

THE MESSENGER

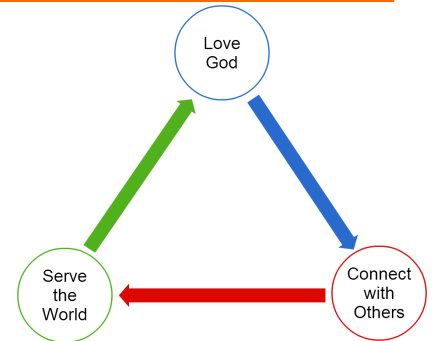
April 2022

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

Rev. Mark Harkness, Pastor
Pastor's Cell: 331-465-9489
Pastor's E-mail: ark.harkness@gmail.com
Parsonage phone: 815/580-8553

Rev. Danice Loveridge, Deacon
Email: danice.loveridge@gmail.com
Cell phone: 815-509-9445

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

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. ²They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." ³Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

He answered, "You say so." ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." ⁵But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

Luke 23:1-5 (NRSV)

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

This year Easter falls on April 17. That means that Good Friday will be on April 15. Considering what transpired on Good Friday, it was (and will be for us) a rather taxing day.

I don't ask forgiveness for the pun. It points to a stimulating juxtaposition about what God expects for us and what the world expects from us. As much I'd like find an excuse in Scripture to avoid paying taxes, I cannot. Even in the passage above, in which Jesus' accusers say that he forbids paying taxes, they are lying. When asked directly about paying taxes to the government (even though most of the people did not think Rome was the legitimate government), Jesus says to render unto Caesar what is his and to God what is God's. (Mt. 22:17 & 21, Mk 12:14-15, 17, Lk 20:22, 25) Likewise, Paul reminds us in Romans 13:6-7 that Christians have an obligation to pay taxes.

If we render unto the *Infernal* Revenue Service our taxes, what are we supposed to render unto God? Remember the "punny" juxtaposition of Good Friday and tax day? Taxes remind us that the world demands that we give the portion it expects. However, Good Friday shows us that instead of forcing us to pay for our freedom from the sin that estranges us from our own selves and God, God paid the price for us when Jesus was lifted up on that cross. On that cross – written in three languages so that everyone who witnessed it would know – were the words "The King of the Jews."

The Kingdom of God comes as a gift. Whereas the kingdoms of the world exact a price. Again I ask, what are we supposed to render unto God? Simply, to accept the gift of life Jesus offers each of us. Accepting that gift will lead us to share what we possess for the sake of Jesus' work in the world. Rather burdening us with demands, the cross, having restored our nature as those made in the image of God, offers us the opportunity to partner with ruler of the universe to make heaven evident on earth.

(Continued on page 2)

In this issue

Lenten Communion	Page 2
Holy Week	Page 2
Prayers for Friends	Page 2
AmazonSmile	Page 2
Scripture Readings	Page 3
Pastor's Schedule	Page 3
Methodist Women	Page 3
Special Projects	Page 4
Birthday/Anniversary	Page 4
RRV Food Pantry	Page 4
Choir News	Page 5
Peanut Butter Rally	Page 5
Church Council	Page 5
Church Library	Page 5
Global Mission	Page 6
Rockford Rescue	Page 6
Tanzania Mission	Page 6
UM Foundation	Page 6
Calendar	Page 7



(Continued from page 1)

Easter Sunday reminds us that each Sunday is an opportunity to claim the presence heaven of heaven in our midst which Jesus restored when he rose.

The world makes its taxing demands. God invites us to know something better. I hope you will accept the invitation to abundance that Jesus offers.

Your brother in Christ,


Rev. Mark Harkness

——
Holy Communion During Lent



**Holy Communion
will be offered at
8:45 a.m.
in the chapel each
Sunday in Lent
through
Palm Sunday**

——
Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY	April 10, 2022 8:45 am Holy Communion 10:00 am Worship Service
MAUNDY THURSDAY	April 14, 2022 7:00 pm Worship Service
GOOD FRIDAY	April 15, 2022 7:00 pm Worship Service
EASTER SUNDAY	April 17, 2022 7:30 am Sunrise Service 8:00 am Easter Breakfast 10:00 am Easter Service



Military Personnel
Gage Christensen
Sean Conderman
Dan Harter
Mark Kincaide

Members & Friends

Sandra Baxter
Violet Collier
Doris Kuelz
Lela Lameyer
Lyons Meyers
Marlene Meyers
Lorraine Robbins

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn



PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have prayer concerns that you wish to express, please fill out a prayer request card located in the Prayer Chapel and on the small table in the sanctuary. 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 prayer request box in the chapel or fold and put into the offering plate. Your request will be given to the pastor or forwarded to the Prayer Chain. You may also email your prayer requests to the secretary who will pass it on the Prayer Chain.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.
GREAT NEWS!

Cherry Valley UMC has recently been added to the approved charity list on AmazonSmile!

If you use Amazon.com for purchases, consider signing up with smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases - at no cost to you. **You may choose from many charities, with CVUMC being our favorite!**

AmazonSmile offers the same products, same low prices, and same services as the Amazon you know.

To get started, visit smile.amazon.com on your web browser and sign in with your Amazon.com credentials. Choose a charitable organization to receive donations, or search for the charity of your choice. Select your charity and start shopping.

To join AmazonSmile from the mobile app, open the app and find "Settings" in the main menu. Tap on "AmazonSmile" and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on Amazon Smile on your phone.

Scripture Readings

April 3 5th Sunday in Lent
 Psalm 126
 Scripture Lesson Philippians 3:4b-14
 Gospel John 12:1-8
 Message "Faith"
 Series..... *Character and Calling #5 of 7*

April 10 Palm Sunday
 Psalm 31:9-16
 Scripture Lesson Philippians 2:5-11
 Gospel Luke 23:1-49
 Message "Humility"
 Series..... *Character and Calling #6 of 7*

April 14 Holy Thursday
 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
 Scripture Lesson Exodus 12:1-14
 Gospel John 13:1-17, 31b-25
 Message "Bringing Out the Best"

April 15 Good Friday
 Psalm 22
 Scripture Lesson Hebrews 10:16-25
 Gospel John 18:1-19:42
 Message "Provoked for Love"

April 17 Easter Sunrise
 The Great Easter Vigil Service

April 17 Easter Sunday
 Psalm 118:14-24
 Scripture Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:19-26
 Gospel Luke 24:1-12
 Message "Victory"
 Series..... *Character and Calling #7 of 7*

April 24 2nd Sunday in Lent
 Psalm 150
 Scripture Reading Acts 5:27-32
 Gospel John 20:19-31
 Message "Appraise"
 Series..... *Acting Out #1 of 6*



Cherry Valley Methodist Women

Our Women's Group met on March 13 following worship. Our first order of business was to celebrate the success of Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. We served 55 people that evening. Our sincere thanks to those men who manned the grill and the scouts who helped us clean up.

Next on the agenda was to spend the money that was donated that evening. We submitted a donation to the Go Fund Me page for Jane Rubietta. Jane is the wife of Rich Rubietta, the traveling musician, who often visits our congregation. I encourage you to check the web site and include Jane and Rich in your prayers. We also made a donation to Special Projects.



We then discussed our role for Easter recognition of our "shut-ins" With that plan in place, we continued to plan for the garage sale. ***The dates are May 13 and 14.*** Donations may be dropped off starting on May 8. ***I want to stress that this is a congregational event. We need your help.***

The women will meet on May 17 at 6:00 pm to celebrate ***ALL*** women of our congregation. More information to follow next month. I'm sharing now so that you can mark the date.

Donna Layng

**Please,
NO CLOTHING FOR
THE GARAGE SALE!**



AmazonSmile is working! We have received our first donation from Amazon. If you purchase items through Amazon (and who doesn't?), get the app and start donating (hoping you select CVUMC as your FAVORITE charity...) See the article on page 2 for more information and how to get started.



Special Projects Thank You

Thank you to those who have contributed to the Special Projects fund. Because of your generosity we have had the funds on hand that allowed us to respond to emergency projects quickly.

Some of the projects that have been funded from this resource was the tree removal at the parsonage (\$1,500) and furnace repair (\$3,800) at the church.



Future projects at the parsonage that are necessary due to the damage done by the tree are the repair of the garage floor and the rebuilding of the driveway.



Other projects at the parsonage will be the kitchen appliance replacement of the microwave, dishwasher and range.

Your continued support of the Special Funds project is much appreciated and much needed.

You Tube Live Streaming

You Tube If you can't come to church for in-person worship or feel uncomfortable attending, you may still enjoy worship live via the You Tube live streaming service. Go to the app and search for Cherry Valley United Methodist Church. There you will find the link to follow for You Tube. You may also watch it later along with previously streamed worship services.

Give thanks with a grateful heart
choose joy

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays of the Month

- 1 Doris DeVries
- 2 Kayte Kloss
- 5 Mike Seno
- 6 Sandra Baxter
Mary Bowling
- 7 Nancy John
- 10 Lorraine Robbins
- 14 Dawn Hollembeak
- 16 Scott Krueger
- 19 Theoren Nystrom
- 21 David Mills
- 26 Patricia Irps
- 27 Scott Layng
- 29 David Ward



Anniversaries

- 7 Gary & Carol
Conderman
- 21 Mark & Susan
Harkness
- 25 John & Sandra Schwartz
- 28 Mark & Holly Snyder



We can't help everyone,
but everyone can help someone.

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.

Choir News

The CVUMC Choir is growing!
Thank you to our choir participants who have put their time, work and heart into the music they present each Sunday. Your music adds immeasurably to the worship service.

You may still participate in the choir.
If you are interested in the Music Ministry, see Nola at church, or text or call her @ 815-229-7938

The Praise Team and Choir meet on Wednesdays as follows:

10:00 a.m.—Praise Team
2:00 p.m. —Choir

Nola can also meet on Wednesdays *by appointment only* as follows:
Praise Team—6:00 pm
Choir—7:00 p.m.



2022 Church Council Meeting Dates



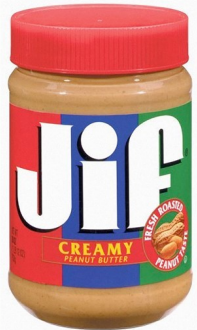
Church Council Meeting

The following are Church Council and Finance meeting dates for 2022. The Finance Committee meets at 6:15 pm, all dates, and the Church Council meets at 7:00 pm, all dates.

Committee chairs should have their written reports to the secretary no later 10:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting

April 26th June 28th August 16th
September 27th November 8th

Peanut Butter in April!



**Peanut Butter Drive
for the Food Pantry
during the
Month of April**



We are collecting peanut butter during the month of **APRIL** for the Rock River Valley Food Pantry Summer Lunch Program. Each summer, the pantry needs over 12,000 jars of peanut butter. The program is designed to feed the kids that would normally receive subsidized lunches at school. Without this program, those kids would go hungry during the summer. We will be collecting until **APRIL 28TH**



We are also collecting jelly.
PLASTIC BOTTLES ONLY



Church Library



Dear Church family,

This is a quick note to share with you a plan to re-purpose our church library. The current space is small and not really suited to be a 'reading library.'

In this new world of technology many of us get our reading materials in different ways. If you have seen the library lately, it has become a 'catchall' for unwanted books and multiple copies of book studies. The bottom line is that it is a mess and not used in a meaningful way. I am going to weed it down to some basic resource materials and design it to serve as a reference to church related information.

Before I go through the weeding process, you are invited to browse through the shelves and take home old favorites. The weeding process will begin Monday, April 18. Books will be given to the Cherry Valley garage sale. I need to have all of the books ready for Donna Layng no later than May 3.

With God's grace we grow together!
Judy Long

Global Mission School Update



The Global Mission School began its second 'form' (year) on January 22. Praise God for the first week of 2022 academic year. We had a good start and didn't take much time for new and returning students to bind together.

I preached twice and taught Bible Knowledge and Korean classes. I could see new attitudes, twinkling eyes and enthusiasm in all students. May God bless us to have a great year with a

lot of answered prayers, academic achievements and good spiritual experiences.

During the 40 days of Lent in preparation for Easter, may God guide us to have many *aha moments* in our lives, repent of our sins sincerely, and from living our way to living in God's way.

Pastor Young Seon (Christina) Kim

To see pictures of the Global Mission Secondary School campus and other recent mission work, see the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

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

Galatians 5:13

"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."



77 W. Washington St. Suite 1820 Chicago, IL 60602
 312.334.0703 OFFICE 312.346.9730 FAX
UMENIC.org UMEGift.org
cwalters@umfnic.org

Dear Faithful Member of the Church,

Donating appreciated stock is one of the most impactful and tax-advantaged ways to express your generosity. Since 2017 the Foundation has facilitated gifts of nearly **one million dollars** of appreciated stock at **no additional cost** to donors, churches, and partner organizations.



Are you considering giving stock?

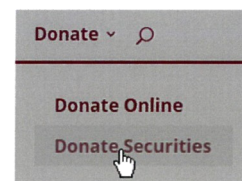
The Foundation is here to help.

Rev. Chris Walters
 President & CEO

You can donate stock to the Foundation, which will then pass-through the proceeds to your church. By donating appreciated securities you bypass capital gains tax and you may itemize your gift as a deduction.*

The first step is to call your broker and tell them you want to donate stock (or other securities). The broker will likely want you to use their own forms. Visit the Foundation's website for forms and instructions:

UMENIC.org/donate-securities



The following **information in bold** is primarily what your broker will need:

Please tell your broker to **memo the word "GIFT."**

DTC #0188 • Account #488-885-638 • Tax ID #36-2317623

TD Ameritrade, Inc., Attn. DTC Transfers

200 South 108th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68154-2631

For Further Credit to: United Methodist Foundation of the Northern Illinois Conference, Inc.

Please complete and send the "**Stock Gift Instructions**" form on the Foundation website to our office via email, fax, or mail. Once the Foundation receives the stock, we will liquidate the shares, pass-through the proceeds to your church, and mail to you an acknowledgement letter for your records.

Thank you for your generosity!

*This letter is not intended as tax, legal, or financial advice. Consult your personal advisor regarding your specific situation.

Rockford Rescue Mission needs volunteers to serve breakfast!

The Mission Committee is seeking volunteers from our church family to serve breakfasts at the Rockford Rescue Mission starting **April 21 from 6:30-8:30 a.m.**

We need 3 people on each 3rd Thursday of the month!

Please sign-up on the clipboard in the vestibule.

OR

Contact Judy Long at judylong1949@gmail.com

ROCKFORD RESCUE MISSION
 715 West State St.
 Rockford, IL 61102

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 9:00 am GA
3 8:45 am Holy Communion—Chapel 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Methodist Women 5:30 –7:30 pm MSP (Burritt)	4 6:30 pm Scouts BSAG	5 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	6 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Band 2:00 pm Choir 5:30 pm Lenten Bible Study 6:30 pm Trustees	7 5:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	8	9 9:00 am GA
10 8:45 am Holy Communion—Chapel 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 5:30 –7:30 pm MSP (Burritt) 	11 6:30 pm Scouts BSAG	12 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	13 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Band 2:00 pm Choir 5:30 pm Lenten Bible Study	14 5:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship	15 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship Service <i>Messenger items due today</i>	16 8:00 am –3:45 pm Scouts 9:00 am GA
17 7:30 am Easter Sunrise Service 8:00 Easter Breakfast/Fellowship 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 	18 6:30 pm Scouts BSAG <i>Pastor begins vacation</i> ←	19 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	20 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 10:00 pm Praise Band 2:00 pm Choir	21 5:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	22	23 8:00 am-5:00 pm Scouts event 9:00 am GA <i>Pastor Returns from vacation</i> →
24 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 5:30 –7:30 pm MSP (Burritt)	25 6:30 pm Scouts BSAG	26 6:15 pm Finance 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB 7:00 pm Church Council	27 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Band 2:00 pm Choir	28 5:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	29	30 9:00 am GA 9:00 am-4:00 pm Scouts (girls)

MESSENGER ITEMS ARE DUE TO THE SECRETARY ON THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.

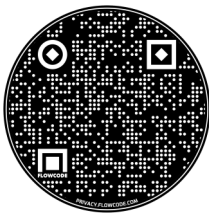
HE IS RISEN!



HAVE A BLESSED EASTER!



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



Sunday@ 9:00 am—Sunday School all ages
Sunday@ 10:00 am—In-person Worship
Live You Tube streaming at Cherry Valley
United Methodist Church.

Contact us:

Office phone: 815/332-5075
E-mail: churchinthevalley@comcast.net
Web Site: cherryvalleyumc.com
Facebook: Cherry Valley United Methodist Church



Pastor: Rev. Mark Harkness
Deacon: Rev. Danice Loveridge
Secretary: Nancy Laurent

Church Office Hours
Tuesday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Order your

Easter Flowers

to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter.



Honor your loved ones this Easter with Easter lilies or Spring bulbs that will decorate the sanctuary on Easter morning! After the Easter worship service, take your flowers home to enjoy indoors or plant them in your garden when the weather permits.

Please complete the form below and return it with your check or money to Barbara Anderson, or you may place your order in the offering plate. Make checks payable to Cherry Valley United Methodist Church.

Deadline for ordering is April 4, 2022

Please Print Clearly

Family Name _____
Ordering Plant _____
In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

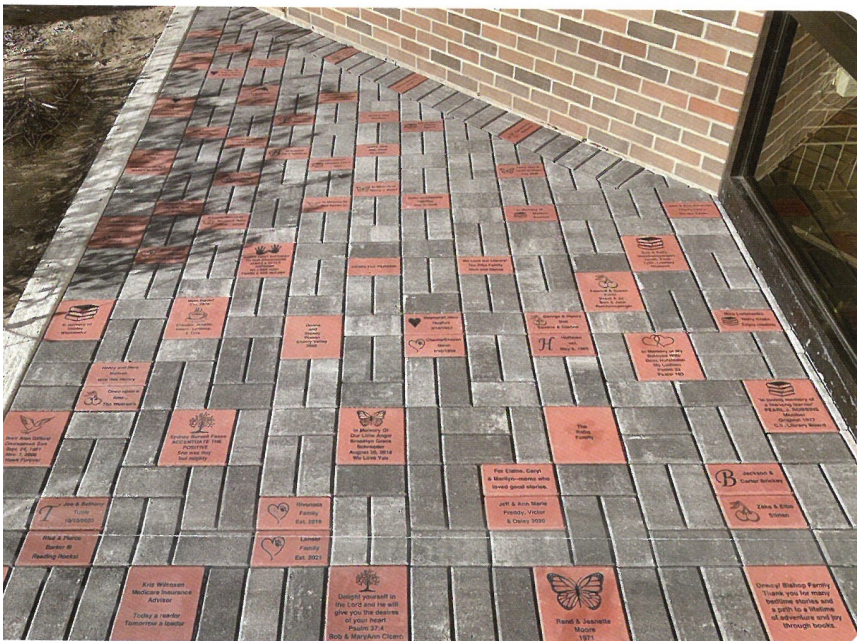
Cost of Plants:



Number of Tulips _____ @ \$11.50 Each
Number of Daffodils _____ @ \$11.50 Each
Number of Lilies _____ @ \$11.50 Each

Total Amount Attached \$ _____

Cherry Valley Library Last Call for Paver Bricks!



The engraved paver bricks at the library look so amazing that we are offering one more opportunity for sponsorship! Orders for a very limited number of 4"x8" engraved paver bricks will be accepted through April 30 OR sooner if all available bricks are sponsored. The bricks will be added to the east side of the entrance doors and mixed in with the pavers added in 2021. If you need inspiration for an idea, take a look at the variety of bricks already in place. They honor families and loved ones, commemorate special occasions, advertise companies, and share favorite quotes.

Bricks are available in the 4"x8" size only and cost \$75. Clipart can be added for an extra \$10 fee. You also have the option of buying a replica black tile with the same design

as your brick. The tile is a keepsake for you to have or give as a gift and is available for an additional \$15. Please visit <http://polarengraving.com/cherryvalleylibrary> to place your order.