



Transfiguration Sunday

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

February 19, 2023 **Jesus' Transformation**

17 Six days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and brought them to the top of a very high mountain. ² He was transformed in front of them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light.

³ Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus. ⁴ Peter reacted to all of this by saying to Jesus, "Lord, it's good that we're here. If you want, I'll make three shrines: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

⁵ While he was still speaking, look, a bright cloud overshadowed them. A voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son whom I dearly love. I am very pleased with him. Listen to him!" ⁶ Hearing this, the disciples fell on their faces, filled with awe.

⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Don't tell anybody about the vision until the Human One^[a] is raised from the dead." Matthew 17:1-9 CEB

This Sunday is when we celebrate Transfiguration Sunday! In our passage, the disciples see Jesus transformed. What they saw was utterly amazing, his clothes and face became like a bright light! In the gospel of Luke, Jesus is described as having clothes like lightning, and in Mark Jesus's clothes are described as dazzling. Did you notice that not only is the appearance of Jesus completely different, but we have people who have been dead for a long time appear at the scene? The disciples are amazed and in wonder. They fall and worship Jesus. Let's gather this Sunday and worship Jesus in awe and wonder. Let us also discuss why Moses and Elijah show up at this event, why they ended up seeing only Jesus, and what transfiguration means for us! I look forward to seeing everyone on Sunday!

Pastor Andy

**Make a
reservation for
dinner on Ash
Wednesday for \$5
per person. We
will serve at 5 pm.
256-490-5018**



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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 or
on Facebook Live: @FUMCgadsden

ACOLYTES

February 19: Anna Kate Casey & Maddie Tow

February 26: Jack & Sarah Kate Brookshire

Tech Team Schedule

(Please arrive 45 minutes before the service.)

February 19

Celebration: Will Brookshire, Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman

Traditions: Mark Casey, Parker Casey, Sheila Freeman

February 26

Celebration: Eric Wright, Jacob McKiven, Carmen McKiven

Traditions: Tammy Hayes, Brad Barnes



Note: New date—Thursday, February 23 at 6 pm.

Gadsden First UMC will host session 2 at the Alaco Room, Downtown Civic Center. Coping with grief and loss can be difficult. Whether you are grieving the death of a loved one, coping with a divorce, feeling the pangs of an empty nest, settling into a new job or town, or experiencing other changes in your life, holidays and other special days may cause your feeling of loss to be intensified. **This workshop will give you tools to help you cope with changes and anxiety, as you move through different seasons of life.** The workshop will be facilitated by Frances Hart. **All are welcome!** Register @ www.fumcgadsden.org/overunderaroundthrough or contact Sheila Freeman @ 256-490-5018.

**We Want to See You @
Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Meal**
Ash Wednesday, 2/22, Serving begins @ 5 PM
Menu: Little Bridge Barbecue
Kid's Menu: Chicken Nuggets

Special Price \$5 pp Ages 11 & Under \$3
Family Max \$20
Text Your Reservation: 256-490-5018

**Out of Town on the
Weekend?**
Come to Thursday Worship!
5:30 to 6:00 pm each week
In the Sanctuary

Wednesday Mornings, 11 am

Bible Study with Pastor Sam

Room 208, In Person Bible Study, A Study of the Book of Romans
Facebook Live @ 6 pm or on demand-via the FUMC APP or website

Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesday, 6 pm, Beginning 2/22

- ♦ A Study of the Book of Romans w/ Pastor Sam, Room 208
- ♦ Why Easter Matters w/Harriet Murray, Room 110

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

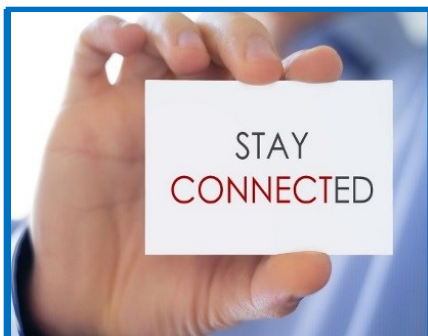
You are invited to join the weekly Bible study with the Men at the Well small group. They are currently meeting at the Choice Restaurant.

Something Happens Here by Stephen P. West will be the topic for Lent.

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, **Room 112**, In person and online. Contact a member of the class for the link to join online!
All the Places to Go, How Will You Know? by John Ortberg
- 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** He Chose the Nails by Max Lucado



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>

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

ELC News

ELC students and faculty celebrated Valentine's Day on Tuesday. Registration for Summer 2023 and the 2023-2024 school year began this week with currently enrolled church member students. Next week we will begin registration for currently enrolled non-church members and their siblings.

Helene Haller



Youth Ministry News

Wonderful Wednesdays are back!
Dinner at 5:15, please make a reservation!

**Sunday School is back for Youth! Room 210
10 am on Sunday mornings.**

Don't miss our Wednesday night series for Lent!

—Pastor Andy

Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Dinner— February 22

Menu: Little Bridge Barbecue Kid's Menu: Chicken Nuggets Text Reservation to 256-490-5018
Ash Wednesday, 2/22 Special Night, Serving begins @ 5 pm, \$5 pp, 11 & Under-\$3, Family Max \$20

Children's Ministry

Children's Church, Sundays during Celebration and Traditions Worship

Wonderful Wednesday Children's Group, Wednesdays at 6 pm

GFUMC Kids

Spring Calendar

"Fort Night" Family Night
February 1

March Madness
March 22

Easter Egg Hunt
April 8

Wonderful Wednesdays Children's Church
Wednesday's Sunday's
@ 6:00 @ 9:00 and 11:00

www.fumcgadsden.org/children ● Proverbs 22:6

Wonderful Wednesdays @6:00

January	February
Jan 4 We can see God through Jesus.	Feb 1 Following Jesus is the opposite of following ourselves.
Jan 11 We can hear God's voice if we listen.	Feb 8 Our enemies help us learn to love.
Jan 18 God is powerful!	Feb 15 Jesus is with us even though we can't see Him.
Jan 25 Following God makes us stand out.	Feb 23 Ash Wednesday

You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart.
Jeremiah 29:13

February Mission Focus

Mission Service Team-Upper Sand Mountain Parish

A Mission Service Team is now forming for First UMC Gadsden to take a team to Upper Sand Mountain Parish in beautiful Northeast AL March 27-31. We are planning to take the bus plus a couple of private vehicles. This mission trip will provide opportunities to serve in a variety of ways, including repairing low income housing, maintaining parish and church structures, canning and preserving food at the Better Way Cannery, and serving at Day Camps for area children. Please contact the church office as soon as possible so that we can confirm this trip. **Call the church office at 256-543-8200 to sign up!**

February Mission Focus: Help us fill a Tornado Bucket for the Disaster Relief Warehouse in Decatur! This year, we will be collecting donations of items for the buckets so that those can then be divided up and packed! **You can help by donating multiple quantities of the same item** or by sponsoring a tornado bucket. The estimated cost of the items for one tornado bucket is \$120. Buckets will be taken to our Disaster Relief Warehouse at the end of February.

Specific Items Needed to Complete a Tornado Bucket

- 1 Standard Size Claw Hammer
- 1 Shirt Pocket Notebook, 1 Permanent Marker,
- 1 Pencil and Sharpener in a Ziploc Bag
- 12 Black 30-45 Gallon Trash Bags
- 1 Roll of Toilet Paper in Zip Lock bag
- Work Gloves-Leather Palm or All Leather Gloves
- 50 Count #8 Nails
- 10 White 13 Gallon Trash Bags with drawstrings.
- 1 Cellophane Packing Tape
- 10 One Gallon Zip Lock Bags
- 1 Box Cutter
- 1 Hand Sanitizer (4oz to 12 oz)
- 1 Insect Repellent Spray or Can, or Wipes or combination
- 1 pair Safety Glasses
- 6 Clear 40 –55 Gallon Trash Bags
- 3 Tampons or Pads in a Zip Loc Bag

United Women in Faith

The LuVerna Waid Circle will meet February 21 at 6:00 pm in the parlor. The ongoing study is "The Upper Room".

Next Luncheon is Monday, March 13, 2023, at 12:00 pm. Program will be "Moving Forward for the Methodist Women", Gail Hiatt, Lay Leader, Mountain Lakes District. Please invite a friend to come and join us. —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

March dates are

3/1 and 3/15

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street Gadsden

Ladle of Love

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

Clients served 2022 YEAR END

Ladle of Love 4,298

Clothes Closet 2,442

*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

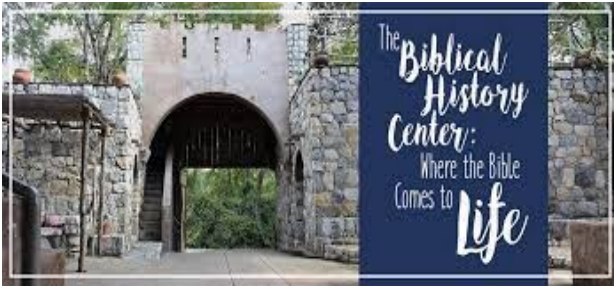
Phone: 256-543-8200

Email:

fumc@fumcgadsden.org

[#gfumcreconnect2022](https://www.fumcgadsden.org/serve)

Sign up for a Trip to the Biblical History Center—March 14



Ken and I are planning a trip to the Biblical History Center in LaGrange, GA on Tuesday, March 14.

We will walk through the Archaeological Replica Garden, which has “full scale reconstructions relevant to life in Biblical times.” After the tour, we will have a four course meal. The whole experience of the tour and the meal is three

hours. Our reservation is at 10:30 am. We will travel by church bus with Eileen Graham driving. The cost of \$74.00 includes entrance fee to the Archaeological Garden, the four course meal, and gas for the van. Please let us know as soon as possible so I can lock in our reservation date and time. *Plan to go on this fun and educational experience! You will come away with a better understanding of life in Biblical times.*

Have questions? Call me—Peggy Casey at 256-504-2037 or Ken Casey at 259-441-0280.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GADSDEN

Generosity 2023

Strength for today, bright hope for tomorrow!

Your church needs more than just your financial giving in 2023...we need everyone to be “engaged” with church. We all promised to support our church with our PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE, and WITNESS. In other words, we all promised to be plugged into every part of the church and to do it faithfully.



Generosity 2023

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

As of 1.29.23
62 Estimate of Giving
Cards received for a total
of \$346,684.00.

There is a line in the hymn, *Great is Thy Faithfulness*, that is so appropriate for where we are right now: “Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow...” That is what our Faithful God provides to us. That’s what we want you to be a part of. Your giving of tithes, offerings, time, talents, and service will help strengthen FUMC Gadsden today, and will help ensure bright hope for tomorrow. Your church needs YOU at this critical time in its history!

Please pray about your contributions to your church for 2023, complete an Estimate of Giving Card for 2023, and return it to the church office as quickly as you can, so that our Finance Team can finish up the 2023 budget. It’s not too late to complete your card. —The Generosity Team

Generosity: Ways to Give

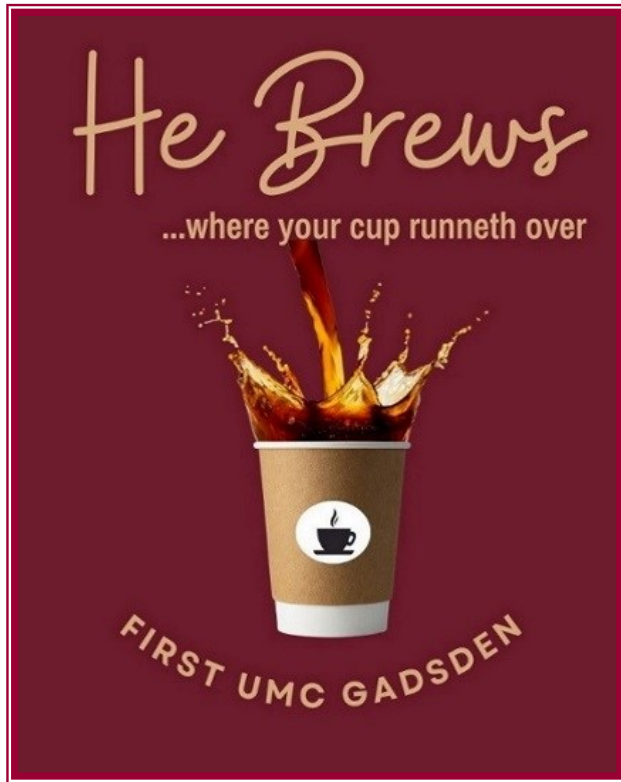
www.fumcgadsden.org/give

Text to Give: 256-344-8464


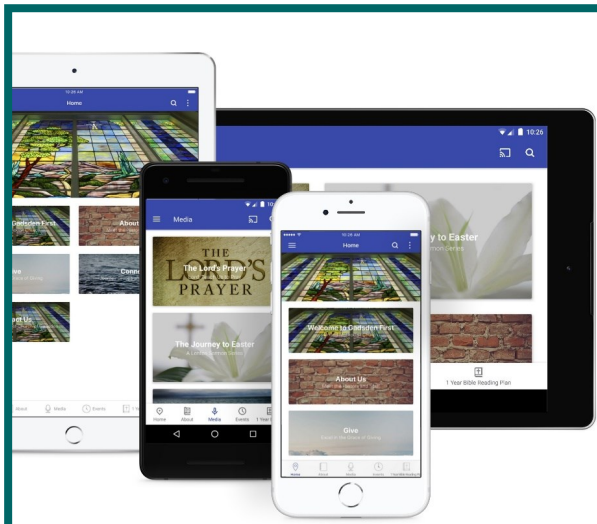
Mail your tithe or gift: 115 S. 5th Street, Gadsden, AL 35901



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!!!**



First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

Available in App Stores



The image shows a collection of mobile devices displaying the church's app. On the left, a tablet shows a grid of images. In the center, a smartphone displays a 'THE LORD'S PRAYER' screen. To its right, another smartphone shows a 'Journey to Easter' screen. On the far right, a tablet displays a 'Lenten Journey' screen. The app icon, a red and white cross, is shown above the text 'First United Methodist Church of Gadsden'. Below this, it says 'Available in App Stores' and lists the Apple App Store, Google Play Store, and Amazon Appstore logos.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook.



Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org

Calendar for February 19-25, 2023

Feb 19 Sunday

9:00 am Celebration Service, Sanctuary
10:00 am Sunday School, HeBrews Coffee Shop
11:00 am Traditions Service, Sanctuary

Feb 20 Monday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Spring Semester
9:00 am-10:00 am Exercise Group, Gym

Feb 21 Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Spring Semester
5:00-6:00 pm Yoga, Gym

Feb 22 Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Spring Semester
11:00 am Bible Study, Pastor Sam, Room 208
5:15 pm Wednesday night meal, Gathering Room
6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary

Feb 23 Thursday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Spring Semester
9:00 am-10:00 am Exercise Group, Gym
5:30 pm Thursday Worship, Sanctuary
6:00 pm OUAT Workshop, Downtown Civic Center

Feb 24 Friday

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

Join us for Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner on Ash Wednesday, 2/22. Dinner Special \$5 per person featuring barbecue from Little Bridge. We can't wait to see you there! We will begin serving at 5 pm due to the worship service at 6 PM. Text 256-490-5018 to make a reservation.



Immediate Prayer Concerns

Mike McEwen Jane Herb Mary Tom Hale

Continued Prayer Concerns

Rodney Thompson Chris Gunnells
June Longshore
Martha Bullock



Handbell Musicians



We are looking forward to adult participation in a new handbell choir. If you are interested and know basic musical notes, please contact Monica Gilmer at 256-328-4420.

Birthdays

Feb 19 Byron Hall, Courtney McEwen
Feb 20 Chris Dorsett, Jeremy Wilson
Feb 21 Ann Green, Vickie Handy, Shelby Russell, Beau Crain
Feb 22 Jack Pierce, Eileen Graham, Haley Freeman
Feb 24 Terry Bishop, Cindy Isbell



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

Week of February 12, 2023

In Person Total *109 Online 236
Worship Total 345 Thursday Worship *4
One Combined Service *105/236
Adult Sunday School *0 Children *0
Bible Study Groups *28/37
Children *28 Youth *16 Nursery *4
Children's Council *12
Total Small Groups *88/37 *In Person

Proposed Offering Budget \$12,777.00
General Offering Received \$6,711.00
YTD General Offering Budget \$89,439.00
YTD General Offering Rec'd \$83,268.00

Update Your Contact Information

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 or call Susan in the church office @ 256-543-8200.