

# The Consequence of Love

## Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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

### Sermon Notes: Thursday, Oct. 31 & Sunday, Nov. 3, 2024

This Sunday is the annual All Saints remembrance. We take the day to pause and remember that we are surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses" and give thanks to God for members who have transitioned to their heavenly reward over the last year. This year we celebrate the lives of Jeff Blackwood, George Varner, Jeannie Cosper, Rodney Thompson, Ruth Chandler, Neita Taylor, Albert Gibson, Suzanne Phillips, and Stephe Wood. \* What a legacy these leave upon our lives, this church, and our community.

As you prepare for our annual All Saints remembrance, read John 11:32-44. In the middle of the passage, you can find the shortest verse of the Bible, "Jesus wept." Scholars debate over why Jesus wept. Some say out of compassion for those gathered. Others believe it was sadness of Lazarus returning from heaven. Yet other scholars believe that it was Jesus' own grief for Lazarus. What can't be debated is the compassion which Jesus demonstrated by his weeping at Lazarus' tomb. That same compassion is with us and for us as we navigate life. We also find in this verse Jesus' promise that "I am resurrection and the life." The promise of Jesus as resurrection and life gives us hope and comfort. This week may the compassion, hope, and comfort found in this scripture strengthen you for the challenges you face.

In His Resurrection Power,

Rev. Sherri

*\*If you know of any member who was inadvertently left off the list, please contact the church office immediately.*



If you are looking for ways to donate to those impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton across the Southeast U.S., consider donating to UMCOR (The United Methodist Committee on Relief). UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters of such magnitude that they

overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. Through UMCOR, United Methodists extend loving care to people within the United States. When disaster strikes, it is local churches that provide the first response to their communities. This basic understanding—that disaster response is local—forms the foundation for UMCOR's US disaster training and response. When responding to a disaster in the United States, UMCOR provides training, financial assistance, expertise, community collaboration to churches and partners making them more resilient to disasters. *Make check out to GFUMC and designate UMCOR or go to Hurricane Helene Donate Link – <https://umcmission.org/advance-project/901670/>*

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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)*

### ACOLYTES

November 3: Anna Kate Casey & Jade Collins

### Thursday Worship Security

Nov. 7 Mark Condra

Nov. 14 Bob Blount

### Tech Team Schedule

**November 3**

**Celebration:** Sheila Freeman, Rob Reynolds, Brad Barnes

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

**November 10**

**Celebration:** Sheila Freeman, Bill Haller, Brad Barnes

**Traditions:** Mark Condra, Sheila Freeman, Carmen McKiven



## Confirmation for Adults - w/ Rev. Sherri

**Ever wonder what students learn in confirmation class?** Want to learn more about the United Methodist Church or Wesleyan Theology? Need a refresher on the basics of faith? Then this class is for you. Based on the We Believe curriculum, the class is an overview of the basics. Be a part of all the classes or drop in for one. The class will meet for one hour on Wednesdays at 11 am in the Gathering Room or Wednesday nights at 6 pm in classroom 208. See the schedule below for the topics of classes, dates, and times. — Rev. Sherri Reynolds

	Wednesday at 11am	Wednesday at 6pm
Responding to God's Grace	November 6	November 6
First United Methodist Church	November 13	November 13

**Advent Study** @11am and 6 pm —November 20, December 4, and December 11

## Wednesday Fellowship, Gathering Room/201

**Menu: Barbecue**

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

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

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study @ 11 am, Gathering Room**

**Confirmation for Adults w/ Rev. Sherri Reynolds. See full schedule and dates above.**

**Adult Small Groups @ Wonderful Wednesdays**

**6 pm Confirmation for Adults w/ Rev. Sherri Reynolds, Rm 208. See full Schedule and dates above.**

**6 pm Small Group w/ Harriet Murray, Rm 110**

***"Anxious for Nothing"***



**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.**

**Living Water/Martin Fellowship will begin a Study of “The Trinity.”**

**Everyone is invited to join them for Sunday school at 10 am in Room 116.**

## ELC News

We had a great time during our Halloween Parade. Thank you to our families, faculty, FUMC staff and extra volunteers who made this time extra special. We will have an early dismissal for the Veterans Day Parade on Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> and be closed in observance of Veteran's Day on Monday, November 11<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, Gathering Room/201

**Menu: Barbecue**

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

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

## Upcoming Events for Youth

**Hockey Game**

**November 1**

**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**

# Children's Ministry

Sunday Mornings @ 9 am and 11 am, Children's Church & 10 am Sunday School

Wednesday Night Supper: Barbecue

5:15 pm, \$3 Under 11, \$7 Adults

**GFUMC CHILDREN'S NOVEMBER UNIT**

**ON THE RIGHT TRACK**

**WEDNESDAY'S AT 6:00**

**WeAreFirst**

**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)

**GFUMC KIDS FALL CALENDAR | 2024**

<b>AUG 14</b>	ICE CREAM SOCIAL WONDERFUL WED. RESUMES
<b>FALL FESTIVAL</b> 5:00-7:00 PM	
<b>OCT 09</b>	
<b>NOV 20</b>	<b>FRIENDSGIVING</b> 6 PM
<b>SANTA BRUNCH</b> 10:00 AM	
<b>DEC 8</b>	
<b>DEC 15</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS PROGRAM</b> 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

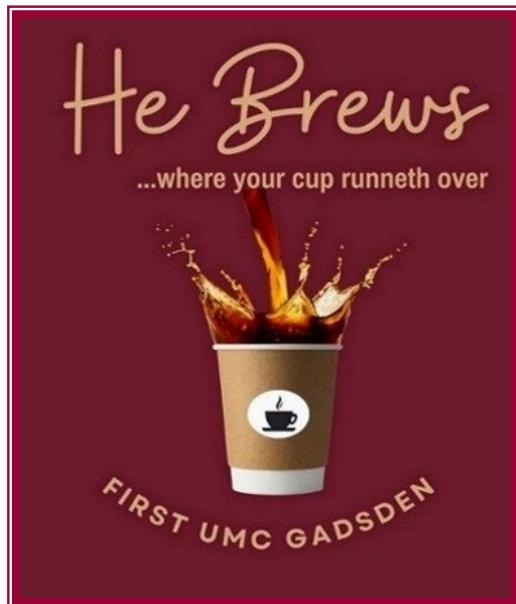
**f** FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [WWW.FUMCGADSSEN.ORG/CHILDREN](http://WWW.FUMCGADSSEN.ORG/CHILDREN)

We need your photo!



We are creating a prayer wall in the Kid's Worship Room, and we need photos of our kids! If you would like for your child to be included, bring a current photo, selfie, or portrait!

**Philippians 1:3**



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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DAVID & TRACIE WOOTEN



David grew up in Henagar, AL, and was homeschooled. He studied Music at Snead State, then received a B.S. in Vocal Music Education from Jacksonville State University. He taught music at all 8 elementary schools in the Gadsden City School System before becoming the Theater Director and Assistant Choir Director at Gadsden City High School. He sings in our choir and says, "my work is also my hobby." Tracie grew up in Ft. Payne, AL, and graduated from Fort Payne High School. She attended Northeast Community College, where she

studied Business, with an emphasis on Accounting. She entered the Walt Disney College Program and was one of the "Beauty and the Beast" teacups and a hostess at the "Be Our Guest Restaurant." Tracie currently works in Human Relations at Gadsden State and sells apparel from her business, "Once Upon a Tiny Dream," on Facebook and Instagram. Tracie's interests are "all things Disney." David and Tracie married in 2020 and have one daughter, Ottolie, who is a year old and played the role of the baby Jesus beautifully during our Christmas service in 2023.



## All Saints' Sunday

On Sunday, November 3, First United Methodist of Gadsden will celebrate the lives of church members who died during this past year at both our Celebration Worship (9am) and Traditions Worship (11am). They will be honored at a special time of remembrance and during the sermon. In addition, all worshippers will have an opportunity to light a candle for loved ones who are deceased.

"All Saints Day" reminds us that we are surrounded by "a great cloud of witnesses" who continue to bless us

and inspire us each day. We hope you and your extended family will be able to join us on November 3! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the church office at

256-543-8200.

*Rev. Shu Reynolds*

## New: Grief Support Group @ Gadsden First UMC

**Begins Tuesday, November 5 @ 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).*



## Nominations for Leadership 2025

**How will you serve in 2025?**

Find out more about church leadership @  
[www.fumcgadsden.org/leadership](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/leadership)

Follow the QR Code or look for the Serve Card in the GFUMC Church APP. Complete the Serve Card to share your interest in serving on various leadership roles and teams and a member of the nominations team will contact you!



## Fall Clothing Show & Sale

Featuring Women's & Children's Clothing

Tuesday, November 12  
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.



### 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



## 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



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

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

- ◆ November 11-History of Gadsden & Etowah County, by Ms. Mollie Smith
- ◆ December 9-Christmas Luncheon, ELC Children singing

Save the Date: UWF Bake Sale is Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024

—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

**A NEW Circle is beginning.** On Tuesday, October 29, 2024, a circle meeting was held at Regency Pointe. There were 16 people in attendance, including Pastor Sherri Reynolds. Watch for news and dates for other meetings.

### 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.

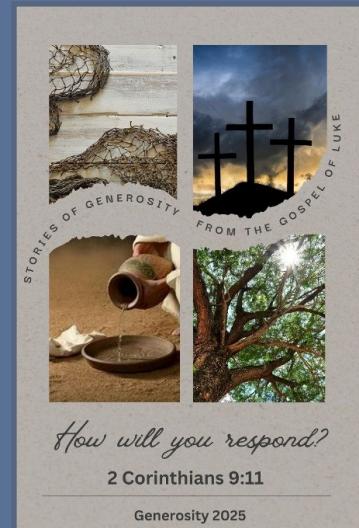
If you have not received information about the emphasis in the mail, contact the church office. In the information was a 2025 estimate of giving card. On the card you will not only find a space to share your estimate of giving for the coming year, but also a space to faithfully renew your commitment 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, October 23, we have \$397,516.00 committed to our 2025 general fund budget. 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](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



**Daylight Savings Time Ends. November 3 Sunday**

Remember to set your clocks back one hour.

**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 4 Monday**

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

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

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

**November 5 Tuesday**

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

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

5:00 pm-Yoga, Gym

**Save the Date: UWF Bake Sale, November 24, 2024**



### **Fall Clothing Show**

featuring

**Women's & Children's Clothing**

**Tuesday, November 12**

**10:00 am to 2:00 pm, Room 201**

**Please invite your friends!**

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

### **Immediate Prayer Concerns**

The Family of Michael Morris

Ada Blount (Bob & Trish Blount's granddaughter)

### **Continued Prayer**

#### **Concerns**

Amy Epperson

Asher Mae Collins



### **Birthdays**

**Nov 3 Sam Sollie**

**Nov 4 Kelley Branch, Gray Skelton, Laney Claire Wigley**

**Nov 5** Becky Owen, Vicki Kirk, Daniel Whisenant, Robert Wesley Branch, William James Branch, Fletcher Beckett

**Nov 6** Ted Johnson, Sheila Ford, Maddi Frickey

**Nov 7** Alison McCoy

**Nov 8** Dee Grimes, Hunter Skipper

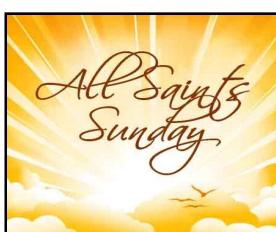
**Nov 9** Jane Ann Gann, Lynn Page, Oliver Wright, Andrew Woodall

*The ministers and congregation of First United Methodist Church of Gadsden extend Christian sympathy to Todd & Dawn Rains in the death of her father, and Addison & Carter Rains in the death of their grandfather Michael Aaron Morris*

### **All Saints' Sunday**

**Worship: 9 am and 11 am**

**November 3, 2024**



### **Honorariums & Memorials**

#### **Caring Angels Fund**

In memory of Hugh Johnson, given by Joan Garry.

### **Week of October 27, 2024**

In Person Total-\*121 Worship Total-596

Online-475 Thursday Worship-\*10

Celebration Service-\*37/190 \*in person

Traditions Service-\*67/285 UWF \*7

Bible Study \*44 Sunday School Adult-\*17

Children \*0 Sr Hi & Middle \*4

Wed/Sun-Children\*16 Wed/Sun Nursery \*2

Wed/Sun-Sr.Hi \*5 Middle Youth \*8

General Offering Budget \$11,400.00

General Offering Received \$7,093.00

YTD General Offering Budget \$490,200.00

YTD General Offering Rec'd \$538,241.00

### **Important Deadlines**

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

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

**All Meetings, Events and Activities must be scheduled in advance with the church secretary, by email or phone**

### **Calendar for Nov. 3-9, 2024**

#### **November 6 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- 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

#### **November 7 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**

#### **November 8 Friday**

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