



# TAKE A BITE

Pastor Sam Hayes

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

6-4-23

Sermon Notes

"Take a Bite"

I wonder what the mood of the disciples was when Jesus called them together and set them apart on the mountain that day. I suppose it was a mood of expectancy. Matthew gives us a hint of what it must have meant for the disciples to go up on the mountain with Jesus. When they were with Jesus on a mountain, they could expect to receive teaching and instructions (Matt. Chapters 5, 21, 24 and 26), or they could expect to see the glory of Christ revealed (as in the transfiguration in Matt. 17), or they could expect to see multitudes healed and fed (Matt. 15). What's going to happen this day?

*<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matt. 28: 16-20. NRSV)*

There were 11 of them, Matthew is careful to remind us. Were they still stinging from the events of the past week? I think so. I think they "limped" up the mountain that day. Some were still doubting, Matthew tells us. We might read it and think, "THESE are the disciples? This ragtag group?" Yep. And Jesus gave them a HUGE job to do. "Go and make disciples of all nations..." How are they going to tackle a task that big?

And here we are at Gadsden First UMC - 2000 years or so later...called together and set apart...some of us "limping" from life's storms. What is the message for us? It's the same Great Commission that Jesus gave the original disciples. But how are WE going to tackle a task that big? Well...the same way you eat an elephant...one bite at a time.

See you Sunday,  
Pastor Sam

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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](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media) or  
on Facebook Live: @FUMCGadsden

## ACOLYTES

June 4: Silas Hosey & Clementine Hilburn

June 11: VBS Sunday

## Tech Team Schedule

(Please arrive 45 minutes before the service.)

June 4

**Celebration:** Eric Wright, Mark Casey, Parker Casey

**Traditions:** Neil Mullin, Tammy Hayes, Wayne Payton, Brad Barnes

June 11

**Celebration:** Will Brookshire, Jacob McKiven, Carmen McKiven

**Traditions:** Mark Condra, Wayne Payton, 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

### Wednesday Mornings

Bible Study with Pastor Sam, Room 208

In Person Bible Study, A Study of the Book of Romans, will continue through 5/31.

Facebook Live @ 6 pm or on demand-via the FUMC APP or website

## Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesday will resume in the Fall! 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.

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 Guide to the Kingdom by Prof. Amy-Jill Levine 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, Follow by Andy Stanley Room 208
- Pathfinders and Seekers Classes are currently meeting with the Multi-Age Sunday School Class, Room 208 Current study of Follow by Andy Stanley



### 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

The ELC is on a small break. Summer Session will start June 13th.

### Roses Sale Update

Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser this year. We received \$7,760. After the cost of the flowers, we will have \$7,595 to go toward tuition assistance. Please remember you may donate to this special cause at any time of the year.

—Helene Haller



### Youth Ministry News

**May 24 Hiking at Noccalula Falls**  
**June 5-8 Youth helping with VBS**  
**June 12-16 Service Days/Fun Days**

—Pastor Andy

**Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Dinner will resume in August!**

## Children's Ministry

**Children's Church**

**Sundays @ 9 am and 11 am**

# Calling All Heroes!



GFUMC invites you to  
**Hero Hotline:**  
Called Together to Serve God  
Vacation Bible School 2023



So let's strive together  
for the things that  
bring peace and the  
things that build each  
other up.  
Romans 14:19



## Mission Focus

### Clothes Closet News



We need clothes! It's time to clean out closets and bring your spring and summer clothes to the church. If you are unable to get them to the church, call the church office and leave a message. The "Men at the Well" will set up a time to pick them up for you.

*Thank you for remembering your Clothes Closet.*

*—Clothes Closet Team*

### Ladle of Love

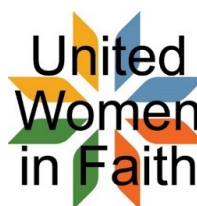
Volunteers are needed! If you are willing to serve one Friday per month on a team or be a team leader, please contact the church office @ 256-543-8200!

**GFUMC  
MISSIONS  
CHRISTMAS  
IN JULY**

Beginning July 1, Stockings will be available to fill for the Salvation Army for Christmas.

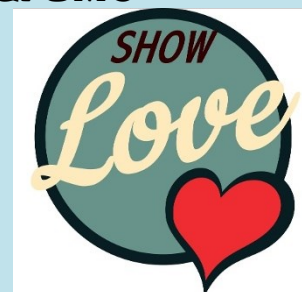
### United Women in Faith

The months of *June, July, and August*, there will not be a monthly luncheon. Stay tuned for dates to meet with everyone for Summer Suppers!



*—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

June open dates are

6/7 and 6/21

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street Gadsden

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

Phone: 256-543-8200

Email: [fumc@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:fumc@fumcgadsden.org)

#gfumcreconnect2023

### Clients Served

April

Ladle of Love 381

Clothes Closet 211

Thanks to our volunteers!





## *Gift to Gadsden*

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden  
Members Sharing Their Gifts & Talents

**Free Workshops & Introductory Classes**

**July 24—July 27, 2023**

**First Session: 6:15—7:30 PM**

Acrylic Painting MTWTH  
Casual Cooking MTWTH  
Crafts with Katharine MTWTH  
Crochet for Beginners MTWTH  
Flower Arranging MTWTH  
Fly Fishing MTWTH  
Fine Jewelry MTWTH  
Wills, Power of Attorney's & Medical Directive MTWTH  
Calligraphy MT  
iPhone Basics MT  
Mindfulness Meditation MT  
Investment & Finance MT  
Olive Oil Benefits 101 MT  
Southern Herbal Remedies M  
Yoga for Beginners M  
Health Insurance- Supplemental Policies WTH

Sharon Dasinger  
Harriet Murray  
Katharine Barnes  
Angela Horton  
Benny Campbell & June Styles  
George Fant  
Benny McNair  
Davis Varner  
Robin Wilson  
Bob Blount  
Karen Owen  
Jay Hedgspeth  
Tena King & Leslie Johnson  
Darryl Patton  
Jane Patton  
Jackie Brechin

**Fellowship Time: 7:30—7:45 PM**

**Second Session: 7:45—9:00 PM**

Cooking with Kids 10 and Over MTWTH  
Drama MTWTH  
Urban Container Gardening (Vegetables & Herbs) MTWTH  
Jewelry Making MT

Carmen McKiven  
Molly Page  
Eric Wright  
Linda Cleveland

**Both Sessions: 6:15—9:00 PM**

Beginning Mahjong MTWTH  
Beginning Pickleball MTWTH  
Cake Decorating MTWTH

Joan Bigelow  
Jana & Mac Downs  
Michelle Cothran

Limited Classes—Pre-Registration Required

Please call church office 543-8200

or register online @ [www.fumcgadsden.org/gifttogadsden](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/gifttogadsden)

Nursery Provided with pre-registration only



**You are invited!**

**Retirement and Farewell  
Luncheon**

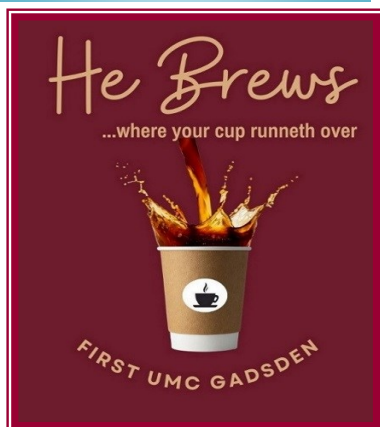
**Join us for a luncheon, immediately  
following the Sunday, June 11,  
Traditional Service in the gym. We  
will be honoring Pastor Sam Hayes  
on his retirement and saying farewell  
to both Pastor Sam Hayes and Pastor  
Andy Yarnell. This is our chance to  
show them our appreciation and to  
thank them for their years of service  
at First UMC Gadsden!**

**12 PM**

**In the Activity Center (gym)**

**Sunday, June 11, 2023**

***Please contact the church for  
reservations. RSVP: 256-543-8200 or  
[fumc@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:fumc@fumcgadsden.org) by June 5.***



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!!!



In Psalm 135, we read these powerful words:

*Hallelujah! Praise the name of God, praise the works of God. All you priests on duty in God's temple, serving in the sacred halls of our God, shout "Hallelujah!" because God's so good, sing anthems to his beautiful name...*  
(Ps. 135:1-3 MSG)

**There is still time to give to the 2023 Alleluia Offering which will go toward our Music Ministry and Capital Improvements!**  
**Gifts so far to the 2023 Alleluia offering total \$29,618.00.**

Last year, we had the biggest Alleluia Offering our church has seen in a long time! Thank you so much! With your generosity, we have had the second largest amount of giving to this offering. Thank you for caring and giving to this special offering.

Shout, "Hallelujah!" because God is so good.

*Pastor Sam*

Pastor Sam  
Senior Pastor

*Pastor Andy*

Pastor Andy  
Associate Pastor

*Jay*

Jay Hedgspeth  
Generosity Team Chair



**Generosity 2023**  
First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

# Giving



## Generosity: Ways to Give

In-person, at the offering time during worship.

[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

Have you downloaded the  
Church App?



Search:

First UMC-Gadsden

## Calendar for June 4-June 10, 2023

### June 4 Sunday

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

### June 5 Monday

9 am to 11:30 am, Hero Hotline VBS

### June 6 Tuesday

9 am to 11:30 am, Hero Hotline VBS  
9:00 am-11:00 am Clothes Closet workday  
5:00 pm Yoga, Gym

### June 7 Wednesday

9 am to 11:30 am, Hero Hotline VBS  
9:00 am-11:00 am Clothes Closet open  
6:00 pm Choir Practice, Choir Room

### June 8 Thursday

9:00 am-10:00 am Exercise Group, Gym  
9 am to 11:30 am, Hero Hotline VBS  
5:30 pm Thursday worship

### June 9 Friday

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

### **Dates to Remember**

**June 5-8** 9:00 am to 11:30 am,  
Hero Hotline VBS

**June 11** 12:00 pm Retirement & Farewell  
Luncheon for Pastor Sam & Pastor Andy

**June 12-16** Youth Service Days/Fun Days

**June 13** ELC Summer Session begins

**July 5** Exceptional Persons' Party

**July 24-27** Gift to Gadsden is Back!!

### Immediate Prayer Concerns

Family of Larry Payne    Family of Jane Gardner  
Patsy Blankenship    Asher Mae Collins  
Ken Davis    Dawn Rains    Bibb Holland  
Elizabeth Page (sister of Jan Humphrey)

### Continued Prayer Concerns

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

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

**Text to Give: 256-344-8464**

### **Honorariums & Memorials**

#### General Budget Fund

In memory of Jane Herb, given by Jennifa Day.  
In memory of Jane Gardner, given by Gloria Rives.

#### Ladle of Love

In memory of Jane Herb, given by Dan & Susan Reel III.  
In memory of Jane Herb, given by Diana Rampey.

#### Music Fund

In memory of Jane Gardner, given by Alabama 811.  
In memory of Jane Gardner, given by Ronald & Claudine Ewrin.  
In memory of Jane Gardner, given by Jiles Starnes Family.  
In memory of Jane Gardner, given by Cynthia Mewborn.  
In memory of Jane Gardner, given by Susan Spielberger.  
In memory of Jane Gardner, given by Linda Keyes.

#### Benevolence Fund

In memory of Larry Payne, given by Sonya Nesbitt.  
In memory of Frankie Head Pearce, given by Sonya Nesbitt

### **Birthdays**

**Jun 4** Mary Cowart, Tyler Roberts,  
Jack Kennedy

**Jun 5** Wells Ford

**Jun 6** Sally Page

**Jun 7** Danny Long, Valerie Johnson,  
Jay Hedgspeth, Alley Mc Sizemore

**Jun 8** George Varner, Mark Whitt,  
Owen Trotter

**Jun 9** Alejandro Hornik, Jud Burford,  
Patrick Watkins

**Jun 10** Allison Casey



### **Week of May 28, 2023**

In Person Total \*116    Worship Total    440  
Online    324    Thursday Worship \*7  
Traditions Service \*63/157  
Celebration Service \*46/167  
Adult Sunday School \*\*31/11    UWF \*0  
Bible Study Groups \*25/37    Misc. \*0  
Children \*9    Youth \*13    Nursery \*0  
Total Small Groups \*79/37    \*In Person

General Offering Budget \$12,777.00  
General Offering Received \$7,613.00  
YTD General Offering Budget \$281,094.00  
YTD General Offering Rec'd \$260,200.00

### **Welcome New Members**

*Transfer of Letter*  
**Marcy Puckett**

*Baptism*  
*Profession of Faith*  
**Kevin Thornburg**

*Baptism*  
*Preparatory Members*  
**Sara Kate Thornburg**  
**Jake Thornburg**  
**Carter Thornburg**  
**Caroline Thornburg**  
**Marit Norris**