MESSENGER

May 2017

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

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<u>**Our Mission:**</u> Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by loving God, connecting with others, and serving the world.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What a beautiful spring it continues to be, and our Easter celebrations were beautiful as well. The sunrise service at the Baumann Park gazebo was chilly, but being out in nature to celebrate Christ's resurrection was worth the chill! A delicious meal by the UM Men was followed by an inspiring and uplifting Easter worship service. The "tomb" brought the message closer as we left an empty tomb and entered a sanctuary bursting with spring flowers. My thanks to all who made our Holy Week services so meaningful—worship committee, youth group and their leaders, choir, Scott F., Jenny and her family, Leta, Judy, scripture readers for all the services, and our actors from Maundy Thursday, Barb for taking care of the flowers, ushers and greeters. We trust that you had a meaningful and spiritually renewing Holy Week. Let's keep the momentum going—see you in Worship!!

Speaking of beautiful...a couple months ago, I asked about our narthex (foyer) stained glass window. Imagine how thrilled I was when Jeff Sundberg provided me with a flyer about the window. Copies will be made available in the narthex for your reading. But in the meantime, let me share a little of the history of this beautiful work of art.

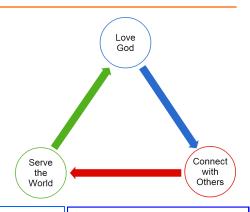
"One of the over-all considerations was that we did not want either the design or the coloration to be a radical departure from the already existing (stained glass) windows in the church. We decided early on that, where possible, we would even pick up some of the design motifs that were present in the existing windows. These considerations were brought to bear on designing a semi-circular window with a radius of almost five (5) feet, a diameter of almost ten (10) feet.

Within the window there are shapes which form symbols that relate to our concept and belief in God: God the eternal and creator; God in the person Jesus Christ; God in three persons; the three-in-one. These symbols are central in the window." The brochure goes on to describe the various symbols you will see in the window.

The next time you come to Cherry Valley UMC, take time and look at this stained glass piece of art and reflect on what it represents. "Remember that these things are symbols which point to a higher and more enduring spirituality," ultimately directing our focus to God in Christ. The window was designed by Rev. Richard Wang, fabricated by Jeff Sundberg, and installed by Jeff and his father, Vance Sundberg. Our thanks go to them for this beautiful offering that we can enjoy each time we enter Cherry Valley United Methodist Church.

Blessed Easter Season,

Pastar Vickie



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Sharing God's Bounty—May

Keeping Our Eyes on the Prize

If a runner in a race takes his eyes off his goal for even a fleeting moment, he risks losing his focus and, along with that, the race. So it is with the Christian who must be diligent to keep his focus on his stewardship. If he takes his eyes off his heavenly goal and directs them toward his possessions, his worldly aspirations, or his temporal difficulties, he loses his focus and risks losing the race. The words of Paul provide encouragement for us: "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13). Focusing on our Earthly circumstances can lead us in two directions - both of them deadly! We may either find things of the world to be so attractive, they become the prize toward which we strain, or we find things to be so dismal that we despair.

Our Chief Steward, Jesus, our Savior, focused on the prize. We are exhorted to follow his example: "Let us fix our eves on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2). Talk about keeping focus! "Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart" (Hebrews 12:3). Talk about running a race! And he did it for us, "so that [we] will not grow weary and lose heart.'

And look at the prize he won! He ascended into Heaven and now sits "at the right hand of the throne of God." Heaven is our prize, too - a prize beyond compare. Christ's promise is this: "Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10b). Should we falter, as we are certain to do, we claim another of his promises: "The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it" (1 Thessalonians 5:24).

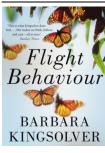
"I have learned to manage on whatever I have. I know how to be poor and how to be rich...

There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength."

-St. Paul



Summer Reading Group



The summer reading group will meet on Wednesdays at the parsonage beginning on June 14 Behaviour at 7:00 pm. Our first read will be "Flight Behavior" by Barbara Kingsolver.



Members & Friends Jim Greaves David Harter Family Mary Ann Schou Ralph (Karen Harter Neighbor) Gordon Family

Military Personnel Sean Conderman Tamara Duke Dan Harter Mark Kincaide Mike Oldham

Those Who Mourn

PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have prayer concerns that you wish to express, please fill out a prayer request card located in the Prayer Chapel. Please indicate how you would like your request shared via the check boxes at the bottom of the card and then place the concerns in the request box. _____ -----

Thank You

Thank you to Barb Anderson for the hard work she does in taking orders for flowers that decorate our sanctuary at Easter and Christmas. Barb has been tirelessly doing this service for us for many years



From the first call to the florist to overseeing the delivery, there are many steps in between. There is a lot of work and time involved in the process.

Great job, Barb, you are appreciated!

Thank you to the groups at CV UMC who provided the wonderful brunch on April 1st after the Memorial Service for Ron Gordon. Your thoughtful attention to my sister's wishes for that day are so appreciated. Gratefully, Jo Gibson

Our Attendance

A new section of the *Messenger* will be devoted to keeping you informed about how we are doing with our attendance. We will post quarterly figures and compare them to the same quarter as the previous year so you can see how we compare and hopefully, this will help us improve our attendance.

Last year, our weekly average attendance for the first quarter was 64. This year, for the first quarter, our average weekly attendance is 67. This is up from last year, and it can definitely be felt in our worship time together! It seems that our attendance is significantly higher, but it may be

that some people are not being counted.

We invite everyone to come to worship and to bring at least one person each week. Throughout the coming year, we will be exploring other ways in which we can raise our attendance and participation.



Items for the June Messenger are due to the secretary by May 15.

Prayer Shawl Group



The Prayer Shawl Group will be on hiatus until September. Thank you to everyone who has donated money, yarn, time and talent to making shawls for our ministry. A special thank you to our "secret donors" who

have donated yarn and shawls anonymously and to those who can't come to the meetings but make shawls at home. I can certainly say that this program is very needed and that the people who receive the shawls are so very grateful for them.

Have a wonderful spring and summer. All are welcome to meet with us when we gather again in September. If you are interested in joining us, but think you don't have the skills, we have wonderful teachers who can help.

Children's and Youth Ministries

Please everyone - Share with the youth your reflection on the Easter 'empty tomb' experience. They worked very hard to create the empty tomb – to give imagery and emotion to this powerful story. They were at first surprised that many were reluctant to go through the tomb. I suggested that everyone simply was surprised and did not understand. Could that have been true 2000 years ago?



Vacation Bible School "Maker Fun Factory...Created by God... Built for a Purpose" will be June 19-23. Please save this date and give prayerful thought to helping with this vital outreach program for youth! We have leaders for all the stations except for the 'Sound Wave Sing and Play." We

need someone who is gifted in singing to lead the children. We do have some musical youth ready to help with this station. We also need various helpers on individual nights to help serve snacks and take registration. If you are willing, please contact me or Kathy Sundberg.

We are delighted that Jordyn Burritt has been staffing our nursery during Sunday worship. We still need one more person to alternate with Jordyn. Anyone 18 or older is encouraged to apply. For details see Judy Long or Pastor Vickie. We will continue with this service through the summer months. Please encourage young families to join us knowing that their children will have a safe place to be during the church service.

With God's grace we grow together! Thanks for supporting our children's and youth ministries! Judy Long

Couples Group

Come join the couples group. We meet once a month and are currently focusing on Communication. Each meeting consists of a dinner, fellowship and lesson time.



Our next meeting will be Friday, May 19th from 6:30-7:30. Hope to see you there. Babysitting is available with early requests.

If you have questions, please contact Sandy Schwartz at 779-771-3567 or Ronn Gordon, Jr. at 815-708-1632.

Church Economic Status

First Quarter—January 1 to March 31, 2017 Update on CVUMC finances

Unless specified, donations go into our General Fund. This is where we are:

Income	\$34,056.85
Expenses	
Deficit	

Our expenses are over budget, primarily in the building & grounds area. In addition, we knew going into 2017 that our expenses exceeded anticipated (key word!) income. That is why we are sharing this information with you, our church family and friends.

We are grateful for the gifts you have given to date. Thank you! The missions and ministries of CVUMC cannot happen without your faithful support. God has blessed each and every one of us with more than we need. We are asking everyone to assess the ability to give and to respond. How much are you able to give from the abundance God has entrusted to you? Maybe you are getting a tax refund check this year. Please consider giving a portion of that refund to your church.

If it is more convenient, you may give on-line by going to our new website, <u>www.cherryvalleyumc.com</u> The "donate" button is in the upper right-hand corner.

Anyone who would like a copy of our YTD financial report may receive one by sending an email to the church office. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas, please contact Pastor Vickie or Sue Layng.

We not only need your financial support. We need your prayers!! Please pray for CVUMC, that God would move among us and provide, as God always has, through the lives touched and hearts moved in the days and weeks to come.

Faithfully in Christ, Finance Team Sue Layng—Chair, Dan Halley—Treasurer, Mary Lou Clevenger—Financial Secretary, Jane Neff, and Pastor Vickie Hadaway

The first trimester statements will be out early May. Watch for yours, and if you do not receive it, contact the church office.



Summer is coming and that means....BBQ! We will be having our Friday night BBQs again this summer on the 1st and 3rd Fridays in June, July and August. This is a really fun time to get together and get to know others in a social atmosphere. Put the dates in your calendar and make plans to be here. Just bring your choice of meat to cook and bring a side dish to share. All are welcome. Bring a friend!

First BBQ of the season is Friday, June 2,@ 6 pm.

Pastor Vickie's Schedule–May

Monday, May 1 Wednesday, May 3 Friday, May 5	.9 to 5
Monday, May 8 Wednesday, May 10 Friday, May 12	.9 to 5
Monday, May 15 Wednesday, May 17 Saturday, May 20	.9 to 5
Monday, May 22 Off May 24 Vacation May 25 to May 29 Off May 30	.9 to 4
May 31	.9 to 5

Unless otherwise noted, I will take Saturday as my day off.

Methodist Women



The Women's group met at the Hoffman House for food and There fellowship on April 11th. were 13 women in attendance. Everyone enjoyed our "night out". Discussion revolved around the church wide fundraiser, Moonlight Bowling on May 5th. We will provide snacks for the evening. The women were encouraged to come and observe even if they didn't

bowl. We will not have a meeting in May due to Mother's Day. Our next meeting is June 11th after worship. All are welcome. Donna Layng

May Birthdays & Anniversaries



- May Birthdays
- Pat Gorsuch
- Trudy Hunt
- 2 Beth Vowles
- 4 Rvan Gordon, Jr.
- Kyle Ward 16
- Dawn Lester 18
- 26 Tyler Hudson
- 27 Amy True

29 Gwendolyn Flood 31 **Bill Fisher** Vickie Hadaway



Anniversaries

- 21 Jim & Mary Coulter
- 26 Herman & Judy Krunfus

Rock River Valley Food Pantry



Dear Pastor Hadaway and Congregation,

Thank you! Your donation of 90 pounds of food helped make he day a little brighter for our neighbors at risk of going hungry. The Pantry relies on donations like yours to help feed the approximately 6,800 people who come to us for food assistance each month.

Through these donations, staff and volunteers are able to help stabilize the lives of families and individuals by assisting them in covering one of their most basic needs. We do this with respect, kindness and of course, an abundance of food.

We are grateful that you, like us, understand that there is no good reason for anyone to go hungry.

Sincerely.

Kim Adams-Bakke, Executive Director

May Worship Leader Schedule	Sunday May 7	Sunday May 14	Sunday 21	Sunday 28
Liturgist	Keith Burritt	Zane Clevenger	Janet Davis	Andrew Schwartz
Greeter Team	Youth Group	Ann Harned	Sandra Baxter Linda Calhoun	Kathleen Sundberg Judy Krunfus
Check-in Greeters	Youth Group	Chris Flood	Mike Seno	Keith Burritt
Usher Captain	Youth Group	Dave Ward	Ronn Gordon, Jr.	Keith Burritt
Children's Message	Ronn Gordon	Terri Burritt	Juanita Barnes	Deb Seno
Media	Zane Clevenger	Andrew Schwartz	Matt Gross	Ronn Gordon, Jr.
Fellowship	Choir	No Fellowship in honor of Mother's Day	Mission Team	Methodist Women

Boy Scout Troop 181



We started April with another trip to the pool; what a busy place that was!

The second meeting of the month was board game night. Scouts brought their favorite board games and challenged each other. It was really nice to see friends enjoying each other's company. And good sportsmanship abounds.

The third meeting of April found us at the Cherry Bowl. We put 47 bowlers on the lanes. The Cherry Bowl is very good to us!!! Some scouts learned new techniques, while others just had fun. It was open to all our family members.



The last meeting of the month found us back in the pool at Jefferson High School. Our outing for April is the US Grant Pilgrimage. We met nearly 4000 scouts in Galena, IL for the weekend. Can you imagine!?! We camped.

The first meeting of May will be a cook-off. The youth will create several dishes to be tasted.

(Some will be edible...LOL!) Actually, with a little coaching, they make some amazing meals.

Our second meeting of May will honor many people during a quarterly Court of Honor. Of course, one of the boys will be the Master of Ceremonies.



On the third meeting of the month, we will listen to a Marine talk about life in the armed forces. Our campout for the month will be at Lithuanian Park, south of Rockford. We're going to connect a canoe trip on the Kishwaukee River to that outing.

im 📀

The fourth meeting of May will be our final swim night of the season.

The fifth meeting of May will involve some robotics. We have invited the Flaming Monkeys to show our scouts how to combine technology with fun. They just completed their season of competitions among high school age teams.

A reminder: The Midwest Extrication Competition will be held again at the Cherry Valley Fire Station on Blackhawk Road, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, May 20-21. Come out and see our firefighters compete to rescue dummies from challenging situations. The competition can be viewed by the public, and Troop 181 will offer concessions at the event.

We encourage boys 11-17 to visit our Troop meetings and bring their parents. We have stories to tell you! Visit our website at http://www.bsatroop181.com.

You may call Terry Nichols, Scoutmaster, 815/540-5900 with all your Boy Scouting questions.



Studio 3 Music Camp Fundraiser

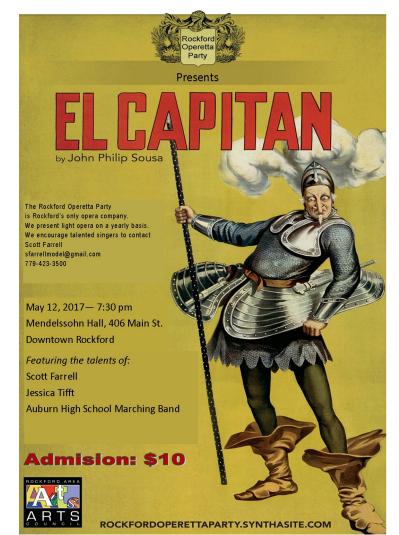


An open house fundraiser to support Studio 3 Music Camp in Waupaca, WI, will be held at the church on Sunday, May 21st from noon to 4 pm.

There will be live music, raffles, handcrafted items and the event will be catered by the Pita Pit. Tickets are \$12/each. Ticket purchase also includes: 1 of 4 sandwich choices, chips, beverage and dessert. Tickets are also available at Christ United Methodist, Our Masters United Methodist or online at: www.studio3today.com/shop.

Contact Jenny Maragia for purchase/information or visit her table downstairs during fellowship on Sundays.

The Rockford Operetta Party presents "El Capitan" at Mendelssohn Hall, 406 Main Street in Rockford on May 12 at 7:30 pm, featuring the talents of Scott Farrell, Jessica Tifft, and the Auburn High School Marching Band. Admission is \$10. See Scott Farrell for more information.



Creative Learners II Preschool



It's hard to believe that another school year will be ending soon! Our 4 and 5 year olds toured the Cherry Valley Log Cabin and were so interested to see all of the antique artifacts which were like those during the time of Abraham Lincoln. We also had a Firefighter dad visit. He put on his firefighting outfit in front of them in steps so they would not be scared to see one wearing a mask and

sounding like Darth Vader should there ever be a fire. Both classes enjoyed walking field trips to the Cherry Valley Library too.

The M/W/F class will have their last program and graduation ceremony on Wednesday, May 24th at 11:00 am. The T/TH class will hold their program on Tuesday, May 23rd at 11:15 am. There will be a picnic at Butler Park for both classes following their programs.

There are still openings in both classes for next year. If you would like more information about our preschool or would like to schedule a visit please call 815-332-9653.

You can also go to our website: creativelearnersii.org and find us on Facebook. Have a wonderful summer!

Joyfully Teaching, Carol Palmer (Director and Teacher)

Spiritual Insights

John 13:1 and following...

Before the disciples went to eat at the supper table, their feet had to be washed. Jewish law required this to be done by slaves or a servant; disciples were not to do this lowly job. Jesus got up, took a basin of water and a towel, and began to wash the disciples feet as a model for them. When Jesus did what the apostles thought was beneath them, it must have been like a knife in their hearts, convicting them of their pride and unwillingness to be a servant. No wonder Peter said, "You will never wash my feet." (John 13:8). Jesus gave them a new commandment, "Love your enemy, pray for those who persecute you." this commandment was greater than the Old Testament commandment of "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Jesus gives a new commandment in John 13:34; "Love one another just as I have loved you. You are to love one another." It is not possible for us to love as God loves. How are we to do this? Jesus' perfect love is now the standard for us. We cannot love on our own as Jesus loves. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to dwell within us so we can let Jesus love others through us. The Holy Spirit is our counselor, helper, and comforter. Jesus can love through us with his perfect love.

Jim Whitlock

A very special "thank you" to the youth who came and cleaned the debris for me. Thank you so much! Doris Kuelz

Activity Page



We have begun putting a bible related activity page in the *Messenger* each month. The answers to last month's puzzle from Acts is below. This month, we are featuring a puzzle with clues from Romans.

If you get stuck, you may look for the answers referenced in the clues. The answers to this month's puzzle will be printed in the May Messenger.

Answer key to April puzzle from the book of Acts.



Spending Time With the Word

I have been on my own since Pam Grothman left to care for her very ill brother in February. I have one more puzzle to do which will be for Mother's Day. You will be receiving that one soon.



I had a few people that could no longer continue in our program because of family health issues and that is so understandable. Vacations and some puzzles took up lots of family time, but I still have 3 participants who are still enjoying the puzzles.

I will be collecting any puzzles you have not completed on June 4th. Thanks to all who took part in our program and we hope you enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed preparing the puzzles for you.

Lynn Berg

We started with 8 members doing an on-line daily Bible plan. We had 4 or 50% finish the 90 day plan. Three have continued with the app and are moving on with other plans.

Scott Layng

Congratulations Confirmands!



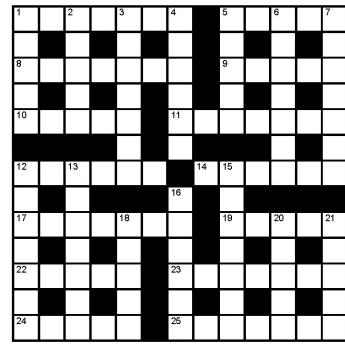
Congratulations to Gwen Flood and Andrew Schwartz who confirmed their faith in the Lord on Sunday, April 20. May God bless you in your spiritual journey.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:00 pm Brownie Scouts	2 6:15 pm Finance Meeting 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	3 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	4	5 7:00 pm Moonlight Bowling Fundraiser @ Concordia Lanes Belvidere	6 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
7 8:00 am UMM @ CV Café 8:45 am Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	8 6:00 pm Brownie Scouts	9 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	10 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	11	12	13 9:00 am GA
14 8:45 am Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am Worship <i>Mother's Day</i> <i>No Fellowship</i>	15 6:00 pm Brownie Scouts	16 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 10:00 am Prayer Shawl 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	18	19 7:00 pm Couples Group Meeting	20 9:00 am GA 10 am—4 pm Mayberry Renewal of Vows Private Event
21 8:45 am Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship Noon—4 pm Studio 3 Fundraiser	22 6:00 pm Brownie Scouts	23 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	24 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	25	26	27 9:00 am GA
28 3:45 am Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship 11:00 am Trustee Meeting	29 6:00 pm Brownie Scouts	30 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	31 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	27	28	29 9:00 am GA

May 2017

A reminder that the Youth Group will be collecting paper goods and other items during the summer to be used for the Paper Angel Project on September 16. 2017. This program supplies paper & personal items to the residents of Midvale Apartments. A complete list of items is available now in the church office and will be listed in the summer issues of this publication.

Romans



Across

- 1 Avoid those who cause divisions "contrary to the doctrine which ye have _____" Rom 16:17 (7)
- 5 Paul wrote the book of Romans. This is another New Testament writer. (5)
- 8 We are not to walk in this. Rom 13:13 (7)
- 9 Paul hopes to journey here. Rom 15:24 (5)
- 10 "For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man____, why doth he yet hope for?" Rom 8:24 (5)
- 11 " ... For he is the minister of God, a revenger to _____ wrath upon him that doeth evil." Rom 13:4 (7)
- 12 "For I delight in the law of God after the _____ man." Rom 7:22 (6)
- 14 Through Christ "we have ________ by faith" to grace. Rom 5:2 (6)
- 17 "There is none that understandeth, there is none that $_$ after God." Rom 3:11 (7)
- 19 A place where sacrifices were offered. (5)
- 22 Do this to that which is evil. Rom 12:9 (5)

- 23 Paul says that "_____ unclean of itself" but only what a man esteems as unclean is unclean. Rom 14:14 (7)
- 24 The first five books of the Old Testament. (5)
- 25 His seed will strike the heel, but his head will be struck. Genesis 3 (7)

Down

- 1 "Whether we live therefore, or die, we are the _____." Rom 14:8 (5)
- 2 "Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left _____, and they seek my life." Rom 11:3 (5)
- 3 "_____yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin." Rom 6:13 (7)
- 4 Paul quotes the prophet Elijah (or Elias) saying, "they have killed thy prophets, and _____

down thine altars." Rom 11:3 (6)

5 Jesus is referred to as the root of ____. Rom 15:12 (5)

6 " ... God hath dealt to every man the _____ of faith." Rom 12:3 (7)

- 7 While we were yet this, Christ died for us. Rom 5:8 (7)
- 12 "Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing _____ in prayer." Rom 12:12 (7)
- 13 "____ we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's." Rom 14:8 (7)
- 15 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans, _____ 3, verse 23.
 (7)
- 16 "Now we know that what soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law." Rom 3:19 (6)
- **18** God raised Pharaoh up so that his name might be declared throughout all the ____. (5)
- 20 Paul is from the _____ of Benjamin. Rom 11:1 (5)
- 21 Christ is at the hand of God. Rom 8:34 (5)



THE BEST WEEK OF THE SUMMER JUNE 19-JUNE 23, 2017

A New frienDs A JMJZING EXPERIMENTS
 CREJTIVE GAMES A LIPSMAKING SNJCKS
 SURPRISING JAVENTURES A INCREDIBLE MUSIC

Location: <u>Cherry Valley United Methodist Church</u> VBS will last from: <u>June 19—June 23, 2017</u> The day will begin: <u>5:40p.m.</u> The day will end: <u>8:00p.m.</u>

> For more information, please call 815-332-5075 or visit our website at <u>cherryvalleyumc.com</u>



We need volunteers to serve snacks and young adults to help with the classes. See Judy Long if you are interested in volunteering.

Created by GOD Built For a Purpose	Registration Form (One Per Child)
Child's name:	Child's gender:
Child's age: Date of birth:	Last school grade completed:
Name of parent(s):	
Street address:	
City:	State: ZIP:
Home telephone: ()	÷
Parent/caregiver's cellphone: ()	
Home email address:	
Home church:	
Crew number or name (for church use only)	:
Allergies or other medical conditions:	
In case of emergency, contact:	
Phone:	
Relationship to child:	•

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May 5, 2017-7:00 pm

makent

loonlight



Cherry Valley United Methodist Church 112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235 Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



