



*Upon All Flesh*  
Acts 2:1-21  
Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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

## Sermon Notes: Thursday, May 16 & Sunday, May 19, 2024

This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday. It is a day when the church celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church. We read the story of Pentecost in Acts 2:1-21. As the early followers were gathered in the Upper Room, the Holy Spirit came as a mighty wind and tongues of fire, giving each the ability to communicate in different languages. Those gathered and the power of the Spirit spilled out into the streets and 3000 were added to their number. As a part of that day, Peter acknowledged that this was a fulfillment of what was prophesized by Joel, "I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh" and "all who call on the name of the Lord will be saved."

This Sunday is also Confirmation Sunday, a day when we celebrate our students who completed the classes. Students will be recognized and prayed for at both services, with some discerning to publicly profess faith and join First United Methodist Church. We recognize in this day that God has poured His Spirit out among us, gifting all of us to be First United Methodist Church.

What a beautiful day to be part of Christ's Holy Church!

In His Spirit,  
Rev. Sherri

Join with UMCOR —Our Friends in Missions

**Donate items or fill a tornado bucket. See page 5 for details.**

In response to recent tornadoes in central Alabama and central Georgia and flooding in California, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) approved early relief grants to meet immediate needs in three annual conferences.

On Jan. 12, multiple tornadoes slammed the southeastern United States, killing at least seven and destroying numerous communities. Assessing needs in hard-hit Selma, Alabama, a leadership team from the Alabama-West Florida Conference noted that approximately 600 households were affected by more than a dozen tornadoes. "It would not surprise me," said the Rev. Chris Ackerman, conference disaster response coordinator, "if the total number of houses affected is over 1,000." "From the moment the warning was activated in Dallas County," recalled the Rev. Diane Everette, Church Street United Methodist Church, Selma, "our UMC connection stayed in touch with me to ensure that I was personally safe as well as our church members.

While Thursday was, perhaps, one of the most terrifying days of my life, I was never alone, thanks to my brothers and sisters in Christ in this conference. It will be a long road ahead for Selma, but our conference disaster response team will walk with us every step of the way."

**All GFUMC donations will be sent to the NAC Disaster Relief Warehouse in Decatur!**

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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](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media)

on Facebook Live: @FUMCGadsden

## ACOLYTES

May 19: Sara Kate and Jake Thornburg

May 26: Volunteer

## Tech Team Schedule

May 19

**Celebration:** Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman

**Traditions:** Wayne Payton, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman

May 26

**Celebration:** Eric Wright, Jacob McKiven, Carmen McKiven

**Traditions:** Wayne Payton, Sheila Freeman

## 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.



## 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. The study is "100 Day Bible Study-The Torah". Temporarily meeting at "Union Jack" Café. [Contact Todd Rains, Mark Condra, Mark Casey, or any of the Men at the Well for more information.](#)

**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 11<sup>th</sup>.

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

# STUDENT MINISTRY

## Youth Ministry News



"The Chosen Bible Study"  
May 19 Sheila Freeman  
May 26 Sheila Freeman

## June 2024

Help with  
VBS  
6/3-6/6

Bake  
Brownies  
6/22

Lock-In  
6/8

Pick up Litter/  
Noccalula Falls  
6/19

## July 2024

Spring

Valley beach  
7/14

Bake Dog  
treats  
7/17

TOP  
GOLF  
7/21

Camp Lee  
(overnight camp)  
7/26-7/27

Activate  
Birmingham  
7/31

## GFUMC Youth Summer 2024

Added  
notes...

EACH ACTIVITY WILL REQUIRE 1-2

CHAPERONES, NOT INCLUDING CARMEN.

Thank you for  
helping the  
youth!  
-Carmen

I AM NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE ANIMAL  
SHELTER ON JULY 18, THIS EVENT WILL  
REQUIRE A PARENT TO TAKE THE YOUTH

Youth Group  
Summer Activities

Contact  
Youth Counselor  
Carmen McKiven  
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!

May 19-Confirmation Sunday

## 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](#)



## GFUMC CHILDREN'S Summer calendar 2024



Ephesians  
6:10

### NOCCALULA FALLS



### Hike

Wednesday, June 12 @5

Let's go Swimming

pool  
Wednesday, June 26

101 Wilson Drive



Wednesday,  
July 10 @5

**GIFT TO**  
July 22-July 25  
**GADSDEN**

End of Summer  
**MOVIE NIGHT**  
Wednesday, July 31 @5

# Mission Focus

## Tornado Bucket

Help the GFUMC Mission Team fill Tornado Buckets and collect needed items.

Tornado Buckets are located at the entrances, if you would like to take a bucket to fill with the requested items. If you would prefer to donate any of the items below, there is also a Red Bucket for donations of individual items. All of the Tornado Buckets and additional items will be delivered to the NACUMC Disaster Relief Warehouse in Decatur! Thank you for your support of missions. -First UMC Gadsden Mission Team

1 Standard Size Claw Hammer

1 each: Shirt pocket notebook, permanent marker, pencil and sharpeners. (Place in a small Ziploc bag.) For "To Do" lists and marking packing boxes.

1 Flashlight with batteries

12 Black Trash Bags, 30-45 Gallon recommended (bundled) *for trash removal*

1 Roll of Toilet Paper in a Ziploc Bag

1 Pr. Leather Palm/Cloth back or All Leather Work Gloves

1 50 count #8 Nails

10 White 13 Gallon Kitchen Trash Bags with Draw Strings (bundled)

1 Cellophane packing Tape

10 One-Gallon Ziploc Bags (bundled) (For jewelry, and valuables)

1 Box Cutter

1 Liquid Hand Sanitizer 4 oz –12 oz

1 Insect Repellant Spray Bottle/Can, Wipes or Combination

1 Pr. Safety Glasses. *For hammering tarps, wood strips on roof*

6 Clear Large Plastic Bags, 40-55 Gallon recommended (bundled)

3 Tampons or Pads in a small Ziploc Bag

*-Add all items on the above list to the bucket. Secure the lid, if any of the items aren't available just label the top of the bucket "Needs... (the missing item(s)) and the warehouse will add the item(s).*

**Please return filled buckets to the church by Sunday, May 19. Additional donations of loose items may be placed in the Red Buckets in the Foyers.**

## United Women in Faith

**Salad Supper, LuVerna Waid Circle, Tuesday, May 21, 5:30 pm, Jana Downs' Home, 105 Carolwood Cove, Gadsden, AL 35901**

**Remember to order your Boston Butt early. The deadline to 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. Look for dates to fellowship at a restaurant with others during the summer months.**

**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

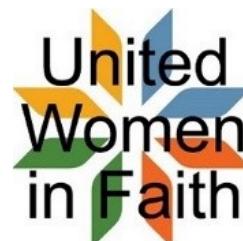
Find out more about mission and service opportunities @ [www.fumcgadsden.org/serve](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/serve)

Phone: 256-543-8200

Email:

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

**#gfumcreconnect2023**



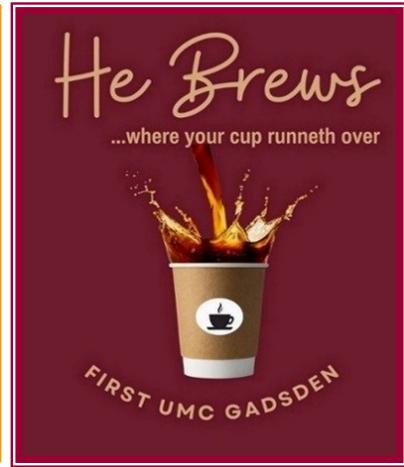
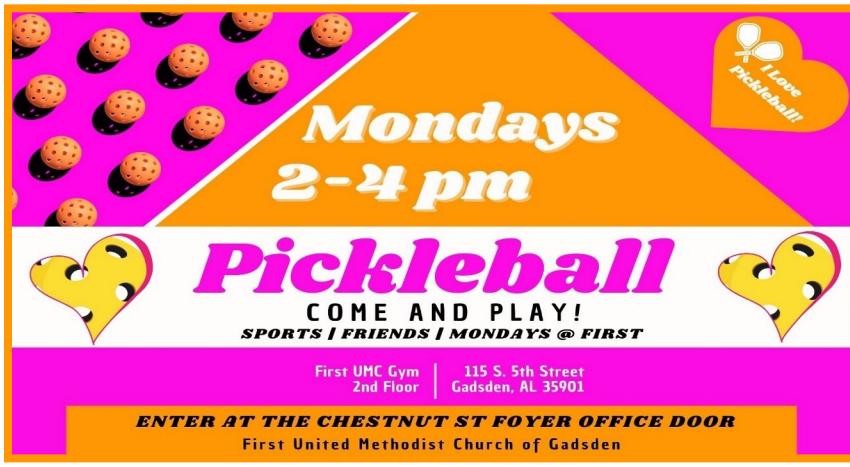
**Clients Served  
March 2024**

Ladle of Love 474  
Clothes Closet 216

**Thanks to our  
Volunteers!**



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!!!*



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.)



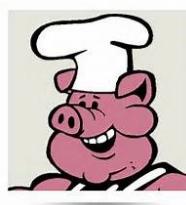
Name \_\_\_\_\_

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.*



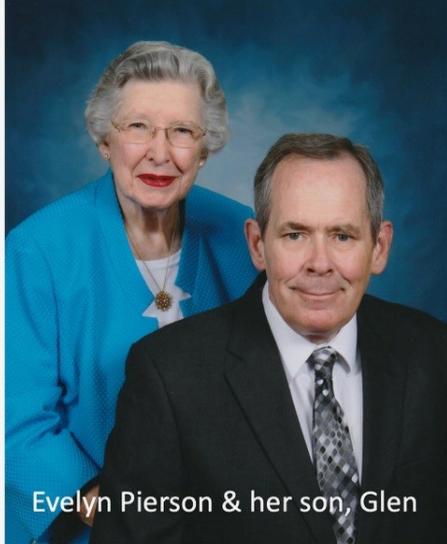
## MANDELL & JUDY TILLMAN



Mandell and Judy both grew up in Gadsden and attended Gadsden High, where they were highschool sweethearts. They went to Jacksonville State, and Judy received an undergraduate degree in Elementary Education, while Mandell received an undergraduate degree in Business. Mandell started his career working with real estate appraiser, Theo Brunson, then struck out on his own as a Real Estate Appraiser and Land Development Consultant—a career which has spanned 50 years and continues today. Judy taught elementary school before raising two children who are fourth generation members of our church: Sally Elwood (48), the founder of a non-profit charity called "My Child's Closet" in Birmingham; and Anna Inzer (42), who sells real estate for Bone Realty in Gadsden. Judy and Mandell have been involved in our church for many years. Her mother taught Sunday School

here for 5 decades; and Mandell is a past Chairman of the Administrative Board. In her free time, Judy plays Mahjong and Bridge, while Mandell enjoys spending time with their dogs.

## GLEN PIERSON & EVELYN PIERSON



Evelyn Pierson & her son, Glen

Glen Pierson is the son of Evelyn Pierson (pictured) and Glenwood Pierson, for whom the stain glass window in the gym is dedicated. Glen attended Westminster (now Westbrook) and played a variety of sports, including football, basketball, and tennis. He graduated from Auburn as a Business major, then worked as a Manager at his family's business, Pierson Chevrolet, on Meighan Boulevard. (His sister, Fran, was active in our church until she married in 1986. Now she lives in Mobile and is active in her church there.) Evelyn grew up in Montgomery, AL, and attended Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, VA, for 2 years. She then transferred to the University of Alabama and received a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics in 1950. She worked as a Statistician at Air Command and Staff College on Maxwell Air Force Base, then married Glenwood and lived

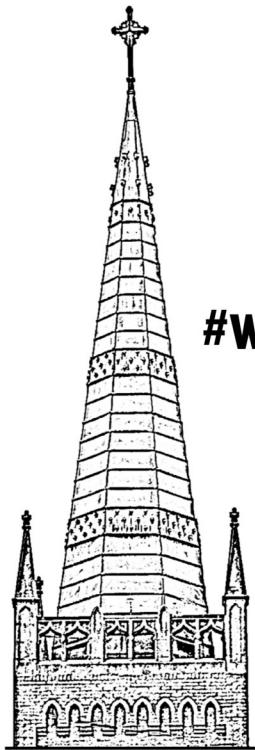
in Decatur, where he owned a Desoto-Plymouth dealership. In 1956, they bought the Gadsden dealership and kept it until Glenwood's passing in 1993. Evelyn's college friend, Carol Cross, had encouraged her to attend our church, and Evelyn has been a faithful member here for the past 67 years. Her hobbies include needlepointing and making quilts for needy babies.

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## Sermon Series for June: #wearefirst

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



**#wearefirst**

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

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

T-Shirt Order Form



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



**#wearefirst**

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

First Family,

Each day, I am overwhelmed by God's abundant blessings, especially the blessings at First United Methodist Church. Several months ago, I challenged the leadership to add three simple prayers for the church each day: reaching 200 in average worship attendance, financial provision, and blessings and direction for student ministry. I have seen the work of God in these areas, especially in the area financial provision.

Over the past month, we have received two substantial grants, and the giving has exceeded expenses and budget. To top it all, I celebrate a 2024 Alleluia Offering of \$31,571.00. The money from this offering will fund the 2024 Confirmation Retreat, allow enhancements in worship, and fund new ministry. This offering exceeded last year's gift and is the second largest Alleluia offering received.

Thank you for your generosity and being an instrument through which, God is blessing the ministry of First United Methodist Church. Your giving is an answer to the prayers lifted daily on your behalf and on behalf of this church. I especially thank you for going above and beyond in the Alleluia Offering. As your you are a part of God's abundant blessings in my life and our church.

In Gratitude,

*Rev. Sherri Reynolds*  
Rev. Sherri Reynolds

*Bob Blount*  
Bob Blount



**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 May 19-May 25, 2024

**May 19 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  
**May 20 Monday**  
ELC Closed  
9:00 am-10:00 am- Exercise Group, Gym  
2:00 pm-4:00 pm-Pickleball, Gym  
**5:00 pm-Trustees Meeting, Parlor**

**May 21 Tuesday**  
5:00 pm-6:00 pm-Yoga, Gym  
**5:00 pm-Finance Team Meeting, Parlor**  
**5:30 pm-LuVerna Waid Circle Salad Supper**  
**6:00 pm-Board of Stewards, Gathering Room**

**May 22 Wednesday**  
6:00 pm-Choir Practice, Choir Room  
**May 23 Thursday**  
9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym  
**5:30 pm Thursday Worship, Sanctuary**  
**May 24 Friday**  
11:00 am-12:00 pm-Ladle of Love

*The flowers on the altar today are in memory of  
Robert G. & Charlie Nell Johnson for their  
birthdays this month given by their family.*

**Do you have a college graduate 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. Thank you!



### Immediate Prayer Concerns

Leigh Carroll   Eileen Graham   John Floyd  
Judy Collins (Tripp Collins' mother)  
Pam James (Jan Humphrey's sister)



### Continued Prayer Concerns

Ray Macon   Martha Bullock   Marian Ford  
Amy Epperson   Brent Styles   Asher Mae Collins  
Johnny Gunnels (Gail McNair's brother)  
Chris Gunnels (Gail McNair's nephew)

### **Birthdays**

**May 19** Amy Epperson  
**May 20** Rose Schmuck,  
Martha Gray, Holt Page  
**May 21** Glen Pierson, Craig Ford,  
Sara Echols  
**May 23** Dallas Moran, Owen White  
**May 24** J.T. Harrell, Megan Salazar  
**May 25** Janis Hudak

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

### **Week of May 12, 2024**

In Person Total-\*184      Worship Total-560  
Online-376      Thursday Worship-\*11  
Celebration Service-\*69/248  
Traditional Service-\*104/128  
Sunday School Adult-\*32 Children \*7 Youth \*2  
Nursery \*1 Bible Study Groups-\*9  
Wed/Sun-Children\*28 Wed/Sun-Youth \*10  
Confirmation \*12 \*in person  
  
General Offering Budget \$11,400.00  
General Offering Received \$28,455.00  
YTD General Offering Budget \$216,600.00  
YTD General Offering Rec'd \$255,234.00

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

*All Meetings, Events and  
Activities must be scheduled in  
advance with the church  
secretary, Susan Swann,  
by email or phone,  
[susan@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:susan@fumcgadsden.org)  
or 256.543.8200.*