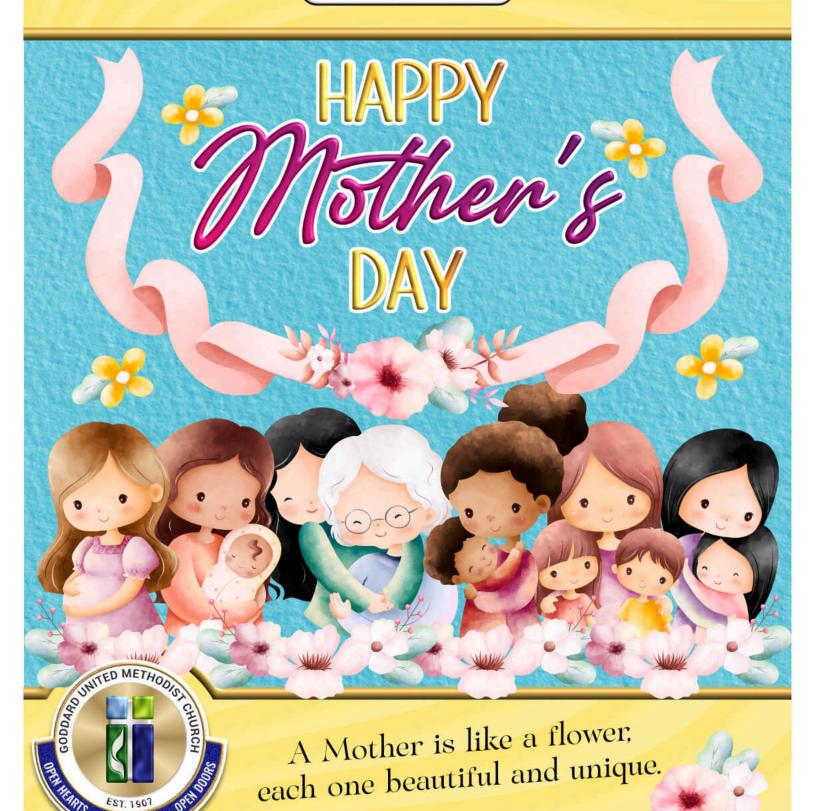
GRAPEVINE:



Goddard's Future



I am, as always, humbled to be the Pastor of Goddard United Methodist Church. I have known ever since my first Sunday arrival that something was different here at 1922 Dodson Avenue. The "different" is that the soil here at Goddard is good soil that is rich and ready to burst new life from the ground. Our Visioning Day this past Saturday, April 27th only confirmed that in a major way. We gathered, 28 church members together, and discerned essential steps for our church's future.

In our discernment we adopted the below Guiding Vision:

"To cultivate a Christian community of love and acceptance: where all are embraced; where judgment is set aside, where love is championed."

A Guiding Vision is meant to help the church focus and concentrate, so that it will excel at the mission of the church. A Guiding Vision is one that necessitates all Goddard United Methodist Church members to be "ALL IN", so that our vision, discerned in prayer with the Holy Spirit, will help us march forward towards growth and fruitfulness.

We also discerned a "Shared Values Covenant", crafted and discerned with those gathered as critical values we, as church members, must lift up, so that our Guiding Vision will be successful. This was great collaborative work and below you will see our Shared Values Covenant.

We Affirm

- 1) Loving each other even if we might disagree.
 - 2) Ensuring everyone has a place at our table.
 - 3) Being able to adapt to community needs.
 - 4) Prioritizing local outreach.
 - 5) Involving all members in the work of the church.
 - 6) Connecting with visitors and new members in a spirit of mentorship.
 - 7) Embracing flexibility in our discipleship.
 - 8) Cultivating an atmosphere of open communication.
 - 9) Celebrating generosity in a spirit of abundance, not scarcity.

With these shared values, we are enthusiastic about the future of Goddard United Methodist Church

Our soul work had us all tapping into the depths of who we are. This was essential for the next task for our day—setting goals for our church. Tables split up and discerned goals, both short term and long term. We gathered again and discerned as a body

what we would pursue. They are provided below. We believe these goals are attainable, even though we may be challenged, but goals are meant to push us to navigate to new heights.

1) By July 1, name tags will be available to all members and visitors with 80% usage by members.

2) The creation of a comprehensive welcome brochure by August 1st (print and digital).

3) By end of the summer 2024, our various communication sources will have our guiding vision, to keep all communication in sync.

4) By end of summer 2024, various Goddard merchandise—with guiding vision—to be sold to members and others.

5) By the end of summer 2024, sharing of a digital online directory of our Goddard Church members

6) By stewardship time in the fall, generate volunteer opportunity list and have established volunteers speak to these opportunities.

7) At the Fall Festival this year—have a youth focused aspect for this event.

8) Delegate to Mission Team to provide an assessment to the church by the end of 2024 on the needs of our community.

9) By end of 2024, join with at least one other UMC in Fort Smith in mission.

10) By end of 2024, update church signage on Goddard Campus—both inside and outside

11) Grow church annually by 5% in average attendance.

12) By end of 2024 have an operational nursery in the Preschool area.

13) Social Media expansion to other platforms by end of 2024.

14) By May 2025—have 5 new families with children.

15) Delegate to Finance and Trustees on financial plan for an elevator by January 2026

16) Delegate to Finance Committee—an increase in giving plan for our church.

As you can see, we have plenty of goals to get started on, and I believe this is a bold beginning. I ask our church members to pray, be "all in" on our future, and be enthusiastic about what is ahead for Goddard United Methodist Church.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Blessings for the next steps,
Pastor Chase

Rev. Charles Henley (Chase) Green, Jr., Senior Pastor Goddard United Methodist Church 1922 Dodson Avenue Fort Smith, AR 72901 cgreen@goddardumc.org Office 479.785.1415 / Cell 501.827.8309



April Austin John Tarrant Rick Bodine Polly Taylor Betty Campbell Ron Watson

Jim Cavin Charles Williams
Lauranell Cavin Leslie Wintory

Jessica Clardy Bobbie Young

Charles Click Our Essential Workers

Marilyn Click Our Firefighters

Helen Cowan Our First Responders
Linda Dickson Our Law Enforcement

Jason Echols Officers
Rusty Echols Our Troops

Emily Eckhart Our U.S. Marshals

Jana L. Green Dennis Holland Diann Ishmael

Jim Kell Raye Levering

Thomas Levering

Judy Loux

Rick Moore

DeeDee Moore

Roy Nixon

Rachel Rhodes

Eddie Ridener

Sally Ridener

Cindy Sauter

John Sauter

Grace Ann Settle

Peggy Smitha

Tracey Stecher

Claudia Szendre

Ruth Szendre

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests
With this in mind be alert and always keep on praying for all the
Lord's people.
-Ephesians 6:18



Prayer Chain

To add someone to the Goddard Prayer Chain, contact Donny Anderson - 479.522.3080. To be a member of the Prayer Chain, contact the church office 479.785.1415





Goddard UMC Columbarium

For Columbarium information contact the church office at 479.785.1415







- 1 Michelle Baumann
- 25 Sarah Long

6 - Barbara Rogers

- 27 Freda Ogle
- 8 Carolyn Jo Roam-Goembel
- 14 Jim Kell
- 14 Samantha Linn
- 15 Cathie Jennings
- 16 Robert Long
- 17 Peter Lufkin
- 21 Jordan Baumann
- 21 Trish McCully
- 22 Jana Green
- 23 Sarah Mendez
- 24 Donald Martin





- 6 Tom & Carol McAlister
- 13 Wayne & Jane Stromley
- 15 Mike & Sissie Mankin
- 20 Andy & Tarah Hanna
- 22 Ricky & Vickie Cross
- 23 Andy & Shawn Miller
- 30 Ronnie & Sharon Apple
- 31 Neal & Becky Pearson
- 31 John & Loraine Tarrant

HONORARIUMS & MEMORIALS



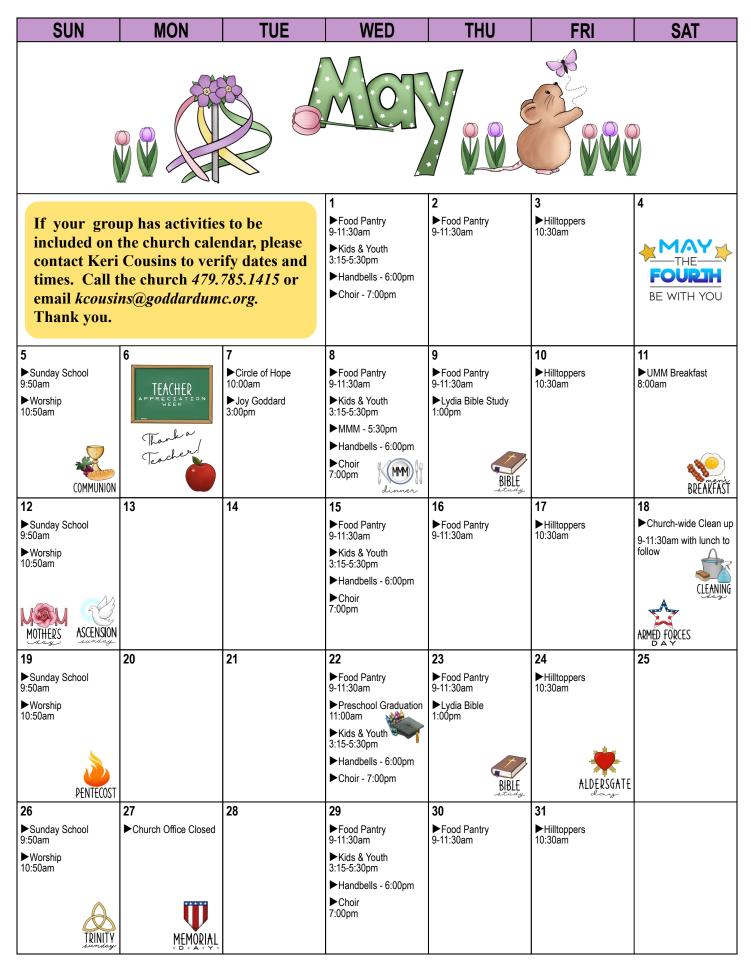
- In Memory of:

Nina Mankin

given by: Jim & Barbara Kell



Honorariums and Memorials may be given online or by check at anytime. Your donations can be designated to a specific ministry or to the general fund.





24 May 1738, John Wesley received an experience that changed his life and ultimately lead to the development of the Methodist movement in Britain, Ireland, and America. His "Aldersgate" experience is often called his "conversion."

It was a conversion, but not in the sense we commonly understand. Aldersgate was not Wesley's "conversion" to faith in Christ. He was a Christian all his life. Certainly, the months leading up to 24 May 1738 were a low period in his life. His recent experiences in Georgia, subsequent return to London, having to explain his actions to the authorities who sent him there, and his sense of failure caused Wesley to questioning his faith and standing as a Christian. Nevertheless, he never stopped being a Christian.

Thanks to his friend, the Moravian preacher Peter Bohler, Wesley received the support, counsel, and prayers he needed most at that low point in his life. Bohler helped Wesley receive his "conversion" experience at the Moravian Society meeting on 24 May 1738. Wesley's experience that night was a conversion in that it helped him get the order of salvation right. In the preceding years he believed that he had to be sanctified before God would accept him as a child of God. He believed that a person must be made holy before Christ would restore them to right relationship with God the Father. In other words, prior to his Aldersgate experience Wesley believed that sanctification preceded justification.

The experience on 24 May 1738 helped Wesley "convert" his understanding of the order of salvation. It made him realize that he had it all backwards. When he heard the person reading from Luther's preface to the commentary on Romans Wesley realized that Christ alone makes him acceptable to God. Christ alone redeems and restores his relationship with God the Father. Salvation is a pure gift of God's amazing grace. Nothing he could ever do or say could earn God's love and acceptance. Perhaps, for the first time, at Aldersgate Street Wesley understood the meaning of what the Apostle Paul wrote in *Ephesians 2:8-10*,

"I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation" ~ John Wesley

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of Godnot the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

On 24 May 1738 John Wesley converted his understanding of the way of salvation. His experience of assurance of salvation helped him understand that he had it backwards. We are saved by grace through faith! Salvation is God's free gift of love. Christ crucified and risen has done all the work on our behalf. He alone makes us acceptable to God and restores relationship with the Father. He alone gives us the gift of faith that equips us to then live as a child of God.

Consequently, Wesley began preaching this good news in churches throughout London. Shortly afterwards, on 11 June 1738, he preached on his renewed insight into the way of salvation at St. Mary's Church, the University Church, in Oxford. His text was Ephesians 2:8. His title was "Salvation by Faith." You will recognize it as Sermon #1 of Wesley's "Standard Sermons."

24 May 1738 was, indeed, Wesley's conversion experience. But it was not his conversion from no faith to faith in Christ. It was a conversion of his conception of the way of salvation. At Aldersgate Street Wesley got the order of salvation right, justification precedes sanctification. It is God's pure gift in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Grace upon grace!





Love is the Only Way Fouward 1 Corinthians 13









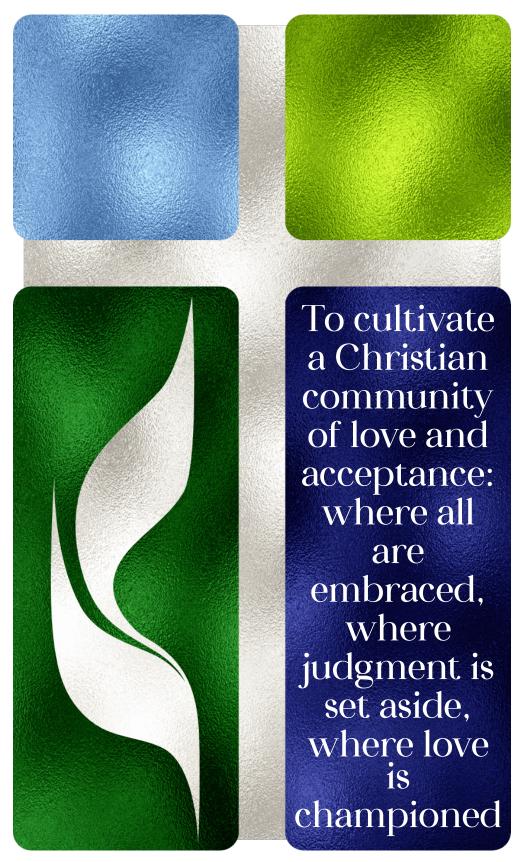








The Vision Statement for Goddard United Methodist Church





We affirm:

- † Loving each other even if we might disagree
- † Ensuring everyone has a place at our table
- † Being able to adapt to community needs
- † Prioritizing local outreach
- † Involving all members in the work of the church
- † Connecting with visitors and new members in a spirit of mentorship
- + Embracing flexibility in our discipleship
- + Cultivating an atmosphere of open communication
- † Celebrating generosity in a spirit of abundance, not scarcity

With these shared values, we are enthusiastic about the future of Goddard United Methodist Church





ATTENTION SPRING CLEANERS!

Our preschool is looking for small bikes, tricycles, balls, and other outdoor play equipment for our kiddos. If you find that you have an abundance of balls and outdoor toys, outgrown trikes or bikes, scoot-arounds, etc., please consider donating them to our preschool. Your gift would be greatly appreciated!





Scan the QR above to visit our website for more information





Rev. Russell Hull had the honor of administering the Sacrament of Baptism.



▲ Tarah, Leslie, Andy, and Annslee Hanna.

▼ The Hanna/Hull family





Baptized: April 14, 2024 Parents: Andy and Tarah Hanna Big Sister: Annslee Hanna





The proud grandpa showing off his beautiful granddaughter.



Katie Jinn



Lessons from the Bees

I became a beekeeper in the spring of 2020. Unintentionally, bees became my covid distraction and they have held my interest ever since. Honey bees are fascinating. They're highly social insects that live together in a hive/colony and have the ability to communicate via pheromones and dancing. They are "ruled" by a queen, although the queen is often controlled by the hive. It has been said that bee colonies operate as a democracy and make decisions for the betterment of the whole rather than individuals. They are important pollinators and a valuable part of our food chain. Honey bees truly are remarkable creatures and the more I learn about them, the more I see God's amazing design in every aspect of creation.

During the summer months there are at least 60,000 bees in a hive which, aside from the single queen and a few thousand drones (male bees), is mostly comprised of worker bees (female bees that cannot reproduce). Aptly named, worker bees are always busy completing their tasks, which vary depending on the bee's age and the needs of the hive. When a worker hatches she starts out as a housekeeper, cleaning the cell in which she grew. Over time, her jobs will also include nurse, wax builder, temperature controller, guard, and finally forager. Truly a "Busy Bee", a worker bee can visit up to 2,000 flowers a day. And from these trips she will make 1/8 of

a teaspoon of honey in her 6 week lifetime. 1/8 of a teaspoon is such a small amount! But the worker bee doesn't worry that it isn't enough. She diligently keeps doing the job she was made to do. Reminds me of Colossians 3:17 "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

I've learned a lot about the bees themselves, the inner workings of the hive, and also about my own resilience when I inevitably learn a lesson "the hard way" and am humbled by the bees. A lesson that I have heard time and time again from the beekeeping community is "Don't forget to zip your veil". To which I had always scoffed, "who forgets to zip their veil?!" Me, that's who. On a drizzly, grey day (bad weather for beekeeping) I set a couple boxes of honey frames outside that I had finished extracting so that the bees could clean up the leftover honey. After going in and out of the house several times that day, unzipping and throwing my hood back on my way in and then rezipping it on my way out, I decided that the boxes of honey frames were too close to the hives.



I quickly went to move them and somehow I forgot to zip my veil. As I was moving the last box of honey frames that were covered with bees I heard buzzing close to my ear, not an unusual sound in this situation, but as my eyes struggled to focus on the bees that I thought were on the outside of my veil, I realized that they were actually inside! Cue the panic! I set the box I was holding down and quickly walked/ran away while I flipped my veil backwards to get the bees out. I don't know how many were in there with me, but only five of them got stuck in my hair. And since I've yet to figure out a good way to get bees out of my hair by myself, I received five stings to the scalp, but I learned to always zip my veil.





Sunday School

Kids Sunday School is at 9:50 a.m. in the Clubhouse of the Children's Building. This month during Sunday School we will learn about Christian symbols and Holidays.

- May 5— The Cross
- May 12—Mother's Day
- May 19—Pentecost
- May 26— Trinity





Summer Wacky Wednesdays!

June 12, 19, 26
July 3, 10, 24, 31

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

20241



Register at
GoddardUMC.org/Kids



Children Kindergarten to 5th Grade, Join us for Summer Wacky Wednesdays! We'll have games, crafts, music, snacks, and a lesson about God! Register now at the website above or use the QR code.



Kids entering Kindergarten through 5th Grade join us for VBS: Vacation Bible School on July 15-19 from 5:00-8:00p.m.

This year's theme is Camp Firelight!

Join us for a summer camp adventure with God!

Registration opens May 15th

Get a sneak peak of the fun to come at the website above or use the QR code







Thank you to the many volunteers that made Connect happen April 6th. Thank you to everyone being open to something new and participating that day. It was a wonderful day of Bible study and mission work and being together. We hope to offer another Connect type activity this fall where women can join together and - Connect

Thank you,

UWF Leadership team







BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE

- 2. Potiphar's Wife
- 3. Lot's Wife
- 5. Delilah
- 9. Michal 10. The Sinful Woman

PLAY ALL





















We are excited to announce that the Goddard Compassionate Care ministry is now available. In the past we have had casserole ministries and other ways to show care to our church family and those others who have a need due to illness, recovery from surgery, etc. This ministry is not intended to provide bereavement meals, but to be able to react and show we care.

A freezer is now located in the UMW room (former Quilters' Room) in the lower area of the main church building. Eight-inch x eight-inch casseroles and Hawaiian rolls will be available there for you to take when you see a need. A sign out sheet is mounted on the freezer door, so that you can note what was taken and to whom it was delivered. This is very important, so that we can be aware who has been served and monitor the inventory. Goddard note cards are also on the table nearby so that you can write a caring message if you wish.

Standard casseroles will be Sour Cream Noodle Bake with Ground Beef and Chicken Broccoli. Hawaiian rolls are packaged with two in each bag. At times other frozen items will be available and will be listed on the sign out sheet. The success of this ministry depends on all of us recognizing needs and sharing - not only with our church family - but with others who could use our support.

At this time all foods are being prepared in the Goddard kitchen, and we can use volunteers to help prepare the casseroles when we run low. If you would like to help with this ministry, please let us know. Call Carol McAlister (479-461-6086) for more information.









After the hectic Lenten season and Holy Week, April's MMM was a simple meal of pizza, served up by our fabulous Pastor! Afterwards we took some time to write thank you notes to our hard working staff. We then proceeded to the sanctuary where we broke off into small groups and Pastor Chase gave each group a different picture of Jesus and we shared our thoughts on each depiction.







Pastor Chase filling in for Ms. Keri during Children's Time.



Special music during Communion was a beautiful offering by Mary King and Randy O'Kelley, singing "How Long Has It Been".

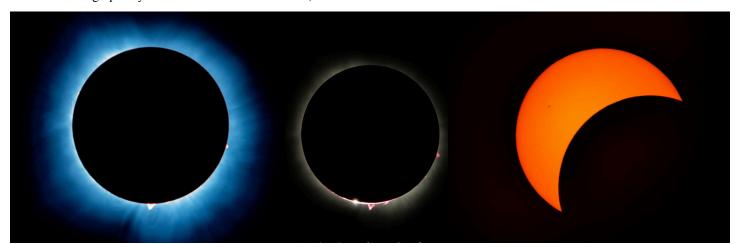


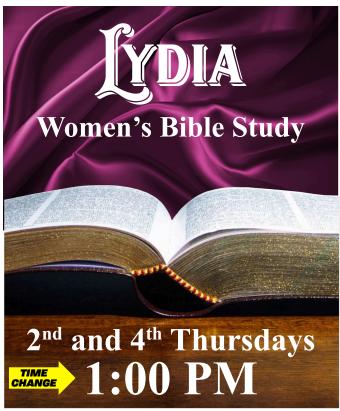
Up in the sky, it's a bird, it's a plane, nope, it's Super Don! We have THE BEST maintenance guy! Don fixed the pulley on the flag pole and replaced the pull cord.



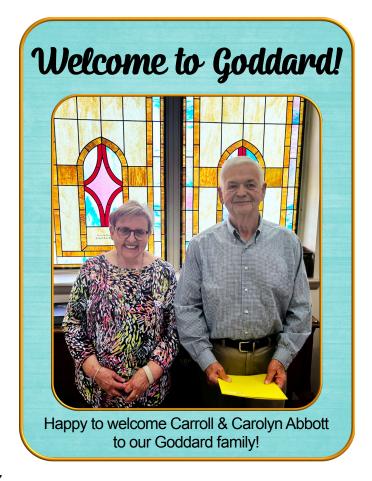


An awesome composite of the April 8, 2024 solar eclipse. Below are some photos showing solar flares and the "diamond ring effect". Photographs by Patrick Shownes in Maumelle, AR. Patrick's father is Rev. Wade Shownes who served at Goddard.





Contact: Elizabeth Eubanks 479.629.8698



May 6th-10th is National Teacher Appreciation Week!



At Goddard Preschool, we have a wonderful team of 8 teachers/staff members and we are thankful for each one of them, and all their amazing talents they bring to our school each day. These teachers have an incredible impact on our students and our school and their dedication and passion shine through daily. Our staff strive to nurture young minds, instill a love for

learning, and create a safe and loving environment. To the teachers at Goddard Preschool, I want them to know that they are making a difference, one student at a time. Your resilience, compassion and commitment make you an amazing teacher. You are appreciated, valued, and admired for all that you do each day. Thank you!



CHEYANNE





Our staff at Goddard Preschool:

Shelby Adams and Cheyanne Williams Infants:

Toddlers: Valarie Johnson and Bayleigh Caughron

Preschool: Paige Moss, Audrey Goodin and Stephanie Beadle

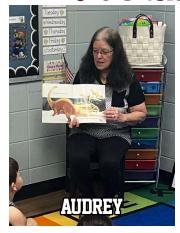
Director: Jenni Crawford

You can follow us on our Facebook Page to see weekly pictures of our sweet friends at Goddard Preschool.

















Our fun-lovin' Hilltoppers are exploring the River Valley in search of all the good places to eat and fun things to do! If you wanna hang out with the "COOL KIDS", just hop on the bus! The Hilltoppers meet at the church on Fridays at 10:30 to head out on their adventures. If you would like information contact Pat Singleton or Linda Dickson and they will let you know what's coming up.





Giving those rocking chairs a workout!





Sharing a good laugh during a post shopping respite.







A short trip south to Hackett for lunch at Crocky's Cafe. Great food and great wait staff.



Goddard was blessed to be given 540 pounds of potatoes by an anonymous donor. Farmers throughout the country are paid by this generous person to grow crops that are to be given away. Future crops will be such things as squash, lettuce, and apples. The only requirement is that they are to be given away for free.

Pantry workers divided the potatoes into smaller bags to be given to pantry clients as well as church members.

The pantry is in need of small to medium size sacks for future produce. Please drop off your sack donations to the pantry. The sack pictured to the right is the size we are needing.





The wonderful ladies of Joy Goddard Circle and some very special friends, Don Holland, Mike Mankin, Tom McAlister, and Bill Moore, gave our entrance flower beds a much needed sprucing up. Beautiful Lenten Roses were planted near the doors. The dead tree was removed and replace with a yellow rose bush. Additional new shrubs were also planted. Dianthus was added into the mix to provide a pop of color along with some festive ornamental stepping stones. Fresh mulch put the finishing touch to the project. Thank you to all who helped and continue to help beautify our church and campus.











Number of bags distributed = 98

Number of individuals fed = 217

Total Pantry volunteer hours = 113

Pantry hours open = 20

Thank you for your continued support of this vital ministry to our community!

Submitted by Sissie Mankin Pantry Committee



May 5

Charlie and Nora

May 12

Lyndsey and Justin

May 19

Nora and Genie

May 26

Genie and Nora

Usher Schedule April 2024



Robert Neufell Scott McCoubrey Tom McAlister Charlie Smith

Back Up: Rick Bodine

CONTRIBUTIONS - APRIL 2024

| | APR 7 | APR 14 | APR 21 | APR 28 | TOTAL |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| GENERAL FUND INCOME | \$ 13,179 | \$ 7,925 | \$ 4,018 | \$ 6,983 | \$ 32,105 |
| PANTRY | 1,226 | 370 | 50 | 50 | \$ 1,696 |
| MEMORIALS* | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | \$ 20 |
| OTHER | 20 | 195 | 20 | 4,888 | \$ 5,123 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$ 14,425 | \$ 8,510 | \$ 11,921 | \$ 11,921 | \$ 38,944 |

*Designated memorials not included

Operating Fund Offering Total \$ 32,105 Monthly Operating Budget \$ 44,004



MAY 2024 LECTIONARY



| MAY5 6th Sunday of Easter | MAY 12 7 th Sunday of Easter | MAY 12 Ascension Lections | MAY 19 Pentecost | MAY 26 Trinity Sunday |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Acts 10:44-48 | Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 | Acts 1:1-11 | Acts 2:1-21 | Isa 6:1-8 |
| Ps 98 | Ps 1 | Ps 47 | Ps 104:24-34, 35b | Ps 29 |
| 1 John 5:1-5 | 1 John 5:9-13 | Eph 1:15-23 | Rom 8:22-27 | Rom 8:12-17 |
| John 15:9-17 | John 17:6-19 | Luke 24:44-53 | John 15:26-27; 16:4b-151 | John 3:1-17 |



May 2024 Volume 65 Number 5

Goddard United Methodist Church • 1922 Dodson Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72901 479.785.1415 www.goddardumc.org

Pastor and Staff of GUMC

Rev. Chase Green — Senior Pastor

George A. Mann — Choirmaster/Organist

Sami Sue Welch — Associate Director of Music

Keri Cousins — Children's-Youth Director/ Online Ministries

Jenni Crawford — Preschool Director

Michelle Greenfield — Financial Administrator

Don Holland — Maintenance/Custodial

Timothy Peerbolte — Audio/Visual

Mark Cheyne — Live Streaming

Rhonda Rieder — Grapevine Editor

SUNDAY IN-PERSON AND LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP 10:50 AM

Register your worship attendance with the QR Code found in your bulletin

- 1. Open your camera
- 2. Hold over QR code
- Tap the link to register your attendance



Event Sign-Up go to:

goddardumc.org/events



If you have information or photos that you would like to have appear in the Grapevine, please email them to Rhonda Rieder at

grapevine@goddardumc.org

(If sending photos, please include a brief description. Please send submissions at your earliest convenience. Deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month)

Online at www.goddardumc.org Facebook.com/GoddardUMC YouTube.com/GoddardUMC

Across the month of April we had 960 views of our worship services through Facebook and YouTube.

Thank you for watching!