

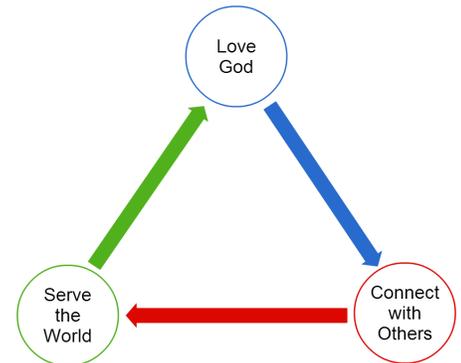
# THE MESSENGER

July 2018

## Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

Rev. Mark Harkness, Pastor  
Office: 815/332-5075  
Parsonage: 815/580-8553  
E-mail: churchinthevalley@comcast.net  
Pastor's E-mail: mark.harkness@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.*



*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. **John 1:1-5***

*The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. **Mark 1:1***

Grace and peace in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

As you can probably imagine, life in the Harkness household has been disrupted, of late. We spent several weeks purging closets, filling boxes and navigating through the clutter as we packed preparing to move to Cherry Valley. We anticipate a week or two of unpacking and navigating the through clutter as we unpack after we arrive on June 26.

In the midst of the past few months, we've also navigated the swing of emotions. There's been sadness to leave people who have loved us and whom we love in Christ. Then there's the excitement of coming to Cherry Valley, accompanied by the joy we've experience in our welcome here through church members we've already met.

The two Scripture passages, above, are two of my favorite. They seemed appropriate to share with you now. Wherever we are on our Christian journey, we really are only experiencing the beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ. As the hymnist wrote "When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to praise God's name than when we'd first begun." Yet in a very real way this is a new beginning for us in our lives as Christians. For you, that means a new pastor. For me, it means a new people to serve and love as we share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In the meantime, the prologue to John, reminds us that what we think of as beginning, has always been. The grace of Jesus Christ has lived and thrived before any of us we're even a twinkle in our parents' eyes and before there was a church in Cherry Valley. Therefore, I am blessed to come among you and the ministry that has grown here for many years.

On July 1, I'll explain some of the quirks of your new pastor and how they relate to my spiritual practices. However, one of my spiritual practices is to engage in formal morning and evening prayer. During that prayer time, I pray for the Church (when I use a capital "C" it means the entire body of Christ), local congregations, our bishop, and the congregation that I serve.

I'd like the prayers that I offer for this congregation to be specific. Therefore, I'll be praying for you each individually. Looking through the church directory, I noticed almost five hundred names. Therefore, except for special prayer needs, I'll be praying for each of you and your families at least once a month. To that end, you will receive a text or e-mail telling you when I'll be praying for you. You may even receive the occasional phone call asking if there is anything in particular about which I should pray. Don't be alarmed. I mention this, because in my most recent appointment, those initial texts and e-mails were met with "Is everything okay?" or other concerns – not unlike the reaction of hospital patients during my chaplaincy internship in seminary who assumed they must be dying if the chaplain popped his head into the room.

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*I***N THE  
BEGINNING  
WAS  
THE WORD,  
AND  
THE WORD  
WAS WITH GOD,  
AND  
THE WORD  
WAS  
GOD**

(Continued from page 1)

Prayer – our regular conversation with God – is foundational to who we are made to be. Therefore, I also ask that you will pray for me (as your pastor) and Susan.

Although this is a new beginning for us, we come to it together in the midst of the beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Your Brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

## Bishop's Appeal



## GLOBAL MIGRATION

On May 13th and May 27th, we took special collections for the Bishop's Appeal to take to the

Annual Conference. We collected \$295.00.....Awesome!

75% of the funds collected from all the Northern Illinois Conference churches will go towards Global Migration Advance for international assistance to refugees and migrants. 25 % will stay in Northern Illinois to help support Refugee One and World Relief, organizations that work with local immigrant and refugee families.

Thank you for your generous support of the Bishop's Appeal.

## VBS

The VBS crew and school youth will be marching in the 4th of July parade to let the community know about our VBS program. We will be tossing candy and handing out flyers with registration information.

If you picked a fish stating the need for candy, please bring your candy to the church no later than July 1. We will be using it in the parade.



I would like the parade crew to wear sailor or tropical type attire in the parade (wear good walking shoes and sun screen). We are to meet on Elgin St. at 12:30 for the parade line-up. I hope to see the whole VBS crew there to march. Please come out to watch the parade and support us.

There will be a meeting of the entire VBS crew after worship on **July 8th** to help decorate the church for VBS. If we still need additional touch ups, we can meet Monday morning or afternoon, July 9th.

If you are a crew member, please arrive at the church by 5:30 pm on the first night, Monday, July 9th. The arrival time for the rest of the week will be 5:45 pm. Thanks everyone!

Deb Gross, VBS Coordinator



### Military Personnel

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

### Members & Friends

Deb DeWitt  
Karen Harter  
Trudy Hunt  
Carl & Judy Irps  
Kim & C.J  
Lela Lameyer  
Lyons Meyers  
Marlene Meyers  
Jane Neff  
Jim & Barb Whitlock

### Those Who Mourn

Pat Cowan and 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



Dear Pastor,

On behalf of Rockford Promise I would like to thank you for your recent donation of \$135. Your generous gift will help change the life path of high-potential, low income graduates of the Rockford Public Schools who may not otherwise have the opportunity to attend college.

Rockford Promise currently has 14 students attending college under full-tuition scholarships—four at Rockford University and 10 at Rock Valley College. In addition, we recently selected 22 students from the 2018 graduating class of Rockford Public Schools to receive full tuition scholarships, more than double the number awarded last year.

Through Promise Scholars, the vision of enhancing economic vitality in the Rockford region by providing access to post-secondary education for all RPS graduates is beginning to be fulfilled. We are pleased that you share this vision and truly appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,  
Brian L. Kobischka, CPA  
Treasurer



Imagine what God could do through you.

## Author Karla Lowe-Phelps

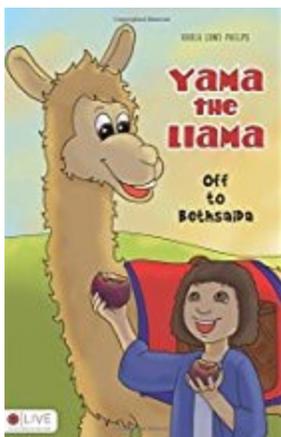
Karen Harter's sister, Karla Lowe-Phelps, will have an article published in either the July or August, 2018, issue of Guideposts Magazine. It will be on "What Prayer Can Do" page.

Karla has written three children's books; Yama the Llama Off to Bethlehem, Yama the Llama Off to Jerusalem, and Yama the Llama Off to Bethsaida.

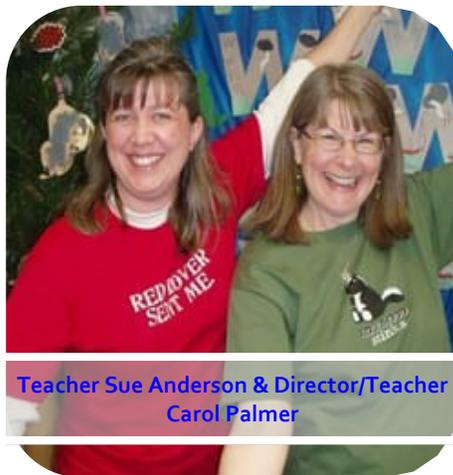
Karla, a registered nurse, is passionate about children. She believes that showing children that they are the beloved creation of God is as essential to their growth as good nutrition. She and Russel raised three sons who are, now, the fathers of their 5 grandchildren. They have also supported eight children through ChildFund. Yama the Llama is dedicated to her grandchildren and the children of ChildFund.

She uses her nursing, farming and ministry skills as a volunteer with her church and internationally with UMCOR Volunteers in Mission. She and her husband are very active members at First United Methodist Church in Lebanon, MO.

Proceeds from her book sales support the health, education and welfare of children, mothers and families in 3rd world nations.



## Creative Learners II Pre-School



You still have time to enroll your preschool age child in both of our preschool classes! M/W/F is for 4 and 5 year olds and T/TH is for 3 and 4 year olds.

We will continue to register through the summer as long as we still have openings. Parent Orientation Night for the 2018-2019 school year will be held on **Monday,**

**August 27th at 6:00 pm at the preschool.** We will meet in the church sanctuary. This is an informational meeting for families with children currently enrolled in our program and for those who may be interested in enrolling in classes.

If you and your child have not yet visited the preschool, we'd be happy to schedule a time to meet with you!

Call the preschool at 815-332-9653, visit our website at [creativelearnersii.org](http://creativelearnersii.org) or connect with us on Facebook.

Summer blessings!  
Carol Palmer  
(Director/Teacher)

## Methodist Women

The Methodist Women did not meet in June, instead we went to the Aloha Party for Pastor Vickie hosted by the Youth Group. We were so proud of the Youth Group for providing such an opportunity for us to wish Pastor Vickie goodbye. We were pleased to be a participant, rather than a server.

We will be welcoming Pastor Mark and Susan with a meal on "move-in day." I will contact those who signed up to help. I encourage each of you to be in church on July 1st to further welcome them.

The Women's Group will NOT meet in July or August. VBS will be happening in July and I encourage each of you to volunteer to help with VBS in some way. I can always use an extra pair of hands with snacks.

We will not be meeting in August due to Worship in the Park on August 12, the date for our usual meeting. Please make every effort to attend worship that day and enjoy a great time of fellowship with the picnic that follows worship.

Our next regular meeting will be on September 9 following worship.

Striving to serve,  
Donna Layng



## Mission Team wish tree



- The Mission Team is collecting items needed for the trip to South Dakota.
- Tags will have a needed item written on it
- Please take a tag and bring that item to the church any time between now and mission week.

*Mission Week:*  
*Departure July 21*  
*Return July 29*

For more information,  
see Mary Coulter

Thank you for your support of the Mission Team

# Spiritual Insights

By Jim Whitlock

Genesis 24:1-66



Chapter 24 deals with the story of Abraham commanding his servant Eliezer to find a wife for his son Isaac. The servant was to find a wife for Isaac from Abraham's kindred from his country, not from the Canaanites. The servant took a camel train and stopped by an old well in the evening. After praying for God's help, a young woman came to draw water. Her name was Rebekah.

The chapter reveals that Rebekah was God's choice for the wife of Isaac. The entire chapter of 24 is highly typical of most Old Testament writing.

Abraham signifies God the Father; the servant Eliezer symbolizes the Holy Spirit sent to bring the bride, the people who have accepted Christ, to meet the Bridegroom. Rebekah symbolizes the Church, the Ecclesia, the called out, the virgin bride of Christ. Isaac symbolizes the bridegroom Jesus Christ. Even though the bridegroom has not seen the bride, he loves her because of the testimony of the servant, the Holy Spirit, and goes out to meet his bride to be.

The Holy Spirit is gathering together now those that love Christ, who are ready to be called out to be a part of the spotless, the worthy Bride of Christ.



## Mission Team Send-Off



The Mission Team will depart from Cherry Valley at 6:00 am on Saturday, July 21. They will leave here and join up with Wesley UMC in Stockton and travel on from there to Rosebud, South Dakota.

I know it is early for a Saturday morning, but we ask that you make every effort to come out to see them off with prayer for their safe journey and successful mission trip.



# July Birthdays & Anniversaries



## Anniversaries

- 2 Ryan & Natalie Herold
- 24 Michael & Dawn Maffioli

## Birthdays

- 2 Sydney Schwartz
- 4 Lodena Wilt
- 6 Loretta White
- 9 Nathan Schwartz
- 10 Kathy Kruger
- 11 Herman Krunfus
- 21 Dana Ward
- 25 Scott Farrell



## Our Missionary in Tanzania

Young Seon (Christina) Kim continues her mission to help bring secondary education to the people of Tanzania with the construction of The Global Mission Secondary School.

### DONATIONS:

You may send a check to:  
 Advance GCFA  
 P.O. Box 9068  
 New York, NY 10087-9068  
 With the advance number on the memo line  
**Advance # 3022281**

Contact information for Young Seon Kim  
 Telephone: +255 68 976 1708  
 Email: yskim1023@gmail.com  
 Facebook: Young Seon Kim  
 Kakaotalk: yskim1470

July Worship Leader Schedule	Sunday July 1	Sunday July 8	Sunday July 15	Sunday July 22	Sunday July 29
Liturgist	Charles Schnuckel	Zane Clevenger	Andrew Schwartz	Sue Layng	Warren Gross
Greeter Team	Youth Group	Kathleen Sundberg Mike Seno	Ann Harned Judy Krunfus	Mandy Kloefer Grace Harter	LaVern Neff Jane Neff
Usher	Youth Group	Dave Ward	Dave Ward	Keith Burritt	Chris Flood
Children's Message	Hannah Flood	Scott Layng	VBS Update	Terri Burritt	Juanita Barnes
Media	Zane Clevenger	Andrew Schwartz	Matt Gross	Sol Keip	Tjaden Keip
Fellowship	Choir	Methodist Men	Mission Team	Methodist Women	Youth Group
Nursery Attendant	Jordyn Burritt	Roni Layng	Jordyn Burritt	Roni Layng	Jordyn Burritt

## Boy Scout Troop 181



The first meeting was flag football (even the boys without experience had some successes). We used plastic grocery bags as flags. The boys included everyone in their play. That same night, we did a video and discussion on how to protect our young people; Youth Protection Training for adults.

Our outing for June was a 2-night campout that includes a canoe trip down the Kishwaukee River. This was great fun! We had amazing rain and thunder both nights. Our scouts did well. We canoed 8-1/2-miles on the River on Saturday in perfect weather. We spent time another meeting mentally



preparing for summer camp at Tesomas. Another meeting in June will include service projects for this church. We've learned of a few ways we can be service. Finally, we'll be geocaching in Baumann Park for the final evening of June.

On the first of July, we're headed for Rhinelander, Wisconsin for a whole week of camping. It's hard to imagine all the new experiences we'll have. We're in the process of planning an evening of playing dodgeball when we return from camp. Then we'll have an evening of outdoor learning at Atwood Park. Water night sounds fun. We'll do anything that gets us wet for a Tuesday meeting. Let's see what ideas the scouts can create. The final meeting of July is a Potluck supper followed by a Court of Honor,



where we'll recognize all our scouts for their recent accomplishments.

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.

### To our Ab/Fab ( Absolutely Fabulous ) Youth!



*Thank you for an awesome "aloha" party for Pastor Vickie. What a great send-off!*



## Vacation Bible School

Tell your friends...tell your neighbors...

**2018 Vacation Bible School** is going to be

**AWESOME!**

*Mark your calendars  
for July 9th-13th.....6-8 pm*

For ages 3 years to 5th grade

HOW TO REGISTER?  
on line: at [cherryvalleyumc.com](http://cherryvalleyumc.com)  
Phone: 815-332-5075  
Email: [churchinthevalley@comcast.net](mailto:churchinthevalley@comcast.net)



Look for us at the Cherry Valley 4th of July Parade!

Our VBS theme this year is "Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus." Kids will be whisked away to an imaginary uncharted island and rescued by Jesus! Each day will be a new bible discovery with singing, dancing and learning all the ways Jesus can rescue

### HEADS UP!

There's still time to register your age 3 to 5th grade kids for an exciting summer adventure! Don't miss out. Register today!

Jesus  
Rescues!



## Rock River Valley Food Pantry



### *Feeding Rockford One Meal At A Time*

Thank you for your continued support of the Rock River Valley Food Pantry. The pantry currently serves approximately 6,800 clients per month. You can help by bringing your non-perishable foods and placing them in the basket located in the foyer of the church.

### **CURRENT NEEDS LIST**

Canned Fruit	Applesauce	100% Juice
Canned Vegetables	Pasta and Rice	Cereal
Peanut Butter	Tuna	Soup

### **PEANUT BUTTER ENDOWMENT**

The Rock River Food Pantry also has a Peanut Butter Endowment program in which charitable contributions of property, assets or funds are placed. Endowments are created for non-profit organizations in support of a specific goal. The Peanut Butter Endowment was created to purchase food to distribute to our clients. Join in this valuable cause by making a one-time or recurring donation. You may go to the web site at <http://www.rrvp.org/peanut-butter-endowment/> and view the brochure outlining the program and you can donate on line.



Have you planted a little extra in your garden and now your produce is overflowing? You can donate your extra produce at the Cherry Valley Library. The library is a drop-off location for the U of I extension Office's "Plant a Row for the Hungry" program, which collects fresh produce to donate to local food pantries. Bring your extra fruit, veggies, or herbs to the library on Tuesdays from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. This program will run from July 11 to September 26.

## Summer Music

Thank you to those who have signed up for the Summer Music Program. We still have a few Sunday's remaining on the sheet. We have July 15, July 29, August 5, August 19, August 26 and September 2.

If you or someone you know would like to share their musical talent with us for those dates, please sign up on the sheet. Be sure to include your phone number or email address in the event we need to contact you.

For more information about this program, please speak with Jenny Maragia or Scott Farrell.



## Community News



Looking for something to do for the kids during the summer? Check out the Cherry Valley Library for some great programs designed for kids of all ages. Visit their website: <http://www.cherryvalleylib.org/wpcherryvalley/>

*Cherry Valley Recreation Board*

**July 4th** festivities: Parade at 1:00 pm; fireworks at dusk at Baumann Park

**July 21,** 6:30-10:30 pm: Street dance in downtown Cherry Valley.

### *Cherry Valley Area Men's Association*

The Cherry Valley Area Men's Association and the Terry Murphy/Robert Larson Student Scholarship Fund will be awarding \$500 student scholarships to worthy students. Applications are available online at [cherryvalleyama.com](http://cherryvalleyama.com). Applications must be postmarked by July 31, 2018.

### *Cherry Valley Public Library*

The library staff is hitting the road this summer. Stop by to spin our prize wheel, check out our upcoming events, or just say hi!

*4th of July - CV Parade, look for the library float*

*Sunday, August 26 - CV Festival Days*

## Summer Flowers For the Sanctuary

Do you have an abundance of flowers in your garden?

Would you like to honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion?

Would you **just like to see beautiful flowers in the sanctuary every Sunday** when you come to church?



Yes, everyone likes that.....so to that end, we are asking you to consider signing up to bring flowers for the sanctuary for one Sunday during the summer. We have a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the sanctuary. We are only asking for 10 volunteers to sign up. Not counting August 12, which is Worship in the Park, there are 10 Sundays remaining until Labor Day.

If you wish, you may bring purchased arrangements or you may bring flowers from your garden. If you are hesitant about your flower arranging skills, Janet Davis and Juanita Barnes will be on hand to help with that detail. They are both very accomplished and talented in that area.

If your flowers are for a special occasion or in memory/honor of a loved one, please let us know on the sign up sheet. We will put the information in the bulletin.

If you need more information, please contact:

Janet Davis at 630-715-8534;

email: [jld1112@comcast.net](mailto:jld1112@comcast.net)

Juanita Barnes at 814-332-9612;

email: [jsbfloss32@comcast.net](mailto:jsbfloss32@comcast.net)



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<b>1</b> 8:00 am UMM @ CV Café 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8:30 am-3:30 pm Boy Scouts Training Event  9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
<b>8</b> 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	<b>9</b> 6-8 pm Vacation Bible School	<b>10</b> 6-8 pm Vacation Bible School	<b>11</b> 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café  6-8 pm Vacation Bible School	<b>12</b> 6-8 pm Vacation Bible School	<b>13</b> 6-8 pm Vacation Bible School	<b>14</b> 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
<b>15</b> 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship  <i>Newsletter items due</i>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:15 pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	<b>18</b> 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:00 am Mission Team Departs for SD 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
<b>22</b> 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship  <i>Mission Week</i>	<b>23</b> <i>Mission Week</i>	<b>24</b> <i>Mission Week</i>	<b>25</b> 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café  <i>Mission Week</i>	<b>26</b> <i>Mission Week</i>	<b>27</b> <i>Mission Week</i>	<b>28</b> 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous  <i>Mission Team Returns</i>
<b>29</b> 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

*Messenger items are due to the secretary on the 15th of each month.*

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
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CHERRY VALLEY  
IL 61016

# Save the Date August 12, 2018



Cherry Valley United Methodist Church  
Sunday Morning  
Worship & Picnic  
at the Pavilion in  
*Baumann Park*  
*August 12, 2018*

Worship: 9:45 a.m.  
Picnic to follow  
Chicken and bottled  
water provided by the  
Worship Committee  
Bring a dish to share,  
your own table service  
and a lawn chair.

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

*"The Church in the Valley"*



 **GROWING through  
GOD's Blessings**

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



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



# 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: \_\_\_\_\_