



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

Sermon Notes: June 11 & June 14, 2026

Abraham is called to leave his homeland and settle in a new place far from family. He is to take his wife and leave his heritage and all that he knows to travel to an unknown land. If Abraham faithfully follows, God will bless him and he will become a great nation. The blessings will not only be upon him but will extend to others. All the families of the earth will be blessed, because of Abraham. (Genesis 12:1-3)

All of us in some way experience God’s goodness. Whether that be simple things or big things (such as our lives), we have reasons to give thanks. God not only enriches our lives, but I believe that God invites us to “pass it on.” Like Abraham, we are blessed to be a blessing. This practice giving thanks and find a way to keep it going. Use your time, skills, talents, resources, words, service, and other blessings to share with others. You may find that like Abraham; you can use your blessings to love your neighbor.

See you at FUMCG!

Rev. Sherri

Table of Contents:

- Page 1- Sermon Notes; Tech Schedule; Acolytes
- Page 2– Adult Small Groups, Bible Studies & Sunday School Classes
- Page 3- ELC News; Student Ministries; Youth Calendar of Activities; Children’s Ministry Summer Calendar; VBS Workdays
- Page 4– GFUMC Missions News; SHP Bed Build; Clothes Closet; Ladle of Love; United Women in Faith
- Page 5– **GFUMC’s Community Bed Build for SHP**
- Page 6– **Hardin Hope Sunday, June 14**
- Page 7– **Block Party, June 24**; HeBrews; Pickleball; Usher/Greeters
- Page 8– **Gift to Gadsden 2026**
- Page 9-- Alleluia Offering 2026; Generosity 2026; Ways to Give; Online Giving
- Page 10– Calendar; 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**

ACOLYTES

June 14: Luke Barnes, Brooks Bone, & Claire Bone
 June 21: Clementine & Rhett Hilburn

Tech Team Schedule

June 14
Celebration: Rob Reynolds, Carmen McKiven
Traditions: Davis Varner, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman
 June 21
Celebration: Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman
Traditions: Mark Condra, Sheila Freeman



Summer Devotional Suggestions

“You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart.” – Jeremiah 29:13

As our regular Wednesday morning Bible Study and Wednesday Night Small Groups take a break for the summer months, we encourage you to continue nurturing your walk with the Lord in simple, meaningful ways. Whether you are at home or traveling, these ideas are meant to help you stay connected to God at your own pace.

1. Spend Time in Scripture

Choose a simple focus for the summer, such as the Psalms or the parables of Jesus. Read a short passage each day or week, asking: What does this teach me about God? How can I respond?

2. Take Your Devotional Time Outdoors

Use the beauty of summer as a reminder of God’s presence. Sit on a porch, walk in a park, or pause during your day to reflect on His creation and give thanks.

3. Keep It Simple and Consistent

Set aside a few quiet moments each day or a longer time once or twice a week. Even a brief time in prayer and Scripture can be deeply meaningful.

4. Pray with Intention

Use this season to focus on prayer. Pray for your family, your church, and specific needs in our community. Consider keeping a short list to guide your prayers.

5. Practice Gratitude

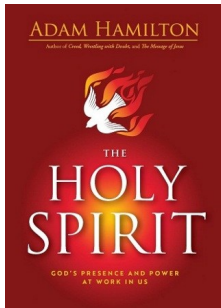
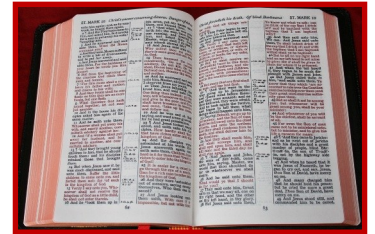
Each day, take a moment to thank God for specific blessings. Writing them down in a journal can help you see His faithfulness over time.

Wednesday morning Bible study and Wonderful Wednesday Small Groups resume in August.

Odyssey – New Sunday School Class Forming

June & July • Sundays at 10:00 a.m. • Room 202 (Adult Library)

While our regular class takes a two-month summer break, Odyssey will meet for approximately eight Sundays during June and July. Together, we’ll read and discuss the New Testament **“Red Letter”** passages—the words of Jesus—tangents and observations welcome, and so are you! —Cenda, Barbara, & Glenda



Pathfinders/Seekers 10 am, Room 208

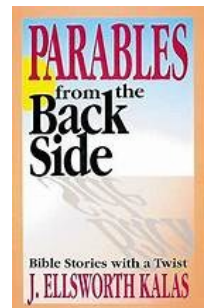
The Holy Spirit-God’s Presence and Power at Work in Us by Adam Hamilton

Explore what Scripture teaches about God’s Spirit—from the Hebrew Bible through Jesus’ promises in the Gospels, the powerful Pentecost experience in Acts, and the rich teachings found in the New Testament letters. This accessible study helps believers understand and experience the Holy Spirit’s presence and power in their daily walk with Christ.

Living Water 10 am, Room 116 Rev. Ken Casey

Parables from the Backside by J. Ellsworth Kalas

This insightful study explores Jesus’ parables from fresh and unexpected perspectives, helping us discover new meaning and deeper spiritual truths in familiar stories. Whether you are a longtime member or looking for a class to visit, you are warmly invited to join us for engaging discussion, fellowship, and spiritual growth.



Transitions 10 am, Room 209

This class will not meet during the summer! Look for more information in August.

“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

We are back...sort of. We had a great first two days of our summer 2026 session. Next week we will break for VBS, but will hit the ground running June 16th and be open every Tuesday and Wednesday through July 22.

—Helene Haller

LIFT YOUTH MINISTRY SUMMER CALENDAR 2026

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17 - 6:00PM
MOVIE NIGHT & ICE CREAM BAR AT THE CHURCH

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24 - 6:00PM
BLOCK PARTY

THURSDAY, JULY 9 - 6:00PM
BOWLING AT THE ALLEY

Wednesday Night Activities will resume in August

Children's Ministry

GFUMC Children's Summer Calendar

May	June	July	August
6-Church Picnic	8-11: VBS	8-popcorn&pajamas Movie Night	5-River Day at Ms. Ola's!
13-Game Night!	12-Pool party at the Isbell's!	22-Wheelie FUN Night!	12-Ice Cream Social
	24-Block Party with Cornerstone	27-30: Gift to Gadsden	

Ssssuper Summer Sundays!

- 6/14-Silly Sock Sunday
- 6/21-Cereal Sunday
- 6/28-Superhero
- 7/5-Silly String Sunday
- 7/12-Stuffie Sunday
- 7/19- Silly Hat Sunday
- 7/26-Sundae Sunday

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

This Summer, check out **FIVE** books from the children's library and get a summer prize!

Johnson Family Library Room 104

Find Us Online...

www.fumcgadsden.org/children

Gadsden First United Methodist Children's Ministry

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY!

help in the Soup Kitchen every Friday June & July 10:30-12:00

Sunday Mornings

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

Sunday school @ 10 am

Need more info?
katharine@fumcgadsden.org

CORNERSTONE CHURCH • FIRST UNITED METHODIST PRESENTS

BLOCK PARTY

**INFLATABLES
 FOOD TRUCKS
 FACE PAINTING**
 AND FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

FREE ADMISSION 6PM - 8PM
 530 CHESTNUT ST. GADSDEN, AL

JUNE 24th

June Mission Focus

Donate NEW Socks and Underwear for the FUMCG



The Red Buckets are back out and ready to receive your donations for the First UMC Gadsden Clothes Closet! And this month, they have a very specific (and very important) request: **NEW socks and underwear for ALL ages and ALL genders**

Yes—something as simple as brand-new socks and underwear can make a powerful difference. These everyday essentials are often the most urgently needed items for individuals and families working hard to rebuild stability in their lives.

The Clothes Closet continues to serve as a hands-on ministry of compassion, dignity, and hope. Every item placed in the Red Buckets goes directly toward meeting real needs in our community.

Small Items. Big Impact. It might not seem like much—but think about it:

- A child going to school with confidence
- A job seeker prepared for an interview
- A family stretching every dollar a little further

These are the kinds of life moments your donation supports. Something as simple as a pack of socks can become a step toward renewed dignity and encouragement.

Be Part of the Story

The First UMC Gadsden Clothes Closet is more than a collection of clothing—it's a living ministry of care, compassion, and hope in action. And you are a vital part of it.



First UMC Gadsden is sponsoring
a Community Build for
"Sleep in Heavenly Peace" October 17, 2026
See Page 5 for more details!

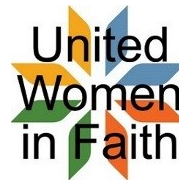
United Women in Faith

Summer Suppers: July 7, Nola's Clover

Watch for more dates and time and location for a monthly get together for fellowship in July, and August. All women in the church are welcome at Summer Suppers

Olivia Kendrick, President

Susan Copeland, Vice-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.

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

May open dates are

5/6 and 5/20

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

Ladle of Love Clothes Closet

March 2026

LOL 408

Clothes Closet 359

April 2026

LOL 400

Clothes Closet 225

Thanks to our
Volunteers!



Announcing First UMC Gadsden's Community Bed Build for "Sleep in Heavenly Peace"

October 17, 2026

Church family, we have an exciting opportunity to serve our community! First UMC Gadsden is hosting a Community Bed Build in partnership with Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

Our goal is to build 100 beds and raise \$25,000 so that no child in our town sleeps on the floor. You can help by sponsoring a bed (\$250), making a donation of any amount, volunteering on Build

Day, or praying for the families we serve. There are tasks for all ages to participate in the Bed Build!

Build Day is Saturday, October 17, right here at our church. Let's come together and make a difference — one bed at a time!

Community Bed Build: October 17, 2026

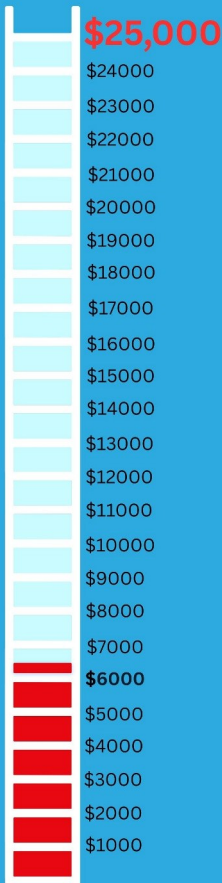


Climbing
Toward
Sweet
Dreams

Find Out
More



Goal: \$25,000
to Build 100 BEDS!



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Community Bed Build

9 am
October 17, 2026
@ FUMC Gadsden

Partner Churches

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

Cornerstone

Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter

First UMC Attalla

Here's how you can be a part of this community mission!

- Sponsor a bed — \$250 provides a child with a bed
- Make a donation of any amount
- Volunteer on Build Day—Participate in hands-on building projects
- Help with setup, registration, hospitality, or cleanup
- Provide Snacks and refreshments for the Bed Build
- Donate a NEW ***Twin-Size Bed-in-a-Bag.
- Serve alongside your church family and community
- Pray for the children and families receiving beds
- Invite friends, neighbors, and small groups to join
- Opportunities available for all ages to participate

First United Methodist Church Gadsden

Please join us on

*Hardin Hope
Sunday*

honoring

Elisabeth Hardin
in both worship services



Sunday, June 14

Reception 10 am

Worship at 9 & 11 am

First United Methodist Church

115 S. 5th St

Gadsden, AL 35901

A Community Block Party

First United Methodist Church Gadsden & Cornerstone will take over the block downtown!

This event is completely FREE.

Wednesday, June 24th

6-8 PM

On Chestnut St, between 5th & 6th St.

Get ready for:

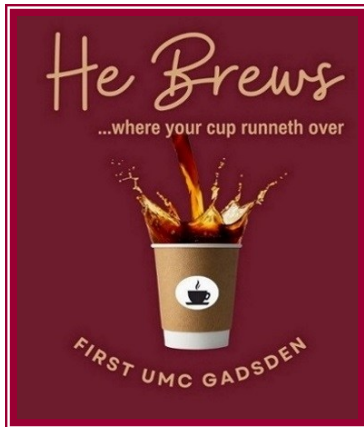
HUGE inflatables + a special toddler area

Fresh popcorn popped on-site

Fun for the whole family

Food trucks will also be on-site selling all their best stuff!

Grab your friends, bring the family, and come hang out



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

Follow us on
Facebook and Instagram.



Greeters & Ushers for Worship

Sunday, June 14

Celebration: Vickie Handy; Nancy McCorkle

Traditions: Mandell & Judy Tillman; John & Margie Freeman

Sunday, June 21

Celebration: Butch Herb; Helene Haller

Traditions: Phillip & Leslie 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.



Get ready for another exciting week of learning, creativity, fellowship, and fun!

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden is delighted to present the annual **Gift to Gadsden** community event, coming **July 27–30, 2026**. Created as a gift to our community, this beloved event brings people together through a wide variety of mostly free workshops and classes led by talented members of our church family.

From cooking, crafts, and home improvement to wellness, technology, history, music, hobbies, devotional studies, and more, there is truly something for everyone to enjoy, explore, and learn!

Class Schedule (New for 2026)

- **Session 1:** 6:00–7:00 PM
- **Cookie Break:** 7:00–7:15 PM
- **Session 2:** 7:15–8:15 PM

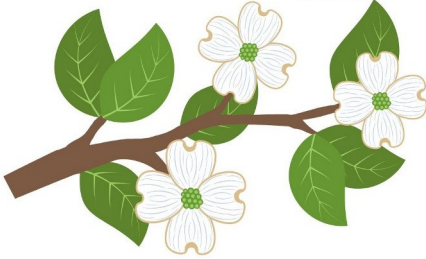
One of the highlights of Gift to Gadsden is the opportunity for members of our congregation to share their passions, talents, and experiences with others. Members of the FUMCG Mission Team are currently working to schedule instructors and classes for this year’s event. Mission Team members include Ginger Ross, Lynne Frederick, Charlotte Rutland, Delores Abney, Eileen Graham, Jeanne Mabeus, Paula Wilson, Ray Macon, and Sheila Freeman.

As always, we warmly invite members of our church family to consider teaching a class or workshop. You do not have to be a professional teacher to make a difference! If you love baking, gardening, painting, photography, quilting, woodworking, organizing, budgeting, fitness, music, history, technology, or another special interest, chances are someone in our community would love to learn from you.

We are especially excited to welcome fresh ideas and new class topics this year. If you have ever thought, *“I could teach that!”* — this is your opportunity to share your gifts in a meaningful and joyful way.

Gift to Gadsden is more than a series of classes — it is a celebration of community, connection, hospitality, faith, and the joy of learning together. We look forward to another wonderful year!

Alleluia Offering 2026



*"...The old has gone,
the new has come!"*
2 Corinthians 5:17b

Alleluia Offering 2026

With deep gratitude, we announce that the 2026 Alleluia Offering is \$42,790. That is a record-breaking amount for First United Methodist Church. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support. Your gifts fully funded all the designated areas for Alleluia 2026 and will allow the support of vital ministries to be expanded.

This year's Alleluia Offering will fund needed lighting upgrades for the sanctuary, including steeple, and lamp post lights; invest in Children and Youth Ministry Spaces; and support technology (computer) upgrades for the church staff.

In Christ,
Rev. Sherri Reynolds, Senior Pastor
Bob Blount, Generosity Chairman



"Building A Solid Foundation" 2026 Generosity Emphasis

Information and Estimate of Giving Cards are available in the Chestnut Foyer or Online. Thank you for your Generosity.

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](https://venmo.com/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 is a registered charity and can receive donations through Venmo:

[@FirstUMCGadsden](https://venmo.com/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.



First UMC Gadsden June 14-June 20, 2026

June 14, Sunday

9:00 am-Celebration Worship
10:00 am-Reception Celebrating Hardin Hope Day;
 HeBrews Coffee; Sunday School
11:00 am-Traditions Worship

June 15, Monday

9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym
 2:00 pm-4:00 pm-Pickleball, Gym

June 16, Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Summer Schedule
 9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet workday
 5:00 pm-Yoga, Gym

June 17, Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Summer Schedule
 9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet open
 6:00 pm-Choir Practice

June 18, Thursday

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

5:30 pm-Thursday Worship, Sanctuary

June 19, Friday

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

*The flowers on the altar are in honor of
 Vera Rae Collier on her Baptism, June 24, 2026,
 Given by her parents, Elizabeth and Jesse Collier*

Please join us this Sunday, June 14, for
 a reception at 10 am in the Chestnut
 Foyer, in memory of Elisabeth Hardin
 and her generous gift to our church.



*The rose on the altar is placed
 in honor of the birth of
 Samford James Rhodes
 Born: June 4, 2026
 Parents: Wesley & Leah Rhodes
 Grandparents: Robin Wilson
 Rex Wilson*

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Collins Tackaberry Lynn Page

Continued Prayer Concerns

Jackie Herlong Ronald Crowe
 Amy Epperson (daughter of Gene & Danna Dean)
 James Dial (infant son of Jay & Taylor)



Honorariums & Memorials

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed

A bed was given in honor of Rachel Reynolds,
 by her parents

A bed was given in honor of Libby Reynolds,
 by her parents.

Birthdays

June 14 Kelly Page,
 Jackson Page, Jonas Walker
June 15 Janice Dreyer
June 16 Beth Dial
June 17 Tammy Grizzell
June 18 Carter Murray,
 Cole Murray
June 20 Brenda Copeland,
 Sarah Edmondson,
 Miles William Waid



Attendance Week of June 7, 2026

In Person Total *172 On Line Total 310
 Thursday *10 Celebration *66/124
 Traditions *96/186 Worship Total 482
 Adult SS*39 Children's SS *7 Youth SS*0
 Bible Study *6 UWF *25 Children Sun *19
 Nursery Sun *4

**Subscribe to the weekly
 newsletter by submitting your
 email address to the church
 secretary, Susan Swann:
susan@fumcgadsden.org
 You will receive the weekly
 newsletter by email on Friday.**

Year 2026 Week of June 7, 2026

General Offering Budget	\$ 13,040.00
General Offering Received	\$ 13,398.44
YTD Gen. Offering Budget	\$299,920.00
YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd	\$340,329.73

**Read the Weekly Newsletter
 on the GFUMC Church App
 and on the Church Website:
www.fumcgadsden.org**