



Amazing Grace

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

3-7-21 Sermon Notes "Six Words That Will Change Your Life"

Have you ever been given a gift and thought, "What's the catch?" In other words, there must be some "strings" attached to this gift. The old saying goes, "There is no such thing as a free lunch." Surely I have to do something...quid pro quo. It can be hard to really accept a gift without wanting to "pay" something back. But...essential to our core beliefs is that we learn to accept the gift of salvation that God freely offers to us. Therefore, this is one of the most important passages of Scripture in the Bible:

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

(Eph. 2: 8-10 NRSV)

God's grace is amazing! So amazing, that we may actually have trouble believing that it's true. That's where faith comes in...it really does take faith to receive this gift. I believe there are six words in this passage will change our lives, if we take them to heart. Don't believe six words can change your life? About this time of year three years ago I heard six words that changed my life: "Your new appointment is Gadsden First." These words were life changing! The six words from Ephesians 2: 8-10 that I am referring to are:

BY GRACE...THROUGH FAITH...DO GOOD.

Join us Sunday at 9:00 or 11:00, in-person or Livestream, and let's explore these essentials of our Christian theology!

Grace and peace, Pastor Sam

Worship Opportunities

- **Mosaic:** 6:30 pm, Tuesday, online and in person
- **Thursday Worship:** 5:30 pm, Sanctuary
- **Sunday Celebration Worship,** 9:00 am, Sanctuary online and in person
- **Sunday Traditions Worship,** 11:00 am, Sanctuary online and in person

www.fumcgadsden.org/media
or on facebook live:
[@fumcGadsden](https://www.facebook.com/fumcGadsden)



First United Methodist
Church of Gadsden

MARCH 28

10:00 AM

PALM SUNDAY

ONE UNITED WORSHIP SERVICE
GADSDEN AMPHITHEATER



90 Walnut Street
Gadsden, AL 35901

Show Love to Sumatanga

Who: All Ages

What: GFUMC Camp Sumatanga Service Day

Camp Sumatanga Rd, Gallant, AL 35972

When: A new date for the "Show Love to Sumatanga" Day of Service will be Saturday, March 13 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm!

A second GFUMC "Show Love" T-Shirt Order will be placed soon! These are great Canvas Bella T-shirts that can be worn on future GFUMC Service Days. The cost of these shirts will be \$20 per shirt, with all proceeds going to Camp Sumatanga.

Sizes YXS through Adult 4XL.

Order by 3.5.21. Please text or email your order:

256.490.5018 or Sheila@fumcgadsden.org

GFUMC



"By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35

MARCH MISSIONS UPDATE

GFUMC "Show Love" to the Love Center



The Love Center is a nonprofit shelter for homeless women and families. The Love Center provides food, clothing and necessities for residents as well as assistance with securing employment and housing. Counseling is provided by qualified volunteers.

Please Join Us For a

Kitchen Shower

Palm Sunday, March 28th

10:A.M.

at the Gadsden Amphitheater

Let's shower them with:

Dawn soap, paper towels, toilet paper, dishwasher pods, hand sanitizer bottles.

There will be Red Buckets positioned around at the amphitheater for collecting items. If you are unable to come on Palm Sunday, please drop your items at the church. Red Buckets will be in the Lobby, Narthex and Portico. We hope to fill their cabinets with these much needed items. —The Mission Team



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

Have you thought about what you are “giving up” for Lent? Not everyone does this, but it is an ancient practice of self-denial for 40 days, helping us to remember Jesus’ journey through the wilderness and the testing that came with it. It is meant to help prepare us for Good Friday and for Easter!

Have you thought about what you are “picking up” for Lent? In addition to giving up something, why not also pick up something? Pick up a few minutes of prayer during your lunch hour every day. Pick up your support of a charity that means a lot to you. Or... pick up an extra devotional for the 40 Days of Lent. Need help with that last one? Pastor Sam will be posting a devotional blog from Fat Tuesday (Feb. 16) and the 40 days following. The Lenten Devotional is entitled, **“Weird Is The New Normal,”** and will focus on 40 questions from the Book of Genesis. The devotional blog will be posted on the **“Home” tab of the GFUMC Church APP** and on the **church website blog page: www.fumcgadsden.org/blog** We pray that picking up this spiritual practice for 40 days will help you on your Lenten Journey!

--Pastor Sam



Thursdays, Men at the Well

7:00 am, Zoom, God’s Word of Life, Daily Bible Readings
Contact the church office for more information.

Sunday Mornings, 10:00 am, GoToMeeting with Ken Case, George Varner & Grover Kitchens



Zoom Study: Lenten Study w/Barbara Condra

Mondays at 6:00 pm: New study for Lent is beginning! Call or text Barbara Condra for codes 256-328-3679. Please join us!

NEW! Wednesdays, 6:00 pm, Beginning March 3 w/ Harriet Murray:
“Why Easter Matters” by Andy Stanley, Room 116

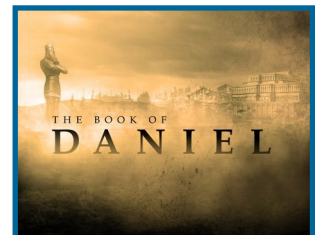
Martin Fellowship Class meets IN-PERSON on Sunday, March 7 @ 10 am, in room 116

Pathfinders Class meets IN-PERSON on Sunday, March, 7 @ 9:55 am in the Gathering Room (#201). Everyone is welcome. Masks and Social Distancing (by family group) guidelines will be followed. Study: “Jesus: The God Who Knows Your Name” by Max Lucado. Leaders: Harriet Murray, Barbara & Mark Condra and George Day. We hope to see you there!

The Book of Daniel

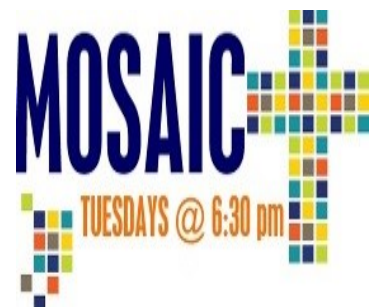
Bible Study with Pastor Sam

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



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 courtyard, depending on the weather.



ELC News

Registration for church member students who are not currently enrolled will begin Monday, March 15th. If you are a church member and potentially interested in your child attending, please text or email Helene asap. Spring pictures will be Tuesday, March 9th and Wednesday, March 10th. Our next lunchbox revolt will be Wednesday, March 17th. We will have Papa John's Pizza and the cost is \$3. Scholastic Book Orders are due Tuesday, March 16th. Wednesday, March 24th will be our annual Easter parties and egg hunts. More details coming soon.

—Helene Haller

Youth Ministry News

Wednesday Nights at 6:00 pm
Sunday School at 10 am

Upcoming Events:

**March 13th– Camp Sumatanga
Service Day**

**March 20th-Hike @ Cherokee
Rock Village**

**April 17th-Kayaking @ Big Wills
Creek**

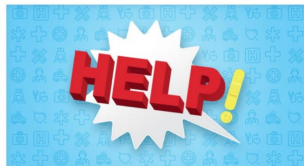
**May 8th-Max Cochran 5K run @
Noccalula Falls**

May 23rd-Senior Sunday



Join Andy on Facebook Live
or Instagram.
Sunday & Wednesdays, 6pm

Children's Ministry News



Children's Church, Wednesday's at 6:00

A 4-WEEK SERIES ON MOSES & THE EXODUS

WE CAN ALWAYS CALL ON GOD FOR THE THINGS WE NEED!

God helps us when we're helpless.

Exodus 1:22-2:10

God helps us when we're in trouble.

Exodus 7:14-10:29

God helps us in our weakness.

Exodus 3:1-14

God helps us to help others.

Exodus 15:22-25

**Wednesday Night
Children's Church**

(in person)

6:00 pm

Room 108 & gym

"Celebrate Wonder"

**Facebook Live in the
Children's Ministry Group**

@ 10:00 am

Sunday mornings!

**May be viewed live or
watched later.**

Children's Church Family Night:

Paint Party

Wednesday, March 24 @ 6:00 in the gym

**Families will create works of art with
step-by-step guidance!**

***A food truck will be available.**



UMW News

The UMW board met on February 15, to discuss continuing our suspension or moving forward with a UMW luncheon. The board as a group, decided they would tentatively set April 12th as the next luncheon. Our Covid-19 numbers are trending down and the number of individuals getting the vaccine are rising. With this in mind we believe we can safely have a program and luncheon on April 12th. We will meet in the gym with social distancing, wearing of masks and having a catered lunch. Also, please continue to watch the newsletter and information from your circle leaders for all new information. —**UMW Board**



A CALL TO PRAYER AND SELF DENIAL



February is the month that the UMW invites each of us to help our low income communities with prayers and self-denial. We pray and give so that others may gain control over their lives and futures. Year after year UMW has faithfully answered the call to prayer and sacrificial giving by raising funds to help women's lives by sowing seeds of hope while nurturing women to make a difference. We deny ourselves in order to provide a monetary donation to UMW. Perhaps foregoing a lunch and giving that donation to the church for missions. If you would like to give a donation, please make a check out to UMW and write on the memo line for "Prayer and Self-denial. Your donation can be put in the offering plate, drop it by the church or mailed to the church.

—*Eileen Graham*

Worship with GFUMC on Sunday Mornings Online LIVE

9:00 am Celebration and 11:00 am Traditions

Where to connect:

Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org/media

Facebook Live: @FUMCGadsden

Church YouTube Channel: Gadsden First UMC



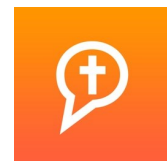
Sermon.net:

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden (search ministries)

Watch on demand:

Church App: **FUMCGadsden**

Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org/media



"Counting Our Blessings" Estimate of Giving 2021

As of 2/14/21 we have received
70 "Estimate of Giving" Cards with a total of
\$279,716.00.

It's not too late to turn your card in. Additional
cards are available in the church office.
Budget planning for 2021 has begun.



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

Calendar for March 7-13, 2021

March 7, Sunday

9:00 am, Celebration Worship; In person/Online
 10:00 am, Sunday School, GoToMeeting
 10:00 am, Martin SS Class, Room 116
 10:00 am, Pathfinders SS Class, Gathering Room
 10:00 am, Children's Bible Study, Facebook
 10:00 am, Youth Sunday School, Online
 11:00 am, Traditional Worship; In person/Online

March 8, Monday

9:00 am-1:00 pm, ELC Winter Schedule
 9:00 am-10:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym
 6:00 pm, Zoom Study with Barbara Condra
 6:00-7:00 pm, Choir Practice

March 9, Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm, ELC Winter Schedule
 6:30 pm, Mosaic, In person/Livestream

March 10, Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm, ELC Winter Schedule
 6:00 pm, Youth, Room 211/gym
 6:00 pm, Children's activities, 108/gym
 6:00 pm, Bible Study, Sam, online, Facebook live
 6:00 pm, Lent Study, "Why Easter Matters" with Harriet Murray, Room 116, in person

March 11, Thursday

9:00 am-1:00 pm, ELC Winter Schedule
 9:00 am-10:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym
 5:30 pm, Thursday Worship, Sanctuary

March 12, Friday

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

March 13, Saturday

9:00 am-3:00 pm, Camp Sumatanga Service Day

The flowers on the altar today are in memory of our beloved niece, Holly Sparks Freeman, given by Greg and Nila Nabors, Robert and Ellen Nabors, and Judy Gray.

Immediate Prayer Concerns

George Fant
 Ruby Christine Poland
 (granddaughter of Jeff & Cathea Poland)
 Meg (Ryan) Casey (granddaughter of Dotty Ivey)



A MASK is required if you are coming to the office for an appointment or attending any service or activity at the church. If you do not have one, we have masks available for you.

Stay Well. Stay Safe.

Continued Prayer Concerns

Pat Martin Ron Garry Wanda Hemby Ina Davis
 Susan Keady (Debbie Hiltz's sister)
 Allan Jones (Allison Casey's brother)
 Herman Humphrey (Jan Humphrey's father)
 Yvonne Humphrey (Jan Humphrey's step-mother)
 Mary Nichols (Patsy Blankenship's mother)

Honorariums and Memorials

General Budget Fund:

In memory of Joanne Hightower, given by Donna Leach.
 In memory of Leda Taylor, given by Gwen Axtell.

Birthdays.....

Mar 7 Nan MacFadyen,
 Mitchell Stewart, Barbara Smith,
 Madison Caldwell
Mar 8 Rickey Young
Mar 9 Scott Whitt, Mike Murray,
 Madison Watkins
Mar 10 Paula Lang, Tamara Kirk
Mar 11 Gail McNair, Dee Dee McLeod
Mar 12 Megan Haller,
 Clementine Hilburn
Mar 13 Jess Hester, Claire Bone



Week of February 28, 2021

*In Person Total *131 Overall Total 448
 Online Viewer Total 317 Mosaic *5/7
 Celebration *28/130 Traditions *56/128
 Thursday *7 Bible Study Groups 45
 Youth *16 Children *29

General Offering Budget \$15,200.00
 General Offering Received \$9,817.00
 YTD General Offering Budget \$136,800.00
 YTD General Offering Rec'd \$93,602.01
2021 Pledges: 70 for \$279,716.00
Camp Sumatanga offerings: \$4,045.00

Subscribe to the Weekly Church News

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

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.**