

# THE CALM ABOVE THE STORM

Pastor Sam Hayes

## Transfiguration Sunday

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

### 2-27-22

### Sermon Notes

### "The Calm Above the Storm"

This is Transfiguration Sunday – the Sunday we remember the Transfiguration Experience of our Lord Jesus. It is recorded in Luke 9, and it is also recorded in the gospels of Matthew and Mark. Everyone (preachers, scholars, and theologians) can agree that something significant happened on that mountain. What was it? What did it mean to the disciples? To Jesus? What does it mean to us today? Let's look at the passage in Luke:

*<sup>28</sup> Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup> Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup> They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup> Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup> While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. (Luke 9: 28-36 NRSV)*

So, what happened to Jesus? I'm not smart enough to say exactly, but it was something special. Jesus' appearance changed. He was...shining! It's like, for a moment, his glory broke through in a new way. As if that were not special enough, Moses (representing the Law) and Elijah (representing the Prophets) came and chatted with Jesus. The Presence of God overshadowed them like a cloud, and God's voice gave the affirmation that Jesus had received at His baptism: "This is my son...my Chosen!" What did that mean for Jesus? Strength and affirmation for what lay ahead? Certainly that, and maybe even more. What did it mean for the disciples? I think it meant more to them later on, but right now they were fairly clueless. Peter didn't know what to say...so he went ahead and spoke right up. (Can you relate?) He was told by God to basically be quiet and listen to Jesus...good advice for us all. I want to cut the disciples some slack, though. They had just heard from Jesus for the first time that he was going to die. He would not be setting up an earthly kingdom, but was here to fulfill the prophecy of the suffering servant. Can you imagine what was going through their minds? "Wait a minute! Jesus is going to die? No way!" But Jesus was already headed toward Jerusalem...toward Calvary. The "storm" was on the horizon. Jesus just took a little while to go up on the mountain with his disciples – to experience a new perspective – a moment of calm above the storm. This is the connection for us today.

See you Sunday!

Pastor Sam

**Ash Wednesday**  
**Worship, March 2, 6:00 pm**



### Worship Opportunities

- **Thursday Worship:** 5:30 pm  
In the Sanctuary
- **Mosaic:** 6:00 pm, **Thursday**,  
(In person @ Back Forty Beer Company)

### • Sunday Worship

**Celebration: 9 am\***

**Traditions 11 am\***

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

[www.fumcgadsden.org/media](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/media) or  
on Facebook Live: @FUMCgadsden

### Tech Team Schedule

(Please arrive 45 minutes  
prior to the start of the service.)

**February 27, 2022**

**Celebration:** Eric Wright, Brad Barnes,  
Elizabeth Barnes

**Traditions:** Sheila Freeman,  
Tammy Hayes

**March 6, 2022**

**Celebration:** Mark Casey, Brynn Crain,  
Parker Casey, Sheila Freeman

**Traditions:** Tammy Hayes,  
Carmen McKiven, Jacob McKiven



## Wednesday Morning Bible Study with Pastor Sam

40 Days of Prayer  
11 AM, In the Gathering Room  
Everyone Welcome!

## Why Easter Matters

By Andy Stanley

Small Group Study on Sunday Mornings!

Sunday, February 27-March 20

In the Gathering Room @ 10 am

All Ages are Welcome! Led by Pastor

Andy

*(You will love the food!)*

## Wonderful Wednesday, Fellowship Meal, March 2: Chick-fil-a, Chips, Fruit, Dessert

7 per person, Kids 11 & Under-\$3 (Reservations: 256.490.5018)

## Thursdays, Men at the Well, 7:00 am via Zoom

You are invited to join the weekly ZOOM bible study with the Men at the Well small group. If you are interested please see the contact information below to join this discussion group. It meets each Thursday morning at 7 am. Beginning March 3rd the study will be "40 Days of Prayer" by Rick Warren

Go to [www.fumcgadsden.org/menatthewell](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/menatthewell) for more details.

Contact Todd Rains, Mark Condra or Mark Casey or any of the Men at the Well for more information and the Zoom link.

## RECONNECT with the Sunday School Class of Your Choice!

- Living Water Sunday School Class, Virtual/ Online —Contact the church office or a member of the class for the link to join! Flawed But Faithful Disciple, by Adam Hamilton
- Martin Fellowship Class, Room 116, International Bible Studies
- Pathfinders Class, Why Easter Matters, Gathering Room, Pastor Andy. Everyone is welcome to come to this class.

Seekers, Discovery and The Middle Sunday School Classes are currently not meeting. Members are welcome to meet with another group until their class returns.







## Youth Ministry News

**Wednesday Nights Youth Group**  
6:00 pm Room 211/Gym

### Confirmation Class schedule:

*Jan 23rd, Feb 6th, Feb 20th, March 6th, & March 13th.*

*Time: 5:00-7:00 pm each Sunday night.*

*Confirmation Sunday will be March 20th.*

### Wednesday Night Dinner—March 2

*Chick-fil-a, Chips, Dessert*

*\$7 Per Person, Kids 11 and Under-\$3*

## ELC News

This past week we enjoyed McDonald's for our monthly lunchbox revolt and OPAC's production of Littlest Big House on Wednesday, February 23rd.

Registration for the Summer 2022 and Fall 2022-2023 sessions continues for those currently enrolled. Registration Dates: Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup> through Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup>: Registration for currently enrolled non church members and their non-enrolled siblings Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>: For any openings: registration for church member students who are not currently enrolled with priority given to those on the waitlist. Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>: Open enrollment for any remaining openings per class with priority given to those on the waitlist.

### Friends of the ELC Consignment Sale:

**Spring 2022** Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Sign ups for consignors and volunteers begins Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. Please go to [fumcgadsden.org/elc](http://fumcgadsden.org/elc) for more details or contact Helene.

*Helene Haller*

## GFUMC Children's Spring Calendar

<b>February</b>	<b>9</b> Valentine's Party 6:00	<b>13</b> Valentine's Sunday!	<b>23</b> National Dog Biscuit Day  Let's make dog biscuits!
<b>March</b>	<b>2</b> Ash Wednesday	<b>23</b> Popcorn and Pajamas!	<b>30</b> Happy Spring Break!
<b>April</b>	<b>10</b> Palm Sunday 1st-5th play handbells	<b>13</b> Nachos and Nerf War!	<b>16</b> Easter Egg Hunt
<b>May</b>	<b>4</b> Glow for Jesus! Party @6:00	<b>11</b> CHURCH PICNIC	<b>17</b> EASTER

## GFUMC CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Wonderful Wednesday's

Wednesday's at 6:00  
in the Kid's Worship Room  
Room 108



Sunday Children's Church

Sunday's during each service  
9:00 and 11:00  
Room 108



## Valentine Project

*Thank you to all our church family who participated in the Valentine Project! The children were so excited to receive their Valentines and all the refreshments and goodies! You are AWESOME!*

*—Children's Ministry Leaders*

# February Missions

Tornado Buckets are still available in the Sanctuary and Chestnut Street entrance. There is a list of required items for you in each bucket. Our goal is to try and fill 40 buckets.

Please return by Sunday, February 27th.

Thank you for your help with this project.

**Your Mission Team**

## Specific Items Needed to Complete a Tornado Bucket:

- 1 Standard Size Claw Hammer
- 1 Shirt Pocket Notebook, 1 Permanent Marker,
- 1 Pencil and Sharpener in a Ziplock Bag
- 12 Black 30-45 Gallon Trash Bags
- 2 Rolls of Toilet Paper in Ziplock bag
- Work Gloves-Leather Palm or All Leather Gloves
- 100 Count Nails (1 3/4 – 2 1/2) common
- 10 White 13 Gallon Trash Bags with drawstrings.
- 1 Cellophane Packing Tape
- 10 One Gallon Ziplock Bags
- 1 Box Cutter
- 1 Hand Sanitizer (4oz to 12 oz)
- 1 Insect Repellent Spray or Can, or Wipes or combination
- 1 pair Safety Glasses
- 6 Clear 40 – 55 Gallon Trash Bags
- 3 Tampons or Pads in a Ziplock Bag
- Flashlight with batteries



*Each bucket contains specific items used for a specific purpose during clean-up after a tornado.*

## UMW NEWS

**UMW Luncheon, March 14, at 12:00 noon in Gathering Room**

Ladies, overcome the doldrums of Covid isolation by attending the UMW luncheon, March 14.

You do not have to be a member of UMW to attend.

Suzanne Scharfenberg of Habitat for Humanity will be our guest speaker. For a reservation for lunch, please contact Delores Abney at 256-458-0376 or deloresdda53@gmail.com.



**GFUMC**



*"By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35*

## Clothes Closet

### Workdays

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

**Open to Public**

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

**9:00 am to 11:00 am**

516 Broad Street Gadsden

*Thank you to all our volunteers for their time and service to these missions!*

## Ladle of Love

Fridays, 11:00am-12:00pm,  
at the Portico entrance.

Clients served in  
January 2022

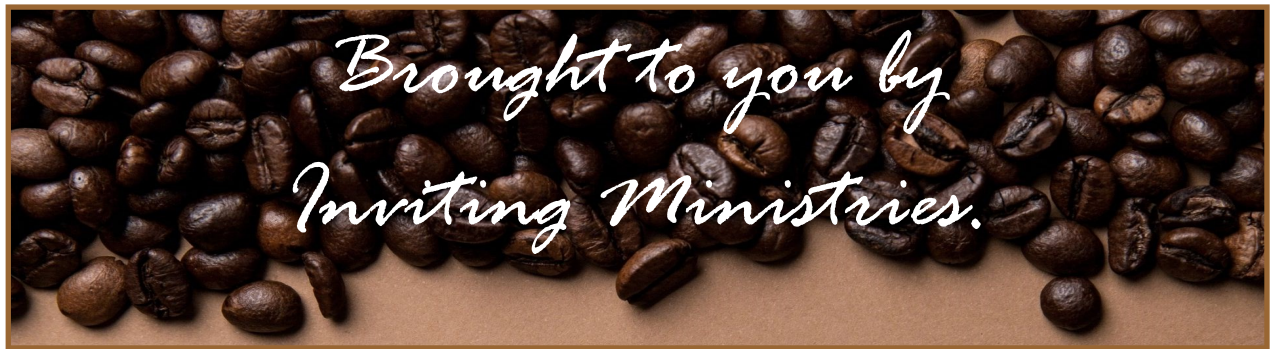
Ladle of Love	317
Clothes Closet	131



Find out more about mission and service opportunities @ [www.fumcgadsden.org/serve](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/serve)

Church Phone 256-543-8200  
[fumc@fumcgadsden.org](mailto:fumc@fumcgadsden.org)

[#gfumcreconnect2021](#)



Great appreciation goes out to the fifteen people who submitted such clever names for Our New Coffee Café. It was very hard to choose but the vote went to:



**Inviting Ministries  
welcomes you to our new  
Coffee Café!**

**We have your Sunday Cup of  
Coffee waiting for you  
between 10 am 11 am on Sunday  
mornings.**

**Starts Sunday, March 6!**

*Come visit with friends, old and new, in  
Christian Fellowship!  
After Celebration and before Traditions and  
on your way in or out of Sunday school!  
**We can't wait to see everyone back!***

***We want to say, "Thank You" and "Welcome" to our new Inviting Ministries Team! Come and meet: Katie and Tyler Darden, Sherri and Paul DeJong, Stacy and Zach Hilburn, Beth Dial, Greg Roberts, Barbara Condra, Eileen Graham, Sheila Freeman and Susan Copeland AND...all of you! Everyone in our church is a part of Inviting Ministries Team!! Join Us!***





## THE CALM ABOVE THE STORM

Pastor Sam Hayes

**Transfiguration Sunday– Feb 27**

First United Methodist Church of Gadsden

## March Sermon Series

March 6

Celebration: The Pattern for Prayer Part 1

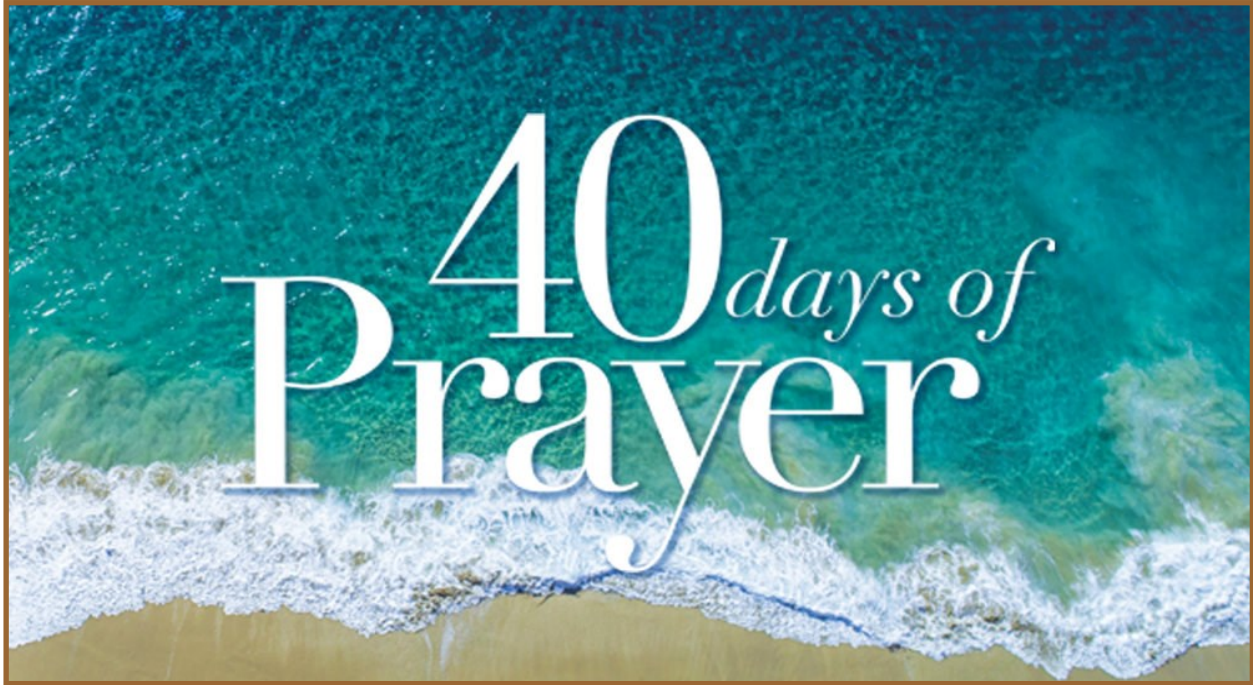
Traditions: Choir Program: Favorite Hymns

March 13

The Pattern for Prayer Part 2

March 20

Praying for a Breakthrough



# 40 days of Prayer

## 40 Days of Prayer Challenge

Go to [www.fumcgadsden.org/pray40days](http://www.fumcgadsden.org/pray40days)

**Starts March 2. Wednesday Mornings and Wednesday Nights**

Study guide/prayer journals will be available in the church office for \$13.

*(If you are interested in starting a small group for 40 Days of Prayer, please contact Sheila Freeman in the church office for information on this opportunity and the materials.)*

## Honorariums & Memorials

Special donations may be made, in honor or memory of a loved one, to the General Budget Fund or other designated funds. You can send a check by mail, drop in the offering plate, or use e-giving. Be sure to include the name of the person you want to be remembered.

## Prayer Concerns

Are for our members and their families. Please notify the pastors or church office with any updates on Prayer Concerns...  
Ongoing or New.

## Honorariums and Memorials

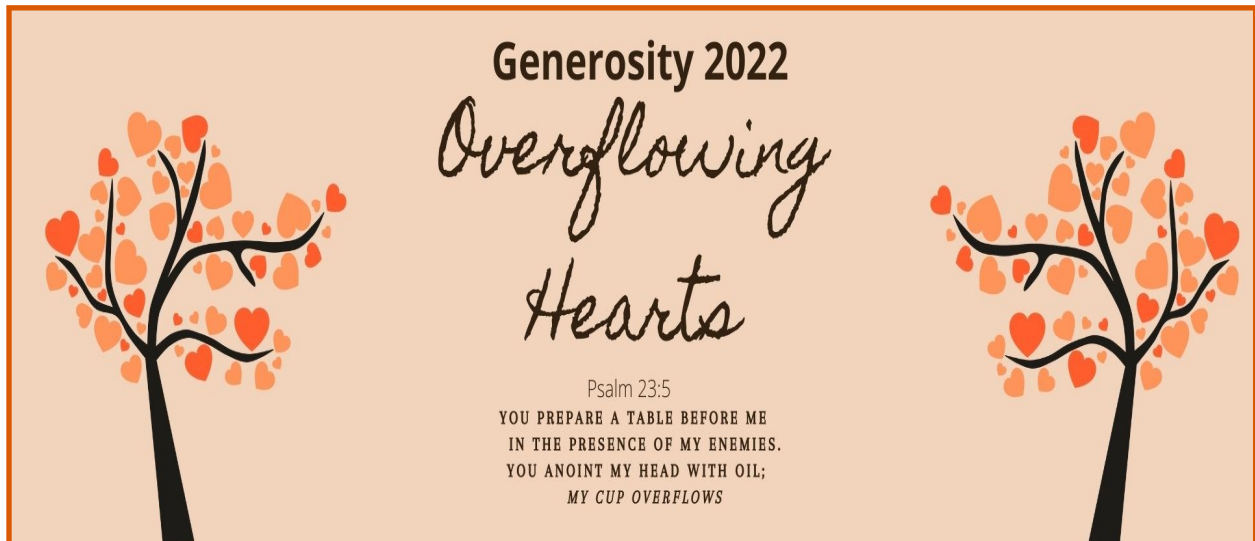
### General Budget Fund

In memory of Dr. Sam Norris and Sandy Self, given by Kay Moore.

In memory of Barry Loveman, given by Mr. & Mrs. Steve Frederick.

In memory of Ellen Cummans, given by Fran Hawkins & Dee Cordell.

In memory of Tom Quinn, given by Laura & Willie Lebouef.



***Thank you for your gifts that make possible, the ministries  
and missions of First UMC Gadsden.***



## Generosity Ways to Give

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

Text to Give:  
256-344-8464

Mail your tithe or gift:  
115 S. 5th Street  
Gadsden, AL 35901





## Calendar for February 27-March 5, 2022

### February 27, Sunday

9:00 am, **Celebration Service**, in Sanctuary & livestream  
 10:00 am, **Adult Sunday School Classes**  
 11:00 am, **Traditional Service**, in Sanctuary & livestream

### February 28, Monday

9:00-1:00 pm, **ELC Winter Schedule**  
 9:00 am-10:00 am, **Exercise Group**, Gym

### March 1, Tuesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm, **ELC Winter Schedule**  
 9:00-11:00 am, **Clothes Closet Workday**  
 5:00-6:00 pm, **Yoga**, Gym

### March 2, Wednesday

9:00 am-1:00 pm, **ELC Winter Schedule**  
 9:00-11:00 am, **Clothes Closet open**  
 11:00 am, **Wednesday Bible Study**, Gathering Room

### March 2, Wednesday, cont'd

5:15 pm, **Wednesday night meal**, Gathering Room  
 6:00 pm, **Ash Wednesday Service**, Sanctuary  
 No children or youth activities.

### March 3, Thursday

9:00 am-1:00 pm, **ELC Winter Schedule**  
 9:00 am-10:00 am, **Exercise Group**, Gym  
 5:30 pm, **Thursday Worship**  
 6:00 pm, **Mosaic Worship**, Back Forty Warehouse

### March 4, Friday

11:00 am, **Ladle of Love**, Portico

### Ash Wednesday Worship, March 2, 6:00 pm



*The flowers on the altar today are in memory  
 of Willie Charles Strickland and In  
 celebration of his 100th birthday on 2/22/22  
 Given by Susan & Keith Copeland.*

### Immediate Prayer Concerns

Lisa Dobbins  
 Charlotte Eliza Poland (granddaughter of Jeff & Cathea Poland)  
 Anne-Marie Poland (dtr-in-law of Jeff & Cathea Poland)  
 Anne Elizabeth Casey (great-granddaughter of Dotty Ivey)



### Continued Prayer Concerns

Glen Thompson (father of Debbie Leach)  
 Helen Wright (mother of Valerie Johnson)  
 Alice Hayes (mother of Sam Hayes)

### **Birthdays**

**Feb 27** Inez McDonald,  
 Rev. Andy Yarnell,  
 Leigh Carroll Phillips,  
 Donald Edwards, Leah Rhodes  
**Feb 28** Scott Dobbins  
**Mar 1** Elisabeth Hardin,  
 Judge George Day, Eli Hosey  
**Mar 2** Dr. Jim Phillips  
**Mar 3** Joe Murphy, Sheila Bishop,  
 Dana Rice, Jeanne Sims,  
 Todd Frederick, Ellen McCollum  
**Mar 4** Allie Cannon Smith  
**Mar 5** Mary Catherine Crain,  
 Darby Hayes



### **Week of February 20, 2022**

\*In Person Total \*263 Overall Total 630  
 Online Viewer Total 367 Mosaic 0/19  
 Thursday \* Children \*35 Youth \*29  
 Celebration \*42/142 Traditions \*86/154  
 Bible Study Groups \*8/36 Other \*38  
 Adult Sunday School \*47/16  
 General Offering Budget \$15,200.00  
 General Offering Received \$4,934.00  
 YTD General Offering Budget \$121,600.00  
 YTD General Offering Rec'd \$109,256.85

**2022 "Overflowing Hearts"**  
**Estimate of Giving Cards Returned:**  
 2022 80 for \$417,624.85  
 2021 72 for \$300,076.00  
**Text to Give: 256.344.8464**

### **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.**

### **Subscribe to the Weekly Church News**

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