

#WeAreFirst



"We are Diverse"
Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, May 30 & Sunday, June 2, 2024

If you look at those gathered with Jesus on his last night with his disciples (Luke 22:14-23), you will find a diverse bunch. There was a man who worked closely with Rome and a man who despised Roman occupation. There were men from Galilee and a man from Judah. You would find headstrong leaders and those who blended into the surroundings. They came from differing backgrounds and occupations, even arguing from time to time. Jesus called them all to follow him.

During my first year at First United Methodist Church of Gadsden, I have come to appreciate that we are a diverse group. Look around and you will find people of differing political views, just like the disciples. You will find people from differing places, just like the disciples. You will also find those headstrong leaders and people who blend into the background. We are the beautiful mosaic which is First United Methodist Church of Gadsden. #Wearefirst.

The next time you gather with your church family, I encourage you to notice the beauty of the Body of Christ. The richness of our differences makes that beauty even richer. And while we are not the same in all ways, we are connected by what is important: the love of God found in Jesus Christ.

#Wearefirst,
Rev. Sherri

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Worship Opportunities

5:30 pm Thursday Worship

Sunday Mornings: Celebration 9 am*

Traditions 11 am*

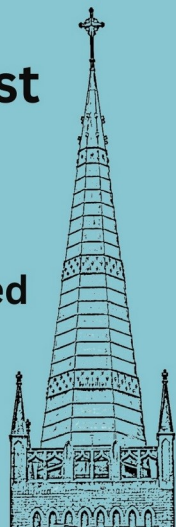
***In Person (Sanctuary) and Online**

www.fumcgadsden.org/media

on Facebook Live: @FUMCgadsden

#wearefirst

- Diverse
- Investing
- Empowered
- Rooted



Share your pictures
of all things
FIRST
with #wearefirst
on Social Media!



www.fumcgadsden.org

ACOLYTES

June 2: Luke Barnes

June 9: Brooks Bone

Tech Team Schedule

June 2

Celebration: Eric Wright, Sheila Freeman

Traditions: Mark Condra, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman

June 9

Celebration: Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Carmen McKiven

Traditions: Davis Varner, Neil Mullin, Brad Barnes

Take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory @ Spiritual Gifts UMC.org

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.



#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.

Meeting location may vary.

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

#WeAreFirst

**Wednesday
Fellowship
Dinner**

**Will resume
August 14**

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study &
Adult Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesdays**

Will Resume in August.

We hope you enjoy the summer! Please be sure to check out

ELC News

The ELC will be closed for a small break until Tuesday, June 11th.

Thank you to all that participated in the rose sale. Donations received totaled \$8,440. After the cost of the roses, the program will have \$8,155 to distribute to future ELC students in need.

—Helene



Youth Ministry News



"The Chosen Bible Study"
Meet in the Youth Room
@ 10 am

#WeAreFirst

June 2024

Help with VBS

8:45 am to 11:45 am

M, T, W, TH

6/3-6/6

(Check in and out w/Ms. Katharine)

Bake Brownies

& Deliver to

Downtown Merchants.

Meet @ Church

10 am to 2 pm

6/22

Service Day

&

Lock-In

6/8

Pick up Litter/

Noccalula Falls

Black Creek Trails

Meet @ Jack's

6:00 pm on

6/19

Service Day & Lock-In 6/8

Schedule

10 am - 1 pm Service Projects

- Clean Youth Room
- Clean Gym
- Pick Up Litter in Alley

Break (on your own)

7 pm - Return to Church for Lock-in

- Nerf Gun Games
- Movie
- More Fun & Games

Plan to go to Celebration and Sunday School & Depart by 10:45 am!

GFUMC Youth June 2024

**Added
notes...**

Thank you for
helping the
youth!
-Carmen

More Dates Coming For July!

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.

Youth Group Summer Activities

Contact
Youth Counselor,
Carmen McKiven
256.458.3375
cmckiven@hotmail.com
For more
Information!

Children's Ministry

Sunday Mornings @ 9 am and 11 am, Children's Church & 10 am Sunday School
Take a look at all the Summer Events & Activities for Children!
Vacation Bible School is June 3-June 6 from 9:00 am to 11:30 am

**Calling ALL
Knight volunteers!**

VBS work days!

May 19 12:00-2:00

June 2 12:00-finished

All volunteers register [HERE](#)



Calling ALL Knights!

We're on a quest for the King's armor!

June 3-June 6

Join us this Summer at

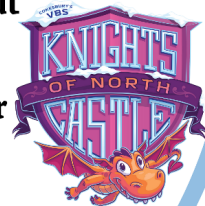
Gadsden First UMC

VBS as we search for

the Armor of God!

Ephesians 6:10

All children register [HERE](#)



#WeAreFirst

GFUMC NOCCALULA FALLS

CHILDREN'S Summer calendar 2024

Let's go swimming
Wednesday, June 26
101 Wilson Drive

Let's go hiking
Wednesday, June 12 @ 5

Let's go swimming
Wednesday, June 26
101 Wilson Drive

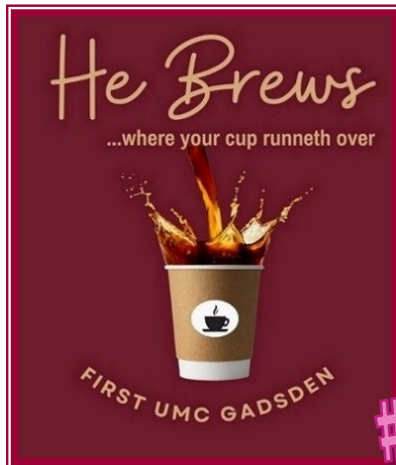
Make R.A.K. bags!
Wednesday, July 10 @ 5

End of Summer MOVIE NIGHT
Wednesday, July 31 @ 5

GIFT TO
July 22-July 25
GADSDEN

VBS JUNE 3-JUNE 6
Ephesians 6:10

Kindness MATTERS



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!!!*

#WeAreFirst

Congratulations and Best Wishes to
Kaelyn Harris and Graham Hester
on their marriage on May 11, 2024.

Please join us on
Sunday, June 23 @
Hebrews for a
“Wedding Sprinkle” &
help shower them with
Cards or Gift Cards.



Mondays 2-4 pm

Pickleball

COME AND PLAY!
SPORTS | FRIENDS | MONDAYS @ FIRST

First UMC Gym | 115 S. 5th Street
2nd Floor | Gadsden, AL 35901

ENTER AT THE CHESTNUT ST FOYER OFFICE DOOR

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

Thursday Worship Social
@ 6 pm, June 20

after
**Thursday
Worship**



The Stone Market
120 Chestnut Street
Everyone Welcome!

United Women in Faith-Boston Butts Sale Benefiting Local Missions \$40 Each

Featuring Boston Butts from Robertson's Barbecue (Tuscaloosa, AL)

Place your order by June 10. Prepayment is required.

All order must be picked up* between 3 pm and 6 pm on
Wednesday, June 19th
at First UMC Gadsden's Portico entrance facing 6th Street.
(*Orders not picked up will be donated to Ladle of Love.)



Name _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Number of Boston Butt's _____ X 40.00 = Order Total _____



Note: Order Early—Quantities are Limited!
Turn forms in to the church office and place in the UWF Box.

Mission Focus

First UMC Gadsden Clothes Closet

Open House 10 AM

Sunday, June 9, 2024



You are invited to come to an Open House on Sunday, June 9, during the Sunday school hour or following Traditions worship to learn more about the ministry and mission that is the **First UMC Gadsden Clothes Closet**.

The Clothes Closet is restocked by numerous donations from our church members and our community. Volunteers work on the first and third Tuesday to sort and arrange clothing to stock the Clothes Closet. In addition to being open to the public on the First and Third Wednesday of each month,

the FUMCG Clothes Closet assists individuals and families who need clothing due to a natural disaster such as tornadoes or loss of home due to fire. Community Agencies also call upon the FUMCG Clothes Closet when assistance is needed for individuals who need clothing for job interviews or other special needs. Come see this wonderful ministry and learn more about the First UMC Clothes Closet.

Tornado Buckets

If you still have a Tornado Bucket or items to donate for the Tornado Buckets, please return them to the church as soon as possible. Thank you for your support!

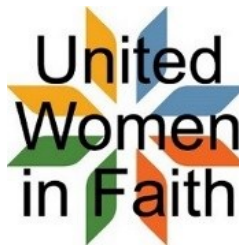
United Women in Faith

Remember to order your Boston Butt. The deadline to receive an order is June 10. Prepayment is required. You can order online or there is an order form on page 6. All proceeds go to UWF Missions.

The monthly luncheons will resume in September. Our first Summer Supper will be on Tuesday, June 18 at the The Clover Café (formerly Harp & Clover). Come at 5:30 pm to visit and we will order dinner at 6:00 pm. Hope all United Women in Faith will join us for fun and fellowship!

Delores Abney, President

Olivia Kendrick, Vice-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 are Tuesdays before open days from 9:00-11:00 am.

Open to Public

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

May open dates are 5/1 and 5/15

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

#gfumcreconnect2023

Clients Served March 2024

Ladle of Love 474

Clothes Closet 216

Thanks to our Volunteers!

JERRY & JAN FRASIER



Jan grew up in Gadsden and graduated from Gadsden High before attending Gadsden State Jr. College. She then went to Jacksonville State University, where she majored in Spanish and minored in History. Jan taught Spanish and History courses at General Forrest Jr. High School, then at Emma Sansom High School for a total of 28 years, before retiring from teaching in the year 2000. Her hobbies include reading, decorating for seasonal events, gardening, travel, golf, and attending concerts and local theater productions. Jan is one of our newest members, having joined our church on May 19, 2024. Jerry grew up in Fyffe (in Dekalb County) and attended Gadsden State, where he met his future wife. He then graduated from Jacksonville State University and had a long career as a basketball coach, first at Disque Jr. High, then at

Gadsden High School. The photo depicts Jan and Jerry while he was still coaching. Now retired, he enjoys traveling and is an avid golfer.

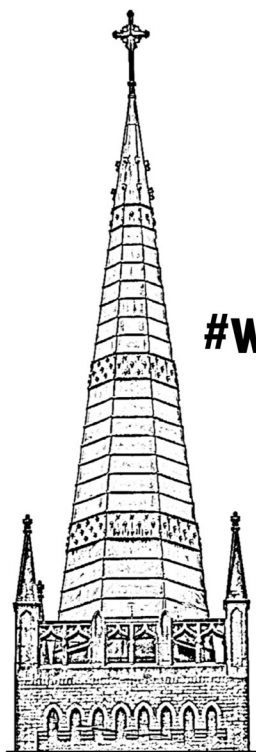
BOB & TRICIA BLOUNT



Bob grew up in Savannah, TN, and graduated from Hardin County Central High School. He then attended the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he received an undergraduate degree in Business Administration with an emphasis on Accounting. He became a controller for construction companies before starting his own company, Cambridge Services LLC, which provides accounting and bookkeeping services. Tricia grew up in Bradford, TN, and attended Bradford High School. She received a degree in Health Services Management from the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she met Bob. She has served as an Insurance Claims Specialist, first in Nashville, then in Gadsden. Bob and

Tricia have 3 children: Jennifer (43), who is a salesperson for a major Steel Company and was recently married on May 18, 2024; Jason (40), who is a CFO for an investment company; and Jonathan (37), who is the general manager of a recycling company. All three children grew up in our church. Tricia enjoys reading and history, while Bob enjoys boating; and they both love spending time with their 5 grandchildren.

Sermon Series for June: #wearefirst



#wearefirst

*Thank you to Anna Mullin
for the steeple graphic.*

It is hard to believe that I have been appointed to First United Methodist Church for almost a year now. During this past year, I have grown to know you and love you, as the church. The unique qualities that you bring as a congregation enrich my life, one another's lives, and Gadsden. It is my joy to serve you.

During the month of June, First United Methodist Church embarks on a sermon series to celebrate the strength and beauty of the congregation: #wearefirst. Join us each Sunday as we examine the gifts of our diversity, our generosity, the theology of all empowered for ministry and our roots in tradition which come together to be First United Methodist Church of Gadsden. In addition to this series, there will be a themed logo showcasing our beautiful steeple, which will be available on coffee mugs, t-shirts, and yard signs. For the course of the series, you can celebrate and share your photos of all things FUMC with #wearefirst on your social media accounts. This will be a season of celebrating what makes us First United Methodist Church. — Rev. Sherri

First UMC Gadsden #wearefirst T-Shirts \$15.00 Each

T-Shirt Order Form



# of t-shirts	Size	Name _____
_____	X-Small	Address _____
_____	Small	_____
_____	Medium	Phone Number _____
_____	Large	Total # Shirts: _____
_____	X-Large	Total Amount Paid: _____
_____	2XL	
_____	3XL	



#wearefirst
First UMC Gadsden
Hot/Cold Tumblers
\$10
Available in the
Chestnut Lobby.



Stickers
\$1

Are You Ready for Your Summer Vacation?

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, 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

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 June 2-June 8, 2024

June 2 Sunday

9:00 am Celebration Worship, Sanctuary
 10:00 am Sunday School for all ages;
 HeBrews Coffee Chestnut Street Foyer
 11:00 am Traditions Worship, Sanctuary
 12:00 pm VBS Workday following Worship

June 3 Monday

9:00 am to 11:30 am Knights of Newcastle VBS

June 4 Tuesday

9:00 am to 11:30 am Knights of Newcastle VBS
 9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet workday
 5:00 pm-6:00 pm Yoga, Gym

June 5 Wednesday

9:00 am to 11:30 am Knights of Newcastle VBS

9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet open
 6:00 pm Choir Practice, Choir Room

June 6 Thursday

9:00 am to 11:30 am Knights of Newcastle VBS

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

June 7 Friday

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

#WeAreFirst



Holy Baptism
Jane Catherine Sohor
May 26, 2024

Mark Your Calendars

June Sermon Series

#WeAreFirst

Thursdays and Sundays
 May 30 through June 23

VBS June 3-6

Knights of North Castle

See page 4

June 9

VBS Kids Sing in Worship

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Louie Loveman
 Chris Gunnels (Gail McNair's nephew)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Judy Collins (Tripp Collins mother)
 Leigh Carroll John Floyd
 Eileen Graham Martha Bullock Marian Ford
 Amy Epperson Brent Styles Asher Mae Collins
 Johnny Gunnels (Gail McNair's brother)



Do you have a college
 graduate in your
 family this year?



First UMC Gadsden would like to recognize our college graduates! Please submit their full name, degree/program, and college name to the church office @ susan@fumcgadsden.org Thank you!

Birthdays

June 1 Clate McGwier, Carter Thornburg
June 2 Rebecca Horst, Carter Rains, Bailey Womack, Carter Womack
June 3 Dick McCoy, Greg Griffin, Jace Frickey, Amelia Hedgspeth
June 4 Mary Cowart, Tyler Roberts, Jack Kennedy
June 5 Blaise Jarecki, Wells Ford
June 6 Sally Page
June 7 Danny Long, Valerie Johnson, Jay Hedgspeth, Alley Mc Sizemore
June 8 Mark Whitt, Charles Trotter
Please update your family's record in the church office to include all dates of birth.
Thank you! —Susan Swann

Week of May 26, 2024

In Person Total-*156	Worship Total-911
Online-755	Thursday Worship-*8
Celebration Service-*38/376	
Traditional Service-*110/379	
Sunday School Adult-*31 Children *7 Youth *0	
Nursery *2 Bible Study Groups-*4	
Wed/Sun-Children*13 Wed/Sun-Youth *0	
	*in person
<hr/>	
General Offering Budget	\$11,400.00
General Offering Received	\$12,325.00
YTD General Offering Budget	\$239,400.00
YTD General Offering Rec'd	\$274,448.00

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, Susan
 Swann, by email or phone*