



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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, Oct 15 and Sunday, Oct 19

Why Generosity? Generosity has nothing to do with dollars, cents, budgets, and bottom lines, especially in the church. Generosity is about sharing, compassion, and loving our neighbor. It is about growing in a spiritual discipline and growing in God's grace. It provides a path of gratitude and an exercise in counting our blessings. Generosity also is a means in which we bless others out of our own blessings. It is an opportunity to grow into the image in which you were created.

Did you know that you were made in the image of a Generous God? Scripture affirms that we were made in the image of God. One of the attributes which we embody is generosity. God is the giver of every good and perfect gift and which we give, we are like God. John 3:16 says that God is a giver who gives his only begotten Son. As we give, we become more like God. One of the examples we have from scripture of God's people living into the image is from Exodus 35:20-29. The wandering wilderness Israelites gave of what they had to honor the God, who gave for their freedom and provided for them. How have you embodied our generous Creator today? Take a moment and be generous as our Heavenly Father is generous.

Building on a Firm Foundation,
Rev. Sherri



**October is Pastor Appreciation month.
We give thanks for Rev. Sherri.**

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.
Hebrews 13:7

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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

ACOLYTES

October 19: Sara Echols & Luke Barnes
October 26: Anna Kate Casey, Jade Collins, & Layne Godfrey

Tech Team Schedule

October 19
Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Rob Reynolds
Traditions: Mark Condra, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman
October 26
Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Bill Haller, Rob Reynolds
Traditions: Davis Varner, 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

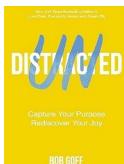
will return October 29

\$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

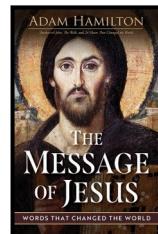


Distractions cause more harm than you might think. And they're all around us, all the time. They can disrupt our focus on what really matters, interfere with our true priorities, and divert our attention from the God who created us for his good purpose. **Identify the distractions in your life. Eliminate 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

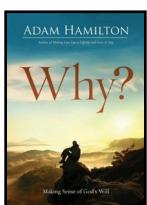
The Message of Jesus—Words that Changed the World by Adam Hamilton

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

Fall pictures were taken with few tears and lots of smiles. We know there will be some hard decisions for our mommas. This coming Thursday, October 23rd, 4K will take a visit to fire station one. We are not sure which is more exciting; riding the church bus or visiting the fire station and seeing Sparky. ELC's annual Halloween Parade will be Thursday, October 30th.

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:

10/22

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

Wonderful Wednesday Dinner will return October 29

Children's Ministry

GFUMC Kids Fall Calendar '25

| WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ 6:00 CHILDREN'S CHOIR | SUNDAY MORNINGS @ 9:00&11:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 | FAMILY EVENTS! |
|---|---|------------------------------------|
| 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. 3:17a | NOVEMBER Blessing: God's Blessings | NOVEMBER 26 Community Thanksgiving |

Follow us on Facebook for more info! [f](#)

GFUMC CHILDREN's October Unit

ALONG the WAY

WEEK 1 GOD IS WITH ME
no matter what I go through.

WEEK 2 We can show God's love in
SMALL WAYS.

WEEK 3 GOD IS BIGGER
than we could ever understand.

WEEK 4 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

Will return October 29

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

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

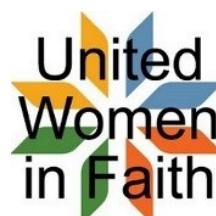
November Luncheon

will be November 10 at 12:00 noon.

Speaker will be Ann Haskins, author of "10 Lost Children". Please call your reservation in or text Olivia Kendrick at 205-454-4375.

October 20 The Executive Board members will meet on Monday, October 20 from 11:00 am until 2:30 pm. We will be electing officers for next year and reviewing all committees to see what changes are needed. Lunch will be served. Please text Olivia Kendrick with your reservation.

November 4 The LuVerna Waid Circle will meet at 6:00 pm in room 208.



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

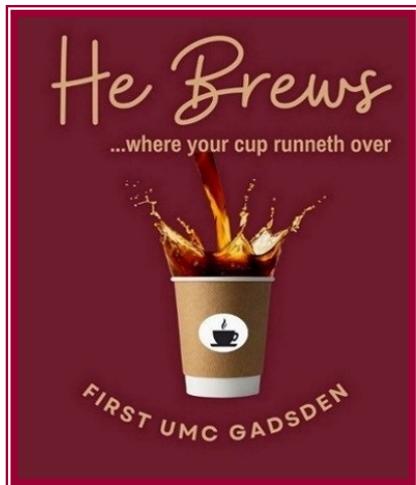
Clothes Closet 255

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: **a1217** Password: **photos**

Please notify us if you need to cancel your previous appointment day and time: 256.490.5018



Many volunteers are needed!

- Please sign up to work a shift.
- Volunteers are needed for the Sensory Hour from 4-5 pm and for Fall Fest from 5-6 pm and 6-7 pm
- Donate candy or Little Debbie cakes.

See page 7 for details.





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.)*



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



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 19-Oct 25, 2025

Oct 19, 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 20, Monday

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

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

11:00 am-2:00 pm-UWF Executive Board Meeting

2:00 pm-4:00 pm-Pickle Ball, Gym

Oct 21, Tuesday

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

5:00 pm-Yoga, Gym

Oct 22, Wednesday

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

11:00 am-Wed Morning Bible Study

4:00 pm-Fall Fest Sensory Hour

5:00 pm-7:00 pm-Fall Fest and Chili Supper

And Lion & Lamb Café

Oct 23, 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 24, Friday

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

12:00 pm-Office Closed



Brenda Holmes

September 28, 2025

Karen Harman

October 12, 2025



Oct 22- 4:00 pm-5:00 pm Sensory Friendly Hour

5:00 pm-7:00 pm-Fall Festival

Nov 2- All Saint's Sunday

Nov. 10, 11 & 12- Directory Photography

Nov. 16- Churchwide Brunch, 10 am, Gym

Nov. 23- UMW Bake Sale

Honorariums & Memorials

Ladle of Love Budget

In memory of Dr. Bob Walden, Lou Ellen Phillips, Mary Tom Hale, Juanita Hammons, and Glen Pierson, given by Mr. & Mrs. Mark Condra

Scholarship Fund

In memory of Elizabeth Barnes, given by Marian Ford.

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Freeman Family (Death of Brenda Holmes' nephew)

Dottie Ivey Dawn Rains

Ronald Crowe (Martha Crowe's husband)

Amy Epperson (Gene & Danna Dean's daughter)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Jackie Herlong Ruthie Hester

Jane Jones Phillip Johnson

Betty Elliott (Cindy Archer's mother)

Birthdays

Oct 19 Rex Pruitt, Becky Oltman, Brandi Martin

Oct 20 Bubba Masters, Dane Hyatt, Reagan Mullin, Allison Haller

Oct 21 Mandell Tillman

Oct 23 Julie Gage, Jack Brookshire, Hadley Hedgpeth

Oct 24 Sonya Nesbitt, Charlie Hilburn, Jennifer Brookshire, Samuel Dabbs, Anna Kate Casey, Josephine Leach

Oct 25 Paige Whitt, Susan Whitt, Haley Goodwyn, Jordan Ryle

Attendance Week of Oct 12, 2025

In Person Total *153 On Line Total 1502

Worship Total 1655 Thursday Worship *5

Celebration *56/792 Traditions *92/710

Adult Sunday School *36 Children SS *3

Middle School & Senior Hi SS *3 UWF *0

Bible Study Groups *11 Children Wed/Sun *17

Middle & Sen Hi Wed/Sun *15 Nursery *11

Year 2025 Week of Oct 12, 2025

General Offering Budget \$12,400.00

General Offering Received \$ 5,745.00

YTD Gen. Offering Budget \$508,400.00

YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd \$519,455.00

New Dates for

Directory Photos

November 10, 11 & 12

New Dates and Times for

Photography Sessions are

available online. Your

appointment was

transferred to a new date.

If you need to pick a

different time, go to

www.ucdir.com

User name: al217

Password: Photos