



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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, Oct 9 and Sunday, Oct 12

In Paul's first letter to Timothy (1 Timothy 6:6-11), Paul reminds us of the importance of godliness combined with contentment. When we find contentment, we can focus on what is important and not be led astray. Paul challenges by writing that "in the eagerness to be rich (I would even add in an eagerness for things of this world or more) some have wondered away from the faith and pierced themselves with great pains." He also calls to our attention the fact that we have brought nothing into this world, so we can take nothing out of it. Paul shares a lesson about the essentials which provide for the firm foundation of life.

For me, events of the past week have been a real-life lesson on the essentials which provide for the firm foundation of life. Paul is right in what matters are the elements which are eternal. Many of the things we focus upon, such as riches, are not lasting. Our salvation, our relationship with Jesus, a life invested in others, and loving our neighbor will remain in the middle of challenges and storms. This focus is a legacy for building a solid foundation, especially in the darkest of times.

Building a Firm Foundation,
Rev. Sherri

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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**

www.fumcgadsden.org/media

Many volunteers are needed!

- Please sign up to work a shift.
- Donate candy or Little Debbie cakes.

See page 7 for details.

ACOLYTES

October 12: Clementine & Rhett Hilburn

October 19: Sara Echols & Luke Barnes

Tech Team Schedule

October 12: Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman

Traditions: Mark Condra, Wayne Payton, Sheila Freeman

October 19: Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman

Traditions: Mark Condra, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman

Bible Studies & Small Groups for Adults

—Many study *Revelation* for what it reveals about the past or future, but what does it have to reveal about today? Using Greg Robbin's **Revelation Simplified: A Commonsense Approach to the Bible's Most Mysterious Book** as a guide, see how *Revelation* provides hope-filled promises for today. The study will continue through November 19.

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

—**Perfectly Flawed** by Lisa Toney

God makes beauty with flaws and faith.

Even with your flaws, God is moving you forward.

You can be flawed and still favored by God.

This new Bible study will help you see how God can turn your weaknesses into strengths. Join Harriet Murray and friends for this exciting new study.

Room 110, Wednesdays at 6 pm.

Wonderful Wednesday Dinner: 5:15 pm

Menu: October 15: Chick-fil-A

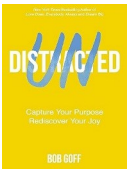
\$3 Children under 11

\$7 per Person

Please text 256.490.5018 to make or change a reservation.

Sunday School: New Adult Series

Transitions 10 am, Room 209 Undistracted w/ Bob Goff

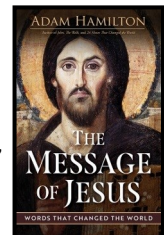


Distractions cause more harm than you might think. And they're all around us, all the time. They can disrupt our focus on what really matters, interfere with our true priorities, and divert our attention from the God who created us for his good purpose. **Identify the distractions in your life. Eliminate them so that you can recharge and refocus on your God-given purpose. Start living a less-distracted and more joy-filled and love-oriented life.**

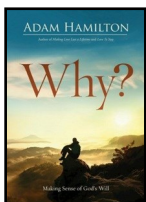
Pathfinders/Seekers 10 am, Room 208

The Message of Jesus— Words that Changed the World by Adam Hamilton

Adam Hamilton's "The Message of Jesus" explores six key themes in Jesus's teachings, emphasizing their relevance today. The study includes insights on the Kingdom of God, the Sermon on the Mount, and Jesus's parables, highlighting how his words can be life-changing and world-changing.



Living Water 10 am, Room 116



Join us, as we try to answer some tough, age-old questions concerning our faith. Questions like: "where is God when tragedy and suffering strikes? Why do the innocent suffer? Why do my prayers go unanswered? Why can't I see God's will for my life?" If God is all powerful, and If each one of us is a beloved child of God, then Why? How do we understand the will of God?

Let's Talk About it! **Why? Making Sense of God's Will** by Adam Hamilton. Weekly discussions led by Dawson Harmon and Ken Casey.

"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

We had a great fall break and ready to work hard until our next big break at Thanksgiving. Fall pictures are Tuesday, October 14th and Wednesday, October 15th. September Scholastic orders are due Wednesday, September 15th. We are so excited to announce our final total on the apple sale. Through apple purchases and donations, we raised \$1,498 toward ELC classroom needs. Current needs are rectangular tables in 2k, new cubbies for 3K and new bulletin boards for 4K. Thank you for constant support of this ministry.

Helene



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:
10/22

Sensory Hour 4:00 to 5:00 pm
Fall Fest 5:00 pm-7:00 pm

Wonderful Wednesday Dinner: October 15: Chick-fil-A
Text 256.490.5018 to make a reservation or modify a standing reservation.

Children's Ministry

GFUMC Kids Fall Calendar '25

| WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ 6:00 | SUNDAY MORNINGS @ 9:00&11:00 | FAMILY EVENTS! |
|---|--|--|
| CHILDREN'S CHOIR | SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 | |
| August Under Construction James 1:5 | August The Holy Spirit makes us better | October 22 Fall Festival 5-7 |
| September Game Plan! Psalm 33:11 | September Creativity: God Creates | November 2 Rake & Run! 12-2 |
| October Along the Way Psalm 121:8 | October Faith: God's Promise | November 19 Friendsgiving 6-7 |
| November Unsung Heroes Zeph. 3:4-7a | November Blessing: God's Blessings | November 26 Community Thanksgiving |

Follow us on Facebook for more info!

GFUMC CHILDREN'S October Unit

Wednesday's at 6:00

ALONG the WAY

| WEEK 1 | WEEK 2 | WEEK 3 | WEEK 4 |
|---|--|--|---|
| GOD IS WITH ME no matter what I go through. | We can show God's love in SMALL WAYS. | GOD IS BIGGER than we could ever understand. | We can trust God will make EVERYTHING RIGHT. |

The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.
PSALM 121:8 (NIV)

Wonderful Wednesday

Small Groups and Activities
@ 6 pm

Fellowship Dinner, 5:15 pm

October 15

Chick-Fil-A

\$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

Ms. Katharine Barnes

Children's Director

October Mission Focus



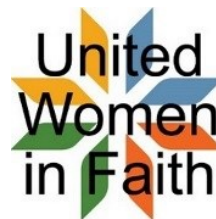
Donations for 2nd Chance, Inc.

During the month of October, the mission team is receiving donations for 2nd Chance. Look for the red buckets near the entrances of the church. Needed items are listed below.

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Deodorant | Paper Towels | Vaseline |
| Bar Soap | Laundry Detergent | Chap Stick/Lip Balm |
| Ethnic Hair Products | (High Efficiency) | Umbrellas |
| Hairbrushes | Towels-All Sizes | Baby Wipes |
| Cleaning Supplies | Sheets (Twin & Full) | Over-the-Counter |
| (Kitchen, Bathroom & | Blankets (Twin & Full) | Medications |
| All Purpose Cleaners) | Comforters (Twin & Full) | (Ibuprofen, Tylenol, |
| Sponges | Bed Pillows | Cold & Cough |
| Toilet Tissue | Body Lotion | Medicines) |

2nd Chance, Inc. has been assisting survivors of domestic violence since 1990. Serving Etowah, Calhoun, Cleburne, and Talladega Counties, they receive almost 1000 crisis calls each year from this service area. There are two emergency shelters in Calhoun County. One is for people with limited mobility and is completely ADA compliant. They also provide case management, legal advocacy, counseling, support groups and relocation assistance, all free of charge. 2nd Chance serves women, men, and children, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age, disability and/or sexual orientation. **24-hour crisis line: 256-236-7233**

United Women in Faith



October Luncheon

October 13 at 12:00 noon. The "Glory and Grace Dance Team" will perform. Please call or text your reservation for lunch to Olivia Kendrick at 205-454-4375.

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

October open dates are

10/1 and 10/15

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

#gfumcreconnect2025

**Ladle of Love
Clothes Closet
August**

LOL 407

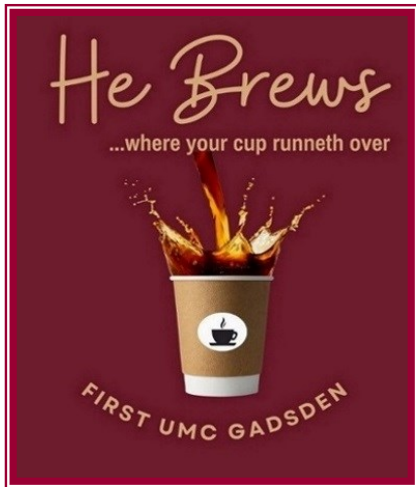
Clothes Closet 255

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!



A NEW Church Directory is coming! Photography dates have been changed to
November 10th-11th-12th, Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday.

Signup online for your photography session @ www.ucdir.com.

Church Code: **al217** Password: **photos**

If you made one before you will receive an email with a new date and time.

DO YOU KNOW?



MAITLAND ADAMS



Maitland grew up in Gadsden and graduated from Gadsden High in 1960. He received an undergraduate degree in Education, a Master's degree in Education Administration, and a Specialist Diploma in Education Administration, all from Auburn University. He became a teacher, principal, and finally an Assistant Superintendent in the Georgia Department of Education. He and his wife, Sadie, have been married for 50 years and have two grown children: Steve (60), who is retired; and Brian (54), who is an accountant. Upon retirement, Maitland and Sadie moved back to his family's farm in Gadsden and lived there for 28 years before moving closer to the city. He is active in politics and served as Chairman of the Etowah County Democratic Party for several years. His other interests include reading, geneology, and updating the family farm.



- 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" 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, Nov. 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

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

Fall Fest donations

- **Little Debbie** snack cakes for cake walk
- Individually wrapped **candy**
- **Volunteers** to work in at stations



volunteers register here



Fall Festival will be at GFUMC on Oct 22



volunteers register here

invites you to our

**Wednesday,
October 22**

Let's build
a solid
foundation!
Matthew 7:24

**FALL
FESTIVAL**
AND CHILI SUPPER!
5:00-7:00
sensory friendly hour:
4:00-5:00

Join us for:
candy inflatables
games chili supper



New Date

**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.

First UMC Gadsden Oct 12-Oct 18, 2025

Oct 12, Sunday

9:00 am-Celebration Worship, Sanctuary
10:00 am-Sunday School for All Ages
HeBrews, Chestnut Foyer

11:00 am-Traditions Worship, Sanctuary

Oct 13, 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-Pickle Ball, Gym

Oct 14, Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule
9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet workday
5:00 pm-Yoga, Gym

Oct 15, Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule
9:00 am-11:00 am-Clothes Closet open
11:00 am-Wed Morning Bible Study
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

Oct 16, 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

Oct 17, Friday

11:00 am-12:00 pm- Ladle of Love
12:00 pm-Office Closed

*The flowers on the altar are given in memory of
Elizabeth Brooklynn Barnes.*



October is Pastor Appreciation Month.

We give thanks for Rev. Sherri.

*In Memory of Her Life
Elizabeth Brooklynn Barnes
October 2, 2025*



Immediate Prayer Concerns

The Family of Elizabeth Barnes
Dawn Rains Phillip Johnson Bonnie Yarnell Dottie Ivey
Ronald Crowe (Martha Crowe's husband)
Amy Epperson (Gene & Danna Dean's daughter)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Jackie Herlong Ruthie Hester Jane Jones
Betty Elliott (Cindy Archer's mother)

Honorariums & Memorials

General Fund Budget

In memory of Dr. Bob Walden, given by
Cathy Bohannon.

Ministry Fund

In memory of Dr. Bob Walden, given by Marian Ford.

Birthdays

Oct 12 Dotty Ivey, Jacob Gilbert,
Emleigh Ridens

Oct 13 Carolyn Dombroski,
Mary Gomillion, Lara Murray

Oct 14 Alana Clemons, Addison Rains
Oct 15 Dr. Mike McEwen,
Robin Wilson, Anna Catherine Edwards

Oct 16 Margaret Kirby, Robby Head,
Dr. Nancy McCorkle, Millie Martin,
Ashby New

Oct 18 Bob Blount, Trinity McKiven,
Rachel Reynolds, Georgia Godfrey



Attendance Week of Oct 5, 2025

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| In Person Total *167 | On Line Total 1502 |
| Worship Total 1669 | Thursday Worship *12 |
| Celebration *65/792 | Traditions *90/710 |
| Adult Sunday School *29 | Children SS *8 |
| Middle School & Senior Hi SS *3 | UWF *0 |
| Bible Study Groups *41 | Children Wed/Sun *24 |
| Middle & Sen Hi Wed/Sun *14 | Nursery *11 |

Year 2025 Week of Oct 5, 2025

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| General Offering Budget | \$12,400.00 |
| General Offering Received | \$10,675.00 |
| YTD Gen. Offering Budget | \$496,000.00 |
| YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd | \$513,710.00 |

**New Dates for
Directory Photos
November 10, 11 & 12**

**New Dates and Times for
Photography Sessions
will available online
soon. Your appointment
will be transferred to the
new date or you may
select a new day and
time.**