

Word
from the
Windows

"Jesus and Mary at the Garden Tomb"

Rev. Sherri Reynolds



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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, March 28 & Sunday, March 31

Mary and the Tomb is the most prominent stained-glass window of First United Methodist Church. It is one of the largest windows and has the most noticeable spot, in the sanctuary facing Chestnut Street, easily admired from the inside and outside of the church. Like the other windows, it was designed by Jospeh Victor Llorens and installed in 1936 along with eight others. The window offers the most important message of Christ' resurrection and power, reminding us that each day with Jesus is resurrection and life.

As you prepare for Easter worship, spend time with the scripture: John 20:1-18 and these questions:

1. What does resurrection mean to you?
2. How has Jesus empowered you to tell others that He lives.
3. How have you seen the Risen Lord today?

See you Sunday as we see the beauty and hear the story.
Rev. Sherri

PS This series was originally scheduled to end on Easter, but due to popular demand the series will continue to mid- April, now including the windows in the narthex and a reimagining of Jesus and the Rich Young Ruler.

MARCH MADNESS
FAVORITE WORSHIP SONGS

Champion: How Great Thou Art



Bring Flowers for the Cross on Easter Sunday, March 31

You are invited to bring fresh cut
flowers from your yard or garden
and place them on the cross in
Celebration or Traditions Worship
on Easter Sunday.

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Worship Opportunities

5:30 pm Thursday Worship

Sunday Mornings: Celebration 9 am*

Traditions 11 am*

ACOLYTES

March 31 Luke Barnes; Brooks Bone
April 7 Rhett & Clementine Hilburn

Security for Thursday Worship

March 28 Maundy Thursday Service
April 4 Eric Wright

Tech Team Schedule

March 31

Celebration: Bill Haller, Jacob McKiven, Carmen McKiven
Traditions: Neil Mullin, Wayne Payton, Brad Barnes

April 7

Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Carmen & Jacob McKiven
Traditions: Mark Condra, Wayne Payton, Brad Barnes

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)

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study
w/Pastor Sherri will resume on April 3, 2024.**

**Bible Study with Rev. Sherri, Wednesdays @ 11 am
The Chosen Bible Study**



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. They are currently meeting at the Choice Restaurant at 7 am.

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

**Wednesday
Fellowship Dinner
April 3
Menu:
Chicken Fingers
Mac 'n Cheese**

Adult Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesdays

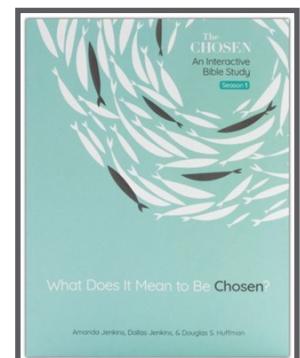
**Small Group with Harriet Murray, Room 110
Seven Words-Listening to Christ from the Cross
by Susan Robb**

The Chosen Bible Study Join Pastor Sherri on Wed. @ 6 pm

April 3- Episode 6

April 10- Episode 7

April 17- Episode 8 (Last study for spring)



ELC News

Our Easter Parties were a huge success. Thank you Jacob McKiven for being our Easter Bunny. The ELC will be closed for Spring Break Monday, March 25th through Thursday, March 28th. We will return to our regular schedule Monday, April 1st.

—Helene



Youth Ministry News



"The Chosen Bible Study"
Mar 10 Sherri Reynolds
Mar 17 Barbara Condra
Mar 24 No Youth Sunday School
Mar 31 Sheila Freeman

Wednesday Fellowship Dinner
April 3: \$7 Adults \$3 11 & Under
Chicken Fingers & Mac 'n Cheese

Youth Group Meets
Wednesdays at 6 pm each week!

March 24-31 Spring Break

Children's
Ministry

FAMILY NIGHT! Cupcake Wars

**WED.
APRIL
17**

Join us in the gym for a night
of cupcake decorating!

BRING YOUR FAMILY!



Confirmation Class

Wednesdays at 6 pm
Contact Katharine Barnes

Scan the QR Code to Register Now Online!



GFUMC's
Vacation Bible School

See Page 6 for details!

THIS SUMMER, JOIN US FOR
GFUMC's
Vacation Bible School

JUNE 3-6

KNIGHTS OF NORTH CASTLE

REGISTER ONLINE

**"Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His power."
Ephesians 6:10**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GADSDEN
115 S. 5th St • Gadsden, AL • 35901



See the Beauty... Hear the Story.

From January 21, 2024 through April 21, 2024, the sermon series, "Word from the Windows," will feature the history and scripture stories of the beautiful stained glass windows that are in our sanctuary, prayer room, Narthex and William's Parlor (Bride's Room) and other areas adjacent to the sanctuary. Come and worship together on Thursdays at 5:30 pm or on Sunday mornings at 9 am or 11 am each week.

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)

Volunteer Opportunity

A big part of our in-person Sunday morning worship experience is having greeters & ushers welcome guests into the space. This job is an essential part of making sure we provide a safe and welcoming environment for everyone who comes into our church. If you would like to help please call the church office—256-543-8200.



Mission Focus

David and Vicki Creel

Joined FEBC: 1990

Hometown: Gadsden, Alabama

Contact: E-mail David at dcreel@febc.org



David has been a missionary with FEBC since 1990, having served in Saipan for 18 years. During that time, he performed duties as a broadcast engineer for international shortwave radio station KFBS, which broadcasts the Gospel to many closed countries in Asia, including Russia, China, Mongolia, Vietnam, and Indonesia.

Vicki is from the Philippines and has been a missionary since 1997. She served in East Asia for 12 years working with children, sharing Christ, and training church workers. She also served with SIFAT (Servant in Faith and Technology) in Bolivia and Alabama doing community development training.

David & Vicki were married in April 2014 and are now serving together with FEBC. Currently, David provides engineering and technical support for FEBC's radio stations in Cambodia, Indonesia, Mongolia, Central Asia, and the Philippines. Vicki assists as needed in administrative duties.

Upper Sand Mountain Parrish

On March 21, a group from the First UMC Gadsden Mission Team went to Upper Sand Mountain Parrish to help clean out closets and rooms for their ministries.

Bake Sale

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! The UWF Bake Sale was a huge success! Each and every volunteer who baked and provided the wonderful items for the bake sale, as well as the fantastic volunteers who helped with the bake sale are very much appreciated! Thank you to our cooks Marie Johnson, Ann Green, Ginger Ross, Dorothy Robinson, and Karen Owen for the heirloom recipes and to Karen Owen for the handmade crosses that were all featured in the Silent Auctions—these were a special treat! The United Women in Faith would like to say a special “thank you” to the staff of First UMC for all the help with setup and preparations for the Bake Sale! This year, the UWF Bake Sale received over \$3730.00 in donations for missions!

—Delores Abney



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

April open dates are

4/3 and 4/17

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

February 2024

Ladle of Love 386

Clothes Closet 222

Thanks to our Volunteers!

Robbie's of Fayette Spring Clothing Show



Tuesday, April 9
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Gathering Room

Please Invite Friends!

A percentage of the sales is donated to
GFUMC's Children's Ministry Program.

Inviting Ministries

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!!!*

**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

The poster is for a Monday Pickleball event. It features a pink and orange color scheme with a pattern of pickleballs in the top left. The text 'Mondays 2-4 pm' is in white on an orange background. 'Pickleball' is in large pink letters, followed by 'COME AND PLAY!' and 'SPORTS | FRIENDS | MONDAYS @ FIRST'. The location is 'First UMC Gym | 115 S. 5th Street | 2nd Floor | Gadsden, AL 35901'. At the bottom, it says 'ENTER AT THE CHESTNUT ST FOYER OFFICE DOOR' and 'First United Methodist Church of Gadsden'. There are also two yellow heart-shaped icons with 'I Love Pickleball!' written inside.

He Brews
...where your cup runneth over

FIRST UMC GADSDEN

The poster for 'He Brews' has a dark red background. It features a white coffee cup with a brown sleeve and a coffee splash coming out of the top. The text 'He Brews' is in a white script font, with '...where your cup runneth over' in a smaller white font below it. At the bottom, 'FIRST UMC GADSDEN' is written in a white, slightly curved font.

This Saturday, March 30 Bike Ride & Social



Family Friendly

Children and youth must be
accompanied by a parent!

This Saturday's going have beautiful weather, the perfect day for the last weekend of the month ride. We meet Saturday morning, March 30, at Eubanks Welcome Center at 9 am in Piedmont. Two wheelers and three wheelers are all welcome. This is an outback ride with no person left behind. Bring your snacks. Contact George Fant for more information or if you have questions! 256-312-4381 We hope that you will join the fun!

Pickleball

Round Robin & Social



Sunday, April 14
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm


A light supper will be served!

First UMC Gym

**Whether You Are
New to Pickleball or
a Seasoned Player...
Bring Your Racquet
and Join the Crowd!**

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

ELDRED DAVIS



Eldred grew up in Glencoe, AL, and graduated from Glencoe High School. He then attended Jacksonville State University, where he received an undergraduate degree in Secondary Education with Mathematics. He continued his studies, receiving a Master's degree in Secondary Education with Counseling. Eldred taught mathematics at Talledega High School for 30 years, a career which he thoroughly enjoyed. Now retired, he likes to read novels and paint landscapes in oil "just for fun." He is a familiar face in our church, regularly serving as an usher for our Traditional Service. As a long-trusted volunteer, Eldred is responsible for taking up the collection money and turning it in each Sunday. We're grateful to have him as a dedicated member of our church!

Holy Week Services, March 25 -29

**Worship M-F @ 12:05 pm followed by
lunch in the Gathering Room at 12:35 pm
(Lunch is \$5, No reservation is needed.)**

Good Friday- March 29

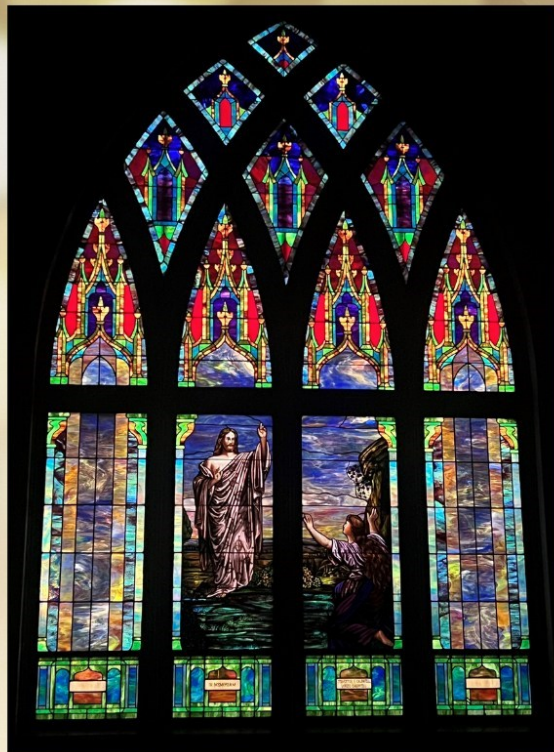
Rev. Roger Thompson



*Word
from the
Windows*

**“Jesus and Mary
at the Garden
Tomb”**

Rev. Sherri Reynolds



Easter Sunday Worship at 9 am and 11 am

Dear Member,

One of the traditions of giving and faith at First United Methodist Church is the Alleluia Offering. This special offering started as a challenge to tithe your income during Holy Week, above and beyond your regular giving to the church. A tithe is a Biblical concept with roots in Malachi 3:10 (Bring the whole tenth into the storehouse, so there will be food in my house, and put me to the test, says the Lord, "See if I won't open all the floodgates of heaven and pour out my blessings beyond your needs."). The challenge may seem daunting especially if you do not proportionally give to the church, but it is the first step to Biblical generosity. The special offering is received at Easter to fund specific ministries within the church. Our giving responds to Jesus' sacrificial love for us and the power of resurrection in our lives. The year's special offering will be allocated toward:

A confirmation retreat for our youth and children. Investing in youth and children is important for First United Methodist Church. I cannot think of a more critical time than when these students are deciding to commit to a lifelong relationship with Jesus and become a member of the church. Your gifts will not only allow them to know your support, but also provide a critical component to their confirmation journey.

Investing in worship experience. Both in-person and on-line worship are central to the life of First United Methodist Church. With new microphones, wiring, a sound box and tracking camera, worship will be enhanced.

Any gifts beyond funding these two areas will be used to fund new ministries through the Inviting Ministries Team and Missions. Jesus charges his disciples to go and make disciples. These disciples are made in words and action. By investing in outreach and care for community, we are working to make disciples of Jesus.

You may return your Alleluia Offering at worship on Easter Sunday (designated Alleluia Offering), by mail, through secure E-Giving via our website or Venmo (go to www.fumcgadsden.org to learn more). If you have questions, please contact us.

You are encouraged to pray about God's direction for you and your family with this special gift.

In Christ,


Rev. Sherri Reynolds


Bob Blount



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



Search @FirstUMCGadsden
in Venmo, under charities or follow the
link in the QR Code.



venmo

Christ the Lord is risen today, ALLELUIA!



Calendar for March 31-April 6, 2024

Mar 31 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

Apr 1 Monday

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

Apr 2 Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Spring Schedule
9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet workday
5:00 pm-6:00 pm- Yoga, Gym

Apr 3 Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Spring Schedule
9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet open
11:00 am-12:00 pm- Wednesday Morning Bible Study
5:15 pm- Wednesday night meal, Gathering Room
6:00 pm- Children & Youth activities
Gym & Rooms 108 & 211
6:00 pm- Small Group Study, Room 110 & 208
6:00 pm- Choir practice Choir room

Apr 4 Thursday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Spring Schedule
9:00 am-10:00 am- Exercise Group, Gym

Apr 5 Friday 11:00 am-12:00 pm- Ladle of Love

Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, March 30, Bike Ride Social (See page 6)

Sunday, April 14, Pickleball Round Robin (See page 7)

Sunday, April 21, Sprinkle for Stephanie Isbell and Tracy Wooten, 10 am @ HeBrews, We will sprinkle them with love and diapers & wipes to welcome their new babies.

More details are coming soon!



**Have you found a cross
hidden within the church
this Holy Week?**

**This is a reminder of Christ's love and
ultimate sacrifice for us as we celebrate
Easter. We hope you have been blessed
and may share your blessing with others.**

—The LuVerna Waid Circle

Birthdays

Mar 31 Jennifer Ross Smith,
Eloise Crain
Apr 1 Barbara Sheffield
Apr 2 Kathy Sisson, Lucca McNair
Apr 3 Dr. Cleve Estis, Desiree Hood
Apr 4 Maddie Hall
Apr 5 Mark Casey, Merry Blevins,
David Dean, Jenny Sollie
Apr 6 Dianne Rogerson Brewer,
Grif Durham



Week of March 24, 2024

In Person Total *180 Worship Total 675
Online 495 Thursday Worship *7
Celebration Service *55/239
Traditional Service *118/256
Sunday School-Adult *34 Children *8
Sunday School-Youth *0 Nursery *1
Bible Study Groups *29 Children *39
Youth *8 *in person

General Offering Budget \$11,400.00
General Offering Received \$8,271.00
YTD General Offering Budget \$136,800.00
YTD General Offering Rec'd \$158,569.00

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Marian Ford
Amy Epperson
Judy Collins
(Tripp Collins' Mother)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Lisa Dobbins Martha Bullock
Asher Mae Collins

