



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

7-18-21

Sermon Notes

"Freedom To Do"

Several years ago, I heard a story told by our then Bishop, Will Willimon, about something that happened to him early on in his time at Duke. He had been having a rough time with the Dean of his department, and he was really complaining about it to a colleague of his at lunch one day. "The man is absolutely driving me CRAZY!" Willimon told his friend. After his rant was over, Willimon's friend was silent for a while, and then asked, "Will, is there anything this man is doing that is keeping you from doing your job?" Willimon stammered for a bit before finally saying, "Well...no. There is nothing the Dean is doing that is keeping me from doing my job." His friend just left the thought hanging there. Nothing else really needed to be said. Is there anything that is keep us from doing our jobs? By "jobs," I mean what our Lord has commissioned us to do...to be His ambassadors...to GO and DO. I'm referring to this week's Gospel lesson...

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶ And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' ¹² I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town. ¹⁷ The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" ¹⁸ He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹ See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

(Luke 10: 1-11, 17-20 NRSV)

Join us this Sunday as we celebrate the freedom to GO and DO!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Sam

Worship Opportunities

- **Mosaic:** 6:30 pm, Tuesday, (in person and online)
- **Thursday Worship:** 5:30 pm, Sanctuary

Sunday Worship

Celebration Service 9:00 am
(In person in the Sanctuary and online)

Traditions Service 11:00 am
(In person in the Sanctuary and online)

www.fumcgadsden.org/media or
on facebook live: @fumcgadsden

Tech Team Schedule

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

July 18

Celebration: Mark Condra, Bill Haller, Jacob Kelley

Traditions: Matthew Vance, Carmen McKiven, Jacob McKiven

July 25

Celebration: Davis Varner, Tammy Hayes, Brad Barnes, Liz Barnes

Traditions: Matthew Vance, Sheila Freeman



Youth Ministry News
Wednesday Night
Youth Group 6:00 pm
Room 211/Gym

Youth Summer 2021

Join us at Youth on Wednesdays, 6 pm

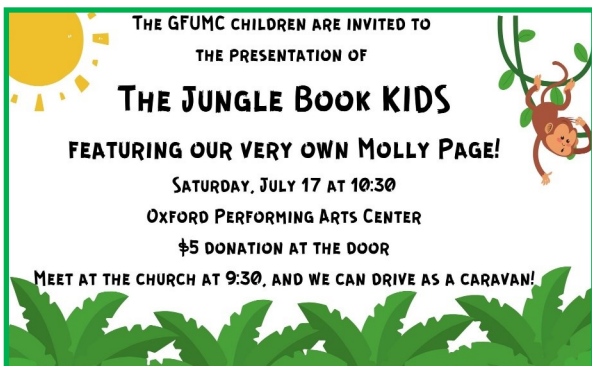
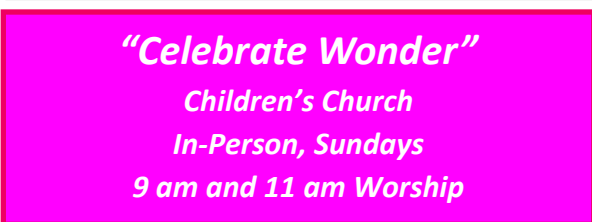
Most Amazing Youth Day Ever

Sunday, August 8th, from 3 pm-8 pm. Surprise trips on the church bus, special guest youth speaker, and much more! This is an event that you don't want to miss!

ELC News

Lunchbox revolt is Tuesday, July 20. The "Dog House" will be here. Wednesday, July 28, is the last day of summer session. Fall 2021 Open House will be Thursday, August 19, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. First day of Fall 2021 is Monday, August 23.

Helene Haller



Children's Ministry News





Christmas Stockings will be available for everyone who wants to participate in this project from July 11th—July 31st. Stockings may be picked up in the Chestnut St Lobby or at any worship service.

Fill a stocking with joy, love, and prayers for children in our community. Stockings may be returned under the "Christmas in July" Tree in the Chestnut St Lobby!

UMW NEWS

July Calendar of Events

July 20th, Tuesday at 6:00 pm, Summertime Dinner at "The Rail House"

July 22-24, North Alabama Conference Virtual Mission U

This is a conference with guest speakers on the following topics:

____ *Finding Peace in an Anxious World*, edited by James Brown, taught by Rev. Denise Mullaney

____ *Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools*, by Monique, taught by Rev. Melissa Self Patrick

____ *Bearing Witness in the Kingdom: Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship*, by Darryl W. Stephens, taught by Abi Carlise-Wilke.

____ *Responding to Violence: A Curriculum for Children's Facilitators*, by Sue Raymond, taught by Patricia Lane

Please mark X by the study you want to take

Opening Worship 6:30 PM

REGISTRATION INFO

Deadline to register July 19, 2021

Name

Address

Cellphone #

Home phone

Email (Required)

District: Mountain Lakes Church Gadsden First UMC

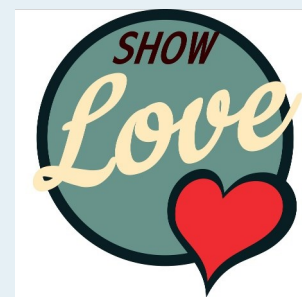
Registration: \$20. Make check payable to NACUMC

Mail to: Theresa Richardson, Registrar, 9023 Brookline Lane, Helena, AL 35080

Email: theresaricherson@gmail.com or call 205-637-4760 to leave a message



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

Ladle of Love

Fridays, 11:00am-

12:00pm, at the portico entrance

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

Church Phone

256-543-8200

fumc@fumcgadsden.org

#gfumcreconnect2021

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.

Sunday Mornings @ 10:00 am in person

- ♦ Living Water Sunday School Class, "Mysteries of the Messiah" by Rabbi Jadon Sobel, Chapel, Room 118.
- ♦ Martin Fellowship Class, "International Sunday School Lessons", Room 116.
- ♦ Pathfinders Class, "Which Way, Lord", by Rob Fuquay, Room 208.
- ♦ Seekers Sunday School Class— is currently not meeting. *Members are welcome to meet with another class until Seekers returns.*

In-person
Pastor Sam
Wednesday
Mornings @ 11 am
Gathering Room

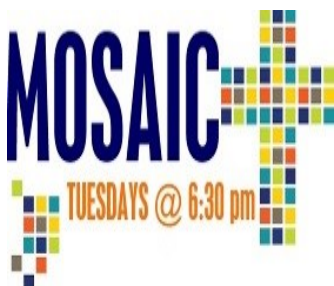


Online
Pastor Sam
Wednesdays @ 6 pm,
online, FACEBOOK Live
(Also, available on-demand on
the GFUMC website or church
app under the media tab.)

**In-Person: Wednesday Nights, 6:00 pm, w/Harriet Murray
will not meet during June and July. Return in August.**

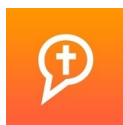
Thursdays, Men at the Well, 7:00 am via Zoom

"The Miracles of Jesus" with Roger Thompson. *Contact the church office for more information on how to join this online study.*



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. Check out the Mosaic Facebook Page for weekly devotionals and for updates about in-person worship @ 6:30 pm on Tuesdays in the gym or portico/courtyard, depending on the weather.



Sermon.net App

First United Methodist Church of
Gadsden (search ministries)

Online Worship Livestream

Or Church website: www.fumcgadsden.org/media



LIVE



Church YouTube Channel: Gadsden First UMC

Worship Services are available ON DEMAND in the media tab on the app or church website.

Have you downloaded the Church App?

*It is a great way to reconnect! Go to: **FUMCGadsden***

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



Any questions about offerings, gifts or financial issues for the church should be directed to Sheila Witherspoon. She is now serving as our Financial Secretary. **You can reach Sheila Witherspoon at the church office at 256-543-8200 or email at giving@fumcgadsden.org.**



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
- Offering Plates are located at the entrances the sanctuary.

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Calendar for July 18-24, 2021

July 18, Sunday

9:00 am, Celebration Service, in Sanctuary & live streamed

10:00 am, Martin Fellowship, Pathfinders, & Living Water

Sunday School classes, in person

11:00 am, Traditions Service, in Sanctuary & live streamed

July 19, Monday

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

July 20, Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm, ELC Summer Schedule

9:00 am-11:00 am, Clothes Closet workday

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

6:30 pm, Mosaic, In person/Livestream

July 21, Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm, ELC Summer Schedule

9:00 am-11:00 am, Clothes Closet open

11:00 am, Bible Study w/Pastor Sam, in person

6:00 pm, Bible Study w/Pastor Sam, online

6:00 pm, Children, Room 208

6:00 pm, Youth, Gym & 211

6:00 pm, Choir Practice, Choir Room

July 22, Thursday

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

7:00 am, Men at the Well Journey Group, Zoom

5:30 pm, Thursday Worship, Sanctuary

July 23, Friday

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

Welcome New Staff Members

Alexis McCollum is our new Building Steward.
Pam Deru will be assisting with the Financial Secretary's Duties and Reception Desk.

Honorariums and Memorials

Mission Fund:

In memory of Virginia Yocum, given by Sonya Nesbitt.

In memory of Dot Thompson, given by Sonya Nesbitt.

In memory of Ina Davis, given by Sonya Nesbitt.

Honorariums & Memorials

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.

Altar Flower Fund

Gifts to this fund are used to place flowers on the altar for special worship days throughout the year. Flowers may also be placed on the altar in honor or in memory of a loved one by personal request. Contact Susan Swann in the church office for available dates and more information.

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Dr. Ed Thompson

William (Skip) Edwards

(Jennifer Jackson's father)

Mikey Tonagel

(Collins & Belinda Tackaberrys' son-in-law)



Continued Prayer Concerns

Jack Floyd Donny Gray Carma Rayburn

Ruby Christine Poland (granddaughter of Jeff & Cathea Poland)

Ann Elizabeth Casey (great-granddaughter of Dotty Ivey)

Yvonne Humphrey (Jan Humphrey's step-mother)

Mary Nichols (Patsy Blankenship's mother)

Crystal Roden Anderson (Allison Casey's cousin)

Birthdays.....

July 19 Judy Dawson, Shane Robinson

July 20 Clair Harrison, Parker Casey

July 21 Whit Torbert, Ava Brooke Malone, Alexandria Cox, George Cox

July 22 Betty Abel, Kathy Torbert

July 23 Louise Ferguson, Barbara Morrison, Marsha Williams, Bob Sisson, Cameron Powell

July 24 Evelyn Pierson, Roger Kirby, Donna Leach, Mary Ryle



Week of July 11, 2021

*In Person Total *273 Overall Total 535

Online Viewer Total *262 Mosaic *10

Thursday *11 Sunday School *31

Celebration Service *50/105 Children *26

Traditional *66/139 Youth *23

Bible Study Groups **10/18 Other *46

General Offering Budget \$15,200.00

General Offering Received \$9,236.00

YTD General Offering Budget \$425,600.00

YTD General Offering Rec'd \$372,235.00



2021 Alleluia Offering

\$15,588.00

**Designated for
Children's Ministry
Room 6,650.00**

Total \$22,238.00