

**Ready?**

Luke 12: 35-40 Aug 7

**Set?**

Hebrews 11: 29-12:2 Aug 14

**Go!**

Acts 1: 6-11 Aug 21

## AUGUST SERMONS

PASTOR SAM HAYES

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

## 8-7-22

## Sermon Notes

## "Ready?"

This week's Gospel passage is another warning. Last week we got the warning against living a life influenced by "all kinds of greed." Now we are getting another warning: "Be ready!" This warning begins with advice that was given first to people who were going on a journey – and not just any journey, but the Exodus. The Israelites were told to be "dressed and ready...prepared for action at a moment's notice". (Ex. 12: 11) The Israelites were to eat their special meal with their traveling clothes on, so that they could drop everything and leave suddenly.

The urgency is the same in Luke 12: 35-40, but the metaphor is that of slaves waiting for their master to get back home from a particularly long wedding banquet.

<sup>35</sup> "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup> "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

When will the master return? We don't know. It could be the middle of the night, or even near dawn. Be ready. That's the point. And that point is carried over to the Son of Man coming. Jesus is coming again, and we don't know when. Will he find us ready?

See you Sunday,

Pastor Sam

Please help us update the membership records in the church office with your current mailing address, phone number, email address and birthdays for all family members *Updates may be sent to [susan@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:susan@fumcgadsden.org) or call Susan @ 256-543-8200.*

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## Worship Opportunities

Thursday Worship: 5:30 pm, Sanctuary

## Sunday Mornings:

Celebration, 9 am\* Traditions, 11 am\*  
 \*In Person (Sanctuary) and Online  
[www.fumcgadsden.org/media](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media) or  
 on Facebook Live: @FUMCgadsden

## ACOLYTES

August 7: Silas Hosey  
 August 14: Clementine Hilburn

## Tech Team Schedule

(Please arrive 45 minutes prior to the start of the service)

## August 7

**Celebration:** Mark Casey, Parker Casey, Sheila Freeman

**Traditions:** Mike Self, Sheila Freeman

## August 14

**Celebration:** Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Brad Barnes

**Traditions:** Mark Condra, Carmen McKiven, Jacob McKiven

## Save the Date: August 17

*Wonderful Wednesday Dinner, Bible Study and Activities return!*

5:15 pm- Fellowship Dinner, \$7 per person, \$5 Children 11 and under

6:00 pm- Bible Study and Activities for Adults, Youth and Children

6:30 pm- Welcome Back Celebration w/ice Cream Social on the Portico!



All Ages Welcome!  
6:30 pm, On the Portico  
Wednesday, August 17

### Unshakeable Hope

**by Max Lucado**

Small Group Study on Sunday Mornings!

Will meet in Room 208 @ 10 am

All Ages are Welcome!

with Pastor Andy

*(Snacks are available!)*

### Bible Study with Pastor Sam

Summer on Wednesday Mornings

**11 am In Person Bible Study**

Gathering Room, 201

**The Book of Acts**

**Facebook Live @ 6 pm**

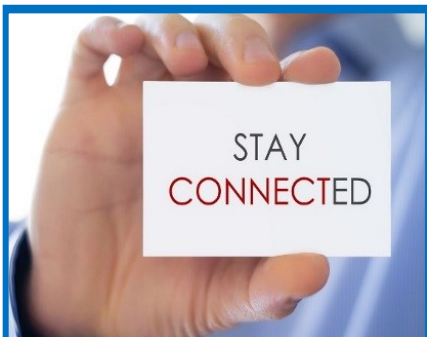
## Men at the Well Thursday Mornings 7:00 am

You are invited to join the weekly bible study with the Men at the Well small group. Currently meeting at the Choice Restaurant.

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

### RECONNECT with the Sunday School Class of Your Choice!

- Living Water Sunday School Class, "Reading the Old Testament Through Jewish Eyes" by Rabbi Evan Moffic, **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, Unshakeable Hope, with Andy Yarnell and Eric Wright **Gathering Room, 201**
- Pathfinders Class is currently meeting with the Multi-Age Sunday School Class, **Gathering Room, 201 or 208**



### Sign Up to Receive Emails from the Church

Sign up to receive emails from the church including the Weekly News, Devotionals, Sermon Notes, and Ministry and Mission Notes.

Go to: <http://www.fumcgadsden.org/sign-up-to-receive-emails>

**Need Help: Contact Sheila Freeman @ 256-490-5018**

## ELC News

Our 2022 Summer session has come to an end. We had a great time exploring summer themes and crafts. The new school year is right around the corner. Open House for all incoming students is Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. First day for the 2022-2023 school year is Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

—Helene Haller



## Youth Ministry News

**Mark your calendars! On Saturday, August the 6th @ 8am**, the youth, parents and chaperones will be going on a challenging adventure. This hike is hard and we are choosing to go in the hottest time of the year! You can get in the water at the bottom of the hike!! Be aware, this hike is difficult, they have no bathrooms on the trail, and it is 6 miles round trip. Some of the hike has a large incline. If you take on the challenge you will be proud of yourself and you will feel strong and ready to start school. Who is up for the challenge? We are eating some awesome BBQ in Rainsville @ 50 Taters on the way home! Adventure awaits!

# Children's Ministry



## Wonderful Wednesday Dinner Returns!

5:15 pm, Wednesday, August 17

### Menu:

Chick-fil-a

Fruit

Chips

Tea

\$7 per person

\$5 for children under age 11

\$20 Family Max

**f GFUMC**  
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

# FALL 2022

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES  
6:00PM ROOM 108

AUG 17	WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES RESUME W/ ICE CREAM SOCIAL
OCT 19	FALL FESTIVAL AT GFUMC 
NOV 16	FRIENDSGIVING! 
DEC 4	 CHRISTMAS PLAY PRACTICE 
DEC 11	CHRISTMAS PLAY 
DEC 14	 UGLY SWEATER PARTY 

KATHARINE BARNES • 256-543-8200 • [WWW.FUMCGADSDEN.ORG/CHILDREN](http://WWW.FUMCGADSDEN.ORG/CHILDREN) • PROVERBS 22:6

## August Mission Focus

Our church continues striving to make a difference for all the sweet students at Striplin Elementary School. Principal Ash, the teachers, and

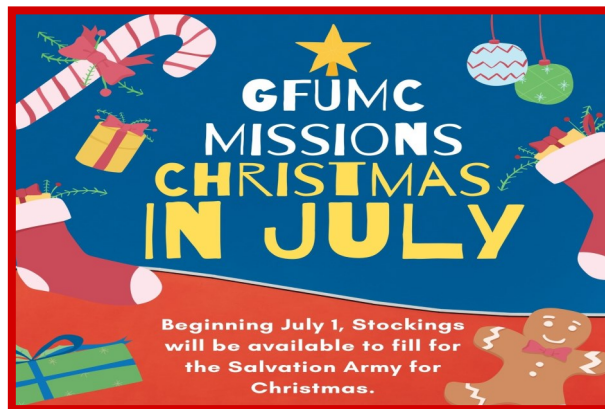


the students' families appreciate our church for adopting their school many years ago. In order to continue providing the A/B Honor Roll parties, "Welcome Back" Teacher Breakfast, and Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, August has been designated for Striplin Elementary. Please help us shine God's Love by giving to the Striplin Fund during the month of August.

## July Mission Update

*Thank you to the children and their families for packing 50 Shoeboxes for the Christmas Shoebox Ministry and for all who made donations for gifts, supplies, and postage to make this mission possible!! We join with other United Methodist Churches from our District and the North Alabama Conference in sending these shoeboxes and our prayers across the world to bless children this Christmas!*

*Thank you for being a blessing to others!  
Stockings will be taken to the Salvation Army and given to children this Christmas!*



## UMW NEWS

UMW Summer Supper

When: Tuesday, August 16 at 6:00 pm

Where: Tre Ragazzi in the Mall

All ladies (not just UMW members) are welcome.

The next UMW Luncheon is September 12th.

Barbara Bennett, President



## GFUMC



*"By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35*

### Clothes Closet

#### Workdays

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

#### Open to Public

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street Gadsden

Please hold your fall and winter donations of clothing until the first of September.  
Thank you!

### Ladle of Love

Fridays, 11:00am-12:00pm,  
at the Portico entrance.

Clients served in  
June 2022

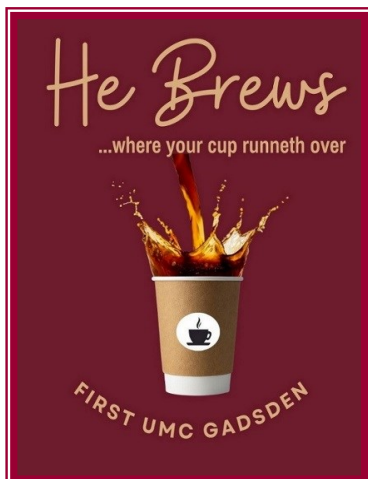
Ladle of Love 385  
Clothes Closet 202

Thank you to all our  
volunteers for their time and  
service to these missions!

Find out more about mission  
and service opportunities @  
[www.fumcgadsden.org/serve](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/serve)

Church Phone 256-543-8200  
[fumc@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:fumc@fumcgadsden.org)





## Inviting Ministries welcomes you to our Coffee Café!

We have your Sunday Cup of Coffee waiting for you between  
10 am 11 am on Sunday mornings. **Join us this Sunday!**  
*Come visit with friends, old and new, in Christian Fellowship!*  
*After Celebration and before Traditions and on your way in or*  
*out of Sunday school! **There is nothing like being here!***  
*Everyone come on back!*

# G

FUMC  
Brunch  
Club

MONTHLY LUNCH/BRUNCH  
AT 12:30 FOLLOWING  
TRADITIONAL SERVICE.

**Sunday, August 21– Harp & Clover**

All Young Adults and Families Welcome!



### Generosity: Ways to Give

[www.fumcgadsden.org/give](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/give)

Text to Give:  
256-344-8464

Mail your tithe or gift:  
115 S. 5th Street  
Gadsden, AL 35901



## First UMC Gadsden

# Pathways for Our Future

Awareness	Assessment	Action
<p>August 21* Monica Harbarger, Directory of United Counseling</p> <p>August 28* TBA September 11 TBA</p> <p>*Sanctuary, 6 pm &amp; Via Livestream</p>	<p>September 11 through October 6</p> <p>Daily Prayer &amp; Weekly Fasting</p> <p>Listening Sessions</p>	<p>September 18 Straw Poll Vote (2/3 Vote for Disaffiliation required to call Church Conference.)</p> <p>October 9 Church Conference if required. (Only full members who are present can vote..)</p>

Additional information and answers to frequently asked questions are available at  
[www.fumcgadsden.org/pathways4future](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/pathways4future)      password: Pathways2022

### Pathways for our Future Phase 1: Awareness (Prayer, Listening, and Learning)

The first speaker for our Special Pathways will be on **Sunday, August 21, 2022 at 6 pm** in the Sanctuary. **Rev. Monica Harbarger, Director of United Counseling**, will speak to us about how to communicate with each other gracefully and respectfully despite differences. The presentation will be in our sanctuary and live-streamed to our church website. Go to [www.fumcgadsden.org/meda](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/meda) to watch online and the live stream will appear in the media player when the stream becomes active. You can also watch at your convenience on demand on the church website or app.

### GFUMC Member Survey

**We value your opinion!**

The purpose of this survey is to determine what members want to know about the differences in our denomination and the vote that will take place in the fall of 2022 about whether we will stay UMC or disaffiliate from the denomination.



Printed survey forms are available in the church office or you can fill out the online survey form @ <https://forms.gle/itKvoHZAMsA5kV8S7>

## Calendar for August 7-13, 2022

### Aug 7, Sunday

10:00 am, Celebration Service, Sanctuary  
 10:00 am, Sunday School; HeBrews Coffee Ministry  
 11:00 am, Traditional Service, Sanctuary  
 12:30 pm, Children's Council Meeting, Room 108

### Aug 8, Monday

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

### Aug 9, Tuesday

5:00 pm, Yoga, Gym

### Aug 10, Wednesday

11:00 am, Wednesday Bible Study  
 6:00 pm, Bible Study, Facebook Live  
 No Children or Youth activities  
 6:00 pm, Choir Practice, Choir Room

### Aug 11, Thursday

9:00 am-10:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym  
 5:30 pm, Thursday Worship, Sanctuary

### Aug 12, Friday

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

*Special donations may be made, in honor or memory of a loved one, to the General Budget Fund or other designated funds. You can send a check by mail, drop in the offering plate, or use e-giving. Be sure to include the name of the person you want to be remembered.*

Have you downloaded the Church App?

**Search: FUMCGadsden**

(Available in the App Stores for Android or iPhone/)



### Immediate Prayer Concerns

Jerry Casey



### Continued Prayer Concerns

Asher Mae Collins  
 John Jones (Dottie Roger's son) Dottie Rogers  
 Winnie Mae Beasley Regina Holloway  
 Alice Hayes (mother of Sam Hayes)

### Honorariums and Memorials

#### General Budget Fund

In memory of M.B. McCartney, given by the McCartney Family.

### **Birthdays**

**Aug 7** Ruth Hester, Ray Smith,  
 Carol Roberts, Sellers Kirk  
**Aug 8** Jennifer Jackson,  
 Sawyer Cornett  
**Aug 9** Peggy Burnett, Diana Rampey,  
 Judy Tillman, Lewis Hill,  
 Emily Copeland, Madeline Miller  
**Aug 10** Tracie Wooten,  
 Jacob McKiven, Presley Autrey  
**Aug 12** Gwen Axtell, Claire Hedgspeth  
**Aug 13** Quinn Darden



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

### **Week of July 31, 2022**

In Person Total \*146 Online 318  
 Worship Total 464 Thursday Worship \*4  
 Celebration Service \*58/145  
 Traditional Worship \*84/173  
 Adult Sunday School \*34/1 Children \*1  
 Bible Study Groups \*22/29  
 Children \*17 Youth \*14 Nursery \*8  
 Total Attendance \*103/30

General Offering Budget \$13,175.00  
 General Offering Received \$8,048.17  
 YTD General Offering Budget \$408,425.00  
 YTD General Offering Rec'd \$417,971.00

**2022 Pledges: 82 for \$420,924.85**

**Text to Give: 256.344.8464**

### **Important Deadlines**

Information for the weekly announcement sheet is due each **Wednesday by noon**. Events for the church calendar are needed one **month prior to the event**.

### **Subscribe to the Weekly Church News**

You can submit your email to the church office to receive the weekly announcements on Friday.

**Update Your Contact Information**  
 Submit your current Address, Phone #, and Email for the church records: [susan@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:susan@fumcgadsden.org) or call 256-543-8200