

115 So. 5th Street
Gadsden, AL 35901

October 25, 2020

Gadsden First UMC

Changing Lives by Sharing Christ, Making Disciples, Serving and Giving Hope
#GFUMCConnect2020

10-25-20 Sermon Notes “Suffering and Reformation”

It was on a *Halloween* in 1517. A German monk named Martin Luther walked up to the door of the Wittenberg Church and nailed to that door his *95 Theses*. These theses listed his concerns over the corruption he saw in the Roman Catholic Church. Among his concerns was the selling of *indulgences* to people in order to release them from having to serve penitence for their sins (sort of like *buying a stairway to heaven*). Martin Luther’s courageous act opened up a debate among religious leaders and scholars that would eventually lead to what we now know as the *Protestant Reformation*.



This Sunday is officially, Reformation Sunday. It is the Sunday closest to Reformation Day (October 31). We will be finishing up our series on suffering (*When You’re Over It – But It’s Not Over*) this Sunday by looking at how we are “re-formed” through suffering.

Job went through bitter suffering, and thought at times that God was not there – hiding from him. He came to realize, though, that his suffering...his “testing” ... was changing him, liking refining him on a crucible.

*“If I go forward, he is not there;
or backward, I cannot perceive him;
9 on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;
I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.
10 But he knows the way that I take;
when he has tested me, I shall come out like gold. (Job 23: 8-10 NRSV)*

We will be looking at some “what ifs” this Sunday. What if God is not absent or hiding during our times of suffering, but instead very much involved in our lives? What if we can come through our suffering re-formed – changed for the better? Look forward to worshipping with you this Sunday in-person or online!

Pastor Sam

Worship Opportunities

- **Mosaic:** 6:30 pm, Tuesday, Church Courtyard*
- **Thursday Worship:** 5:30 pm, Thursday, Sanctuary*
- **Sunday Celebration** Worship, 9:00 am, Sanctuary* (In person & online)
- **Sunday Traditions** Worship, 11:00 am, Sanctuary* (In person & online)

*All services in person require social distancing & masks.

Generosity

- **Give online:** www.fumcgadsden.org/give
- **Text to Give:** 256-344-8464
- **Mail your tithe or gift to the church:** 115 S. 5th Street Gadsden, AL 35901

COME HELP OUT AT THE TRUNK OR TREAT!

If your family is interested in hosting a car trunk or table to pass out candy at our Trunk or Treat event on October 25, please call or text Katharine at 256-393-3051. We are also accepting bags of individually wrapped candy!



Clothes Closet

Workday

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Open

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street

Gadsden, AL

Ladle of Love

Fridays, 11:00 am to

12:00 pm

MANNA

Monetary Donations

Monthly Sponsors

Volunteers for delivery

Church Phone

256-543-8200

Website

www.fumcgadsden.org

Email

fumc@fumcgadsden.org

Instagram

[First_umcgadsden](https://www.instagram.com/first_umcgadsden)

[#gfumcconnect2020](https://www.instagram.com/first_umcgadsden)



MISSIONS: Supporting MANNA

The month of October has been designated to learn more about and to support the much needed organization of MANNA. Since COVID 19 hit in mid March, MANNA has not stopped. Even with fewer volunteers, 13,333 meals were delivered between March 26th and September 30th.

Due to CDC guidelines, sack lunches are being delivered. The cost of each meal is \$4.25. Clients pay based on their income. During this time they were unable to have fundraisers. They also lost donations from churches and other sources due to the pandemic. Let's take the rest of October to make a donation through our church to this very much needed organization. Volunteers are needed! If you are willing to deliver meals and would like to volunteer, please call Laura Johnson, Director, at 256-393-9090. Thanks for your continued generosity.

The Mission Team

We are here for you!

We are still taking precautions so the church office is still closed to the public. We ask that all business be conducted by email, phone or text whenever possible. In-person visits are by appointment only. You may call for an appointment or if you or someone you know has a need that we can help with, please call us or email us between 8:00 am --4:00 pm, Monday thru Friday. If no answer, please leave a message and a staff member will return your call as soon as possible.

A MASK is required if you are coming to the office for an appointment or attending any service or activity at the church. If you do not have one, we have masks available for you. *Stay Well. Stay Safe* Your Church Staff!



follow GFUMC on Instagram:

[first_umcgadsden](https://www.instagram.com/first_umcgadsden)

Use our hashtag to Tag and Share your pictures of church activities:

[#gfumcconnect2020](https://www.instagram.com/first_umcgadsden)

Youth News

ELC News

Wednesday, October 21

The 4K class enjoyed a visit from Sparky, Fireman Tony and Fireman Josh to discuss fire safety. Thank you for showing us how the water jet works as well as the lights and siren.

Tuesday, October 27

We will enjoy a visit from "The Dog House" for our October Lunchbox Revolt.

Thursday, October 29 we cannot wait to have our Halloween Parade around the church.

Helene Haller

October 21st at 6:00 pm
"Fear Not" & Pumpkin Carving
October 28th at 6:00 pm
Youth Halloween Party

The Youth ministry will continue to provide online devotionals for those who aren't able to make it on Wednesday night in person.

Virtual Sunday School

Sundays at 10:00 am

Former Youth- check out our college and career Instagram page to stay up to date with future social distancing gatherings.



Join Andy on Facebook Live
or Instagram
Sunday & Wednesdays, 6pm

Children's Ministry News



First United Methodist Church of Gadsden invites you to our

*The Children's Ministry team is taking donations of individually wrapped candy!



TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 25
2:00-4:00

The home of Mark and Allison Casey
108 Casey Drive
Glencoe, Alabama 35903

For any questions, call Katharine at 256-393-3051

Free hot dogs,
drinks, treats,
petting zoo, and
bouncy house!
Bring your family!

Children are meeting in the Green Space with Social Distancing on Wednesday nights at 6 pm. Parents are required to attend with their child/children. The nursery is open during this time.

See you on the Green!

Children's Break continues on Facebook on Sundays and Wednesdays!





Sunday Morning w/Ken Casey and George Varner, 10:00 am, GoToMeeting

Thursday, Men at the Well, 7:00 am, Zoom, Mark Condra, Todd Rains, Bob Blount or Mark Casey

Life is a journey. The most important part of the journey is our relationship with God and with others. A Journey Group is a small gathering of individuals who help you grow in your loving relationship with both. We invite all people into a relationship with God and seek to create an outwardly focused community of Christ-followers.

Journey Groups are a great way to stay connected to God and with your church family. All Journey Groups are currently meeting virtually. #GFUMCCConnect2020

Interested in leading or teaching a journey group? Contact one of the pastors or Sheila Freeman at 256-490-5018 or Sheila@fumcgadsden.org



Bible Study w/Pastor Sam

A Study of the Gospel of John

Join Pastor Sam online each Wednesday night at 6:00 pm for a study of the *Gospel of John*.

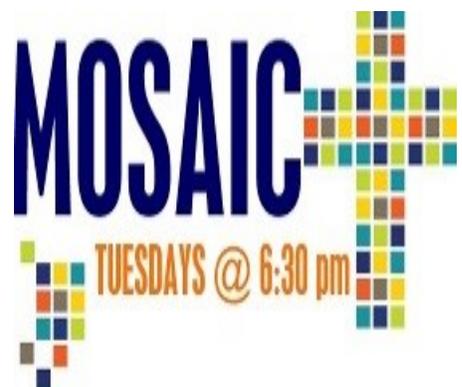
Facebook Live

Wednesdays @ 6 pm

(You can watch the weekly episodes "on-demand" via the church app or website. Each lesson is uploaded to the church app and website following the live broadcast.)

Join Pastor Andy for Mosaic

—A unique worship experience that includes a homily, discussion, and prayer. This service is open to everyone, but is particularly designed for those who have felt hurt or rejected. Come meet with us outside the church in the Courtyard facing 5th Street near the sanctuary on Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm! Social distancing is required. (In case of rain, Mosaic will meet in the gym.)





UMW News

The **UMW Luncheon** will be **November 9th** at 12:00 noon in the gym.
The Executive Board Meeting will be at 10:30 am in the gathering room.

Circle Meetings

Jean Holtsford-Second Monday-**November 9th**-meet following luncheon
Stevens Circle-Second Tuesday-**November 10th** at noon
LuVerna Waid Circle-Third Tuesday-**November 17th** at 6:00 pm

Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. 1 John 4:11

#GFUMCConnect2020

Worship with GFUMC on Sunday mornings online Live:

9:00 am Celebration and 11:00 am Traditions

Where to connect:

Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org/media

Facebook Live: @FUMCGadsden

Church YouTube Channel: Gadsden First UMC

Sermon.net:

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden (search ministries)

Watch on demand:

Church App: **FUMCGadsden**

Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org/media



Ready to get started with Text to Give?

1. Text 256-344-8464
2. For your first time click "SIGN IN" then "REGISTER FOR AN ACCOUNT".
3. Complete the registration to receive your secure PIN
4. Select the fund, enter the donation amount and payment information.
5. Tap "Save Payment" to use it for future gifts!

It's that easy!

Other text commands:

EDIT— Update your account and payment information

KEYWORD — See a list of Keywords (funds) you can give toward.

REFUND — Made a mistake? Refund your last gift. (15 min. expiry.)

Text to Give: 256-344-8464
Online Giving:
www.fumcgadsden.org/give



Calendar for week of October 25-October 31, 2020

Oct 25, Sunday

9:00 am, Celebration Worship; Sanctuary
 10:00 am, Sunday School, Ken Casey & George Varner, GoToMeeting
 10:00 am, Children's Bible Study, Facebook
 10:00 am, Youth Sunday School, Online
 11:00 am, Traditional Worship; Sanctuary
 2:00-4:00 pm, Trunk or Treat, 108 Casey Drive, Glencoe (Casey Home)
 6:00 pm, Youth; via Zoom or Instagram

Oct 26, Monday

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

Oct 27, Tuesday

9:00 am- 1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule
 6:30 pm, Mosaic, Courtyard

Oct 27, Tuesday, cont'd

4:00 pm, Trustees meeting, GoToMeeting
 5:00 pm, Finance Team meeting, GoToMeeting
 6:00 pm, Board of Stewards/Charge Conference, GoToMeeting

Oct 28, Wednesday

9:00 am- 1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule
 6:00 pm, Children's Ministry, Greenspace; Youth Ministry, Courtyard
 6:00 pm, Bible Study with Pastor Sam; Online

Oct 29, Thursday

9:00 am- 1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule
 9:00 am- 10:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym
 9:30-10:30 am, ELC Halloween Parade
 5:30 pm, Thursday Worship, Sanctuary
 7:00 pm, College Group, via Zoom or Instagram

Oct 30, Friday, 11:00-12:00, Ladle of Love, Portico

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Pat Martin Bessie Crow
 Dr. Chip Griffith Leda Taylor
 Judy Dressman



Continued Prayer Concerns

Bob Sisson Leslie Johnson
 Ronald Garry Trish Harrell
 John Hatfield Joanne Hightower
 Herman Humphrey (Jan Humphrey's father)

Pray for our fellow Americans and our nation!

All Saint's Day- November 1

On Sunday, November 1, we will celebrate All Saints' Day. We will light candles in memory of church members who have passed away during the previous year. In addition, we will remember our loved ones with a slide show of pictures. You are invited to send us a picture of your loved one along with their name and date of death, by email or turn one into the church office by Wednesday, October 28 to be included in the slideshow.



Honorariums and Memorials

Benevolence Fund:

In memory of Doug Martin given by Sam and Leone Norris.

Ladle of Love Fund:

In memory of Hanky MacFadyen given by Whit and Kathy Torbert.

ELC Sara Johnson Scholarship Fund:

In memory of Hanky MacFadyen given by Steve and Lynne Frederick.

Birthdays.....

Oct 25 Paige Whitt, Susan Whitt, Philips Leach, Haley Goodwyn, Jordan Ryle



Oct 26 Stacy Hilburn, Qwintan Brothers
 Oct 27 David Schmuck
 Oct 28 Mary Tom Hale, Haddon Jarecki
 Oct 30 Katlyn Leach
 Oct 31 Harriet Murray

Week of October 18, 2020

Online Viewer Total 291
 *In Person Total *121 Total overall 412
 Celebration *22/121 Traditions *36/135
 Mosaic *10 Thursday *20
 Youth *18 Bible Study Groups *25/35
 Children *10
 General Offering Budget \$15,440.00
 General Offering Received \$5,110.99
 YTD General Offering Budget \$648,480.00
 YTD General Offering Received \$604,347.98

Benevolence Fund

The "Benevolence" offering fund is very low. This fund is from offering donations we receive during communion. Since our schedule for communion has changed we have experienced a decrease in these donations. If you would like to make a donation to this fund, please send this along with your regular offering.
Thank you!