



# WOVEN

Sermon Series

## CHRIST THE VICTOR: LAMB AND CROSS

John 1:29, Matthew 21:1-11  
Rev. Sherri Reynolds



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

### Sermon Notes: Thursday, March 26 & Sunday, March 29, 2026

At the center of the needlepoint images on the kneelers, you will find the Lamb and the Cross or Christ the Victor. Part of this symbol even has a name Agnus Dei, which is the part of the symbol of the lamb with the banner that you notice in front of the cross. The Agnus Dei, or Lamb of God, symbolizes Jesus Christ and His sacrifice for humanity's sins. This imagery, rooted in John the Baptist's proclamation, "the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." has been a central motif in Christian art and theology, representing innocence, sacrifice, and victory over death. (John 1:29)

This Palm Sunday (Matthew 21:1-11), we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. He was the king and Messiah promised. The crowd honored this as they cried out, "Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." We also remember Jesus' sacrificial work on our behalf. May the image of the lamb keep us near the cross and be a guide to us this coming Holy Week.

Journeying through Lent with you,  
Sherri



## 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.*  
*\*Bring cut flowers to worship to place on the cross on Easter Sunday.*

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### 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](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media)

### ACOLYTES

March 29: Palm Sunday (Volunteer)

April 5: Anna Kate Casey, Sarah Echols, & Luke Barnes

### Tech Team Schedule

**March 29 Palm Sunday**

**Celebration:** Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman

**Traditions:** Mark Condra, Sheila Freeman, Rob Reynolds

**April 5 Easter Sunday**

**Celebration:** Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman, Brad Barnes

**Traditions:** Davis Varner, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman

## Bible Studies & Small Groups for Adults



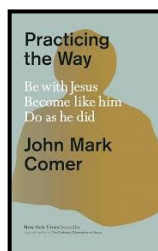
Join Rev. Sherri for a Bible Study based on *The Chosen (Season 3)* Each week will focus on a different episode with a Bible Study of the scripture behind the scenes and each week will stand alone, so you can plug in as your schedule permits. **Classes will be at 11 am and 6 pm in Room 208.** (Skipping 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

**April 1 No Wednesday Night Meal  
No Wednesday Night Activities**

**Join us at Donuts & Donkeys on the portico this Sunday!**  
**Adult Sunday classes will not meet on Palm Sunday.**

**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!***

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**Pathfinders/Seekers 10 am, Room 208**

**The Lord's Prayer *The Meaning & Power of the Prayer*** by Adam Hamilton

Most Christians know the Lord's Prayer by heart. We pray it often, at different times and in different settings. We remember it as the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. But do we really understand and appreciate the meaning and power of its words, what we ask of God each time we pray it? Starts Sunday, April

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**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?

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**“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

Easter parties were a blast. Thank you Jackson Page for being our Easter Bunny. The ELC will be closed for Spring Break March 30 through April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We hope all families have a fun and safe week. Our annual Mother's Day Roses sale begins Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds benefit the Sara Rabun Johnson Scholarship Fund.

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

**NO Wednesday Dinner April 1**  
\$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

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Sunday Mornings  
Children's Church during worship,  
9 am & 11 am  
Sunday school @ 10 am  
Need more info?  
[katharine@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:katharine@fumcgadsden.org)

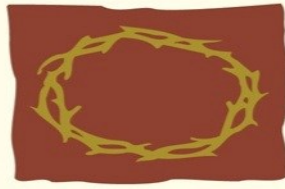
**GFUMC CHILDREN'S MARCH UNIT**

**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)



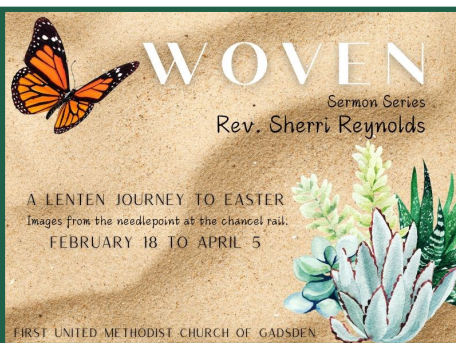
# Holy Week March 29 - April 5

- 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*

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

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

## February Mission Focus



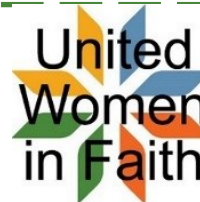
### United Women in Faith

March 29, Palm Sunday-Bake Sale  
Chestnut Street Foyer, 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!**

## Welcome Hannah McCormick, FUMCG Financial Secretary



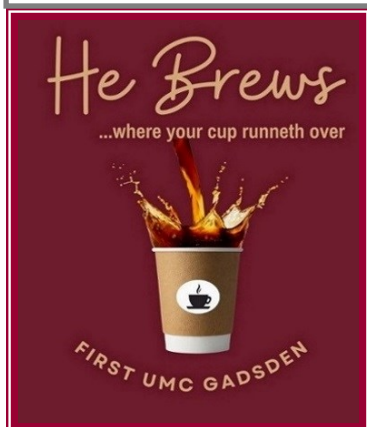
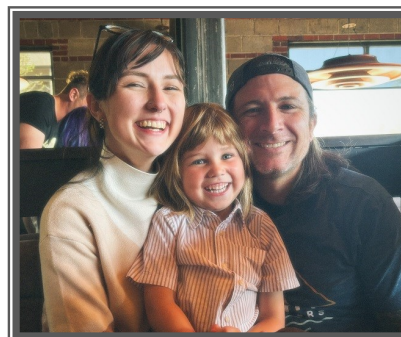
The SPRC is pleased to announce an addition to the FUMC staff. Hannah McCormick has been hired as a new financial secretary. She begins training this week. If you are in the church office, please take a moment and stop by to welcome her.

### A Word from Hannah....

*Hello, my name is Hannah McCormick; I am 27 years old and I have called Gadsden my home for nearly 20 years. I'm excited to step into the role of Financial Secretary at Gadsden First United Methodist Church. I share my life here in Gadsden with my husband, David, and my son, RJ. As a family, we love airplanes and airshows, live concerts, traveling, and exploring all things a little out of the ordinary. I'm also an active member of Mosaic Family Gadsden, which has been a meaningful part of my*

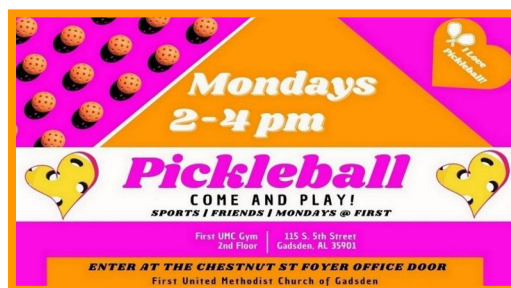
*journey. I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve and be part of this church community. I look forward to meeting you all! —Hannah*

**Sheila Witherspoon and Jamie Payton will be around as Hannah transitions into the job. They will be greatly missed. We give thanks for their commitment, diligence, and dedication as financial secretaries at FUMCG.**



**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, March 29 Palm Sunday

Celebration: Bob & Kathy Sisson

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

Sunday, April 5 Easter Sunday

Celebration: Kirk & Jeanne Mabeus

Traditions: Terry & Sheila Bishop; Bob & Becky Olman



*If you would like to serve as an Greeter/Usher, please contact Susan Swann in the church office, email: [susan@fumcgadsden.org](mailto: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  
Elisabeth

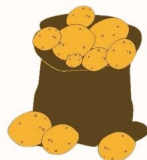
# Championship

Palm Sunday, March 29

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



# Family GAME Night



# POTATOES

and

# BINGO



**Family Dinner: Stuffed Potatoes**  
**Family Game: Bingo!**

Join us on  
**Wednesday,**  
**April 22**  
**dinner @5:15**  
**Bingo @6:00**



## 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).

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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

You may return your Alleluia Offering:

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

In Christ,  
Rev. Sherri Reynolds, Senior Pastor




### "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](http://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.)

Download our Church App  
 Search First UMC-Gadsden  
 In the App Store for Android or iPhone.



# First UMC Gadsden Mar 29-April 4, 2026

## Mar 29, Sunday

9:00 am-Celebration Worship  
 8:30 am-12:00 pm-UWF Bake Sale, Chestnut Lobby  
 10:00 am-Donkeys & Donuts, Greenspace;  
 HeBrews Coffee  
 11:00 am-Traditions

## Mar 30, Monday

ELC Closed Spring Break  
 9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym  
 12:05 pm-Noon Day Service, Sanctuary  
 12:35 pm-Lunch, Gathering Room  
 2:00 pm-4:00 pm-Pickle Ball, Gym

## Mar 31, Tuesday

9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet Workday  
 12:05 pm-Noon Day Service, Sanctuary  
 12:35 pm-Lunch, Gathering Room

## Apr 1, Wednesday

9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet open  
 12:05 pm-Noon Day Service, Sanctuary  
 12:35 pm-Lunch, Gathering Room  
 No Wednesday Morning Bible Study  
 No Wednesday night meal or Activities

## Apr 2, Thursday

9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym  
 12:05 pm-Noon Day Service, Sanctuary  
 12:35 pm- Lunch, Gathering Room  
 6:00 pm-Maundy Thursday Worship

## Apr 3, Friday

11:00 am to 12:00 am -Ladle of Love  
 12:05 pm- Noon Day Service, Sanctuary  
 12:35 pm-Lunch Gathering Room



Palm Sunday, March 29



Palm Sunday, March 29

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



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

Calling all Bakers and Buyers!

### Attendance Week of Mar 22, 2026

In Person Total *171	On Line Total 357
Worship Total 528	Thursday Worship *12
Celebration *60/187	Traditions *99/170
Nursery Sun/Wed *8	Youth SS *3
Adult SS*53	Children's SS *4
Bible Study *26	Children Sun/Wed *26
Youth Sun/Wed *15	Easter Egg Hunt *65

### Immediate Prayer Concerns

Evelyn Pierson  
 Collins Tackaberry

### Continued Prayer Concerns

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



### Year 2026 Week of March 22, 2026

General Offering Budget	\$ 13,040.00
General Offering Received	\$ 7,569.00
YTD Gen. Offering Budget	\$156,480.00
YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd	\$196,380.00

Bring cut flowers to worship to place on the cross on Easter Sunday.



Order an Easter Lily by Monday, March 30.

(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 23 Fred Chase \*missed last week  
 Mar 31 Jennifer Ross Smith  
 Apr 1 Kathy Sisson, Clay Hix,  
 Lucca McNair  
 Apr 4 Maddie Hall



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