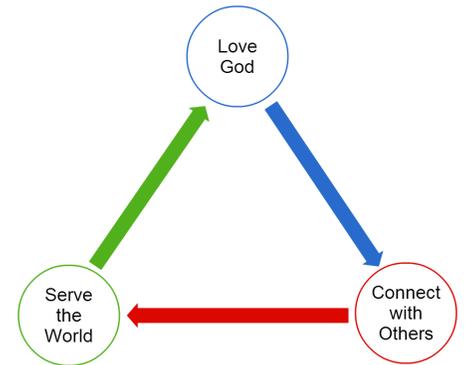


THE MESSENGER

February 2018

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

Victoria L. Hadaway, Pastor
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 Pastor's E-mail: Vickie.31.hadaway@gmail.com
 Web site: cherryvalleyumc.com



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

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. We as Christians focus on our relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others. This Lent, join us in a life-giving journey where we will explore these biblical, creative and transformation themes.

Journey with Jesus through the Desert for Lent.

“What place does sorrow have in worship”,
 “What does it mean to worship sacrificially?”
 “Is there more to Lent than fasting from chocolate?”

February 14: Ash Wednesday – A Secret Journey

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” (Psalm 51:3)

- Brief Service and imposition of ashes, Noon
- Worship service and imposition of ashes, 7:00pm

February 18: Lent One – A Spirit-Led Journey

“Let my people go that they may worship me in the wilderness.” (Exodus 7:16)

February 25: Lent Two – A Simple Journey

“...the rich simplicity of being yourself before God.” (1 Timothy 6:6)

March 4: Lent Three – A Sorrowful Journey

“Crying is better than laughing. It blotches the face but it scour the heart.” (Ecclesiastes 7:3)

March 11: Lent Four – A Sacrificial Journey

“Do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.” (Hebrews 13:16)

March 18: Lent Five – A Truth-Speaking Journey

“But the word of our God stands forever...Shout it louder

March 25: Palm Sunday – A Surprising Journey

“The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.” (Isaiah 35:1)

March 29: Maundy Thursday

March 30: Good Friday

April 1: Easter Sunday

- 7:30 am Worship at the Gazebo in Baumann Park
- 8:00 am Breakfast at church
- 8:45 am Sunday school for children
- 9:45 am Worship in Sanctuary

Pastor Vickie

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Sharing God's Bounty—February

Each household has its own routine. We go to work; we help the kids with their homework and attend their events; we make the meals, clean the house, and do the laundry. Our days are full – sometimes too full. So full that time for the Lord is abbreviated or omitted altogether. Then comes Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. It's just what we need to get back on track. We gather together for worship. We hear again about Jesus' ministry, about the events that eventually lead up to his crucifixion, about his zeal for the Lord's house. We hear his prayer for his disciples and his words of comfort and preparation to them.

Our hearts are turned to Christ instead of toward ourselves. We ask for grace to love and serve as he did, sacrificing self for the good of others. *"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends"* (John 15:13). Paul comments, *"Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:7-8). God loved and chose us, the unlovely, to shed his grace upon. We are reminded that, *"since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another"* (1 John 4:11).

"Love one another." Not just our close friends or those who agree with us, but *"one another."* We can't do it, can we? Some people are just too hard to love. Some people are not deserving of our gifts and our attention. Some people aren't interested in the love we have to offer. The command remains: *"Love one another."*

Now is a good time to read John 15. Here we find the secret of loving and serving. Here we find the source of love, of faith, of everything we need. That source is Jesus. He is the Vine. He sustains and nurtures us, the branches. He enables us to bear fruit, to *"love one another."* He calls those who obey him. His friends and tells us he will give us whatever we ask in his name. So we pray, Lord, let us *"love one another."*

Too often we fail to understand that Christian instruction about money is one of the best opportunities we have to teach our children about God's love for us, and his ownership of all things.

The way we use money is the extension of our personal characteristics.

By teaching our children the Christian use of money, affording them control of money and the need to make decisions about money, we also confront them with the meaning of discipleship and Christian stewardship.



Members & Friends

Janet Davis
 Ida Mae Fox's G. grandson
 Judy Krunfus
 Lyons Meyers
 Marlene Meyers
 Joseph Rudsell Family
 Deb Seno

Military Personnel

Matt Benson
 Sean Conderman
 Ramon Duarte
 Tamara Duke
 Dan Harter
 Mark Kincaide
 Mike Oldham

Those Who Mourn

Beth Vowles 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

Thanks to everyone who helped in taking down the Christmas decorations. It's always wonderful to see the church decorated, but the hard work of taking down and storing the decorations for the next time is often times forgotten. Thank you to Juanita Barnes, Judy Krunfus, Deb Seno, and Jim Bryant who are the Worship Committee, for making the church so inviting.

Thank you to everyone for your prayers for Kirk, Deb Gross' cousin. His heart surgery went well and Kirk continues to get better every day—even better than anticipated! Thanks for your prayers.

The Gideons International Bible Project

The Gideon's have provided us with a display container and cards that we can use for various occasions. The purpose of the cards are so that you can send a Christian message for celebration, memorial, etc., and you will be helping the Gideons place bibles all over the world.

The cards are free for your use and you may use a check or credit card to make your donation.

The display will be in the foyer of the church and the cards will be restocked as needed by the Gideons. Please take a look at the display and read some of the information contained within.



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

The Methodist Women will hold their annual Valentine Bake Sale on Sunday, February 11. Be sure to get plenty of goodies for your special Valentine!

Methodist Women

Valentine Bake Sale
Sunday (after worship)
February 11, 2018

Get sweet treats for you special valentine...or for yourself!



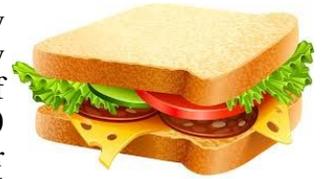
Scout Sunday

Scout Sunday is February 11. The scouts will participate in all areas of the worship service. This is always an enjoyable service and is well attended by the scouts and their families and friends. We have various scouting groups who meet at the church regularly. They are:

- 3rd grade Brownie troop meets on Mondays, from 6:15-7:30 pm. For information about the Brownies, contact Sandy Schwartz at 815-874-4363.
- 2nd grade Cub Scouts (wolves) meets on Thursdays, from 6-7:30 pm. For information about the Cub Scouts, contact Heather Persaud at 815-558-0455.
- Boy Scouts troop 181 grades 5th-9th, meets on Tuesdays, from 6:30-8:00 pm. For information about Troop 181 and scouting in general, contact Terry Nichols at 815-540-5900 or Sandy Schwartz.
- Venturing Crew boys and girls ages 14-21 meet on the first Sunday of the month. For information about the Venture Crew, contact Sandy Schwartz.

Thanks to the members of Cherry Valley United Methodist Church for supporting the scouts!

The New Year began quietly for us but we are now rapidly moving forward. The end of January saw us making 200 sandwiches to put into bags for the out reach to the Rockford Rescue Mission. The women are great sandwich makers!



In February we are looking forward to our Valentine Bake Sale on February 12. Following worship, you will find a variety of sweets to purchase for your sweetie.

On February 13, we will celebrate Shrove Tuesday with the annual Pancake Supper from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm. All are welcome to join us for good food and fellowship as we prepare our hearts and minds for Lent leading to Easter.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the entire congregation for your support of our activities. We couldn't do the things we do without you!

Striving to serve, Donna Layng

2017 Giving Statements

The 2017 Giving Statements will be mailed in February. Thank you to all who gave this year and we hope for a good giving year in 2018.



SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Fun & Fellowship
for all ages!

4:30—7:00 pm
Tuesday, February 13, 2018

All Are welcome.

Free will donations accepted.



Birthdays of the Month

- 3 Riley Sundberg
- 5 Mary Wilson
- 6 Matthew Gross
- 9 Keith Burritt
- 12 Taylor Gross
- 13 Kathy Ware
- 17 Mary Lou Clevenger
- 19 Teaghan Brown
- 21 Judith Krunfus
- 23 Mark Snyder
- 28 Pam Grothman



- 14 Ryan & Janis Gordon
- 19 Louie & Pat Cowan



Spiritual Insights

Believe and surrender to God—*John 4:46-54*

It is easy to say “I believe in Jesus”, but believing and trusting has two aspects.

One aspect is believing in our *minds* in God and Jesus. That is to say, we are convinced *intellectually* that God and Jesus really do exist.

The other aspect of believing and trusting in God is not arrived at by prior knowledge. We cannot possibly arrive at believing and trusting God by natural knowledge. It must be a divine revelation. It must be a personal decision to accept God and Jesus Christ in our heart, thru the revelation of what Jesus did for us on the Cross.

God has revealed the mystery, His plan, of loving goodness from all eternity in Christ Jesus for all the good of all men and women. He revealed this by sending His son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Only the blood of Jesus can wash away our sins.

Faith ✿ Hope ✿ Love

Jim Whitlock

February Worship Leader Schedule	Sunday February 4	Sunday February 11	Sunday February 18	Sunday February 25
Liturgist	Sue Layng	Keith Burritt	Hannah Flood	Charles Schnuckel
Greeter Team	Mary Wilson Judy Krunfus	Kathleen Sundberg Ann Harned	Sandra Baxter Charles Schnuckel	Pat Newell Jim Newell
Usher	Youth Group	Dave Ward	Dave Ward	Keith Burritt
Children's Message	Carolyn Kloss	Deb Seno	Pastor Vickie Hadaway	Hannah Flood
Media	Zane Clevenger	Andrew Schwartz	Matt Gross	Sol Keip
Fellowship	Choir	Emmaus Group	Mission Team	Methodist Women

Pastor Vickie's Schedule

(Unless otherwise noted, Friday will be my day off.)

Monday, February 5 9 to 4
 Wednesday, February 7 9 to 4
 Saturday, February 10 9 to 1

Monday, February 12 9 to 4
 Wednesday, February 14 9 to 3
 Saturday, February 17 9 to 1

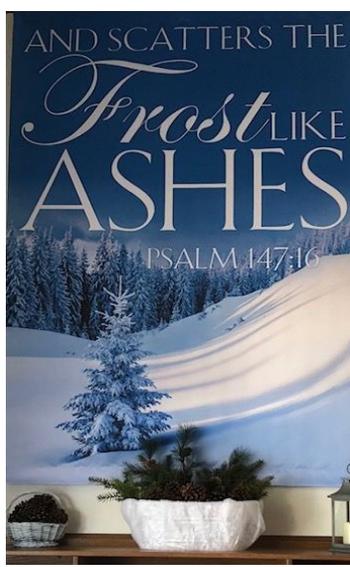
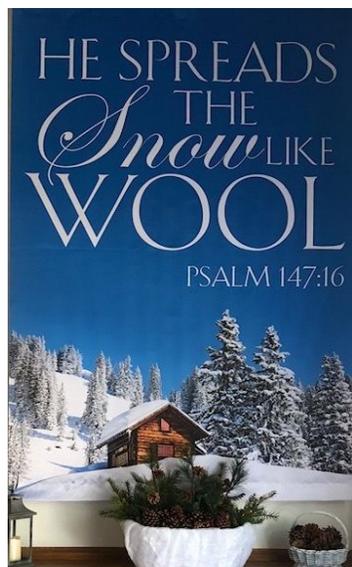
Monday, February 19 9 to 4
 Wednesday, February 21 9 to 4
 Saturday, February 24 9 to 1

Monday, February 24 9 to 4
 Wednesday, February 28 9 to 4

**If you need me, please call
 my cell: (708) 494-1877**

*Pastor Vickie will return from vacation on
 February 2. If you have pastoral needs in her
 absence, please call the church office at
 815-332-5075 for the name of a pastor.*

Please take time to notice the new winter themed banners in the foyer. They are awesome. **Thank you** to Juanita Barnes and the Worship Committee for decorating our church so beautifully!



Check the directory in the foyer of the church to make sure we have your most current personal information. We will be printing the new directory this month and we would like it to be as current as possible.

Rock River Valley Food Pantry



ROCK RIVER VALLEY
PANTRY
 Northern Illinois' Largest
 Community Food Pantry

Dear Pastor Hadaway and Congregation,

Thank you for your gift of 100 pounds of food, which will help feed the 6,800 people, on average, who visit the Pantry each month! Once our volunteers sort through non-perishables like yours, they stack the shelves for people to choose enough nutritious groceries, based on their family size, to last up to four days.

The Pantry recently moved to this choice system, and the response has been positive. By allowing people to select their own food instead of receiving prepackaged bags, those in need take only the items they know their families will use and leave the rest for others. This in turn limits food waste and saves the pantry money simply because we're not ordering items the clients don't want. Just as important, though, the choice system upholds people's dignity by allowing them to feel like they're shopping and not being given a handout.

Sincerely,
 Kim Adams-Bakke, Executive Director

*This Lenten/Easter prayer was composed by the
 Rev. Michaela Youngson, the Methodist Church of
 Britain.*

When everything was dark
 and it seemed that the sun would never shine again,
 your love broke through.

Your love was too strong,
 too wide,
 too deep
 for death to hold.

The sparks cast by your love
 dance and spread
 and burst forth
 with resurrection light.

Gracious God,
 We praise you for the light of new life
 made possible through Jesus.
 We praise you for the light of new life
 that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.
 We praise you for the light of new life
 that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy,
 will live in us each day;
 and that we will be bearers of that light
 into the lives of others.
 Amen.



It's time to register for next school year!

On Thursday, February 8th we will be having a Preschool Registration Open House, from 6 pm to 8 pm. Please invite any family or friends you know who might be interested. They are welcome to bring their preschool aged child/children to visit the preschool that night and experience the different areas of play and learning as well as meet the teachers.

We're looking forward to meeting our future family and students! For more information please call 815-332-9653.

Carol Palmer, Director/Teacher

United Methodist Men



The UMM continue to have their monthly meeting at the Cherry Valley Café, the first Sunday of the month at 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM. All men are welcome to attend. See Dave Ward for more information about the UMM.

Crop Hunger Walk Award

Dear Friends of Rockford's CROP Hunger Walk,

The Greater Rock Valley Pantry Coalition was presented a check for \$6,445.09. This is 25% of the funds you helped raise last October during the CROP Hunger Walk. Attached are pictures of some representatives of the ten pantries that currently make up the Coalition. Each one will receive an equal portion of the check.

Please accept their thanks for the job you and your Walkers did last fall and pass this on to them. Remind them their help is needed again in the 2018 Hunger Walk which is Sunday, October 21st.

David Jones
Stanley Campbell



We did not have a meeting on January 2, but enjoyed January 9 by creating Movie Night. That means a screen, computer projector, DVD, and a lot of popcorn in the fellowship hall. Also, a few of our scouts completed the night by designing a menu for the camp-in at Lake Ripley

The third Tuesday of the month was more fun when scouts enjoyed Patrol Challenges and games. The 4th Tuesday found scouts practicing their first aid skills by practicing accident scenarios. We hoped to meet at Severson Dells on the final Tuesday of January.



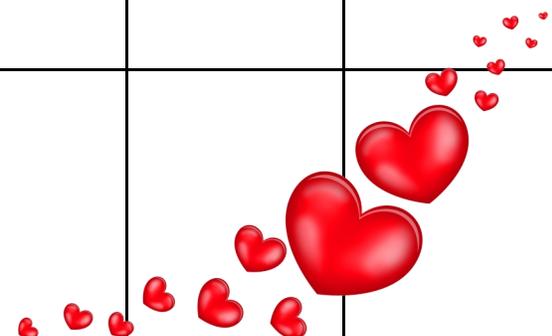
February is a busy month, and the anniversary of the BSA, 108 years. We're going to start the month by camping-in at Russell Woods in DeKalb County. It's an annual tradition.

The first Tuesday of the month will find us at the Continuous Fire, which celebrates the week encompassing February 8. This year, we'll be at the Spring Creek United Church of Christ, just east of Alpine Road. Please honk when you drive by, to let the scouts and scouters know you appreciate their vigilance in the cold all week.

Scout Sunday at Cherry Valley United Methodist Church is February 11. Come to that service to meet some of the Boy Scouts of Troop 181, the Girl Scout Brownie Troop, the older scouts of Venturing Crew 181, and a few of the Cub Scouts of Pack 429. On February 13, our Troop will meet at the trampoline park within the Cherry Vale complex. The third Tuesday of February will be a STEM Night (science, technology, engineering, and math) incorporating some modern theories. We hope to swim on the final Tuesday.

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.

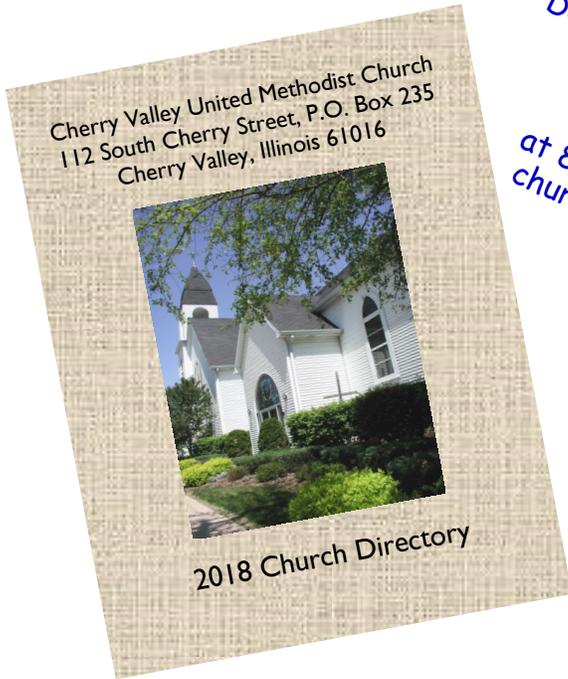
February 2018

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:45 pm Thursday Night Disciple Group	2	3 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
4 8:00 am UMM @ CV Café 8:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	5 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	6 12:00 pm Preschool Board Meeting 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	7 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	8 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:45 pm Thursday Night Disciple Group 6:00 pm-8:00 pm Creative Learners II Registration Open House	9	10 9:00 am GA
11 8:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 am Fellowship 11:15 am Methodist Women Valentine Bake Sale <i>Scout Sunday</i>	12 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	13 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 4:30-7:00 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	14 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship 	15 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:45 pm Thursday Night Disciple Group <i>Newsletter items due</i>	16	17 9:00 am GA
18 8:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	19 6:00 pm Girl Scouts <i>Presidents Day</i>	20 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	21 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	22 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:45 pm Thursday Night Disciple Group	23	24 9:00 am GA
25 8:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship 11:15 am Trustees	26 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	27 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	28 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir			



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

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 CHERRY VALLEY
 IL 61016



*Don't forget to sign up if you want
 a new directory.
 You may sign up at church,
 call the church office
 at 815-332-5075 or email us at
 churchinthevalley@comcast.net*





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



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