

GRAPEVINE

JANUARY 2024

Happy NEW YEAR! 2024



May the New Year
shower you with an abundance of
blessings for health and happiness!

New Year Challenge: Embracing Deeper Connections!



Brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we step into the dawn of a new year, 2024 if you can believe it, let us reflect on the essence of connection and the profound impact it can have on our lives. In the spirit of renewal, let's consider the timeless wisdom of treating each other as Christ loved people – with compassion, understanding, and boundless empathy. This can be our fuel for enacting change in this new year.

In the coming year, let our expectations extend beyond surface interactions. Let us seek deeper connections that transcend mere exchanges, fostering a community where every individual is valued and embraced. As we navigate the challenges ahead, may we draw inspiration from the teachings of love, kindness, and selflessness.

In our interactions, let patience be our guide, understanding be our foundation, and love be our language. In doing so, we cultivate an environment where differences are celebrated, where the unique strengths of each person contribute to the richness of our collective tapestry. I believe this is what we want for our community here at Goddard.

As we embark on this journey together, let's remember that true connection requires a willingness to listen, learn, and grow. Can we commit to listen deeper, desire to learn, and embrace growth? Together with those aims we can do so much. In the spirit of Christ's love, let us extend a hand to those in need, lend a compassionate ear to those who seek understanding, and embrace the diversity that makes our community vibrant and resilient.

May this new year be a chapter filled with profound connections, genuine kindness, and transformative love. Together, let's make a conscious effort to treat one another not just with surface courtesy but with the depth of understanding and compassion that reflects the true spirit of the season.

Wishing you a year filled with joy, connection, and the warmth of Christ's love.

Happy New Year!!
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



Prayer Requests

Please be in prayer for:

April Austin	Mary Beth Sudduth
Rick Bodine	Claudia Szendre
Betty Campbell	Ruth Szendre
Jim Cavin	John Tarrant
Lauranell Cavin	Polly Taylor
Jessica Clardy	Ron Watson
Charles Click	Charles Williams
Marilyn Click	Leslie Wintory
Helen Cowan	Bobbie Young
Linda Dickson	Our Essential Workers
Jason Echols	Our Firefighters
Rusty Echols	Our First Responders
Emily Eckhart	Our Law Enforcement
Jana L. Green	Officers
Dennis Holland	Our Troops
Diann Ishmael	Our U.S. Marshalls
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	

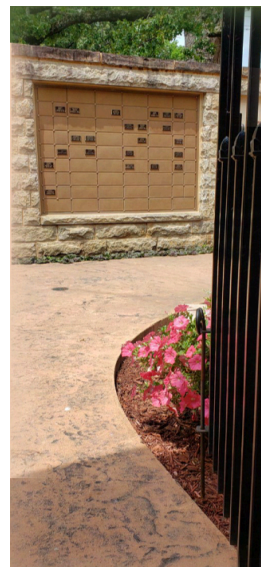


Our deepest and most heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Betty Steele



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



JANUARY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

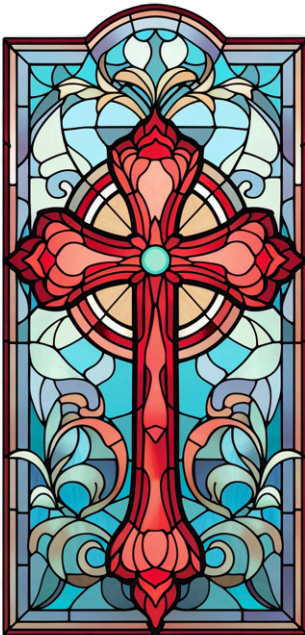
2 - Betty Bodine
 2 - Betty Forrest
 3 - Barbara Kell
 6 - Scott McCoubrey
 8 - Jennifer Roller
 9 - Jane Wineland
 14 - Fred Scheuble
 16 - Pat Baskin
 19 - Larry Kennedy
 19 - Jean Woodward
 22 - Rachel Rhodes
 24 - Mary Margaret Gattis
 27 - Hilda Caldwell
 27 - Walter Rockwell

27 - Jim Rose
 31 - Deanna Friedman
 31 - Bob Withers



4 - Rick and Betty Bodine (40)
 8 - Walter and Renee Rockwell
 29 - Tom and Nancy Robertson
 31 - Roy and Betty Nixon (65)

Honorariums & Memorials



In honor of Larry Loux by Greg & Carolyn Robinson
 In honor of Debbie Moore by Larry & Patsy Cochran
 In honor of Debbie Moore by John & Linda Lowery
 In honor of Debbie Moore by Eric & Elizabeth Sheffer
 In honor of Paul Moser by Jim & Chris Purser
 In honor of Sherry Stockton by Roy & Betty Nixon
 In honor of Church Staff by Sherry Stockton
 In honor of Susan C. King SS Class by Sherry Stockton
 In memory of Ruth Moser & Rick Moser by Jim & Chris Purser
 In memory of Betty Ayers Henson Steele by Tom & Nancy Robertson
 In memory of Amy Robertson Jackson by Tom & Nancy Robertson
 In memory of Armin & Mary Bauer by Tom & Nancy Robertson
 In memory of Ed & Betty Robertson by Tom & Nancy Robertson
 In memory of Bill & Wanda Srygley by Jeannie Sutton

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.

january

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 Church Office Closed	2	3 Food Pantry - 9-11:30 am UMW Leadership Meeting – 10 am Choir – 7:00 pm	4 Food Pantry - 9-11:30 am	5 Hilltoppers – 10:30 am	6
7	8	9 Circle of Hope – 10 am Joy Goddard – 5:30 pm	10 Food Pantry - 9-11:30 am Wacky Wed. Kids -3:15-5:30 Goddard Youth – 3:15-5:30 pm Choir – 7:00 pm	11 Food Pantry - 9-11:30 am Lydia – 1 pm	12 Hilltoppers – 10:30 am	13
14 New Members’ Lunch – after worship	15	16	17 Food Pantry – 9-11:30 am Wacky Wed. Kids -3:15-5:30 Goddard Youth – 3:15-5:30 pm Choir – 7:00 pm	18 Food Pantry - 9-11:30 am	19 Hilltoppers – 10:30 am	20
21	22	23	24 Food Pantry – 9-11:30 am Wacky Wed. Kids – 3:15 – 5:30 Goddard Youth – 3:15 – 5:30 pm Choir – 7:00 pm	25 Food Pantry – 9-11:30 am Lydia – 1 pm	26 Hilltoppers – 10:30 am	27
28	29	30	31 Food Pantry – 9-11:30 am Wacky Wed. Kids – 3:15 – 5:30 Goddard Youth – 3:15 – 5:30 pm Choir – 7:00 pm	Sundays Sunday School – 9:50 a.m. Worship – 10:50 a.m.		

CONTRIBUTIONS - DECEMBER 2023

	Dec 3	Dec 10	Dec 17	Dec 24	Dec 31	Total
General Fund Income	\$ 15,649	\$ 15,056	\$ 3,320	\$ 26,073	\$ 4,857	\$ 64,954
Pantry	587	620	670	1,305	50	\$ 3,232
Memorials*	50	0	0	525	0	\$ 575
Other	20	160	1,570	1,045	5,115	\$ 7,910
Total Income	\$ 16,306	\$ 15,836	\$ 5,560	\$ 28,948	\$ 10,022	\$ 76,671

*Designated memorials not included

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS EVE AT GODDARD UMC



Jane and Barbara Rogers lighting the candle for the First Sunday of Advent



The Hanna Family lighting the candle for the Second Sunday of Advent



The Linn Family lighting the candle for the Third Sunday of Advent



Bill and Debbie Moore lighting the candle for the Fourth Sunday of Advent



Chancel Handbells ringing for the Third Sunday of Advent



Guest soloist, Barry Law singing "O Holy Night" during Candles, Carols, & Communion



Candles, Carols, & Communion Service
Above: a view from the balcony.
Right: a view from the choir loft.

LESSONS & CAROLS - CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING



Charlie Green preparing the Advent Wreath for worship



George Mann sharing "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" during the Offertory



Genie Duggan, soloist
"Once in Royal David's City"



Pastor Chase doing what he does best...
preaching the Word!



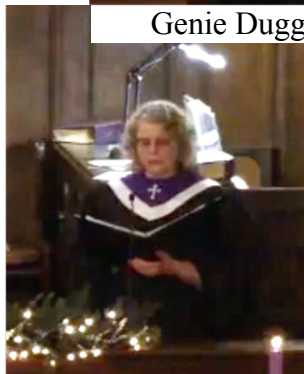
Ashleigh Mathews



Donnie Anderson



Genie Duggan



Linda Lanning

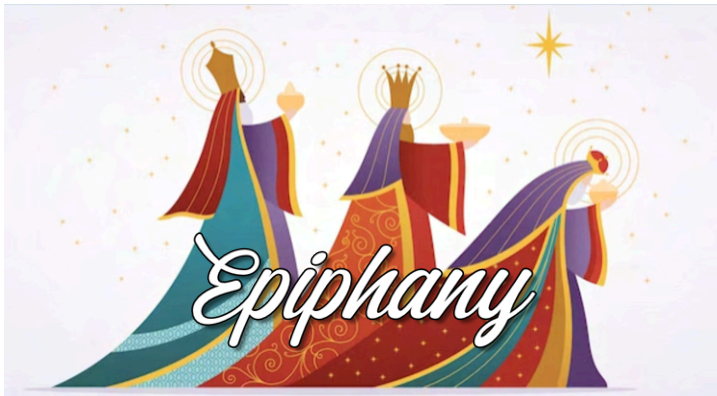


Dr. Jon Gustafson



Sherry Stockton





The word Epiphany comes to us from the Greco-Roman context. Originally, the word functioned as a designation for the public appearance (or the epiphaneia) of state officials in provinces. The literal meaning is to manifest, show forth, or clarify. Based on this definition, the first-century church embraced the term as a designation for the manifestation, the brilliant appearance of

Christ, in the flesh for the world. This helps us understand why the Season of Epiphany follows the Season of Advent. The Messiah has come, and we now find ourselves in the season of illumination. I like to think of it as a divine dispensation of supernatural sightings.

The canonical gospels describe an unusual sighting of a resplendent star in the eastern skies that served as a guiding light for a distinguished group of foreigners seeking to locate the long-awaited messianic presence, the king of the Jews!

Herod, threatened by the news of this new so-called king, assumed that the distinguished men from the east possessed magical powers, and secured their services to seek out the child. Meanwhile, Herod was determined to destroy the child. Matthew 2 refers to these visitors as magi (from the word magic). It is thought that this title was given to Zoroastrian or Persian priests. (During this period in history, astrology, science, and religion were collaborative studies.)

Other gospel writers named them as wise men (men of great learning); still others labeled them as kings. Costly gifts were laid at the feet of the Messiah by these immigrants: frankincense from Sheba, gold from Arabia, and myrrh from Tarse and Egypt.

from umcdiscipleship.org

JANUARY 2024 LECTIONARY



JAN 7 <i>Epiphany Sunday</i>	JAN 14 <i>2nd Sun after Epiphany</i>	JAN 21 <i>3rd Sun after Epiphany</i>	JAN 28 <i>4th Sun after Epiphany</i>
Isa 60:1-6	1 Sam 3:1-10, 11-20	Jonah 3:1-5,10	Deut 18:15-20
Ps 72:1-7,10-14	Ps 139:1-6, 13-18	Ps 62:5-12	Ps 111
Eph 3:1-12	1 Cor 6:12-20	1 Cor 7:29-31	1 Cor 8:1-13
Matt 2:1-12	John 1:43-51	Mark 1:14-20	Mark 1:21-28



Contact Ms. Keri
479-459-7110
kcousins@goddardumc.org

Sunday School

Kids Sunday School is at 9:50 a.m. We meet in the Clubhouse in the Children's Building. This month during Sunday School we will learn all about Epiphany, Young Jesus, and the beginning of His ministry.

- January 7—Epiphany / The Wise Men
- January 14—Jesus Growing Up
- January 21—The Temptation of Jesus
- January 28—Jesus Calls the Disciples



A colorful banner for "Wacky Wednesdays" featuring a white cross on a green background, a purple and blue background with the text "Wacky Wednesdays" in white, a "HOLY BIBLE" icon, the Goddard UMC Kids logo, the time "3:15 - 5:30 p.m.", a QR code, and the registration link "Register online at GoddardUMC.org/Kids".

Wacky Wednesdays
resume Wed. Jan. 10
Children Kindergarten to
5th Grade!
Join us after school until
5:30 p.m.

Thank you to all
our Volunteers
who made
Christmas
Extravaganza such
a huge success!



Goddard Youth



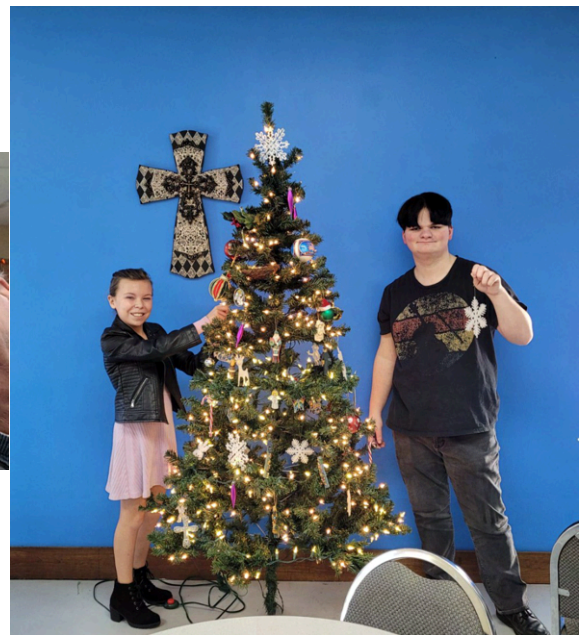
Youth Sunday School!

We have the best snacks in the building!
Join us in the Youth Cinema each **Sunday at 9:50 a.m. BEFORE** worship!

Youth Wednesdays!
Resume Jan. 10
Register Online at
GoddardUMC.org/Youth
Youth 6—12th Grade



Goddard Youth Christmas 2023



Get the latest information about Goddard Youth and join our Youth Announcements text group!



Send a Text to the number 81010 with the message
@goddardyou

You will receive important updates about all of our Youth activities!

For I know the plans I have for you ... plans to give you hope and a future.

-Jeremiah 29:11



United Women in Faith

Wow! What a busy and wonderful Advent Season has been ours!

The Fort Smith Retired Teachers' Christmas Luncheon was a great success! Thank you to all the men and women who helped! Our profit for the church was \$863.40. We received many complimentary remarks from the retired teachers.

They enjoyed the luncheon so much that they have requested us to host their Christmas Luncheon again next year.

What a lovely time we had at Deb Moore's Retirement Celebration! We so appreciate all that Deb has done for us and our church. Much joy to Debbie and Bill as they begin this special season of their lives!

We are taking orders for Goddard UMC Aprons. The cost is \$15.00. If you would like your name also embroidered on your apron, the cost is \$20.00. This is a fundraiser to help support some of our UMW mission projects. Please see Elizabeth Eubanks to place your order.

Our next quarterly meeting will be March 12 at 1 PM in the parlor. We will be hosted by the Circle of Hope. I hope you will plan to attend to hear our favorite inspirational and witty speaker, Dr. Keith Fudge.

Please note that our circles have changed their January meeting dates:

Circle of Hope meets Jan 9 at 10 AM in the parlor.

Joy Goddard meets Jan 9 at 5:30 PM at Sue Rose's home.

Elizabeth Eubanks
Goddard UWF President



Apron modeled by our very own Michelle Greenfield

Goddard Food Pantry Report December 2023



- Number of bags distributed = **98**
- Number of individuals fed = **215**
- Total Pantry volunteer hours = **28**
- Pantry hours open = **17.5**

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

*Submitted by Betty Morkemo
Pantry Committee*

Mary Beth Sudduth has a new address. If you would like to send cards and well wishes to her, please use the following:

Mary Beth Sudduth
% Seeds of Love
12 Primrose Lane
Greenbrier, AR 72508



When you think of someone that is reliable, hard working, and will always pull through, look no further than Debbie Moore! It is an understatement to say that Goddard has been blessed by her work for many years in our church office. She works hard, always shares a smile, any favor is never too much, and her work is a labor of love. I know she was especially vital during the long stretch of Covid. Of course I cannot speak much about the past, but I can tell you she is the best Administrator I've ever been around. She was exactly what I needed during my transition into being pastor here at Goddard. I am so thankful for her years of work and commitment. There's no doubt we will miss her and no one can take her place. As our church office transitions to a place without her due to her retirement, I would ask for your patience and grace. I also want our congregation to commit to something: let's honor her retirement. It can be a challenge for a church member who has worked on staff to go back to being a church member. So if you have questions, concerns, or comments, please contact me or the church office, and not Debbie. We pray she has a marvelous new chapter of her life, as we appreciate with gratitude all she has done for us.

Happy Retirement, Debbie Moore! We love you!

May God Bless You!

Pastor Chase



Queen for the Day!





First Sunday of Advent. Chancel Choir singing “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning” with Linda Dickson on bongos



Second Sunday of Advent. Randy O’Kelly singing “Who Comes This Night?” during the Offertory



Charlie Green and Genie Duggan at the Nativity



Ballman Elementary students sang Christmas carols to the Goddard Preschool students and staff on December 13



Dr. Bryan Clardy, Linda Dickson, and Donnie Anderson ringing those low bells on December 17



Holiday photo op with Jenni Crawford-Preschool Director, Paige Moss-Preschool Teacher, and students





 **Fort Smith
Retired Teachers'
Christmas Luncheon** 

Entertainment provided by the fabulous
Mr. Don Bailey and his students from the
University of Arkansas - Fort Smith



Perfect Attendance



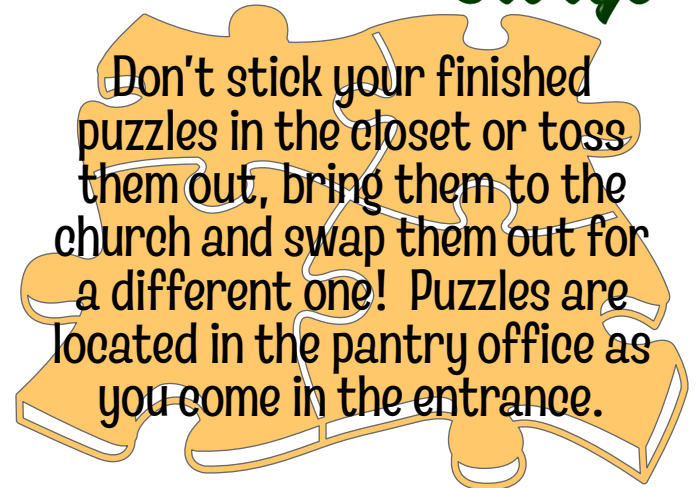
Pairs & Spares

Jimmy Arthur,
Chuck Johnson,
Sandy Johnson,
Mike Mankin,
Sissie Mankin,
Carol McAlister,
Tom McAlister

Gathering Disciples

Rick Bodine
Betty Bodine
Barbara Rummage

PUZZLE Swap



The Garner family has donated Ron's cabin Bible as a Memorial to the Susan C. King Sunday School class. Ron was a faithful member of this class. The display pedestal was donated by Roy & Betty Nixon.



First Sunday of each month

January 7, 2024 / 10:50 AM

During "Online" Live Streaming
Worship Service

Please have bread and juice ready in
your home to receive the elements
during Communion.





The Sanctuary bitumen (side) roofs that were damaged during the April 2022 hailstorm have been reroofed. Insurance covered the cost.

Below is a photo of the courtyard, minus Young Hall building.

Goddard Trustees



Goddard UMM will not meet in January

Usher Schedule January 2024

Scott McCoubrey
Tom McAlister
Rick Bodine
Ronnie Apple



Back Up: Robert Neufell

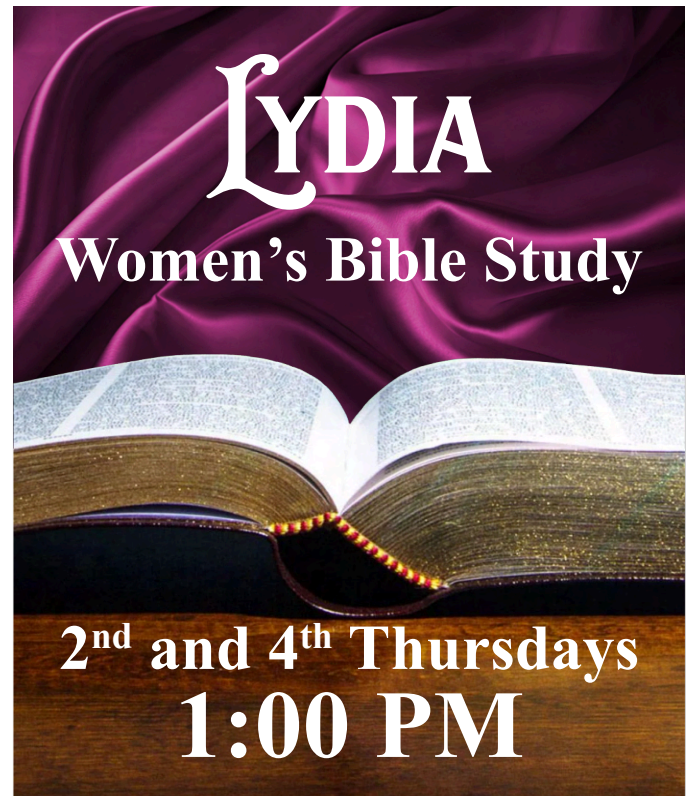
New Bible Study with Pastor Chase



**A Journey with Wisdom: Exploring
Challenging Literature of the Bible**

Begins Monday, January 29

1:00 PM



Contact: Elizabeth Eubanks

479.629.8698

The Grapevine Newsletter

YOU HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE!



Volume 61

January 2024

Number 1

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
3. 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)



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

The **total number of viewings** for our services during the month of **December 2023** was **1565**.

Thank you for watching!