



# MONEY MATTERS

REV. SHERRI REYNOLDS

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

## Sermon Notes: Thursday, Sept. 26 & Sunday, Sept. 29, 2024

This is our last week of Get in the Game, a sermon series about discipleship with illustrations from the football field. This week we focus on money, and money seems to be the focus of many these days, especially college football. College football generates billions of dollars annually through tickets, television rights, vendors, and endorsements. Players can now receive capital gain through name, image and likeness. Coaches are often the highest paid state employee in each state. Add to the mix the millions poured into a local economy and a university around a major program. It doesn't take long to see that money matters in the world of sports.

Money matters in our spiritual lives as well. Money can be a barrier to our relationship with Jesus or can be an avenue to grow in generosity and giving. Our resources can be an idol or an opportunity to love our neighbor. It can cause envy and greed or provide a path of fostering ministry. Jesus had a lot to say about this topic. Take for instance the Sermon on the Mount, particularly Matthew 6:19-21. He taught that where your treasure is your heart is also. Do your heart and treasure align? This is something for us to ponder as we grow as followers of Jesus.

Go team FUMCG! —Rev. Sherri

## It's Time for 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 Below 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!



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## Worship Opportunities

**Thursdays:** 5:30 pm

**Sunday Mornings:** Celebration 9 am\*

Traditions 11 am\*

**\*In Person (Sanctuary) and Online**

[www.fumcgadsden.org/media](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media)

on Facebook Live: @FUMCGadsden

## ACOLYTES

September 29: Anna Kate Casey & Jade Collins  
 October 6: Sara Kate, Jake, and Carter Thorberg

## Tech Team Schedule

**September 29**

**Celebration:** Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Rob Reynolds

**Traditions:** Wayne Payton, Neil Mullin, Brad Barnes

**October 6**

**Celebration:** Eric Wright, Bill Haller, Sheila Freeman

**Traditions:** Mark Condra, Neil Mullin, Sheila Freeman



## 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

	<b>Wednesday at 11am</b>	<b>Wednesday at 6pm</b>
Church History	October 2	September 25
Sacraments	October 9	October 2
Sin and Salvation	October 16	October 16
Growing in God's Grace	October 23	October 23
Living a Christian Life	October 30	October 30
Responding to God's Grace	November 6	November 6
First United Methodist Church	November 13 (No study on August 28 or September 11)	November 13 (No study September 18 or October 9)

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

## Wednesday Fellowship, Gathering Room/201

**Dinner Oct 2-Barbecue & Chips**  
**\$7 Adults & Youth    \$3 Children 11 & Under**

**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**

**Renewed: Finding Hope When You Don't Like Your Story**

**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.

## ELC News

Our first lunchbox revolt of the year went great. Everyone enjoyed their meal from The Dog House. 4K had an exciting round of Show and Tell. They look forward to many more this year. Fall Pictures will be Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

—Helene



## Youth Sundays

Youth Sundays w/ Becca  
Sunday mornings at 10 am  
Middle School and Senior High  
Meet in the Youth Room, 211.

## October 2 @ Wonderful Wednesday

Dinner is served beginning at 5:15 pm. Menu: Barbecue & chips

Sr. High Youth-6 pm, Youth Room, Room 211

Middle School Youth-6 pm, Room 209

## Fall Festival

Coffee & Confections

Tickets on sale now \$5.00 each

Haunted Chicken House

## October 9

October 19

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](mailto:cmckiven@hotmail.com)

# Children's Ministry

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

Wednesday Night Supper: Menu for October 2: Barbecue & chips

\$7-Adults, \$3-11 & Under

Activities for Children: 6 pm, Children's Worship Room

GFUMC Children's  
September Unit

## LEAD THE WAY

Wednesday's  
at 6:00

#WeAreFirst

WEEK 1

God teaches us  
**HOW TO LEAD.**

WEEK 2

We **FOLLOW**  
God's lead.

WEEK 3

God leads us to  
**SAFETY.**

WEEK 4

God will lead  
us to **WHAT  
WE NEED.**

"Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths."

Psalm 25:4 (NIV)



GFUMC KIDS  
FALL  
CALENDAR

20  
24

AUG  
14

ICE CREAM SOCIAL  
WONDERFUL WED. RESUMES

FALL FESTIVAL  
5:00-7:00 PM

OCT  
09

NOV  
20

FRIENDSGIVING  
6 PM

SANTA BRUNCH  
10:00 AM

DEC  
8

DEC  
15

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM  
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



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [WWW.FUMCGADSDEN.ORG/CHILDREN](http://WWW.FUMCGADSDEN.ORG/CHILDREN)

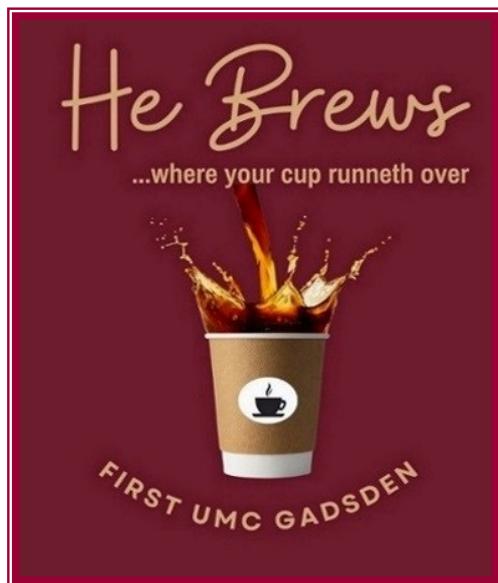
## We need your photo!



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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## TODD & DAWN RAINS



Todd grew up in Gadsden, graduated from Gadsden High, and attended the University of Alabama. He became the plant manager for Surgical Pack Services, which provided all of the sterile linens for UAB Hospital; then, when the company was bought out, he decided to move back to Gadsden. He worked at Lowe's for 2 years, then became the Building Supervisor for our church for 7 years before being named the Culinary Director at Regency Pointe, a job which he currently holds. A long-time member of our church, Todd started the "Men at the Well" bible study 15 years ago and has always helped with cooking at our church, even teaching it during the "Gift to Gadsden." In his spare time, Todd's favorite hobby is woodworking. Dawn also grew up in Gadsden and graduated from Emma Sansom. She received both an undergraduate and Master's degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Alabama and has an EdS from UAB in English as a Second Language. Dawn has taught school in Anniston, Birmingham, and Gadsden for a total of 38 years and is currently teaching at Donehoo Elementary School. She has taught Vacation Bible School, and both she and Todd taught Senior High Sunday School for several years. Her hobbies include crafting and home décor. They have 2 children: Addison (30), who is working on her PhD in Developmental Biology; and Carter (25), who works for Union Jack in Rainbow City.

# September Mission Focus



**Etowah Free**  
COMMUNITY CLINIC

*The Etowah Free Community Clinic provides uninsured patients of Etowah County with access to physicians, nurses, support staff, prescription medication and a variety of holistic care services, at no cost. The clinic has had a dramatic impact, not just in the lives of those served, but also in the community in which they live, work and play. The clinic is located at 423 South 3rd Street · Gadsden, AL 35901 · (256) 546-3456 (You may also donate directly to the clinic any medicine you have been prescribed and are unable to take.)*

Donate paper products, such as paper towels, tissues, and toilet paper, during the month of September. Items may be placed in the Red Buckets located at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the Chestnut Foyer.

**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

September open dates are  
9/4 and 9/18

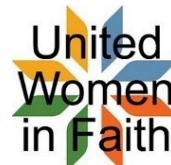
9:00 am to 11:00 am

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)



## United Women in Faith

The monthly luncheons are open to all. Please make a reservation by calling or texting Olivia Kendricks by the Friday prior to the meeting date. 205.454.4375

- ♦ October 14-Luncheon, 12 pm  
Gadsden State Community College A Capella Choir
- ♦ November 11-History of Gadsden & Etowah County, by Ms. Mollie Smith
- ♦ December 9-Christmas Luncheon, ELC Children singing

**Delores Abney, President**

**Olivia Kendrick, Vice-President**

## LuVerna Waid Circle News

We are making changes! In order to be the hands and feet of Christ, as we feel commissioned to do, our Circle is changing our meeting day. We will now meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 3:00 pm, in the Gathering Room. We will still share a devotion, but will be doing Hands-on-Mission Projects each month. On Sunday, October 13th, we will make fleece scarves to be distributed to selected agencies for winter weather. From now till October 13, we will be collecting fleece blankets or throws, to make the scarves. Please bring to the church. There will be a collection bin available to drop them.

The LuVerna Waid Circle is very excited about our new mission! Thanks in advance to all who help by bringing "fleece blankets for scarves" to provide warmth for those in need this winter!

We will look forward to these monthly mission projects with fun and fellowship. We hope to have many ladies join us!

**#gfumcreconnect2023**

### Clients Served

#### July 2024

Ladle of Love 300

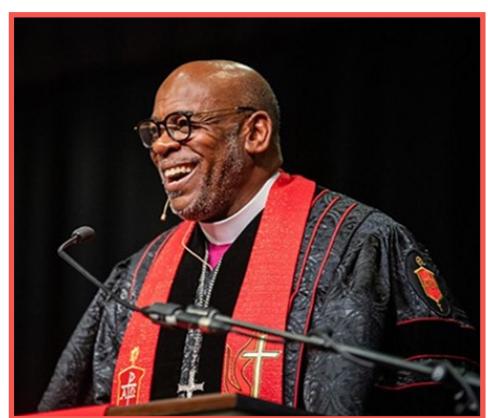
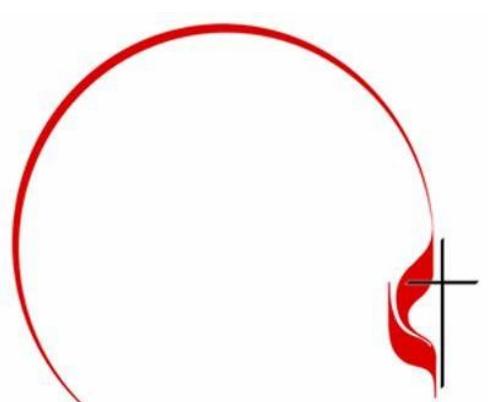
Clothes Closet 288

#### August 2024

Ladle of Love 500

Clothes Closet 321

**Thanks to our  
Volunteers!**



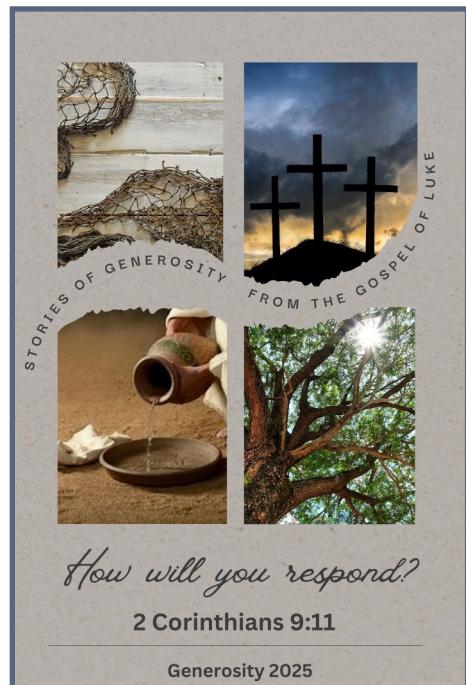
## Stories of Generosity from the Gospel of Luke

This October, First United Methodist Church will spend the month in the gospel of Luke examining the response of people as they met Jesus. Simon left everything to follow. The forgiven woman was extravagantly generous and worshipful. Zacchaeus changed his life, making amends for his deceptive practices. The thief on the cross trusted Jesus as they were dying by Roman execution. Their stories capture our imagination and cause us to wonder how we might respond.

These stories set the backdrop for Generosity 2025. When we encounter Jesus, we respond in some way. Do we reject him or ignore him? Do we react with devotion and worship? Do we serve others and share with others about him? Do we live generous lives, offering thanks and changing to be more like Christ? These are questions which we all answer individually. I pray that our encounters with Jesus challenge us to lead lives which produce great thanksgiving to God, just like the people that we meet in Luke through this upcoming sermon series.

*“You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us” 2 Corinthians 9:11*

How will you respond? —Rev. Sherri



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

### September 29 Sunday

#### **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**

12:15 pm-Lay Leadership Nominations, Rm 201

### September 30 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

### October 1 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 Dates:**

**Sun- October 6, Blessing of the Animals, 10:00 am, see page 8**

**Wed- October 9, Fall Fest, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm, see page 5**

### **Calendar for Sept 29-Oct 5, 2024**

### October 2 Wednesday

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

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

11:00 am-Wednesday morning Bible Study

5:15 pm-Wednesday Night Meal, Gathering Room

6:00 pm-Children's Activities, Room 108

Youth Activities, Gym & Room 211

6:00 pm-Bible Study w/Pastor Sherri, Room 208;

Small Group w/Harriet in Room 110

6:00 pm-7:30 pm-Choir Practice, Choir Room

### October 3 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

### October 4 Friday

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



Join Rev. Sherri in the parlor on Sunday October 13 from 10:00am- 10:40am for **Muffins with the Minister**. Have a question about church membership, theology, worship, or the United Methodist Church? Have a concern that you want to share? Craving a muffin and conversation with the pastor. Grab a cup of coffee from Hebrews and join her in the parlor (Room 117).

### **Immediate Prayer Concerns**

Judy Collins (Tripp Collins' mother)

Michael Morris (Dawn Rains' father)

Stephe Wood      Lewis Hill

### **Continued Prayer Concerns**

Rob Reynolds      Jane Jones

Olivia Kendrick      Amy Epperson

Asher Mae Collins



### **Honorariums & Memorials**

#### General Budget Fund

In memory of Albert Gibson, given by Paige Whitt.

#### Music Fund

In memory of Albert Gibson, given by Marian Ford.

#### HeBrews Coffee Fund

In memory of Albert (Gip) Gibson, given by Bob & Becky Oltman

*Thanks for the memories "Roll Tide Roll"!*

### **Birthdays**

**Sept 29** Trish Croy



**Sept 30** Jami Grimes,

Luke Rosser, Connie Lane,

Mason Russell

**Oct 1** Kathy Taff, Ann Guffey,

Tyler Harrell

**Oct 2** Pam Newman, Beverly Godfrey

**Oct 3** Julia Knox

**Oct 4** Wilson Abel, Martha Smith,

Alyssa Branch

**Oct 5** Harding Leach, Hilary Jarecki,

John Paul Wilson, Stephen Blackstock,

Madison Walker

### **Week of September 22, 2024**

In Person Total-\*151      Worship Total-680

Online-529      Thursday Worship-\*10

Celebration Service-\*61/258

Traditional Service-\*80/271      UWF-\*11

Sunday School Adult-\*38/1      Children \*5

Sr Hi & Middle \*3      Bible Study Groups-\*32

Wed/Sun-Children\*45      Wed/Sun-Sr.Hi \*3

Middle Youth \*9      Wed/Sun-Nursery \*4

General Offering Budget      \$11,400.00

General Offering Received      \$10,737.00

YTD General Offering Budget \$433,200.00

YTD General Offering Rec'd \$488,061.00



There will be an Emmaus Cluster Meeting on October 15 at First UMC Gadsden. If you have completed an Emmaus Walk, please contact Susan in the church office, 256-543-8200.