

# HE IS RISEN

CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION

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

May 1, 2022      Sermon Notes      "So, What Now?"

There's an indie rock band called "The Shins," and I sort of like their music. It's kind of mellow and puts me in a relaxed mood. I particularly like a song they have called, "So Now What?" It's about a couple who has seen their lives and their relationship shift. Verse one says,

*Oh girl, it's been a while  
Since we met, out there in the cold  
Seems so long ago  
It's hard not to imagine  
The lives we used to have  
When nights we're always alone  
So now what?*

Now this guy is lonely, and it's hard for him not to look back and imagine what it was like before... And he asks, "So now what?"

This reminds me of what Peter and the other disciples must have experienced after Easter...after they met the Resurrected Lord...after they heard Jesus' words, "As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." In John 21 (which is sort of an "epilogue" to the gospel) Simon Peter answers the (unspoken) question, "So what now?" by saying, "I am going fishing." The others who were with him (Thomas, Nathanael, James and John and two other unnamed disciples) said in reply, "We will go with you." (John 21: 1-3)

Do you remember how that worked out for them? "They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught *nothing*." (John 21: 3) After experiencing the Resurrected Christ, going "backwards" to the old life as a fisherman is not a good choice. Jesus comes to them (like always), and calls from the beach, "Children, you have no fish, have you?"

What does Jesus have against fishing? Nothing! Jesus tells them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat, and they caught so many fish they couldn't haul the net back into the boat. Once they got back to the shore, Jesus cooked breakfast for them, and in a very memorable conversation with Simon Peter, Jesus shows all of them the answer to the question, "So what now?" Would they coast along? No.

The chorus to the song I mentioned before goes like this:

*I had this crazy idea  
Somehow we coast to the end  
Change lies in every direction so now  
I guess we'll just begin again*

Would they go backwards? No. Jesus called them to begin again as fishers of people, and also shepherds of those new disciples.

Join us Sunday as we hear the Lord's call to us!

Pastor Sam

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### Worship Opportunities

Thursday Worship: 5:30 pm, Sanctuary  
Mosaic, Thursdays, 6:00 pm, Back Forty

### Sunday Mornings:

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

### Tech Team Schedule

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

#### May 1

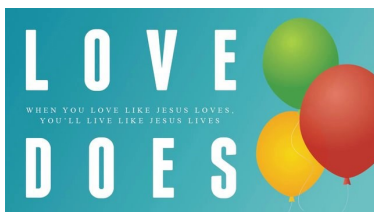
**Celebration:** Mark Casey, Parker Casey,  
Sheila Freeman

**Traditions:** Tammy Hayes, Sheila Freeman,

#### May 8

**Celebration:** Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Carmen  
McKiven, Jacob McKiven

**Traditions:** Mark Condra, Sheila Freeman



**LOVE  
DOES**  
By Bob Goff

**Small Group Study on Sunday Mornings!**  
**In the Gathering Room @ 10 am**  
**All Ages are Welcome! Led by Pastor Andy**  
*(You will love the food!)*

### **Bible Study with Pastor Sam**

Which Way, Lord? By Rob Fuquay  
Wednesday Morning, 11 AM  
& Wednesday Evenings at 6 pm  
With Pastor Sam

In the Gathering Room! Everyone Welcome!

### **Small Group Study w/ Harriet Murray**

**40 Days of Prayer**  
**Wednesdays @ 6 pm**  
**Room 110**

## **Wednesday Activities & Fellowship Meal on Wednesday, May 4**

**Chicken Fingers**  
**\$7 per person, \$3 for age 11 and under (Max \$20 per family)**

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

You are invited to join the weekly ZOOM bible study with the Men at the Well small group.

A new 10 week study based on Richard Stearns' book, "Lead Like It Matters to God" will begin on Thursday, May 5.

May 5—Introduction, Mark Condra

May 12—Surrender, Sacrifice, Trust, Mark Condra

May 19—Excellence & Love, Mark Casey

May 26—Humility & Integrity, Eric Wright

*Contact Todd Rains, Mark Condra or Mark Casey or any of the Men at the Well for more information and the Zoom link.*

### **RECONNECT with the Sunday School Class of Your Choice!**

- Living Water Sunday School Class, "Eternity is in Session", Chapel, In person and online. Meet in the Chapel or Contact a member of the class for the link to join online!
- Martin Fellowship Class, Room 116, International Bible Studies
- Pathfinders Class, "Love Does" by Bob Goff, Gathering Room.
- Looking for a Sunday School Class? We can help. Contact one of the Pastor Sam Hayes, Pastor Andy Yarnell or Sheila Freeman, Director of Connectional Ministries for help! Email: [sheila@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:sheila@fumcgadsden.org)



### ELC News

This past Tuesday, April 26, the ELC had its last lunchbox revolt with a visit from "The Dog House." What a yummy treat. Thank you to all our families that helped hosted the annual Teacher Appreciation Breakfast. The faculty enjoyed this time of food and fellowship. This coming week we will shower our moms with love and donuts on Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:50 am to 9:30 am. Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 the ELC will host its annual End of Year Program and class parties along with 4k graduation. How quickly the school year is ending but what a fun time of growing and learning we have all had.

*Helene Haller*

*Wednesday Night Dinner May 4  
Chicken Fingers  
\$7 per person, \$3 under age 11*



### Youth Ministry News

**May 4: "May the Fourth Be With You" —Star Wars Themed Activities**

**May 11: Church Picnic, Noccalula Falls Kiwanis Pavilion**

**May 15: Senior Sunday, Recognize High School Seniors  
Brunch in the Gathering Room at 10am**

**May 18, Wednesday: Youth Hike at the Noccalula Falls.**

**May 22, Sunday: Youth Kayak Trip.  
Leave after Celebration Service, Bus Trip**

**May 25, Wednesday: Youth are cooking dinner!**

**June 1, Wednesday: Youth Service Night**

A poster for "GLOW! FOR JESUS" with a black background and white stars. The text "GLOW!" is in large, pink, glowing letters, and "FOR JESUS" is in green, glowing letters. Below this, it says "GFUMC Kid's GLOW WORSHIP Wednesday, May 4 GFUMC Room 108 @6:00 Wear your white and bring a friend!". To the right of the text is an image of four colorful glow sticks (pink, green, yellow, blue) arranged in a fan shape.

**GLOW! FOR JESUS**  
GFUMC Kid's  
GLOW WORSHIP  
Wednesday, May 4  
GFUMC Room 108 @6:00  
Wear your white and bring a friend!

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A poster for GFUMC Children's Church with a white background and colorful watercolor circles. It lists "Wonderful Wednesday's" and "Sunday Children's Church" with their respective times and locations. At the bottom, there is a "subscribe now" button and the word "CELEBRATE" in colorful letters.

**GFUMC CHILDREN'S CHURCH**  
Wonderful Wednesday's      Sunday Children's Church  
Wednesday's at 6:00      Sunday's during each service  
in the Kid's Worship Room      9:00 and 11:00  
Room 108      Room 108  
subscribe now  
CELEBRATE

A poster for a Church Picnic with a teal background and a red and white checkered diamond shape. The text inside the diamond says "See you at the CHURCH PICNIC Wednesday, May 11 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm Kiwanis Pavilion, Noccalula Falls FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GADSDEN".

See you at the  
**CHURCH PICNIC**  
Wednesday, May 11  
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
Kiwanis Pavilion, Noccalula Falls  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OF GADSDEN



## May Mission Focus

### 350 UMC Missionaries in 60 Countries

Reverend Rhett Thompson is a Board of Global Ministries United Methodist missionary assigned to the Republic of Panama, serving as pastor of an



Evangelical Methodist Church in Panama. A native of Florence, Alabama, Rev. Thompson grew up in the Canterbury United Methodist Church, Birmingham, Alabama. He is a graduate of Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina, and holds a Master of Divinity degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. In 2000 he earned a Masters in Family Counseling from the Catholic University of Panama.

**R.A.M. served 612 Clients for no charge at an estimated cost of \$337,324.00 for services rendered.**



**First UMC Gadsden's Mission Team providing lunch for the R.A.M. Volunteers on Saturday, April 23. There will approximately 438 Volunteers.**

**Thank you for your support of Missions @ First UMC Gadsden.**



### UMW NEWS

**The UMW Luncheon for May is May 9 at 12:00 noon.**

This will be the final luncheon before summer break.

Guest speaker will be Kay Moore of Downtown Gadsden Incorporated (DGI). She will be talking about upcoming fun, informative, and other "don't want to miss" events, as well as plans for Gadsden's future. The executive board meeting will be at 10:30 am in room 208.

(Cost of luncheon: \$15.00) You **do not have to be a member of UMW** to attend. For reservations, contact Delores Abney by phone 256-458-0376 or by email ([deloresdda53@gmail.com](mailto:deloresdda53@gmail.com)) or your circle leader.

—Barbara Bennett



### 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

*Thank you to all our volunteers for their time and service to these missions!*

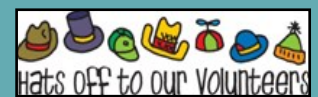
### Ladle of Love

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

Clients served in  
March 2022

Ladle of Love 308

Clothes Closet 218



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

Church Phone 256-543-8200  
[fumc@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:fumc@fumcgadsden.org)

[#gfumcreconnect2021](https://www.facebook.com/gfumcreconnect2021)

*See you at the*

## CHURCH PICNIC

Wednesday, May 11  
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
Kiwanis Pavilion, Noccalula Falls

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OF GADSDEN

Everyone  
is invited!

*Brought to you by  
Inviting Ministries...*

# He Brews

...where your cup runneth over



FIRST UMC GADSDEN

**Inviting Ministries welcomes  
you to our new Coffee Café!**

We have your Sunday Cup of Coffee  
waiting for you  
between 10 am 11 am on Sunday  
mornings.

**Join us this Sunday!**

*Come visit with friends, old and new,  
in Christian Fellowship!*

*After Celebration and before  
Traditions and on your way in or out  
of Sunday school!*

***We can't wait to see everyone back!***

HE IS RISEN

CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION

Easter Season: The Great 50 Days, from Easter to Pentecost

## Pathways 2022

### All Leadership Meeting

Board of Stewards  
Committees including Finance,  
Trustees, Staff Parish,  
& Vision Team  
Ministry Team Leaders

5– 7 pm

Sunday, May 1, 2022

Dinner will be served.

Please RSVP by Thursday, April 28  
sheila@fumcgadsden.org or 256-490-5018

SARA RABUN JOHNSON  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

## Mother's Day Roses Sale

With your donation of \$20 or more, a rose will be placed on the altar on Mother's Day, in honor or in memory of your loved one. All donations provide direct support for ELC families whose children would not otherwise be able to afford the program.

MAKE YOUR DONATION PAYABLE TO GFUMC AND MARK IT  
"SRJ SCHOLARSHIP FUND". ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SUNDAY, MAY 1.

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS TO THE FUND MAY BE GIVEN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.



**G** FUMC  
Brunch  
Club

MONTHLY LUNCH/BRUNCH  
AT 12:30 FOLLOWING  
TRADITIONAL SERVICE.

Wednesday, May 11- 6:00 pm, Church Picnic  
Sunday, June 6 - 12:30 pm, Brunch Club

All Young Adults and  
Families Welcome!



**Gadsden First UMC has a tradition  
of receiving an Alleluia Offering  
each year at Easter.**

*It is different from our usual tithes and offerings. Please consider an additional gift for Holy Week, over and above your regular tithes and offerings. Over the years, the way our members have decided what to give as an Alleluia Offering was determined by each giver calculating how much money they made during the week of Holy Week and giving at least 10% (or more) of that as an Alleluia Offering. Your gifts make growth for many new ministries and missions at Gadsden First UMC possible.*

*This year's Alleluia Offering will help fund special music and choir needs, as well as new outreach ministries for our online ministries and our inviting ministries team. The Alleluia Offering will be received in worship on Easter Sunday and throughout the month of April. You may also turn in your gift to the church office. Thank you for your gifts to the Alleluia Offering. —The Generosity Team*



**First UMC Gadsden**  
APRIL 10-APRIL 17

**Generosity 2022**  
*Overflowing  
Hearts*

Psalm 23:5  
YOU PREPARE A TABLE BEFORE ME  
IN THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES.  
YOU ANOINT MY HEAD WITH OIL;  
MY CUP OVERFLOWS

Two stylized black trees with branches, each filled with numerous orange and red heart shapes, positioned on either side of the central text.

**Generosity: Ways to Give**

[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



## Calendar for May 1-May 7, 2022

### May 1, Sunday

9:00 am, Celebration Service, in Sanctuary & livestream

10:00 am, Adult Sunday School Classes

10:00 am-11:00 am, "He Brews Coffee Ministry"

11:00 am, Traditional Service, in Sanctuary & livestream

5:00 pm, Pathways 2022 Leadership Meeting, Gym

### May 2, Monday

9:00-1:00 am, ELC Spring Schedule

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

### May 3, Tuesday

9:00-1:00 am, ELC Spring Schedule

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

### May 4, Wednesday

9:00-1:00 am, ELC Spring Schedule

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

11:00 am, Wednesday Bible Study, Gathering Room

5:15 pm, Wednesday night meal, Gathering Room

6:00 pm, Bible Study, Gathering Room & online

6:00 pm, Childrens' activities, Room 108 & Gym

Youth activities, Room 211 & Gym

6:00 pm, Choir Practice

### May 5, Thursday

9:00-1:00 am, ELC Spring Schedule

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

5:30 pm, Thursday Worship, Sanctuary

6:00 pm, Mosaic Service, Back Forty Warehouse

### May 6, Friday

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

### Pathways 2022

All Leadership Meeting 5-7 pm, Sunday, May 1

*In Memory of Her Life*  
*Martha Elizabeth (Betty) Echols*  
*April 24, 2022*



*In Memory of His Life*  
*Steven Ray Huie*  
*April 20, 2022*



### Honorariums and Memorials

#### General Budget Fund

In memory of Sam Norris, given by Dorothy Norris.

#### Howell Erwin Medical Fund

In memory of Ann Battles, given by Scott & Lisa Dobbins.

#### UMW Fund

In memory of Ann Battles, given by Scott & Lisa Dobbins.

*The ministers and congregation of*  
*First United Methodist Church of Gadsden,*  
*extend Christian sympathy to Glenn & Dee Porter*  
*In the death of his brother*  
*Keith Porter April 20, 2022*



### Birthdays

**May 1** Suzy Haney, Julia Ryle,  
George Hightower, Jr., Charles Newman

**May 2** Rev. Roger Thompson,  
Alvin Ferguson, Lindsey Muratta,  
John Owen Hollingsworth

**May 3** Sissie Jensen, Carol Rice

**May 4** Mike Self, Ralls Pennington,  
Rabon Pennington, Trevor Martin

**May 5** Jennifer Boyd

**May 6** Donna Campbell,  
Bethany Phillips, Ava Ray Kelley

**May 7** John Ryle, Judge Shaun Malone,  
David Whisenant, Charles Hollingsworth



### Week of April 24, 2022

\*In Person Total \*445 Overall Total 742  
Online Viewer Total 297 Mosaic 6  
Thursday \*9 Bible Study Groups \*21/30  
Adult Sunday School \*41/2  
Celebration \*67/125 Traditions \*90/141  
UMW \*25 Visiting Choir \*130  
Children \*28 Youth \*23

General Offering Budget \$13,175.00  
General Offering Received \$5,981.00  
YTD General Offering Budget \$223,975.00  
YTD General Offering Rec'd \$253,772.00

**2022 Pledges 82 for \$420,924.85**

**Text to Give: 256.344.8464**

IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*

#### Immediate Prayer Concerns

Family of Betty Echols  
Family of Steven Huie  
Winnie Mae Beasley

#### Continued Prayer Concerns

Lisa Dobbins  
Alice Hayes  
(mother of Sam Hayes)  
Anne Elizabeth Casey  
(great-granddaughter of Dotty Ivey)