



## 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 endbox 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

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### Worship Opportunities

**Thursdays: 5:30 pm**

**Sunday Mornings: Celebration 9 am\***

**Traditions 11 am\***

On Demand: [www.fumcgadsden.org/media](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media)



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*

### 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



### *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 unwaveringly 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

f FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [WWW.FUMCGADSDEN.ORG/CHILDREN](http://WWW.FUMCGADSDEN.ORG/CHILDREN)

## ELC News

This past Tuesday, we enjoyed Chik-Fil-A and another great session of Show and Tell in 4K. Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup>.

—Helene Haller



## 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**

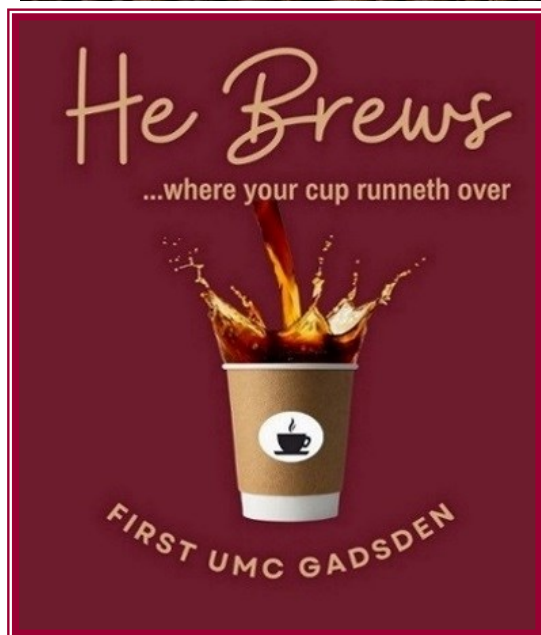
**Dinner is served beginning at 5:15 PM**

## 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](mailto: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!!!*



DO  
YOU  
KNOW?



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

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH BAKE SALE & SILENT AUCTION FOR MISSIONS

8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2024

*Some of our most Treasured Classic Old Time  
Homemade Baked Goods will be available at our  
Silent Auction Table for you to bid on!*

**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](http://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](http://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!**

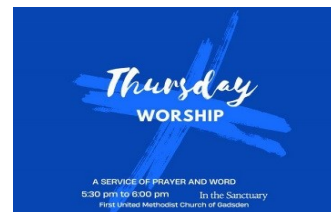




## Ways to Serve

### 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

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



### 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

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.

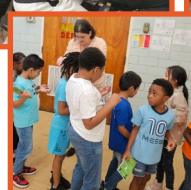
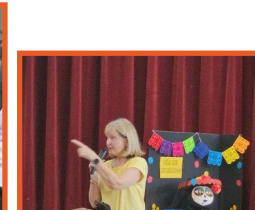
—Mission Team

### 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!*



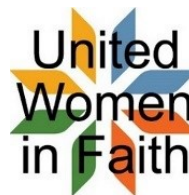
### Striplin A/B Honor Roll Reward Party



### 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](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/serve)

Phone: 256-543-8200

Email:

[fumc@fumcgadsden.org](mailto: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?

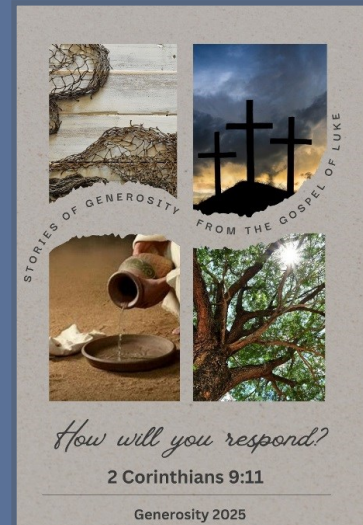
We are near the end of our 2025 Generosity Emphasis. During the month of October, we are looking at response to Jesus, as found in the gospel of Luke. The characters who we meet along the way cause us to pause and wonder, "How would I respond?" As you consider your response, be sure to stop by the Generosity 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                      Bob Blount  
Senior Pastor                      Generosity Chairman



***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](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 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

### 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**

## 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)

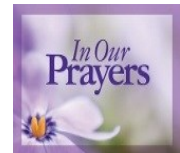
## Continued Prayer

### Concerns

Ray Macon

Asher Mae Collins

Amy Epperson



*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

## 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.**