



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

9-24-23

Sermon Notes

“Position Well Played”

This week, we end the sermon series “Get in the Game,” using illustrations from football to challenge us on our walk of faith. Our focus this Sunday is on the position that we play. Just like on the football field, “players” in the church have a position to play. We each have a job to fulfill as part of the Body of Christ. Our scripture will be 1 Corinthians 12:4-12. I once read this scripture translated for the football field. Maybe, this translation will stir your imagination for the role Christ is calling you to play for the kingdom.

Now there are a variety of positions to be played on the football field, but it is the same team, under one coach and the one coach is the guide and leader of all. Everyone is given the ability to play the game, but the abilities are for the team, not for self-glory. One can play quarterback. One can be a kicker. One can be a center. One can catch the ball and one can run the ball. One can stop someone from running the ball. Each one is given and has cultivated certain abilities to play a position well and is gifted at playing a position well. Though there are many positions to be played, it is still one team with a common goal of winning the game. All people have different varying abilities. No player is the same, and not every player plays every position well, but it is still one team, working together for the team under the leadership of our coach.

How are you working with the body and within the body under the leadership of our Lord, Jesus?

May the Peace of Christ Richly Dwell in You,

—Rev. Sherri

September Sermon Series

Sept 17 Recruiting Counts

Sept 24 Position Well Played



Spiritual Gifts Inventory

[Spiritual Gifts \(umc.org\)](https://www.fumcgadsden.org/spiritual-gifts)

Every child of God is filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, specially gifted to play a unique and valued role in the body of Christ. No one is without gift or purpose.

Spiritual gifts are not our talents or skills. They are the grace of God at work within us, empowering us to match our deep passions with the world's deep need. The gifts are given to individuals, but they are given to build and strengthen community and to meet the needs of those around us.

Begin the journey. Discover your gifts. Talk about your gifts with others. Strive together to understand your gifts and how you can use them to **serve God**, neighbor, and world. You have been gifted. You have been given a purpose.

Table of Contents:

Page 1—Sermon Notes; Tech Schedule; Acolyte Schedule

Page 2—**Sunday School Open House**

Page 3— New Sunday School Class Oct 1 & Blessing of the Animals, Sep 24

Page 4—ELC News; Student Ministries; Children's Ministry

Page 5— GFUMC Missions News; Clothes Closet; Ladle of Love; United Women in Faith

Page 6— Do You Know? & HeBrews,

Page 7— Generosity; eGiving

Page 8— Calendar, Prayer Concerns, Save the Dates, Birthdays, Weekly Financial & Attendance Report

Worship Opportunities

Thursday Worship: 5:30 pm, Sanctuary

Sunday Morning:

Celebration 9 am* Traditions 11 am*

*In Person (Sanctuary) and Online

www.fumcgadsden.org/media/or

ACOLYTES

September 24: Clementine Hilburn & Rhett Hilburn

October 1: Anna Kate Casey

Tech Team Schedule

(Please arrive 45 minutes before the service.)

September 24

Celebration: Bill Haller, Brad Barnes

Traditions: Neil Mullin, Mark Casey, Parker Casey

October 1

Celebration: Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman

Traditions: Mark Condra, Sheila Freeman

SUNDAY SCHOOL *Open* HOUSE

Sunday School Classes for All Ages!

Light Refreshments will be served in many of our classes.

It is an opportunity for you to visit and find your place!

Children's Sunday School Rooms 108 and 104
New Adult Sunday School Room 209
Living Waters Room 110

Youth Sunday School Room 211
Pathfinder/Seekers Room 208
Martin Fellowship Room 114

(Nursery provided for Children under 3)

SUNDAY | 1 | OCTOBER

10:00 AM

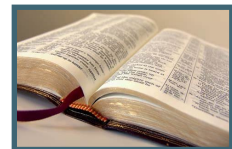
FIRST UMC GADSDEN 115 S. 5TH ST, GADSDEN, AL 35901



Wednesday Morning Bible Study w/Pastor Sherri Reynolds

Based on the week's Lectionary Readings.

@ 11 am in the Gathering Rm, # 201



Men at the Well Thursday Mornings, 7:00 am

You are invited to join the weekly Bible study with the Men at the Well small group. They are currently meeting at the Choice Restaurant at 7 am. Beginning July 13, the study will be focusing on leaders of the Bible. Each week the small group will discuss a key leader from the Old and New Testament. This study will conclude September 14.

**Wonderful Wednesday
Fellowship Meal
September 27 @ 5:15 pm!**

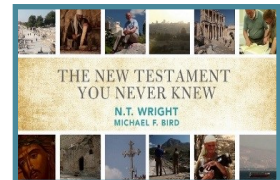
Menu: Barbecue

\$7 per person, \$3 for ages 11 & Under

**Small Groups for children, youth and
adults begin at 6 pm.**

**Adult Small Groups
@ Wonderful Wednesdays**

**"The New Testament
You Never Knew"
by N.T. Wright
w/Pastor Sherri
6 pm, Rm 208**



**"Breathing Room" w/Harriet Murray
6 pm, Room 110**

New Sunday School Class **Beginning** October 1

Life is full of transitions, questions, and new beginnings. Whether you are married, single or divorced, with or without children, this is a place to help you find genuine community, create new friendships and learn from each other, and grow your faith in Jesus.

There will be nursery care available for ages under 3 and Sunday school classes for Children and Youth, 4 years through 12th Grade.

Led by Jeanne Mabeus & Eric Wright Room 209

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

Blessing OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, Sep 24

10:00 AM

**West Lawn
(Greenspace)**



OUT OF TOWN OR WORKING ON THE WEEKEND?

Thursday
WORSHIP

5:30 pm

A SERVICE OF PRAYER AND WORD

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
GADSDEN

Celebration
worship

SUNDAYS
9 AM

In the Sanctuary



ELC News

It's been another busy week learning about different colors and shapes and how to get along with friends. This week in Chapel we learned about Abraham and Sara and the promise of Isaac's birth. On Tuesday, September 26th, we will have our first lunchbox revolt: The Dog House. Cost is \$4.50 per student.

—Helene Haller



Youth Ministry News

October 1 Youth Sunday School, Room 211

Trips and Fun Times

September 24 Cherokee Rock Village

October 7 Six Flags

October 21 Haunted Chicken House

October 22 Kickball tournament at Camp Lee

Carmen McKiven, Youth Counselor

Wonderful Wednesday Fellowship Dinner, Sept 27: Barbecue

\$7 Adults, \$3 for 11 & under Text your reservation: 256-490-5018

B.L.A.S.T OFF
INTO
SUNDAY SCHOOL!
(Believe, Learn, And Seek the Truth)

GFUMC kids
Sunday's at 10:00
Room 106 & 108

Blessing of the backpacks
August 6

Fall Fest
October 25

GFUMC CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
DECEMBER 10

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS START BACK
AUGUST 16

FRIENDSGIVING
NOVEMBER 15

Brunch with Santa 10:00am
December 3

Rake and Run
October 8

Community Thanksgiving
November 22

Christmas party
December 13

GFUMC Children's Ministry Fall calendar 2023

Children's
Church
meets
during
worship
on
Sunday
Mornings
@
9 am
& 11 am



September Mission Focus

Etowah Free Community Clinic

We will be collecting the following items in our **RED Buckets at the entrances to the church** during the month of September to support the Etowah Free Community Clinic!

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Paper Towels | 6. Rubbing Alcohol (bottle) |
| 2. Toilet Paper | 7. Hydrogen Peroxide |
| 3. Cotton Balls | 8. Triple Antibiotic Ointment |
| 4. Q-Tips | 9. Antifungal Cream |
| 5. Band-aids | 10. Prayers |



Thank you for your support of the August Mission Focus, our Adopted School, W.E Striplin Elementary School! Your gifts and service make this mission and ministry possible.

—The Mission Team

Clothes Closet Needs



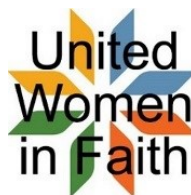
We have had many donations from our church members, friends and neighbors to our clothes closet. Recently we had a donation of clothing from "Hannah's Closet".

We appreciate all of our community helping in this mission that helps many individuals and families.

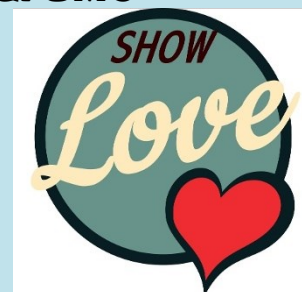
Thanks from your Volunteers

United Women in Faith

The next monthly Luncheon is October 9 at 12:00 noon. Our featured speaker is Mayor Craig Ford. His presentation will be "Gadsden At A Glance- An Overview of the Mayor's First Year." Please mark your calendars and make your lunch reservation by noon on Friday, October 6, by texting or calling Delores Abney at 256-458-0376. *Barbara Bennett, President*



GFUMC



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

Ladle of Love

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

Donations may be made to the Ladle of Love Fund in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Clothes Closet

Workdays

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Open to Public

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

September open dates are

9/6 and 9/20

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street Gadsden

Find out more about mission and service opportunities @ www.fumcgadsden.org/serve

Clients Served

August 2023

Ladle of Love 390

Clothes Closet 247

Thanks to our volunteers!

Phone: 256-543-8200

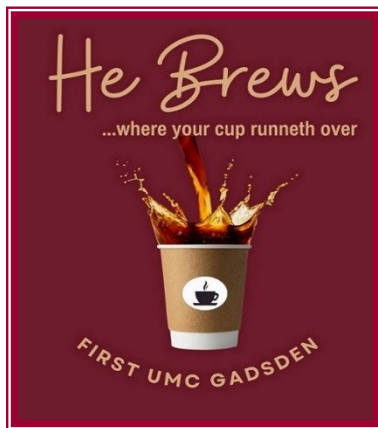
Email: fumc@fumcgadsden.org

#gfumcreconnect2023

JILL VINCENT



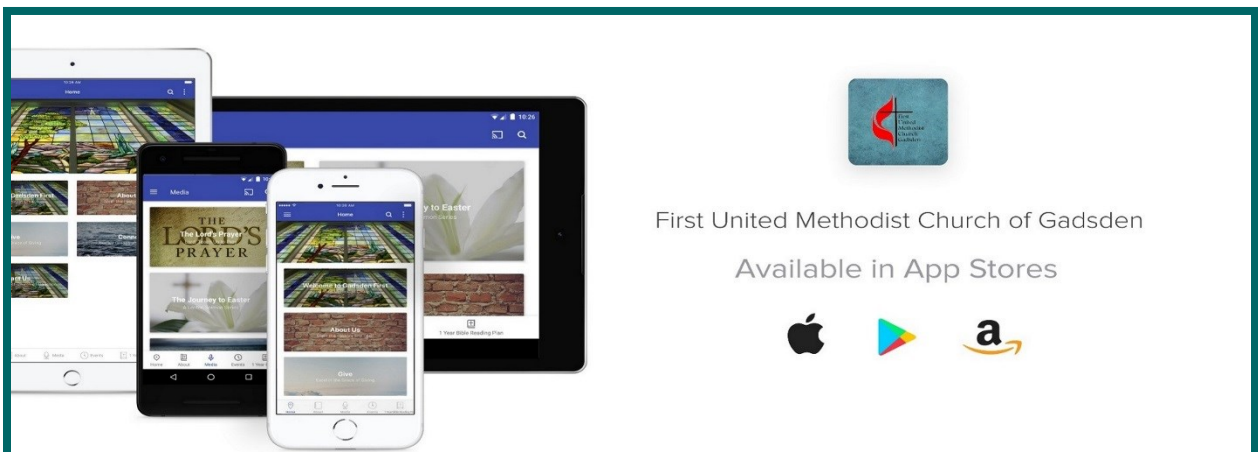
Jill grew up in Enterprise, AL, marrying her high school sweetheart, Gary Vincent, 10 days after he completed his degree in computer engineering and she completed her law degree from the University of Alabama. After a long and happy marriage, in 2019 Gary passed away suddenly from cardiac arrest. Jill worked for the Federal Government for more than 33 years, with about half of that as an Administrative Judge. She and Gary were active at Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church (near Birmingham) for 35 years. Jill was Finance Chair for more than 25 years; on the Conference Board of Finance; and on the Board of Pastoral Care and Counseling. She was Treasurer of the Birmingham West District's "Missions and Church Extensions" for 20 years and sang in the Chancel Choir at Pleasant Grove for 30 years. Now she lends her voice to the Traditional Service at Gadsden First. Her daughter, Beth Kelley, lives in Gadsden and introduced her to our church. Her son, Stephen Vincent, is a pharmacist in Jasper, AL. Jill has 6 beloved grandchildren.



Inviting Ministries




**Please join us for HeBrews Coffee Café
between the Sunday morning worship services,
from 10 am to 11 am.**

We can't wait to see you!!!



First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

Available in App Stores



DID YOU KNOW...

That you can reduce your tax exposure by making a gift from your IRA to your church? An IRA Qualified Charitable Withdrawal (QCD) is a simple and easy way for you to use your IRA to help GFUMC fulfill its mission.



DOES AN IRA QCD MAKE SENSE THIS YEAR?

If you are age 70 ½ you can use pre-tax dollars in your IRA to donate to the church. This amount is capped at \$100,000.


If you are age 73 (for tax year 2023), this amount can be used to satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution.

Check with your tax professional to see how an IRA QCD could impact your taxes while helping the ministries and missions of the church.





Secure Online Giving



Scan the QR Code or
Text to Give: 256-344-8464
First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

Generosity: Ways to Give

In-person, at the offering time during worship.

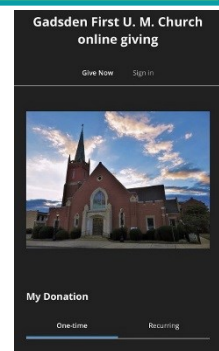
www.fumcgadsden.org/give

Text to Give: 256-344-8464

Mail your tithe or gift: 115 S. 5th Street ,
Gadsden, AL 35901



Look! The color scheme for our eGiving portal has changed!



Calendar for September 24-30, 2023

Sept 24 Sunday

9:00 am Celebration Worship, Sanctuary

10:00 am Blessing of the Animals, West Lawn, Portico (Greenspace)

Sunday School; HeBrews Coffee

11:00 am Traditions Worship, Sanctuary

Sept 25 Monday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Fall Schedule

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

5:00 pm Trustees Meeting, Parlor

Sept 26 Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Fall Schedule

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

5:00 pm-6:00 pm Yoga, Gym

5:00 pm Finance Team Meeting, Parlor

6:00 pm Board of Stewards Meeting, Gathering

Sept 27 Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Fall Schedule

11:00 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Gathering Rm

4:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal,, Room 110

5:15 Wednesday Night Meal, Gathering Room

6:00 pm Children's Activities, Room 108

6:00 pm Youth Activities, Room 211

6:00 pm Small groups, Room 110 & 208

6:00 pm Choir Practice

Sept 28 Thursday

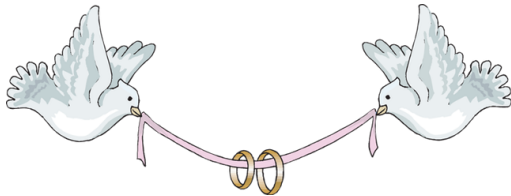
9:00 am-1:00 pm ELC Fall Schedule

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

5:30 pm Thursday Worship

Sept 29 Friday

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



The flowers on the altar are in celebration of the marriage of Lauren Voyles and John Waid on September 18th in Yosemite National Park, given with love by their family.

New Handbell Choir

The **NEW** Handbell Choir is rehearsing each Wednesday at 4:30 pm in room 112. We are looking forward to adult participation in our new handbell choir. If you are interested and know basic musical notes, please join us!

For more information, you may contact Monica Gilmer at 256-328-4420.

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Jane Jones Susan George Ruth Chandler Lisa Dobbins
Chris Wadsworth (Keith Copeland's nephew)
Jimmie Sue Hoekenga (friend of Barbara & Mark Condra)
David Perry (friend of Ray Macon)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Susan Copeland Dawn Rains Vicki Handy Lewis Hill
Juanita Hammons Nancy Smith Rodney Thompson

Birthdays

Sept 24 Susan Wright, TJ Gardner, Dr. Lowndes Harrison

Sept 25 Barbara Mosley, Kaia Hosey, Deborah Thompson, John McNair

Sept 27 Judge Wayne Owen, Grant Griffin, Savannah Jones

Sept 28 Valerie Pennington, Kara Livesay, Jake Malone, Judd Malone

Sept 29 Trish Croy

Sept 30 Jami Grimes, Luke Rosser, Connie Lane, Mason Russell

Week of September 17, 2023

In Person Total *154 Worship Total 465

Online 311 Thursday Worship *11

Traditions Service *92/173

Celebration Service *51/138 UWF *21

Adult Sunday School *29/1 Children *4

Bible Study Groups *31 Children *23

Youth *13 Nursery *2 Misc. 4

Total Small Groups *120 *In Person

General Offering Budget \$12,777.00

General Offering Received \$6,944.00

YTD General Offering Budget \$485,526.00

YTD General Offering Rec'd \$432,714.00

Take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory @

Spiritual Gifts UMC.org

