

*She is clothed with strength and dignity,
and she laughs without fear of the future.
Proverbs 31:25*

Happy Mother's Day

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

5-8-22

Sermon Notes

"Being a Sheep"

Over and over again throughout the Bible, the metaphor of Shepherd and sheep is used. Just to be clear...the Lord is our Shepherd, and we are His sheep. Are you thinking of the 23rd Psalm? Me too! Or maybe Psalm 100... "Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his: we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture." Have you ever stopped to wonder why we are compared to sheep of all animals? Why not lions, or mules? I can think of a few reasons:

Sheep are one of the few animals that do not really have a defense system.

They are basically helpless without a shepherd. I think of what Jesus said when he saw the crowds in Matthew 9: 36. *"He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."*

Sheep are sort of gullible, and prone to wander off and get themselves into trouble. I think of Isaiah 53: 6, where it says, *"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – every one – to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."*

How wonderful it is that the Lord is our Shepherd! How thankful we are that Jesus is "the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10: 11), and the Good Shepherd who leaves to search for the one lost lamb (Luke 15: 2-17)! But are WE ready to embrace our identity as "sheep?" Our Gospel reading this Sunday is John 10: 22-30. As you read it, see if you can find the Five Qualities of Being a Sheep.

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

See you Sunday!

Pastor Sam

Save these Sunday Dates:

May 15, Senior High Graduation Recognition Sunday

May 22, Bake Sale for Jr. High Campers, Chestnut Lobby

May 29, One Service, Rev. Keith Elder, Preaching and Singing

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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 or
on Facebook Live: @FUMCgadsden

Tech Team Schedule

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

May 8

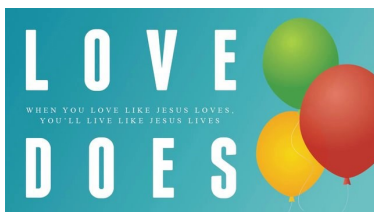
Celebration: Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Carmen McKiven, Jacob McKiven

Traditions: Mark Condra, Sheila Freeman

May 15

Celebration: Will Brookshire, Zach Hilburn, Sheila Freeman

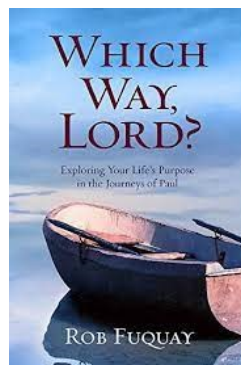
Traditions: Davis Varner, Sheila Freeman



**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
Wednesday, May 11th
No 11 am or 6 pm Bible Study



Wednesday Morning Bible Study will resume on May 18th at 11:00 am during the summer months or you may join Pastor Sam online on Facebook Live Wednesdays @ 6 pm.

Come Celebrate at the Annual Church Picnic
Wednesday, May 11, 5-7 pm, Kiwanis Pavilion Noccalula Falls
Wonderful Wednesday will break for Summer! See you in August!

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", Parlor, In person and online. Meet in the Parlor 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, #201
- 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



ELC News

We had a great time showering our moms with love and donuts on this past Tuesday. Thursday, May 12th at 9:30 am 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.

Roses Sale Update:

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Sara Rabun Johnson Scholarship fund by purchasing a rose. We are so excited to announce that \$6,690 was raised for this awesome ministry. What a blessing this congregation and community have been to the ELC and this program in particular.

—Helene Haller



Youth Ministry News

May 11: Church Picnic, Nocalula 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 Nocalula 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

—Pastor Andy

2022 ELC 4K Graduating Class



GFUMC invites you to a FOOD TRUCK PARTY!

Vacation
Bible
School
2022



Register on the
church website
or Facebook
page!



June 6– June 9

Children's Ministry

GFUMC CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Wonderful Wednesday's

Wednesday's at 6:00
in the Kid's Worship Room
Room 108

Sunday Children's Church

Sunday's during each service
9:00 and 11:00
Room 108



CELEBRATE

See you at the CHURCH PICNIC

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF GADSDEN

May Mission Focus

350 UMC Missionaries in 60 Countries



The Rev. Dr. Wesley W. Magruder, a missionary with the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries, in Pietermaritzburg, Kwazulu/Natal, South Africa. He was commissioned to this ministry in June 2019, having served as superintendent of the United Methodist Mission Initiative in Cameroon.

Originally from Plano, Texas, Wesley He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in radio/TV/film from California State University at Long Beach; a Master of Divinity from Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas; and a Doctor of Ministry from Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth.

Striplin Adopt-a-School Mission Project

Gadsden First UMC's Mission Team sponsored the A/B Honor Roll Party on May 5, 2022. Students who achieved A/B Honor Roll received a special bookmark and pencil and recognition from Mr. Ash, Principal. Thank you to all who helped serve refreshments at the A/B Honor Roll Party!

Next week, Gadsden First UMC's Mission Team will host the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon and Teacher of the Month and Teacher of the Year Recognition.



UMW NEWS

The UMW Luncheon is May 9th 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) 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

Church Phone 256-543-8200
fumc@fumcgadsden.org

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

See you at the

CHURCH PICNIC

Everyone Welcome!

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!



Bake Sale

May 22

*In the Chestnut Street
Lobby (near HeBrews Cafe)*

**Benefitting Jr. High
Youth who are going to
Camp Sumatanga for
Jr. High Week in June!**

Rev. Keith Elder

**MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND**

**MUSIC &
PREACHING**

SUNDAY, MAY 29

*First United Methodist
Church of Gadsden*

**ONE WORSHIP
SERVICE 10 AM**

**HOTDOGS & ICE CREAM
ON THE PORTICO
FOLLOWING WORSHIP**

**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 Alleluia Offering for Easter.

Gifts to the Alleluia Offering so far this year, total

\$38,015.00

Thank you very much!!!!

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. Gifts may still be given to this special offering.

Thank you for your gifts to the Alleluia Offering.

—The Generosity Team



First UMC Gadsden

Generosity 2022

Overflowing
Hearts

Psalms 23:5

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

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



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Calendar for May 8-May 14, 2022

May 8, 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

May 9, Monday

9:00-1:00 am, ELC Spring Schedule
9:00 am-10:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym

May 10, Tuesday

9:00-1:00 am, ELC Spring Schedule
5:00 pm, Yoga, Gym



WEDNESDAY
MAY 11
5:00-7:00 PM

May 11, Wednesday

9:00-1:00 am, ELC Spring Schedule
No Wednesday Bible Study
5:00-7:00 pm, Church Picnic, Kiwanis Pavilion

May 12, Thursday

9:00-1:00 am, ELC Spring Schedule
9:30 am, ELC Graduation, End of year parties
9:00 am-10:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym
5:30 pm, Thursday Worship, Sanctuary
6:00 pm, Mosaic Service, Back Forty Warehouse

May 13, Friday

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

**Save the Date: Sunday, May 15- High School Senior Recognition
Graduation Brunch in the Gathering Room at 10am**



Immediate Prayer Concerns

Winnie Mae Beasley

Continued Prayer Concerns

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

The flowers on the altar today
are for the "Glory of God"
and in recognition
of all Mothers.

Honorariums and Memorials

Howell Erwin Medical Fund

In memory of Betty Echols, given by Dorothy Erwin. In memory of Betty Echols, given by Bob & Kathy Sisson.
In memory of Betty Echols, given by Steve & Lynne Frederick. In memory of Betty Echols, given by Evelyn & Glen Pierson. In memory of Betty Echols, given by Joe Williams & Ken Morrow. In memory of Betty Echols, given by Steven Leach & Kathryn Leach. In memory of Betty Echols, given by Randy, Terry, Genie, & Robin Rutenberg.

Birthdays

May 8 Roger Crawford, Lindy Newman,
Michael Freeman,
May 9 Collins Tackaberry,
Logan McClendon
May 10 Dr. Ed Lindsey, Felix Russell
May 11 Anita Waid
May 12 George Hightower,
Jeanne Clare Leach
May 13 Paul DeJong, Dr. Bill Haller,
Connor Rice
May 14 Lynne Frederick,
Greysen Robinson



Week of May 1, 2022

*In Person Total *318 Overall Total 613
Online Viewer Total 295
Mosaic 35 Thursday *5
Bible Study Groups *18/32
Adult Sunday School *36/2
Celebration *67/125 Traditions *90/141
UMW *0 Children *28 Youth *23

General Offering Budget \$13,175.00
General Offering Received \$7872.00
YTD General Offering Budget \$237,150.00
YTD General Offering Rec'd \$261,644.00

2022 Pledges 82 for \$420,924.85

Text to Give: 256.344.8464

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.

Subscribe to the Weekly Church News

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