

Galatians 5:1-15

TRUE FREEDOM

Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, June 26 and Sunday, June 29

How do you make decisions? Do you flip a coin, pray, seek wisdom, or ask a magic eight ball? Do you search scripture, discuss options with a trusted friend, or ask Siri? Have you ever thought about seeking evidence of the Holy Spirit? When love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control can be found, you know that the fruit of the Holy Spirit is present. If the Holy Spirit is present, then you can trust that you are headed in the right direction. Paul writes in Galatians that "if we live by the Spirit, let us be guided by the Spirit." (Galatians 5:1-25).

God created us with the free will. This is a gift and a challenge. There are times when we are self-centered instead of God centered, and we don't make God oriented choices, misusing our free-will. Thanks be to God that the Lord gave us the Holy Spirit to guide us. In this we know true freedom, because God gives us self-determination, but also direction to faithfully follow. As you follow this week, look for the road signs of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

In Christ's Love,
Rev. Sherri

True Freedom
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Rev. Sherri Reynolds

Sunday, June 29, 2025

Special Music
Presented by
the Chancel Choir
with Organ and Piano

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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**June 29: Volunteer
July 6: Volunteer**Tech Team Schedule**

June 29
Celebration: Bill Haller, Brad Barnes
Traditions: Mark Condra, Davis Varner, Rob Reynolds
July 6
Celebration: Bill Haller, Brad Barnes
Traditions: Wayne Payton, Neil Mullin, Rob Reynolds

Calling Cards for GFUMC



God chose you to experience salvation through the Spirit who makes you holy.
2 Thessalonians 2:13 NLT

Those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.
Galatians 6:8 NLT

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere.
Acts 1:8
fumcgadsden.org

Cherie Cornelius has thoughtfully designed beautiful calling cards that feature images from our church windows alongside meaningful scripture. These cards are a heartfelt way to invite someone to worship, offer encouragement, or simply let them know you're keeping them in prayer. The latest design, created for Pentecost, showcases the "Descending Dove" from the large stained glass window in the gym. All current and previous designs are available in the Chestnut Foyer. Please feel free to take a card—or several—to share with others.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study & Wonderful Wednesday will resume in August!

Sunday School: New Adult Series

Transitions 10 am, Room 209

Twelve Ordinary Men by John MacArthur is the current study for this class.

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

The Living Water Class is doing a unique study for the next several weeks. We are looking at events, teachings, miracles, parables found in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Since these three gospels are very similar in many incidences special books have been written that compare these similar stories. So you may have a story in one, or two or all three Gospels. We are examining these events to see what we can learn from them.

"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

We loved seeing Greg and having The Dog House here this past Wednesday. This week the ELC summer session will be open its regular days and times. Happy July 4th everyone!

—Helene Haller



Youth Group

Summer Schedule

Room 211

Sunday School

10 am, Room 211

Ark Trip

The Trip to the Ark was amazing. A total of 23 youth, adults and children were able to go and enjoy this adventure.

Wonderful Wednesday will resume in August!

Children's Ministry

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

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

QR CODE  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

WATER GAMES
@GFUMC JULY 9

MAKE TREATS
FOR ANIMAL
SHELTER
@GFUMC JULY 23



KIDS
LOCK-IN
@ GFUMC TBD

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

GIFT TO GADSDEN
@GFUMC JULY 28

BLESSING OF THE
BACKPACKS
@GFUMC AUG 3

Lock-in at the church!

AGES 3RD- 6TH GRADES

Saturday, July 5, we'll meet at 7pm at the church portico and spend the night!



Please bring a snack to share, pillow, blankets, charger, and a FRIEND!



★ I'LL NEED CHAPERONES TO STAY IN SHIFTS, AND A FEW TO STAY ALL NIGHT

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE SIGNED IN TO STAY, PICKUP AT 7AM SUNDAY MORNING.

Donate a case
of water for our
Ladle of Love!

GFUMC Children's Ministry
invites you to **WATER**
wednesday
Summer Family Activity
July 9 @5:00



Romans 14:19

June Mission Focus

gfumc Clothes closet

June Mission

Donate New Socks & Underwear of All Sizes!

Drop off items to the Red Buckets located in the Chestnut Foyer and Sanctuary entrances.

Open to the public on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 9 am to 11 am.

516 Broad St, Gadsden, AL 35901

FIRST UMC GADSDEN

www.fumcgadsden.org 256.543.8200

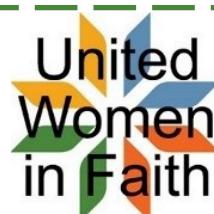
The **Big Red Buckets** are out!!! We are collecting donations of **NEW socks and underwear** for **Clothes Closet**. All sizes for men, women, and children are needed! Please help us fill these **Big Red Buckets** during the month of June! You will find them in the church in the Narthex, at the Hazel Oliver Entrance to the Sanctuary, and in the Chestnut Foyer. Thank you for always supporting one of the great missions of the church...Our **Clothes Closet!** And as always men's clothing and shoes are needed.

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 #2
Tuesday, July 15 at 6 pm
GAMEDAY @ the Gadsden Mall
1001 Rainbow Dr. Suite D1
Gadsden, AL 35901



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.

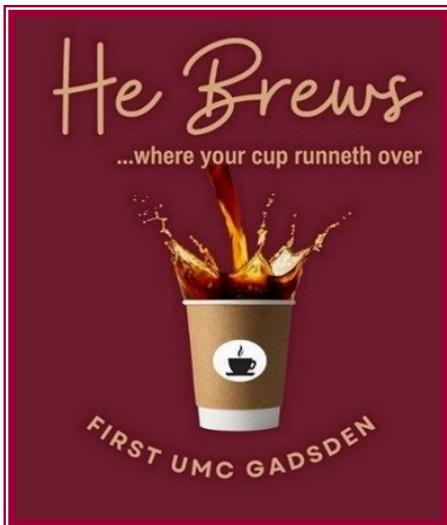
Open to Public
1st & 3rd Wednesdays
July open dates are
7/2 and 7/16
9:00 am to 11:00 am
516 Broad Street Gadsden
Find out more about mission and service opportunities @ www.fumcgadsden.org/serve
Phone: 256-543-8200
Email: fumc@fumcgadsden.org

#gfumcreconnect2024

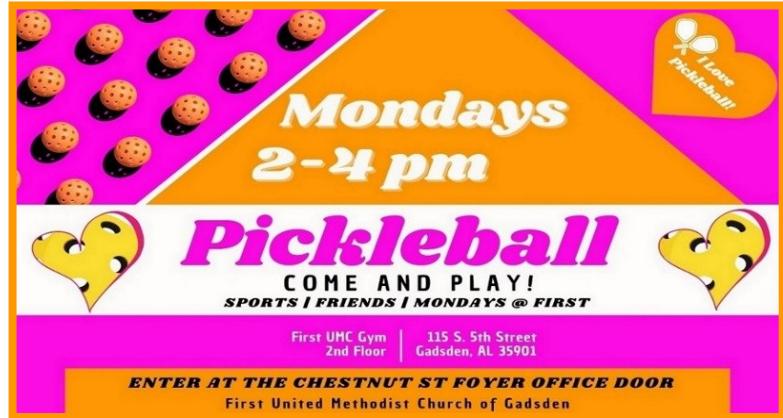
Ladle of Love Clothes Closet

	May	
LOL	407	
Clothes Closet	258	

Thanks to our
Volunteers!



Follow us on
Facebook and Instagram.



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"Do You Know?" is a weekly feature displayed on the sanctuary and lobby screens at Gadsden First UMC, as well as in our online church newsletter. Anna Mullin serves as our interviewer, reaching out to members by phone or connecting in person before or after worship services to gather biographical information. Her husband, Neil, captures casual photographs between the Contemporary and Traditional services each Sunday. You may be contacted to participate—our goal is to highlight each member of our church family through this engaging feature.



Gift to Gadsden 2025

July 28-31

Limited Class Sizes—Pre-Registration Required

Nursery provided by request with pre-registration only.

First Session: 6:15 pm—7:30 pm

First Session, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (MTWTH)

- *Acrylic Painting for Beginners
- Ballroom Dancing
- Cooking for Busy Schedules
- Excel for Beginners
- Flower Arranging
- Film School
- Genealogy
- Kid's Theater (*ages 1st through 5th Grades*)
- Tech Ease (Technology Tips for Phones and PC's)

- Sharon Dasinger
- Ginger and Alan Ross
- Harriet Murray
- Bob Blount
- Benny Campbell & June Styles
- Ray Macon
- Craig Scott
- Katharine Barnes & Molly Page
- Becca Echols

First Session, Monday Only (M)

- Stained Glass Windows of the Church
- Olive Oil Benefits 101
- Southern Herbal Remedies

- Sherri Reynolds
- Jeff Johnson
- Darryl Patton

First Session, Monday, Tuesday Only (MT)

- Investment & Finance
- Wills, Power of Attorney's & Medical Directives
- *Yoga for Beginners

- Lucy Edwards/Jay Hedgspeth
- Davis Varner
- Barbara Hightower

First Session, Wednesday Only (W)

- Stained Glass Windows of the Church

- Sherri Reynolds

First Session, Wednesday, Thursday Only (WTH)

- Chess
- Fly Fishing
- Medicare & You—Your Choices

- Jim McGuire
- George Fant
- Jackie Brechin

Fellowship Time: 7:30—7:45 PM Chestnut Foyer

Second Session 7:45 to 9:00 pm

Second Session, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (MTWTH)

- Bucket List Your Life
- Canva and Desktop Publishing
- Making Money by Recycling
- What Would You Do? Assertiveness Training

- Ray Macon
- Sheila Freeman
- John Brown
- Delores Abney

Both Sessions: 6:15—9:00 PM

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (MTWTH)

- Cake Decorating
- Roleplaying Games and You

- Michelle Cothran
- Zack Hilburn

Monday, Tuesday Only (MT)

- Beginning Pickleball

- Jana & Mac Downs

Tuesday Only (T)

- *Crochet for Beginners

- Angela Horton

Wednesday, Thursday Only (WTH)

- Beginning Pickleball

- Jana & Mac Downs

Thursday Only (T)

- *Knitting for Beginners

- Angela Horton

*Supplies-you furnish supplies.

**Supplies provided for a fee.

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

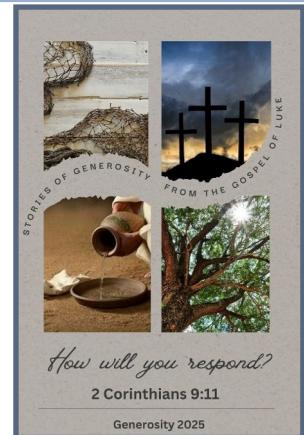
Out of town or working on weekends?
Thursday Worship could be just right for you! Join us in the sanctuary for a peaceful, in-person gathering where we reflect on the upcoming Sunday's scripture and sermon, and spend time in prayer together. It's a meaningful way to deepen your faith and stay connected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



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

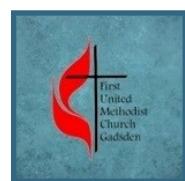


First UMC Gadsden
is a registered charity and can receive
donations through Venmo:
@FirstUMCGadsden
(Please search in Venmo under charities
or follow the link in the QR Code.)



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

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**



Scan here to
connect with the
community now.

Top 10 Things To Do on the Church APP

10. Meet the Pastors and Staff. (Home Tab-Meet the Pastors and Staff)
9. Fill out a Connect Card. (Home Tab-Connect)
8. Read the Church News. (Home Tab-News)
7. Check Out Upcoming Church Events. (Events Tab)
6. Read the Bible in a Year. (Bible Tab)
5. Look up Scripture. (Bible Tab)
4. Send a Prayer Request. (Home Tab-Prayer Request)
3. Give. (Home Tab-Give)
2. Receive notifications/messages from the church.
1. Watch or Listen to Worship Services and Sermons. (Media Tab)

Download our
Church App
FUMC-Gadsden
On the App Store or
Google Play



Weekly Newsletter

Subscribe to the weekly newsletter by submitting your email to the church secretary, Susan Swann:

susan@fumcgadsden.org

You will receive the weekly newsletter by email on Friday mornings.

The Newsletter is also available in the GFUMC Church App and on the Church Website.

First UMC Gadsden June 29-July 5, 2025

<u>Jun 29, Sunday</u>	<u>July 2, Wednesday</u>
9:00 am-Celebration Worship, Sanctuary 10:00 am- HeBrews Coffee	9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Summer Schedule
11:00 am-Traditions Worship, Sanctuary	July 3, Thursday
Jun 30, Monday	9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym
9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym 2:00 pm-4:00 pm-Pickleball, Gym	5:30 pm-Thursday Worship service
July 1, Tuesday	July 4, Friday
9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Summer Schedule 5:00 pm-Yoga, Gym	Office closed No Ladle of Love



Registration is Now Open for Gift to Gadsden July 28-31, 2025

See page 7 for a list of workshops and classes. You will find the link to registration in the church app or website: www.fumcgadsden.org/gifttogadsden

True Freedom
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Rev. Sherri Reynolds

Sunday, June 29, 2025

Special Music
Presented by
the Chancel Choir
with Organ and Piano

Vacation Bible School
Thank You to all the adults and youth that volunteered and made this year's VBS a great success. The children who came had lots of fun every day!!

Honorariums & Memorials
Music Fund
In memory of Pat Martin, given by Mr. & Mrs. Steve Frederick.

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Jane Jones Robin Wilson Lewis Hill
Sadie Brown (Rhonda Robinson's mother)
Ricky Couvillion (Joey Couvillion's brother)
Camden Ventura (Infant great-nephew of Jeanne Mabeus)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Trish Harrell Brent Styles Gary Atkins Dottie Rogers
Mary Tom Hale Martha Bullock Amy Epperson
Nadine Shipp (Gail Spotnitz's mother)
Emily Carroll (Adam Carroll's wife)
Grayson Phillips (Dathan and Leigh Carroll Phillips' son)

Birthdays

July 1 Carma Rayburn,
Lauren Blackstock, Lilly Ostendorf,
Sarah Kate Brookshire
July 2 Susan McCord, Gene Dean,
Gavin Martin
July 3 Todd Rains, Jody Sizemore
July 4 Mitch DuPont, Joyce Culp,
Dr. Kim Whitt, Jackson Camp,
Natalie Blevins, Sadie Smith
July 5 Rhonda Robinson, Clay Smith,
Emanuel Vallejo
*Please update your family's
record in the church office to
include all dates of birth. Thank you!*

Attendance Week of June 22, 2025

In Person Total *174	On Line Total 546
Worship Total 720	Thursday Worship *10
Celebration *60/182	Traditions *104/364
Adult Sunday School *41	Children SS *8
Middle School & Senior Hi SS 2	
Bible Study Groups *17	Children Wed/Sun *22
Middle & Sen Hi Wed/Sun *2	Nursery *5
Youth Trip *10 youth/*9 adults/*4 children	

Year 2025 Week of June 22, 2025

General Offering Budget	\$ 12,400.00
General Offering Received	\$ 6,634.00
YTD Gen. Offering Budget	\$310,000.00
YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd	\$315,910.00

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.