

THE MESSENGER

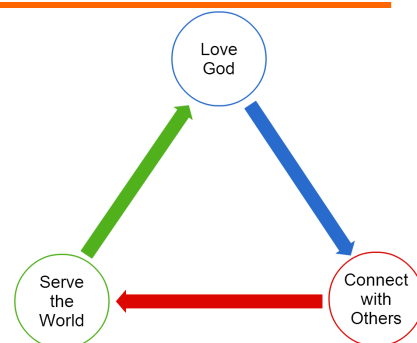
November 2022

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

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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

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: ²a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; ³a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; ⁴a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; ⁵a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; ⁶a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; ⁷a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; ⁸a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 NRSV)

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

Surprisingly, November is upon us. I say *surprisingly* because the Christmas tree forests and other displays have been out for a few weeks now. If it weren't for actual calendars, we could easily expect that we've had an exceptionally warm December and that the new year is upon us.

In Ecclesiastes 3 (a Bible passage many of us memorized by listing to the Byrds sing "Turn, Turn, Turn", we hear that there is a season and time for every matter under heaven. What season is it, now? Liturgically, the Christmas season **begins** on December 25. Commercially, it used to begin the day after Thanksgiving; but now seems to begin the day after Labor Day. What season is it, now?

Better yet, what matter under heaven can we anticipate at this moment? Bear with me in the following digression; I think it might offer a clue to seizing the opportunities that the next couple of months present to us.

Many of you know that I have two dogs, (Wire-haired Pointing Griffons). They are active and need opportunities to run off their energy, which usually takes place at a forest preserve. When we go into the field, they wear electronic training collars. At home, they wear invisible fence collars. As we leave in the morning for an excursion, I put on the training collar and remove the fence collar. Usually... One day this past month, when we got home from our hike and the dogs wanted out into the yard, Susan prepared to change their collars. She'd not gone on the hike with us, but asked, "Did you know that Nimrod is still wearing his yard collar?" Yikes! Fortunately, the collar will shut itself off after nine seconds outside the yard. It was loose; maybe he didn't feel it. Maybe he did. Did I miss his cry for help? (He was riding in the crate in the bed of my truck.) I never intended to hurt him. In fact, the entire excursion was meant to bring him joy. Regardless, he hasn't held a grudge. I suspect that he doesn't know that it was my fault; but it still bothers me.

We are entering a season in which families get together. For some families, this presents an exciting anticipation of joy. For other families, there might be a general sense of wariness. For some persons, there might be an overwhelming sense of dread. Why is that?

Even in exceptionally loving families, people get hurt. Sometimes that hurt lingers because the one who did something hurtful hasn't or won't acknowledge it. If Susan hadn't noticed my mistake, I wouldn't even suspect that I'd caused my dog discomfort. I was trying to do something nice.

I think that happens in families, too. When/where people are abusive, we should keep ourselves safe even if that means staying away. But God can use our worldly times to

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work wonders for heavenly purposes. The entire purpose of Christmas (the Incarnation) is God’s desire to be reconciled with us despite how our transgression has hurt him. I cannot think of a time that I ever intended to hurt God (even in those moments that I knew I shouldn’t be doing what I was doing). Can you?

If I can be so bone-headed to cause God or dog pain by carelessness or misdirected attention, might I have hurt those whom I love? (That’s a rhetorical question.) If I’ve done that, might the pain I’ve experienced from others be the same?

I can only speak to my experience having grown up near both sets of grandparents, my uncles and cousins, my parents’ cousins and their kids so that time with even extended family was routine. That’s not the case any longer. Over the past two years, we’ve even missed out on those once-a-year opportunities to be all together. In an age when a missing comma in a Facebook post, or using the wrong emoticon can turn loving words into hurtful words, we need time together.

Sometimes that time can be a “pain” or inconvenient. It’s inconvenient that my family the most central location that my family can gather is at a truck stop in Iowa with limited time together. It’s inconvenient that Susan’s family is in the Quad-Cities. Even though it’s not the case at the moment, there have been times when I really didn’t want to be around certain family members. You may know that same feeling. Too often, I’ve discovered too late that any hurt I’d received was inadvertent or that the other was too ashamed to share their regret.

So much of what we hear around us invites division and claiming injury. In Romans 12:18, we hear, “If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.” For everything there is a season, and there is a time for every purpose under heaven. With the impending Thanksgiving holiday (season), can we give thanks by using the time to reach out to those whom we love – who may have hurt us or whom we have hurt, anticipating a new way of being together? I suspect that it will bring more satisfaction than any turkey dinner or pie.

Your brother in Christ,



Rev. Mark Harkness



Dates to Remember

- November 8—7:00 pm Final Church Council Meeting for 2022
- November 20—Special Mission Service
- November 20—11:30 am Hanging of the Greens
- November 24—Thanksgiving Day (Church office closed)
- November 25—Church office closed
- November 27—First Sunday in Advent



Members & Friends

- Sandra Baxter
- Glenn Carnine
- Mary Lou Clevenger
- Violet Collier
- Pat Gorsuch
- Doris Kuelz
- Lyons Meyers
- Lorraine Robbins
- Kathy Sundberg

Military Personnel

- Gage Christensen
- Sean Conderman
- Dan Harter
- Wesley Harter
- Mark Kincaide

Mission

- Pastor Kim & the Next Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

- Lela Lameyer Family



PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have prayer concerns that you wish to express, please fill out a prayer request card located in the Prayer Chapel 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 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

November 6.....22nd Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm36:5-10
 Scripture Lesson1 John 3:21-46
 GospelMatthew 5:12-20
 Message“Grasping the Mind of God:
 The Wesleyan Quadrilateral”
 Series.....*Being Methodist*—9

November 13.....23rd Sunday after Pentecost
 Psalm118:14-29
 Scripture Lesson2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
 Message“Keep Away?”

November 20.....24th Sunday after Pentecost
 Scriptures:
 Luke 1:68-79
 Jeremiah 23:1-6
 Colossians 1:11-20
 Luke 23:33-43
 Special Mission Message—speaker, Judy Long

November 27.....1st Sunday in Advent
 Psalm122
 Scripture LessonRomans 13:11-14
 Gospel.....Matthew 24:36-44
 Message“Do You Have the Time”



*We need 200 stockings for the
 Rock House Kids !
 Start collecting now.
 The collection box is in the foyer as
 you enter the church.
 See Donna Layng for details*



From the Worship Committee

The Worship Committee works closely with Pastor Mark Harkness to provide the congregation with an appropriate backdrop to enhance the sanctuary for meaningful worship.

The Committee has continued to change the Sanctuary paraments and other decorations when appropriate. One of the busiest seasons of the year is the Advent and Christmas season which begins with the First Sunday in Advent on November 27. In preparation for this season, our traditional Hanging of the Greens will be held on **Sunday November 20**. All are welcome to help ready the Sanctuary for the Advent Season.

We are still seeking volunteers to be greeters and liturgists. There are sign up sheets on the table in the sanctuary where you may choose the date you are available for these aspect of the worship service.

If you have any questions or comments about the Worship Committee, you may speak with any one of the members. They are: Juanita Barnes, Cindy Kerr, Barb Clucas, Holly Snyder, Shirley Cardani, LaVern Neff, and Ray Beets. Patricia Irps continues to serve the Worship Committee as media technician.

Thank You

Thank you to the Scouts and their leaders for the clean up inside the church as well as the clean up of the grounds in October.

Additionally, thank you to all who came to help the scouts with this project.



The scouts will also head up a Blood Drive at CVUMC on December 12th from 3 to 7 pm.

“Give the Gift of Life...Donate Blood”

SHOEBOX GIFT IDEAS



"WOW" ITEM

- Soccer ball with pump
- Doll
- Stuffed animal
- Shoes

TOYS

- Toy cars
- Jump ropes
- Yo-yos
- Toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries)



PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrushes
- Washcloths
- Combs
- Hairbrushes



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, and markers
- Notebooks and paper
- Coloring and picture books
- Solar calculators



ACCESSORIES

- Socks
- Sunglasses
- Jewelry and watches
- Flashlights (with extra batteries)



DO NOT INCLUDE

candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items; seeds; food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items or glass containers; aerosol cans



"Through your prayers

and generosity, we're sending the Gospel to the ends of the earth! Be sure to make your shoebox gift unique and include a letter and photo—those personal touches can mean so much to a child."

—Franklin Graham,
President, Samaritan's Purse



Operation Christmas Child® is a project of Samaritan's Purse®.
Franklin Graham, President | 1-800-353-5949 | samaritanspurse.org
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08-05-186

Shoe Box Ministry

It's time for our annual collection of items for the Shoe Box Ministry to bless the children in need around the world. The flyer above details some of the items you may put into your shoe box.

Pack your shoe box and most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your shoe box gift. Please also pray for the family of that child, and the pastor of the church that delivers your shoe box gift.

There is a display in the foyer of the church showing what you may include in your gift box. If you have any questions, you may speak with Terri Burritt.

Please return your completed boxes by **November 13**.



Birthdays & Anniversaries—November

Birthdays of the Month

- 1 Hannah Flood
- 4 Joseph Dienberg
- 11 Gary Conderman
Debora Seno
- 15 Zachary Brown
- 21 Cally Ward
- 23 Deborah Gross
Pat Newell
- 26 James John

Anniversaries

- 6 Bill & Ann Harned



Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Group has resumed the third Wednesday meetings at 10 am.

If you like to knit or crochet prayer shawls, scarves or hats, please feel free to join us. You are also welcome to bring your own craft and join in the fellowship.

After the meeting, we often go to lunch at one of the local restaurants. **We meet the third Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. Our next meeting will be November 16th.** All are invited to join us.

Lucy Powell

Hanging of the Greens

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20
AFTER FELLOWSHIP TIME.



Christmas is such a special time of year - a time of **celebration, family,** and the **birth of our Lord.** With this in mind, you are invited to join us as we prepare the house of our Lord to celebrate His birth.

There are jobs for every skill level, so everyone can help.

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.



Sunday, December 18
Before and After Worship



Come and shop a huge assortment of DELICIOUS Christmas treats baked with LOVE. Our bakers make only their best for this fantastic fundraiser, a favorite for many years. Cookies will be sold before and after worship time, so get here early and have first choice!

2022 Church Council Meeting Dates



Church Council Meeting

The final Church Council and Finance meeting for 2022 will be on November 8. The Finance Committee meets at 6:15 pm; the Church Council at 7:00 pm.

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

Cherry Valley Methodist Women

The women met on October 9th following worship. We were pleased to see a few new faces around our table. With coffee in hand and treats in front of us, we conducted our meeting.

The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and approved. Donations for the food pantry were collected.

The first order of business was to extend a huge thank you to those who organized the luncheon celebrating the life of Lela Lameyer. The congregation again came through with many food donations. A sincere thank you to all of you!

New business consisted of discussing leadership for the next year. Lucy Powell will replace Ann Harned as treasurer. Thank you to Ann for her many years of service. We determined that we will share the responsibility of the secretary position and we will designate that person at each meeting.

We voted to recognize Pastor Appreciation Month. (But that is a surprise). We also voted to make a contribution to the Memorial Fund in Lela's name. We wish to continue to supply Christmas stockings to Rock House Kids. We currently have 35 stockings. We need **200 stockings** to meet their needs this year. Again, we as for HELP from the congregation. Stockings can be purchased at Dollar Tree. The box for donations will be put in place at the beginning of this month (November).

We continue to support fellowship following worship with the help of those who participate in that gathering.

Our next meeting will be **November 13** following worship. All are welcome to attend.

Looking forward:

Remember the Cookie Walk—December 18. We will need your donations AND your participation by purchasing all the deliciousness!

Striving to Serve



Philippians 2:1-2
"Connecting Women, Transforming Lives...
Together with One Heart and One Purpose"

Mission/Outreach Team

The Mission Team met Thursday, October 13. We reviewed the most recent Mission Moment highlighting the Gideon's and the First Responders of our community.

Our Mission Moment in October featured the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child (Christmas shoe boxes). Terri Burritt created a display and has given information to our church family about how to participate.

Our next Mission Moment will be November 20, which will be a special service featuring a video that describes the history of Grace International School from its beginning till now, special music, and stories from four missionaries who served at Grace International School!

Future mission moment organizations were discussed and included the Scouts; Carpenter's Place; and the Crop Walk.

Our Rockford Rescue Lunch service project continues to run smoothly with three volunteers serving lunch every 3rd Thursday of the month. We will reach out to other churches in our Prairie North/East Cluster area to see if they would like to participate.

We welcome others to join us. We meet the **second Thursday of each month at 7 pm.**

With God's grace we grow together!

Judy Long, Chair

PROVERBS 19:17

"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done."

And Now For Something Completely Different...

According to Susan Harkness, this is a quick and easy meal that will warm you on a chilly autumn day. It was originally submitted by Sandra Baxter for the ladies cookbook several years back and if any of you remember the Cherry Street luncheons we used to have, you will remember that Sandy sometimes made this for that group.

FIVE CAN CHICKEN CASSEROLE

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 can chicken rice soup | 1 can chicken (1 pt.) |
| 1 can cream of mushroom soup | 1 can chow mein noodles |
| 1 (6 oz.) can evaporated milk | potato chips |

Combine ingredients and top with crushed potato chips. Bake in 350° oven for 1 hour or until nicely browned.

Sandra Baxter

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

News From Tanzania

The Mission Team from First Korean UMC in Northern Illinois Annual Conference in the USA sponsored the First Choir Competition. It was held at the First UMC In Dar es Salaam district.

"It was a joy-filled Choir Competition at First UMC in Changombe. Six choirs gave their best so it wasn't easy for the four judges to choose the winner.

I am so proud of the GMSS choir who took the 2nd place and received 300,000 Tsh as a prize. It was awesome to see churches gathering and praising God together.

District superintendent Rev. [Isaka Ibrahim](#) expressed his gratitude to all the choirs and churches' participation. He also expressed his gratitude to the KUMC mission team that came from Chicago in the USA for sponsoring this FIRST choir competition. I praise our awesome God who loves the UMC of Tanzania and empowers all with joy and strength through this music ministry." "Lord, you are so awesome and good." ❤️

Pastor Kim



November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p><i>Thankful</i></p>		1 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	2 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Praise Team 2:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm Trustees 6:30 pm Pastor's Book Study <i>(in person or zoom)</i>	3 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	4	5 9:00 am GA
	6 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	7 6:00 Scouts BSAG	8 6:15 pm Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB 7:00 pm Church Council	9 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Praise Team 2:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm Pastor's Book Study <i>(in person or zoom)</i>	10 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm Mission Team	11
13 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Methodist Women	14 6:00 Scouts BSAG	15 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB <i>Messenger items due today</i>	16 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Praise Team 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 2:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm Pastor's Book Study <i>(in person or zoom)</i>	17 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	18	19 9:00 am GA
20 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Hanging of the Greens	21 6:00 Scouts BSAG	22 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	23 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Praise Team 2:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm Pastor's Book Study <i>(in person or zoom)</i>	24 Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed 	25 Church Office Closed	26 9:00 am GA
27 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 1st Sunday in Advent	28 6:00 Scouts BSAG	29 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	30 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Praise Team 2:00 pm Choir			

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

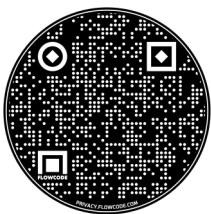
WATCH THE DECEMBER *MESSENGER* FOR DETAILS ABOUT THIS UPCOMING EVENT

Christmas Carol Sing-Along &

Potluck Supper
Wednesday, December 14th at 5:30 p.m.



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
(September—June)
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](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