



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

7-30-23

Sermon Notes

“Extraordinary Elements”

Remember Your Baptism Service

In the United Methodist Church, there are two sacraments: Holy Communion and Baptism. Both were commissioned by Jesus and are rituals which use common elements to convey God’s gracious presence in our lives. Yet, sacraments are so much more, because God is made real in the washing of the water, breaking of the bread, and sharing of the cup. This is a means of grace for all of God’s people.

This Sunday, we continue our journey in extraordinary as we remember Jesus’ baptism and our own. Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River and affirmed by God’s Spirit announcing that Jesus was God’s Son, in whom God was well pleased. (Matthew 3:13-17). Do you remember your baptism? Granted that may have occurred before you had memories, so a better question might be, “Do you remember that you are baptized?” You should, because that initiation into Christ’s holy church, and incorporation into God’s mighty acts of salvation, giving us new birth through water and the Spirit make all the difference as we seek to be Christ’s disciples in the world.

In Christ,
Rev. Sherri

Gift to Gadsden 2023 Thank you to everyone who worked in advance, behind the scenes, and during! Pictured are Dotty Ivey, Phillip Johnson, 2023 Chairman, and some of the of the coordinators, greeters, and volunteers who made this year’s Gift to Gadsden a great 30th Year Celebration! *Special*



thanks goes to Dotty Ivey, who founded Gift to Gadsden in the early 90’s and coordinated this wonderful mission and ministry for many years, to Eileen Graham (not pictured) who served as a coordinator and mentor for this year’s team, to our gifted member instructors/sponsors, to Regina Holloway who headed up our hospitality @ the “Cookie Break”, and to Matthew Vance for his help with all of the set up and cleanup for this huge event! Approximately 211 individuals attended with many attending multiple workshops. There were 24 different workshops, and 32 Instructors and a total of over 80 instructional hours. (See more on Page 5.)

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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

July 30: Clementine Hilburn & Quinn Darden
 August 6: Silas Hosey & Luke Barnes

Tech Team Schedule

(Please arrive 45 minutes before the service.)

July 30

Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Carmen McKiven, Jacob McKiven

Traditions: Davis Varner, Wayne Payton, Brad Barnes

August 6

Celebration: Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman

Traditions: Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman

Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Meal will resume in August!

Enjoy your summer!

Out of Town on the Weekend?

Come to Thursday Worship!

5:30 to 6:00 pm each week

In the Sanctuary

Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesday
will resume in the Fall!
Enjoy Your Summer Break!

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

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

ELC News

On Wednesday July 26th, the ELC will finish its Summer 2023 session. We will celebrate with Papa John's pizza and Kona Ice. On Thursday August 17th from 10 am to 11 am, will be the 2023-2024 ELC Open House. All enrolled students and parents are encouraged to come and meet their new teachers and friends

—Helene Haller



Youth Ministry News

- ♦ July 26- Bowling at "The Alley"
- ♦ August 4- Day Trip to Spring Valley Beach

*Contact Carmen McKiven for details.
Youth Counselor*

Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Dinner will resume August 16!

MEGA NERF GAMES

Wednesday, August 2

GFUMC Gym 5:00

Nerf bullets and safety goggles provided!

Bring your own nerf gun and a
FRIEND!



**Blessing of
the backpacks**
August 6

Fall Fest
October
25

**GFUMC CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**
DECEMBER 10

**GFUMC
Children's
Ministry
Fall calendar
2023**

**WEDNESDAY
NIGHTS
START BACK**
AUGUST 16

FRIENDSGIVING
NOVEMBER 15

**Lunch with
Santa**
December 10

**Rake and
Run**
October 8

**CommUnity
Thanksgiving**
November 22

**Christmas
party**
December 13

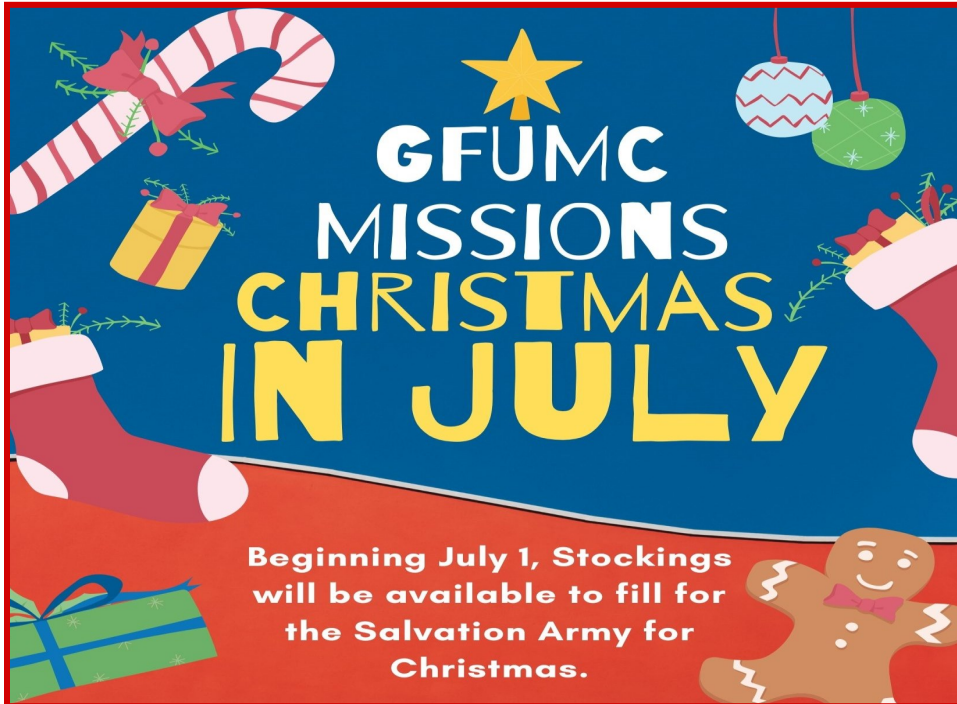
Children's
Ministry

Children's
Church
Sundays @
9 am & 11 am

July Mission Focus

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



Clothes Closet Donations of Socks and Underwear

Thank you for filling the **RED BUCKETS** with your donations of new socks and underwear for men, women, and children during the month of June!

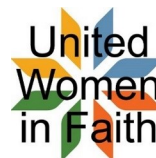
—Thank you for remembering your Clothes Closet.

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

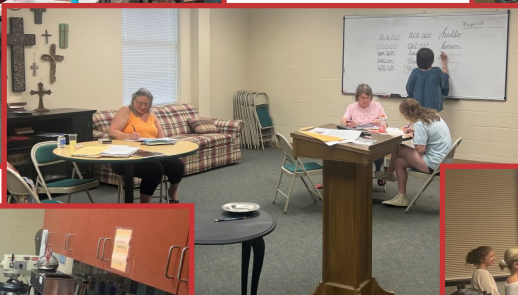
Email: fumc@fumcgadsden.org

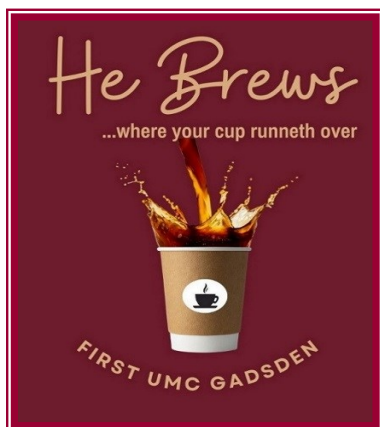
#gfumcreconnect2023



Gift to Gadsden

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden





Inviting Ministries

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!!!

Stay Connected This Summer!

Worship Services are Livestreamed on Sunday mornings on the church website, facebook, & YouTube and are available on demand on the church website & Church app.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook.



Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org

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.

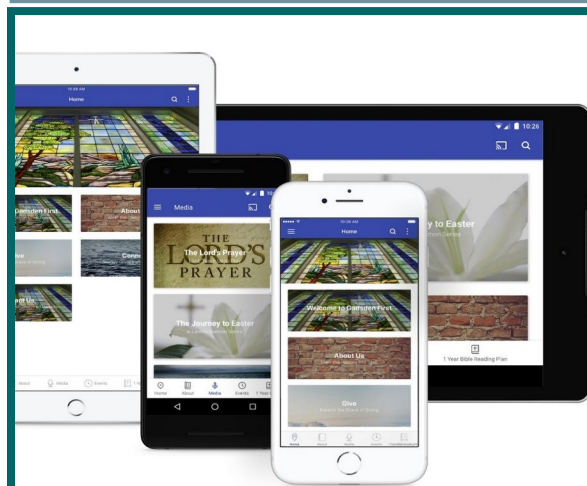
Updates may be sent to
susan@fumcgadsden.org or call Susan in the church office @ 256-543-8200.

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.

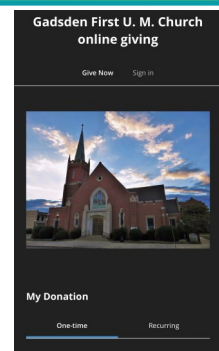
www.fumcgadsden.org/give

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 July 30-August 5, 2023

July 30 Sunday

9:00 am Celebration Service, Sanctuary
 10:00 am Sunday School; HeBrews Coffee
 11:00 am Traditions Service, Sanctuary
 12:15 pm, Children's Ministry Meet & Greet with
 Pastor Sherri

July 31 Monday

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

Aug 1 Tuesday

9:00 am-11:00 am Clothes Closet workday
 5:00 pm-6:00 pm Yoga, Gym

Aug 2 Wednesday

9:00 am-11:00 am Clothes Closet open
 5:00 pm-6:00 pm Children "Mega Nerf Games", Gym
 6:00 pm-7:00 pm Choir Practice

Aug 3 Thursday

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

5:30 pm Thursday worship

Aug 4 Friday

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

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory
 of God and in honor of all who made Gift to
 Gadsden a great success!*

*The ministers and congregation of First United
 Methodist Church of Gadsden extend Christian
 sympathy to Tyler and Katie Darden in the death
 of his grandfather,
 Joe Stanley Atkins, Sr. on July 20, 2023*



Save the Dates

July 30 Children's Min Meet & Greet w/ Pastor Sherri

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

*The rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of
 Rhodes Logan Hill
 Born: July 19, 2023*



Parents: Chris & Tabitha

Grandparents: Lewis & Sandra Hill

Given by the Children's Ministry and the ELC

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Lewis Hill Lisa Dobbins Asher Mae Collins Ken Davis
 Dawn Rains Family of Joe Stanley Atkins, Sr.
 Heather Lincoln (Phillip & Leslie Johnson's daughter)

Continued Prayer Concerns

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

Honorariums & Memorials

Howell Erwin Fund

In memory of Jane Bugg, given by Gigi Bugg.

Caring Angels Fund

In memory of Jane Bugg, given by Gigi Bugg.

Birthdays

July 30 Phillip Johnson, Angela Hood

July 31 Jacob Kelley, Hunter Lowe

Aug 1 Jackie Herlong, Sharon Quinn,
 Karen Owen, Robert Abney,
 Keith Copeland

Aug 2 Gaynor Griffin

Aug 3 Gary Griffin, Eric McIntyre

Aug 4 Jane Patton, Jill Moran,
 Lori Walker, Kaden Epperson

Aug 5 Laurie Holtsford, Katie Wilson



Week of July 23, 2023

In Person Total *148 Worship Total 514

Online 366 Thursday Worship *11

Traditions Service *85/173

Celebration Service *52/193

Adult Sunday School *37/3 UWF 15

Bible Study Groups *6 Children *8

Youth *6 Nursery *2 Misc. *4

Total Small Groups *79 *In Person

General Offering Budget \$12,777.00

General Offering Received \$9,106.00

YTD General Offering Budget \$383,310.00

YTD General Offering Rec'd \$361,314.00

WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS

Beverly Godfrey
July 23, 2023

**Subscribe to the
 Weekly Church News**

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