



Woven

The Butterfly

Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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

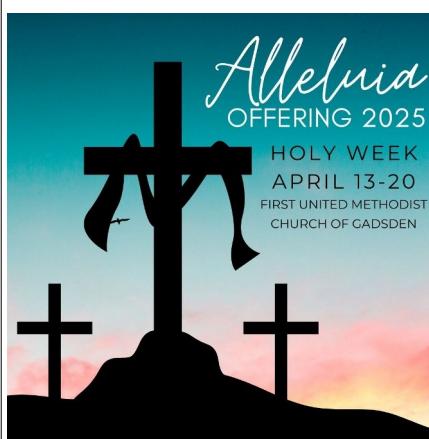
Sermon Notes: Easter Sunday, April 20

As we wrap up the sermon series, Woven, we examine the butterfly. This is apt for Easter since traditionally the butterfly symbolizes resurrection. As Jesus emerged from the tomb on Easter, so the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis. An even better analogy for the symbol is the butterfly representing who we are in Jesus. The creature enters the chrysalis as a mere worm or caterpillar, but in the chrysalis the animal is transformed into something unlike the original creature. The worm emerges as an insect, a butterfly. The butterfly can fly and is beautiful, so very different that the caterpillar which it started as just a short time prior. Jesus changes us as the caterpillar is changed into something new. In Christ, we are a new creation. The old has passed away and the new has come. In Jesus, we are different.

Mary Magdalene was certainly different from her contact with Jesus. She was healed, was taught, was a witness to the Resurrection and was the first to be commissioned to go and tell others that she had seen the risen Lord. (John 20:1-18) This Easter, remember that we can know this same transformation in Jesus. Easter celebrates that God defeated sin, evil and death; but it also celebrates that we serve a God who makes all things new. This includes us!

Christ has Risen!

Rev. Sherri



The Alleluia Offering is a special offering, received at Easter, to fund specific, special ministries within the church. It is a challenge to tithe your income during Holy Week, above and beyond your regular giving to the church. This year's gifts will fund organ restoration, student ministry and media ministry. Information and Alleluia Offering cards and envelopes are available in the Chestnut St Foyer. Contact the church office for assistance.

Table of Contents:

- Page 1-** Sermon Notes; Tech Schedule; Acolyte Schedule; Alleluia Offering
- Page 2-** Small Groups; Adult Studies for Sunday School Classes; Wonderful Wednesday
- Page 3-** ELC News; Student Ministries; Youth Calendar of Activities; Children's Ministry
- Page 4-** HeBrews; Pickleball, Vacation Bible School
- Page 5-** GFUMC Missions News-The Barrie Center; Ladle of Love; United Women in Faith News
- Page 6-** ELC Roses Sale, Church Picnic
- Page 9-** Woven; Alleluia Offering 2025; Ways to Give; Online Giving; Venmo
- Page 10-** Dates to Remember; Calendar; Prayer Concerns; Memorials; Birthdays; Weekly Reports

Worship Opportunities

Thursday: Worship, 5:30 pm

Sunday Morning: Celebration, 9 am
Traditions, 11 am

*In-Person and Livestream or On Demand
www.fumcgadsden.org/media

ACOLYTES

April 20: Sara Kate, Carter, and Jake Thornberg
 April 27: Clementine and Rhett Hilburn

Tech Team Schedule

- April 20**
Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Bill Haller, Rob Reynolds
Traditions: Mark Condra, Sheila Freeman, Brad Barnes
- April 27**
Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Biller, Brad Barnes
Traditions: Davis Varner, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman

The Chosen Season 2 Bible Study



Rev. Sherri will be leading a Bible Study of Season 2 of the Chosen starting January 8. Each week will focus on a particular episode, reviewing the corresponding scriptures while engaging both with thought provoking questions. The class will be offered at 11am and 6pm on Wednesdays in room 208. The class will last until April 30 (with the night session skipping March 26 for spring break.)

Wednesday Fellowship, Room 201 Menu for April 23: Pizza, Salad, Dessert \$7 per person Children under 11, \$3

Wednesday Morning Bible Study @ 11 am, Gathering Room

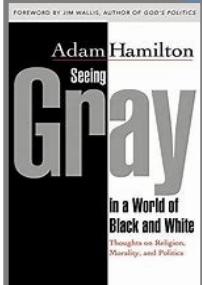
"The Chosen" w/ Rev. Sherri Reynolds will not meet this week. See you on Wednesday, April 30.

Adult Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesdays, 6 pm

Rev. Sherri, "The Chosen", Room 208

Harriet Murray, "Fierce", Room 110

Sunday School: New Adult Series for Lent

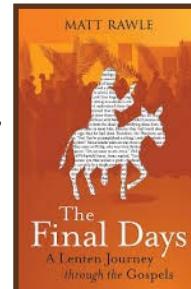


Transitions 10 am, Room 209

This study encourages thinking persons of faith to model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral, and religious issues that divide us. Hamilton rejects the easy assumptions and sloppy analysis of black and white thinking, seeking instead the truth that resides on all sides of the issues, and offering a faithful and compassionate way forward.

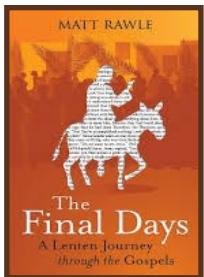
Pathfinders/Seekers 10 am, Room 208

Join us. Everyone welcome! Dive into The Final Days: A Lenten Journey through the Gospels by Matt Rawle, a powerful study that examines the themes of justice, poverty, freedom, and love through the lens of the four New Testament Gospels. Discover how each Gospel offers a distinct perspective on Jesus' final week in Jerusalem—culminating in the Resurrection hope we all hold dear.



Living Waters 10 am, Room 116

Dive into The Final Days: A Lenten Journey through the Gospels by Matt Rawle, a powerful study that examines the themes of justice, poverty, freedom, and love through the lens of the four New Testament Gospels.



"Men at the Well" Thursday Mornings, 7:00 am

You are invited to join the weekly Bible study with the "Men at the Well" at the 278 Restaurant. **Contact Todd Rains, Mark Condra, Mark Casey, or any of the Men at the Well for more information.**

ELC NEWS

Our annual roses sale for the Sara



Rabun Johnson Scholarship Fund runs continues through Sunday, May 4th. See flyer for additional details. We had a great time at our Easter Parties and a big thank you to Jackson Holt for being our Easter bunny. Tuesday, April 22 will be our last lunchbox revolt for the school year. The Dog House will be here and cost is \$5.00 per combo: hot dog, chips and a drink.

—Helene Haller



Youth Group
Wednesdays at 6 pm
Room 211
Sunday School
10 am, Room 211

Hymns for Hunger
Thank you to the youth for serving at Hymns for Hunger.

Senior High Graduation
Recognition Sunday
May 4
Brunch @ 10 am

Church Picnic, May 7, 5 pm

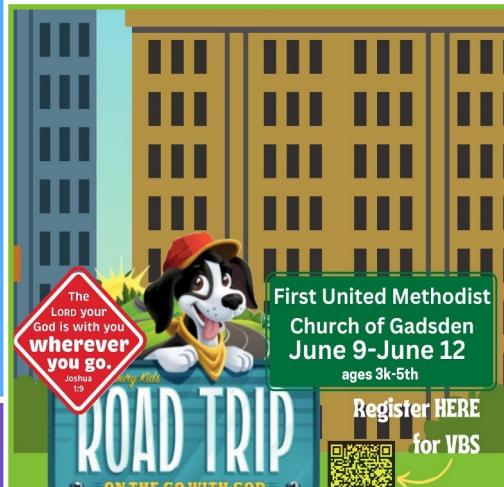
Wonderful Wednesday
April 23 – Menu: Pizza, Salad, Dessert
Adults & Youth \$7 Children 11 & Under \$3

Children's Ministry

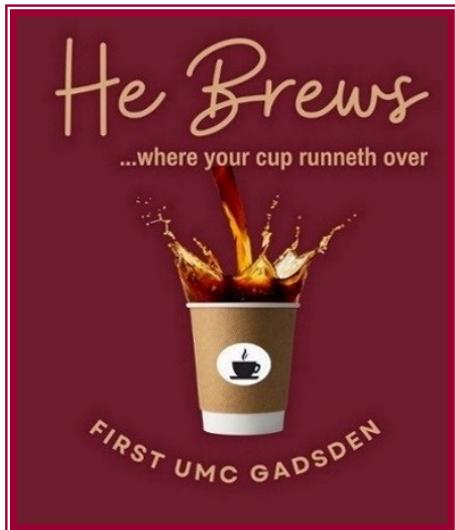
Wonderful Wednesday Children's Small Groups and Activities, Wednesdays at 6 pm

(Don't forget dinner is at 5:15 pm in the Gathering Room)

Sunday Mornings: Children's Church during worship, Sunday school @ 10 am



Road Trip: On The Road With God!
GFUMC VBS 2025



HeBrews Coffee Café
10 am, Chestnut Street Foyer
We Can't Wait to See You There!



April Mission Focus

View the mission video for The Barrie Center on the GFUMC Church App!

GFUMC APRIL MISSION FOCUS



The mission of the James M. Barrie Center for Children, Inc. is to promote hope, healing, and justice for child abuse victims by providing coordinated, trauma-informed services and education in our community.

**April is
Child Abuse Prevention
Month**



WISH LIST

Snacks and Drinks for Children

(Capri Suns, Little Debbie Snacks,
Chips, Crackers)

Gift Cards in \$5 or \$10 Increments

(Fast Food, Movies, Gas Cards)

Donate at Gadsden First UMC
during the month of April!



605 S. 4TH ST
GADSDEN, AL 35901

Find
out
more:



United Women in Faith Bake Sale & Pie Pantry

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, the United Women of Faith Bake Sale and Pie Pantry made nearly \$4,000.00 to fund local missions such as shelter for abused women and children, food for the homeless, emergency medicines for children, job training for low income, women and more. Special appreciation to our teachers for the pie classes, Peggy Casey, Eileen, Graham, Karen Owen and most of all Kathy Trotter for her vision Craftsmanship and extreme generosity. Another recognition goes to Sandra Hunter who took all four classes and made a record eight pies. A total of 55 pies were made and sold within 15 minutes. Thanks, Ladies!



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 are Tuesdays before open days from 9:00-11:00 am.

Open to Public

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

May open dates are
5/7 and 5/21

9:00 am to 11:00 am

516 Broad Street Gadsden

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

Phone: 256-543-8200

Email:

fumc@fumcgadsden.org

#gfumcreconnect2024

Ladle of Love Clothes Closet

February

LOL	400
Clothes Closet	210

Thanks to our
Volunteers!

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 4.

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



 Save the Date

Church Picnic @ the Kiwanis Pavilion Nocalula Falls

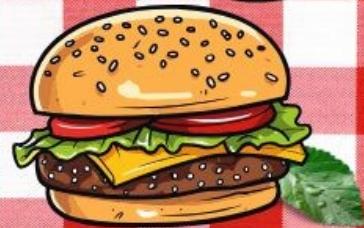


WEDNESDAY
7 MAY, 2025



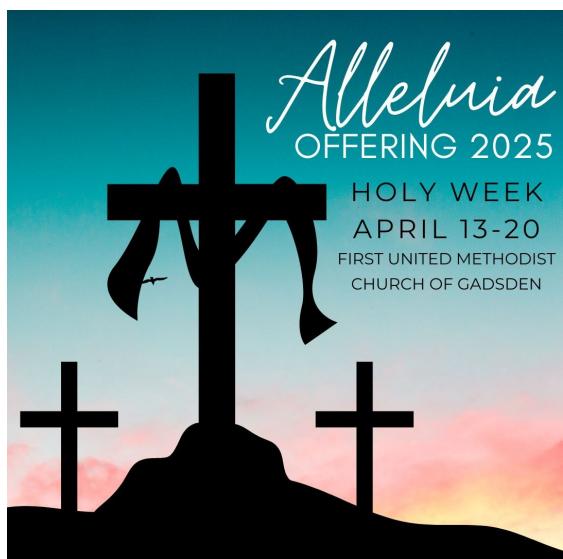
5:00 PM

FIRST UMC GADSDEN



Dogwood trees are blooming, and tulips are making their debut. Signs of spring are all around us, with Easter coming quickly. This means the 2025 Alleluia offering is soon approaching. The Alleluia Offering is a special offering, received at Easter, to fund specific, special ministries within the church. It is a challenge to tithe your income during Holy Week, above and beyond your regular giving to the church. This year's gifts will fund organ restoration, student ministry and media ministry. Information and Alleluia Offering cards and envelopes are available in the Chestnut St Foyer. Contact the church office for assistance.

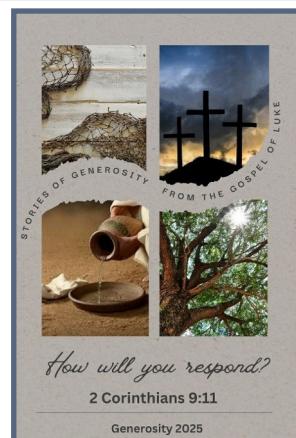
Blessings, Rev. Sherri



Generosity 2025 “How will you Respond?”

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us
2 Corinthians 9:11

The 2025 “Estimate of Giving” Card can be filled out at any time during the year online @ www.fumcgadsden.org/give



**First UMC Gadsden
is a registered charity and can receive
donations through Venmo:
@FirstUMCGadsden**

(Please search in Venmo under charities
or follow the link in the QR Code.)



venmo

Download our Church App
Search First UMC-Gadsden
In the App Store for Android or iPhone.



Generosity: Ways to Give

In-person, at the offering time during worship.

Online: www.fumcgadsden.org/give

Text to Give: 256-344-8464

Venmo @FirstUMCGadsden

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



Secure Online Giving



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



He is not here, but is risen.

LUKE 24:6

First UMC Gadsden April 20-26, 2025

April 20, Sunday

9:00 am-Celebration Worship, Sanctuary

10:00 am-Sunday School classes, all ages

10:00 am- HeBrews Coffee

11:00 am-Traditions Worship, Sanctuary

April 21, Monday

9:00 am-1:00 pm- ELC

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

2:00 to 4:00 pm- Pickleball, Gym

5:00 pm-Trustees Meeting, Adult Library

April 22, Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm- ELC

5:00 pm-Yoga, Gym

5:00 pm-Finance Team meeting, Adult Library

6:00 pm-Board of Stewards, Gathering Room

April 23, Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC

11:00 am-Wednesday Bible Study will not meet

5:15 pm Fellowship Meal

6:00 pm Wednesday Night Activities for all ages

Small Groups for Adults, Room 110 & 208

Children and Youth Groups Meet

6:00 pm Choir Practice

April 24, Thursday

9:00 am-1:00 pm, ELC

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

5:30 pm-Thursday Worship service

April 25, Friday

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

12:00 pm-Office Closed



Bring fresh cut flowers to worship on Easter Sunday to place on the Living Cross.

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Family of Juanita Hammons

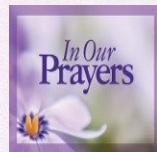
Gary Atkins Dottie Rogers

Continued Prayer Concerns

Martha Bullock Mary Tom Hale Jackie Herlong

Amy Epperson Bob Walden (Olivia Kendrick's father)

Matt Medders (deployed to the border)



In Memory of her Life

Juanita Hammons

April 15, 2025



Birthdays

Apr 20 Lauren Brechin Cain

Apr 21 Marit Norris, James Waid, Lauren Brechin Cain,

Brooke Vallejo,

Savannah Beth Phillips

Apr 22 Tom Dawson II

Apr 23 Martha White, Lenn Rainwater

Apr 24 Walter Waid, John Rollins McCord

Apr 25 Tyler Trotter, Levi Ridens

Apr 26 Ellen Bridges, Kelsey Freeman



Week of April 13, 2025

In Person Total-*249 On Line Total-935

Worship Total-1,184 Thursday service *7

Celebration *86/361 Traditions *156/574

Adult Sunday School *15 Children *14

Middle School & Senior Hi SS *4

Bible Study Groups *30 UWF *30

Children Wed/Sun *59 Nursery Wed/Sun *8

Middle & Senior Hi Wed/Sun *18

Year 2025

General Offering Budget \$12,400.00

General Offering Received 14,899.00

YTD Gen. Offering Budget 186,000.00

YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd 203,150.00

Important Deadlines

Deadline for the newsletter is noon on Tuesday of each week.

All requests for spoken announcements for Sunday mornings must be turned in by Thursday @ noon, in writing to Susan Swann in the office.

All Meetings, Events and Activities must be scheduled in advance with the church secretary, by email susan@fumcgadsden.org or call the church office.