

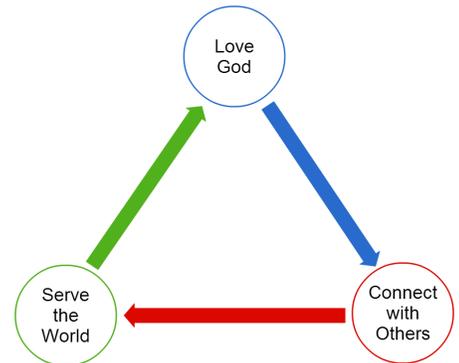
THE MESSENGER

May 2019

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

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



A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at

one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

1 Corinthians 15:1-9 (NRSV)

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

Because of my vocation as a pastor, I am one of those peculiar people who looks at time through the lens of the liturgical calendar. Although the secular world is always in a hurry to get to the next thing, the church tends to linger.

Because Easter Sunday was so late this year, Ascension Day isn't until May 30. That means (that except for two days) we find ourselves in the season of Easter for virtually the entire month of May. You may ask, "So what?" wondering what that has to do with life outside of how the church is decorated and what songs we sing during Sunday worship.

However, I believe that those seasons can serve us well in our own spiritual perspective and day to day living. Although the Gospels don't tell us much about what happened during those forty days after the Resurrection when Jesus appeared to his disciples (not just the apostles but more than five hundred others, too), those days between finding the empty tomb and watching his ascension into heaven were filled with anticipation and hope for meeting the risen Christ in person.

The entire Easter Season - not just Sunday mornings - is a time that the Church has claimed to live in expectation that we might meet Jesus. He appeared to Peter and the others while they were at work fishing. (Jn) They only recognized him because they had that expectation.

We may still be a month from Pentecost, but Jesus' promise that he would remain with us until the end of the age through the Holy Spirit continues to remain true.

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ALLELUIA!
CHRIST IS ALIVE!

(Continued from page 1)

May is a month when school is winding down for the summer and a time when we rush to get things done so that we can enjoy summer, I would invite you to linger - to slow down - and to look for and to explore where Jesus is appearing in your personal life, your spiritual life, and even your work life, so that like St. Paul and all those other witnesses that your faith - your trust in God - might be emboldened in such a way that those around you might discover the joy of his presence today.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness, OSL



Bill Roberts
Jim & Barb Whitlock

Military Personnel

Sean Conderman
Tamara Duke
Dan Harter
Mark Kincaide

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn



Members & Friends

Sally Baeverstad
Sandra Baxter
Jeff Brown
Violet Collier
David Harter
Keith Kruger
Lela Lameyer
Jerry Manypenny
Lois Marander
Lyons Meyers
Marlene Meyers
Pearl Robbins

Annual Conference Mission Challenge

The Annual Conference is June 2-4, 2019.

The Rockford District has been challenged to bring 2000 each

1-gallon plastic sealable bags

3-4 ounces bar soap

All products must be new and in their original packaging.



You may bring your items to the church now until the time of the conference.

Project Coordinator: Donna Layng



This is a good place to buy these items...

All items brought to the conference will be delivered to the United Methodist Relief Supply Center



Thank you to everyone who participated in our annual drive to collect peanut butter for the Rock River Valley Food Pantry's Peanut Butter Rally. We filled our barrel! This will help the pantry feed kids during the summer. Your generosity is overwhelming. Thank you!

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. You may also send email your prayer requests to the secretary who will pass it on the Prayer Chain.

Rule of Christ Training

Although this event is occurring in April, we hope you will receive this publication in time to attend this event.

April 30 – 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

A few years ago, Bishop Dyck instated a policy of asking all congregations that have received a new pastor to engage in Rule of Christ training.

The Rule of Christ is based on Jesus' instructions in Matthew 18 in regards to how Christians are to address conflict or disagreement with one another in a spirit of love and restoration.

This training is especially important for members of the Staff Parish Relations Committee and Church Council; but it is also a useful experience for all members of the congregation as we seek to be the body of Christ together.

Please join us on April 30, when the Rev. Paul Lee (Waterman UMC) will lead us in this important work.

Methodist Women



The Methodist Women met at the Machine Shed Restaurant on April 23. The event was well attended and we all had a great time. It is so important for our group to meet annually at a restaurant to share a meal and fellowship in a social atmosphere.

If you want to become involved in projects around the church, and would like more information, please speak with Donna Layng, Pat Newell, or Kathleen Sundberg, the officers of the group. All women are invited to come to our meetings and see what we are about....**Our next meeting day is June 9.**

Finance/Church Council Dates



The following are dates for Finance Committee and Church Council meetings. If you are a part of these committees, please put these dates in your calendar.

Finance Committee meetings will be at 6:15 pm, all dates.

Church Council will be at 7:00 pm, all dates.

21 May 2019 09 Jul 2019 20 Aug 2019
08 Oct 2019 19 Nov 2019

SPRC Meeting Dates

The following are dates for the Staff/Pastor Relations Committee (SPRC) meetings. If you are a part of this committee, please put these dates in your calendar. Meeting times are at 6:30 pm, all dates.



7 May 2019 23 Jul 2019

Thank You



Matthew and I would like to extend their warmest thanks for all the kindness and generosity that was bestowed upon us by the congregation and staff of this church. The celebration of our marriage was unexpected, but we appreciated it so very much. We will cherish for all our lifetime the love we felt and the memories we made.

Thank you for all the cards and gifts and the lovely reception. We especially appreciate the kindness of the choir towards both of us and all the prayers and affection we have shared. Thank you for making us feel like such a part of this church family and for the welcome we've received as a couple.

JOIN US FOR STUDIO 3 ANNUAL PIANO RECITAL AT CHERRY VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE SCHEDULE
SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2019 11:00 A.M.

THE PROGRAM
Each student will perform a classical/technical piece. Performances will feature the best of their achievements throughout the past year and incorporate students of all ages.

All are invited to appreciate and encourage these budding musicians.



WANTED

KIDS OF GOD'S OWN HEART!

AGES K—5TH GRADE

FOR A RIP-ROARIN' YEE-HAW

VBS EXPERIENCE

July 19 & 20, 2019

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

112 S. Cherry Street

To register or for information call 815-332-5075

Or email: churchinthevalley@comcast.net



REWARD: LEARNING ABOUT JESUS

Looking Ahead to Summer

4th of July Parade: We will be marching in the parade with banners to advertise our VBS classes and hand out flyers about our summer worship schedule.

Vacation Bible School: Get ready for a rip-roaring Yee Haw Weekend this summer at VBS! We will be having the opening session on Friday, July 19 in the evening and a morning session on Saturday, July 20. We will celebrate on Sunday, July 21 at our worship service.



Annual Church Picnic: Our annual church picnic, Worship in the Park, will be on Sunday, August 11 at 9:45 a.m. at Baumann Park Pavilion. The worship committee will supply the chicken and water. Side dishes will be potluck.

Watch the newsletter for details on all the above events.

Boy Scout Troop 181

We encourage boys 11-17 to visit our Troop meetings on Tuesday evenings at CVUMC at 6:30 pm 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 Scouting questions.



Looking for something to do? Check out the Cherry Valley Library for some great programs to pique your interest. For information about all of the programs listed below, Visit their website: <http://www.cherryvalleylib.org> or call the library at 815-332-5161.

**Bugs Be Gone!
Herbal Bug Spray Make & Take**
Monday, May 6 @ 6:00 pm

Thursday, May 16 @ 6:00 pm

Master Herbalist Shannon Redden will bring all the ingredients to make an herbal bug spray, just in time for bug season. Only 10 spaces per class. Age 18 and over.

Senior Moments Group

This group is for older adults who spend time together, talk, laugh, and have fun. Registration is required for most of the programs for this group. Contact the library for upcoming programs.

Jason's Deli Fundraiser

Friday, May 17, 5:00 pm-10:00 pm

Treat yourself to a delicious dinner at Jason's Deli and help support the library at the same time! Grab a flyer at the library or at the restaurant on the evening of the fundraiser. Present it to the cashier at the time of your order and Jason's Deli will donate 15% to the library as a donation. Jason's is located at 575 S. Perryville Road, Rockford.

Ancestry.com Workday—Saturday, May 4, 1:00 pm

Break through some 'brick walls' using Ancestry Library Edition and other genealogy resources. Prior basics class attendance is required, so please call the library to inquire about the basics class schedule.

Android Basics for New Users—Tuesday, May 7, 2:00 pm

Trying to figure out the basics of your new Android phone or tablet? This class is intended as a one time class. Please bring your device.

These are just some of the many programs the library offers. Call or visit the library for more information.



Birthdays

- 1 Pat Gorsuch
- Trudy Hunt
- 12 Jeff Sundberg
- 13 Judy Gough
- 16 Kyle Ward
- 18 Dawn Lester
- 25 Kelley D. Ellison
- 27 Amy True
- 29 Gwendolyn Flood
- 31 Bill Fisher

Anniversaries

- 21 Jim & Mary Coulter
- 26 Herman & Judy Krunfus
- 31 Craig & Nancy Laurent



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, NY10087-9068
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

May Worship Leader Schedule	Sunday May 5	Sunday May 12	Sunday May 19	Sunday May 26
Liturgist	Warren Gross	Janet Bryant	Amy Flood	Charlie Schnuckel
Greeter Team	Youth Group	Grace Harter Pam Grothman	Kathleen Sundberg Charles Schnuckel	Pat Newell Jim Newell
Usher	Youth Group	Dave Ward	Dave Ward	Keith Burritt
Media	Andrew Schwartz	Patricia Irps	Matt Gross	Solomon Keip or Matthew Hartman
Fellowship	Choir	United Methodist Men	Mission Team	Methodist Women

Upcoming Sermons

Below is a schedule of the sermons and scripture readings that Pastor Mark will be presenting in May. To prepare yourself, please read the scriptures beforehand.

May 5

Call to Worship Psalm 30
 Scripture Lesson Acts 9:1-20
 Gospel John 21:1-19
 Message An Unlikely Friendship

May 12

Call to Worship Psalm 23
 Scripture Lesson Acts 9:36-43
 Gospel John 10:22-30
 Message An Astonishing Imitation

May 19

Call to Worship Psalm 148
 Scripture Lesson Acts 11:1-18
 Gospel John 13:31-35
 Message An Unexpected Change of Menu

May 26

Call to Worship Psalm 67
 Scripture Lesson Acts 16:9-15
 Gospel John 14:23-29
 Message An Amazing Detour

Retirement Open House



Teacher Sue Anderson & Director/Teacher Carol Palmer

The Creative Learners II Preschool Board members, and Lynn Billings, the previous Preschool Director, will host a Retirement Open House on **Saturday, May 18 from 2 pm—5 pm** at Cherry Valley United Methodist Church fellowship hall, lower level.

We will recognize the 23 years of service of Carol Palmer as a teacher, with the last 14 years as Director. Additionally, we will recognize Sue Anderson's 11 years of service as a teacher. The two will also be recognized at the worship service on **Sunday, May 19 at 9:45 am**. If you know past preschool families, please let them know about these two events.

Please respond to the Facebook event or email Karen Harter at keh9806@comcast.net by May 8 if you plan to attend.

Please bring any Pop tabs you have saved for the Ronald McDonald House Charity to the Open House.



COME AND GO AS YOUR SCHEDULE ALLOWS. WE NEED YOU EVEN IF IT IS FOR ONE OR TWO HOURS.

Spring Cleanup

See Janet Bryant for details.

Saturday, May 4, 8 am to 3 pm

No need to sign up... Just show up!

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.

Spiritual Insights

Read Matthew 18:21—35

Then Peter stood up and said to Jesus, “How many times shall we forgive those that trespass? Till seven times?” Jesus said, “I tell you not even seven times but seventy times seven”.

Then Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a king that was taking account of his servants. One servant was brought in to the king that owed him a huge debt. The king told him to pay or he would be put in prison and his wife and children would be sold to pay the debt. The servant fell down before his king and said, ‘Have patience with me and I will pay you.’ The king had compassion on him and forgave him all his debt. Then this same servant went out, found another servant that owed him only a small amount. The servant said, ‘Pay me or I will put you in prison’. The other servant told the king and the king called for this servant and said, ‘You wicked, evil servant. I forgave you all of your huge debt and you could not forgive your fellow servant this small debt’. The king put this unforgiving servant in prison.”

Jesus said then, “So likewise shall your heavenly Father do also to you if you do not in your heart forgive every one of your brothers for all of his trespasses.”

Jesus says that forgiveness is very, very important so much that he put it in his Lord’s Prayer to the disciples.

Matthew 6:9—13 “...Forgive our trespasses as we forgive those that trespass against us...”.

Every time we recite this prayer, we are promising God that we will forgive as He forgives us.



THE UPPER ROOM

The Upper Room is a daily devotional magazine published in 33 languages and 100 countries around the world. The daily meditations are written by readers of the magazine and others interested in sharing their faith experiences through writing—both laity and clergy, published authors and new writers. The meditations are stories of real people working to live faithfully with the Bible as their touchstone. Every day, readers of The Upper Room around the world read the same story in many different languages and pray the same prayer together.

The daily devotional guide and the community it draws together invite people to:

- listen to scripture as God’s personal message, linking their stories to God’s story;
- commune with God in prayer;
- see their daily choices and small acts of obedience as part of God’s work;
- realize our connection through Christ as a universal family of believers;
- encounter the living Christ and be transformed into Christ’s likeness.

The May-June Upper Room publication is available on the table in the sanctuary. Please pick up your copy the next

Creative Learners II

This is my final farewell as the director of Creative Learners II Preschool and our preschool program. I've enjoyed teaching all of the wonderful children that have come through our preschool these past 23 years. It's also been a blessing working with those from the Cherry Valley United Methodist Church who have volunteered to serve as preschool board members through the years.

I'd especially like to recognize the current board for their dedication. Thank you to Karen Harter, Theresa Murphy, Grace Harter, Barb Anderson, and Donna Layng for your faithful service.

The Tuesday/Thursday class (3 & 4 year olds) will present their last program on Tuesday, May 21 at 11:15 am. The Monday/Wednesday/Friday class (4 & 5 year olds) will also present their program on Wednesday, May 22 at 11:00 am with a graduation ceremony after their program. Both will be held in the church sanctuary. All are welcome!

Carol Palmer, Director/Teacher



May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Trustees 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	2 3:00 pm Studio 3 6:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	3 10:30 am Studio 3	4 8am-5pm Boy Scout Training 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
5 8:00 am UMM @ CV Café 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	6 3:15 pm Studio 3 3:45 pm Studio 3 4:15 pm Studio 3 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	7 12:00 pm Preschool Board Meeting 3:30 pm Studio 3 5:00 pm Studio 3 6:30 pm SPRC Meeting 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	8 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir	9 3:00 pm Studio 3 6:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	10 10:30 am Studio 3	11 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous
12 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship <i>Mother's Day</i> <i>No Fellowship After Worship</i>	13 3:15 pm Studio 3 3:45 pm Studio 3 4:15 pm Studio 3 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	14 3:30 pm Studio 3 5:00 pm Studio 3 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	15 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 10 am Prayer Shawl Group 6:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choir <i>Newsletter items due</i>	16 3:00 pm Studio 3 6:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	17 10:30 am Studio 3	18 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous <i>12 Noon—6 pm Retirement Open House for Creative Learners II Pre-school</i>
19 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship <i>Sunday School out for the summer</i>	20 3:15 pm Studio 3 3:45 pm Studio 3 4:15 pm Studio 3 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	21 3:30 pm Studio 3 5:00 pm Studio 3 6:15 pm Finance 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Church Council	22 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Youth Group <i>10:00 am Newsletter Mailing</i>	23 3:00 pm Studio 3 6:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	24 10:30 am Studio 3 	25 9:00 am Gamblers Anonymous <i>8:00 am—5:00 pm Studio 3 Music Recital</i>
26 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Fellowship	27 3:15 pm Studio 3 3:45 pm Studio 3 4:15 pm Studio 3 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	28 3:30 pm Studio 3 5:00 pm Studio 3 6:30 pm Boy Scouts <i>Secretary begins vacation</i> 	29 9:00 am Bible Study @ CV Café 6:30 pm Youth Group	30 3:00 pm Studio 3 6:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	31 10:30 am Studio 3 	

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 9
CHERRY VALLEY
IL 61016



Her children
rise up and
call her
blessed.

Proverbs
31:28

Happy Mother's Day!

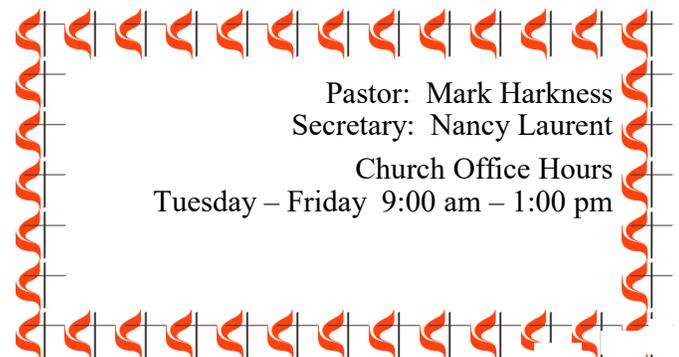


Sunday School @ 8:45 am for all ages
September—May

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