

Extraordinary Grace

Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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

8-6-23

Sermon Notes

“Extraordinary Grace”

There are many days which are filled to overflowing. These are the times when we have more than we can say grace over. This is not always negative, but often we have so many good things which permeate our lives. It seems that this will be the case for First United Methodist Church this Sunday. This Sunday, we celebrate the blessing of the backpacks, gather for the sacrament of Holy Communion, end the Extraordinary Sermon Series, and a presentation from Gift to Gadsden. These are all great blessings for us as the body of Christ.

I think about Jesus' last night with his disciples. He must have been pulled in so many different directions and the human side of Jesus has much to attend to. It was the last night with his followers, it was Passover, he was about to be arrested, he was about to be crucified, he was teaching his followers about service by washing their feet, and his earthly ministry was coming to an end. Yet, in all this, he paused and celebrated the Passover meal with His disciples, telling them that when they shared bread and the cup to do so in remembrance of Him.

While there will be much happening in worship on Sunday, my prayer is that your focus is upon the presence of Jesus with us. In fact, each day, focus upon the presence of Christ with us instead of distractions. Where do you see Jesus today? Where do you experience His love? Where are you remembering Jesus and His work on your behalf?

(Scripture for this Sunday, Matthew 26:26-28)

In Christ,

Rev. Sherri



All Ages Are Invited!



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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

on Facebook Live: @FUMCgadsden

ACOLYTES

August 6: Silas Hosey & Luke Barnes

August 13: Anna Kate Casey & Maddie Tow

Tech Team Schedule

(Please arrive 45 minutes before the service.)

August 6

Celebration: Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman

Traditions: Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman

August 13

Celebration: Eric Wright Jacob McKiven, Carmen McKiven

Traditions: Mark Casey, Parker Casey Brad Barnes

**Wonderful Wednesday
Fellowship Meal will resume
August 16 @ 5:15 pm!**

Chick-fil-a is BACK!

\$7 per person, \$3 for ages 11 & Under

Dinner @ 5:15 pm

Small Groups for all ages @ 6 pm

Ice Cream Social on the Portico @ 6:30 pm

Small Group Study w/ Pastor Sherri begins August 16.

"The New Testament You Never Knew"

by N.T. Wright

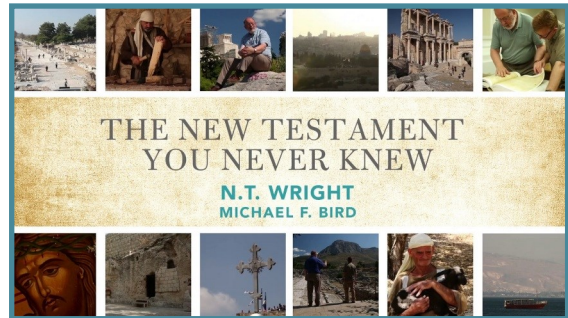
**Study Guides will be available in the
church office for \$11.00.**

**Out of Town on the
Weekend?**

Come to Thursday Worship!

5:30 to 6:00 pm each week

In the Sanctuary



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 at 7 am. Beginning July 13, the study will be focusing on leaders of the Bible. Each week the small group will discuss a key leader from the Old and New Testament. This study will conclude September 14.

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 July 2, "Proverbs", by Dominick S. Hernandez, 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, Room 208
- Pathfinders and Seekers Classes are currently meeting with the Multi-Age Sunday School Class, Room 208 New study beginning July 16, "The Walk" by Adam Hamilton.



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

ELC News

- ♦ The ELC faculty will begin preparations for the 2023-2024 school year starting Friday, August 11th.
- ♦ Open House is Thursday, August 17, from 10 am to 11 am.
- ♦ First day of school is Monday, August 21st.

—Helene Haller

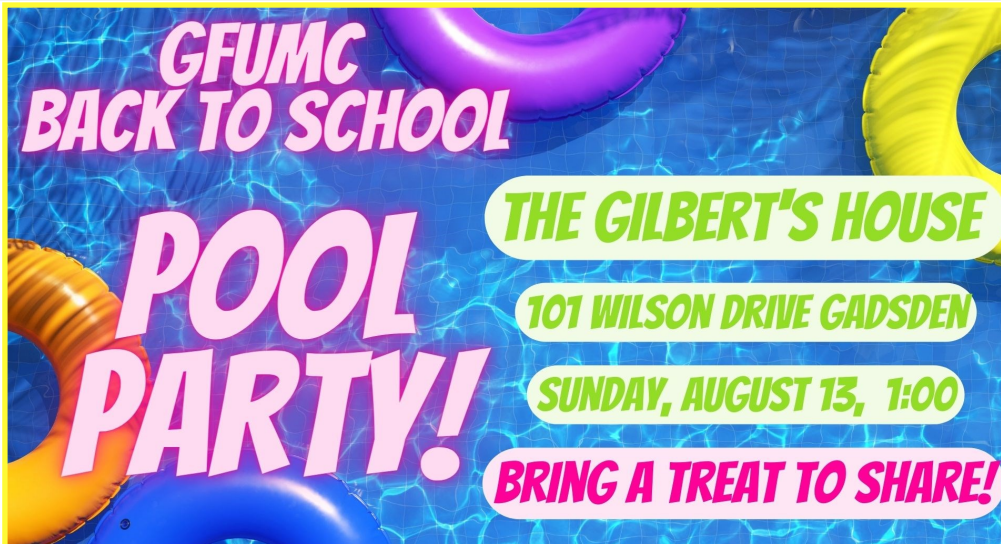


Youth Ministry News

August 4- Day Trip to Spring Valley Beach
August 16- Wonderful Wednesdays
resume- Ice Cream Social @ 6:30 pm in
the portico

Contact Carmen McKiven for details.

Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Dinner will resume August 16!



Children's
Church
Ministry

Children's
Church
Sundays @
9 am & 11



AUGUST 2

MEGA Nerf Games 5:00pm

AUGUST 6

Blessing of the Backpacks
9:00 am and 11:00 am

AUGUST 13 Back to School Pool PARTY! 1:00-3:00 pm

AUGUST 16

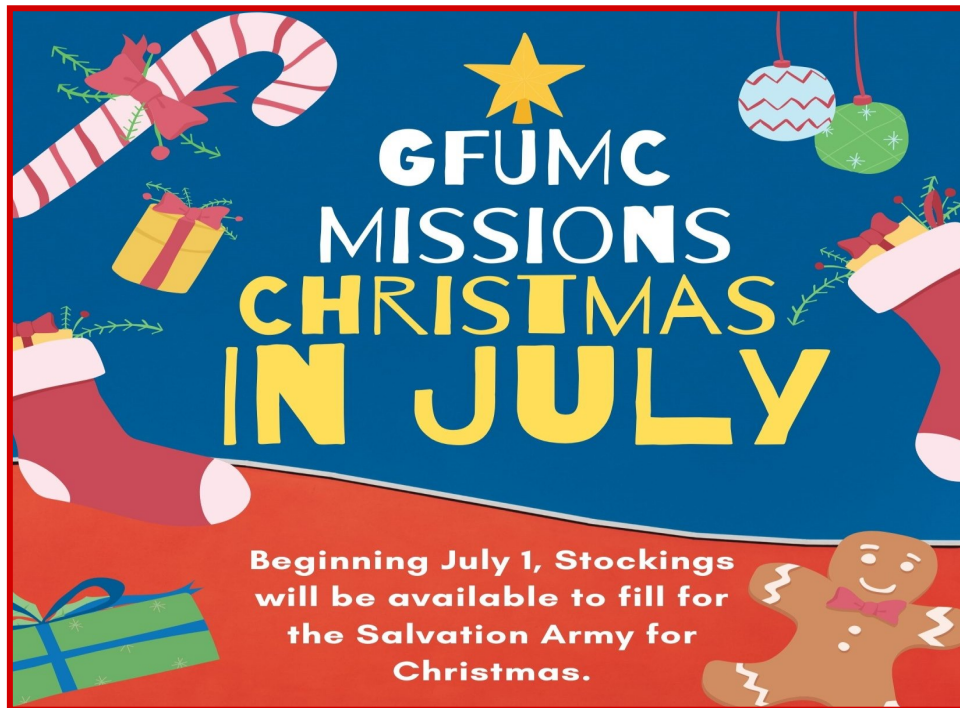
Wednesday Activities Begin 6:00pm
Ice Cream Social 6:30 pm

July Mission Focus

Thank you to all who have given to "Christmas in July"! The filled stockings and shoeboxes will bring joy to many boys and girls this Christmas! Please be sure to return your filled stocking or make your donation toward the shoebox ministry! Stockings and Shoeboxes will be blessed in both worship services on July 13!

It's Christmas in July and the GFUMC Mission Team is busy preparing shoeboxes and stockings! Visit the Christmas in July Mission Center in the Chestnut Foyer. Pick up a stocking to fill for a boy or girl—suggested items are on a list and ready for you! Stockings will be distributed locally for children in need at Christmastime. We are also filling shoeboxes for the Mountain Lakes District Shoebox Ministry that will help make Christmas bright for a child in another country! Monetary donations are being accepted to help purchase items and pay for postage for the Shoebox Ministry!

—Thank you, Missions Team

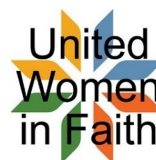


United Women in Faith

Our Summer Supper in August is Tuesday, August 15, at 5:30 at the Gadsden Country Club.

We will start back with the monthly luncheons on Monday, September 11 at 12:00 noon.

—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 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

July open dates are

7/5 and 7/19

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street Gadsden

Find out more about mission and service opportunities @ www.fumcgadsden.org/serve

Clients Served

June 2023

Ladle of Love 475

Clothes Closet 258

Thanks to our volunteers!

Phone: 256-543-8200

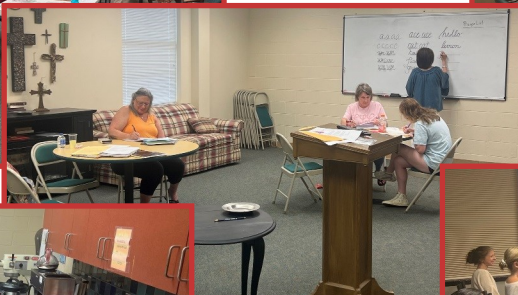
Email: fumc@fumcgadsden.org

#gfumcreconnect2023



Gift to Gadsden

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden



Inviting Ministries



FUMC Gadsden

He Brews


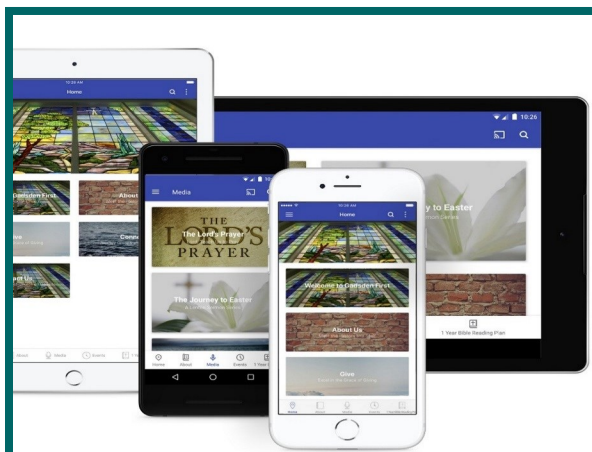
Sundays @ 10 am
between
the worship
services

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.

All Meetings, Events and Activities must be scheduled in advance with the church secretary, Susan Swann by email or phone, susan@fumcgadsden.org or 256.543.8200. This will allow us to serve you better! We will reserve a specific room(s) for you, ensure that the air conditioning is on, and that there is access to the building.



First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

Available in App Stores



DID YOU KNOW...

That you can reduce your tax exposure by making a gift from your IRA to your church? An IRA Qualified Charitable Withdrawal (QCD) is a simple and easy way for you to use your IRA to help GFUMC fulfill its mission.



DOES AN IRA QCD MAKE SENSE THIS YEAR?

If you are age 70 ½ you can use pre-tax dollars in your IRA to donate to the church. This amount is capped at \$100,000.

If you are age 73 (for tax year 2023), this amount can be used to satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution.

Check with your tax professional to see how an IRA QCD could impact your taxes while helping the ministries and missions of the church.





Secure Online Giving



Scan the QR Code or
Text to Give: 256-344-8464
First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

Generosity: Ways to Give

In-person, at the offering time during worship.

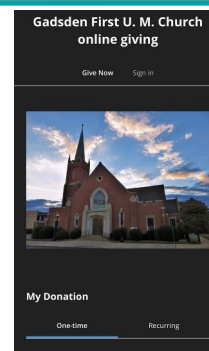
www.fumcgadsden.org/give

Text to Give: 256-344-8464

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



Look! The color scheme for our eGiving portal has changed!



Calendar for August 6-12, 2023

Aug 6 Sunday

9:00 am Celebration Service, Sanctuary

10:00 am Sunday School; HeBrews Coffee

11:00 am Traditions Service, Sanctuary

Aug 7 Monday

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

Aug 8 Tuesday

5:00 pm-6:00 pm Yoga, Gym

Aug 9 Wednesday

6:00 pm Choir Practice

Aug 10 Thursday

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

5:30 pm Thursday worship

Aug 11 Friday

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

The "Estate Sale" for furnishings and household items at the church parsonage will be on Thursday, August 10 & Friday, August 11 from 9 am to 4 pm and on Saturday, August 12, from 9 am to 3 pm!
Please come and shop and invite your friends!
81 Canterbury Lane, Gadsden, AL 35901



Gift to Gadsden 2023 STATS

211 approximate individuals attended
(many attended multiple workshops)
24 different workshops 32 Instructors
80 instructional hours

Save the Dates

August 6 Blessing of the Backpacks, both services
9:00 am & 10:55 am

August 16 Wonderful Wednesdays resume!
5:15 pm Fellowship Dinner
6:00 pm Small Groups for Adults, Youth, and Children
6:30 pm Ice Cream Social

In Memory of His Life

Otis Deason

July 28, 2023



Immediate Prayer Concerns

Family of Otis Deason Family of Carol Kurovics
Lisa Dobbins Asher Mae Collins
Ken Davis Dawn Rains
Heather Lincoln (Phillip & Leslie Johnson's daughter)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Lewis Hill Rodney Thompson Bibb Holland
Chris Gunnells (Gail McNair's nephew)
John Jones (Dotty Rogers' Son)

The ministers and congregation of First United Methodist Church of Gadsden extend Christian sympathy to Rob and Sherri Reynolds in the death of his mother, and Rachel and Libby Reynolds in the death of their grandmother

*Carol Kurovics
on August 1, 2023*



Birthdays

Aug 6 Karen Blackstock,
David Freeman, Jade Collins
Aug 7 Ruth Hester, Ray Smith,
Carol Roberts, Sellers Kirk
Aug 8 Jennifer Jackson
Aug 9 Peggy Burnett, Diana Rampey,
Judy Tillman, Lewis Hill,
Emily Copeland, Madeline Miller
Aug 10 Tracie Wooten,
Jacob McKiven, Presley Autrey
Aug 12 Claire Hedgspeth



Week of July 30, 2023

In Person Total *178 Worship Total 624
Online 446 Thursday Worship *11
Traditions Service *104/205
Celebration Service *63/241
Adult Sunday School *42 UWF 0
Bible Study Groups *4 Children *25
Youth *8 Nursery *4 Misc. *4
Total Small Groups *89 *In Person

General Offering Budget \$12,777.00
General Offering Received \$8,617.00
YTD General Offering Budget \$396,087.00
YTD General Offering Rec'd \$369,931.00

WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS

**Rob Reynolds,
Rachel Reynolds, and
Libby Reynolds**

**Transferred from other
UMC**