

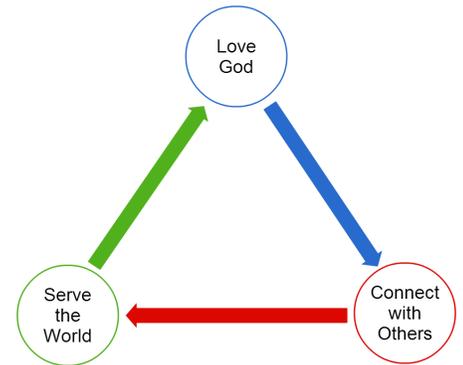
# THE MESSENGER

September 2018

## Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

Rev. Mark Harkness, Pastor  
Office: 815/332-5075  
Parsonage: 815/580-8553  
Cell: 331-465-9489  
E-mail: churchinthevalley@comcast.net  
Pastor's E-mail: mark.harkness@gmail.com

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



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

<sup>2</sup>*As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way;*

<sup>3</sup>*the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:*

*'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"*

<sup>4</sup>*John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.* **Mark 1:1-4**

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

I write this as I prepare to go into the wilderness for a week of backpacking in the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness on the shore of Lake Superior in upper Michigan. I hope to have returned by the time you read this. Moreover, I hope that I won't have any tales of adventure to share upon my return.

Adventures usually mean something went wrong. Adventures like my backpacking excursion into the wilderness in northern Wisconsin back in 2003 when I got lost and separated from my camp and gear. It was an adventure that included sleeping out under the stars (and then the rain) and knowing that even if I did get to my car that my keys and wallet were somewhere in the wilderness with the rest of my gear. It was an adventure in which I'm convinced that I smelled a bear nearby. (I have a photo of a bear print in the mud taken only fifty feet from where I slept that night.) It was an adventure born of my own lack of preparation.

I prepared. I had lots of gear (about twice as much as I carry now). What I didn't have was a good map. What I didn't have was the good sense to review the instruction for using my handheld GPS unit (Fifteen years ago handheld GPS units didn't have maps. They only displayed location coordinates.)

As a result, I was separated from the tent that would have sheltered me from the rain. I was separated from my poncho, my water, my food, my car keys and wallet, and bear spray. All it took was one short unprepared moment to disrupt everything else.

Our faith journeys can be an adventure. But is that really what we want? Do we really want to face the challenges of just getting through? Or do we want to thrive in our faith and our lives? Thriving requires preparation before the excursion. So, how do we prepare?

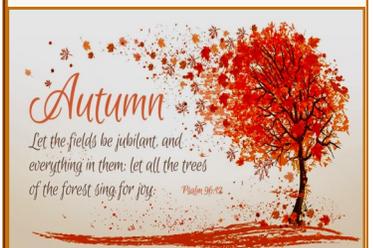
We prepare by keeping our spiritual batteries charged up through community worship. We prepare by taking time to study the Scriptures so that we are familiar with what they say rather than having to rely on whatever interpreter happens to be nearby. We prepare by practicing the kingdom's work in our relationships with one another. We prepare ourselves by conversing regularly with God, so that we know how to listen to his voice.

None of this means that we won't face challenges, but that sort of preparation opens us up to Christ in ways that we might not have imagined so that those challenges become opportunities.

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I may have been a bit unprepared in the wilderness those years ago, but I did keep with me a knife, a lighter and matches – that was enough to see me through that adventure so that my trips since then have been opportunities to regale myself in the awesomeness of God’s creation and presence.

Few of us are fully prepared for what lies ahead in our faith journeys, but Jesus has promised that he will be with us to the end. Let us be prepared to claim his promise – even if you don’t feel fully prepared, begin with the basics: prayer and community worship. Then those moments of awe will grow into a life of awe as the preparations continue.

Your Brother in Christ

Rev. Mark Harkness

## Next Generation Ministry



The Next Generation Ministry has been directed by the GBGM to build a Global

Mission Secondary school.

In connection with the United Methodist Church of Tanzania Pastor Kim has raised over \$300,000 to begin this project. Ground was recently broken for the project. I want to encourage all of us to read her updates and also write to her as able. There are many ways we can support her. Here are some suggestions.

- Read her newsletters in Messenger
- Facebook users, follow her updates.
- Discuss her updates in small groups (United Methodist Men, Women, Sunday school, Bible studies) and pray for her next steps.
- Support her financially. The Next Generation Ministries is endorsed by the General Board of Global Ministries. Your gifts are tax deductible and all funds go directly to the project.
- Visit her and come back to share her story; her needs with others.
- Join the school staff as a teacher, librarian or other support member.
- Pray for her strength, energy and discernment as she works with the local government agencies to make the school a reality!

I am going to create a bulletin board in the fellowship hall. If you want to help with this project, just let me know.

With God’s grace we grow together!

Judy Long

## Thank You

A very special thank you to all who those who worked to set up and clean up for our Worship in the Park picnic. Thank you to all who brought food to share. We had a good turn out and it was a fabulous day with beautiful weather.



### Members & Friends

Trudy Hunt  
Lela Lameyer  
Lyons Meyers  
Marlene Meyers  
Jim & Barb Whitlock  
Lisa & Mundo Mund  
Karen Harter

### Birth Announcement

Cameron Isaiah Scott,  
Son of Roni Layng &  
Grandson of Scott Layng  
Great-grandson of Donna  
Layng

### Military Personnel

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

### Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next  
Generation Ministry

### Those Who Mourn

Elsie Darby Family  
Schwartz 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.

Dear mission partner,

God’s grace and peace to you. I pray that you are well in this summer, enjoying God’s nature and outdoor activities. If possible, I hope that you can have a trip to visit your friends and family. We don’t agree on everything with them, but they are like good medicine to us, aren’t they?

I hope that you will enjoy my stories in this newsletter and be excited about God who is also at work in your life and work each day.

Would you do me a favor? Please forward this newsletter to God’s people who might be interested in my work with the next generation in Tanzania? If you help me to get connected to them, it will be awesome.

Global Mission secondary school will be opened in January 2020. We are looking for volunteers, English/Math/Science teachers, a librarian, someone who can do carpentry or develop a web site for the school etc. Soon I will submit my application to VIM programs of the General Board of Global Ministries.

Please help me to get the word out to God’s people around you, who are seeking great opportunities to make a difference with their lives? I include my contact information as well as my advance #. (below).

God’s blessings to you.  
From Tanzania,  
Young Seon (Christina)

### My contact information

Email address:  
[yskim1023@gmail.com](mailto:yskim1023@gmail.com)

Facebook: Young Seon Kim

Telephone no: +255 657 438 955

**How to Give:** The Advance is an official program of the UMC. 100% of all Advance giving goes to the chosen mission project or ministry. You can choose my salary support (#3021957) or the Next Generation Ministries/School Project (#3022281). Please send a check to “Advance GCFA” at P.O.Box 9068 New York, NY 10087-9068 with the Advance number on the memo line. Thanks!!!



## CVUMC Choir



The choir has resumed rehearsals on Wednesday, August 22nd at 7:00 pm. Anyone interested in joining the choir should speak with Choir Director, Scott Farrell. The first performance of the choir will be on Sunday, September 16th.

## Methodist Women

Summer is winding down. I hope each of you has enjoyed your summer. BUT it is once again time to resume our activities. First! The women will meet on September 9th following worship. We will meet in the small conference room off the fellowship hall. This meeting is open to all women. I invite you to grab your coffee and a snack and join us. We will be discussing our activities for the upcoming year...FYI...we will be selling Cookie Dough again in November and we appreciate your support!

Striving to serve, Donna Layng



**If anyone has leftover yarn you'd like to donate, the Prayer Shawl group would love to have it. Prayer shawl group meets September 19 @10 am**



Operation Christmas Child kicked off in July but there's still time to get your shoe box packed during the month of September and up to the deadline of October 14, when we are requesting you have your boxes to the church. We will bless the shoe boxes on Sunday, October 21. Below is for an example of items you can (and cannot) include in your box. See Deb Seno and Jim Bryant for details



### Operation Christmas Child Is Underway!

**Pick up your shoe box today!**

#### To get started:

1. Pick up a box at the church or use one of your own (no larger than a tennis shoe box).
2. Determine boy or girl
3. Select the age category, 2-4,5-9, or 10-14.
4. Mark the age category on a label and place the label on top of your box.
5. Fill your box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child.
6. **Include \$9 donation (cash or money order) for each box you prepare** to help cover the cost of shipping and other project costs.
7. Place a rubber band around the box and bring it to the church.

*Some of the most popular items to fill your boxes.*

#### Things to remember:



1. **NO food items or candy**
2. **NO toothpaste**
3. **NO used, damaged or dirty items**
4. **NO liquid or lotions or items that leak, melt or freeze**
5. **NO breakable items**
6. **NO items that scare or harm a child**
7. **NO medications or vitamins**
8. **NO glass containers**
9. **NO aerosol cans**
10. **NO war related items i.e. toy guns, knives, or military figures.**

If you need more information, or if you need help in how to fill your box, please call Deb Seno, Project Coordinator, at 815-332-5238.

For more information about *Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child*, go to the website at SamaritansPurse.org

Baby powder	Baby wipes	Ball	Balloons
Bandages	Bandanas	Bar of soap in zip lock bag	Beads
Bibles	Brush & comb	Building blocks	Calculators
Candles	Chalk	Cloth bags	Clothing
Coloring book	Flip flops	Crayons	Cups
Dental floss	Deodorant (solid only)	Dolls	Erasers
Games	Gloves	Glue sticks	Hair accessories
Hat/ball cap	Jewelry	Jigsaw puzzles	Lego blocks
Lined paper	Magnets	Markers	Multi-colored sharpies
Nail clippers	Musical recorder	Note pads	Oil pastels
Pencil case	Pencil sharpener	Pens	Picture books
Play dough	Plush animals	Purse	rulers
Sanitary napkins	Tampons	Scarves	Scissors (blunt end only)
Shorts	Silly putty	Skipping rope	Skirt
Slinky	Small blankets	Socks	Stickers
Sunglasses	String	Toothbrush & case	Toy cars
Toys	t-shirts	Tweezers	Underwear
Wallet	Washcloths	Watch	Wax crayons
Windup flashlight	Yoyo	Craft items	Paints (solid)
Pencil crayons/ sharpener	Powdered laundry detergent	Resin items	Personal letter with photo

By Jim Whitlock

Prayer is the most important thing that a true Christen can do for God and man and the world. As the Holy Spirit inspires and guides the person in prayer, God can accomplish great things. As a result of the prayer from the humblest person, God is able to work through the person to accomplish what he would not do otherwise or could not do.

Jesus speaks to His disciples of prayer in the upper room at the Passover supper. Jesus makes this clear, John 15:16 "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, He may give it you."

The words "shall" and "may" are very important in the text. "Shall" puts the purpose on God. "May" puts the responsibility over on us, our cooperation. Our praying makes it possible for God to do what He otherwise could not do.



**"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you." John 15:16**

There is two parts to prayer. There is a loving God who is willing and waiting to answer our prayer. The second part must be a person who has an open heart, open mind, and willing to receive God's answer. God will never push us or use what we don't allow Him to give us.

Dear Church Friends,

Thank you for your many acts of kindness during my recent knee surgery at Swedes and then over to St. Anne's. Thanks especially for your prayers, visits, cards, and calls. Thank you to Pastor Mark who was there before very early surgery and again later in the day. I am fortunate to be part of a very caring and loving congregation.

In Christian Love,  
Karen Harter



## Anniversaries

- 3 Gary & Sue Wilt
- 11 LaVern & Jane Neff
- 12 Daniel & Julie Halley
- 14 Joe & Trudy Hunt

## Birthdays

- 2 Mary Coulter
- 6 Marlene Meyers  
Grace Harter
- 7 Melynda Mungor  
Warren Gross
- 8 Zane Clevenger
- 10 Amy Flood
- 22 David Burritt
- 23 Jeanette Krueger  
Monica Plummer
- 24 Chris Flood  
David Ziemke
- 25 Mandy Kloepfer
- 27 Sherry Gordon
- 28 Patty Campbell
- 29 Holly Snyder



## JustGoods Fair Trade Marketplace



If you'd like to get an early start on buying Christmas gifts, the JustGoods Fair Trade Marketplace, 201 7th Street, Rockford, offers unique and beautiful gifts from around the world. You will find housewares, jewelry, percussion instruments, scarves, baskets, bags, coffee and chocolate.

Shopping at the Fair Trade store allows you to help people in many parts of the world to safely earn an honest living wage. As Jesus taught, in helping the least among us, we do helpful actions unto Him.

You may visit the store Monday-Saturday, 10 am—4:30 pm.

<b>September Worship Leader Schedule</b>	Sunday September 2	Sunday September 9	Sunday September 16	Sunday September 23	Sunday September 30
<i>Liturgist</i>	Sue Layng	Donna Layng	Gwen Flood	Andrew Schwartz	Charles Schnuckel
<i>Greeter Team</i>	Judy Krunfus Mandy Kloepfer	Kathleen Sundberg Ann Harned	Judy Krunfus Mary Wilson	LaVern Neff Jane Neff	Jim Newell Pat Newell
<i>Usher</i>	Warren Gross	Dave Ward	Dave Ward	Keith Burritt	Chris Flood
<i>Children's Message</i>	Terri Burritt	Pastor Mark Harkness	Scott Layng	Juanita Barnes	Pastor Mark Harkness
<i>Media</i>		Andrew Schwartz	Matt Gross	Sol Keip	Tjaden Keip
<i>Fellowship</i>	Choir	Methodist Men	Mission Team	Methodist Women	Youth Group
<i>Nursery Attendant</i>	Jordyn Burritt	Roni Layng	Jordyn Burritt	Roni Layng	Roni Layng

## Upcoming Sermons Series

Pastor Mark will be presenting a sermon series in the coming weeks. Below is a list of the titles and the scripture readings. To prepare yourself, please read the scriptures beforehand.

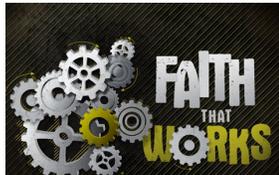
**September 2** A Faith That Works—1  
 Call to Worship - Psalm 72  
 Scripture - James 1:17-27  
 Gospel - Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23  
 Message: "Just Do It"

**September 9** A Faith That Works—2  
 Call to Worship - Psalm 125  
 Scripture - James 2:1-17  
 Gospel - Mark 7:24-37  
 Message: "Body and Soul"

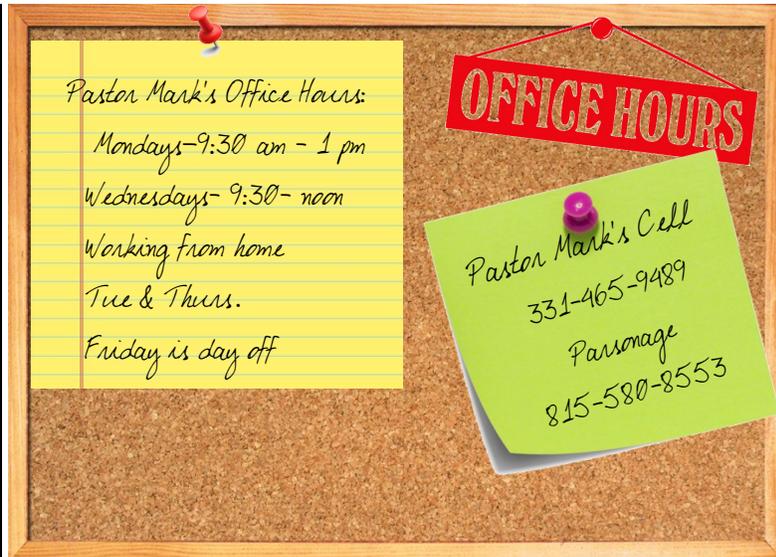
**September 16** A Faith That Works—3  
 Call to Worship - Psalm 19  
 Scripture - James 3:1-12  
 Gospel - Mark 8:27-38  
 Message: "Taming the Tongue"

**September 23** A Faith That Works—4  
 Call to Worship - Psalm 1  
 Scripture - James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a  
 Gospel - Mark 9:30-37  
 Message: "The Good Life"

**September 30** A Faith That Works—5  
 Call to Worship - Psalm 124  
 Scripture - James 5:13-20  
 Gospel - Mark 9:38-50  
 Message: "Powerful Prayer"



The Epistle of James



Hear Ye!  
 Hear Ye!

Printed copies of  
 Pastor Mark's sermons  
 are available on the  
 church website  
 ([cherryvalleyumc.com](http://cherryvalleyumc.com))  
 Click the worship tab.



"In everything give thanks..."  
**GIVE THANKS**  
 with a grateful heart

I Thessalonians 5:18

This is the 30th Annual Walk sponsored by Fitzgerald Funeral Home and Crematory. For more information about the Walk to Remember, you may call Melinda Hagerman @ 815-226-2273



The Annual Crop Walk will be Sunday, October 21. If you are interested in participating, you may register on line at [www.crophungerwalk.org/rockford.il](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/rockford.il) or email / call using the contact information listed below.

**Location:**  
 Riverfront Museum Park  
 711 N. Main Street  
**Registration Time:**  
 1:00 PM  
**Walk Time:**  
 2:00 PM  
**Walk Distance:**  
 4 K  
**Contact:**  
[davidj6226@aol.com](mailto:davidj6226@aol.com)  
 815-540-3703

You may also donate either online at [www.crophungerwalk.org/rockford.il](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/rockford.il) or you may drop off donations at JustGoods Fair Trade store, 201 Seventh Street any time during store hours (Mon-Sat, 10-4:30)

## A Walk To Remember

A memorial walk to remember children lost through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant and childhood death.

October 7, 2018  
 1:00 pm  
 YMCA Log Lodge  
 Simmissippi Bike Path

Sponsored by:  
 SwedishAmerican Foundation  
 and Fitzgerald Funeral Home & Crematory

For more information, please call Melinda Hagerman at Fitzgerald Funeral Home & Crematory (815) 226-2273.



This walk is for all families who have lost children at any time, both in recent or distant past, and for caregivers who are involved in the lives and support of these families

A brief memorial service will be followed by a walk from the YMCA Log Lodge to the dedication site. There we will honor the children with the dedication of memorial bricks.

Although it is too late to order a brick for this year, you may still attend the ceremony.

Refreshments will be available after the walk.

## 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 to **September 26**.

## Creative Learners



We're looking forward to another preschool year beginning on September 4! Parent Orientation was held on August 27. If you know of a family looking for a preschool program, there may still be openings available in both classes. For more information, call the preschool at 815 332-9653.

You can find us on Facebook or visit our website:

[creativelearnersii.org](http://creativelearnersii.org)

Please continue to help us save aluminum pop/pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Charity. There is a jug on the hallway desk for you to put them in.

Joyfully Teaching, Carol Palmer (Director/Teacher)

**Heads up:** The Church Conference will be on October 15 at 6:30 pm. The SPRC will meet at 6:00 pm prior to the meeting. Start gathering your info for your reports now. Look for more info in the coming weeks.



Church Conference

## Boy Scout Troop 181



August was fun, but first of all, scouts had the opportunity to start earning their way to summer camp 2019. We did *litter control* for Festa Italiana. This is a wonderful way for the Troop to earn money without selling anything.

The month's first Troop meeting was August 7, National Night Out. Troop 181 hosted a kickball game on the big baseball diamond in Cherry Valley. There were 30 youth who played, mostly from the community. The Police & Fire Departments furnished team shirts for the game and involved the community with displays and games for everyone else.

The second Troop meeting of the month included orienteering in Baumann Park for a few scouts, while the others played Ultimate Frisbee, also in the Park.



A number of our scouts were inducted into the Order of the Arrow (the national honor society of campers) at Camp Lowden, while a number of our other scouts and adults went to support them and offer their labor to give service to the Camp. Then school started.

The third troop meeting of August was at Volcano Falls. Following that, we went to Mt. Olympus Water & Theme Park in Wisconsin Dells for a Saturday. Summer is a great time for outdoor activities. We put the *Outing in Scouting!* At the final meeting of August, we accumulated ideas for the next 12-months of Troop meetings and Troop outings.

Then comes September. We started the month with youth electing new leaders; different scouts get to exercise their ability to lead others. The second meeting of the month will find us doing service in the community. Then, a number of scouts will go camping at Camp Lowden for the annual Religious Retreat. That will be an active weekend!

Oh! *Scouts will begin selling popcorn (a Boy Scout fundraiser) in September; look for your opportunity to find a scout and support his efforts.*



During the third meeting of the month, scouts will learn how display scouting to attract new boys from Cub Scout Packs. On September 25, we will meet at the Fire Station on Blackhawk Road for an Open House. Every potential Troop member is invited to sample Scouting's activities and see our camping equipment. We will cap-off the month with Air Camp. Our Troop will join about 4000 other scouts at our own Rockford International Airport. Many will camp, and others will join us for a Saturday of fun activities. Several scouts will get to fly for the first time with volunteer pilots, who give back to this community.

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.



# September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
<b>2</b> 8:00 am UMM @ CV Café 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	<b>3</b> <i>Labor Day</i>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Trustee Meeting 7:00 pm Choir	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7:00 am-4:00pm Boy Scout Event 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
<b>9</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship 11:15 am Methodist Women	<b>10</b> 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm SPRC Meeting 7:00 pm Choir	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous  <i>Newsletter items due</i>
<b>16</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	<b>17</b> 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	<b>18</b> 10:30 am NIC Accessibility Committee Meeting	<b>19</b> 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 7:00 pm Choir	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
<b>23</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	<b>24</b> 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 7:00 pm Choir	<b>27</b> 6:00 pm Cub Scouts	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
<b>30</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship						

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

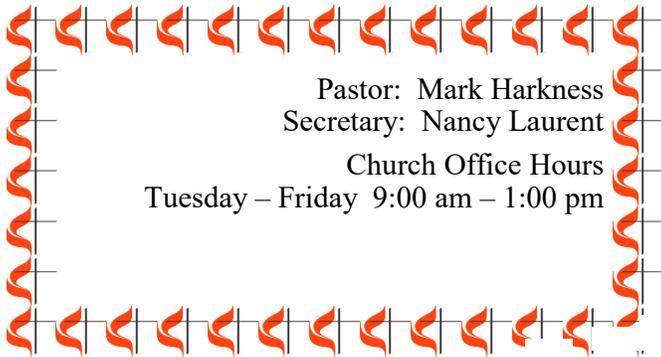


Cherry Valley United Methodist Church  
 112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235  
 Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
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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