

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

11-8-20

Sermon Notes

"Serve With A Thankful Heart"

All month long we will be focusing on having a thankful heart. Last Sunday, *All Saints Sunday*, we *remembered* with a thankful heart all the saints who have died since last year. This coming Sunday, we are looking at what it means to *serve* with a thankful heart. In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul expressed his thankfulness for the service of the church – in spite of the persecution they faced. He also *gave* service to his friends in Thessalonica – in spite of hardships and persecutions. Did these folks complain about all this? No! They considered it a privilege to serve – it was a labor of love.

Here is how Paul puts in the first chapter:

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For the people of those regions^[b] report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming. (1 Thess. 1: 2-10 NRSV)

We have some wonderful "servers" here at Gadsden First UMC! I am thankful for every one of you. Maybe you are looking for a way that you can serve. We will talk about that this Sunday. We will also recognize the service of a very special group – our Veterans! Please join us for online or in-person worship, and tell a friend about it!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Sam



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
- **Text to Give:** 256-344-8464
- **Mail your tithe or gift to the church:** 115 S. 5th Street Gadsden, AL 35901

"Ladle of Love" Team Leader Needed

A volunteer is needed to serve as the **Ladle of Love Team Leader** for Team 1 for the first Friday of each month. Duties include coordinating volunteers, menu planning and purchasing of the food, as well as overseeing the preparation and serving of the food on the first Friday. Currently, Ladle of Love is serving a "to go" bag lunch at the portico of the church.



Thank you to Butch and Jane Herb for their years' of service as the team leaders for Team 1. They have been faithful volunteers since Ladle of Love began. Their service is very much appreciated!

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

Suggested items for

Thanksgiving Bags:

Canned Hams (*Those that with no refrigeration required*)

Canned Chicken or Tuna

Flour, Sugar, Corn Meal, Rice, or Pasta

Canned Pumpkin, Cranberries, and other fruits

Canned vegetables,

Box of instant potatoes

Canned milk

Jell-O and pudding mixes

Coffee

Tea Bags

Soups

Cereals

Crackers

Canned Juices

Cake mixes and canned

frosting

Church Phone

256-543-8200

www.fumcgadsden.org

fumc@fumcgadsden.org

[#gfumccconnect2020](https://www.instagram.com/gfumccconnect2020)



Missions for November

Thanksgiving Bags.....We want to try to fill at least 100 bags (or more) of food for the Salvation Army to distribute to families. Bags will be available to pick up at both services on November 8th. You can return your filled bags to the Portico entrance, Friday, November 13th or Wednesday, November 18th from 2:00-4:00 pm. Attached to the bag is a list of suggested items to help someone make a nice meal for their family. If anyone is unable to shop, we will have someone shop for you! To fill a bag for a family with all the fixings will take about \$40.00. Have your donations to the church by Friday, November 13th. We will prepare your bag and send it with the others!

Thank you! Mission Team

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](https://www.instagram.com/first_umcgadsden)

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

[#gfumccconnect2020](https://www.instagram.com/gfumccconnect2020)

ELC News

Monday, November 2

We had a great time at our annual Halloween parade that was postponed due to school closure.

Monday, Nov 9 & Tuesday, Nov 10 From 8:15 to 9:30 am & from 12:15 to 1:30 pm daily, Professional Photography Group will be here for fall picture review and purchase.

Thursday, November 11

ELC will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day.
Helene Haller

Youth News

November 11th at 6:00 pm

Morals and Ethics
Crazy Kickball

The Youth ministry will continue to provide online devotionals for those who aren't able to make it on Wednesday night in person.

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

Children are meeting in the Green Space with Social Distancing on Wednesday nights at 6 pm. Parents are required to attend with their child/children. The nursery is open during this time. See you on the Green!

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





Life is a journey. The most important part of the journey is our relationship with God and with others. A Journey Group is a small gathering of individuals who help you grow in your loving relationship with both. We invite all people into a relationship with God and seek to create an outwardly focused community of Christ-followers.

Journey Groups are a great way to stay connected to God and with your church family. All Journey Groups are currently meeting virtually. #GFUMCConnect2020

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

Wednesday Nights, 6:00 pm

One Chapter Wonders, Pastor Sam, Online Facebook Live (*and loaded to the church app and website after the broadcast.*)

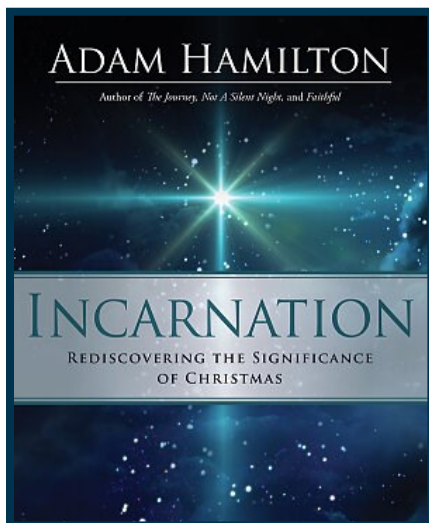
November 11: Philemon

November 18: Jude

November 25: No Bible Study

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

Interested in leading or teaching a journey group? Contact one of the pastors or Sheila Freeman at 256-490-5018 or Sheila@fumcgadsden.org



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

Starts Wednesday, December 2, 6 pm

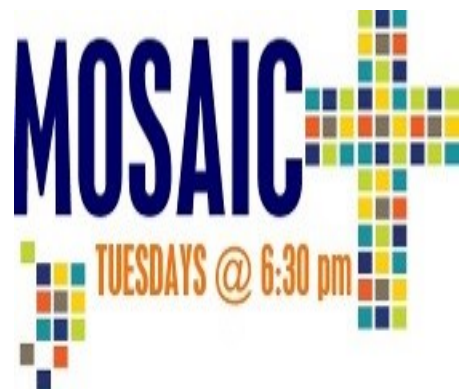
Adam Hamilton's book, Incarnation is available in the church office for \$15.00. If you would like to purchase a book but are unable to come by the church to make the purchase, please call the office @ 256-543-8200 or email: fumc@fumcgadsden.org for assistance.

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.)





UMW News

The November **UMW Luncheon** will be **November 9th** at 12:00 noon in the gym. The program speaker will be Sarah Ellis, a missionary from Honduras. Sarah has served with Legacy Mission International since September 2019. The ministry focus is Women in Crisis, and Discipleship and Community Development. She is the great niece of Nancy Smith, the daughter of Shannon Ellis and granddaughter of Frances Smith Little who was grew up in Gadsden. A catered box lunch from Gadsden Variety Deli will be provided. Please contact your circle leader or call Shelby Smith at 256-442-7117 by noon on November 6th for your reservation.

November UMW Calendar

November 9th: UMW Board meeting, 10:30 am, Gathering Room; Luncheon at noon, Gym
Jean Holtsford-Second Monday-November 9th-meet following luncheon

Stevens Circle-Second Tuesday-November 10th at noon

LuVerna Waid Circle-has voted to suspend circle meetings for now.

December: UMW luncheon will be on **December 7** instead of December 14.

Our Early Learning Center children will sing for us. Please mark your calendars.

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

Facebook Live: @FUMCGadsden

Church YouTube Channel: Gadsden First UMC

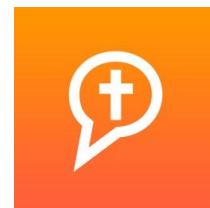
Sermon.net:

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden (search ministries)

Watch on demand:

Church App: **FUMCGadsden**

Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org/media



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



Calendar for week of November 8-14, 2020

Nov 8, 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 9, Monday

9:00 am– 1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule
 9:00 am-10:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym
 10:30 am, UMW Board meeting, Gathering Room
 12:00 pm, UMW Luncheon, Gym
 1:15 pm, Jean Holtsford Circle, Gathering Room

Nov 10, Tuesday

9:00 am– 1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule
 12:00 pm, Stevens Circle, TBA
 6:30 pm, Mosaic, Courtyard

Nov 11, Wednesday

9:00 am– 1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule
 6:00 pm, Children's Ministry, Greenspace; and Youth Ministry, Courtyard
 6:00 pm, Bible Study with Pastor Sam, Livestream

Nov 12, Thursday

9:00 am– 1:00 pm, ELC Fall Schedule
 9:00 am– 10:00 am, Exercise Group, Gym
 5:30 pm, Thursday Worship, Sanctuary
 7:00 pm, College Group, via Zoom or Instagram

Nov 13, Friday, 11:00-12:00, Ladle of Love, Portico

The flags on the altar are in honor of Veterans.

Please join us Sunday in person or online to celebrate our Veterans during each service.



The Gadsden State Community College "A Cappella Choir"

directed by J. T. Harrell will perform a concert in our sanctuary on November 18th at 2:00 pm. It will be the "Annual Christmas Concert". They welcome anyone to attend with our CDC guidelines to wear a mask and social distance.

Honorariums and Memorials

General Budget Fund:

In memory of Mary Freeman, given by Jackie and Connie Brechin.
 In memory of Mary Freeman, given by Peggy and Laure Butler, Rebecca Thompson Brazeal.
 In memory of Mary Freeman, given by Bryant and Deborah Banks.
 In memory of Mark Swann, given by Bryant and Deborah Banks.
 In memory of Mary Freeman, given by Mark and Barbara Condra.
 In memory of Mary Freeman, given by Mandell and Judy Tillman.

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Joanne Hightower Ernest McBride

Continued Prayer Concerns

Nancy Smith Leda Taylor
 Judy Dressman Dr. Chip Griffith
 Herman Humphrey (Jan Humphrey's father)
 Mary Nichols (Patsy Blankenship's mother)

Birthdays.....

Nov 7 Alison McCoy
Nov 8 Dee Grimes, Hunter Skipper
Nov 9 Jane Ann Gann, Lynn Page, Oliver Wright, Andrew Woodall
Nov 10 Katharine Barnes
Nov 11 Sherre McGinnis
Nov 12 Lewis McIntyre, Bart Scott, Scott Skipper, Emily Lindsey
Nov 13 Wesley Shumate
Nov 14 Juanita Hammons

Week of November 1, 2020

Online Viewer Total	284
*In Person Total	*154
Celebration	*40/116
Mosaic	*12
Youth	*15
Bible Study Groups	*6/37
General Offering Budget	\$15,440.00
General Offering Received	\$13,134.02
YTD General Offering Budget	\$679,360.00
YTD General Offering Received	\$633,592.00

The rose on the altar is given in honor of the birth of David Thomas Shadix, Jr. October 14, 2020



*Parents - David & Mary Lynn
 Big Sister: Ann Caroline
 Happy Cousin: Madeline Langston
 By the Early Learning Center and the Children's Ministry*