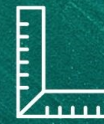


? Thomas
John 20:24-29



Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, July 24 and Sunday, July 27

We are beginning a new sermon series: Student. Based on voting from this past March, we will be examining favorite students of Jesus over the next six weeks. We begin with Thomas. (John 20:24-29)

What can we learn from Thomas? Thomas is most famous because of doubt. He was not there when Jesus showed himself to the disciples, so he doubted. Later when Thomas was with the disciples, Jesus showed himself again. Thomas believed and made a strong statement of faith, identifying Jesus as "my Lord and my God." Thomas met the resurrected Christ in fellowship with the other disciples and believed.

We, like Thomas, meet the resurrected Christ through Christian community. Jesus offered the assurance that when two are three gather in his name, that he is present. I have found that to be true repeatedly. Jesus shows up as we come together as a Christian family. Thomas reminds us to look for Jesus in the company of believers. As I read recently, one of the best and surest ways which we experience Christ is in the gathering of believers.

A Student of Jesus,
Rev. Sherri



Students of Jesus

Think back to March. It may seem like a lifetime ago. As a congregation, we embarked on our own March Madness. Not the kind that has to do with NCAA basketball, but the kind that has to do with our favorites. This year, we voted the brackets for the favorite students of Jesus.

The top six vote getters were Thomas, Peter, Matthew, John, Mary of Bethany and Mary Magdalene. These students are the basis for the summer sermon series: *Student*. As students and teachers get ready to go back to school, we get schooled by some of Jesus' closest followers. Additionally, there is a little fun along the way. There will be opportunities for extra credit, teaching toward different learning styles, and bonus material for extracurricular subjects. [Join us for worship July 24-August 31, covering a six-week term of learning from faithful disciples.](#)

Table of Contents:

Page 1– Sermon Notes; Tech schedule; Acolytes; Upcoming sermons for July 24-Aug 31, Students of Jesus (Disciples)
Page 2– New Bible Studies; Small Groups; Adult Studies for Sunday School Classes, Ice Cream Social
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Page 4– Ice Cream Social; Children's Ministry News
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Page 6– HeBrews; Pickleball; [Donate Cookies for Gift to Gadsden](#)
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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

July 27: Clementine & Rhett Hilburn

August 3: Sara Echols & Luke Barnes

Tech Team Schedule

July 27

Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Brad Barnes

Traditions: Davis Varner, Sheila Freeman, Rob Reynolds

August 3

Celebration: Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman, Brad Barnes

Traditions: Wayne Payton, Sheila Freeman

Wonderful Wednesday returns on Wednesday August 13!
Come and Celebrate @ the Annual Ice Cream Social
Portico and Greenspace

New Bible Studies Begin:

— Many study *Revelation* for what it reveals about the past or future, but what does it have to reveal about today? Using Greg Robbin's *Revelation Simplified: A Commonsense Approach to the Bible's Most Mysterious Book* as a guide, see how *Revelation* provides hope-filled promises for today. [Bring your Bible and join Rev. Sherri in Room 208 at 11am or 6pm on Wednesday starting on August 13.](#) The study will continue through November 19.

—The Belonging Project: Finding Your Tribe and Learning to Thrive” Are you hungry for true community, deeper connection with God, and friendships that are greater than just “likes” on social media? This is a study of the “One Another” Sayings of the New Testament. Join Harriet Murray and friends for this exciting new study. Room 110, Wednesdays at 6 pm.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study begins Aug 13!

Wonderful Wednesday Kickoff
Ice Cream Social, 6 pm Aug 13!

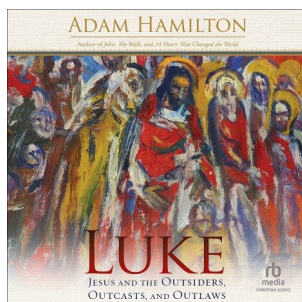
Sunday School: New Adult Series

Transitions 10 am, Room 209

Transitions Sunday School is on summer break during the month of July. This class will resume meeting in August.

Pathfinders/Seekers 10 am, Room 208

The series comprises five sessions. Each one tells the story of the hymn writer, how the hymn came to be, and the Christian message behind it. Hymns include: *How Great Thou Art*, *Rock of Ages*, *Amazing Grace*, *The Lord's My Shepherd*, & *And Can It Be?* Across the five sessions, ***Hymns We Love*** will help bring the core truths of the Christian story alive in a way that is gentle, warm, and clear.



Living Water 10 am, Room 116

In Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws, pastor and bestselling author Adam Hamilton explores the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. Through Luke's stories we find Jesus' care and compassion for all as he welcomes sinners and outcasts. As we study Luke and see Jesus' concern for those who were considered unimportant, we hear a hopeful and inspiring word for our lives today.

“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

This is our last week for Summer 2025. We will have Papa John's Pizza and Kona Ice on Wednesday July 23rd. We have had a great time and ready for a little break before starting the 2025-2026 school year.

—Helene Haller



Youth Group

Summer Schedule

Room 211

Sunday School

10 am, Room 211

Save the Date

August 3

Move Up Sunday

Blessing of the Backpacks

August 13

Ice Cream Social,

Greenspace

Youth Group, 6 pm

Wonderful Wednesday Kickoff-Ice Cream Social August 13!

Children's Ministry

Wonderful Wednesday Children's Small Groups and Activities will resume August 13.

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

**Watch for more exciting Summer Activities and Events
for Children's Ministry!**

KIDS' THEATER

@ Gift to Gadsden

INTRODUCTORY DRAMA CLASS FOR AGES
1ST THROUGH 5TH GRADES

with Katharine Barnes and Molly Page

Pre-Register

www.fumcgadsden.org/gifttogadsden

July 28-31 MTWTH

6:15 pm to 7:30 pm

**LIGHTS
Camera
ACTION!**

www.fumcgadsden.org
115 S. 5th St, Gadsden, AL 35901

VBS
6/9-6/12

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
ROAD TRIP!
JUNE 13

GFUMC SUMMER CALENDAR

Swimming @ The Gilbert's
Wednesday, June 25
101 Wilson Drive

**KIDS
LOCK-IN**
@ GFUMC TBD

ACOLYTE
LUNCH
BARONE'S
PIZZA
JUNE 22

WATER GAMES
@GFUMC JULY 9

OLD GRUMPS VS YOUNG PUNKS
ULTIMATE VOLLEYBALL GAME
@GFUMC JULY 13

**MAKE TREATS
FOR ANIMAL
SHELTER**
@GFUMC JULY 23

GIFT TO GADSDEN
@GFUMC JULY 28

**BLESSING OF THE
BACKPACKS**
@GFUMC AUG 3



Gadsden First UMC Children raised and donated \$238 for the Human Society Pet Rescue and Adoption Center and also gave them a tray of Homemade Dog Treats!

July Mission Focus



It's Christmas in July! You can fill a stocking and bring joy this Christmas! This year's Christmas in July features new instructions and guidelines for filling stockings. This year, stockings can be filled for the following age groups: Infants and Toddlers; 3-9 year olds; 10-12 year olds; Seniors 62 and above. Return filled stockings to the church by August 5th. You can pick up a stocking and a copy of the suggested items for filling stockings for each age group in the Chestnut Foyer or look for the Salvation Army's suggested list on the GFUMC Church App! Also be sure to include a slip of paper tucked inside the stocking with gender and an approximated age for the recipient. Thank you for your participation in this year's Christmas in July Mission! —The Mission Team

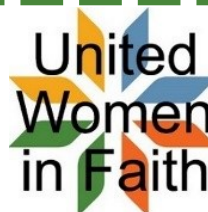
United Women in Faith

Summer Suppers Yippee!!! They are Back...

Summer Suppers are here—Lots of fun during the summer months for all ladies of our church! Join us for...

UWF Summer Supper #3
Tuesday, August 19 at 6 pm
Gadsden Country Club
1884 Country Club Dr
Gadsden, AL 35901

*We have a private room to really visit & talk!
Come and have fun and fellowship with friends!*



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

July open dates are

8/6 and 8/20

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

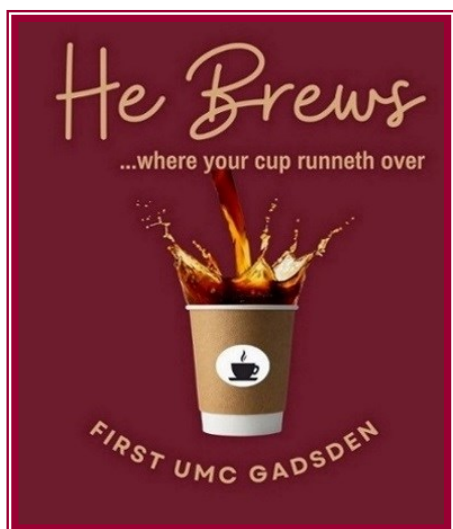
#gfumcreconnect2024

Ladle of Love Clothes Closet

June

LOL	390
Clothes Closet	253

Thanks to our
Volunteers!



Follow us on
Facebook and Instagram.



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



Gift to Gadsden Cookie Break

Donate cookies, bar cookies, or
brownies for Gift to Gadsden!

Bring cookies on Sunday morning, July
27 or Monday, July 28 by 2 pm.

Look for the cart in the Chestnut
Street Foyer—you can leave your
donation on the cart!

This year, the Cookie Break at Gift to
Gadsden will be in the Chestnut Foyer
at 7:30 pm until...

We look forward to seeing you there!
Remember to register for your
favorite class!

www.fumcgadsden.org/gifttogadsden



Gift to Gadsden 2025 July 28-31

Register @ fumcgadsden.org/gifttogadsden or call 256.543.8200

Limited Class Sizes—Pre-Registration Required

Nursery provided by request with pre-registration only.

First Session: 6:15—7:30 PM

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

*Acrylic Painting for Beginners	Sharon Dasinger
Ballroom Dancing	Ginger and Alan Ross
Cooking 101	Harriet Murray
Excel for Beginners	Bob Blount
Flower Arranging	Benny Campbell & June Styles
Film School	Ray Macon
Genealogy	Craig Scott
Kid's Theater (ages 1st through 5th Grades)	Katharine Barnes & Molly Page
*Tech Ease (Technology Tips for Phones and PC's)	Becca Echols

Monday Only

Stained Glass Windows of the Church	Sherri Reynolds
Olive Oil Benefits 101	Jeff Johnson,, Tena King, Leslie Johnson
Southern Herbal Remedies	Darryl Patton

First Session, Monday, Tuesday Only

Investment & Finance MT	Lucy Edwards/Jay Hedgspeth
Wills, Power of Attorney's & Medical Directive MT	Davis Varner
*Yoga for Beginners MT	Barbara Hightower

Tuesday Only (T) Both Sessions

Crochet for Beginners (T) Angela Whorton

Wednesday Only (W)

Stained Glass Windows of the Church Sherri Reynolds

Wednesday, Thursday Only (WTH)

Chess Ken Casey/Parker Casey
Fly Fishing George Fant
Medicare & You—Your Choices WTH Jackie Brechin

Fellowship Time: 7:30—7:45 PM

Second Session 7:45 to 9:00 pm

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (MTWTH)

Canva and Desktop Publishing	Sheila Freeman
Making Money by Recycling	John Brown

Second Session Monday, Tuesday (MT)

Bucket List Your Life Ray Macon

Second Session Wednesday, Thursday (WTH)

What Would You Do? Assertiveness Training Delores Abney

Both Sessions: 6:15—9:00 PM

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Cake Decorating	Michelle Cothran
Roleplaying Games and You	Zack Hilburn

Monday, Tuesday Only (Both Sessions, MT)

Beginning Pickleball, 2 Nights-Select MT Jana & Mac Downs

Tuesday Only (T) Both Sessions

Crochet for Beginners (T) Angela Whorton

Wednesday, Thursday Only (WTH) Both Sessions

Beginning Pickleball, 2 Nights-Select WTH Jana & Mac Downs

Thursday Only (TH) Both Sessions

Knitting TH Angela Whorton

***Supplies-you furnish supplies. ** Supplies provided for a fee.**

Nursery provided by request with pre-registration only.

GIFT TO GADSDEN 2025



**LAUNCH & PRAYER BREAKFAST
FOR INSTRUCTORS & VOLUNTEERS
10 AM SUNDAY, JULY 27
GATHERING ROOM (201), GFUMC**



Thursday WORSHIP

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 or working on weekends? Thursday Worship could be just right for you! Join us in the sanctuary for a peaceful, in-person gathering where we reflect on the upcoming Sunday's scripture and sermon, and spend time in prayer together. It's a meaningful way to deepen your faith and stay connected with God and your GFUMC family in a warm, welcoming setting.

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

You are invited to connect with the GFUMC Family in a new and exciting way. Connect through the church app today by scanning the QR code above. You will now be able to find groups and connect with Teams, Leadership Groups, Sunday school classes, UWF Circles and more within the App.

Follow these steps to connect:

- Scan the QR Code and Click the link.
- "Join" by creating your profile with a password in the app (use "continue with email").
- Discover your connections to the GFUMC church community, a smaller community (like UWF, choir, or Children's Ministry, etc.) or a small group (like a Sunday school class or small group) or a church leadership team. There are so many ways to connect!
- Request to join or accept an invitation to join.
- You are now ready to send and receive notifications, messages, notices, reminders, prayer requests, and more within your GFUMC connections.
- Thank you for joining GFUMC Community Connection today!



**Connect
with us**

**First United Methodist
Church of Gadsden**



Scan here to
connect with the
community now.



**Download our
Church App**

FUMC-Gadsden

**On the App Store or Google Play
Create a profile and join the conversation
connection!**



**North Alabama Conference
The United Methodist Church**

North Alabama Connection News

There will be a Mid-Central District night of worship at Cullman First on August 5 at 6pm. Bishop Jonathan Holston will be preaching. Transportation is provided if you would like to attend, leaving from First United Methodist Parking lot at 4:40pm.

Bishop Holston will be preaching at First United Methodist Church on September 7 at the Traditions service. There will be a reception in the Chestnut Street Lobby at Hebrews to welcome him and Felicia from 10am-10:45am, that day. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

First UMC Gadsden July 27-Aug 3, 2025

July 27, Sunday

9:00 am-Celebration Worship, Sanctuary

10:00 am- HeBrews Coffee;

Gift to Gadsden Thank You & Prayer Brunch

11:00 am-Traditions Worship, Sanctuary

July 28, Monday

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

11:00 am-King's Olive Oil Class, 534 Broad Street

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

6:00 pm-9:00 pm, Gift to Gadsden Classes

July 29, Tuesday

6:00 pm-9:00 pm, Gift to Gadsden Classes

July 30, Wednesday

11:00 am-1:00 pm, Gadsden Museum of Art

6:00 pm-9:00 pm, Gift to Gadsden Classes

July 31, Thursday

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

12:00 pm, Lunch & Laugh w/Forrest Hinton

6:00 pm-9:00 pm, Gift to Gadsden Classes

5:30 pm-Thursday Worship service

Aug 1, Friday

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



New for Gift to Gadsden 2025

Launch and Prayer Brunch for Instructors & Volunteers,
10:00 am , Sunday, 7/27, Gathering Room

Two Daytime Tours:

King's Olive Oil, 11 am, Monday, July 28

Gadsden Museum of Art, 11 am-1 pm, Wednesday, 7/29

Lunch & Laugh w/ Forrest Hinton First UMC

Gadsden Room 201, Thursday, 7/31 @ 12 noon

Donate Cookies for the

Gift to Gadsden "Cookie Break"!

Gift to Gadsden July 28-31, 2025

See page 7 for a list of workshops and classes.

Register through the link in the church app or

website: www.fumcgadsden.org/gifttogadsden

or by phone: 256-543-8200.

Honorariums & Memorials

General Budget Fund

In memory of Greg Carroll, given by Mr. & Mrs. Craig Marble.

In memory of Billy Talbot, given by Mr. & Mrs. Craig Marble.

Benevolence Fund

In memory of Elisabeth Hardin, given by Mr. & Mrs. Alan Ross.

Senior Scholarship Fund

In memory of Pat Martin, given by Marian Ford.

The rose on the altar is in honor of the birth of

Collins Reese Hill

July 22, 2025

Parents: Chris & Tabitha Hill

Big Brother: Rhodes

Grandparents: Lewis & Sandra Hill

Given by GFUMC Children's Ministry & Early Learning



Birthdays

July 27 Mary Clare Bone,

Chandler Lindsey

July 28 Billie Hackney, Linton Davis

July 29 Wayne Payton

July 30 Phillip Johnson, Angela Hood

July 31 Hunter Lowe

Aug 1 Jackie Herlong, Sharon Quinn,

Karen Owen, Charles Abney,

Keith Copeland, Jim Harwell

Aug 2 Gaynor Griffin

Aug 3 Gary Griffin, Jessie Timmons,

Mac McIntyre



Attendance Week of July 20, 2025

In Person Total *153 On Line Total 582

Worship Total 735 Thursday Worship *11

Celebration *50/245 Traditions *92/337

Adult Sunday School *36 Children SS *3

Middle School & Senior Hi SS *0 UWF *16

Bible Study Groups *7 Children Wed/Sun *6

Middle & Sen Hi Wed/Sun *0 Nursery *0

Year 2025 Week of July 20, 2025

General Offering Budget \$ 12,400.00

General Offering Received \$ 9,704.00

YTD Gen. Offering Budget \$359,600.00

YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd \$364,509.00

Immediate Prayer Concerns

People who are in treatment for cancer and those who have finished treatment and awaiting news.

Continued Prayer Concerns

Fred Chase Gary Atkins

Dottie Rogers Mary Tom Hale

Martha Bullock Amy Epperson

Emily Carroll (Adam Carroll's wife)

Grayson Phillips (Leigh Carroll & Dathan Phillips's son)

Ricky Couvillion (Joey Couvillion's brother)