

"Problems, Prayers, and Final Episodes"

John 17:1-11

Pastor Sam Hayes

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

Sermon Notes "Problems, Prayers, and Final Episodes"

When I say, "The Lord's Prayer," your mind probably goes to these familiar words: "Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name..." Right? But our gospel passage for this Sunday could also rightly be called, "The Lord's Prayer." It was not that Jesus was teaching his disciples to pray this specific prayer - it was Jesus' prayer...a glimpse into his heart's cry to the Father. What did Jesus pray? For whom did he pray? Let's look:

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. behalf: king on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.
(John 17: 1-11 NRSV)

Join us this Sunday as we look at "Problems, Prayers, and Final Episodes."

See you Sunday,

Pastor Sam

Charge Conference (GoToMeeting)

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

See page 7 for details.

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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

ACOLYTES

May 21: Anna Kate Casey

May 28: Jack & Sarah Kate Brookshire

Tech Team Schedule

(Please arrive 45 minutes before the service.)

May 21

Celebration: Will Brookshire, Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman

Traditions: Wayne Payton, Sheila Freeman, Neil Mullin

May 28

Celebration: Eric Wright, Brad Barnes, Sheila Freeman

Traditions: Tammy Hayes, 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

Wednesday Mornings

Bible Study with Pastor Sam, Room 208

In Person Bible Study, A Study of the Book of Romans, will continue through 5/31.

Facebook Live @ 6 pm or on demand-via the FUMC APP or website

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

Men at the Well Thursday Mornings 7:00 am

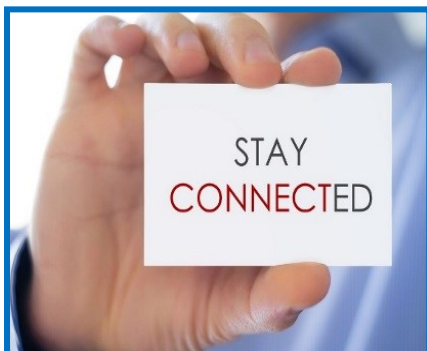
You are invited to join the weekly Bible study with the Men at the Well small group. They are currently meeting at the Choice Restaurant.

Study and discussion of Psalm 23

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 Guide to the Kingdom by Prof. Amy-Jill Levine 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, Follow by Andy Stanley Room 208**
- **Pathfinders and Seekers Classes are currently meeting with the Multi-Age Sunday School Class, Room 208 Current study of Follow by Andy Stanley**



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

Thank you to all our parents, faculty, ELC Board and special friends for making the End of Year Program and 4K graduation with reception such a success. It was such a joyful day.

Roses Sale Update

Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser this year. We received \$7,760. After the cost of the flowers, we will have \$7,595 to go toward tuition assistance. Please remember you may donate to this special cause at any time of the year.

—Helene Haller



Youth Ministry News

May 17 "The Alley" Bowling at 6:00 pm
June 5-8 Youth helping with VBS
June 12-16 Service Days/Fun Days

—Pastor Andy

Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Dinner will resume in August!

Children's Ministry

Children's Church

Sundays @ 9 am and 11 am

Calling All Heroes!

JUNE 5-8
9:00-11:30

GFUMC invites you to
Hero Hotline:
Called Together to Serve God
Vacation Bible School 2023

SCAN
HERE

So let's strive together
for the things that
bring peace and the
things that build each
other up.

Romans 14:19



Striplin Elementary School Kindergarten Graduation, May 18, 2023



First UMC Gadsden's Mission Team hosted Kindergarten Graduation for Striplin Elementary School! Over 500 people attended. What an awesome day!



Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

First UMC Gadsden's Mission Team hosted the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon. Chicken Salad Chick boxed lunches were served for 63 Staff Members at Striplin Elementary!



May Mission Focus

Striplin Elementary — Adopted School



As the end of another school year approaches, First UMC's Mission Team hosted the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon for the 2023 School Year. Sixty-three teachers and staff at W.E. Striplin Elementary School were treated to lunch from Chicken Salad Chick! This is made possible through your generous gifts that support the missions and ministry of First UMC Gadsden!

Watch for more exciting opportunities to serve with the First UMC Mission Team! Email fumc@fumcgadsden.org or go to www.fumcgadsden.org/outreach to find out more.

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.



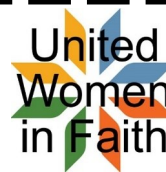
The "Men at the Well" will set up a time to pick them up for you.

*Thank you for remembering your Clothes Closet.
—Clothes Closet Team*

United Women in Faith

The months of *June, July, and August*, there will not be a monthly luncheon. Stay tuned for dates to meet with everyone for a summertime supper!

—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 are needed and 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

May open dates are

5/3 and 5/17

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

Clients Served

APR

Ladle of Love 381

Clothes Closet 211

Thanks to our volunteers!

[#gfumcreconnect2023](https://www.instagram.com/gfumcreconnect2023)

You are invited!

**Retirement and Farewell
Luncheon**

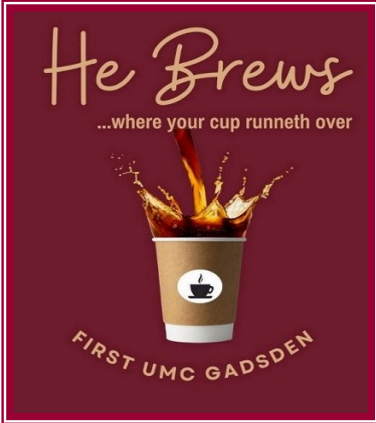
Join us for a luncheon, immediately following the Sunday, June 11, Traditional Service in the gym. We will be honoring Pastor Sam Hayes on his retirement and saying farewell to both Pastor Sam Hayes and Pastor Andy Yarnell. This is our chance to show them our appreciation and to thank them for their years of service at First UMC Gadsden!

12 PM

In the Activity Center (gym)

Sunday, June 11, 2023

Please contact the church for reservations. RSVP: 256-543-8200 or fumc@fumcgadsden.org by June 5.



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!!!



In Psalm 135, we read these powerful words:

Hallelujah! Praise the name of God, praise the works of God. All you priests on duty in God's temple, serving in the sacred halls of our God, shout "Hallelujah!" because God's so good, sing anthems to his beautiful name... (Ps. 135:1-3 MSG)

There is still time to give to the 2023 Alleluia Offering which will go toward our Music Ministry and Capital Improvements! Gifts so far to the 2023 Alleluia offering have totaled \$28,618.00.

Last year, we had the biggest Alleluia Offering our church has seen in a long time! Thank you so much! With your generosity, we hope that gifts to our Alleluia Offering will exceed \$35,000 again this year. You can help us reach that goal by giving at least 10% (or more) of your weekly income as a special offering. Pray about it, and then present your offering through May 7. We will announce the total each week, and then celebrate the grand total for our 2023 Alleluia Offering on Mothers' Day, May 14.

Shout, "Hallelujah!" because God is so good.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Sam
 Pastor Sam
 Senior Pastor

Pastor Andy
 Pastor Andy
 Associate Pastor

Jay
 Jay Hedgspeth
 Generosity Team Chair



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

**Charge Conference (GoToMeeting)
 Wednesday, May 31, 2023**
The purpose of this meeting of the Charge Conference is to vote on the sale of real property that was donated to the church. Please contact the church office for the link if you would like to attend. All voting members of Board of Stewards will receive an email with the link.

Calendar for May 21-27, 2023

May 21 Sunday

9:00 am Celebration Service,
Sanctuary

10:00 am Sunday School; HeBrews Coffee

11:00 am Traditions Service, Sanctuary

5:00 pm Church Leadership Meeting

May 22 Monday

ELC Closed, Summer Session begins June 13

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

5:00 pm Trustees meeting, Parlor

May 23 Tuesday

1:00 pm Staff Meeting, On-Boarding Session

5:00 pm Yoga, Gym

5:00 pm Finance Team meeting, Parlor

6:00 pm Board of Stewards, Gathering Room

A Celebration of Life for Jane H. Gardner will be Saturday, May 20 @ 10 am, Lakeside Baptist Church, 2865 Old Rocky Ridge Rd, Birmingham, AL 35243. Graveside Service Elmwood Cemetery, 11 am.

May 24 Wednesday

11:00 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Room 208

6:00 pm Choir Practice, Choir Room

May 25 Thursday

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

5:30 pm Thursday worship

May 26 Friday

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

Honorariums & Memorials

Ladle of Love

In memory of Jane Herb, given by Mark & Barbara Condra.

In memory of Jane Herb, given by Cleve & Bess Estis.

In memory of Jane Herb, given by James Latimer.

Music Fund

In memory of Jane Herb, given by Mandell & Judy Tillman.

In Memory of His Life

Larry Payne

April 24, 2023



In Memory of Her Life

Eva Jane Hydingner Gardner

May 17, 2023



The ministers and congregation of First United Methodist Church of Gadsden extend Christian sympathy to Vicki Handy in the death of her husband, Dave Handy

On May 8, 2023



The ministers and congregation of First United Methodist Church of Gadsden extend Christian sympathy to Ciara & Richard Caldwell in the death of her sister, Lori DeMartin

On May 6, 2023



Birthdays

May 21 Glen Pierson, Craig Ford

May 23 Dallas Moran, Sam Bone, Owen White

May 24 J.T. Harrell, Megan Salazar

May 25 Janis Hudak

May 26 Ava Staton

May 27 Otis Deason, Joseph Jackson, Sheri Frickey, Emily Sollie

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



Week of May 14, 2023

In Person Total *164 Worship Total 441

Online 377 Thursday Worship *6

Traditions Service *64/182

Celebration Service *94/195

Adult Sunday School **32/1

Bible Study Groups *15/44 UMW *25

Children *29 Youth *14 Nursery *2

Total Small Groups *121/45 *In Person

General Offering Budget \$12,777.00

General Offering Received \$8,379.00

YTD General Offering Budget \$255,540.00

YTD General Offering Rec'd \$238,111.00

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Asher Mae Collins

Ken Davis Dawn Rains

Bibb Holland

Continued Prayer Concerns

Rodney Thompson

Chris Gunnells (Gail McNair's nephew)

John Jones (Dotty Rogers' Son)

