



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of BELLA VISTA

# The Good News

DECEMBER 2022



## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 11th, 2:00 Christmas Caroling (then refreshments @ 4:30)

December 18th, 9:00 Hand Bell & Choir Cantata  
*Encore Performance 3:00 Hand Bell & Choir Cantata*

December 21st, 6:30 Longest Night Service

December 24th, 12:00 Christmas Eve Service - Sanctuary

December 24th, 5:00 Christmas Eve Service - Becker Hall

December 24th, 7:00 Christmas Eve Service - Sanctuary

December 25th, 10:00 Unified Worship - Christmas Carols

The second week of the **Advent Study** is December 4, and it's not too late for you to join others from 10-11 a.m. in Room 6. Come for fellowship and refreshment! Leave with the knowledge of some spiritual practices that will help you explore an advent theme throughout each week.

They are "Slow down and Hope,  
Simplify for Peace,  
Sit with Joy and  
Savor the Love."

Please join us for some **Caroling** Sunday, December 11th. We will meet at the church at 2:00 p.m. All ages are welcome, and we encourage you to bring as many family members and friends as you can. We will split into groups and gather back at the church in Becker Hall by 4:30 for cookies, hot chocolate, and hot cider. If you would enjoy having us stop by your house to share carols, please call the church 855-1158 (or Judy at 479-876-2345) so we may add you to our list. Everybody Come!



Share **Christmas Dinner** with your church family after the 10:00 Unified Worship Service on December 25! Jean Meadows and Chet & Cheryl Campbell will host the potluck dinner in Becker Hall beginning at 11:15. Please RSVP to the church office, the number in your party, and an idea of what food you may bring.

Delicious Food  
Wonderful Fellowship!





## The Discipleship Journey

Rev. Ron Hayes

### “Advent: Season to Prepare”

We rejoice as the first Sunday of Advent has us starting the preparations to receive a king, the Savior of the world. I am going to leave the Advent narratives to other sources and approach discipleship from a daily, year-around, perspective. In doing so, it still is a form of better preparing ourselves for the birth of the Christ child. After all, Advent is a season of preparations for all of us.

In 1729, while John Wesley was a student at Oxford, he started a club with his brother Charles. It was soon mockingly dubbed “The Holy Club” by some of his fellow collegians.<sup>1</sup> The club members rigorously self-examined themselves everyday by asking 22 questions. The first list appeared in 1729 or 1730 in the preface to Wesley’s second Oxford Diary. Similar questions appeared in his 1733, A Collection of Forms of Prayer for Every Day in the Week. As late as 1781, Wesley published a similar list of questions in the Arminian Magazine.

Each day the early group, which never numbered more than 25, gathered and reviewed some or all of these questions. Yes, every single day.

Here are a few of them:

- Am I self-conscious, self-pitying or self-justifying?
- Do I disobey God in anything?
- Am I defeated in any part of my life?
- Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy or distrustful?
- Am I proud?
- Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold resentment toward or disregard? If so, what am I doing about it?
- Do I grumble or complain constantly?

A key Wesley insight was that spiritual growth is fostered not only by the disciplining of one's personal piety, but also by the equally important disciplining of one's behavior. The Methodist was to train what she or he did, in order to train what she or he believed. It was this key insight that caused Wesley to structure Methodism the way he did. Inward faith could be affected and nurtured through outward action. Wesley, it seems, built his Methodist structure to manage not belief or even inward faith, but outward actions. The heart was quickened through hearing the word of God and experiencing God's grace directly, but it was in the disciplined management of the outward actions that this fledgling faith grew and matured. I pray that this will be true for me also.

I will keep a few copies on my desk of the full list of 22 Questions. If you are so inclined, stop in and I will gladly share a copy. You can decide if you want to discuss your thoughts on any of the questions. I am not sure I will be ready to answer on my behalf, but I will try. Each day I prayerfully strive to live a life that answers them in a way that shows the Christ that lives in me. May I learn from my mistakes, my shortcomings, to be made stronger each day to share the Good News. May I be better prepared to fully receive the greatest gift this Advent season – the Christ Child.

Peace and blessings,



## SHOEBOX MINISTRY DELIVERS BOXES OF SUPPLIES

The end of November members of the Shoebox Ministry delivered 100 plus boxes to Bentonville and Fayetteville Salvation Army and also to 7 Hills Homeless Center. The boxes contained hygiene products, socks, magazines, writing material and other essential needs.

St. Bernard Catholic Church provides Christmas boxes with donated items that our ministry program transports to these agencies in the middle of December. These agencies have new leaders who appreciated the outreach to them.

In January the Shoebox Ministry will provide our Hygiene Bags to Cooper School. Please continue to donate small containers of shampoo, lotion, toothpaste, tissues, regular size band-aids, soap and combs on the Shoebox Ministry table in the Narthex.

*We thank you for your continued support — Karen, Maryann, and Cheryl*

## MUSIC SUNDAY IS DECEMBER 18

Our music program for this Christmas will be given at the 9:00 a.m. service on Dec. 18th.

We're calling this year's program:

**Christmas**

**According to the United Methodist Hymnal.**

This means that every selection we sing will be lifted directly from our church's hymnals and this year, the congregation will be asked to sing along with the Chancel Choir on a number of the familiar Christmas carols.

**In addition to our own musicians:**

**Singers and Hand Bell Ringers,  
we'll be joined by members of the  
Arkansas MusicWorks Brass Band  
on a number of the carols.**

More information about how all of this will actually work will be in the service bulletin the 18th.

**We'll give an encore performance**

**3:00 p.m., also in our Sanctuary  
Open to the public so invite friends and neighbors.**

If you want a double dose of Christmas music, be sure to come to the 9:00 a.m. service AND the 3:00 p.m. service.

**This will surely raise your Christmas spirits.**

**Music Blessings from Dr. Larry Zehring**

## Office Angels Needed!

Remember the expression "many hands make light work?" Proof of that is visible in our church today.

Join those who are helping in the office until a new church secretary is hired. If you are interested, please call or sign the sheet outside of the main office. For a few hours a week you can answer the phone and perform simple tasks. **The rewards are "heavenly."**



## Our December Mission of the Month



**Methodist Family Health** offers programs and services such as inpatient psychiatric hospitalization, outpatient counseling clinics, grief counseling services, group homes, an emergency shelter for children, and more. Methodist Family Health receives no apportionment support from the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church; instead, they rely heavily on donations made through this special offering at Christmas.

**This month we are collecting monetary donations.** Your contribution makes it possible for Methodist Family Health to continue their mission of giving the best possible care to children and families by treating the whole person; psychiatrically, behaviorally, emotionally, and spiritually.

To learn more about programs and services, please e-mail [info@methodistfamily.org](mailto:info@methodistfamily.org) or call (501) 661-0720.



## OUR FAMILY

Each month this space is used to tell about the people who are part of our church family. If you know of a graduation, community recognition, someone moving away or moving in, a new baby/grandbaby/great-grandbaby, or other events of interest to our church members, please email the information to [manager@fumcbellavista.com](mailto:manager@fumcbellavista.com) or drop off a note to someone in the office.

### JOYS



#### Welcome new members

Duane and Lynne Penner are new to our church family. They have retired here from Wichita, Kansas to be near their daughter in Bentonville. Gardening and reading, golf and woodworking, are a few

### NEW MEMBERS

#### Congratulations, Ben!

Ben Koeppe, grandson of Steve & Therese Bivens received his very own Children's Bible Sunday, Nov. 27 during the 9:00 Worship Service.



The United Methodist Men were able to distribute \$11,240 to charities in the NWA area for 2022!

We did learn that one of the supported charities, Horses for Healing, will be closing its doors at the end of the year. That is sad news as it was an excellent organization doing great work.

UMM will meet on December 20th (Tuesday) at 5:30 for pizza and salad. It will also be the meeting to discuss the annual business items. Please contact Artie Lawless (479) 212-4995 if you have any questions.

## *Christmas Poinsettia Plants*

Poinsettias are again available for you to order "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one. The cost is \$10. You can stop by the church office or all to place your order. The deadline to order and pay for your plant is Wednesday, December 15th. We will print a special recognition booklet for the December 18th Worship Service with the information you give. A copy of the booklet will be mailed to you. After Christmas, you may take your poinsettia home.



We are so blessed as a Church Congregation. As you reflect on the wonder of this Holiday

Season, please consider giving to our Staff Love Offering. We have an incredible Staff who give so much to us. Let them know how much they mean to you. Put "Staff Love Offering" in the memo of your check and include it with your regular offering. The Staff and your SPRC Committee thank you for your

### Help with this Ministry

**Drivers are needed to transport**



## OUR FAMILY



### THANK YOU's

The Hanging of the Greens had many church angels here and the Sanctuary, Narthex, Becker Hall, Parlor, office doors, and much more were transformed into a Season of Advent.

### Angel Tree Success!

A total of 30 children will receive gifts at Christmas, thanks to those who participated in the Angel Tree Ministry. Jim and Sue Prather reported that all of the packets were taken and the donations returned to the church on time. We even had one box take a detour to Colorado but made it back to Bella Vista in time. Care & Share have picked up the donations and they then supplement the gifts with food and other needed items.

Meeting  
rescheduled

### “Finding My Way”

**The Bereavement Support Group** begins meeting Tuesday, January 10th at 4:00 in the Parlor and the following Tuesdays. As we journey through multiple happenings in life that bring grief, we support each other. We will learn tools and form

Meeting  
rescheduled

### “Friends of Christ”

The small study group meetings will resume Thursday, January 12th at 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Through Christian literature and DVD's we will nurture each other as we explore the will of Christ in our daily lives. All are welcome! Any questions, please contact Deaconess Kandi Mount at 479-402-5200.



**SOLOS is a fellowship group for single ladies** who simply want to go out and eat every so often. If you are a single woman and would like to join this group,

please contact Lora Burch's email [loraurch126@gmail.com](mailto:loraurch126@gmail.com) or call her at 417-770-0719. Lora accepts suggestions for places to go. You don't need to be a church member to participate.



### Helping Hands Work Day Saturday, December 3rd

Our church's turn for working at the Helping Hands Resale Shop is this month. We can use ladies from noon to 4:00 for cashiering, bagging and tidying up the sales floor. Come join us in this "hands on" project helping others. You can sign up in the church office. Any questions, call Verna Bottjen 876-1392.



The **Potluck and Games** group meets every Monday at 5:00 p.m. in the parlor. We encourage you to come and join us in games such as *Mexican Train*, *Pinochle*, *Sequence*, *Golf*, *Canasta*, *3 to 13*, and others. We will find a game for you or teach you a new game. Bring a dish to share and table service, and come enjoy the fellowship and fun. All are welcome!





## LAY LEADER'S MESSAGE

Dave Broers, Lay Leader



**My Dear Friends,  
It is now time for Advent and a new liturgical year. The word Advent means coming toward or approaching.**

As we draw close to the end of another year, once again the days become shorter and shorter in terms of sunlight until we mark the shortest day of the year on December 21. Then, the days slowly but surely begin to become longer, as more and more sunlight fills the skies.

Nature's dramatic show of sky light inspired the ancient pagan world to believe in gods of light and darkness which battle each other in a never-ending struggle of good vs. evil.

While it may seem at times that light fades under the power of darkness, it is never entirely snuffed out; in fact, it comes back stronger and fills the sky with more and more radiance and power, as the tide turns in favor of more and more light, beginning on December 22.

For the ancient pagan world, the Sun god always returned triumphant over the power of the opposing god of darkness. This pagan understanding of light and darkness at the end of the calendar year served as the basis for celebrating the Nativity of Jesus Christ in late December.

**For Christians, Jesus Christ is the Light of the World. His Light dispels the powers of darkness and sin.** Even in the midst of the apparent death of winter, light begins to fill all of creation again and warms the life of a new springtime. Hope abounds, even in the midst of pain and suffering.

The powers of goodness, truth, life and light are never snuffed out; in fact, they always return more powerful than before, just as the light of the sun returns to fill the earth with more radiance. Even though winter enters our hearts, springtime joyfully beckons. May the divine radiance shine brightly in our hearts and minds as we make his light shine forth in a confused world.

As the year comes to a close, this gives me the opportunity to ask God's choicest blessings upon each of you and your families. May the Christ Child whom we long to see for ourselves one day in the Bethlehem of heaven, find his light shining brightly in our hearts now



## Artie Lawless, UMM President

UMM members,

I chose this image for December because I believe it genuinely depicts the true meaning of the Christmas celebration. As prominent as Santa is in this picture, even he kneels to the real giver of joy that we celebrate.



As 2022 comes to a close, and my term as your president now drifts into the past, I want to thank all of you for the four years of support and encouragement you blessed me with so many times. It has been an honor to serve and represent our wonderful UMM organization.

I must admit I was very nervous at first. Marian and I had only been here a year, and I only new a few of you. I became the "Resident Yankee" after I told Rod I wasn't a Cowboy fan. (That went well.)

Lou and Chet declared, "You're doing fine" and "Keep it up." I got to know the guys more by playing Golf and Bowling. I was offered lots of "advice" from many (and I sure needed it). Encouraging words like "Stick with it, it'll happen," and "Are there any other sports you enjoy." Just when I felt a little more comfortable, Covid hit, and everything ground to a halt.

Yet, through all that happened I learned a lot about these men. They are good, caring, honest, hardworking Christians, who love God, love their Church, love their families, and love their fellow UMM friends. Notice the reoccurring word "love" ... That's God y'all...

I wish Ken Swanson all the best as we turn the reigns over to him in January. I want him to know, we will be there for him, just as God is always there for us. The UMM will continue to do God's work for our church.

May our Lord bless each and every one of you.

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 John & Carol Zurn  
28 Allen & Phyllis Janssen



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Joann Handel  
1 Joe McGee  
2 Doug Grant  
2 Brittany May  
3 Caitlyn Rowland  
3 Curtis Willoughby  
6 Isabelle Mendoza  
8 Jim Hudson  
9 Chris Klein



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS (continued)

- 9 Heath Lehmann  
16 Phyllis Janssen  
16 Shari Vermett  
17 Jon Mendoza  
17 Marilyn Pommerenke  
21 Emma Kell  
22 Gil Temple  
24 Cherise George  
24 Betty Starr  
25 Julie Hayes  
27 Ruth Ireland  
28 Kenneth Wilson



### December 2022 Newsletter Financial Data

information as of October 31, 2022

	2022 Actual	2022 Budget
Month of October Contributions (Income*)	\$ 34,433.03	\$ 30,639.08
Month of October Expenses	\$ 32,846.31	\$ 34,649.57
Difference	\$ 1,586.72	\$ (4,010.49)
Year to Date Income Contributions Only	\$ 131,734.27	\$ 122,556.32
Year to Date Expenses	\$ 122,819.86	\$ 134,000.81
Difference	\$ 8,914.41	\$ (11,444.49)
Transferred from Restricted Fund Year to date		
Total	\$ 8,914.41	

\*Income does not include Missions or Endowment Interest

### PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAG

Please remember to wear your name tag at all church events and activities. This will give our newer members an easier time of learning your name, and you theirs. Please let the office know if your name tag is AWOL and you need a new one. If you see someone you do not know, introduce yourself and welcome them to FUMCBV!



## Book Nook Church Library



### FICTION:

DEADLY ENCOUNTER by Diann Mills

Is this coincidence or part of a carefully orchestrated plan?

THE CAT WHO WENT UP THE CREEK by Lilian Jackson Braun  
Cats are a mystery and can solve them too!

FOREVERMORE by Cathy Marie Hake

When harvest is done, will Hope return to her wandering ways?

THE LADY'S MINE by Francine Rivers

She's new to this lawless mining town. He's one of its most prominent citizens.

SANTA CRUISE by Fern Michaels

Fun, friendship and romance are on board as four longtime friends embark on a holiday singles cruise.

THE CHRISTMAS HOUSE by Victoria James

It's Christmas in a small town bursting with holiday spirit.

### NONFICTION:

ABC'S OF CHRISTMAS PRAYERS by Bobby Bland (242)

### LARGE PRINT FICTION:

FORGIVING PARIS by Karen Kingsbury

Ashley and her husband are about to take a trip to Paris but Ashley is hesitant.

ENDLESS SUMMER by Elin Hilderbrand

A collection of nine captivating stories.

GRACE UNDER FIRE by Julie Garwood

Grace had a hundred things to do but killing someone wasn't one of them.

HOME SWEET CHRISTMAS by Susan Mallery

She thought she had put her future on hold...but maybe her real life was here all along.

THE SUMMER GETAWAY by Susan Mallery

It's hard to run away when you are the heart of the family.

A MAN OF HONOR by Barbara Bradford Taylor

A prequel to A Woman of Substance.

THE NOEL LETTERS by Richard Paul Evans

After nearly two decades, Noel returns to her childhood home in Salt Lake City to see her estranged dying father.

### BOOKS IN SERIES:

THE UNCHARTED SERIES by Keely Brooke Keith

Book 1 THE LAND UNCHARTED

Book 2 UNCHARTED REDEMPTION

### Have you browsed our church library lately?



Books do not shelve themselves. Please consider helping with the library ministry. There are many little jobs to do. If you are interested leave your name and phone number in the church office. Thanks.

### More New Books in Church Library

#### HEARTS OF AMISH COUNTRY by various authors

Book 1 A LOVE UNEXPECTED by JoAnn Brown

Book 2 ONE SIMPLE WISH by Katy Lee

Book 3 LOVE COMES QUIETLY by JoAnn Brown

Book 4 KEEPER OF HER HEART by Anita Greene

Book 5 ANNIE'S SEARCH by Jerry Eicher

Book 6 HEARTS REUNITED by Rachel J Good

Book 7 PORTRAIT OF LOVE by Jerry Eicher

Book 8 LOVE'S SECRET IDENTITY by Rachel J Good

Book 9 HER AMISH HERO by Dorothy Clarans

Book 10 HIS PLAIN TRUTH by Gayle Roper

Book 11 A PROMISE TO HONOR by Katy Lee

Book 12 A SONG FOR SARAH by Lynette Sowell

Book 13 A LOVE REDISCOVERED by Mary Alford

Book 14 HER BLESSED GIFT by JoAnn Brown

Book 15 CROSSROADS OF THE HEART by Dana R Lynn

Book 16 A NOBLE BOND by Katy Lee

Book 17 BUILT ON FAITH by Anita Greene

Book 18 A LONG WAY HOME by Amie Denman

Book 19 REMEMBERING DAISY by Dana R Lynn

Book 20 A LESSON FOR HER HEART by Dorothy Clarans

Book 21 A DREAM OF YOU by Dorothy Clarans

### CIRCLES PLAN DECEMBER EVENTS

**Naomi Circle** is meeting December 13 at 11:30 for a Potluck Luncheon in the Parlor.

**Sarah Circle** is meeting at BV Bar & Grill for lunch at 12:30 on December 13.

**Martha Circle** will enjoy a meal at Applebee's December 16th. Members will gather at the Church that Friday at 10:45 and carpool to Rogers. Please inform Marian Lawless if you can't come.

**Evening Circle** is meeting December 8, 6:00 in the Church Youth Room. They are having a "Sock It to Me Christmas Party" to benefit the preschool and Cooper School children.

**No Care & Share Trailer in December.  
A new schedule for 2023 is coming.**





**SPOTLIGHT on STEWARDSHIP**

**Shari Vermett,**  
Finance Chair

The beautiful, wonderful season of Christmas began on November 27th, the first Sunday of Advent.



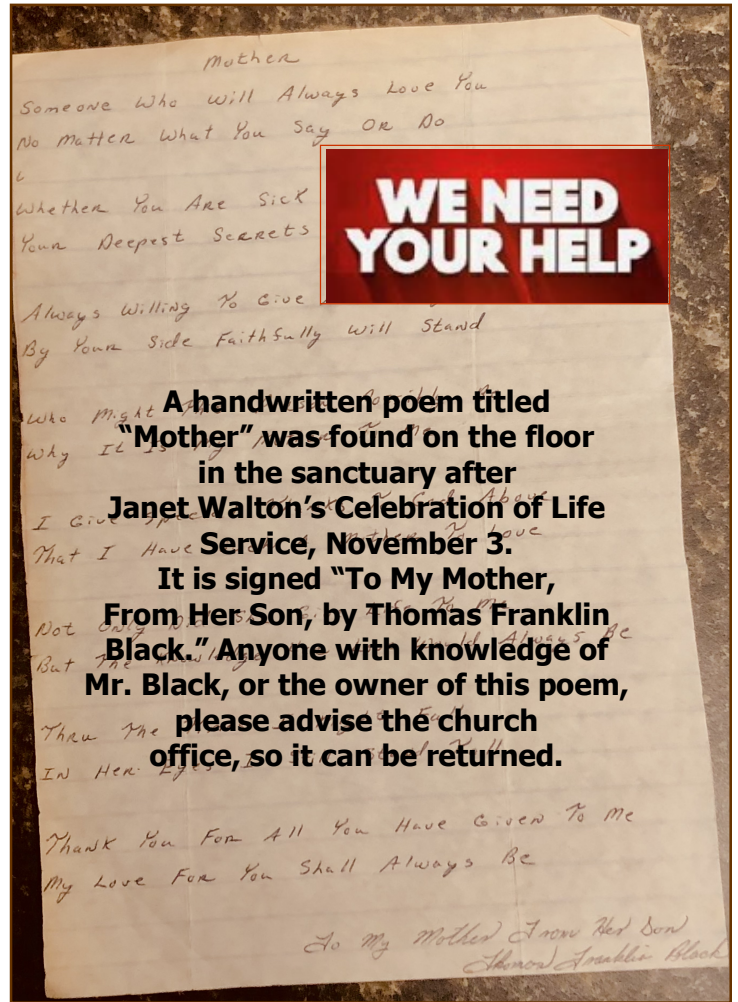
Christmas is a time we celebrate love of family, friendship and most importantly, God’s love for the world through the birth of the Christ Child, Jesus. As Ruth Carter Stapleton put it, “Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most.” Charles M. Schulz put it simply, “Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone.”

As we bustle around shopping, baking and decorating, we need to slow down, take a breath and focus on the birth of our Savior, Jesus. Mother Teresa said it perfectly, “At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God’s own love and concern.”

Hopefully, this Christmas season, we will all take some time to truly remember what is our greatest gift, the unconditional love of our Heavenly Father. As we do that, let us make a concerted effort to see the needs around us. Reach out and share the incredible love that God has shared with us.

Isaiah 9:6 *For unto us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

May your heart be lifted in praise this Christmas, for the wonderful gift of Jesus and the joy He brings to our lives. Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed



**A handwritten poem titled “Mother” was found on the floor in the sanctuary after Janet Walton’s Celebration of Life Service, November 3. It is signed “To My Mother, From Her Son, by Thomas Franklin Black.” Anyone with knowledge of Mr. Black, or the owner of this poem, please advise the church office, so it can be returned.**



Thank you for the  
**2023**  
Pledge cards!



## What's the (Hi)Story? Jill Hale, FUMC Historian

*Our Christmas gift is learning about Rod and Arlene Alford. Enjoy!*

Rod took early retirement, due to the health of Phyllis, his first wife, in June 1990 and moved to Bella Vista. They had the opportunity during Rod's working career to move many times (Texas, Virginia, Delaware, Colorado, Maryland, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and the Netherlands). Moving as often as they did, they never had the opportunity to get really involved in a church or community.

This all changed when Rod and Phyllis moved to Bella Vista. Finding a church that they could get involved in was easy. Rod had been a Methodist his whole life, so they visited every Methodist Church in the area. It was a very easy decision to join FUMC in Bella Vista in January 1992. The members were very friendly, and the church was very active with a lot of opportunities to get involved, which they did. Retirement afforded them the time to support FUMC and the community.

Phyllis passed away in 1998. Rod says, "The church and the members were a tremendous support to me during this time. Then the Lord sent me Arlene."

Arlene and her first husband, Frank, had moved here from Southern California in 1995. Her husband also passed away in 1998. Rod's Phyllis and Arlene's Frank were brother and sister, so Arlene and Rod were in-laws. They were married in 1999.

Arlene joined FUMCBV in 1997. She is a member of the UWF and the Church Council. She was the Church Treasurer for three years and handled the Membership Books for over 20 years. She also was active in the Disciple Classes. She played golf in several leagues and was a President of the 18-Hole Women's Golf Assn. She was voted into their Hall of Fame in 2017.

Rod has served as the Lay Leader, lay member to the Annual Conference, chaired the SPRC, Finance Committee, Evangelism Committee, and the Endowment Fund several times. As a Certified Lay Speaker in the United Methodist Conference, he preached in various churches in Northwest Arkansas. He is an active member of the UMM, where he wrote the UMM Constitution and the Bylaws and cooked pancakes for many years. He has been fondly known as the "Candy Man." He always had peppermints for the children.

Rod and Arlene also have participated in Helping Hands, Habitat for Humanity projects, volunteers for many golf tournaments, NWA Children's Shelter Fund organizing golf tournaments to raise funds, Cancer Challenge (28 years), and they were honored as Volunteers of the Year in 2013, LPGA (16 years), Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas (Advisory Board Member). Rod also served on the POA Nomination Committee (Chair), the Election Committee, Arvest Bank Bella Vista Advisory Board and as a



## GREETINGS FROM UWF

As we all approach December and the Celebration of the Birth of Christ on Christmas Day the United Women of Faith are all very thankful for a VERY Good year of being able to help all of our recipients of non-profit organizations in Benton County.

On December 7<sup>th</sup> our unit meeting will be held in Becker Hall starting at 11:45 with quiet time. After the **Christmas Luncheon** our entertainment will be the Praise Band with a selection of Christmas carols and a sing-along. We will also be installing our officers for 2023-2024 with Pastor Ron leading the service.

We were excited to finish and deliver 45 blankets to Souls Harbor and Salvation Army and 42 warm scarves made by Barbara Brooks for the residents to have for these cold weather days.

There are several new books in the Library that our unit has purchased, so drop in and check them out.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

- ◆ December 7<sup>th</sup> Unit Christmas Luncheon
- ◆ January 4<sup>th</sup> Executive Board meeting and planning for the year
- ◆ January 7<sup>th</sup> Local Officers Update/Training at Ft. Smith Goddard UMC
- ◆ January in all the circles is Pledge Month

For any questions/comments call  
Barbara Brooks, President: 479-876-5353

You can become a UWF member and help make a difference in someone's life. You do not need to be a member of the Methodist Church.

**ALL ARE  
HAVE A VERY**



**WELCOME!  
BLESSED**

member of Arvest Bank, Bentonville, Board of Directors. Rod was very active in golf and served as President of the 9-Hole Men's Golf Association.

Rod and Arlene say, "We have enjoyed being able to do whatever we can to support our church, our friends, and our community."

*Thank you, Rod and Arlene, for a wonderful story of service and of enjoyment of life. Again, please remember, any and all stories about FUMC Bella Vista are welcome. I am looking forward to hearing from you by telephone at 479-344-6074 or 928-710-3612 or by email at [jihale68@cox.net](mailto:jihale68@cox.net). Submissions should be about one page long. I need them by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.*

*Jill*

# FUMCBV ~ DECEMBER 2022

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
4	9:00 Classic Service 10:00 Fellowship Time 11:00 Casual Service	5	10:30 Staff Mtng-Rm6 12:30 Women's Chorus 5:00 Potlck/Games-P 6:30 Men's Chorus 6:30 By the Book AA	6	9:30 Yoga - BH 6:00 Scouts	7	7:30-7:30 VOTE !! 9:00 BV Quilters 9:30 UMF Board 11:45 UMF Unit Lunch 3:00 Chancel Bells-MR 4:30 Chancel Choir-snct	8	9:30 Yoga - BH 12:00 Staff Holiday Party 1:30 Praise Team Prac 6:00 Evening Circle YR	9	Offices closed 11:30 PreSchl Board	10	8:15 Young@Heart SG 8:30 Amp Big Book AA
11	9:00 Classic Service 10:00 Fellowship Time 11:00 Casual Service 12:15 Finance 2:00 Caroling & Reception	12	9:30 DAR 10:30 Staff Mtng-Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus 5:00 Potlck/Games-P 6:30 Men's Chorus 6:30 By the Book AA	13	9:30 Yoga - BH 11:30 Naomi Circle 1:00 Sarah Circle 6:00 Scouts	14	9:00 BV Quilters 3:00 Chancel Bells-MR 4:30 Chancel Choir-snct	15	9:30 Yoga - BH 10:30 BVPS Coffee Prlr	16	Offices closed	17	8:30 Amp Big Book AA
18	9:00 Lessons & Carols 10:00 Fellowship Time 11:00 Casual Service 3:00 Lessons & Carols in Sanctuary	19	10:30 Staff Mtng-Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus 5:00 Potlck/Games-P 6:30 By the Book AA	20	9:30 Yoga - BH 5:30 UMM Pizza BH 6:00 Scouts	21	9:00 BV Quilters 6:30 Longest Night Service	22	9:30 Yoga - BH	23	Offices closed	24	8:30 Amp Big Book AA 12:00 Christ. Eve Snct 5:00 Christ. Eve BH 7:00 Christ. Eve Snct
25	10:00 Unified Worship in Sanctuary 11:15 Potluck BH	26		27		28		29		30		31	

CHURCH CLOSED ALL WEEK THROUGH MONDAY, JANUARY 2 - BACK TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**



**First United Methodist Church**  
 20 Boyce Drive,  
 Bella Vista, AR 72715

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 PERMIT NO. 176  
 BENTONVILLE, AR 72712

Return Service requested

***We're Here to Serve You***

Lead Pastor - Rev. Ron Hayes (479) 366-9725  
 Church Administrator - Amy Gilmore  
 Communications Director - Kaitie Bewley  
 Music Ministries Director - Dr. Lawrence Zehring  
 Praise Band Leaders - Rick & Gloria Atha

**Phone: (479) 855-1158**  
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**Newsletter Deadline: 20th of the month**

***To the Home of ...***

**WREATHS *across* AMERICA**

**Saturday, December 17, 2022 10:00 A.M.**  
**Bella Vista Memorial Garden Cemetery**  
**34 Buckstone Dr. Bella Vista AR**

As a member of the Bella Vista Cemetery Board, First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista will participate in the annual laying of Wreaths *across* America honoring our veterans. The National Honor Society from Life Way Christian School in Centerton will present a short program. Our local boy scout troop was asked to help lay wreaths on veteran's graves. Veterans, families of deceased veterans, and the community are invited to attend and assist in the laying of the wreaths.

What is



**WREATHS *across* AMERICA?**

**The 7th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARD PROJECT**

sponsored by the Wesley Shepherd Group is wrapping up Christmas card signing for homebound members. **December 4 is the last Sunday to sign** Christmas cards before and after worship at both services.



The Wesley Shepherd members will gather later in the week to fill holiday bags with many greeting cards. Members will deliver bags to 43 appreciative recipients.

We know from previous years that our homebound members enjoy viewing cards from their church family during the holiday

season.

Many thanks to the CCM members for preparing a list of names and addresses for Wesley members.

**THANK YOU** for your participation in this much needed ministry for our homebound



**Blessing Box**  
**Food**  
**Collection**