



WOVEN
Sermon Series

THE BODY OF CHRIST
BEEHIVE WITH BEES

1 Corinthians 12:4-27
Rev. Sherri Reynolds



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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, March 19 & Sunday, March 22, 2026

Across cultures and history, bees symbolize hard work. Have you even heard the expression as busy as a bee? They also have come to mean community and cooperation, as they come together to do the work of the hive. This is why bees are a wonderful symbol for how the church works together. Just as we all have differing roles and abilities in the church, so do bees in the hive. It takes all the bees to do what they do best for the hive to thrive, just as it takes all of us to come together for the church to thrive.

Paul wrote about how God’s people in the church work together (1 Corinthians 12:4-27), much like a body. Maybe we could also expand the imagery to how God’s people work together much like a beehive. The next time you gaze upon a bee, remember that we are equipped and empowered with gifts to serve in the church, with everyone doing his or her part for the church to come together like a hive. You are needed and valued in the church for First United Methodist of Gadsden to “bee” it’s best.

Journeying through Lent with you —Rev. Sherri

Table of Contents:

- Page 1- Sermon Notes; Tech Schedule; Acolytes; Holy Week Calendar
- Page 2– New Bible Studies & Small Groups; Adult Studies for Lent in Sunday School Classes
- Page 3- ELC News; Student Ministries; Youth Calendar of Activities; Children’s Ministry
- Page 4– “Woven Continued” Sermon Series; Holy Week Noon Day Worship Services, Mar 29-Apr 3.
- Page 5- GFUMC Missions News; Clothes Closet; Ladle of Love; United Women in Faith
- Page 6- HeBrews; Pickleball; Usher/Greeter Schedule
- Page 7– March Madness; Palm Sunday Donuts & Donkeys; Churchwide Easter Egg Hunt
- Page 8– Find a Cross; Lay Leadership Classes
- Page 9-- Top 10 Things to Do in the Church App; Generosity 2026; Ways to Give; Online Giving
- Page 10– Calendar; Prayer Concerns; Births; Deaths; Memorials; Birthdays; Weekly Reports, Easter Lily Order Form

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



Holy Week March 29 - April 5

- ◆ March 29, Palm Sunday Worship
9 am—Celebration & 11 am—Traditions
- ◆ March 30 – April 3, Mon. through Fri., 12:05 pm, Holy Week Worship, followed by lunch in the Gathering Room, \$5
- ◆ April 2, Maundy Thursday, 6 pm, Holy Communion
- ◆ April 5, Easter Sunday Worship
9 am—Celebration & 11 am—Traditions
Communion will be offered in the Chapel immediately following each worship service.

ACOLYTES

- March 22: Clementine & Rhett Hilburn
- March 29: Palm Sunday (Volunteer)

Tech Team Schedule

March 22

- Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Carmen McKiven
- Traditions: Davis Varner, Wayne Payton, Brad Barnes

March 29 Palm Sunday

- Celebration: Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman
- Traditions: Wayne Payton, Sheila Freeman, Rob Reynolds

Bible Studies & Small Groups for Adults



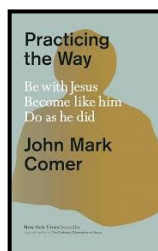
Join Rev. Sherri for a Bible Study based on *The Chosen (Season 3)* Each week will focus on a different episode with a Bible Study of the scripture behind the scenes and each week will stand alone, so you can plug in as your schedule permits. **Classes will be at 11 am and 6 pm in Room 208.** (Skipping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

Why Easter Matters by Andy Stanley, Wednesdays, 6 pm We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday nights—Harriet Murray

Wonderful Wednesday Dinner at 5:15 pm
March 25: Chick-fil-A
February 25, \$7 Per Person, \$3 age 11 & Under

Sunday School: New Adult Studies

Transitions 10 am, Room 209



The Adventure Continues! Room 209! You are Invited!

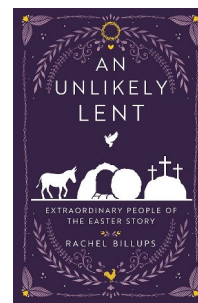
Practicing the Way by John Mark Comer—The disciples spent 3 years being apprentices to Jesus. They watched His every move and hung on every word. They were with Him 24/7. As a result, they, over time, became more and more like Him and began to do many of the things He did. With the Spirit's help, with 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

An Unlikely Lent *Extraordinary People of the Easter Story* by Rachel Billups

Notice the Unexpected in Easter. The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus are at the heart of the story of Easter. But the resurrection was not witnessed in isolation; it unfolded before a crowd. By seeing the Easter story through their eyes, we may discover that the resurrection is not just a past event, but an invitation into something new, unexpected, and unlikely. Walk through this season with eyes wide open, ready to see where God is moving, even in the margins. Since the cross is not the end of the story, embrace every unlikely moment along the way.



Living Waters 10 am, Room 116 Rev. Ken Casey

Why Did Jesus Have to Die? *The Meaning of the Crucifixion* by Adam Hamilton

Despite the crucifixion's central place in Christian faith, the New Testament offers few clear answers about how Jesus' death saves, or why, exactly, he had to die. The New Testament writers use a host of metaphors—ransom, sacrifice, reconciliation, victory—but never explain exactly how it works or why it had to happen this way. What if that's because we've been asking the wrong question? What if the cross isn't a transaction to be explained, but a living Word from God meant to transform who we are and how we live?

"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

This week we will celebrate Easter with our annual parties and egg hunts. Who knows—maybe the Easter Bunny will make an appearance. Open registration continues for the limited availability we have for the fall. All spots will be filled through the our waitlist process. Spring Break is March 30 through April 3rd. We hope all families have a fun and safe week. Thanks,
—Helene



Youth
Sunday School
10 am, Room 211

Wonderful Wednesday
Youth Group, 6:00 pm
Room 211 & Gym

"Let's Build a Solid Foundation!"
Matthew 7:24

Wonderful Wednesday Dinner March 25: Chick-Fil-A
\$7 per person \$3 Age 11 & Under
Please text 256.490.5018 to make or change a reservation.

Children's Ministry

Spring 2026

GFUMC CHILDREN'S CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 14 PARENT'S NIGHT OUT 6:00PM
- 18 Ash Wednesday

MARCH

- 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

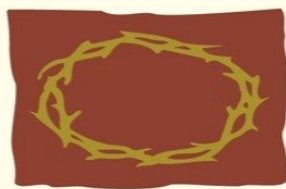
GFUMC CHILDREN'S MARCH UNIT

YOU'RE INVITED!

WEDNESDAY'S AT 6:00

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5
I'M INVITED TO BELIEVE IN JESUS.	I'M INVITED TO LOVE LIKE JESUS DOES.	I'M INVITED TO EXPERIENCE JESUS' MIRACLES.	I'M INVITED TO ASK JESUS FOR HELP.	I'M INVITED TO WORSHIP JESUS.

"YET TO ALL WHO DID RECEIVE HIM, TO THOSE WHO BELIEVED IN HIS NAME, HE GAVE THE RIGHT TO BECOME CHILDREN OF GOD."
JOHN 1:12 (NIV)



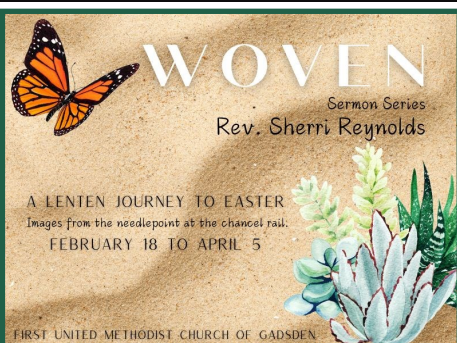
Holy Week March 29 - April 5

- Monday, Mar 30- Rev. Davis Johnson- Southside UMC in Southside John 12:1-11
- Tuesday, Mar 31- Rev. Steven Barber- Upper Sand Mountain Parrish co-director John 12:20-36
- Wednesday, Apr 1- Becky Walker- Certified Lay Speaker- First UMC Gadsden John 13:1-17
- Thursday, Apr 2- Rev. Roy Thomas- Davis Chapel/Mountain Springs UMCs in Cherokee County John 13:21-32
- Friday, Apr 3- Rev. Bo Aaron- Antioch-Goodsell UMC in Attalla John 19:17-42

Services are at 12:05 pm each day.

Lunch will follow the noonday worship services each day. Everyone is welcome. The cost is \$5 per person.

***Maundy Thursday, April 2, 6 pm— Rev. Sherri Reynolds,
Woven: Body and Blood—Wheat & Grapes
Luke 22:14-23***



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

- | | | |
|--------------------|--|--|
| February 18 | Sacrifice—The Ram | Leviticus 9:1-7. Joel 2:1-2,12-17 |
| February 22 | Cling to Christ—Ivy | Psalm 63 |
| March 1 | Holy Sprit—The Dove | Luke 3:21-22 |
| March 8 | Reward of the Faithful—The Crown and Cross | James 1:12 |
| March 15 | The Fruit of the Spirit—The Strawberry | Galatians 5:22-25 |
| March 22 | The Body of Christ—Beehive with Bees | 1 Corinthians 12:4-12 |
| March 29 | Palm Sunday, Christ the Victor—Lamb and the Cross | John 1:29, Matthew 21:1-11 |
| April 2 | Holy Thursday, Body and Blood—Wheat and Grapes | Luke 22:14-23 |
| April 5 | Easter Sunday*, The Herald—The Dogwood | Matthew 28:1-10 |

**Communion will be offered in the chapel following each service on Easter Sunday.*

February Mission Focus



GFUMC
Spring Cleaning
March 20

The mission team will be hosting a volunteer spring cleaning day to clean various areas of the church building including classrooms and bathrooms. There will be sign up sheets in the Chestnut Foyer to volunteer! Or sign up on the church app or website and you will be contacted by a member of the mission team.

(Even if you only have an hour or so to serve!)



United Women in Faith
Bake Sale for Missions
BETWEEN THE WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday, March 29

Calling all Bakers and Buyers!

for Missions

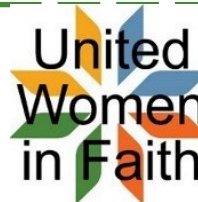
United Women in Faith

March 29, Palm Sunday-Bake Sale
Chestnut Street Lobby, between services

April 7, Monday at 6:00 pm:
LuVerna Waid Circle, Room 208

April 13, Monday at 12:00 noon:
UWF Luncheon, Gathering Room

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

March open dates are

3/4 and 3/18

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

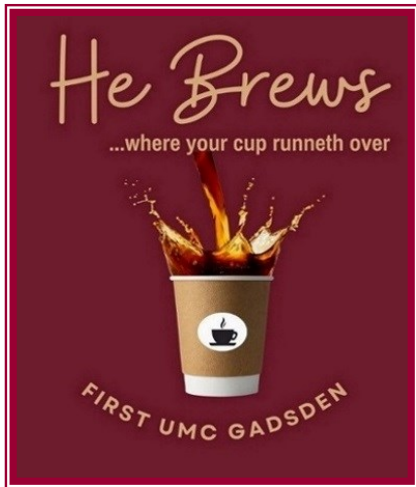
**Ladle of Love
Clothes Closet**

February 2026

LOL 301

Clothes Closet 397

**Thanks to our
Volunteers!**



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, March 22

Celebration: Nancy McCorkle; Michelle Morgan

Traditions: Delores & Charles Abney; Jennifer Jackson; Bobby Robinson

Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday

Celebration: Bob & Kathy Sisson

Traditions: Lee & Kathy & Charles Trotter; Paula Wilson; Eileen Graham

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.



Women of the Bible



MARCH MADNESS

March Madness 2026

Watch for ballots in the worship services on March 8, 15, 22, & 29

The results of March Madness will lead the summer sermon series, which will be a celebration of 70 years of women being ordained in the United Methodist Church.

Esther Ruth
Elisabeth Mary, mother of Jesus

Final Four

Palm Sunday, March 29

Donuts and Donkeys
In the GreenSpace
10:00 am to 10:45 am



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GADSDEN
invites you to our annual

EASTER EGG HUNT



SATURDAY
March 21st
10:00

Bring your BASKET and

JOIN US

for food, games, prizes, and

CANDY!

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden  115 S. 5th Street



Find a Cross

Crosses, once again, are appearing in our church during Lent. Their purpose is to remind us of the sacrifice Jesus made for us. Key chains for them are in a bowl in the table to the left as you leave the sanctuary to enter the Chestnut Foyer. Keep the cross, give it to a friend, or hide it somewhere else in the church (other than the children's area of the building).

Lay Leadership Classes

If you are interested in learning more about the UMC, growing in your church leadership, or being prepared to teach/preach; then the upcoming classes offered by the district might be just right for you. Lay leadership classes equip and empower laity in the United Methodist Church. Contact Rev. Sherri (sherri@fumcgadsden.org) for more information.

March 28, 2026
Basic Class: Jamie Dupress
Leading Worship: Trent Savage

Deadline to Register: March 21, 2026

April 25, 2026
Devotional Life in the Wesleyan tradition
Teacher: TBA
Deadline to register: April 18, 2026

Greetings to all who are interested. I am Barbara Russell chair person of the Mid-Central District of Lay Servant Ministries of the North Alabama Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Please register with me by phone 334-863-1142 or email me barbarussell57@gmail.com. I will be in contact with you within 24 hours. If you register for a class and cannot attend, please notify me as I plan the food by the number attending.

Cost is \$40.00 for the classes and each person is responsible for ordering their own book. You can order your book from the Upper Room 1-800-972-0433 or [Upper Room.org/store](http://UpperRoom.org/store).

The \$40.00 includes breakfast, lunch and a snack on Saturday. Registration begins at 7:30 am on Saturday morning. Class begins at 8:00 am with a break mid-morning and lunch at noon. The class will end at 2:00pm.

The classes will be held at Cullman First United Methodist Church. Address is [320 3rd St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055](http://3203rdStSE.com).

Everyone will receive a certificate for taking the class. If you have any questions, please contact me. I look forward to seeing you there.



Alleluia Offering 2026



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

Alleluia Offering 2026

We invite you to pray about how God is leading you and your family to participate in this special act of generosity. May your giving be a reflection of the new life Christ brings—just as the dogwood blossoms remind us each spring.

You may return your Alleluia Offering:

- During Easter worship (designate "Alleluia Offering")
- By mail
- Through secure e-giving or Venmo (Visit www.fumcgadsden.org for details)

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

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

(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 Mar 22-Mar 28, 2026

Mar 22, Sunday

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

Mar 23, Monday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Winter Schedule
 9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym
 2:00 pm-4:00 pm-Pickle Ball, Gym

5:00 pm-Trustees Meeting

Mar 24, Tuesday

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

5:00 pm-Finance Meeting; 6:00 pm-Board of Stewards

Mar 25, 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

Mar 26, Thursday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Winter Schedule
 9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym

5:30 pm—Thursday Worship

Mar 27, Friday

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

UWF Bake Sale is Coming! Palm Sunday, March 29

**Palm Sunday,
 March 29
 Donuts and
 Donkeys
 In the
 Green-Space
 10 to 10:45 am**

Attendance Week of Mar 15, 2026

In Person Total *179	On Line Total 362
Worship Total 541	Thursday Worship *8
Celebration *71/177	Traditions *100/185
Nursery Sun/Wed *6	Youth SS *4
Adult SS*46	Children's SS *5
Bible Study *29	Children Sun/Wed *33
Youth Sun/Wed *15	UWF *37

*The minister and congregation of First
 United Methodist Church of Gadsden
 extend Christian sympathy to
 Steven and Kelley Roach
 in the death of his mother,
Esther Adams Roach
 March 13, 2026*



Year 2026 Week of March 15, 2026

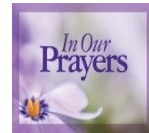
General Offering Budget	\$ 13,040.00
General Offering Received	\$ 11,941.00
YTD Gen. Offering Budget	\$143,440.00
YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd	\$188,811.00

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Family of Esther Roach Collins Tackaberry

Continued Prayer Concerns

Amy Epperson (daughter of Gene & Danna Dean)
 James Dial (infant son of Jay & Taylor-grandparents Gary & Beth Dial)



Barb Lee
 March 15, 2026



Order an Easter Lily by Monday, March 29.

(Lilies will be placed on the altar for
 worship in both services on Easter Sunday.)

Cost: \$25.00 ♦ In honor of ♦ in memory of

Name(s) _____

Given by _____

Birthdays

Mar 22 Mary Hager, James Waid,
 Harrison Jones, Brooks Bone
Mar 23 Paige Dawson
Mar 24 Jamie Payton,
 Lucy Durham, Wrenley Calcote,
 Grayson Phillips
Mar 26 James Kelley, Jay Dial
Mar 27 Dr. Caroline Calhoun,
 Beth Kelley, David Ross
Mar 28 Cathy Lowe