

How Is It?

PASTOR SAM HAYES

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

Sermon Notes: 3.12.23 “How Is It?”

One evening a husband was helping his wife in the kitchen (no, this is not a joke), and as they were getting ready to put the pot roast in the pan, his wife took a big knife and cut the end of the roast off and put it in a smaller pan. Her husband asked her why she did that, and she said, “That’s the way my mom always did it.” The more he got to thinking about it, the more he wondered - so he called his mother-in-law. “Why do you cut the end off of your pot roast and put it in a separate pan?” She answered, “Well, that’s the way my mom always did it.”

The man was not satisfied with that answer, being curious by nature. After a fitful night’s sleep, he got up the next morning and went to see his wife’s grandma in the nursing home. “Grandma,” he said, “I’ve just got to know. Why did you always cut the end off your pot roast and put it in a separate pan? Did it make the roast more tender and juicier? Is it an old family secret that you brought over from Ireland?” Grandma just smiled and shook her head. “Heavens no, child. The reason I cut the end off my pot roast was because my pan was too small.”

I wonder if we ever stop and ask why things are done the way they are. The question that sticks out to me in our gospel passage for this Sunday (John 4: 5-42) hits at the heart of this. Three little words... “How is it?” How is it: that Jesus leaves Judea and starts back to Galilee?... that he goes through Samaria to get there?...that he stops at Jacob’s well?...that a Samaritan woman shows up at noon to draw water?...that he asks this woman for a drink of water?

If we can keep asking questions, we will have a better chance of learning all that God wants us to learn from Scripture.

So - stay curious, my friends!

See you Sunday, Pastor Sam



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Worship Opportunities

Thursday Worship: 5:30 pm, Sanctuary

Sunday Mornings:

Celebration 9 am* Traditions 11 am*

*In Person (Sanctuary) and Online

www.fumcgadsden.org/media or
 on Facebook Live: @FUMCgadsden

ACOLYTES

March 12: Open

March 19 Brooks Bone & Clementine Hilburn

Tech Team Schedule

(Please arrive 45 minutes before the service.)

March 12

Celebration: Eric Wright, Brad Barnes, Sheila Freeman
Traditions: Mark Casey, Parker Casey, Sheila Freeman

March 19

Celebration: Will Brookshire, Carmen McKiven, Jacob McKiven.

Traditions: Mark Condra Sheila Freeman

An Invitation for All Women of the Church

We are thrilled to “welcome” Gail Hiatt, Lay Leader, Mountain Lakes District, for a luncheon and program on Monday, March 13th at 12:00, noon, in the Gathering Room. She is an exciting speaker bringing us a program on

“Moving Forward for the Methodist Women!”

12:00 PM, Monday, March 13th

In the Gathering Room

Please come join us for this Great Program!

To make a reservation for lunch (\$15) call
Delores Abney 256-458-0376 by noon on Friday, March 10.

Hoping to see you all there!

Sermons for Lent

Thurs. 2/23 & Sun. 2/26 “If You Fall Down”

Thurs. 3/2 & Sun. 3/5 “How Did They Know”

Thurs. 3/9 & Sun. 3/12 “How is It”

Thurs. 3/16 & Sun. 3/19 “The Real Blind Man” -

Thurs. 3/23 & Sun. 3/26 “The Resurrection and The Life”

Join us on Thursdays @ 5:30 pm or Sundays @ 9 am and 10:55 am.



Holy Week, 4/2-4/7, Noon Day Worship & Lunch

Monday– Tammy Jackson, Anniston First UMC

Tuesday– Ken Casey, First UMC Gadsden

Wednesday– Laura Satterfield, Mtn Lakes District Sec. & Ministry Candidate

Thursday– Belinda Rives, Discovery UMC

Friday– Davis Johnson, Southside UMC

Worship @ 12:05 pm, followed by lunch in the Gathering Room, \$5

**We Want to See You @
Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Meal**

March 15: Barbecue

**\$ 7 Per Person Ages 11 & Under \$3
Family Max \$20
Text Your Reservation: 256-490-5018**

**Out of Town on the
Weekend?**

**Come to Thursday Worship!
5:30 to 6:00 pm each week
In the Sanctuary**

Wednesday Mornings, 11 am

Bible Study with Pastor Sam

Room 208, In Person Bible Study, A Study of the Book of Romans
Facebook Live @ 6 pm or on demand-via the FUMC APP or website

Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesday, 6 pm

- ◆ A Study of the Book of Romans w/ Pastor Sam, Room 208
- ◆ Why Easter Matters w/Harriet Murray, Room 110

Men at the Well

Thursday Mornings

7:00 am

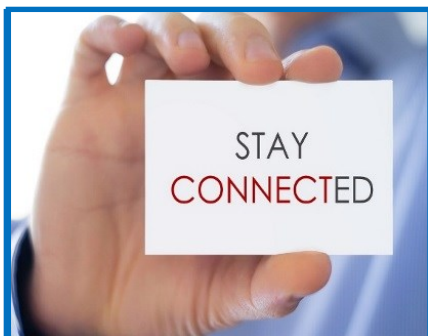
You are invited to join the weekly Bible study with the Men at the Well small group. They are currently meeting at the Choice Restaurant.

Something Happens Here by Stephen P. West will be the topic for Lent.

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, **Room 112**, In person and online. Contact a member of the class for the link to join online!
Luke-Jesus and The Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws by Adam Hamilton
- 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** He Chose the Nails by Max Lucado



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>
Need Help: Contact Sheila Freeman @ 256-490-5018

ELC News

We will continue the registration process for any open spots with open enrollment and pulling from our waitlists. Spring pictures were taken this week and we loved the new background. Spring Break is quickly approaching.

—Helene Haller



Youth Ministry News

Wonderful Wednesdays are back!

Dinner at 5:15, please make a reservation!

**Sunday School is back for Youth! Room 210
10 am on Sunday mornings.**

**Don't miss our Wednesday night series for Lent!
This week we will be going on a field trip to
Southside UMC! Make sure to arrive on time!**

Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Dinner— March 15

Menu: Barbecue Text Reservation to 256-490-5018

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

Children's Ministry

Children's Church, Sundays during Celebration and Traditions Worship

Wonderful Wednesday Children's Group, Every Wednesday at 6 pm

GFUMC KID'S PRESENTS **MARCH 22**
MARCH MADNESS! 6:00
KID'S WORSHIP ROOM

A graphic for "March Madness" featuring several yellow and red stars of various sizes on a black background.

GFUMC EASTER EGG HUNT 2023
SATURDAY, APRIL 8 11:00-12:00
GADSDEN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BOUNCY HOUSE!
LUNCH!
GAMES!
EGG HUNT!
PRIZES!

A graphic for an Easter egg hunt featuring two rabbits, one holding an egg, and a basket of eggs in a grassy field.

GFUMC Kids Spring Calendar

March Madness! **FUN!** March 22
Children sing for Palm Sunday **FAMILY!** April 2
Easter Egg Hunt **FELLOWSHIP!** April 8
Church Picnic **FAMILY!** May 10

GFUMC Vacation Bible School
Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God!
June 5-June 8

Wonderful Wednesdays Wednesday's @ 6:00
www.fumcgadsden.org/children

Children's Church Sunday's @ 9:00 and 11:00
Proverbs 22:6

Serve at Church!



**SPRING CLEANING
CHURCH
WORKDAYS**
**MARCH 24
12:30 PM**
&
**MARCH 25
9 AM**
**SIGN UP ON THE CHURCH
WEBSITE OR APP!
OR
JUST SHOW UP**
**(Even if you only have an
hour or so to serve!)**

Sign up @ <http://fumcgadsden.org/workday>

Clothes Closet News

We need clothes! It's time to clean out closets and bring your spring and summer clothes to the church. If you are unable to get



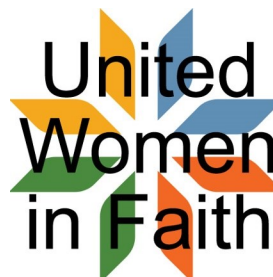
them to the church, call the church office and leave a message. The "Men at the Well" will set up a time to pick them up for you.

Thank you for remembering your Clothes Closet.

United Women in Faith

Luncheon Monday, March 13, 2023 at 12:00 pm.
The program will be "Moving Forward for the Methodist Women", Gail Hiatt, Lay Leader, Mountain Lakes District. Please invite a friend to come and join us. Reservations need to be made by noon on Friday, March 10. Call or text Delores Abney at 256.458.0376

—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.

There are five teams that serve at the Ladle of Love. Teams 1, 2, 3 & 4 serve one Friday per month, and team 5 serves on fifth Fridays. Subs are also needed to serve occasionally. If you are interested in finding our more or serving on a team contact the church office.

Clothes Closet

Workdays

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Open to Public

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

March dates are

3/1 and 3/15

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

Ladle of Love	Jan	Feb
	383	378
Clothes Closet		
	216	181

Phone: 256-543-8200

Email: fumc@fumcgadsden.org

#gfumcreconnect2023

ROBBIE'S OF FAYETTE TRUNK SHOW



Thursday, March 16th

10:00am-3:00pm

In the Gathering Room
@ FUMC Gadsden

*Come and shop with us!
And bring a friend!*

*A portion of every purchase benefits the
GFUMC Children's Ministry!*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GADSDEN

Generosity 2023

Strength for today, bright hope for tomorrow!

Your church needs more than just your financial giving in 2023...we need everyone to be “engaged” with church. We all promised to support our church with our PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE, and WITNESS. In other words, we all promised to be plugged into every part of the church and to do it faithfully.



Generosity 2023

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

As of 2.26.23
62 Estimate of Giving
Cards received for a
total of \$346,684.00.

There is a line in the hymn, *Great is Thy Faithfulness*, that is so appropriate for where we are right now: “Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow...” That is what our Faithful God provides to us. That’s what we want you to be a part of. Your giving of tithes, offerings, time, talents, and service will help strengthen FUMC Gadsden today, and will help ensure bright hope for tomorrow. Your church needs YOU at this critical time in its history!

Please pray about your contributions to your church for 2023, complete an Estimate of Giving Card for 2023, and return it to the church office as quickly as you can, so that our Finance Team can finish up the 2023 budget. It's not too late to complete your card. —The Generosity Team

Giving giving
powered by
NCS SERVICES

Generosity: Ways to Give

www.fumcgadsden.org/give

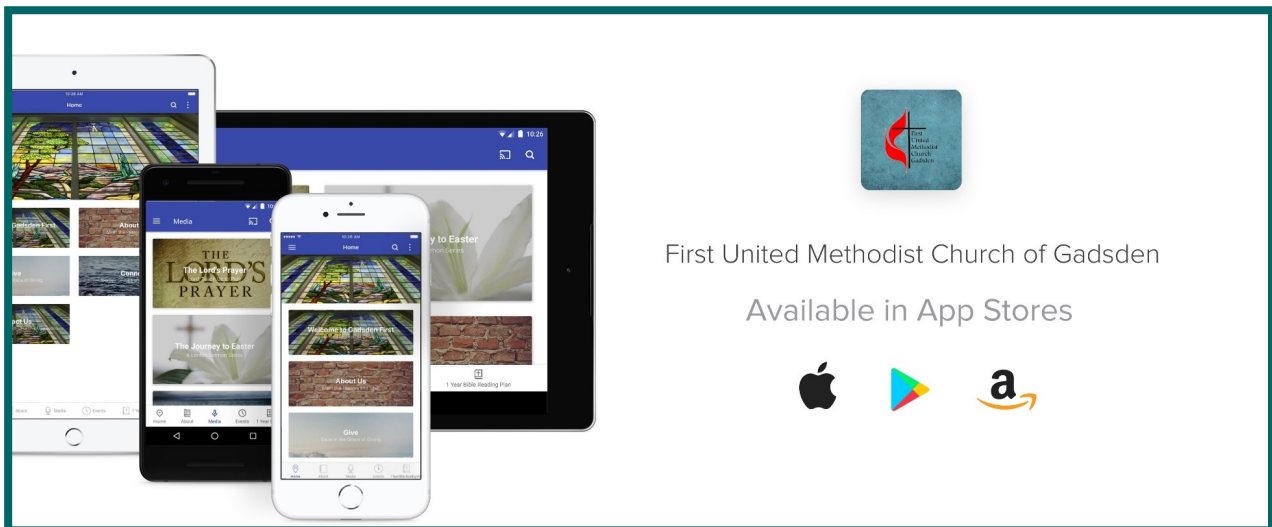
Text to Give: 256-344-8464

Mail your tithe or gift: 115 S. 5th Street ,Gadsden, AL 35901

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!!!**



Follow us on Instagram and Facebook.



Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org

Calendar for March 12-18, 2023

Mar 12 Sunday

9:00 am Celebration Service, Sanctuary
 10:00 am Sunday School, HeBrews Coffee Shop
 11:00 am Traditions Service, Sanctuary

Mar 13 Monday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Spring Semester
 9:00 am-10:00 am Exercise Group, Gym
 10:30 am, UMW Executive Board, Room 208
 12:00 pm, UMW Luncheon, Gathering Room

Mar 14 Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Spring Semester
 9:00 am-11:00 am Clothes Closet workday
 5:00-6:00 pm Yoga, Gym

Mar 15 Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Spring Semester
 9:00 am-11:00 am Clothes Closet open
 11:00 am Bible Study, Pastor Sam, Room 208
 5:15 pm Wednesday night meal, Gathering Room
 6:00 pm Small Groups, Rooms 110 & 208
 6:00 pm Children's Bible Group & activities, Room 108
 6:00 pm Youth Group, Gym & Room 211
 6:00 pm Choir Practice, Choir Room

March 16 Thursday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Spring Semester
 9:00 am-10:00 am Exercise Group, Gym
 10:00am-3:00pm Robbie's of Fayette
 5:30 pm Thursday Worship, Sanctuary

March 17 Friday

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

Save the Date: March 16, 2023

10 am to 3 pm, In the Gathering Room

Robbie's of Fayette

Come shop for spring clothes and support
 First UMC's Children's Ministry.

In Memory of His Life

Donald Lee Hiltz

March 6, 2023



Immediate Prayer Concerns

The Family of Don Hiltz Dawn Rains Jane Herb
 Heather Lincoln (Phillip & Leslie Johnson's daughter)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Rodney Thompson Mike McEwen
 June Longshore Martha Bullock Mary Tom Hale
 Chris Gunnells
 (Gail McNair's nephew)



Honorariums & Memorials

General Budget Fund

In memory of Tim Hudak, given by Sandra Hunter.

Birthdays

Mar 12 Megan Haller,
 Clementine Hilburn,
Mar 13 Blake Badgett, Claire Bone
Mar 14 Delilah Ogletree
Mar 15 Barbara Roberts,
 Parker Jarecki,
 Grady Washington Leach V
Mar 16 Hannah Torbert
Mar 17 Holly Whitt, Chuck Herb,
 Eli Hornik
Mar 18 Dr. Fred Feist, Adrian Leach,
 Mary Elizabeth Edmondson,
 Benjamin Cornett



Week of March 5, 2023

In Person Total *140 Online 354
 Worship Total 494 Thursday Worship *2
 Celebration *58/173 Traditions *80/181
 Adult Sunday School *37 Children *2
 Bible Study Groups *25/59
 Children *29 Youth *15 Nursery *4
 Total Small Groups *112
 *In Person

Proposed Offering Budget \$12,777.00
 General Offering Received \$19,697.00
 YTD General Offering Budget \$127,770.00
 YTD General Offering Rec'd \$115,145.00

Save the Date:

March 21 Board of Stewards
 6:00 pm
April 2 Palm Sunday
 Children Singing
April 3-7 Holy Week Noon
 Day Services, 12:05-12:30pm
 Lunch 12:35pm
April 6 Maundy Thursday
 Service, 6:00 pm
April 8 Easter Egg Hunt
 11:00 am
April 9 Easter Sunday