

# WHO SHALL ABIDE IN THE SANCTUARY OF GOD?

*Rev. Sherri Reynolds*

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

## Sermon Notes: Thursday, August 15 and Sunday, August 18, 2024

It is a hectic season for the Reynolds' household. My daughters are in the middle of recruitment this week, otherwise known as rush. If the truth is known, the recruitment process goes against my mom's heart and egalitarian nature. I hate the process of cuts, dropping, ranking, and excluding. I want everyone to be chosen. I want everyone to feel the joy of being included and valued as God's creation. Fortunately, God's love is not like the process of recruitment, because all are invited. Everyone gets a "bid" and there is enough to go around. All are extended the invitation, and we have the free-will to decide if we will accept it.

This week's scripture is Psalm 15. This is believed to be an introduction for those who are worthy to abide in God's sanctuary. Thus, it becomes a checklist of what makes one acceptable for worship. Fortunately, this is Old Testament law and does not reflect the New Testament grace of Jesus. For us today, we are all welcome to abide in God's sanctuary and we are all worthy enough to worship. There is not an exclusive list, but a place for all. God's house and God's love are just that big. Thanks be to God!

In God's Grace,  
Rev. Sherri



## Confirmation for Adults - Everyone is welcome!

*Ever wonder what students learn  
in confirmation class?*

Want to learn more about the United  
Methodist Church or Wesleyan Theology?

Need a refresher on the basics of faith? Then this class is for you. Based on the We Believe curriculum, the class is an overview of the basics. Be a part of all the classes or drop in for one. The class will meet for one hour on Wednesdays at 11 am in the Gathering Room or Wednesday nights at 6 pm in classroom 208. See the schedule on page 2 for the topics of classes, dates, and times.

—Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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## Worship Opportunities

**Thursdays:** 5:30 pm

**Sunday Mornings:** Celebration 9 am\*

Traditions 11 am\*

\*In Person (Sanctuary) and Online

## ACOLYTES

August 11: Luke Barnes

August 18: Anna Kate Casey & Jade Collins

## Tech Team Schedule

**August 18**

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

**Traditions:** Mark Condra, Neil Mullin, Brad Barnes

**August 25**

**Celebration:** Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Rob Reynolds

**Traditions:** Davis Varner, Neil Mullin, Brad Barnes



**Wednesday Morning Bible Study @ 11 am**  
**Confirmation for Adults w/ Rev. Sherri Reynolds**

See full schedule and dates below.

**Adult Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesdays**  
**6 pm Confirmation for Adults w/ Rev. Sherri Reynolds, Rm 208**

See full Schedule and dates below.

**6 pm Small Group w/ Harriet Murray, Rm 110**  
*Renewed: Finding Hope When You Don't Like Your Story*

**Wednesday Fellowship, Gathering Room/201**  
**Dinner 8/21 Pizza, Salad, Dessert**  
**\$7 Per Person**  
**\$3 Children 11 & Under**

**Confirmation for Adults - Beginning August 14**

*Ever wonder what students learn in confirmation class?* Want to learn more about the United Methodist Church or Wesleyan Theology? Need a refresher on the basics of faith? Then this class is for you. Based on the We Believe curriculum, the class is an overview of the basics. Be a part of all the classes or drop in for one. The class will meet for one hour on Wednesdays at 11 am in the Gathering Room or Wednesday nights at 6 pm in classroom 208. See the schedule below for the topics of classes, dates, and times. —Rev. Sherri Reynolds

**Getting Started-** 11 am and 6 pm on August 14

**The Bible-** 11 am and 6 pm on August 21

**God the Father-** 11 am and 6 pm on August 28

**God the Son -**11 am and 6 pm on September 4

**God the Holy Spirit-** 6 pm on September 11 and 11 am on September 18 (No 11 am on September 11)

**Church History-** - 6 pm on September 18 and 11 am on September 25

**Sacraments-** - 6 pm on September 25 and 11 am on October 2

**Sin and Salvation --** 6 pm on October 2 and 11 am on October 9 (No 6 pm on October 9 due to fall festival)

**Growing in God's Grace-** 11 am and 6 pm on October 16

**Living a Christian Life -** 11 am and 6 pm on October 23

**Responding to God's Grace-** 11 am and 6 pm on October 30

**First United Methodist Church-** 11 am and 6 pm on November 6

**#WeAreFirst**

**Sunday**  
**SCHOOL**

*Classes for All Ages!*

Children's Sunday School Rooms 108 and 104  
 Youth Sunday School Room 211

New Young Adult Sunday School Room 209  
 Pathfinder/Seekers Room 208  
 Living Water Room 116

(Nursery provided for Children under 3)

**"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.

Currently meeting at 278 Restaurant.

*Contact Todd Rains, Mark Condra, Mark Casey, or any of the Men at the Well for more information.*

## ELC News

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year. Doors open Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup> with normal school hours. Early Care and After Care start Monday as well.

—Helene



#WeAreFirst



## Youth Sundays

August 18  
Youth Sundays w/ Becca begins!

## Youth Calendar

### August 21: Wonderful Wednesday

Dinner is served beginning at 5:15 pm, Menu for Aug 21: Pizza

Sr. High Youth ,6 pm, Youth Room, Room 211

Middle School Youth, 6 pm, Room 209

**Added  
notes...**

Thank you for  
helping the  
youth!  
-Carmen

### Look for the Fall Calendar of Activities— Coming Soon!

EACH ACTIVITY WILL REQUIRE 1-2 ADULT  
CHAPERONES, NOT INCLUDING CARMEN.  
CONTACT CARMEN IF YOU CAN VOLUNTEER

TWO VOLUNTEER CHAPERONES ARE NEEDED FOR  
THE ANIMAL SHELTER ON JULY 18, THIS EVENT  
WILL REQUIRE PARENTS TO TAKE THE YOUTH.

For more  
Information for  
Sr. High Youth Activities  
Contact  
Sr. High Youth Counselor,  
Carmen McKiven  
256.458.3375  
[cmckiven@hotmail.com](mailto:cmckiven@hotmail.com)



# Children's Ministry

Sunday Mornings @ 9 am and 11 am, Children's Church & 10 am Sunday School  
Take a look at all the Fall Calendar of Events & Activities for Children.

## GFUMC Children's August Unit

Wednesday's  
at 6:00



### WEEK 1

God loves  
**everyone**  
the same.

### WEEK 2

God **watches**  
over us.

### WEEK 3

God will make  
things **right**.

### WEEK 4

We can **obey**  
God above  
anyone else.

"By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me."

Psalm 42:8a (NIV)



## GFUMC KIDS FALL CALENDAR

# 20 24

AUG  
14

ICE CREAM SOCIAL  
WONDERFUL WED. RESUMES

FALL FESTIVAL  
5:00-7:00 PM

OCT  
09

NOV  
20

FRIENDSGIVING  
6 PM

SANTA BRUNCH  
10:00 AM

DEC  
8

DEC  
15

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM  
5:00 PM

Wonderful Wednesdays, every Wed. @6:00

August Dreaming: From Genesis to Joseph

September Lead the Way: Series on Moses

October Are We There Yet? In the Wilderness

November Right Track: Series on Joshua

December Christmas Vacation: Series on Christmas



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [WWW.FUMCGADSDEN.ORG/CHILDREN](http://WWW.FUMCGADSDEN.ORG/CHILDREN)

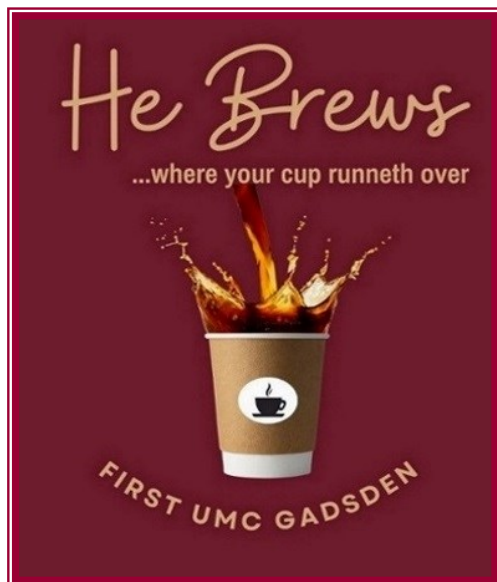
## We need your photo!



We are creating a prayer wall in the Kid's Worship Room, and we need photos of our kids! If you would like for your child to be included, bring a current photo, selfie, or portrait!

## Philippians 1:3





Please join us for HeBrews Coffee Café between the regular Sunday morning worship services, from 10 am to 11 am. We can't wait to see you there!!!

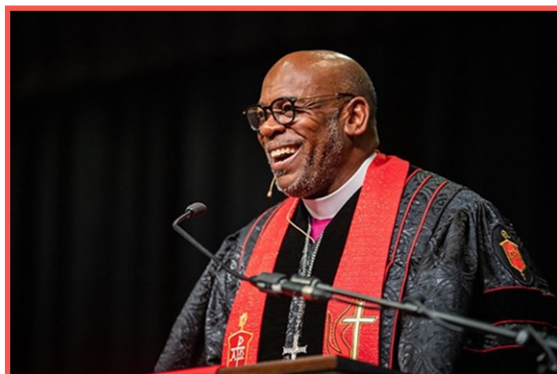
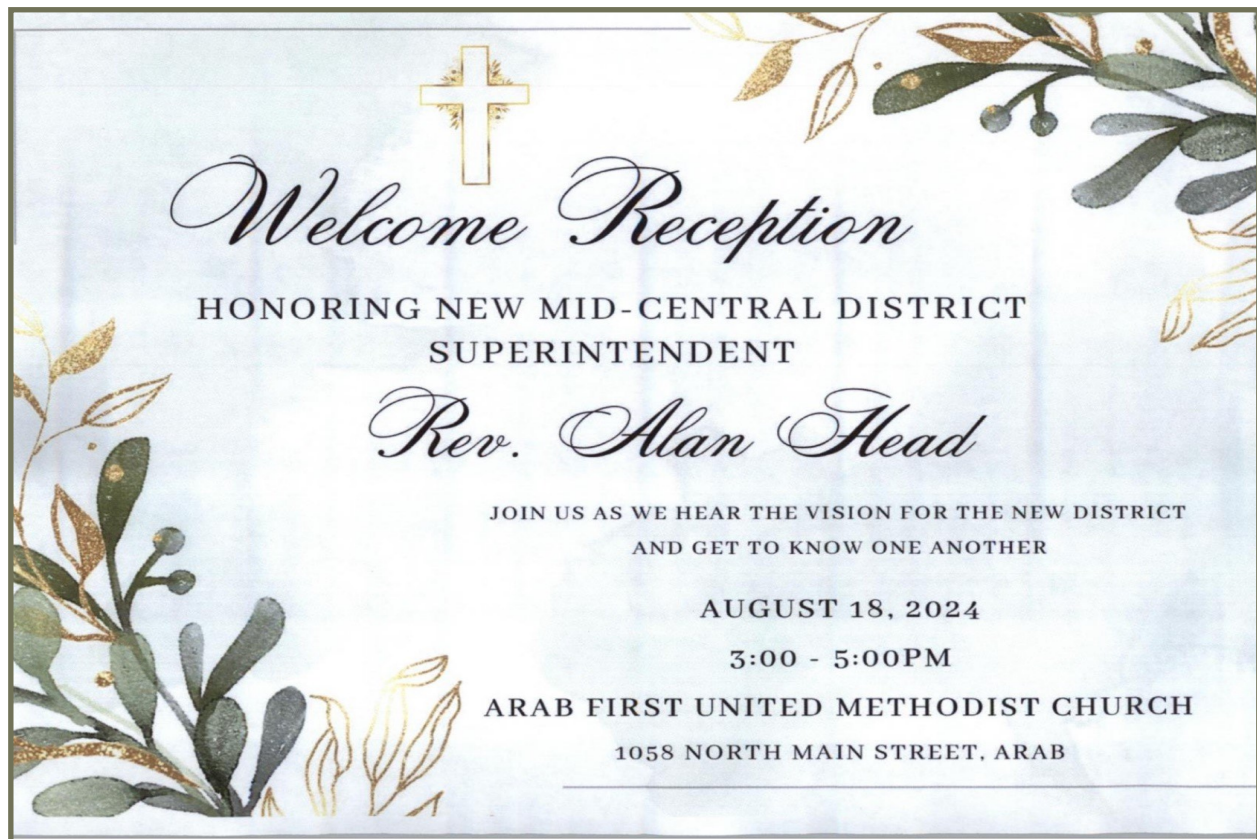


DO YOU KNOW?



(l-r) Elizabeth, Katharine, Brad  
(front row) Luke

Katharine has attended our church for about 30 years and was married here. A graduate of Gadsden High, she went to Jacksonville State University, receiving both a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a Master's degree in Education. She taught at Striplin Elementary for 10 years before becoming a First Grade teacher at Eura Brown Elementary, a job she has held for 3 years. Katharine has been the Director of Children's Ministries at our church for 4 years and volunteered with our children's program for many years before that. Her hobbies include reading, spending time outside, and traveling with her family. Brad grew up in Gadsden and graduated from Gaston High. He then studied Business at Gadsden State before working at Verizon. Now he is the owner of Gadsden Cell Phone Repair. He is an important part of both our Celebration and Traditional services, operating the cameras and audio that record both services. Additionally, Katharine says, "he helps me a ton" with the Children's Ministries. Brad's hobbies include playing golf, watching college football and baseball, and camping. They have two children: Elizabeth (20), who is a Junior at Auburn University; and Luke (8), who is a student at Eura Brown.





# August Mission Focus

## Striplin Adopted School!

Our mission focus for August is Striplin Elementary School, our adopted school. As school begins, we had a "Welcome Back Breakfast" for the teachers on Thursday, August 1st. During this 2024-2025 school year we will continue our A/B Honor Roll parties for the children. We also support the teachers through the Teacher of the Month and Teacher of the year certificates and gift cards and a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon for the entire staff (around 65 staff members). Your gifts support the teachers and make a difference in the lives of children in our community! Want to get involved? Contact the church office to find out more about serving on the GFUMC Mission team!



## 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**

**August open dates are**

**8/7 and 8/21**

**9:00 am to 11:00 am**

**516 Broad Street Gadsden**

**Find out more about mission and service opportunities @**

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

**Phone: 256-543-8200**

**Email:**

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

**#gfumcreconnect2023**

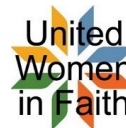
## United Women in Faith

UWF Sunday will be August 25. The officers will be inducted during the service. The ladies will be in charge of all parts of the service during both Celebration and Traditions except to bring the message. The monthly luncheons will resume in September.

**All Ladies...Come one, Come all, to our last Summer Supper! Tuesday, August 20th, 5:30 pm at Gadsden Country Club in the Camellia Room.** (Various price ranges available) We can thank Marian Ford for setting this up so we can have a very special evening together before returning to our monthly luncheons in September. We hope to see everyone there!

**Delores Abney, President**

**Olivia Kendrick, Vice-President**



### Clients Served June 2024

Ladle of Love 388

Clothes Closet 232

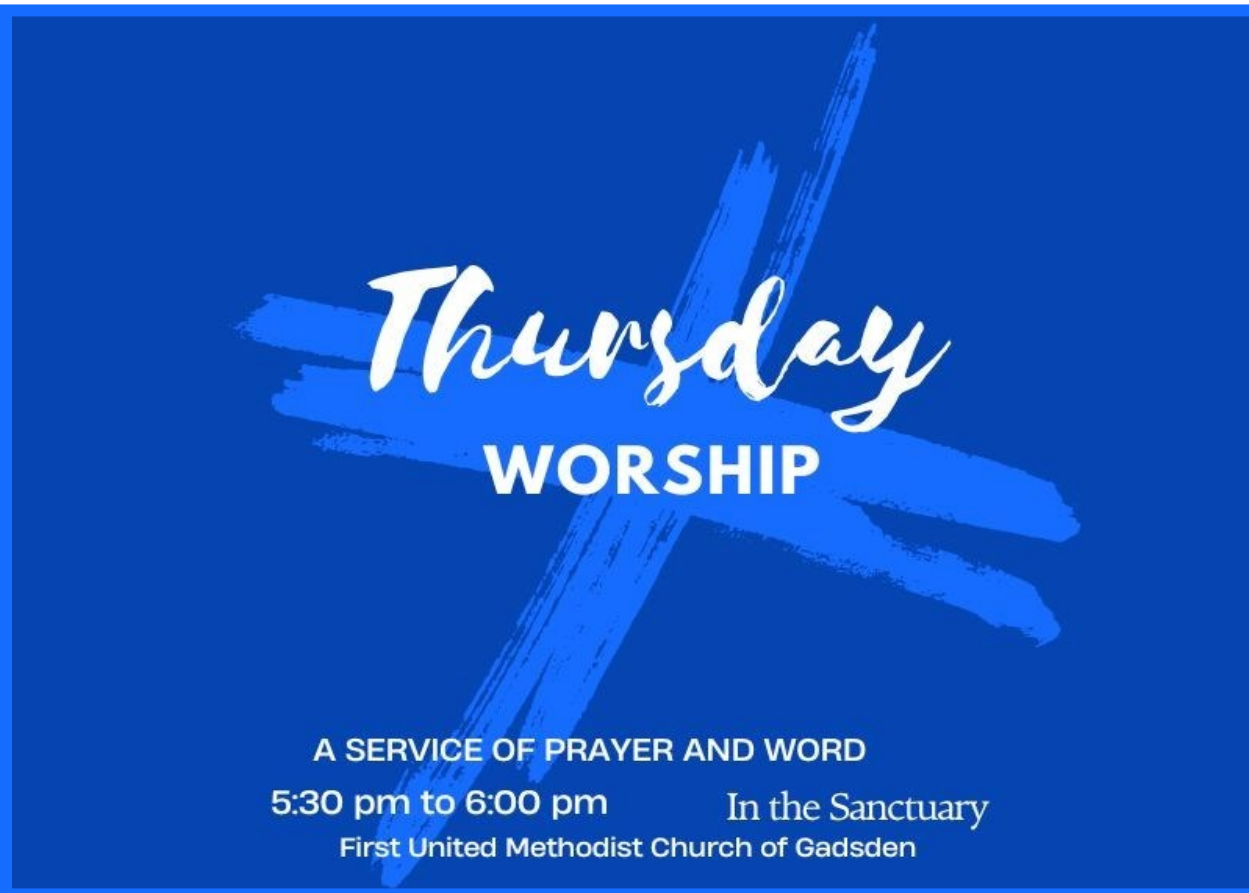
**Thanks to our  
Volunteers!**



REV. SHERRI REYNOLDS  
**GET IN THE GAME**

THURSDAYS, SEPT 12, 19, & 26  
SUNDAYS, SEPT 15, 22 & 29

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A SERVICE OF PRAYER AND WORD  
5:30 pm to 6:00 pm      In the Sanctuary  
First United Methodist Church of Gadsden



# Out of Town On the Weekend?

## What to Know Before You Go!

- We are going to miss you! (Come to Thursday Worship before you go.)
- Download the FUMC-Gadsden church app and turn on notifications!
  - Join First UMC Gadsden live online via the the church website: [www.fumcgadsden.org/media](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media), facebook, or youtube.
- Worship services are also available on-demand on the church website or church App!
- Don't forget to share where you are watching from in the comments if you are joining on Facebook!
- Attending a Church out of area? Let us know! Bring us a bulletin or brochure! We'd love to learn more!
  - Before you go...Set up recurring giving through the First UMC Gadsden's eGiving platform.
- Give via Venmo @FirstUMCGadsden (Search in Venmo under charities or follow the link in the QR Code below.)

**#WeAreFirst**

**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 FirstUMC-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](http://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

## Calendar for August 18-24, 2024

### August 18 Sunday

**9:00 am Celebration Worship, Sanctuary**  
 10:00 am Sunday School for all ages  
 10:00 am HeBrews Coffee, Chestnut Street Foyer  
**11:00 am Traditions Worship, Sanctuary**

### August 19 Monday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule  
 9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym  
 2:00 pm-4:00 pm-Pickleball, Gym

### August 20 Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm- ELC Fall Schedule  
 9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet workday  
 5:00 pm-Yoga, Gym

### August 21 Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule  
 9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet open  
 11:00 am-12:00 pm-Wednesday Bible Study, Rm 208  
 5:15 pm-Wednesday Night Meal, Gathering Room  
 6:00 pm-Children's Activities, Room 108  
 Youth Activities, Gym & Room 211  
 6:00 pm-Bible Study w/Pastor Sherri, Rm 208  
 Bible Study w/Harriet Murray, Rm 110  
 6:00 pm-7:30 pm-Choir Practice, Choir Room

### August 22 Thursday

9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym  
**5:30 pm-Thursday Worship**

August 23 Friday 11:00 am-12:00 pm-Ladle of Love

*The ministers and congregation of First United Methodist Church of Gadsden extend Christian sympathy to Richard & Amy Carlson, and Scott & Joy Carlson, in the death of their brother & uncle Kenneth Robert Carlson August 11, 2024*



**UWF Sunday  
 August 25, 2024  
 Celebration, 9 am  
 & Traditions, 11 am**  
 Officers and Committee Chairs  
 will be installed.

## Honorariums & Memorials

### General Budget Fund

In memory of John Williams, given by Julia Nolen Knox.  
 In memory of Michael Ridens, "Happy Birthday, Daddy," given by Carmen McKiven.  
 In memory of Jay Whitt, given by Susan Whitt.

### Ladle of Love

In memory of John Williams, given by Mr. and Mrs. Mark Condra.  
 In memory of Jay Whitt, given by Mr. and Mrs. Mark Condra.  
 In memory of Jay Whitt, given by Mr. and Mrs. Richard McCoy.

### Striplin Fund

In Memory of Geri Oltman, Winnie Phillips, Barry Phillips (Our August Angels), given by their loving families, Bob & Becky Oltman.

## Immediate Prayer Concerns

Jane Jones                      Stephe Wood  
 Asher Mae Collins  
 Bobby Kitchens  
 Judy Collins (Tripp Collins' mother)

## Continued Prayer Concerns

Nancy Smith                      Louie Loveman  
 Amy Epperson                      Albert Gibson, Jr.



## **Birthdays**

**Aug 18** Georgia Eugénias  
**Aug 19** Briggs Megois  
**Aug 20** Joyce Noojin, Brad Norris  
**Aug 21** Stephe Wood  
**Aug 22** Maria Swinford, Donald Gray, Lisa Dobbins  
**Aug 23** Jud Dawson, Carey Malone  
**Aug 24** Sally Whitt, Reid Richey



*Please update your family's record in the church office to include all dates of birth. Thank you!*  
 —Susan Swann

## **Week of August 11, 2024**

In Person Total-*193	Worship Total-667
Online-474	Thursday Worship-*12
Celebration Service-*76/190	
Traditional Service-*103/263	
Sunday School Adult-*41	Children *4 Youth *2
Nursery *2	Bible Study Groups-*7
Wed/Sun-Children*13	Wed/Sun-Youth *2
*in person	

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General Offering Budget	\$11,400.00
General Offering Received	\$18,130.73
YTD General Offering Budget	\$364,800.00
YTD General Offering Rec'd	\$413,131.73

## **Important Deadlines**

Information for the weekly newsletter **is due each Tuesday by noon.**

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

**All Meetings, Events and Activities must be scheduled in advance with the church secretary, by email or phone [susan@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:susan@fumcgadsden.org)**