

# THE MESSENGER

July 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

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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

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

Last month, our country was rocked once more by a senseless attack upon school children in Uvalde, Texas. Since then, we've been inundated with screaming voices calling for either more gun control or less controls depending on the voice speaking. In all of this screaming, no one is listening.

I would hope that we can all agree that indiscriminate mass shootings or indiscriminate violence of any sort is repugnant. Although, I am reluctant to wade into the weeds regarding various arguments for or against any particular proposed gun laws, as your pastor, I do need to speak to this issue and offer some guidance for how we (corporately and individually) can respond, even if in a limited manner.

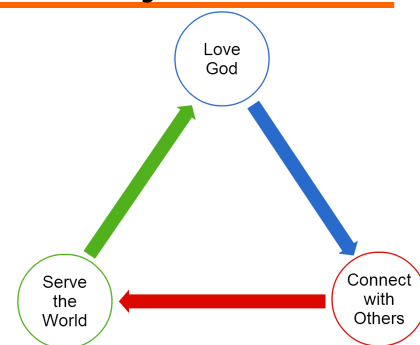
First, we need to take time to listen, whether that refers to one's perspective on firearms or any matter. Too often, we come to discussions/debates/arguments so assured that we are right and that the other is wrong that we don't take time to actually listen to what they have to say or to ask questions that clarify rather than challenge what we're being told. Also, we need to make sure that we are speaking the same language (e.g. defining terms the same) so that we can hear where we might actually agree. For those unfamiliar with firearms, ask someone who is to explain—not to argue but to understand. For those worried about overzealous restrictions, ask someone who calls for gun control to share their fears. This goes for any topic; listening helps us to understand and so that we might find the solutions for the other's worry.

Second, as Christians, we must take seriously the manner in which our current media (all types) cycle tends to desensitize persons to violence. Just as pornography desensitizes people to degrading sexualization and violence, so too does the prominence of first-person shooter games (without tangible consequences) serve to desensitize indiscriminate acts of violence.

As most of you know, I'm a hunter. Therefore, I own some firearms (ones I've purchased and some that have been handed down), each with a specific purpose. I also believe in firearm safety, and that as a society that it behooves us to take steps to keep firearms from prohibited and developmentally unprepared individuals.

Let us encourage our elected officials to require background checks for all firearm sales/permanent transfers, but also to do so in a way that makes it easy for people to follow the law. We can also encourage our elected officials to follow the laws in place (The Illinois State Police failed to follow through on voiding the FOID card for the Aurora shooter.)

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We should also insist that any business selling firearms offers FREE gun safety training to customers and the public, regarding proper handling, storage, etc. For those of you who own firearms, keep them secure and follow-the four rules of gun safety. Let us ask congress to evaluate the age restrictions on the purchase and ownership of firearms. We can also ask that “red flag” laws have sufficient protections to dissuade abuse (e.g. substantial penalties for false reports) in order to assure gun owners that their rights will be protected against personal vendetta.

I don't believe that these are partisan suggestions.

Let us also call upon our leaders to address the growing incivility in our nation through education programs that help young people learn to manage conflict in a healthy manner.

As always, let us pray and live to build up our community free from any sort of violence; and be willing to accept progress, rather than demanding the impractical ideal only to fester in stagnation.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

1. *By indiscriminate mass shooting I'm referring to incidents like Uvalde. Technically, mass shootings include any event in which multiple persons are shot, including a shootout between criminals. Although both cases are abhorrent, they present different approaches to address them.*
2. *Permanent transfer means when ownership is given to another person, rather than swapping guns in the field, etc.*



“Peace cannot be achieved through violence, it can only be attained through understanding!”  
-Ralph Waldo Emerson-

### Dates to Remember

July 4—Village Independence Day Parade  
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.

**amazon**smile

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](https://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

**July 3** ..... 4th Sunday After Pentecost  
 Psalm ..... 30:1-4  
 Scripture Lesson ..... Galatians 6:1-6  
 Gospel ..... Luke 10:1-11, 16-20  
 Message ..... "Sowing Hope"

**July 10** ..... 5th Sunday after Pentecost  
 Psalm ..... 82  
 Scripture Lesson ..... Colossians 1:1-14  
 Gospel ..... Luke 10:25-37  
 Message ..... "Growing Into God"

**July 17** ..... 6th Sunday after Pentecost  
 Psalm ..... 51:10-17  
 Scripture Lesson ..... Colossians 1:15-28  
 Gospel ..... Luke 10:38-42  
 Message ..... "No Longer Estranged"

**July 24** ..... 7th Sunday After Pentecost  
 Psalm ..... 85  
 Scripture Lesson ..... Colossians 2:6-15  
 Gospel ..... Luke 11:1-13  
 Message ..... "Substance Above Style"

**July 31** ..... 8th Sunday After Pentecost  
 Psalm ..... 107:1-9  
 Scripture Lesson ..... Hosea 1:1-11  
 Scripture Lesson ..... Colossians 3:1-11  
 Gospel ..... Luke 12:13-21  
 Message ..... "Roar"



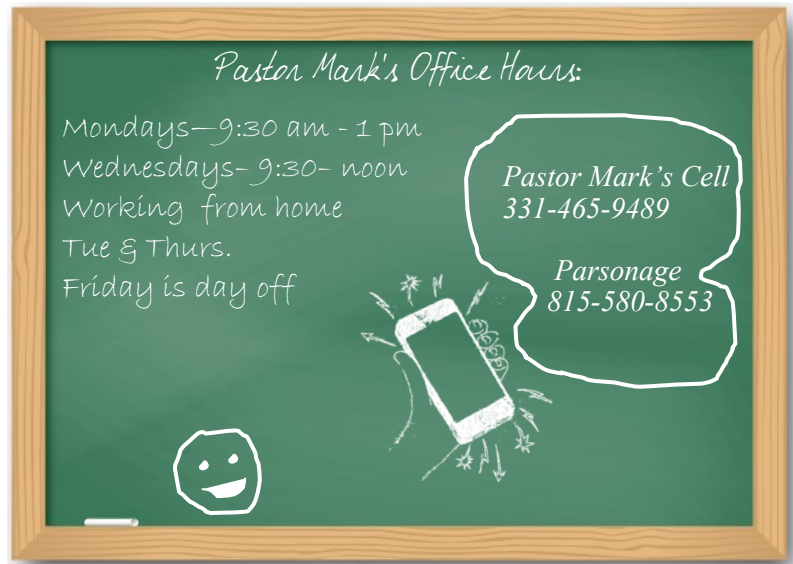
## Thank You

What an absolutely wonderful surprise I received upon coming to work on Wednesday, June 7th! My desk was piled high with cards and notes from so many of you thanking me for 17 years of service to Cherry Valley UMC. I don't know who instigated this event (I have my suspicions) but I was so touched and overwhelmed with the kind words and praise you expressed.

I came to CVUMC on June 6, 2005, and these 17 years have gone quickly. I have enjoyed (almost) every day I've been here. Throughout the many pastors that have come and gone, one thing remains constant...YOU...the people of CVUMC. You have made it easy for me to be here and have graciously included me in your church family.

Thank you for your expressions of kindness, your confidence in me, and your appreciation of the work I do. I am truly humbled.

Nancy Laurent, Secretary



## Cherry Valley Methodist Women

The women met following worship on June 12th. We discussed the treasurer's report and collected money for the food pantry.

We reviewed the Trustee's request for appliances for the parsonage. We agreed to purchase the microwave and make a donation toward the stove that was recommended.

We addressed cards honoring the 4th of July for the members and friends unable to attend church.

Our discussion of future events included conducting once again our December Cookie Walk, which will be on December 18th. Mark your calendars now for this much anticipated event. We will need donations of 4 dozen cookies from each of you.

This is a major fundraiser for our group and we appreciate your support in purchasing the delicious homemade cookies and candies.

We also discussed other fundraising events, but will develop those plans more fully in the future.

We will be on summer hiatus in July and August. Our next meeting will be September 12th after worship.

All women of the church are invited to consider joining this fun group. We do so many good things for the church and community and we need more women to get involved. Our group is getting smaller due to the aging of some and the inability of some of our core group being unable to attend any longer. If you are looking for a way to get involved, but don't feel you can be a liturgist, usher, greeter or any of the other aspects of worship, this group can be a good fit for you. If you are interested, please speak with Donna Layng, or come to the September meeting!



## Cookie Walk





## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays of the Month

- 2 Sydney Schwartz
- 9 Nathan Schwartz
- 10 Kathy Kruger
- 11 Herman Krunfus
- 21 Dana Ward



### Anniversaries

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



### Our VBS Donation Display

Pick an animal...any animal...  
and donate the item listed on the back...  
hurry, we need all items by mid-July!

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

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

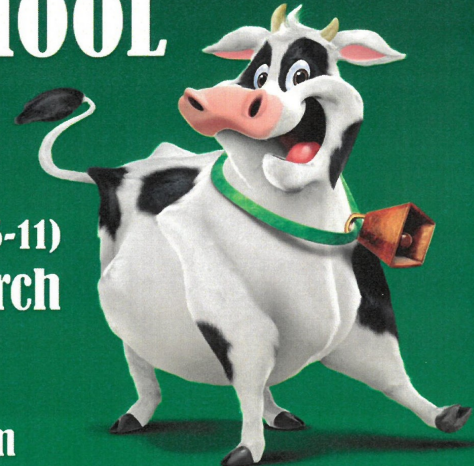
For ages 3 years to 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
August 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>

(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](http://cherryvalleyumc.com)

## Choir News



The choir is on summer hiatus but come September, we will once again be asking for your participation. However, if you have a burning desire to present special music during the summer, Nola stands ready to practice with you and assist with your selection of music. If you are interested in the Music Ministry, see Nola at church, or text or call her @ 815-229-7938

## 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.

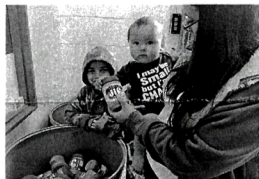
### CURRENT NEEDS LIST

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.

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church  
112 S Cherry St  
Cherry Valley, IL 61016-7701



Dear Pastor Harkness and Congregation,

Thank you for assisting us with our annual Peanut Butter Rally!

Your gift of 112 pounds of peanut butter will provide at risk children and their families with a protein rich pantry staple. Just one jar of peanut butter can make about 35 sandwiches, or can be used to make nutritious peanut butter smoothies, healthy snacks, and delicious desserts, which can go a long way towards keeping these children well fed.

Thank you for supporting the Rock River Valley Pantry and for making the health and welfare of the children in our community a priority!

With great appreciation,

Kim Adams-Bakke  
Executive Director

*Don't go all for the peanut!*

## 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.

August 16<sup>th</sup>                      September 27<sup>th</sup>                      November 8<sup>th</sup>

## From the Worship Committee



Thank you to the Worship Committee and those who have helped change seasonal decorations as the liturgical seasons change. It really does not take a lot of time to make the changes, but some of the banners are located in spots that are difficult to reach and it is very helpful to have more people available who can do that task. So, we appreciate all of you who have helped!

Thank you to the individuals who have volunteered to be greeters at worship each Sunday. Being a greeter is a very important ministry. The greeter is the first person a visitor or member encounters upon entering the church and the attitude of the greeter sets the tone for the kind of worship experience the person will have. Our greeters are friendly, warm and welcoming.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact Juanita Barnes at 815-332-9612 or email her at [jsbfloss32@comcast.net](mailto:jsbfloss32@comcast.net)

Thank you to Dave Ward for his constant service whenever needed for any of the committee requests.

## And now for something completely irreverent!

- Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?  
A. Moses, he broke all 10 commandments at once.

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday school.

"Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelite people out of Egypt."

"When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely."

"Then, he radioed headquarters for reinforcements."

"They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelite's were saved".

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked.

"Well, no Mom, but if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

## Rockford Rescue Mission

Sherry Pitman of the Rockford Rescue Mission recently encountered a group of young volunteers and wanted to share her experience and thank this incredible youth group.

“As I walked through Thrift Store, I heard voices in the back of the store processing area. I had the privilege to meet a youth group from Emmanuel Reformed Church in Morrison, Illinois. I thanked them for their help, as we have experienced staffing shortages at Thrift Store during the past six months. They were staying overnight at a local church and helping Rockford Rescue Mission again the next day – serving meals! They went shopping when they were here and bought cups and filled them with candies, lip balm, hand warmers, lotions, etc., that they purchased with the proceeds from a fundraiser they organized. The cups quickly became a huge blessing for our Women’s Crisis guests. I was struck by how these teens and their leaders were being the hands and feet of Jesus by selflessly serving behind the scenes... meeting a great need that we have been praying over for months. Thank you, Emmanuel Reformed Church!”

Jaime Rodriguez, the Youth Director at Emmanuel Reformed Church, said this about the experience: “Partnering with our brothers and sisters at Rockford Rescue Mission has been a positive experience. They nurture and foster a Christ-loving and serving atmosphere where people can develop useful skills. To see how the Lord works in and through them on a daily basis is a blessing!”

Reprinted by permission from  
*The Rockford Rescue Mission Rescuer,*  
*Summer 2022 • Volume 58 • Issue 2.*

**SHOW THEM YOU CARE**  
**Help meet our community's needs!**

Your gift today helps provide:

				
35,917 meals	13,114 beds	hundreds of hygiene items	countless hours of advocacy & education	life transformation through Christ

Share a gift now!  
[rockfordrescuemission.org](http://rockfordrescuemission.org)  
 Support our Summer Campaign!

 **LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR**  
 98-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

## 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](mailto:yskim1023@gmail.com)  
 Facebook: Young Seon Kim  
 Kakaotalk: yskim1470



## Rockford Urban Ministries

### Who we are:

Founded in 1962, RUM (as Rockford Urban Ministries is affectionately known) is the outreach of more than twenty faith communities working together on social justice ministries. In its 60 years RUM has had four clergy director who have worked to resource congregations with tools to advocate for justice issues.

### What we do:

- Listen and respond to the needs of the community
  - Take risks to advocate for meaningful change and proven policy initiatives, even and especially when they are unpopular
  - Share our views with elected officials at the local, state, and federal levels
  - Offer trainings and teach-ins about important issues
- Partner with community organizations in the Rockford region

### What we believe:

Together, faith communities have the power to make a difference in building the beloved community.

### Some of the Projects of Rockford Urban Ministries (RUM):

- \* The Shalom Zone on 7th Street focuses the meager resources of the church in one small area of Rockford.
- \* RUM helped Zion Development shut down a pornographic bookstore, then moved into the building, and spent a considerable time rehabbing that white elephant (we can see why Jesus never had a building). RUM’s commitment to bring shalom to this neighborhood includes much more than just fixing buildings.
- \* Rockford Work Camps finds meaningful volunteer opportunities for groups, from youth to adult, who come to Rockford from all over the country.
- \* Rockford Urban Ministries started the local CROP Hunger Walk (third Sunday of October) in 1986. It is now a yearly event sponsored by RUM and local churches.
- \* Founded Rockford Interfaith Council and encourages ecumenical efforts.
- \* Encourages the wealthy and comfortable to aid the poor.
- \* RUM is open to new missional and ministerial projects that can involve the member congregations and the community.

# July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:00 am GA
<b>3</b> 10:00 am Worship	<b>4</b>  HAPPY Independence Day 4 JULY	<b>5</b> 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	<b>6</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Team 6:30 pm Trustees	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:00 am GA
<b>10</b> 10:00 am Worship	<b>11</b> 6:00 pm Scouts BSAG	<b>12</b> 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	<b>13</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Team	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <i>Messenger items due today</i>	<b>16</b> 9:00 am GA
<b>17</b> 10:00 am Worship	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	<b>20</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Team	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:00 am GA
<b>24</b> 10:00 am Worship	<b>25</b> 6:00 pm Scouts BSAG	<b>26</b> 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	<b>27</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 pm Praise Team	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00 am GA
<b>31</b> 10:00 am Worship						

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

# 4th Of July Parades through the years



2015



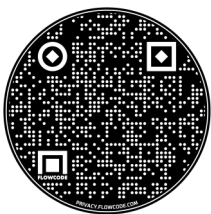
2017



2021



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](mailto:churchinthevalley@comcast.net)  
Web Site: [cherryvalleyumc.com](http://cherryvalleyumc.com)  
Facebook: [Cherry Valley United Methodist Church](https://www.facebook.com/CherryValleyUnitedMethodistChurch)



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

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





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