



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

### Sermon Notes: Thursday, Nov 6 and Sunday, Nov 9

Have you ever considered that there are two aspects of generosity? Generosity not only involves giving, but it is also receiving. If you give the perfect gift, but there is no one to receive it then it is not a gift, because it is never given away. Giving and receiving are an essential part of generosity, and part of the human and spiritual experience. We may never consider this, but *receiving* is a spiritual discipline just like giving. Jesus said, “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” (Luke 6:38). Reciprocity is part of the generosity equation.

God has given us many good gifts: life, salvation, a spiritual home, opportunities to impact His kingdom, and opportunities to grow in Christ. As you consider building a firm foundation in Christ, think about how God is inviting you to practice the spiritual discipline of receiving with a grateful heart.

Building a Firm Foundation,  
Rev. Sherri

**Everyone is Invited!**  
**GFUMC Churchwide Brunch (in the Gym)**  
**10 am, Sunday, November 16**  
**RSVP by Monday, Nov. 10**  
**See page 6 for details.**

### North Alabama Conference Connectional Giving

At the October 28<sup>th</sup> Finance Team and Board of Stewards meetings, the leadership unanimously voted for First United Methodist Church to resume our support of the United Methodist Church with 10% in connectional giving. This means that the church tithes (10%) of general fund receipts to the larger United Methodist Church. Not only is this a Biblical model, but it is considered our fair share of support for the larger connectional structure. Thank you for your continual, faithful support which makes supporting mission and ministry beyond our local church possible.

—Rev. Sherri Reynolds

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### Worship Opportunities

**Thursday: Worship, 5:30 pm**  
**Sunday Morning: Celebration\* 9 am**  
**Traditions\* 11 am**

\*In-Person and Livestream or On Demand

### Security for Thursday Worship

November 6: Steve Frederick  
 November 13: George Fant

### ACOLYTES

November 9: Sara Kate, Jake & Carter Thornburg  
 November 16: Luke Barnes and Brooks Bone

### Tech Team Schedule

**November 9**  
 Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Bill Haller, Mark Condra  
 Traditions: Mark Condra, Wayne Payton, Sheila Freeman  
**November 16**  
 Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Bill Haller, Rob Reynolds  
 Traditions: Neil Mullin, Davis Varner, Sheila Freeman

## Bible Studies & Small Groups for Adults

### —Revelation Simplified: A Commonsense Approach to the Bible's Most Mysterious Book

Bring your Bible and join Rev. Sherri in Room 208 at 11am or 6 pm on Wednesday.

### —Perfectly Flawed by Lisa Toney

Join Harriet Murray and friends for this exciting new study, Room 110, Wednesdays at 6 pm.

### Coming this Advent:

Join Rev. Sherri for an Advent Bible Study based on the scripture of the Jesse Tree on December 3 and 10. This study will complement the church wide focus for Advent 2025. *Morning classes will be on Wednesdays at 11am in the Gathering Room and Evening Classes will meet at 6 pm in room 208.* The study will be a survey in the events leading up to the coming of Christ.

### What is a Jesse Tree?

A Jesse Tree is a symbolic representation of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, named after Jesse, the father of King David. It is used during the Advent season to illustrate the people, prophecies, and leading up to the birth of Jesus. Each day of Advent, a Bible story about someone from Jesus's family tree is read, and an ornament symbolizing that story is hung on the tree, linking the Old Testament to the coming of Christ.

**There will be Wednesday morning Bible study on November 19 and Friendsgiving Bingo for adults that evening at 6 pm. No Bible Study (am or pm) on November 26<sup>th</sup>.**

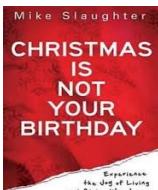
### **Wonderful Wednesday Dinner**

### **November 12: Barbecue, Baked Beans, Potato Salad**

**\$3 Children under 11      \$7 per Person**

**Please text 256.490.5018 to make or change a reservation.**

## Sunday School: New Adult Series

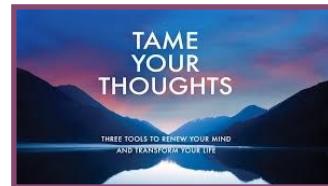


**Transitions 10 am, Room 209**

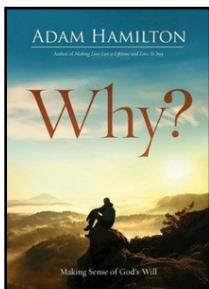
Advent Study: [Christmas is Not Your Birthday](#) by Mike Slaughter Starts this Sunday!

**Pathfinders/Seekers 10 am, Room 208**

[Tame Your Thoughts](#) by Max Lucado



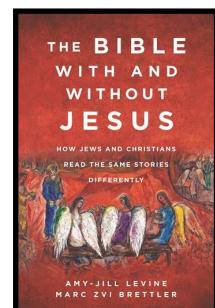
[Coming for Advent and Christmas: Voices of Advent—The Bible's Insights for a Season of Hope](#) by Matthew L. Skinner



**Living Water 10 am, Room 116**

[Why? Making Sense of God's Will](#) by Adam Hamilton. Weekly discussions led by Dawson Harmon and Ken Casey.

[Coming for Advent and Christmas: The Bible With and Without Jesus-How Jews and Christians Read the Same Story](#)



### **“Men at the Well” Thursday Mornings, 7:00 am**

You are invited to join the weekly Bible study with the “Men at the Well” at the 278 Restaurant. Contact Todd Rains, Mark Condra, Mark Casey, or any of the Men at the Well for more information.



### ELC NEWS

Tuesday November 11<sup>th</sup>, the ELC will be closed in honor of Veteran's Day. We hope you will make time for the favorite Veteran in your life. Our next lunchbox revolt is Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> and we will have Chik-Fil-A. The cost will be \$6.75 and orders are due by Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

Helene Haller



### Youth

Sunday School  
10 am, Room 211

### Wonderful Wednesday

Dinner- 5:15 pm  
Youth Group, 6:00 pm

*"Let's Build a Solid Foundation!"*

Matthew 7:24

Save the Date:  
11/19/25  
Friendsgiving  
6:00 pm

### Wonderful Wednesday Dinner November 12- Barbecue

## Children's Ministry



Wonderful Wednesday  
Small Groups and Activities  
@ 6 pm

Fellowship Dinner, 5:15 pm  
Nov 12-Barbecue  
\$7 -per person, \$3 -11 & Under  
RSVP: Text 256.490.5018 by  
Tuesday of each week to make or  
change a standing reservation.

### Sunday Mornings

Children's Church  
during worship, 9 am & 11 am  
Sunday school @ 10 am

Need more info?  
[Katharine@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:Katharine@fumcgadsden.org)  
Ms. Katharine Barnes  
Children's Director

## November Mission Focus



DONATE A FILLED GROCERY SACK

# THANKSGIVING

*food drive*

Donations should be brought to the church by Thursday, November 20. 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 20TH. 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

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.

**Volunteers are needed to serve on Ladle of Love Teams. Contact the church office for more information on how you can serve.**

Clothes Closet Workdays are Tuesdays before open days from 9:00-11:00 am.

Open to Public  
1st & 3rd Wednesdays

November open dates are  
**11/5 and 11/19**

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)



*Donate*

## GIFT WRAP, BOWS, & TAPE

during the month of November in the Big Red Buckets at church entrances.

### In Memory of Elizabeth Barnes

GFUMC will be donating all of the gift wrapping supplies for the gifts given by Eura Brown Students that will be distributed by the Dream Center this Christmas Season.

## United Women in Faith

### November Luncheon

will be November 10 at 12:00 noon.

Speaker will be Mike Stonecypher, former missionary from Nigeria and author.

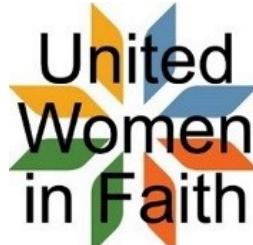
Please call your reservation in to or text Olivia Kendrick at 205-454-4375.

**November 17, 18, and 20— Pie Classes, see page 7 for details.**

**November 23— UWF Bake Sale-Chestnut Street Lobby**

—Delores Abney, President

—Olivia Kendrick, Vice-President



Ladle of Love  
Clothes Closet  
August

LOL 407

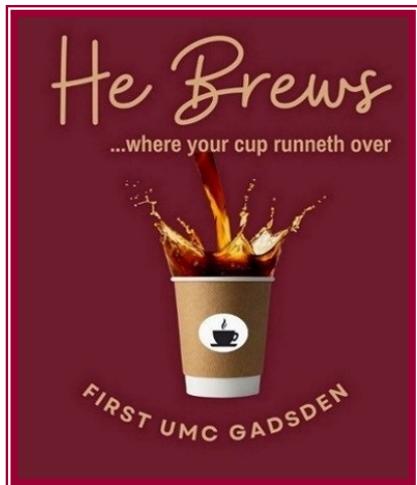
Clothes Closet 255

September

LOL 412

Clothes Closet 280

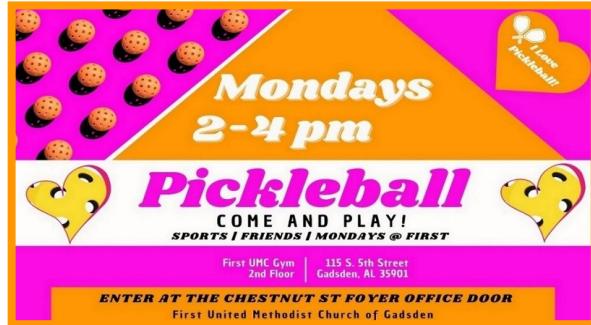
Thanks to our  
Volunteers!



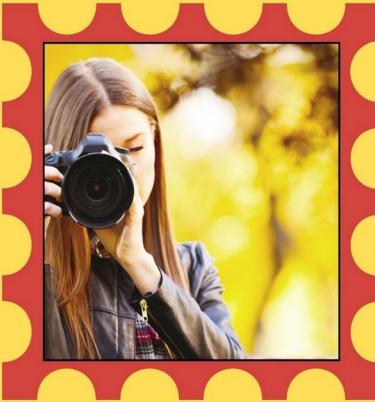
Follow us on  
Facebook and Instagram.



HeBrews Coffee Café 10 am, Chestnut Street Foyer  
We Can't Wait to See You There!



Every Member Pictured . . .



In the NEW  
GFUMC  
Directory!

Photography Dates  
Three New Dates  
November 10, 11 & 12

Make your photography  
appointment\* online  
[www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com)  
Code: al217  
Password: photos

\*Receive a free 8X10 and a church directory!

A NEW Church Directory is coming!  
Photography dates have been changed to  
Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, November  
10th-11th-12th.  
Signup online for your photography session @  
[www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com).  
Church Code: al217  
Password: photos  
**Please notify us if you need to cancel  
your previous appointment day and  
time: 256.490.5018**

## Greeters & Ushers for Worship

**Sunday, November 9**  
Celebration: Vickie Handy & Martha Gray  
Traditions: Judy and Mandell Tillman & Margie and John Freeman

**Sunday November 16**  
Celebration: Nancy McCorkle & Martha Gray  
Traditions Leslie and Philip Johnson, Lori Varner, Gail McNair, and Grover Kitchens

*If you would like to serve as an Greeter/Usher, please contact Susan Swann in the church office, email: [susan@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:susan@fumcgadsden.org) or phone: 256.543.8200.*





September 28- "How to Be Rich"

Matthew 25:14-30      **Blessing of the Animals**

October 12- "Marked by Abundance"

    1 Timothy 6:6-11

October 19- "Why Generosity" Exodus 35:20-29

**GFUMC Ministry Impact Report Released**

October 26- "Counting the Costs" Luke 14:28-30

**November 2- "New Life in Christ" John 11:25-26**

**All Saints' Sunday**

November 9- "So You May Receive" Luke 6:38

November 16- "Making a Difference"

**Corinthians 8:1-7**

### Churchwide Brunch, Everyone Invited!

Return your "Building a Solid Foundation"

Generosity 2026 Estimate of Giving Cards on

Sunday, November 16 in worship.



**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

GFUMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

# FRIENDSGIVING



WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19 • 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





**Robbie's of Fayette will be at First UMC Gadsden on Tuesday,  
November 11, for the Fall Trunk Show and Sale!**

**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.*



# UWF Lessons in Pies

Lessons in pies will be the week before Thanksgiving. You can sign up to bake a pie or side by side coaching by contacting Karen Owen @ 256.393.8552.

When signing up, you will receive a recipe card listing all the ingredients and items you bring to make two pies. All classes will be held in the FUMC Kitchen.

*Pies will be sold along with other baked goods on Sunday, November 23. All proceeds go to local missions making our community stronger.*

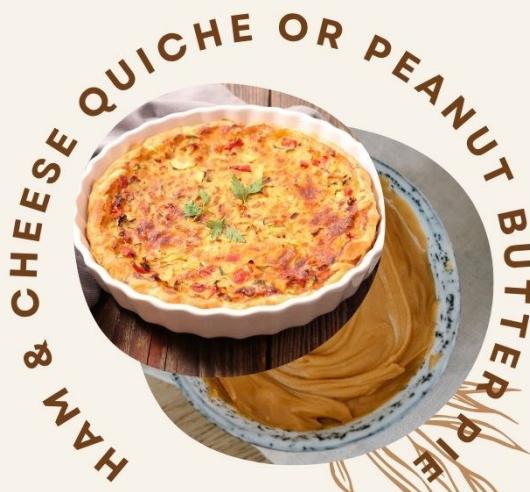


Monday, November 17

Sweet Potato Casserole	11:00 am
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Tuesday, November 18

Ham & Cheese Quiche	11:00 am
Peanut Butter Pie	6:00 pm



Thursday, November 20

DUTCH APPLE PIE	11:00 AM
FUDGE PIE	6:00 PM

United Women in Faith

First UMC Gadsden, AL

# First UMC Gadsden Nov 9-Nov 15, 2025

**Directory Photos**  
**November 10, 11 & 12**  
**User Name:** AL217  
**Password:** Photos

**Nov 9, Sunday**  
**9:00 am-Celebration Worship**  
**10:00 am-Sunday School for All Ages**  
**HeBrews, Chestnut Foyer**  
**11:00 am-Traditions Worship**  
**Nov 10, Monday**  
**9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule**  
**9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym**  
**12:00 pm-UWF Luncheon, Gathering Room**  
**2:00 pm-4:00 pm-Pickle Ball, Gym**  
**2:00 pm-8:00 pm-Directory Pictures**  
**Nov 11, Tuesday**  
**ELC Closed for Veterans Day**  
**10:00 am-2:00 pm-Robbie's of Fayette**  
**1:00 pm-8:00 pm-Directory Pictures**

**Nov 12, Wednesday**  
**9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule**  
**11:00 am-Wed Morning Bible Study**  
**1:00 pm-8:00 pm-Directory Pictures**  
**5:15 pm-Wed Night Meal, Gathering Room**  
**6:00 pm-Children's Activities, Room 208**  
**Youth Activities, Room 211 & Gym**  
**6:00 pm-Bible Study Groups, Room 110, 116 & 208**  
**6:00 pm-Choir Practice**  
**Nov 13, Thursday**  
**9:00 am-11:00 am-ELC Fall Schedule**  
**9:00 am-10:00 am-Exercise Group, Gym**  
**5:30 pm-Thursday Worship Service**  
**Nov 14, Friday**  
**11:00 am-12:00 pm- Ladle of Love**  
**12:00 pm-Office Closed**

**Save the Date:**  
**Churchwide Brunch**  
**In the Gym/Activities Center**  
**10 am, Sunday, November 16**

*RSVP by Monday, Nov. 10*  
Sheila@fumcgadsden.org or call  
256.543.8200

Nov 11- Robbie's of Fayette  
Nov. 10, 11, & 12- Directory Photography  
Nov. 16- Churchwide Brunch, 10 am  
Nov. 23- UMW Bake Sale  
Nov 30- Hanging of the Green, 11 am Traditions



## Immediate Prayer Concerns

Sonya Nesbitt      Dotty Ivey  
Family of Travis Jacob Gunnels  
(Gail McNair's nephew)  
Melinda Hare (Barbara Khajavi's sister)

## Continued Prayer Concerns

Jackie Herlong      Ruthie Hester  
Bobby Robinson      Dawn Rains  
Amy Epperson (Gene & Danna Dean's daughter)

## Honorariums & Memorials

### General Budget Fund

In memory of Shep Midgley, given by Cheryl Midgley.  
In memory of Elizabeth Barnes, given by Susan Whitt.  
In memory of Elizabeth Barnes, given by Cathy Bohanon.

### Children's Ministry Fund

In Honor of Wells & Rose Isbell, given by Cenda Price.  
In memory of Elizabeth Barnes, given for Kathie Ferguson in memory of her granddaughter, by LuVerna Waid Circle.

### Ministry Fund

In memory of Dr. Bob Walden, given by LuVerna Waid Circle.

## Birthdays

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

**Nov 10** Katharine Barnes

**Nov 12** Paul McIntyre, Scott Skipper,  
Roger Mills, Emily Lindsey

**Nov 13** Wesley Shumate,  
Conley Summers

**Nov 14** Steve Watson

**Nov 15** Shelby Smith,  
Catherine Harrison

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



—Susan Swann

## Attendance Week of Nov 2, 2025

In Person Total *169	On Line Total 554
Worship Total 723	Thursday Worship *9
Celebration *63/271	Traditions *97/283
Adult Sunday School *37	Children SS *3
Middle School & Senior Hi SS *2	
Bible Study Groups *36	Children Sun/Wed *12
Middle & Sen Hi Wed/Sun *9	
Nursery Wed/Sun *11	Wed Nite Meal-*39

## Year 2025 Week of Nov 2, 2025

General Offering Budget	\$12,400.00
General Offering Received	\$27,888.48
YTD Gen. Offering Budget	\$545,600.00
YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd	\$566,676.48

**WELCOME**  
**NEW MEMBERS**

*Clay and Leslie Dix  
November 2, 2025*

## Important Deadlines

**Deadline for the newsletter is noon on Tuesday of each week.**