

“ DO I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION? ”

Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, August 29, & Sunday, September 1, 2024

We live in a world filled with distraction. From our phones to the noise around us, it can be hard to pay attention. Add to this, the busyness of our calendars and the demands of our modern life and you will find the recipe for not paying attention. So, this leads me to wonder, “How does God get your attention?”

In the story of Noah and the Ark, I also wonder how God got Noah’s attention. Yes, it was a simpler time, but we must remember that God was not in covenant relationship with humanity. There was not regular worship of God or any faith communities. There were no scriptures or laws to guide Noah. Also, building a big boat on a sunny day and collecting animals was a big ask from God. What we learn from Noah, not only causes us to ponder what made him pay attention, but also what caused him to act. Maybe, Noah’s story can help us listen with faithfulness to the Lord (Genesis 6).

In Christ,
Rev. Sherri



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Worship Opportunities

- Thursdays:** 5:30 pm
- Sunday Mornings:** Celebration 9 am*
Traditions 11 am*

*In Person (Sanctuary) and Online
www.fumcgadsden.org/media



**Confirmation for Adults -
Everyone is welcome!**

Ever wonder what students learn in confirmation class?

Want to learn more about the United Methodist Church or Wesleyan Theology?
Need a refresher on the basics of faith?

Then this class is for you. Based on the We Believe curriculum, the class is an overview of the basics. Be a part of all the classes or drop in for one. The class will meet for one hour on Wednesdays at 11 am in the Gathering Room or Wednesday nights at 6 pm in classroom 208. See the schedule on page 2 for the topics of classes, dates, and times.
--Rev. Sherri Reynolds

ACOLYTES

September 1: Volunteer
September 8: Luke Barnes

Tech Team Schedule

September 1

Celebration: Eric Wright, Sheila Freeman, Rob Reynolds
Traditions: Sheila Freeman, Wayne Payton, Carmen McKiven

September 8

Celebration: Eric Wright, Sheila Freeman
Traditions: Davis Varner, Sheila Freeman, Brad Barnes

Confirmation for Adults - w/ Rev. Sherri

Ever wonder what students learn in confirmation class? Want to learn more about the United Methodist Church or Wesleyan Theology? Need a refresher on the basics of faith? Then this class is for you. Based on the We Believe curriculum, the class is an overview of the basics. Be a part of all the classes or drop in for one. The class will meet for one hour on Wednesdays at 11 am in the Gathering Room or Wednesday nights at 6 pm in classroom 208. See the schedule below for the topics of classes, dates, and times.

—Rev. Sherri Reynolds

	Wednesday at 11am	Wednesday at 6pm
God the Father	September 4	August 28
God the Son	September 18	September 4
God the Holy Spirit	September 25	September 11
Church History	October 2	September 18
Sacraments	October 9	September 25
Sin and Salvation	October 16	October 2
Growing in God's Grace	October 23	October 16
Living a Christian Life	October 30	October 23
Responding to God's Grace	November 6	October 30
First United Methodist Church	November 13	November 6
	(No study on August 28 or September 11)	(No study October 9)

Advent Study @11am- November 20, December 4, and December 11
 @ 6pm- November 13, November 20, December 4, and December 11

Wednesday Fellowship, Gathering Room/201
Dinner 9/4 Chicken Fingers & Macaroni & Cheese
\$7 Adults & Youth \$3 Children 11 & Under



Wednesday Morning Bible Study @ 11 am, Gathering Room
Confirmation for Adults w/ Rev. Sherri Reynolds. See full schedule and dates above.
Adult Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesdays
6 pm Confirmation for Adults w/ Rev. Sherri Reynolds, Rm 208. See full Schedule and dates above.
6 pm Small Group w/ Harriet Murray, Rm 110
Renewed: Finding Hope When You Don't Like Your Story

Sunday School
for all ages

- ♥ Children's Sunday School Room 104 & 108
4 years through 5th Grade
- ✦ Youth Sunday School Room 211 w/ Becca
6th Grade through 12th Grade
- 📖 Transitions (New Young Adult) Room 209
- 🕯 Pathfinders/Seekers Room 208
- 📧 Living Water/Martin Fellowship Room 116

★ Nursery Available for Children 3 and under

“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 278 Restaurant. *Contact Todd Rains, Mark Condra, Mark Casey, or any of the Men at the Well for more information.*

ELC News

The ELC is off to a great start!! Please note the ELC will be closed Monday, September 2nd for Labor Day!

—Helene



Youth Sundays

August 18

Youth Sundays w/ Becca
Sunday mornings at 10 am
Middle School and Senior High
Meet in the Youth Room, 211.

September 4: Wonderful Wednesday

Dinner is served beginning at 5:15 pm. Menu: Chicken Fingers and Mac & Cheese
Sr. High Youth-6 pm, Youth Room, Room 211
Middle School Youth-6 pm, Room 209

Camp Lee

Fall Festival

Lion & Lamb Café

Haunted Chicken House

Hockey Game ----schedule is not out yet

Community Thanksgiving at the Venue

Christmas Eve Live Nativity

Ice Skating in Chattanooga

Sept 13-14

October 9

October 19

November ???

November 27

December 24

December 29

For more Information for Sr. High Youth Activities Contact
Sr. High Youth Counselor, Carmen McKiven 256.458.3375 or
cmckiven@hotmail.com

Children's Ministry

Sunday Mornings @ 9 am and 11 am, Children's Church & 10 am Sunday School
 Wednesday Night Supper: Menu for September 4: Chicken Fingers, Mac & Cheese
 \$7 adults, \$3 11 & Under
 Activities for Children: 6 pm, Children's Worship Room

GFUMC Children's
 September Unit

LEAD THE WAY

Wednesday's
 at 6:00

#WeAreFirst

WEEK 1

God teaches us
HOW TO LEAD.

WEEK 2

We **FOLLOW**
 God's lead.

WEEK 3

God leads us to
SAFETY.

WEEK 4

God will lead
 us to **WHAT
 WE NEED.**

"Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths."
 Psalm 25:4 (NIV)



GFUMC KIDS
 FALL
 CALENDAR

20
 24

AUG
 14

ICE CREAM SOCIAL
 WONDERFUL WED. RESUMES

FALL FESTIVAL
 5:00-7:00 PM

OCT
 09

NOV
 20

FRIENDSGIVING
 6 PM

SANTA BRUNCH
 10:00 AM

DEC
 8

DEC
 15

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
 5:00 PM

Wonderful Wednesdays, every Wed. @6:00

August Dreaming: From Genesis to Joseph
 September Lead the Way: Series on Moses
 October Are We There Yet? In the Wilderness
 November Right Track: Series on Joshua
 December Christmas Vacation: Series on Christmas

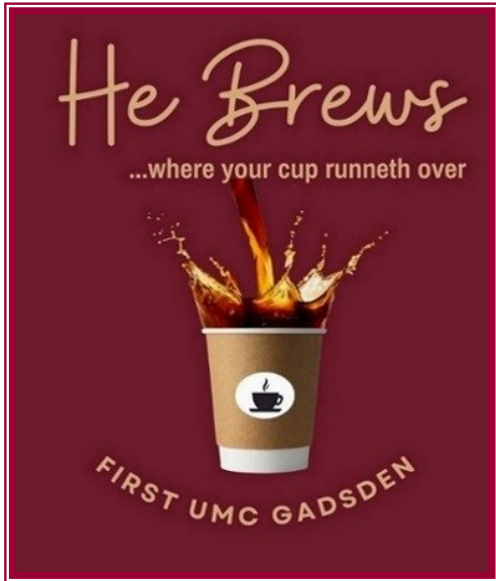
f FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.FUMCGADSDEN.ORG/CHILDREN

We need your photo!



We are creating a prayer wall in the Kid's Worship Room, and we need photos of our kids! If you would like for your child to be included, bring a current photo, selfie, or portrait!

Philippians 1:3



Please join us for HeBrews Coffee Café between the regular Sunday morning worship services, from 10 am to 11 am. We can't wait to see you there!!!



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KEITH & SUSAN COPELAND



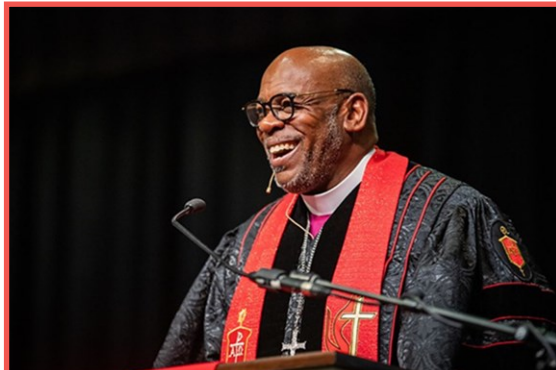
Susan grew up in Gadsden and was both baptized and married at our church. Memorial services for her parents, Charles and Joyce Strickland, were also held here. Susan graduated from Gadsden High, then attended Auburn University, where she received an undergraduate degree in Elementary Education. She worked for the Vestavia School System during the day and received a Masters in Education through night classes at Samford. She also taught Jazzercise in Birmingham for 19 ½ years. Keith also grew up in Gadsden and was in the first graduating class of Westminster Christian School. He attended Gadsden State for two years in order to receive a pilot's license, then went to Samford for a degree in Management before attending Birmingham School of Law. He worked as a bailiff in Jefferson County Court, then went into the family business, Copeland and Copeland Law Firm, located on Chestnut Street in Gadsden. Keith and Susan have been very active in our church since they moved back to Gadsden in 1998. She has been on the Board of Stewards and a Team Leader for both Missions and Inviting Ministries. Keith was very involved with our Capital Campaign and has served as Chairman of Trustees and been on the Board of Stewards and on the Staff-Parish Relations Committee. His interests include racquetball, weightlifting, and swimming.

DO
YOU
KNOW
WHO?

PHILLIP & LESLIE JOHNSON



Phillip grew up in Gadsden and graduated from Gadsden High. He then received a B.S. in International Studies from the University of Alabama, as well as a Masters in Special Education. He worked for the Alabama Dept. of Mental Health while also serving as a Professor at South College in Montgomery for 12 years. In 2002, he and Leslie bought "Blue Ridge Motorcycle Campground" in Canton, N.C., which they operated for 20 years before moving back to Gadsden in 2006. Leslie also grew up in Gadsden and graduated from Gadsden High. She then attended Gadsden State, followed by going to Real Estate School and taking Business courses at Huntington College in Montgomery. She was an Event Planner for the Alabama Hospital Association and the Alabama Trucking Association before moving to North Carolina to run their motorcycle campground. Currently, she works in customer service for King's Olive Oil Company, located on Broad Street in Gadsden. In their free time, both she and Phillip enjoy riding their motorcycles. They are also active in our Ladle of Love program, working to feed the hungry every 3rd Friday. Phillip and Leslie have two grown children: Heather Lincoln (51), who lives in Prattville; and J. Johnson (50), who lives here and works for the City of Gadsden.



SAVE THE DATE

A SERVICE CELEBRATING
THE EPISCOPAL
ASSIGNMENT
OF

Bishop L. Jonathan Holston

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024
ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM
4 PM

Reception immediately following the service

September Mission Focus



Donate paper products, such as paper towels, tissues, and toilet paper, during the month of September. Items may be placed in the Red Buckets located at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the Chestnut Foyer.

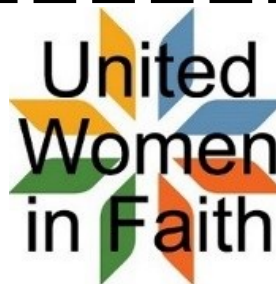
The Etowah Free Community Clinic provides uninsured patients of Etowah County with access to physicians, nurses, support staff, prescription medication and a variety of holistic care services, at no cost. The clinic has had a dramatic impact, not just in the lives of those served, but also in the community in which they live, work and play. The clinic is located at 423 South 3rd Street · Gadsden, AL 35901 · (256) 546-3456

United Women in Faith

The monthly UWF Luncheons are at 12 noon and will resume in September. The luncheons are open to all. Please make a reservation by calling or texting Olivia Kendrick prior to the meeting date. 205.454.4375

- ◆ September 9-Rev. Tammy Jackson, Book signing
- ◆ October 14-Gadsden State Community College A Capella Choir
- ◆ November 11-History of Gadsden & Etowah County, by Ms. Mollie Smith
- ◆ December 9-Christmas Luncheon, ELC Children will sing

Delores Abney, President
Olivia Kendrick, 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.

Donations may be made to the Ladle of Love Fund in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Clothes Closet Workdays are Tuesdays before open days from 9:00-11:00 am.

Open to Public

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

September open dates are
9/4 and 9/18

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

#gfumcreconnect2023

Clients Served June 2024

Ladle of Love	388
Clothes Closet	232

Thanks to our
Volunteers!



REV. SHERRI REYNOLDS
GET IN THE GAME

THURSDAYS, SEPT 12, 19, & 26
SUNDAYS, SEPT 15, 22 & 29

Working or Out of Town on the Weekend?

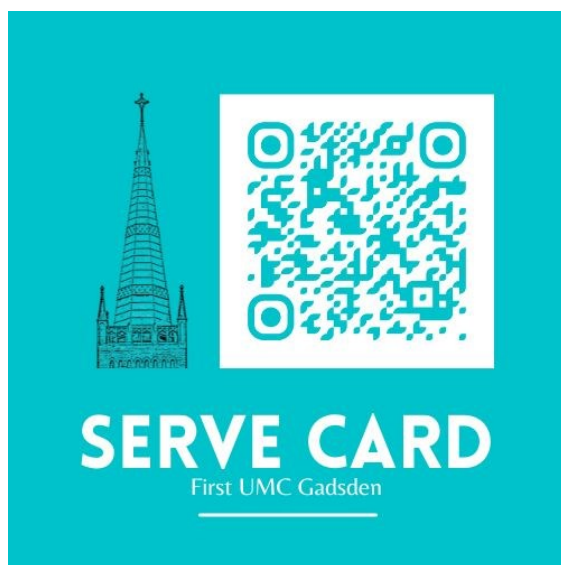
Thursday
WORSHIP

A SERVICE OF PRAYER AND WORD
5:30 pm to 6:00 pm In the Sanctuary
First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

It's Time! Nominations for Leadership 2025


How will you serve in 2025?

Find out more about church leadership @ www.fumcgadsden.org/leadership
 Follow the QR Code Below or look for the Serve Card in the GFUMC Church APP.
 Complete the Serve Card to share your interest in serving on various leadership roles and teams and a member of the nominations team will contact you!



#WeAreFirst

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 FirstUMC-Gadsden
 In the App Store for Android or iPhone.



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

Calendar for September 1-7, 2024

September 1 Sunday

9:00 am-Celebration Worship, Sanctuary
 10:00 am-Sunday School for all ages
 10:00 am-HeBrews Coffee, Chestnut Street Foyer
 11:00 am-Traditions Worship, Sanctuary

September 2 Monday

Church Closed for Labor Day Holiday



September 3 Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm- ELC Fall Schedule
 9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet workday
 5:00 pm-Yoga, Gym

September 4 Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule
 9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet open
 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, Gym & Room 211
 6:00 pm-Bible Study w/Pastor Sherri, Rm 208
 Bible Study w/Harriet Murray, Rm 110
 6:00 pm-7:30 pm-Choir Practice, Choir Room

September 5 Thursday

7:00 am-Men at the Well Bible Group
 9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule
 9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym

5:30 pm-Thursday Worship

September 6 Friday


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



NOTICE

Due to construction on the Portico overhang that has started and will last 3 weeks or longer, we ask that no one park on Chestnut Street in parking spaces from 7:30 am until 2:30 pm, Monday-Thursday, and 9:00 am until 12:30 pm on Friday. This will be used as a car lane for the ELC and Ladle of Love. Thank you for your help in this matter. —Office Staff & Trustees

The ministers and congregation of First United Methodist Church of Gadsden extend Christian sympathy to Lance Watkins in the death of his mother and Patrick & Madison Watkins in the death of their grandmother, Rebecca Irene Watkins, August 23, 2024,




Immediate Prayer Concerns

Albert Gibson, Jr. Jane Jones Stephe Wood
 Asher Mae Collins

Continued Prayer Concerns

Judy Collins (Tripp Collins' mother)
 Amy Epperson



Honorariums & Memorials

General Budget Fund

In memory of Neita Taylor, given by Marian Ford.

Landscape Project

In memory of Jay Whitt, given by Mr. & Mrs. Steve Frederick.
 In memory of Neita Taylor, given by Mr. & Mrs. Steve Frederick.

Birthdays

Sept 1 Louie Loveman
Sept 2 Sherry Bridges, Susan George.
 Frances Isbell, Sam Blackstock,
 Sarah Blackstock
Sept 4 Otilie Wooten
Sept 5 Makayla Walker
Sept 6 Jonathan Blount
Sept 7 Carmen McKiven,
 Andrew Jackson

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



Week of August 25, 2024

In Person Total-*157	Worship Total-749
Online-592	Thursday Worship-*17
Celebration Service-*64/246	
Traditional Service-*76/346	Nursery-*5
Sunday School Adult-*29	Children *6
Sr Hi *1	Middle *1
Bible Study Groups-*34	
Wed/Sun-Children*37	Wed/Sun-Sr.Hi *9
Middle Youth *8	UWF *20 *in person

General Offering Budget	\$11,400.00
General Offering Received	\$5,982.00
YTD General Offering Budget	\$387,600.00
YTD General Offering Rec'd	\$439,980.17

Important Deadlines

Information for the weekly newsletter is due each Tuesday by noon.

All requests for spoken announcements for Sunday morning must be turned in by Thursday @ noon, in writing, to Susan Swann.

All Meetings, Events and Activities must be scheduled in advance with the church secretary, by email or phone susan@fumcgadsden.org