

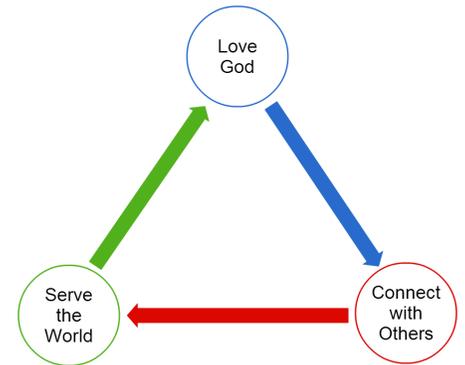
THE MESSENGER

January 2017

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

Victoria L. Hadaway, Pastor
Office: 815/332-5075
Parsonage: 815/580-8553
E-mail: churchinthevalley@comcast.net
Pastor's E-mail: Vickie.31.hadaway@gmail.com
Web site: cherryvalleyumc.org

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



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!! I hope you experienced peace, joy, and love throughout the Christmas season. Our two Christmas services were beautiful and well attended. Everyone who came left with a smile on their face and joy in their heart. How blessed we are to know Jesus and to celebrate God's deep love for us in Jesus Christ!!

Many heartfelt thanks to those who sent cards, gifts, homemade cookies, hugs, invitations, and warm wishes this Christmas season. I hope you ALL know how much I love and appreciate you, especially during this time of year! God truly works through each of you to share the love of Jesus.

News: We will be launching a new website early this year. Our new website will expound on the information in our most recent brochure (copies available from Nancy in the church office). These are some of the things you can do on our new website—

- register for upcoming programs
- give your weekly or special offering
- hear podcast (audio recordings) of my sermons
- connect with our partners in ministry (Creative Learners, Boy Scouts, etc.)
- see pictures of events you missed or want to relive
- post a prayer on a prayer wall
- read about church staff
- check the calendar for upcoming events
- connect to our district, conference, and larger church websites
- and more!!

I'm very excited about this. And I need your help. If you've ever worked on a project, you know it takes a lot of work behind the scenes to get (and keep) it up-to-date. So I will be asking those of you who head small groups, lead ministries, and are active in missions, to help provide copy and pictures from your area. A website is only as good as the information included within it. I believe this will be a way to attract and keep younger people engaged and excited about what God is doing here at 112 S. Cherry Street.

If you have an idea or information you'd like shared on the website, please contact me. It's not my website...it's our website so please help us make this a reflection of Cherry Valley UMC in 2017.

May the peace of Christ be with you,

Pastor Vickie

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Sharing God's Bounty—January

Forgetting What Is Behind

“Forget about it.” It’s a phrase we may say to ourselves when we don’t want to face up to something. Perhaps we give it in the form of advice to someone who’s complaining about an offense he’s received. According to Paul, it’s a good thing to do. It’s counsel he followed himself: *“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 3:13b-14).

Paul had a past anyone would want to forget. In his Pharisaical zeal, he had caused the imprisonment, persecution, and even death of many who were followers of the Way. All that changed, we know, when he himself faced Jesus on the road to Damascus.

Yet, from our reading of Scripture, we know he didn’t “forget what was behind.” He brought it up many times as he explained the change that Jesus had brought about in his life to the other apostles and as he testified in the highest courts of the day.

Like Paul, we can’t forget about our past sins – and maybe that’s good, as long as we remember that Christ has forgotten them! Remembrance of our sins serves the purpose of keeping us humble and grateful, aware that we walk in God’s ways only as we rely on him to lead us, thankful that he forgives all sin, past, present, and future. Then we are not encumbered by guilt (1 John 3:20). We can “[forget] what’s behind” and “press on toward the goal” that Christ has lain out before us as we serve him with all the gifts he so graciously gives us.

We begin a new year in God’s grace. We also begin each day, sometimes each moment, as newly forgiven, cleansed stewards equipped through Word and Sacrament to fulfill God’s purposes for our lives.

Our own growth and the growth of our church depend on the willingness of us all to invest that talent for others. As a member of your church, you are called to share in all aspects of its life. Membership is responsibility - the response to the call to ministry, and service. To be a church member is to answer that call with time and talent.

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Thank You, Salvation Army Bell Ringers



Thank you to all the volunteers who took time to ring bells for the Salvation Army at East State K-Mart and East State Valli in November and December. Maybe we will get back to Schnuck's on East State next year.

Karen Harter, Coordinator



Members & Friends

Alex DeWitt
Edwin Ellison
Amy Flood
Jim & Roberta Harter
Keith Kruger
Terry Murphy
Mandy Kloepfer

Military Personnel

Sean Conderman
Tamara Duke
Dan Harter
Mark Kincaide
Mike Oldham

Those Who Mourn

Karen Harter Family
Leigh Sterrenberg Family
Monica Plummer Family
Meyers Family
Fire Victims Family

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



My family and I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards we received at the passing of my son Mike on October 30th after a long illness, and my son Gary on November 14th, who fought a long battle of cancer. He was at the Mayo Clinic with his family at his bedside. Thank you to everyone who brought food for the luncheon after the funeral and thank you to the Methodist Women for serving the luncheon. God bless everyone.

Lela Lameyer

Cherry Street Club

Thank you to **Sandra Baxter** and **Patty Campbell** for a wonderful Cherry Street Club Christmas Party! The dinner was catered from Salamone’s and was delicious. The hall was decorated in festive Christmas décor. We had a great time and the party was well attended.

Thank you to **Scott Farrell**, who provided lovely Christmas music. He took requests and played all our favorites Christmas carols!

Thanks to all who helped to serve and clean up and thanks to **Judy Long** for posting photos. You can find more pics of the party on Cherry Valley United Methodist Church Facebook page.



Cherry Street Club Christmas Party, December 15, 2016

Cookies for Rose Bud

On December 3, 2016 the Mission Teams from CV and Rockton met at the church to bake cookies for the Lakota Indians of Rose Bud.



Photos courtesy of Judy Long via FaceBook

Couples Group

The church couples group has started and we still have plenty of room for more couples. We meet once a month with our next meeting on January 13th from 7:00—8:30pm. We offer dinner and child care (upon early request). If you would like to join, please contact Sandy Schwartz for a workbook. We hope to see you there.

Questions: Please contact Sandy Schwartz at 779-771-3567 or Ronn Gordon, Jr. at 815-708-1632



Cherry Valley Methodist Women

We were able to deliver 175 Christmas stockings to the Rock House Kids on December 6th. It was a “church wide” effort and we are very grateful for your support.

The women met on December 13th at the home of Melynda Mungor for a time of sharing Christmas memories and fellowship. Following the business meeting we enjoyed a variety of desserts. Thank you, Melynda, for your hospitality.

The Cookie Walk was a success in spite of the cold and snow. Each year we see a large variety of cookies, candies, and breads donated for this event. We appreciate your support in donating and in purchasing the items.

The raffle also met with success. Many items were won by members within our church family. Dana Ward, Hannah Flood, Jim Whitlock, Judy Long, and Deb Gross had their names drawn. Thank you again to the congregation for your support. The Women’s Group is only a representative of Cherry Valley United Methodist Church; without congregational support we would not be able to accomplish the many things we do.

Last, but certainly not least, thank you Melynda Mungor for your years of leadership. We appreciate all you have done. As we move into 2017, may we continue to serve God, our congregation, our church, our community and our world.

Stay warm and stay safe. God’s Blessings,
Donna Layng

REMINDER:

We will conduct the annual church audit beginning in the new year. All groups with checking accounts must gather your files in preparation for your audit.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Layng or Sally Hollebeak.



The Youth group, 6th grade and up meets weekly on Wednesday, 6:30-7:30. Invite youth that you know to join us!

Pastor Vickie's Schedule

Monday	January 2	Off
Tuesday	January 3	9 to 5
Thursday.....	January 5	9 to 4
Monday	January 9	9 to 4
Wednesday	January 11	9 to 5
Saturday.....	January 14	9 to 1
Monday	January 16	9 to 4
Wednesday	January 18	9 to 5
Saturday.....	January 21	9 to 1
Monday	January 23	9 to 4
Thursday.....	January 26	9 to 1
Saturday.....	January 28	9 to 1
Monday	January 30	9 to 4

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

First Church Council Meeting for 2017

The Church Council meeting for new slate of officers will meet on Tuesday, January 17th at 7:00 pm. Committee and board chairpersons are part of the Church Council so please plan to attend. As a way of improving our meetings, each person is asked to send a written report on your area to Nancy by Friday, January 13th for our packet. If you are a new committee chairperson, please talk to Pastor Vickie for direction.

The Finance Team will meet beforehand at 6:15pm.



Thank you to all who helped to make Christmas Eve Service wonderful!

January Worship Leader Schedule	Sunday January 1	Sunday January 8	Sunday January 15	Sunday January 22	Sunday January 29
Liturgist	Sue Layng	Zane Clevenger	Gwen Flood	Andrew Schwartz	Ronn Gordon, Jr.
Greeter Team	Youth Group	Ann Harned Charles Schnuckel	LaVern Neff Jane Neff	Ida Mae Fox Ron Gordon, Sr.	Kathleen Sundberg Judy Krunfus
Check-in Greeters	Youth Group	Chris Flood	Mike Seno	Keith Burritt	Chris Flood
Usher Captain	Youth Group	Dave Ward	Ronn Gordon, Jr.	Keith Burritt	Chris Flood
Children's Message	Pastor Vickie Hadaway	Melynda Mungor	Sue Wilt	Scott Layng	Jenny Maragia
Media	Zane Clevenger	Andrew Schwartz	Matt Gross	Patricia Irps	Matt Gross
Fellowship	Choir	Methodist Women	Mission Team	Emmaus Group	Youth Group

January Birthdays & Anniversaries



30 Harry Buck
31 Lyons Meyers
Jim Coulter

January Birthdays

5 Kathleen Sundberg
7 Connor Kloss
10 Deborah Voorhies
15 Taryn Ward
18 Jordyn Burritt
27 Lavern Neff
28 David Anderson
Donna Layng



January Anniversaries

7 Keith & Terri Burritt
Chuck & Debbie Voorhies

Transform Rockford

The Men's Crisis Center at Rockford Rescue Mission, the city's only emergency homeless shelter for men, needs a male volunteer to assist with the influx of residents who need a warm place to stay.

It is not unusual for the shelter to have to turn men away, because there aren't enough volunteers to accommodate more. "We have to make sure we have the right staffing to cover everything and provide good service for those who come to the mission," Director of Development Rus Howard said.

Because it's a men's shelter, Rockford Rescue Mission is looking for male volunteers. They only need one guy per night, Howard said — no groups.

The volunteer will be expected to stay overnight, and he'll mostly be there to help during any late-night emergencies. Other than that, "it should be a quiet time," Howard said.

"We need to keep a healthy staffing ratio," Howard said. "If there's a need for staff to be diverted for a crisis, we want to make sure we have enough people." If you're interested in getting more information, contact the Mission at (815) 965-5332 or infor@rockfordrescuemission.org



December is an exciting month. Our scouts met at the Christmas Tree Lot weekly to have fun in the cold and snow. Everything can be fun when you are prepared. The Scout Motto is: *Be prepared!* We ARE Prepared! We always do our duty first (clean-up and display trees).

We played Capture The Flag, Flag Football, and a

Campfire Program. Then, we met at the church for our annual Christmas Party (pizza from Salamone's, a gift exchange game, and fantastic fellowship). 77 scouts and family members had a great time; you should have been there to hear the laughter and thankfulness!

The December weather has been rough on Christmas tree sales; we had a lot of snow on key Sundays with some bitter cold a few days. Our scout families were always there, but a few customers have stayed warm at home. A few of our scouts and adults were recertified in CPR and First Aid in December.

January meetings will include a Movie Night on the first meeting, and Native American Games at the second meeting. Then, we will go camping; this one will be in a cabin on Lake Ripley, near Cambridge, WI. The remaining meetings in January include: the making of walking sticks, learning to do some wood burning designs, and LEGO Night toward the end of the month.

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.



It's time for us to begin organizing ourselves for the upcoming RRM event scheduled for Sunday, January 29, 2017. At this event, we share the good news of Jesus Christ, provide food for clients, and generally have a good time serving neighbors in our community. Last year we provided sack lunches, and this year we would like to provide a hot meal (it is a January evening after all!). If you want to see the Spirit at work, come join us as we share our faith through service! If you have any questions, please contact Chris Flood through the church office (312) 322-5075.



Church Leaders

Pastor Vickie will be installing and blessing the new church leaders during the service on January 15. If you are a member of any of the committees, please plan to be in worship for that service. Below is the 2017 Church Council and Committees:

		Class of		
Chairperson				
Lay Leader	Sue Layng	2017		
Recording Secretary	Juanita Barnes	2018		
Membership Secretary	Barbara Anderson	2017		
Lay Member to AC	Ron Gordon Sr.	2020		
	Sherry Gordon	2018		
Alternate Lay Member	TBD			
United Methodist Men	Warren Gross			
United Methodist Youth	Zane Clevenger	2018		
Member-at-Large	Janet Davis	2018		
Staff Parish Relations Committee	2018		Finance Committee	
LaVern Neff (Chair)	2018		Sue Layng (Chair)	2017
Ronn Gordon Jr.	2017		Dan Halley (Treasurer)	2017
Kathleen Sundberg	2017		Mary Lou Clevenger (Recorder)	2018
Amy Flood	2019		Jane Neff	2019
Patricia Irps	2019			
Ex Officio: LMAC, LL, Pastor			Counters: Barbara Anderson, Jane Neff, Mary Bowling, Karen Harter	
Committee of Memorials & Gifts			Outreach & Evangelism	
Grace Harter (Chair)	2018		_____ (Chair)	2018
Karen Harter	2019		Hannah Flood	2018
Donna Layng	2017		Mary Coulter	2018
Pam Grothman	2018		Mandy Kloepfer	2017
			Terri Burritt	2018
Board of Trustees			Education Ministry	
Dave Ward (Chair)	2018		Judy Long (SS Super)	2019
Jim Bryant	2018			
Nick Brown	2018		Worship Committee	
Dave Anderson	2017		Juanita Barnes (Chair)	2018
Patty Campbell	2017		Judy Krunfus	
Charlie Schnuckel	2018		Deb Seno	
Audit Committee			Lay Leadership Committee	
Sally Hollebeak	2017		Pastor Vickie Hadaway (Chair)	
Scott Layng	2018		Sue Layng (Lay Leader)	2017
			Kathy Sundberg	2017
			_____	2018
			_____	2018
Methodist Men			Methodist Women	
Warren Gross, President			Donna Layng, President	2018
Dave Ward			Pat Newell, Secretary	2017
			Kathleen Sundberg	2017
			Sandra Baxter & Melynda Mungor	
			Special Events Co-ordinators	2018
Creative Learners II Pre-school Board				
Karen Harter, President				
Pat Gorsuch, Treasurer				
Barb Anderson, Grace Harter, Donna Layng				
Carol Palmer, Pre-school Director				

A reminder that Church Council will have the first meeting of the new year on January 17 at 7:00 pm.

Happy New Year from everyone at Creative Learners!

It's already time to start thinking about enrolling for the 2017-18 school year. Registration opens to the public on February 1st. Please call [815-332-9653](tel:815-332-9653) to request a Registration Packet, to schedule a visit or for more information. Classes are filled on a first come, first serve basis. You may also visit our website at creative learnersii.org or find us on Facebook.

Joyfully Teaching,
Carol Palmer



A spontaneous classroom reenactment of the Christmas story.

Calling All Church Leaders!

January 28, 2017
Faith UMC, 1440 S. Walnut, Freeport, IL
8:00 am—12:30 pm

Join your Rockford District United Methodist family for a day of learning for those in leadership and in service in the local church. This day is for you if you serve in one or more of the following:

Trustees—SPRC members—Lay Leaders—Program Leaders—Lay Members to the AC—Committee Leaders—Treasurers—Finance Committee members—Church Administrators

Register at www.umcnic.org/2017RkfdTraining. All attendees are encouraged to register for 2 workshops. For more information, call 815-561-8285. Registration deadline is January 25, 2017.

There is no cost for this event!



We will begin putting a bible related activity page in the Messenger each month through the year. It will include a crossword puzzle or perhaps a word search or a riddle. The answer will appear in the next month's issue of the Messenger.

This month, we are having a crossword puzzle and you can look up some of the answers in the book of Matthew. Have fun!

Confirmation Class Schedule

The final months of Confirmation is upon us. The classes are at 11:30 a.m. after worship unless otherwise stated. The dates are as follows:

January 8	January 22
February 19	
March 12	March 19

Confirmation Sunday is April 30. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Vickie.

Rock River Valley Food Pantry



ROCK RIVER VALLEY
PANTRY
Northern Illinois' Largest
Community Food Pantry

Dear Pastor Hadaway and Congregation,

Thank you for your recent donation of 98 pounds of food! The Pantry relies on community support like yours to help the 7,000 individuals who come to us each month needing food assistance.

On behalf of these neighbors, plus our volunteers, staff, and Board of Directors, I hope you have a happy and healthy new year!

Sincerely,
Kim Adams-Bakke, Executive Director

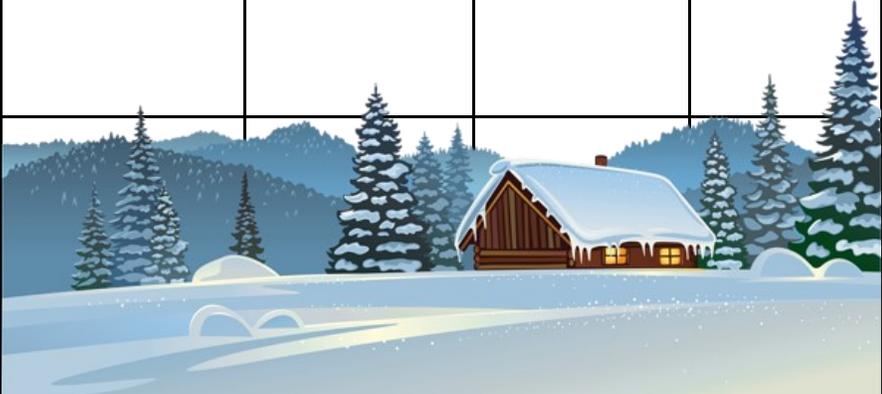
Rock House Kids

Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity of Christmas stockings for our kids. We appreciate you and your support! We look forward to working with you in the New Year of 2017!



Front Row: Lori Mitchell, Secretary Dee Lachy, COO
Sandra Fjotter, Accountant
Back Row: Paul Iverson Rich McLaughlin, Vice President
Dola Gregory, CEO Bradley Gummow
President, Daniel Bross absent

January 2017

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1 8:00 am UMM @ CV Caf� <i>No Sunday School</i> 9:45 am Worship	2 6:00 pm Brownie Scouts	3 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	4 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Caf� 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	5 6:30 pm Disciples in Action	6	7 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
8 8:45 am Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship 11:30 am Confirmation 4:00 pm Venture Crew	9 6:00 pm Brownie Scouts	10 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	11 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Caf� 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	12 6:30 pm Disciples in Action	13	14 9:00 am GA
15 8:45 am Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship <i>Installation of Newly Appointed Church Leaders</i>	16 6:00 pm Brownie Scouts	17 6:15 am Finance Meeting 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Church Council	18 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Caf� 10:30 am Prayer Shawl 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	19 6:30 pm Disciples in Action	20	21 9:00 am GA
22 8:45 am Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship 11:30 am Confirmation	23 6:00 pm Brownie Scouts	24 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	25 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Caf� 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	26 6:30 pm Disciples in Action	27	28 9:00 am GA
29 8:45 am Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship 11:00 am Trustees <i>Rockford Rescue Mission Event</i>	30 6:00 pm Brownie Scouts	31 6:30 pm Boy Scouts				

Items for the February Messenger are due to the secretary by January 15.

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CHERRY VALLEY
IL 61016



Sunday @ 8:45 am—
Sunday School for all ages
September—May
Sunday@ 9:45 am—Worship
Sunday@ 11:00 am—Fellowship

All are welcome!

Worship
OPPORTUNITIES

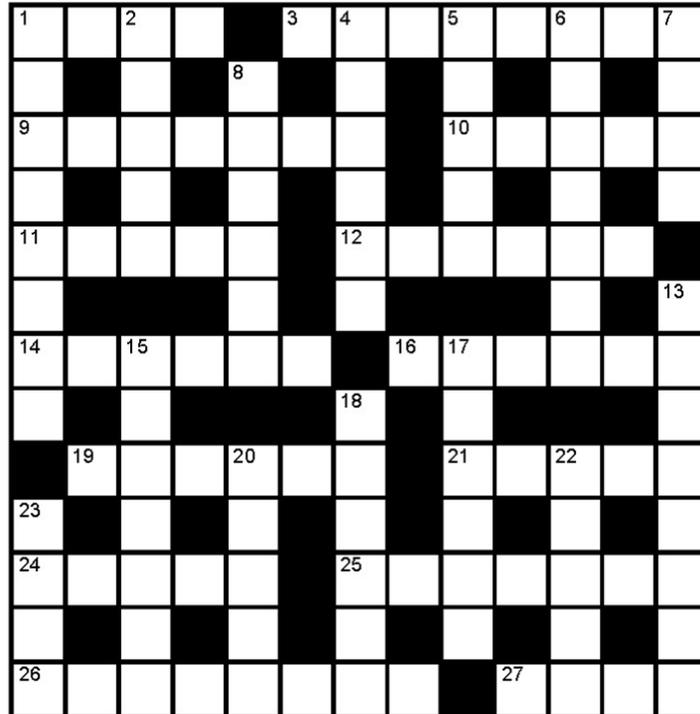


Pastor: Vickie Hadaway
Secretary: Nancy Laurent
Church Office Hours
Tuesday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Matthew

Across

- 1 Fear Him who is able to destroy _____ soul and body in hell. Matt 10:28 (4)
- 3 "By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not _____." Matt 13:14 (8)
- 9 Jesus calls Peter this after he proclaims Jesus the "Christ, Son of the living God." It means "Son of Jonah." Matt 16:17 (7)
- 10 Along with clothing of sackcloth, this was a physical display of repentance. Matt 11:21 (5)
- 11 Means a "flowing of blood" and describes the woman who touched the hem of Jesus' garment. Matt 9:20 (5)
- 12 One sheep may "go _____" and the Shepherd will leave his ninety-nine to find it and rejoice. Matt 18:12 (6)
- 14 The Pharisees sought to do this to Jesus when he healed a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath. Matt 12:10 (6)
- 16 One of the twelve apostles. Matt 10:2-4 (6)
- 19 Synonym for "young woman." Matt 26:69 (6)
- 21 The Heavenly Father feeds the fowls of the air, although they do not sow, reap or gather into these. Matt 6:26 (5)
- 24 "And ye shall be _____ of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved." Matt 10:22 (5)



- 25 What mingled with fire in Exodus 9:24 during the plagues? (3, 4)
- 26 These were what Christ performed when he went from town to town. (8)
- 27 Jesus opened these when two men answered that they believed that he was able to heal them. Matt 9:29 (4)

Down

- 1 Adjective form of "Bible." (8)
- 2 These are sown by an enemy with the good seed. They will grow together until the harvest and then be gathered first and burned. Matt 13:25-32 (5)
- 4 The Old Testament prophet who said "Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." Matt 3:3 (6)
- 5 Jesus left Nazareth and dwelt in Capernaum, which is on the _____ of the Sea of Galilee. Matt 4:13 (5)

6 This son of Abraham is not in the genealogy of Christ. Matt 1:2 (7)

7 This was where the wise men were from when they came to worship Jesus. Matt 2:1 (4)

8 "The sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the _____ of the heavens shall be shaken." Matt 24:29 (6)

13 The Greek definition of this word (apostolos) means "messengers." Matt 10:2 (8)

15 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew _____ 6, verse 13. (7)

17 Although Matthew was a Jew, he wrote this gospel in Greek. Other New Testament texts were written in Aramaic. What language was the Old Testament written in? (6)

18 "Wherefore, if God so _____ the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more _____ you, O ye of little faith?" Matt 6:30 (6)

20 Begat by Azor and begat Achim. Matt 1:1-16 (5)

22 "Therefore be ye also _____: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matt 24:44 (5)

23 "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless _____ that curse you, do good to _____ that hate you, and pray for _____ which despitefully use you, and persecute you." Matt 5:44 (4)