 116 Rev. Ken Casey

Questions You Always Wanted to Ask About the Christian Faith and the Bible

“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

King Cakes will be available for pick up Saturday, February 7th from 9 am to 11 am at the Portico entrance. Thank you again for all who participated. Registration for Summer 2026 and the 2026 – 2027 school year for currently enrolled church members is February 9th through February 12th. Registration for all other currently enrolled students will be February 18th through February 26th.. The ELC will observe Valentine's Day on Thursday, February 12th.

—Helene Haller



Youth

Sunday School
10 am, Room 211

Wonderful Wednesday

Youth Group, 6:00 pm
Room 211 & Gym
Packing RAK bags on
Wednesday Jan 21

*"Let's Build a Solid
Foundation!"*

Matthew 7:24

Wonderful Wednesday Dinner February 11-Chicken Fingers

\$7 per person \$3 Age 11 & Under

Please text 256.490.5018 to make or change a reservation.

Children's Ministry

GFUMC CHILDREN'S CALENDAR

Spring 2026

FEBRUARY

- 14 PARENT'S NIGHT OUT 6:00PM
- 18 Ash Wednesday
- 21 EASTER EGG HUNT
- 27 FUN! 456 LATE-NIGHTER
- 29 PALM SUNDAY

April

- 5 EASTER Sunday
- 22 POTATOES AND BINGO

May

- 6 Church Picnic

GFUMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Wonderful Wednesday

Small Groups and Activities @ 6 pm
Fellowship Dinner, 5:15 pm

Sunday Mornings

Children's Church during worship, 9 am & 11 am

Sunday school @ 10 am

Need more info? katharine@fumcgadsden.org

DROP OFF YOUR KIDS WITH MS. KATHARINE, AND ENJOY YOUR NIGHT OUT! *NURSERY IS AVAILABLE

PARENTS Night Out

Saturday
February 14
6:00-9:00

HOSTED BY FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GADSDEN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

GFUMC CHILDREN'S FEBRUARY UNIT

Miracles

WEDNESDAY'S AT 6:00

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
JESUS DOES EVERYTHING OUT OF LOVE.	JESUS CALLS US TO FOLLOW HIM.	JESUS KNOWS WHAT WE NEED	JESUS CAN DO ANYTHING.

YOU ARE THE GOD WHO PERFORMS MIRACLES;
YOU DISPLAY YOUR POWER AMONG THE PEOPLES."
PSALMS 77:34 (NIV)

Burning of the Palms for Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 11

6 pm Portico Entrance



Ash Wednesday, February 18

Imposition of Ashes

(Sanctuary Open for Prayer and Reflection) 12pm to 1pm

Worship with Imposition of Ashes, 6pm

Woven Continued

Last year, First United Methodist Church of Gadsden embarked on the Lenten journey of Woven, spending time looking at the story behind our beloved kneelers. This Lent, we pick up where we left off and examine the remaining symbols. This needlework is one of the greatest artistic assets of the congregation. For almost fifty years, worshippers have knelt on cushions handcrafted by skillful hands. Created in 1976 and restored in 2011, each work of art depicts rich symbols of our Christian faith and enhances our worship with such beauty. Find your favorite symbol and join us for Woven Continued. This series kicks off on Ash Wednesday and will conclude Easter.

—Rev. Sherri Reynolds



WOVEN

Sermon Series

Rev. Sherri Reynolds

A LENTEN JOURNEY TO EASTER

Images from the needlepoint at the chancel rail.

FEBRUARY 18 TO APRIL 5

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GADSDEN



Mission Focus



JOIN THE MISSION TEAM & YOUTH IN JANUARY FOR
**RANDOM ACTS OF
KINDNESS
"KINDNESS KITS"**

GFUMC YOUTH & THE MISSION TEAM HAVE
PREPARED "KINDNESS KITS" FOR YOU TO TAKE &
SHARE WITH OTHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY TO
INTRODUCE CHRIST AND RENDER HOPE!

"KINDNESS KITS" ARE AVAILABLE IN WORSHIP ON 1/25



FIRST UMC GADSDEN

United Women in Faith

February Luncheon

Monday, February 9 at 12:00 noon

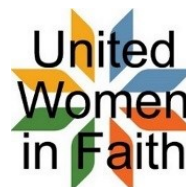
The speaker will be Rev. Sherri Reynolds.

Topic "Looking Toward the Future". Everyone

please wear red. Please call or text Carla Watson at 256-393-9664 with your reservation for lunch by Friday, February 6.

Olivia Kendrick, President

Susan Copeland, Vice-President



Ladle of Love Clothes Closet

January 2026

LOL	416
Clothes Closet	299

Thanks to our
Volunteers!

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.

Volunteers are needed to serve on Ladle of Love Teams. Contact the church office for more information on how you can serve.

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

Open to Public

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

February open dates are
2/4 and 2/18

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street Gadsden

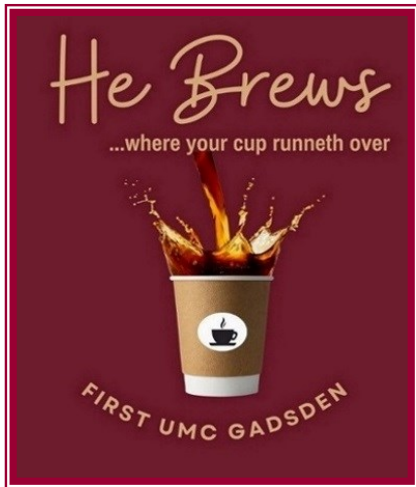
Find out more about mission and service opportunities @

www.fumcgadsden.org/serve

Phone: 256-543-8200

Email:

fumc@fumcgadsden.org



Follow us on
Facebook and Instagram.



HeBrews Coffee Café, Chestnut Foyer, Sundays, 10 am
We look forward to seeing you on Sunday Morning!



You are invited to connect with the GFUMC Family in a new and exciting way. Connect through the church app today by scanning the QR code above. You will now be able to find groups and connect with Teams, Leadership Groups, Sunday school classes, UWF Circles and more within the App.

Follow these steps to connect:

- Scan the QR Code and Click the link.
- “Join” by creating your profile with a password in the app (use “continue with email”).
- Discover your connections to the GFUMC church community, a smaller community (like UWF, choir, or Children’s Ministry, etc.) or a small group (like a Sunday school class or small group) or a church leadership team. There are so many ways to connect!
- Request to join or accept an invitation to join.
- You are now ready to send and receive notifications, messages, notices, reminders, prayer requests, and more within your GFUMC connections.



Greeters & Ushers for Worship

Sunday, February 8

Celebration: Kirk & Jeanne Mabeus

Traditions: Judy & Mandell Tillman; Margie & John Freeman

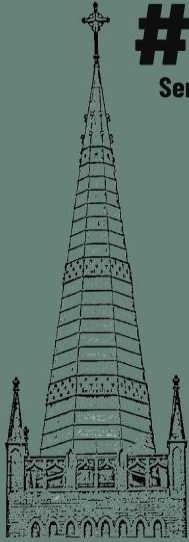
Sunday, February 15

Celebration: Rev. Ken & Peggy Casey

Traditions: Leslie & Phillip Johnson; Lori Varner; Gail McNair; Grover Kitchens

If you would like to serve as an Greeter/Usher, please contact Susan Swann in the church office, email: susan@fumcgadsden.org or phone: 256.543.8200.





#WeAreFirst

Sermon Series January 8 - February 8
Rev. Sherri Reynolds

**Forging Disciples
Introducing Christ
Rendering Hope
Serving People
Transformation**

**“We Are First”
T-Shirts**

\$20.00

A limited supply of “We Are First, “Light Green” long sleeve t-shirts are now available.

Pick one up in the church office or email:
sheila@fumcgadsden.org

BUILDING A SOLID FOUNDATION
MATTHEW 7:24-27

SEPTEMBER 28-NOVEMBER 16
REV. SHERRI REYNOLDS

GENEROSITY 2026
First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

**“Building Upon a Solid Foundation,”
our 2026 Generosity Emphasis**

As of December 73 estimate of giving cards have been returned with a commitment of \$501,328.00

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

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 Feb 8-Feb 14, 2026

Feb 8, Sunday

9:00 am-Celebration Worship
10:00 am-HeBrews Coffee; Sunday School
11:00 am-Traditions

Feb 9, Monday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Winter Schedule
9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym
10:30 am-UWF Executive Board Meeting
12:00 pm-UWF Luncheon, Gathering Room
2:00 pm-4:00 pm-Pickle Ball, Gym
5:00 pm-Trustees Meeting, Parlor
5:30 pm-7:30 pm-Basketball practice, Gym

Feb 10, Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Winter Schedule
1:15 pm-Staff Meeting; 5:00 pm-6:00 pm-Yoga, Gym
6:00 pm-8:00 pm-Basketball practice, Gym

Feb 11, Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Winter Schedule
11:00 am-Wednesday Morning Bible Study
5:15 pm-Wednesday night meal, Gathering Room
6:00 pm-Children's Activities, Room 108
Youth Activities, Room 211 & Gym
6:00 pm-Bible Study Groups, Room 110 & 208
6:00 pm-Choir Practice

Feb 12, Thursday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Winter Schedule
9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym
5:30 pm—Thursday Worship
5:30 pm-7:30 pm-Basketball Practice, Gym

Feb 13, Friday

11:00 am to 12:00 am -Ladle of Love
12:00 pm-Office Closed

"Light Green" long sleeve "We Are First" t-shirts are now available for \$20.
Sizes Adult Sm-3X. Supplies are limited.
Pick one up in the church office or email:
sheila@fumcgadsden.org

DROP OFF YOUR KIDS WITH MS. KATHARINE, AND ENJOY YOUR NIGHT OUT!
*NURSERY IS AVAILABLE
Saturday February 14 6:00-9:00
HOSTED BY FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GADSDEN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Honorariums & Memorials
Howell Erwin Fund In memory of Lynn King, given by Leone Norris.

The flower on the altar is placed in honor of the birth of

Finn Louie Couvillion
Born: 12/16/2025
Parents: Matt & Ashley
Grandparents: Joey & Phyllis Couvillion

Immediate Prayer Concerns
Georgia Reese Moran (infant daughter of Dallas & Shannon-grandparents Jill & Rick) Chip Edwards
James Dial (Taylor & Jay Dial's newborn son)

Continued Prayer Concerns
Olivia Kendrick Trish Blount Maitland Adams Marionette Bishop
Amy Epperson (daughter of Gene & Danna Dean)
Andrew Swann (grandson of Danny Swann) Dawn Rains

Birthdays
Feb 8 Kyle Horton, Rev. Ken Casey
Feb 9 Blakely Roberts
Feb 10 Jay Knowles
Feb 11 Courtney Hood, Stephen Leach
Feb 12 Leslie Johnson, Casey Wigley
Feb 13 Sherry McIntyre, Parker Vallejo
Feb 14 Sara McClendon, Carol Vice, Elizabeth Haney

Please update your family's record in the church office to include all dates of birth.
Thank you! Susan Swann

Attendance Week of Feb 1, 2026

In Person Total *221	On Line Total 392
Worship Total 613	Thursday Worship *17
Celebration *73/211	Traditions *131/181
Nursery Sun/Wed *6	Youth SS *5
Adult Sunday School *46	Children's SS *15
Bible Study *30	Children Sun/Wed *50
Youth Sun/Wed *18	UWF *0

Year 2026 Week of February 1, 2026

General Offering Budget	\$13,040.00
General Offering Received	\$ 9,131.00
YTD Gen. Offering Budget	\$65,200.00
YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd	\$96,633.00

Construction on Chestnut St.

Beginning the week of February 9, there will be construction to install a speed table at the current crosswalk on Chestnut St. Chestnut St will be open for local traffic only.