



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

Sermon Notes: Thursday, Oct 23 and Sunday, Oct 26

We create a plan and are intentional about many things in our lives. We plan for vacation. We create to-do lists or grocery lists. We prepare for retirement. We seek coordinators for large events like weddings. Are we intentional about our plan for faith development? Do we have a plan in following Jesus?

Jesus told the story of a builder (Luke 14:28-30). A builder starts a project with a plan and considers what it will take to see it to completion, including the cost. If a builder fails to consider what is needed, then he or she may not be able to finish. Starting with the end in mind, begins with planning.

I invite you to consider your plan for discipleship. How are you intentionally building upon a firm foundation?

Building with you,

Rev. Sherri

Save the Date:
Churchwide Brunch
10 am, Sunday, November 16
RSVP by Monday, Nov. 10



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 26: Anna Kate Casey, Jade Collins, & Layne Godfrey
November 2: Volunteer

Tech Team Schedule

October 26

Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Bill Haller, Rob Reynolds

Traditions: Davis Varner, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman

November 2

Celebration: Sheila Freeman, Bill Haller, Rob Reynolds

Traditions: Wayne Payton, 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.

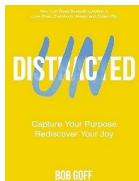
This new Bible study will help you see how God can turn your weaknesses into strengths. Join Harriet Murray and friends for this exciting new study.

Room 110, Wednesdays at 6 pm.

Wonderful Wednesday Dinner October 29: Chicken Fingers & Mac & Cheese \$3 Children under 11 \$7 per Person

Please text 256.490.5018 to make or change a reservation.

Sunday School: New Adult Series

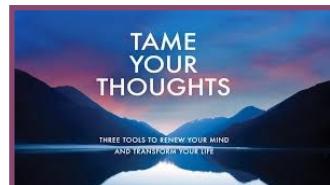


Transitions 10 am, Room 209 Undistracted w/ Bob Goff

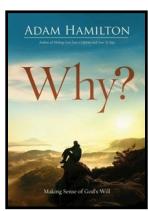
Distractions cause more harm than you might think. And they're all around us, all the time. They can disrupt our focus on what really matters, interfere with our true priorities, and divert our attention from the God who created us for his good purpose. **Identify the distractions in your life. Eliminate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

Tame Your Thoughts by Max Lucado Perhaps you were overwhelmed with the weight of worry, the fear of failing, or the grip of guilt. The way we think directly impacts our joy and peace. In *Tame Your Thoughts*, Max Lucado provides three biblical and practical tools to renew your mind and transform your life.



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

4K students, faculty and parents had a great time visiting Fire Station 1 and meeting Sparky. Wednesday, Oct 29th will be our next lunchbox revolt. This month it's Papa John's Pizza and the cost is \$5.00. 4K will have another exciting show and tell. This week is ELC's annual Halloween Parade. This event will begin about 9:30. If you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact Helene.

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
October 29-Chicken Fingers & Mac & Cheese**

Children's Ministry



**Wonderful Wednesday
Small Groups and Activities
@ 6 pm**

**Fellowship Dinner, 5:15 pm
October 29-Chicken Fingers
\$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

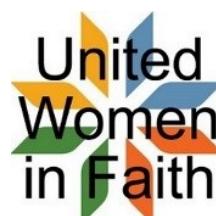
will be November 10 at 12:00 noon.

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

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

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

November 23– UMW Bake Sale-Chestnut Street Lobby
Delores Abney, President Olivia Kendrick, Vice-President



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

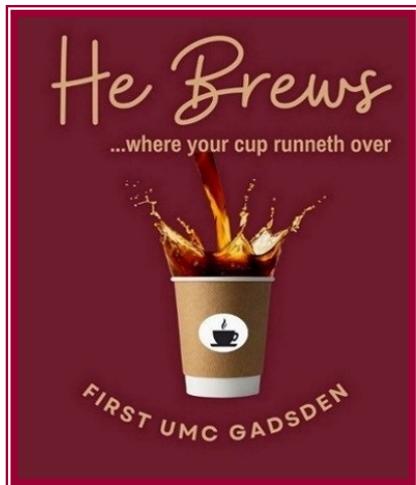
Ladle of Love
Clothes Closet
August

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**

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



Rachel was born in Anniston, AL, and spent time in Chicago, IL, until the age of four, when her family moved back to Alabama. She has been in Alabama ever since. She graduated from Saks High School, took online courses in Hospital Administration from the University of Phoenix, and has worked most of her life in retail and food services. Rachel has one son, Dakota Shrum, who is 28 years old and works as a long-haul truck driver. Among Rachel's interests are crocheting, reading romance novels, and watching crime documentaries and horror movies. She enjoys animals and says, "I like cats and love dogs." She has been helping in our Clothes Closet and is interested in participating in both the Ladle of Love and United Women of Faith.

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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



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.

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.

SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE



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

DUTCH APPLE OR FUDGE PIE



Wednesday, November 19

Ham & Cheese Quiche or Peanut Butter Pie	11:00 am
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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 Oct 26-Nov 1, 2025

Oct 26, 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 27, 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

5:00 pm-Trustees Meeting

Oct 28, Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm-ELC Fall Schedule; 5:00 pm-Yoga, Gym

5:00 pm-Finance Meeting; 6:00 pm-Board of Stewards

Oct 29, Wednesday

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

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 30, 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 31, Friday

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

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 2- All Saint's Sunday

Nov. 10, 11 & 12- Directory Photography

Nov. 16- Churchwide Brunch, 10 am, Gym

Nov. 23- UMW Bake Sale

Immediate Prayer Concerns

Bobby Robinson Dottie Ivey Dawn Rains

Ronald Crowe (Martha Crowe's husband)

J.P. Beason (Friend of Keith Southers)

Amy Epperson (Gene & Danna Dean's daughter)

Continued Prayer Concerns

Jackie Herlong Ruthie Hester

Jane Jones Phillip Johnson

Betty Elliott (Cindy Archer's mother)

Honorariums & Memorials

General Fund Budget

In memory of Elizabeth Barnes, given by Jill Vincent.

Ministry Fund

In memory of Dr. Bob Walden, given by Jimmy Kilgore.

United Women of Faith

In memory of Dr. Bob Walden, given by Jill Vincent.

Birthdays

Oct 26 Stacy Hilburn,

Qwintan Brothers, Gregory Ridens

Oct 27 David Schmuck

Oct 28 Jan Fraiser, Haddon Jarecki

Oct 29 Cathy Bohannon

Oct 30 Kaitlyn Leach

Oct 31 Harriet Murray

Nov 1 Martha Bullock, Marcy Puckett, David Livingston

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

Thank you! —Susan Swann

Attendance Week of Oct 19, 2025

In Person Total *143 On Line Total 578

Worship Total 721 Thursday Worship *11

Celebration *47/245 Traditions *85/333

Adult Sunday School *39 Children SS *2

Middle School & Senior Hi SS *3 UWF *35

Bible Study Groups *75 Children Wed/Sun *21

Middle & Sen Hi Wed/Sun *16 Nursery *7

Year 2025 Week of Oct 19, 2025

General Offering Budget \$12,400.00

General Offering Received \$10,960.00

YTD Gen. Offering Budget \$520,800.00

YTD Gen. Offering Rec'd \$530,415.00

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