

THE MESSENGER

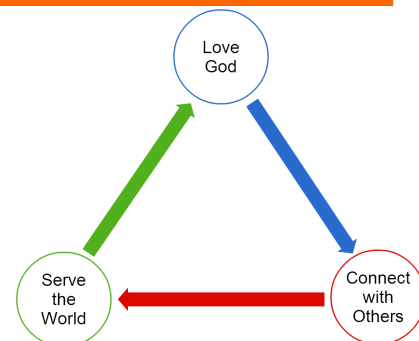
June 2022

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

¹⁵ When he left there, he met Jehonadab son of Rechab coming to meet him; he greeted him, and said to him, "Is your heart as true to mine as mine is to yours?" Jehonadab answered, "It is." Jehu said,

"If it is, give me your hand." So he gave him his hand. Jehu took him up with him into the chariot. ¹⁶He said, "Come with me, and see my zeal for the Lord." So he had him ride in his chariot. **2 Kings 10:15-16 (NRSV)**

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

What is a Methodist? Before there was any sort of Methodist church, there were people called "Methodists". The word "Methodist" was actually used as a pejorative to refer to the members of our societies for their methodical approach toward godliness, leading to the formation of the United Society. This society sought to live out godliness, to pray together and to exhort (i.e. encourage) one another in faith for the purpose of salvation.

These societies consisted of classes; but not in the sense that we think of a class (i.e. study group, etc.) The classes consisted of twelve members with one leader whose duty was to check in each week with the members of the class to inquire about the condition of their souls, to encourage them in faith, to inform the minister of any that were sick or other need, etc.

The requirement for admission those seeking to join the societies was "a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins." To that end members were expected to show evidence of their desire for salvation by:

"First: doing no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind especially that which is most generally practiced, such as:" The list of evil includes "Taking the name of God in vain," "The profaning of the day of the Lord (i.e. Sunday), either by doing ordinary work therein or by buying or selling," "Uncharitable or unprofitable conversation, particularly speaking evil of magistrates or of ministers (i.e. government leaders and workers [on of my challenges])" among others.

"Secondly: by doing good: by being in every kind merciful after their power as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all men;" Again, followed by a list of examples.

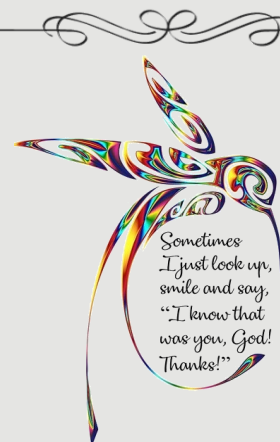
"Thirdly: by attending upon all the ordinances of God; such are: The public worship of God. The ministry of the Word, either read or expounded. The Supper of the Lord. Family and private prayer. Searching the Scriptures. Fasting or abstinence."

These rules are accepted across Methodism (United Methodist, Nazarene, Wesleyan, etc.) and set the tone for our peculiar means of living out our Christian faith. Unfortunately, most Methodists don't know about them; even though several years ago a United Methodist bishop, Rueben Job, wrote a book Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Life, in which he share some practical means of living out the rules.

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Although I appreciate his attempt to make the rules accessible, some things get lost when quoting his simplification: "Do no harm. Do Good. Stay in Love with God." There is a persistent temptation to hear those directives from a worldly perspective in which doing no harm comes across as "make sure no one ever gets hurt – including their feelings" rather than avoiding all sorts of evil, doing good comes across as "make sure you do some good mission projects" rather than living individual lives of complete service to others, and staying in love with God becomes a sentimentalized attitude rather than a description of what attending to the ordinance of God accomplishes in our lives.

As you have probably seen in the news or heard elsewhere, our denomination faces continued challenges brought about by different understandings about how we live out those three "simple" rules. Bishop Job himself acknowledge that although they are simple, they are not necessarily easy.

Along with the General Rules, we Methodists have a distinct theology about grace (prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying), Christian perfection, and discerning God's will (quadrilateral).

Because we find ourselves in a season of discord, in the upcoming months I will be deviating from my usual practice of lectionary preaching to talk about those particular ways of being Christian that we share as Methodists in our connection with one another seeking God's salvation for ourselves and the world. I hope that by pondering these things in the context of worship (praising God) we might regain that sense of renewal for our church that John Wesley intended for his.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

NOTE: When I refer to Methodist rather than United Methodist, I intend to speak for the broader fellowship of Methodists rather than a particular denomination.



Dates to Remember

- June 5—Confirmation Sunday, Sydney Schwartz
- June 8—NIC Annual Conference—Schaumburg
- June 11-22—Pastor on vacation
- June 19—Father's Day
- June 28—Next Church Council and Finance Meeting
- July 4—Village Independence Day Parade
- Coming August 5, 6 & 7, Hay Day Vacation Bible School.



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

June 5	Pentecost
Psalm	104:24-35
Scripture Lesson	Romans 8:14-17
Gospel	John 14:8-17
Message	“Show Me Jesus”
June 12	1st Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm	8
Scripture Lesson	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Scripture Lesson	Romans 5:1-5
Gospel	John 16:12-15
Message	Annual Conference Report
June 19	Father’s Day
Psalm	42
Scripture Lesson	1 Kings 19:1-15s
Scripture Lesson	Galatians 3:23-29
Gospel	Luke 8:26-39
Message	To Be Announced
Speaker	Deacon Loveridge
June 26	3rd Sunday After Pentecost
Psalm	77:1-2, 11-20
Scripture Lesson	Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Gospel	Luke 9:51-62
Message	“Burning Love”



Church Conference Report

Join us at the worship service on June 12 for the Annual Conference Report by the Conference Delegates who attended at the Schaumburg Renaissance Hotel on June 8 through June 11. This will be an interesting conference and you will want to hear the issues that were discussed.

Please remember in prayer those who are attending this conference.

*O gracious God, we pray for your holy Church universal
That you would be pleased to fill it with all truth, in all peace.
where it is corrupt, purify it;
where it is in error, direct it;
where in anything it is amiss, reform it;
where it is right, establish it;
where it is in want, provide for it;
where it is divided, reunite it'
for the sake of him who died and rose again,
and ever lives to make intercession for us,
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.*

(BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, U.S.A., 20TH CENT. ALT.)



Cherry Valley Methodist Women

The Cherry Valley UMC Women have been very busy! On Friday and Saturday, May 13th and 14th, we held a garage sale. The sale was a huge success largely thanks to the participation of the entire congregation. Without your donations, the sale would not have been possible. Thanks to those who helped set up, price and tag the items. The sale items were very well organized and categorized so that shoppers could clearly see them. Thanks to all who worked to assist shoppers on the days of the sale and those who packed up unsold items and lastly, but certainly not least, thank you to the ones who transported the unsold items to the thrift store. This truly was a congregational effort! The proceeds will be used to aid the Trustees in replacing outdated appliances at the parsonage.

On Tuesday, May 17th, twenty six of us gathered at the Machine Shed restaurant for our annual celebration. We had a short talk recognizing the many areas of service at the church in which these women participate. Their faith was apparent as we experienced the effect the pandemic has had on the restaurant business. All in all, I believe everyone enjoyed the social interaction.

Prior to meeting for dinner, some of the women gathered at the church for a sing-along, featuring the music of John Denver. One song in particular stood out. It is called, “Friends With You.” There is one verse in the song that really stood out to me and epitomized exactly how I feel about our group. It is this:

*“Friends, I will remember you, think of you,
Pray for you.
And when another day is through,
I’ll still be friends with you.*

To see pictures of our outing and from the garage sale, you may visit the Cherry Valley United Methodist Facebook page.

Our next meeting is on June 12th after worship at 11:15 a.m. All women of the church are welcome to join us.

Striving to Serve,
Donna Layng

Welcome New Members

On Sunday, May 22, we welcomed seven new members to our church family. We are thankful for the life journey that brought them to our church. Each of them have made an impact here and we look forward to the sharing of their presence, gifts and talents. We offer them our support and will rejoice with them always, as they strengthen their faith and deepen their discipleship.

Welcome:

Dorrie Dienberg, Joey Dienberg, Jennifer Dwyer, Michaela Linton, Lucy Powell, Greg Rogers and Mike Loveridge



See more pictures on page 6 and 7.

Thank You!

Church Family,

I wish to thank the church for the beautiful flowers, good food, calls, visits and prayers.

I especially want to thank Karen Harter for her foresight to call my son when I wasn't responding to her phone calls.

And, of course, I would be remiss if I didn't thank my son, Gary, for his 100% dedication through all of this.

Thanks so much,

Doris Kuelz

Birthdays & Anniversaries


*Birthdays
of the
Month*

- 4 Gary Wilt
- 6 John Fisher
Natalie Herold
- 11 Brandon Seno
Catherine Bernard
- 12 Kelsey Sundberg
- 13 Jill Barnes
- 15 Brad Ware
- 16 Tom DeWitt
- 18 Andrew Schwartz
- 19 Judy Long
- 20 Jane Neff
- 22 Shirley Cardani
- 23 Sally Hollembeak
- 24 Doris Kuelz

- 27 Violet Collier
- 28 John Schwartz
Sandy Schwartz



Anniversaries

- 3 Tom & Debbie DeWitt
- 14 Harold & Doris DeVries
- 18 Bud & Shirley Neff
- 20 James & Nancy John




Congratulations
GRADUATES
CLASS OF 2022

Congratulations to all the graduates of 2022. We will feature graduates of our CVUMC family in upcoming publications of the *Messenger*.

If you have a member of your family who has graduated from Trade School, High School, College or any accredited school, please submit their names to us along with a short synopsis of their accomplishments and if possible, a picture. We would love to feature them.

Father's Day

On June 19, we will honor the men of the church with a small gift in celebration of Father's Day. We hope you will join us as we make the day a bit special. The men are often overlooked and we want to show them that they are very appreciated and are integral members of this congregation.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

Sing-Along

On May 17, prior to the Women's Group gathering, our Music Director, Nola Carnine, held the first of hopefully many more fun sing-along sessions. This session featured the music of John Denver. Those who came had a blast!

If you have suggestions for a sing-along, contact Nola @ 815-229-7938 with your suggestion. Already there are numerous themes in the works! Watch the weekly bulletins and the *Messenger* for times and dates and the music that will be featured.



CAUTION

Listening to music and singing may cause uncontrolled outburst of joy and happiness and also lead you to becoming more energetic, creative and spontaneous!

Can you dig it?

Our New Members



Lucy Powell



Jenny Dwyer



Joey & Dorrie Dienberg



Mike Loveridge



Michaela Linton & Greg Rogers

Welcome

to

Cherry Valley UMC!



Enjoy these pictures
from the
garage sale & the Machine Shed
See more pics on Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
Facebook Page



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



For those of you who didn't get a chance to read the article in the June 2022 edition of the *Upper Room*, written by Karla Lowe-Phelps, Karen Harter's sister, below is a copy of the article.

Karla has spoken at the church at one of her visits. She is an author of many children's books about Yama the Llama. Yama is a loveable llama who learns to apply the principles of the Beatitudes to his daily living.

WED
JUNE 8
2022

FROM GRIEF TO HOPE

READ Psalm 23:1-6

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

— Psalm 42:11 (NRSV)

One day on a hike, I could see my intended destination: a grove of spruce trees towering above me. However, a thick briar patch stood in my way. Pulling clippers from my back pocket, I grasped the first briar stem, cut it, and tossed it aside. Slowly, I cut a trail leading through the thicket of thorns.

Halfway up the hill, I realized how this process paralleled my recent faith journey. For months, grief had overwhelmed me, making daily time with God seem impossible. I knew that scripture answered my sorrow with assurance. But the briars of sadness still seemed to block out hope.

As I pressed on up the hill, I decided to clip my stems of sadness with the "sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:17). In rhythm with my snipping of the literal thorns, I repeated Psalm 23. With each cut and phrase, I felt myself step out of the earthly and spiritual valley of briars. Smelling the sweet fragrance of pine, I looked up at the sun-drenched trees swaying as living psalms to their Creator. God's creation reminded me that reciting and trusting in God's word sustains us and gives us hope.

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for your word that sustains us in grief. Thank you for meeting us in your creation as a way to comfort, renew, and refresh our hearts with hope. Amen.

Karla Sue Lowe-Phelps (Missouri, USA)



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Band 2:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm Trustees	2 5:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	3 2:00 –6:00 pm Eagle Ceremony Dylan Greig	4 9:00 am GA
5 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship <i>Sydney Schwartz Confirmation</i>	6 6:00 pm Scouts BSAG	7 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	8 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Band 2:00 pm Choir <i>Annual Conference Schaumburg Renaissance Hotel & Conference Center</i>	9 5:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	10 7:00 –9:00 pm Bridal Shower Prep	11 9:00 am GA <i>11:00 am-5:00 pm Bridal Shower Private Event</i> → <i>Pastor vacation June 11-June 22</i>
12 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Methodist Women	13 6:00 pm Scouts BSAG	14 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	15 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 10:00 pm Praise Band 2:00 pm Choir <i>Messenger items due today</i>	16 5:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	17	18 8:15 am –3:45 pm Scouts 9:00 am GA
19 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship <i>Happy Father's Day</i> 	20 No Troop Meeting	21 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	22 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Band 2:00 pm Choir	23 5:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 429	24	25 8:00 am-5:00 pm Scouts event 9:00 am GA
26 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	27 No Troop Meeting	28 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	29 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Band 2:00 pm Choir	30		

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



Join us for acres of fun exploring
the unending love and friendship of Jesus

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

For ages 3 years to 5th grade

August 5th – 7th

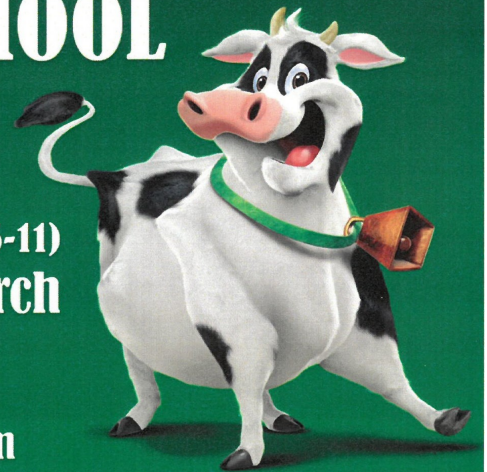
(Fri. 5:30-8:30, Sat. 12:30-3:30, Sun. Service 9:45-11)

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

at 112 S. Cherry St., Cherry Valley, IL

For registration or more info – please call

815/332-5075 or visit cherryvalleyumc.com



Vacation Bible School 2022

We are kicking off this year’s VBS now so that we can have the best VBS ever! It is titled, “Growing in Friendship with Jesus.” And...here’s where you can help make this a fantastic experience for the kids. We need farm theme decorations such as scarecrows, farm hats, fake fruits/vegetables and baskets, fake or real sunflowers and other farm themed implements (nothing sharp or dangerous, please).

We also need more “people” help. The roles are not large or difficult but are essential. We need at least one helper at each station to assist the team leaders in order to align with the safe sanctuary guidelines. We also need help in the kitchen to assist with the cooking and serving meals. Additionally, we will need help at the registration table. If time is an issue for you, this particular role would be a good one since it is mostly on Friday evening. For those of you who are particularly clever with decorating, we need your talent for making VBS decoration and decorating the church.

Starting in mid-June, we will put our VBS donation display in the church entryway. We will have VBS labeled envelopes for money donations and there will be farm animal themed cards with donation suggestions. Your VBS money donations may be given to Deb Gross in person at church or you may put it in the offering plate. You may also send your donation to her at 2055 Crystal Lane, Belvidere, IL 61008. If sending by mail, please send so that it will arrive by mid-July.

We invite all to join us in the Cherry Valley 4th of July Parade. We need help creating the float and we need people to walk in the parade and distribute candy. It is such fun to see the joy on the kids faces as they gather up the candy that you donate so generously each year.

We will be putting inserts in the weekly bulletins and ask that you pass them along to the kids in your family and the kids in your neighborhood. If you need additional information, or want to volunteer, you may call me at 815-222-8139. Thanks for your support of the VBS program.

Deb Gross, VBS Director





Registration Form

(One Per Child)

Child's name: _____

Child's age: _____ Date of birth: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

Name of parent(s): _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home telephone: (_____) _____

Parent/caregiver's cell phone: (_____) _____

Home e-mail address: _____

Home church: _____

Crew number or name (for church use only): _____

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____

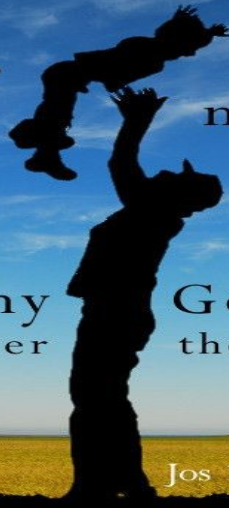


In case of emergency, contact: _____

Phone: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Be strong and of a good courage
be not afraid,
neither
be thou dismayed
for the LORD thy God is with thee
whithersoever thou goest

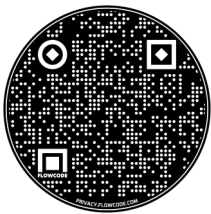


Jos 1:9

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



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



Let us
WORSHIP
Together

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