

115 So. 5th Street
Gadsden, AL 35901

August 9, 2020

Gadsden First UMC

Changing Lives by Sharing Christ, Making Disciples, Serving and Giving Hope
#GFUMCConnect2020

RESET "The Reset of Forgiveness"

Most of us have grown up saying "The Apostles' Creed." We can start out saying the Creed, and then put our minds in "neutral" as the words automatically fall from our lips. On one hand, it's good that the core beliefs of our Christian faith are embedded into our brains. On the other hand, we should not take any of the words and phrases in this historic confession of the Christian faith for granted. Join me in saying the Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

** (catholic means "universal")

We could spend a long time talking about each phrase of the Creed. In fact, I've done whole six-week-long studies on the Creed. Maybe I'll do that again soon...but for this week, I want to just focus on the phrase, "the forgiveness of sins." We confess that we believe in the forgiveness of sins. Why this phrase? Because in the month of August, our theme is RESET. Last week, Pastor Andy talked about resetting our priorities. This week, I'm talking about the reset of forgiveness. We need forgiveness ourselves, and we need to offer forgiveness to others. Even if they have hurt us? Yes.

Is there any better story of forgiveness in the Old Testament than the story of Joseph and his brothers (Ex. 37: 1-4, 12-28)?

What a horrible thing for one person to do to another person! Beaten, betrayed and sold into slavery by his own brothers! How in the world could Joseph ever forgive his brothers for doing this to him? Why would he even consider forgiving, and resetting that relationship? We will look at these questions and others this Sunday. Join us Thursday evening at 5:30 for in-person worship in the sanctuary, or online worship at 9:00 and 11:00 am on Sunday through Facebook Live or Youtube.

—Pastor Sam



Sermon Series

August 2- "Resetting Our Priorities"
August 9- "The Reset of Forgiveness"
August 16- "Resetting through Self-Care"
August 23- "Resetting Our Attitude"
August 30- "Resetting our Expectations"

Worship Opportunities

- Mosaic: 6:30 pm, Tuesday, Church Courtyard (Social Distancing and masks required.)
- Thursday Worship: 5:30 pm Thursday, Sanctuary (Social Distancing and masks required.)
- Sunday Celebration Online Worship, 9:00 am
- Sunday Traditions, Online Worship, 11:00 am

Generosity

- Give online:
www.fumcgadsden.org/give
- Text to Give: 256-344-8464
- Mail your tithe or gift to the church:
115 S. 5th Street
Gadsden, AL 35901



Sunday Morning w/Ken Casey and George Varner, 10:00 am, GoToMeeting

Thursday, Men at the Well, 7:00 am, Zoom, Mark Condra, Todd Rains, Bob Blount or Mark Casey

Coming Sunday August 9: Sunday Morning w/ Mark Condra, 10:am, GoToMeeting

Life is a journey. The most important part of the journey is our relationship with God and with others. A Journey Group is a small gathering of individuals who help you grow in your loving relationship with both. We invite all people into a relationship with God and seek to create an outwardly focused community of Christ-followers.

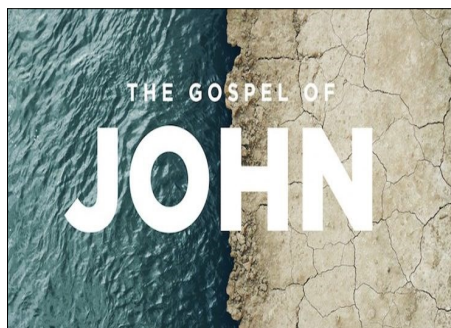
Journey Groups are a great way to stay connected God and with your church family. All Journey Groups are currently meeting virtually.

New opportunities will begin in August! It's easy to join via GoToMeeting or Zoom! Contact one of the Journey Group leaders or the church office to find out more about how to get started!

Contact: sheila@fumcgadsden.org or 256-543-8200

Interested in leading or teaching a journey group? Contact one of the pastors or Sheila Freeman at 256-490-5018 or Sheila@fumcgadsden.org

Bible Study w/Pastor Sam



A Study of the Gospel of John

Join Pastor Sam each Wednesday night at 6:00 pm for a study of the *Gospel of John*.

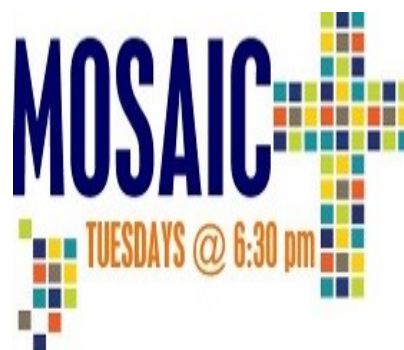
Facebook Live

Wednesdays @ 6 pm

(You can watch the weekly episodes "on-demand" via the church app or website. Each lesson is uploaded to the church app and website following the live broadcast.)

Join Pastor Andy for Mosaic

—A unique worship experience that includes a homily, discussion, and prayer. This service is open to everyone, but is particularly designed for those who have felt hurt or rejected. Come meet with us outside the church in the Courtyard facing 5th Street near the sanctuary on Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm! Social distancing is required. (In case of rain, Mosaic will meet in the gym.)



Christmas in JULY

Fill a Stocking for a Child for Christmas

It's Christmas in our hearts!

- Already picked up a stocking? Fill with suggested items and return to the church portico on July 30 between 3 pm and 6 pm. You may also return stockings @ Thursday Worship or Mosaic by 8/4/20.
- Would you like a stocking delivered to you so that you can fill and return? Contact Charlotte @ 256-504-9718
- Would you like for Santa's helpers to do your shopping for you? You can sponsor a stocking with your donation of \$15.00 and one of the remaining stockings will be filled!

*(Remember the church office is closed,
so please use the pick-up and drop-off times above.)*

AUGUST MISSION SUPPORTING OUR ADOPTED SCHOOL STRIPLIN ELEMENTARY



It is time for school to begin, although extremely different this year!

Our students will be starting with Virtual School but there are still many needs that we can help the teachers meet. The three biggest requests from teachers are: HAND SANITIZER REFILL BOTTLES, PUMP HAND SOAP, AND DISINFECTANT WIPES

Please help us collect these items!

On the next three Thursdays, August 6th, August 13th, August 20th, from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm, there will be Drop Off Tubs outside the Chestnut Street Entrance. The church will remain closed but these three items can be dropped there securely. The Mission Team THANKS you for your generous support of this Mission Project!!!

Along with the Beginning of School comes our FUNDRAISER to support our teachers at Striplin through the year.

These funds will provide **The Teacher of The Month Program** (50.00 / month), **Teacher of the Year** (100.00) and the **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** in May.

Our teachers work so hard, especially now with Covid 19, so your support will enable us to say, "THANK YOU!" Please add a donation to your pledge, mail a check to the Church Office, or use e-giving to make sure we are able to provide a much needed "JOB WELL DONE!"

Clothes Closet Workday

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Open

1st & 3rd Wednesdays
9:00 am to 11:00 am

Ladle of Love

Fridays, 11:00 am to
12:00 pm

Stocking Stuffer Ideas

Toothbrush

Toothpaste

Hair items

Small Bible

School supplies

Small toys

Gloves

Hats

Socks

Cards

Books

Candy

Donations for Striplin Elementary School

Hand Sanitizer (large
refill size)

Pump Hand Soap

Disinfectant Wipes

ELC News

We are excited to get our Fall 2020 term started. Open House will be Thursday, August 13th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. This will be a come and go event. Please enter at portico entrance. All adults must wear masks.

First day of school will be Monday, August 17th with extended hours available on this day as well as those that sign up at open house.

Helene Haller

Youth News

Get ready!!!!

Wednesday, August 12, the youth will participate in a social distance Olympics at Christ Central UMC from 6:00-7:00 pm. There will be pizza, prizes, games and much more!

Virtual Sunday School

Will begin Sunday, August 23 at 10:00 am

Former Youth- check out our college and career Instagram page to stay up to date with future social distancing gatherings.

Join Andy on Facebook Live or Instagram.

Sunday & Wednesdays, 6 pm



#GFUMCConnect2020

Look Up

Join Pastor Carrie
on Facebook



Sundays at 10:00am
+
Wednesdays at 6:00pm

JUL 19+22 LOOK UP KICK-OFF
JUL 26+29 The Wonder of Creation
AUG 2+5 Finding Your Way When You Feel Lost
AUG 9+12 God Knows You + God Loves You
AUG 16+19 Look Up to God in Prayer
AUG 23+26 Jesus is Our North Star Guiding Us Home

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge God, and He will direct your path. PROVERBS 3:5-6*

United Methodist Women

Well, here we are still in quarantine....Is this ever going to end?

Once again, thanks to everyone for your participation in making our 2020 Auction a huge success!!

Update for UMW summer schedule:

We have been hoping and praying that we as United Methodist Women would be able to meet this summer at a restaurant for dinner so that we could meet for fellowship and food. However, sadly, that is not to be. The number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise so we all need to be staying at home and only going out as necessary wearing a mask.

If anyone would like to do a Zoom meeting, we can collect names and schedule a meeting when it is convenient for everyone. Several groups at the church have either Gotomeetings or Zoom meetings going on through this quarantine time. We can make the arrangements as needed. We do not know when we will be able to return to our usual UMW Luncheons. It will depend upon the status of this virus. Watch the newsletter for any updates. Thank you for your part in UMW and may God continue to bless each one of us. —**UMW Board**



Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. 1 John 4:11

#GFUMCConnect2020

Worship with GFUMC on Sunday mornings online

Live:

9:00 am Celebration

11:00 am Traditions

Where to connect:

Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org/media

Facebook Live: @FUMCGadsden

Church YouTube Channel: Gadsden First UMC

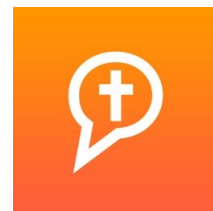
Sermon.net:

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden (search ministries)

Watch on demand:

Church App: **FUMCGadsden**

Church Website: www.fumcgadsden.org/media



Calendar for week of August 9-August 15,

Aug 9, Sunday

9:00 am, Celebration Worship Online
10:00 am, Sunday School, GoToMeeting
10:00 am, Children's Bible Study, Facebook
11:00 am, Traditional Worship, Online
6:00 pm, Youth via Zoom or Instagram

Aug 10, Monday

No Activities scheduled

Aug 11, Tuesday

6:30 pm, Mosaic, Courtyard

Aug 12, Wednesday

6:00 pm Children's Bible Study, Facebook
6:00 pm, Online Bible Study with Pastor Sam
6:00 pm, Youth via Zoom or Instagram

Aug 13, Thursday

11:00 am-1:00 pm Drop Off Items for
Striplin School, Chestnut Street Entrance
5:30 pm, Thursday Worship, Sanctuary
7:00 pm, College Group, via Zoom or
Instagram

Aug 14, Friday

11:00-12:00, Ladle of Love, Portico

The church office is still closed. You may call if you have a need that we can help with between 8:00am-4:00pm, Monday thru Friday. If no answer, please leave a message and a staff member will return your call as soon as possible.

A MASK is required If you are attending any service or activity at the church.
If you do not have one, we have them available for you to use. Stay Well. Stay Safe.

Honorariums and Memorials

General Budget Fund: In memory of Dr. Larry Grimes given by Ray & Barbara Smith.

Altar Flowers Fund: In memory of DeLeath Rives and Jonathan Sullivan given by Jim & Barbara Bennett.

Music Fund:
In memory of DeLeath Rives given by Wayne & Helen Copeland.

*The ministers and congregation of First
United Methodist Church of Gadsden
extend Christian sympathy to
Bill and Mary Tom Hale
in the death of his sister
Bobbie White
July 26, 2020*



Birthdays.....

Aug 9 Peggy Burnett, Diana Rampey,
Judy Tillman, Lewis Hill, Emily Copeland,
Sara Margaret Waits, Madeline Miller

Aug 10 Tracie Wooten, Jacob McKiven,
Presley Autrey

Aug 12 Gwen Axtell, Claire Hedgspeth

Aug 13 Quinn Darden

Aug 14 Kelly Roach

Aug 15 Tom Quinn, Trish Harrell,
Joseph Cox, Ashley Freeman Hornik,
Madeline Mills, Griffin Bone

Subscribe to the Weekly Church News

*You can submit your email to the
church office to receive the weekly
announcements on Friday.*

Important Deadlines

Information for the weekly announcement
sheet is due each Wednesday by noon.
Events for the church calendar are needed
one month prior to the event.

Please contact Susan Swann
256-543-8200 / susan@fumcgadsden.org

Week of August 2, 2020

Online Viewer Total 367 Communion *22
*In Person Total *62 Total overall 429
Celebration 137 Traditions 146
Mosaic *15 Thursday *25
Youth 10 Bible Study Groups 44
Children's online Bible Study 30
General Offering Budget \$15,440.00
General Offering Received \$11,337.50
YTD General Offering Budget \$478,640.00
YTD General Offering Received \$438,368.79

Text to Give: 256-344-8464

Online Giving: www.fumcgadsden.org/