



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

7-16-23 Sermon Notes "Extraordinary Value"

1 John 4:7-21

Too often, I struggle with the sin of judgement. Maybe we all do. It is in our nature to categorize others. Our ancestors had a better chance for survival is they could "size others up" and decide if another was friend or ally, good material for a spouse, or someone to be trusted. While God commands us not to judge, this can be a hard habit to break. We judge others by their education, bank account, connections, reputation, success, social media posts, etc. The list of the ways we judge others is long and winding. Fortunately, God loves us before we fit into any category to be judged and God loves us no matter where we fit into a category to be judged. Paul reminds us that there is nothing which can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. *1 John 4:10 states, "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins."* God loves us even before we are aware of God's love and God sent His son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins even before we are worthy. If you are having a bad day, remember that God loves you and loves you no matter how others might judge you. Out that extraordinary love, we are invited to love others, just as God loves us. You are invited to join me this Sunday as we continue a journey of "Extraordinary" together as we explore Jesus' extraordinary love for us all.

*Blessings,
Rev. Sherri*

*Please join us
for a
Welcome Reception
honoring
Rev. Sherri Reynolds
and her family
Sunday, July 16, 10 am
in the Chestnut Street Foyer*



Pictured: Libby, Rob, Rachel & Sherri Reynolds.

Table of Contents:

- Page 1**—Sermon Notes; Tech Schedule; Acolyte Schedule
- Page 2**—Small Groups and Sunday School
- Page 3**—ELC News; Student Ministries; Children's Ministry
- Page 4**— GFUMC Missions News; Clothes Closet; Ladle of Love; United Women in Faith
- Page 5**— Gift to Gadsden
- Page 6**— HeBrews, Stay Connected
- Page 7**— Generosity
- Page 8**— Calendar, Prayer Concerns, Save the Dates, Birthdays, Weekly Financial & Attendance Report

Worship Opportunities

Thursday Worship: 5:30 pm, Sanctuary

Sunday Morning:

Celebration 9 am* Traditions 11 am*

*In Person (Sanctuary) and Online
www.fumcgadsden.org/media or
on Facebook Live: @FUMCGadsden

ACOLYTES

July 16: Marit Norris & Sara Kate Thornburg
July 23: Luke Barnes & Brooks Bone

Tech Team Schedule
(Please arrive 45 minutes before the service.)

July 16

Celebration: Will Brookshire, Sheila Freeman, Bay Brown
Traditions: Mark Condra, Brad Barnes

July 23

Celebration: Bill Haller, Genevieve Corley, Sheila Freeman
Traditions: Mark Condra, Wayne Payton, Sheila Freeman

Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Meal will resume in August!

Enjoy your summer!

Out of Town on the Weekend?

Come to Thursday Worship!

5:30 to 6:00 pm each week

In the Sanctuary

Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesday will resume in the Fall!
Enjoy Your Summer Break!

Men at the Well Thursday Mornings

7:00 am

You are invited to join the weekly Bible study with the Men at the Well small group. They are currently meeting at the Choice Restaurant at 7 am. Beginning July 13, the study will be focusing on leaders of the Bible. Each week the small group will discuss a key leader from the Old and New Testament. This study will conclude September 14.

Contact Todd Rains, Mark Condra, Mark Casey, or any of the Men at the Well for more information.

There's a Place for you in Sunday School!

- Living Waters Sunday School Class, beginning July 2, *Proverbs*, by Dominick S. Hernandez, Room 112, In person and online. Contact a member of the class for the link to join online!
- Martin Fellowship Class, International Bible Studies, Room 116
- Multi-Age Sunday School, with Eric Wright and Harriet Murray, Room 208
- Pathfinders and Seekers Classes are currently meeting with the Multi-Age Sunday School Class, Room 208. New study beginning July 16, "The Walk" by Adam Hamilton.



Sign Up to Receive Emails from the Church

Sign up to receive emails from the church including the Weekly News, Devotionals, Ministry and Mission Notes, and Sermon Notes.

Go to: <http://www.fumcgadsden.org/sign-up-to-receive-emails>



Have you downloaded the Church APP?

Search: First UMC-Gadsden

Need Help? Contact Sheila Freeman @ 256-490-5018

ELC News

Our summer session is going by quickly. Our last day, Wednesday July 26th, we will celebrate with Papa John's pizza.

Open House for the 2023-2024 school year will be Thursday, August 17th from 10 am to 11 am.

—Helene Haller



Youth Ministry News

- ♦ July 16 Pool Party from 2-6 pm at the home of Buck Rose, 730 Dodge Lane, Gadsden 35904
- ♦ July 23 Bonfire

Contact Carmen McKiven for details.
Youth Counselor

Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Dinner will resume in August!

Children's Ministry

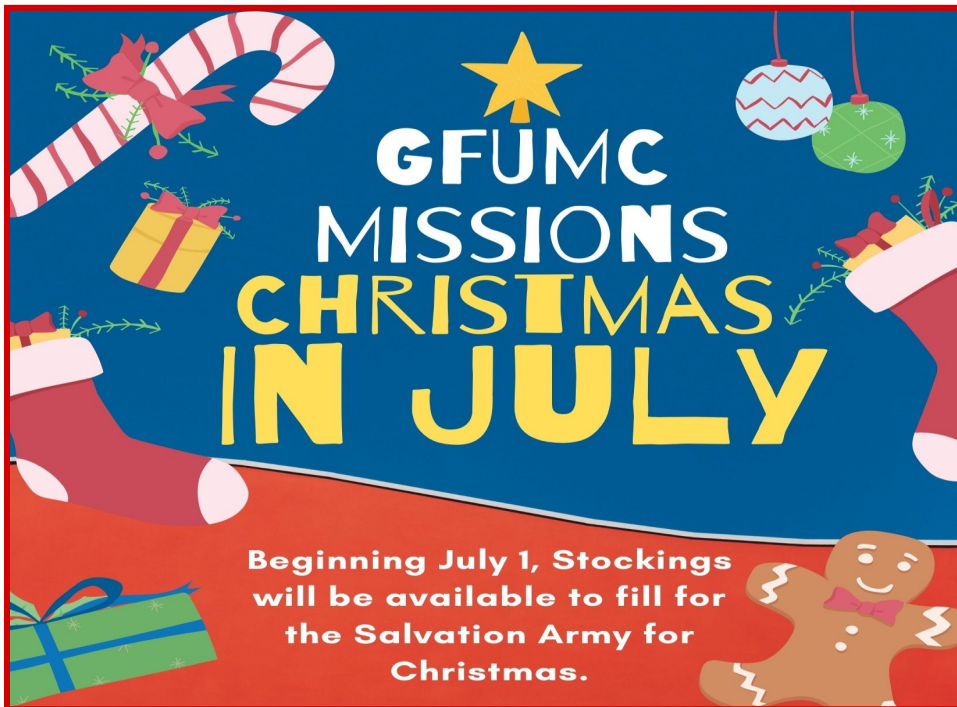
Children's Church
Sundays @ 9 am and 11 am

A colorful graphic for the GFUMC kids Summer Calendar. The background is blue with pink and yellow accents. At the top left, a banner says "GFUMC kids Summer Calendar" with a rainbow flag icon and a pair of sunglasses. A QR code is labeled "SCAN HERE!". The calendar features several circular event callouts: "JUNE 5-JUNE 8 VBS: HERO HOTLINE" with a "SUPER HERO" comic book icon; "JUNE 21 STEM DAY WEDNESDAY 5-6"; "JUNE 25 ACOLYTE PARTY GADROCK 12-2" with a "GADROCK" logo; "JULY 12 SUPER WATER WEDNESDAY 5-6"; "JULY 26 GIFT TO GADSDEN"; and "AUGUST 2 MEGA NERF WAR 5-6". The bottom right corner has a white dotted pattern.

July Mission Focus

It's **Christmas in July** and the GFUMC Mission Team is busy preparing shoeboxes and stockings! Visit the Christmas in July Mission Center in the Chestnut Foyer. Pick up a stocking to fill for a boy or girl—suggested items are on a list and ready for you! Stockings will be distributed locally for children in need at Christmastime. We are also filling shoeboxes for the Mountain Lakes District Shoebox Ministry that will help make Christmas bright for a child in another country! Monetary donations are being accepted to help purchase items and pay for postage for the Shoebox Ministry!

—Thank you, Missions Team



**GFUMC
MISSIONS
CHRISTMAS
IN JULY**

Beginning July 1, Stockings will be available to fill for the Salvation Army for Christmas.



Clothes Closet Donations of Socks and Underwear

Thank you for filling the **RED BUCKETS** with your donations of new socks and underwear for men, women, and children during the month of June!

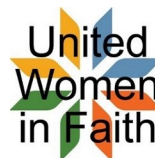
—Thank you for remembering your Clothes Closet.

United Women in Faith

UWF will be hosting the reception for Pastor Sherri on Sunday, July 16. Please bring 2 dozen cookies or brownies, or nuts & snack mix or small bottled waters to the church office by Friday, July 14 or on Sunday morning, July 16. Contact Joan Bigelow for more information on how you can help.

Don't forget the next "Summer Supper" is July 20 at 5:30 pm at Red Lobster.

—Barbara Bennett, President



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

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Open to Public

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

July open dates are

7/5 and 7/19

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street Gadsden

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

Clients Served

June 2023

Ladle of Love 475

Clothes Closet 258

Thanks to our volunteers!

Phone: 256-543-8200

Email: fumc@fumcgadsden.org

#gfumcreconnect2023



**Register Now! Some classes
have limited seating!**

Gift to Gadsden

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden
Members Sharing Their Gifts & Talents
Free Workshops & Introductory Classes

July 24—July 27, 2023

First Session: 6:15—7:30 PM

*Acrylic Painting MTWTH
Casual Cooking MTWTH
Crafts with Katharine MTWTH
Flower Arranging MTWTH
*Fly Fishing MTWTH
Redesigning Jewelry MTWTH
*Calligraphy MT
iPhone Basics MT
Mindfulness Meditation MT
Investment & Finance MT
Olive Oil Benefits 101 2 Nights-Select M or T
Southern Herbal Remedies M
*Yoga for Beginners M
Health Insurance- Supplemental Policies WTH
Wills, Power of Attorney's & Medical Directive WTH

Sharon Dasinger
Harriet Murray
Katharine Barnes
June Styles & Benny Campbell
George Fant
Benny McNair
Robin Wilson
Bob Blount
Karen Owen
Jay Hedgspeth
Jeff J, Tena King & Leslie Johnson
Darryl Patton
Jane Patton
Jackie Brechin
Davis Varner

Fellowship Time: 7:30—7:45 PM

Second Session: 7:45—9:00 PM

Cooking with Kids Age 10 and Over MTWTH
Drama MTWTH
Urban Container Gardening (Vegetables & Herbs) MTWTH
**Jewelry Making MTWTH (Prayer Beads)

Carmen McKiven
Molly Page
Eric Wright
Linda Cleveland

Both Sessions: 6:15—9:00 PM

**Beginning Mahjong MTWTH
Cake Decorating MT
*Crochet for Beginners MT
*Knitting for Beginners WTH
Beginning Pickleball, 2 Nights-Select MT or WTH

Joan Bigelow
Michelle Cothran
Angela Whorton
Angela Whorton
Jana & Mac Downs

Limited Classes—Pre-Registration Required

Register @ 543-8200 or online @ <http://www.fumcgadsden.org/gift2gadsden2023>

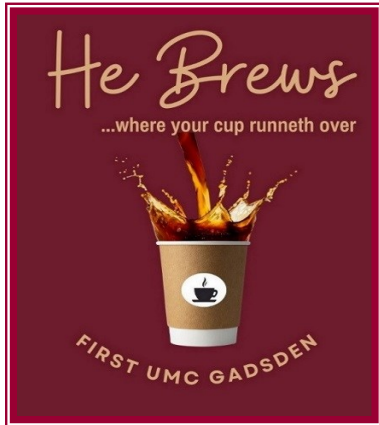
Nursery Provided by request with pre-registration only

***Supplies-you furnish supplies**

**** Supplies provided for a fee**



**115 South 5th Street
Gadsden, AL 35901
256-543-8200
www.fumcgadsden.org/gifttogadsden**



Inviting Ministries

Please join us for HeBrews Coffee Café
between the Sunday morning worship services,
from 10 am to 11 am.
We can't wait to see you there!!!

Stay Connected This Summer!

Worship Services are Livestreamed on Sunday mornings on the church website, facebook, & YouTube and are available on demand on the church website & Church app.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook.



Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org

Update Your Contact Information

Please help us update the membership records in the church office with your current mailing address, phone number, email address and birthdays for all family members.

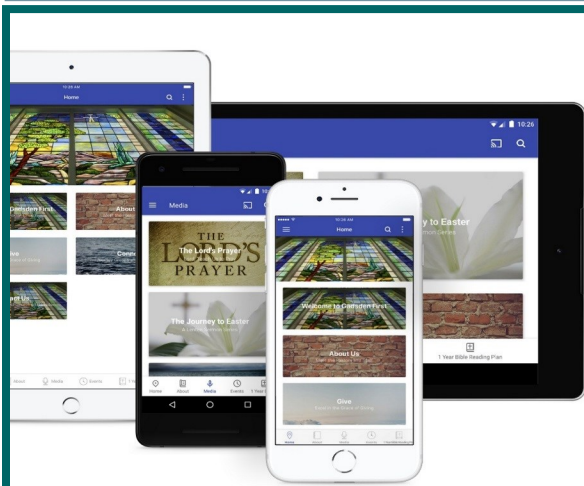
Updates may be sent to susan@fumcgadsden.org or call Susan in the church office @ 256-543-8200.

Important Deadlines

Information for the weekly announcement sheet is due each Wednesday by noon.

Events for the church calendar are needed one month prior to the event.

All Meetings, Events and Activities must be scheduled in advance with the church secretary, Susan Swann by email or phone, susan@fumcgadsden.org or 256.543.8200. This will allow us to serve you better! We will reserve a specific room(s) for you, ensure that the air conditioning is on, and that there is access to the building.



First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

Available in App Stores



Did you know....

That you can reduce your taxes by making a gift from your IRA to your church? An IRA rollover is a simple and easy way for you to use your IRA to help Gadsden First United Methodist Church fulfill its mission.

DOES AN IRA ROLLOVER MAKES SENSE THIS YEAR

If you are like many donors with the new tax law, you could be paying higher taxes this year. By transferring some of your IRA required distribution to the church, you can lower your taxable income and capital gains taxes this year. Check with your advisor to see how an IRA rollover gift could impact your taxes while helping the ministries and missions of the church.

Recently congress authorized IRA Rollover. This means that if you are 70 1/2 or older you can make a charitable gift of up to \$100,000 from your IRA. Your gift will qualify for your required minimum distribution and you will not have to pay federal income tax on the amount given from your IRA to qualify.

HOW TO MAKE AN IRA ROLLOVER GIFT TO GFUMC

To make an IRA rollover gift simply contact your custodian and request that an amount be transferred to GFUMC. Your gift could be \$1000, 10,000, 50,000 or any amount up to \$100,000.

Contact Sheila Witherspoon, Financial Secretary to learn more about how you can redirect unneeded IRA income to the church, help further our ministries and mission and enjoy valuable tax savings this year.



Secure Online Giving

Strength for Today
Bright Hope for Tomorrow

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

Generosity: Ways to Give
In-person, at the offering time during worship.
www.fumcgadsden.org/give
Text to Give: 256-344-8464
Mail your tithe or gift: 115 S. 5th Street ,
Gadsden, AL 35901



Download our
Church App
FUMC-Gadsden
On the App Store or
Google Play

Calendar for July 16-July 22, 2023

July 16 Sunday

9:00 am Celebration Service, Sanctuary
 10:00 am Reception for Rev. Sherri Reynolds
 10:00 am Sunday School; HeBrews Coffee
 11:00 am Traditions Service, Sanctuary

July 17 Monday

9:00 am-10:00 am Exercise Group, Gym
 5:00 pm-6:00 pm Trustees Meeting, Parlor

July 18 Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Summer Session
 9:00 am-11:00 am Clothes Closet workday
 5:00 pm-6:00 pm Yoga, Gym
 5:00 pm-6:00 pm Finance Meeting, Parlor
 6:00 pm Board of Stewards, Gathering Room

July 19 Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Summer Session
 9:00 am-11:00 am Clothes Closet open
 No choir Practice

July 20 Thursday

9:00 am-10:00 am Exercise Group, Gym
 5:30 pm Thursday worship
 5:30 pm UWF Summer Supper, Red Lobster

July 21 Friday

11:00 am-12:00 pm Ladle of Love



*Please join us for a Welcome Reception honoring
 Rev. Sherri Reynolds and her family
 Sunday, July 16, 10 am, in the Chestnut Street Foyer*



Save the Dates

July 17 Trustees Meeting 5 pm
July 18 Finance 5 pm, Board of Stewards 6 pm
July 24-27 Gift to Gadsden, 6 to 9 pm
July 30 Children's Min Meet & Greet w/ Pastor Sherri
August 16 Ice Cream Social, 6 pm

Honorariums & Memorials

Sara Rabun Johnson Scholarship Memorial

Fund:

In memory of Caroline Gregory by the ELC Faculty and Board.

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Asher Mae Collins Ken Davis Dawn Rains
 Heather Lincoln (Phillip & Leslie Johnson's daughter)
 Family of Jeanette Elliot Yount (Wendy Phelp's mother)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Rodney Thompson Bibb Holland
 Chris Gunnells (Gail McNair's nephew)
 John Jones (Dotty Rogers' Son)

The rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of



Mary Michael Spruiell

Born: July 7, 2023

Parents: Robby & Caroline

Cousins: Madeline, Lucy & John Langston

Ann Caroline, Thomas & George Shadix

Given by the Children's Ministry and the ELC

Birthdays

July 16 Monica Gilmer
July 17 Adria Connell, Kelly Muratta,
 Ryan Jackson, Broasha Williams
July 19 Judy Dawson, Shane Robinson
July 20 Tim Freeman, Clair Harrison,
 Parker Casey
July 21 Whit Torbert, George Cox,
 Alexandria Cox, Ava Brooke Malone
July 22 Kathy Torbert

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

Week of July 9, 2023

In Person Total *178 Worship Total 439
 Online 261 Thursday Worship *7
 Traditions Service *106/129
 Celebration Service *65/132
 Adult Sunday School *37/1 UWF 0
 Bible Study Groups *4 Misc. *0
 Children *20 Youth *0 Nursery *2
 Total Small Groups *67 *In Person

General Offering Budget \$12,777.00
 General Offering Received \$10,443.65
 YTD General Offering Budget \$357,756.00
 YTD General Offering Rec'd \$333,704.00



*We would like to welcome
 all visitors. Please fill out
 the Pew Pad or a Connect
 Card when you are visiting
 so we can let you know
 how glad we are
 that you came.*