

For the Forgiveness of Sin

Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, Nov. 14 & Sunday, Nov. 17, 2024

Do you have an endless something in your life? For you, these could be dirty clothes in your hamper, dishes in your sink, emails in your inbox or a never-ending list. While the love of God is endless, our need to earn that love is not. As Paul reminds us in his letter to the Romans, there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God in Jesus.

The priest in the temple had the never-ending job of offering sacrifices for the forgiveness of sin. The priest would make a sacrifice and the next day there would be more sin or a holy day, which required more sacrifice. It was on-going work to reconcile the people to God. Hebrews 10:12 tells us that after Christ offered himself, he sat down at the right hand of God, because the work had been taken care of. Hebrews 10:17 states, "I will remember their sins and lawless deeds no more." The chapter also states that by a single offering Jesus handled everything. The never-ending cycle of sin and atonement ended with Jesus. (Hebrews 10:11-25)

In this season of Thanksgiving, I am thankful for the work of Jesus on my behalf!

In gratitude,
Rev. Sherri

Table of Contents:

- Page 1**-Sermon Notes; Tech Schedule; Acolyte Schedule; Friendsgiving Party
- Page 2**-Sunday School Classes; Small Groups
- Page 3**-Children's Ministry News
- Page 4**-ELC News; Student Ministries; Youth Fall Calendar of Events and Activities
- Page 5**-HeBrews; Pickleball; Do You Know?
- Page 6**—UWF Bake Sale & Christmas Boutique, **NEW!** Grief Support Group; We Are First T-shirts
- Page 7**—Sermon Series for Advent & Christmas; Ways to Serve; Take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory
- Page 8** -GFUMC Missions News; Clothes Closet; Ladle of Love; United Women in Faith
- Page 9** -Stories of Generosity from Luke; Ways to Give, Online Giving; Venmo
- Page 10**-Calendar; Prayer Concerns; Memorials; Birthdays; Weekly Reports; Save the Dates

Worship Opportunities

Thursdays: 5:30 pm

Sunday Mornings: Celebration 9 am*
Traditions 11 am*

On Demand: www.fumcgadsden.org/media

ACOLYTES

November 17: Rhett and Clementine Hilburn

Thursday Worship Security

Nov. 14 Rob Reynolds

Nov. 21 Todd Rains

Tech Team Schedule

November 17

Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Bill Haller, Rob Reynolds

Traditions: Mark Condra, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman

November 24

Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Bill Haller, Brad Barnes

Traditions: Davis Varner, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman



Note:
Friendsgiving
for Kids is at
6 pm in the
Gathering
Room.

COME AND JOIN US AT
WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY FOR OUR

Friends giving

PARTY

5:15 PM | Room 208 & 209

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Everyone Welcome



Advent Study

Prepare for the season of Advent with a small group study which focuses on the symbols, history, and traditions of Advent led by Rev. Sherri. This short-term study will meet November 20 (Room 116) December 4 (Sanctuary) and December 11 (Sanctuary) at 11am and 6pm. Topics include: The meaning behind our Chrismons, The Christian Year, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, The Christian connection with popular decorations, Christmas around the world, and the stories behind your favorite hymns. *Rev. Sherri Reynolds*

Wednesday Fellowship, Room 208

Menu: Nov 20: Friendsgiving Party
\$7 Youth & Adults \$3 Children 11 & Under
Dinner is served beginning at 5:15 PM

Wednesday Morning Bible Study @ 11 am, Gathering Room

Advent Study w/ Rev. Sherri Reynolds

Adult Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesdays

6 pm Advent Study w/ Rev. Sherri Reynolds

6 pm Small Group w/ Harriet Murray, Rm 110

"It's a Wonderful Life"

Sunday School for All Ages

• Children's Sunday School -Room 104 & 108
 4 years through 5th Grade

• Youth Sunday School -Room 211 w/ Becca
 6th Grade through 12th Grade

• Transitions (New Adult) -Room 209

• Pathfinders/Seekers -Room 208

• Living Water/Martin Fellowship -Room 116

★ Nursery Available for Children 3 and under

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

New Adult Studies Begin on Sunday Mornings

Living Water/Martin Fellowship - “The Trinity.” Room 116

Transitions - “On the Way to Bethlehem” Room 209

Pathfinder/Seekers - “God Came Near” Room 208

Children's Ministry

Sunday Mornings @ 9 am and 11 am, Children's Church & 10 am Sunday School
November 20, Wednesday Night Supper Menu: Friendsgiving Party, Room 208
5:15 pm, \$3 Under 11, \$7 Adults



GFUMC
CHILDREN'S
NOVEMBER
UNIT

ON THE **RIGHT** **TRACK**

WEDNESDAY'S
AT 6:00

WEEK 1
Obstacles are
NO PROBLEM
for God.

WEEK 2
COURAGE
comes from knowing
God's words.

WEEK 3
God can use someone
LIKE ME.

WEEK 4
With God, there is
Victory!

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful."
Hebrews 10:23 (NIV)

WeAreFirst



GFUMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

FRIENDSGIVING

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20 • 6:00 PM

LET'S HAVE THE LONGEST TABLE OF FRIENDS AND FOOD!
BRING A FRIEND AND A SNACK TO SHARE!

"WHEN YOU HAVE MORE THAN YOU NEED, BUILD A LONGER TABLE"-UNKNOWN



Let's
Celebrate!

Children's Christmas Musical

December 22th @ 5pm, Sanctuary

Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!
Happy Birthday, Jesus party to follow in the gym upstairs!



**GFUMC KIDS
FALL
CALENDAR**

**20
24**

| AUG 14 | ICE CREAM SOCIAL WONDERFUL WED. RESUMES |
|-------------------------------|--|
| FALL FESTIVAL 5:00-7:00 PM | OCT 09 |
| NOV 20 | FRIENDSGIVING 6 PM |
| SANTA BRUNCH 10:00 AM | DEC 8 |
| DEC 22 | CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 5:00 PM |

Wonderful Wednesdays, every Wed. @6:00

August Dreaming: From Genesis to Joseph
September Lead the Way: Series on Moses
October Are We There Yet? In the Wilderness
November Right Track: Series on Joshua
December Christmas Vacation: Series on Christmas

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.FUMCGADSSEN.ORG/CHILDREN

ELC News

This past Tuesday, we enjoyed Chik-Fil-A and another great session of Show and Tell in 4K. Thursday, November 21st will be Team Spirit day at the ELC. The faculty and students will be wearing their favorite university's team colors. The ELC will be closed for Thanksgiving Week, November 25th through 28th.

—Helene Haller



STUDENT MINISTRY



Youth Sundays

Youth Sundays w/ Becca
Sunday mornings at 10 am
Middle School and Senior High
Meet in the Youth Room, 211.

Wednesday Fellowship, Room 208

November 20 Menu: Friendsgiving Party

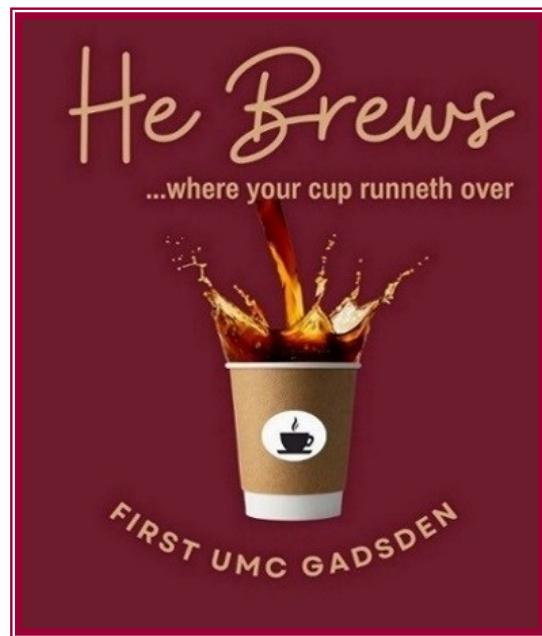
\$7 Youth & Adults \$3 Children 11 & Under

Dinner is served beginning at 5:15 PM

Upcoming Events for Youth

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Community Thanksgiving at the Venue | November 27 |
| Christmas Eve Live Nativity | December 24 |
| Ice Skating in Chattanooga or Gadsden | December 29 |

For more Information for Sr. High Youth Activities Contact
Sr. High Youth Counselor, Carmen McKiven 256.458.3375
or cmckiven@hotmail.com



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!!!



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CHERIE CORNELIUS



Cherie grew up in Gadsden and graduated from Gadsden High. She attended Stephens College (a girl's school in Columbus, Missouri), then received a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Alabama, followed by a Bachelor's degree in Art from UAB. She was a professional artist for 30 years, represented in 3 galleries in New York. Her work was also sold in Atlanta, GA, and featured in an art show in Paris, France, as a result of being included in a write-up in *Art Speaks* magazine. Cherie is active in our church, having worked with both the Clothes Closet and Ladle of Love programs. She taught the Martin Sunday School Class for a while, but now attends Harriet Murray's Sunday School Class on the second floor. Cherie volunteered for years as a receptionist at our front desk, and she is currently involved in handing out "Jesus Calling Cards," which are free bookmarks featuring the stained-glass windows of First Methodist. She also crochets Prayer Cloths to give to people who are very sick in our congregation, or to families who had had someone pass away. Cherie's hobbies include ballroom dancing and singing, and she has written a paperback book, entitled "Go Tell," which encourages people to "go tell your God story." She has two grown children: Don Paul Stewart (57), who owns a collector's book store in Pelham, AL; and Ginny Greaves (53), who works with computers on the health department side of the 3M company.

In the
Chestnut
Foyer



Coming in December

United Women
in Faith

Christmas
Boutique for
Missions

*Shop for Christmas
Gifts and support
Local Missions.*

*Watch for more
details.*



Grief Support Group @ Gadsden First UMC

Tuesdays @ 11 am

Room 119 Facilitator: Julia Lopez

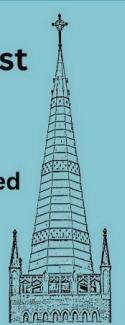
Coping with grief and loss can indeed be incredibly challenging. A grief support group offers a safe, welcoming environment for individuals to connect with others who understand their experiences. In this 10-week small group, you'll have the opportunity to explore new ways to cope with grief, gain valuable insights into the stages of grief, and discover helpful resources. Together, participants will share their journeys and support one another, fostering a sense of community. By joining this small group, you'll gain new friends, practical tools, and a deeper understanding of your feelings, making the difficult path of grief a bit more manageable. If you're considering joining, remember that you don't have to navigate this journey alone—support is here for you.

Our facilitator is Julia Lopez. Originally from Merrill, Wisconsin, Julia is a member of First UMC Gadsden and is retired after working 33 years as a Registered Nurse. Julia has been certified in Grief Support and has experience with leading grief support groups in a variety of different settings.

You may sign up for the class by contacting the church office @ 256-543-8200 or on the sign up form on the Church App or the church website @ www.fumcgadsden.org/journey-groups.

#wearefirst

- Diverse
- Investing
- Empowered
- Rooted



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



www.fumcgadsden.org

More T-shirts are in Stock!

"We Are First" T-shirts are available in a variety of sizes in the Chestnut Foyer. The cost is \$15. Please make your check payable to FUMC Gadsden and turn it in to the church office. Thank you!



Ways to Serve

Thursday Worship Security

Volunteers are needed to serve at Thursday worship from 5:15 pm to 6:15 pm. This includes assistance with opening and locking the building and being present for the worship service. Contact the church office.



Advent and Christmas

If you are willing to serve Communion or light candles for Advent and Christmas worship in Celebration or Traditions, please contact the church office.



Take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory @ [Spiritual Gifts UMC.org](http://SpiritualGiftsUMC.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.

November Mission Focus



Chestnut Lobby on a table ready to be picked up. Remember the items need to be non-perishable and a suggested list is on the sack. These bags will need to be back to the church by **Thursday, November 21st**. The Salvation Army will pick them up and distribute to the families who have signed up to receive them! Thanks for your Generosity.

—Mission Team

Thanksgiving Bags

The bags are out and ready for you to fill with groceries so a family can enjoy a good Thanksgiving meal. These are in the

These bags will need to be back to the church by **Thursday, November 21st**. The Salvation Army will pick them up and distribute to the families who have signed up to receive them! Thanks for your Generosity.

—Mission Team

Community Thanksgiving

Our church will again participate in this annual Thanksgiving meal. We have already received generous donations to help with purchasing food. Many thanks for that! If you want to volunteer during the week to help, please go to <https://commthanks.org/> to sign up. *Thanks to all who have donated or volunteered for this wonderful event!*



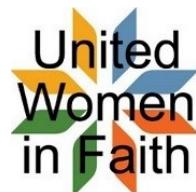
Striplin A/B Honor Roll Reward Party



United Women in Faith

The monthly luncheons are open to all. Please make a reservation by calling or texting Olivia Kendrick by the Friday prior to the meeting date. 205.454.4375

- ◆ December 9-Christmas Luncheon, ELC Children singing



The Bake Sale is Sunday, November 24. Remember UWF ladies, we need you to bake and bring 3 items or one large item for the bake sale. We will have items for auction. Bring your bake goods on Friday, November 22 by 2 pm or Sunday morning beginning at 8:30 am. For further information call Delores Abney at 256-458-0376.

—Delores Abney, President —Olivia Kendrick, Vice-President

LuVerna Waid Circle News

Our next meeting will be Sunday, November 17th, at 3:00 pm, in room 208. Our project this time will be making Prayer Beads. Contact Linda Cleveland about what to bring for this project. Everyone will be responsible for purchasing and buying their own beads. She will be assisting everyone in this project. Hope everyone wants to come and design their own prayer beads.

Susan Copeland

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

November open dates are
11/6 and 11/20

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

#gfumcreconnect2023

Clients Served September 2024

Ladle of Love 434
Clothes Closet 256

Thanks to our
Volunteers!

Stories of Generosity from the Luke How will you respond?

We are near the end of our 2025 Generosity Emphasis. During the month of October, we are looking at response to Jesus, as found in the gospel of Luke. The characters who we meet along the way cause us to pause and wonder, "How would I respond?" As you consider your response, be sure to stop by the Generosity table in the Chestnut Street lobby. There you will find visuals to foster deeper connection with the scriptures from Luke.

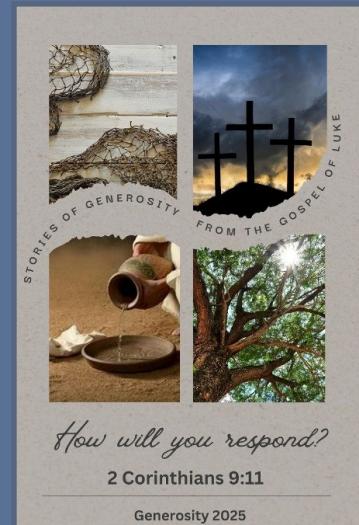
If you have not received information about the emphasis in the mail, contact the church office. In the information was a 2025 estimate of giving card. On the card you will not only find a space to share your estimate of giving for the coming year, but also a space to faithfully renew your commitment to support the church with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Why do we have a Generosity Emphasis with estimate of giving cards? Like other nonprofits or agencies, we estimate how we will fund our budget. It gives the leadership the ability to plan for the year ahead. Please know that the estimate of giving cards are not legally binding and are kept confidentially within the church office. There is also an online version which can be found on our church website. You may turn in your card directly to the church office, in the offering plate, or complete the online version throughout this month.

As of Wednesday, November 13, we have \$448,696.00 committed to our 2025 General Budget Fund.. Thank you for your generosity and for those of you who have already submitted your card.

How will you respond?

Rev. Sherri
Senior Pastor

Bob Blount
Generosity Chairman

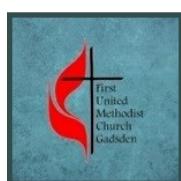


Generosity 2025

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.)



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

November 17 Sunday

9:00 am-Celebration Worship, Sanctuary

10:00 am-Sunday School for all ages

10:00 am-HeBrews Coffee, Chestnut Street Foyer

11:00 am-Traditions Worship, Sanctuary

November 18 Monday

9:00 am-10:00 am-ELC Fall Schedule

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

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

5:00 pm-Trustees Meeting, Parlor

November 19 Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm- ELC Fall Schedule

9:00 am-11:00 am, Clothes Closet workday

11:00 am-Grief Support Group, Room 119;

5:00 pm-Yoga, Gym

6:00 pm-8:00 pm, Basketball practice, Gym

Save the Dates

- ◊ **November 20, Wonderful Wednesday**
Friendsgiving Party @ Fellowship Meal (All Ages), 5:15 pm, Room 208
& Friendsgiving for Kids, 6 pm, Gathering Room
Advent Study with Rev. Sherri begins, 11 am & 6 pm
- ◊ **UWF Bake Sale, Sunday, November 24, 2024**
- ◊ **Charge Conference, 6 pm, Tues., November 26, 2024**
- ◊ **Happy Thanksgiving: Wednesday – Friday, November 27, 28, & 29, Church Office closed**



The rose on the altar is in honor of the birth of Winslet Clayton Mabeus

November 13, 2024

*Parents: Zach & Katie Mabeus Big Brother: Shepard
Grandparents: Kirk & Jeanne Mabeus
Given by GFUMC Children's Ministry & Early Learning Center*

Birthdays

Nov 17 Zane Lindsey, Will Roach,
Elizabeth (Liz) Barnes

Nov 19 Connie McEwen, Adam Walton,
Malone Johnson

Nov 21 Charles Cantrell, Tommy Lowe,
Sherri Reynolds, Jamie Kelley

Nov 23 Jane Norris, Lisa Thornburg



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

—Susan Swann

Week of November 10, 2024

In Person Total-*140 Worship Total-870

Online-730 Thursday Worship-*9

Celebration Service-*55/238 *in person

Traditions Service-*76/492

Bible Study *28 Sunday School Adult-*34/1

Children SS- *6 Sr Hi & Middle SS- *3

Wed/Sun-Children*32 Wed/Sun-Nursery *4

Wed/Sun-Sr.Hi *8 Middle Youth *7

General Offering Budget \$11,400.00

General Offering Received \$7,723.00

YTD General Offering Budget \$513,000.00

YTD General Offering Rec'd \$567,890.00

Calendar for Nov. 17-23, 2024

November 20 Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule

9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet open

11:00 am-12:00 pm- Wednesday Morning Bible Study

5:15 pm- **Friendsgiving Meal for All Ages**

6:00 pm- Children's Friendsgiving, Gathering Room

Middle School/Senior Hi, Gym, Rooms 209 & 211

6:00 pm- Small Group Study, Room 110 & 208

6:00 pm- Choir practice, Choir room

November 21 Thursday

7:00 am-Men at the Well Bible Group

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule

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

5:30 pm-**Thursday Worship**

6:00 pm-8:00 pm, Basketball practice, Gym

November 22 Friday

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

Prayer Vigil

On Tuesday, November 19 between 8:30 am-12:00 pm, the Living Waters Sunday School class would like to invite anyone to come and pray for Bob & Trisha Blount's granddaughter, Ada, who is having surgery in Boston. The prayer room door inside the sanctuary will be open for anyone to come in. Please pray wherever you are if you can't come in.



Thanks!

Immediate Prayer Concerns

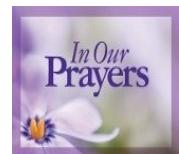
Ada Blount (Bob & Trish Blount's granddaughter)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Ray Macon

Asher Mae Collins

Amy Epperson



Important Deadlines

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

Note Special Deadline:
All information for the Sunday, December 1st Newsletter and Worship Folders is needed by Thursday, November 21.

All requests for spoken announcements for Sunday mornings must be turned in by Thursday @ noon, in writing to Susan Swann.