

# GENEROSITY 2021

"WITH A THANKFUL HEART"  
PSALM 9:1

NOV. 1 - "REMEMBER WITH A THANKFUL HEART"  
NOV. 8 - "SERVE WITH A THANKFUL HEART"  
NOV. 15 - "GIVE WITH A THANKFUL HEART"  
NOV. 22 - "COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS"

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GADSDEN  
115 S. 5TH STREET  
256.543.8200

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

11-22-20

Sermon Notes

"Counting Our Blessings"

What do you say when you talk to yourself? Oh, come on! I know you do it! During the course of any given day, I am likely to say to myself, "Sam, don't forget to (fill-in-the-blank)."

Or I will say, "Sam, you big dummy!" when I mess up...which happens fairly regularly. I might give myself a little pep talk, like, "OK – come on! Let's do this!" What do you say?

Do you know what the psalmist, David said when he talked to himself in Psalm 103? Let's look at **Psalm 103: 1-5**...

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name.*

<sup>2</sup> *Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits—*

<sup>3</sup> *who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,*

<sup>4</sup> *who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,*

<sup>5</sup> *who satisfies you with good as long as you live*

*so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.* (Psalm 103: 1-5 NRSV)

Can you see it? David was talking to himself. We just get to "eavesdrop." What does he say to himself? (1) He tells himself to praise God with everything he has inside himself. (Bless the Lord, O my soul). (2) He tells himself NOT to forget all of God's benefits. Then he proceeds to list off all of the benefits that God gives. David is literally, counting his blessings!

This coming Sunday, we will finish our "Thankful Heart" series by counting *our* blessings. We will take a look at how the psalmist's blessings align with ours. We will also announce the thanks offerings pledged for 2021 that we have received so far with our Generosity Campaign. (Have you sent in your card yet?)

We are blessed indeed! May we never forget to bless the Lord...even if it means talking to ourselves!

See you Sunday, in-person or livestreaming!

Pastor Sam

Remember to return your 2021 "Estimate of Giving"  
Card in either service or to the church office .

## Worship Opportunities

- **Mosaic:** 6:30 pm, Tuesday, Church Courtyard\*
- **Thursday Worship:** 5:30 pm, Thursday, Sanctuary\*
- **Sunday Celebration** Worship, 9:00 am, Sanctuary\* (In person & online)

**Sunday Traditions** Worship, 11:00 am, Sanctuary\* (In person & online)

**\*All services in person require social distancing & masks.**

## Generosity

- **Give online:** [www.fumcgadsden.org/give](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/give)
- **Text to Give:** 256-344-8464
- **Mail your tithe or gift to the church:** 115 S. 5th Street Gadsden, AL 35901

## Missions for November



**Thanksgiving Bags.....**We appreciate all the time and effort spent by everyone who shopped for groceries to fill our Thanksgiving Bags, knowing that your donations will help a family during Thanksgiving to have a meal or more for their family. During these difficult times, it is great to have generosity for others!

*Thank you! Mission Team*



## Clothes Closet

### Workday

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

### Open

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street

Gadsden, AL

## Ladle of Love

Fridays, 11:00 am to

12:00 pm

## We are here for you!

*We are still taking precautions so the church office is still closed to the public. We ask that all business be conducted by email, phone or text whenever possible. In-person visits are by appointment only. You may call for an appointment or if you or someone you know has a need that we can help with, please call us or email us between 8:00 am --4:00 pm, Monday thru Friday. If no answer, please leave a message and a staff member will return your call as soon as possible.*

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* Your Church Staff!



follow GFUMC on Instagram:

first\_umcgadsden

Use our hashtag to Tag and Share your pictures of church activities:

#gfumconnect2020

## Church Phone

256-543-8200

[www.fumcgadsden.org](http://www.fumcgadsden.org)

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

#gfumconnect2020



## ELC News

The ELC will be closed **Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>** through **Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>** for Thanksgiving break.

On **Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, the ELC will host its 2nd Annual Christmas Pajama Day!! Please join us by wearing your favorite pair of Christmas PJ's.

**Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>** will be our annual Christmas Program and parties. Details will be sent home.

*Helene Haller*

## Youth News

**November 25th**

No Activities

New planned activities for youth in person and on-line are being planned.

**Virtual Sunday School**

Sundays at 10:00 am

**Former Youth-** check out our college and career Instagram page to stay up to date with future social distancing gatherings.



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

**Safe Sanctuary Policy:** All children and youth volunteers must have Safe Sanctuary Training prior to beginning to work with children or youth and annually thereafter. A background check is required. In addition, volunteers must have been members of the church for 6 months or more, be 5 years older than the group they are working with and there must always be at least 2 unrelated adults present for all activities and events. Other rules apply for field trips or overnight trips. Contact the church office Sheila@fumcgadsden.org for more information.

## Children's Ministry News

*There will be no Children's Activities during Thanksgiving Week! See you on December 2.*

*Children are meeting in the Green Space with Social Distancing on Wednesday nights at 6 pm The nursery is open during this time. See you on the Green!*

*Children's Break continues on Facebook on Sundays and Wednesdays!*





### Zoom Study

Beginning Monday November 30th @ 6:00 pm for four (4) sessions, we will be studying , Who Needs Christmas? by Andy Stanley. It will be a video/discussion group. The video will last around 20 minutes and we will try to keep sessions to 1 hour total. Please order your study guide. I got mine from Amazon, but you can google the title and it will give you several options. I am very excited about this in depth look at God's amazing plan!

Text me (256) 328-3679 to find out how to join the study!

Barbara Condra

**Wednesday Nights, 6:00 pm** (No Bible Study on November 25)

***NEW STUDIES for Advent Begin on December 2***

**Incarnation**, Harriet Murray, Room 116, Week 2

**Incarnation**, Pastor Sam, Sanctuary & Online, Week 1

**Thursday, Men at the Well**, 7:00 am, Zoom,  
*Contact the church office for more information.*

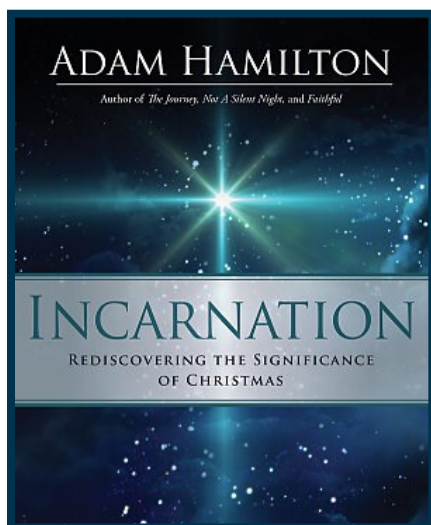
**Sunday Morning** w/Ken Casey and George Varner,  
10:00 am, GoToMeeting

**November 22: Hebrews 10:19 -13**

**November 29: Advent Study Begins**

Because of Bethlehem,

Love is Born, Hope is Here by Max Lucado



**Advent Study: Incarnation by Adam Hamilton**  
*"Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas"*

***Starts Wednesday, December 2, 6 pm***

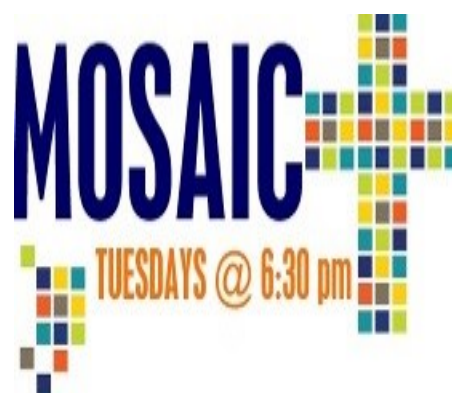
Adam Hamilton's book, Incarnation is available in the church office for \$15.00. If you would like to purchase a book and are unable to come by the church to make the purchase, please call the office @ 256-543-8200 or email: [fumc@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:fumc@fumcgadsden.org) for assistance.

***You may participate In person (with social distancing and masks in the sanctuary) or you may participate virtually in this Advent study on FacebookLive or the church website or YouTube Channel.***

**Wednesdays @ 6 pm, Sanctuary or Online**

### 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. Come meet with us outside the church in the Courtyard facing 5th Street near the sanctuary on Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm! Social distancing is required.  
(In case of rain, Mosaic will meet in the gym.)





## UPDATED UMW NEWS

### Things to Remember:

If you have not turned in this year's UMW pledge or your World Thank Offering, you may give it to your circle leader or drop it off at the church office and place it in the UMW box.

On **December 7<sup>th</sup>**, the UMW Board members will meet for a short business meeting beginning at 11:00 am.

It is the custom of our UMW ladies' to take a poinsettia to each of our homebound members. Each poinsettia will have a card with the names and addresses on them. **Please plan to pick up a poinsettia between 8 am and 3 pm on December 7<sup>th</sup> and deliver it to a member.** We have 26 to deliver.

*Eileen Graham*

*Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. 1 John 4:11*

## #GFUMCConnect2020

### 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](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media)

Facebook Live: @FUMCGadsden

Church YouTube Channel: Gadsden First UMC

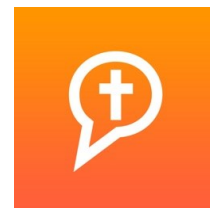
Sermon.net:

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden (search ministries)

### Watch on demand:

Church App: **FUMCGadsden**

Church Website: [www.fumcgadsden.org/media](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media)



## Ready to get started with Text to Give?

1. Text 256-344-8464
2. For your first time click "SIGN IN" then "REGISTER FOR AN ACCOUNT".
3. Complete the registration to receive your secure PIN
4. Select the fund, enter the donation amount and payment information.
5. Tap "Save Payment" to use it for future gifts!

### It's that easy!

#### Other text commands:

EDIT— Update your account and payment information

KEYWORD — See a list of Keywords (funds) you can give toward.

REFUND — Made a mistake? Refund your last gift. (15 min. expiry.)

Text to Give: 256-344-8464  
Online Giving:  
[www.fumcgadsden.org/give](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/give)



## Calendar for week of November 22-28, 2020

### Nov 22, Sunday

9:00 am, Celebration Worship; Sanctuary

10:00 am, Sunday School, Ken Casey &

George Varner, GoToMeeting

10:00 am, Children's Bible Study, Facebook

10:00 am, Youth Sunday School, Online

11:00 am, Traditional Worship; Sanctuary

6:00 pm, Youth; via Zoom or Instagram

### Nov 23, Monday

ELC Closed

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

### Nov 24, Tuesday

ELC Closed

Mosaic, no service

Board of Stewards, Finance, and Trustees

meetings have been moved to December 1.

### Nov 25, Wednesday

ELC Closed

Office Closed at 12:00 pm

No Children or Youth Activities

Bible Study with Pastor Sam, cancelled

### Nov 26, Thursday

ELC Closed

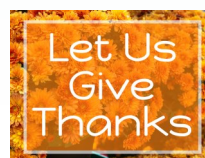
Office Closed

No Thursday Worship

### Nov 27, Friday

Office Closed

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



*The flowers today are in memory of  
James B. Condra in celebration of his 83rd birthday on Thursday, November 19, 2020.  
They are given by his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.*

### Immediate Prayer Concerns

Joanne Hightower Melba Amberson

### Continued Prayer Concerns

Leda Taylor Ernest McBride

Judy Dressman

Herman Humphrey (Jan Humphrey's father)

Mary Nichols (Patsy Blankenship's mother)

The Family of Tom Cornett

The Family of Marie Haygood



**Pray for all people who have Covid to recover and  
Pray for all families that have lost a loved one  
to the virus.**

*The ministers and congregation of First United  
Methodist Church of Gadsden extend Christian  
sympathy to Crystal Cornett and family  
in the death of her father,  
Tom Cornett  
November 14, 2020*



***Remember to return your 2021  
"Estimate of Giving Card" to the  
church office so that plans can be  
made for the 2021 Ministry Budget.***

### Birthdays.....

Nov 22 Bill Cornett

Nov 23 Lisa Thornburg

Nov 24 Lori Varner, Dele Cannon

Nov 25 Sandy Self

Nov 26 Butch Herb

Nov 27 Barbara Jones

Nov 28 Sally Moss,

Lucy Edwards,

Kim Reed



### Week of November 15, 2020

Online Viewer Total 311

\*In Person Total \*114 Total overall 425

Celebration \*28/132 Traditions \*37/145

Mosaic \*9 Thursday \*7

Youth \*7 Children \*3

Bible Study Groups \*23/34

General Offering Budget \$15,440.00

General Offering Received \$9,185.00

YTD General Offering Budget \$710,240.00

YTD General Offering Received \$656,747.00

### 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.**