



# The Messenger

## How Chocolate Became a Valentine’s Day Staple



Conversation hearts, truffles galore and heart-shaped boxes of chocolates—these are the symbols of Valentine’s Day for many lovers around the world. But where did this tradition come from? While the roots of Valentine’s Day go all the way back to Roman times, candy gift-giving is a much more recent development.

Valentine’s Day is actually named for two different Roman saints, both called Valentine and both utterly unconnected to romantic love. Though legend persists that the original St. Valentine was a priest who performed illegal marriages for Emperor Claudius’ soldiers, there’s no evidence to suggest this ever happened.

The first mention of St. Valentine’s Day as a romantic holiday appeared in the writings of Geoffrey Chaucer in 1382. With the medieval period came a new focus on illicit but chaste courtly love, and it is here that we see some of the familiar iconographies begin to appear. Knights would give roses to their maidens and celebrate their beauty in songs from afar. But sugar was still a precious commodity in Europe, so there was no talk of exchanging candy gifts.

By the 1840s, the notion of Valentine’s Day as a holiday to celebrate romantic love had taken over most of the English-speaking world. It was Cupid’s golden age: The prudish Victorians adored the notion of courtly love and showered each other with elaborate cards and gifts. Into this love-crazed fray came Richard Cadbury, scion of a British chocolate manufacturing family and responsible for sales at a crucial point in his company’s history. Cadbury had recently improved its chocolate-making technique so as to extract pure cocoa butter from whole beans, producing more palatable drinking chocolate than most Britons had ever tasted. This process resulted in an excess amount of cocoa butter, which Cadbury used to produce many more varieties of what was then called “eating chocolate.” Richard recognized a great marketing opportunity for the new chocolates and started selling them in beautifully decorated boxes that he himself designed.

From that point, it was a quick jump to taking the familiar images of Cupids and roses and putting them on heart-shaped boxes. While Richard Cadbury didn’t actually patent the heart-shaped box, it’s widely believed that he was the first to produce one. Cadbury marketed the boxes as having a dual purpose: When the chocolates had all been eaten, the box itself was so pretty that it could be used again and again to store mementos, from locks of hair to love letters. The boxes grew increasingly elaborate until the outbreak of World War II, when sugar was rationed and Valentine’s Day celebrations were scaled down. But Victorian-era Cadbury boxes still exist, and many are treasured family heirlooms or valuable items prized by collectors.

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## Women’s Bible Study— Sunday,

**February 12 at 2:00 pm**

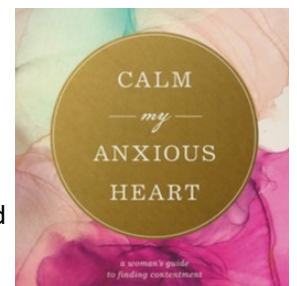
Fear and anxiety tend to creep into all areas of women’s lives. We worry about our children, our friends, our careers, our families, our spouses—and the list goes on. It can be a constant struggle to let go and be free from the burden of worry.

Designed to help you finally experience the calm and contentment that the Bible promises, *Calm My Anxious Heart* is an established and time-tested classic. Filled with solid encouragement and practical help for soothing and processing anxiety, it offers meaningful and helpful ways to refresh your spirit with Scripture and calming insight. Experience the contentment and joy that comes from trusting God, whether it is through:

Contentment in circumstances  
Contentment in relationships

Contentment in self-image  
Trusting God with your questions and worries

Come join us on Sunday February 12 as we begin this bible study. We’ll also have a chocolate fountain so bring something that is worthy to be dipped in chocolate...strawberries, pretzels, marshmallows, angel food cake, or whatever your heart desires. Bring some for you and bring some to share. Coffee and tea will be provided.



### Stitching with Love Ministry

meets every 1st Thursday  
February 2 at 9am –12pm.

### Men’s Prayer Breakfast

Every 2nd Saturday of each month.  
February 11 at 8 am

### Sr. Saints Fellowship

meets every 3rd Tuesday  
February 21 at 11:00 am



### February Days

The Bible says, "Lord, teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." (Psalm 90:20) One of the reasons for the newsletter each month is to inform you of the events happening each month at Zion Hill Baptist. When we think of February most of us think of Saint Valentines' Day. Did you know that there is a lot of things in February, beyond Valentines' Day? Below is a list.

Groundhog Day, President's Day, Valentine's Day, Galantines' Day, The Day the Music Died Day, Ice Cream for Breakfast Day, Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk Day, Make a Friend Day, Do A Grouch a Favor Day, Comfy Day, Optimist Day, Freedom Day, Girls and Women in Sports Day, Wear Red Day, Safer Internet Day, Random Acts of Kindness Day, Shut-In Visitation Day, Set a Good Example Day, Skip the Straw Day, Toothache Day, Dog Biscuit Day, Love

Your Pet Day, Clean Out Your Computer Day, Care-givers Day, Lash Day, Home Warranty Day, Public Sleeping Day

You probably have never heard of most of these days, but you can google and discover the purpose of each of them. February 28<sup>th</sup> is Public Sleeping Day. THAT IS NOT A SUNDAY!!!

So please read carefully the newsletter and the days. Remember every Sunday is the Lord's Day. You can forget most of the special February days, but don't forget the Sundays. If you have a sweet-heart, you should not forget Valentine's Day, either. I really hope to see you all often this month. God bless you and make all your days Special Days.

*Terry Fortner*

### Hunger Relief Sunday

Global Hunger Relief Sunday will be recognized on Sunday, February 12, 2023. Around the world, more than enough food is produced to feed the global population but as many as 811 million people – 1 out of 9 - still go to bed on an empty stomach each night. After steadily declining for a decade, world hunger is on the rise affecting 9.9 percent of people globally. From 2019 to 2020, the number of undernourished people grew by as many as 161 million, a crisis driven largely by conflict, climate change, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

This worldwide problem has an impact in Arkansas. According to the Arkansas Food Bank, Arkansas ranks second in the nation for food security. One in five Arkansans struggle to provide enough food for their family and 23.6% of Arkansas children have limited access to adequate food. Over 17% of Arkansans are facing hunger.

Many ABSC churches serve their communities to meet the hunger need, while also using the opportunity to share the Gospel. These churches use food pantries, feeding stations, summer feeding ministry for children, weekend backpack ministries, delivering meals to seniors and homebound, and providing holiday meals.

Globally, Southern Baptists meet the hunger needs in famine or natural disasters through the ongoing ministry of Send Relief. Send Relief also focuses on long-term, sustainable solutions to end chronic hunger, such as job skills training, livestock and seed distribution, clean water, medical care and more.

Through hunger relief offerings, Arkansas Baptists financially support 25 hunger ministries throughout the state. Funds are distributed according to a formula that considers the poverty level of the county, the number of people being fed, and the Gospel witness of the ministry. One-time grants are also given to assist hunger ministries throughout Arkansas. ABSC churches are encouraged to schedule Sunday, February 12, 2023 to promote the hunger ministries of Arkansas Baptists and Send Relief and to collect the annual Global Hunger Relief Offering. The offering will be distributed between Send Relief (75%) and ABSC Hunger Ministries (25%).

### Operation Christmas Child

Please continue to bring **hats, scarves, and mittens** and we're also adding **hair brush, comb & toothbrush** to the list. We'll have a box in the breezeway for you to put your donations. Each month, there will be different items we'll be asking for to fill the boxes. In November of 2023, we'll have a packing party and assemble all of the items into boxes for each child. Let's use this opportunity to bless so many children across the globe. It's more than just the box of gifts the children receive. Since 2009, more than 30.9 million children who have received a shoebox gift have participated in The Greatest Journey—a 12 lesson discipleship program. Children learn from trained, local volunteers what it means to follow Jesus and share their faith with friends and family. Let's share Jesus with them!

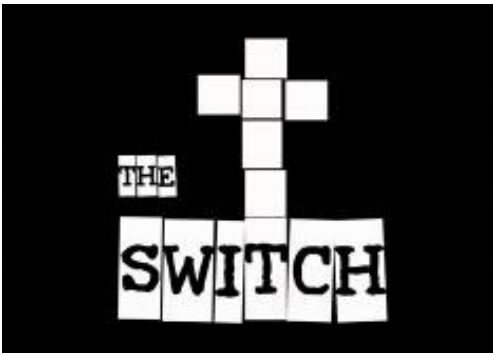


## Youth, Children & Other Happenings

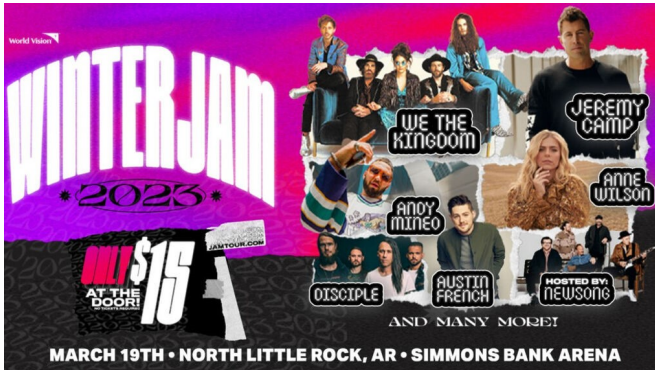
### Weekly Youth Gatherings

Wednesday Night *Switch* Services  
Music and a devotion from 6:30-7:30pm

**Invite your friends and come join us!**



## Upcoming Events & Outings



### WINTERJAM 2023

March 19 Doors Open at 5:00pm



### CHILDREN'S EASTER CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 • 10 AM-12 PM

*Come join the fun! There will be a fun craft to make, snacks, easter egg hunt AND get your picture made with the Easter Bunny! Don't miss it!*

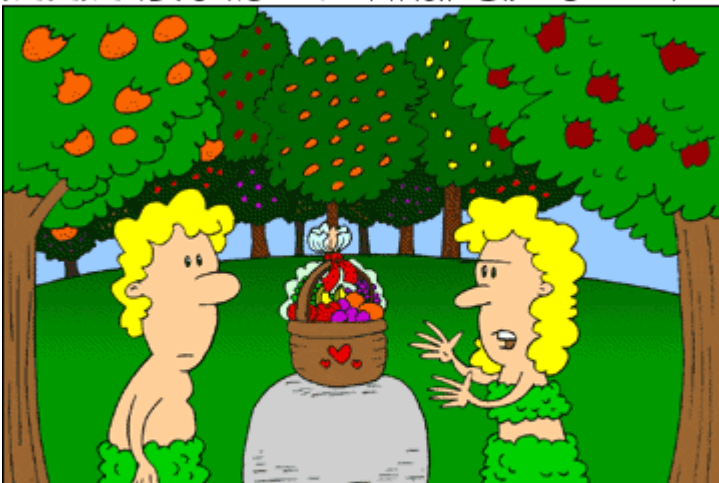


### Save the Date!!!

VBS 2023

June 11-15

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Benoit Paquette

02-14-2002

REALLY ADAM ... A VALENTINE'S DAY  
FRUIT BASKET ... IN THE GARDEN OF  
EDEN?!?

### Kids Camp at Camp Siloam

See the sign up sheet in the breezeway.  
Let us know if you will be needing a scholarship



April 14-16

for kids 3rd - 6th grade



### Children's Choir Practice

meets

Sundays at 6:00 pm!



Zion Hill Baptist Church  
Service Times

**Sunday**

9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship  
11:30 am Children's Worship (in the Fellowship Hall)  
6:00 pm Growth Group (Fellowship Hall)  
6:00 pm Youth Bible Study (Basement)

**Tuesday**

10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study

**Wednesday**

5:45pm Wednesday Night Meal  
6:30 pm Mid-Week Services  
Bible Study & Prayer Meeting  
(3rd Wednesday is Business Meeting)  
GA's, RA's, Mission Friends,  
Youth *Switch* Service

February Activities

February

1 5:45 pm Wednesday Night Meal  
1 6:30 pm Midweek Services  
2 9:00 am Stitching with Love Ministry  
5 8:00 am Deacon's Meeting  
5 Sunday Services  
6 5:00 pm Church Council Meeting  
7 10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study  
8 5:45 pm Wednesday Night Meal  
8 6:30 pm Midweek Services  
11 8:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast  
12 Sunday Services  
12 12:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting  
12 2:00 pm Women's Chocolate Bible Study  
14 10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study  
14 Valentine's Day  
15 5:45 pm Wednesday Night Meal  
15 6:30 pm Midweek Services—Business Meeting  
19 Sunday Services  
19 5:00 pm Caregiver Ministry Meeting  
21 10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study & Sr. Saints Fellowship  
21 6:00 pm Children's Ministry Meeting  
22 5:45 pm Wednesday Night Meal  
22 6:30 pm Midweek Services  
24-26 Girl's Radiate Retreat  
26 Sunday Services  
28 10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study



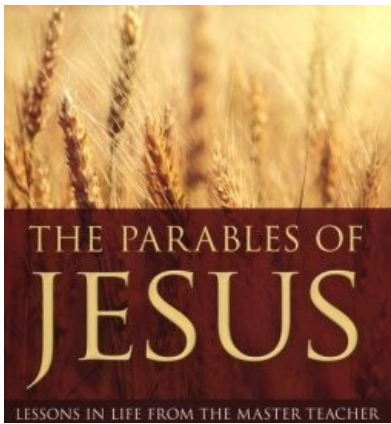

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Please use the following contact info when the church office is closed on weekends and holidays.

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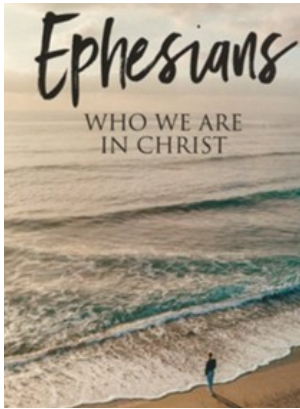
Gary Vaile, Music Director  
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Recent videos of Zion Hill's Sunday services can be viewed at [www.zionhillcabot.com/sermons](http://www.zionhillcabot.com/sermons)



**SUNDAY NIGHTS AT 6:00 PM**

Join us each Sunday night in the Sanctuary for a study of the Parables. Would you like to join the group? The study is every Sunday night at 6 pm and is led by Brother Terry



**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT 6:30 PM**

Join us each Wednesday night in the Sanctuary for a study of Ephesians. Would you like to join the group? Come learn more about who you are in Christ each Wednesday night.



**Wednesday Night Meals**

5:45—6:15 pm Cost is only \$4.00 per person to help cover food costs. Plan on joining us for this fellowship meal before Bible Study each Wednesday. You'll get fed in body and in spirit!

If you're not currently receiving email prayer requests and information updates and you would like to be added to the list, please let Karla know. You can email me at [zionhillbc@gmail.com](mailto:zionhillbc@gmail.com) to be added to the list.