

THE MESSENGER

May 2023

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

²May grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. ³His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. ⁴Thus he has given us, through these things, his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of lust, and may become participants of the divine nature.

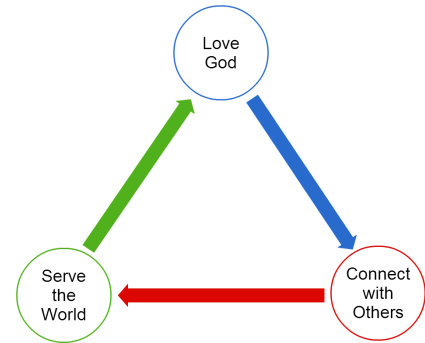
⁵For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, ⁶and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, ⁷and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. ⁸For if these things are yours and are increasing among you, they keep you from being ineffective and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹For anyone who lacks these things is nearsighted and blind, and is forgetful of the cleansing of past sins. ¹⁰Therefore, brothers and sisters, be all the more eager to confirm your call and election, for if you do this, you will never stumble. ¹¹For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly provided for you. (2 Peter 1:2-11 NRSV)

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

One of my favorite television programs was "The Red Green Show," from the CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation which was broadcast on PBS in the U.S. Red and the men of the Possum Lodge engage in silly, stereotypical male behavior. Duct tape featured prominently. In one segment of the program, Red would wax philosophical while tying flies (making fly fishing lures), concluding with the statement, "Remember, we're all in this together."

As Christians, and Methodists in particular, it behooves us to remember that we're all in this together. We depend upon one another as individuals and as congregations. Our church polity (governance model) is two-fold: connectional (local congregations are bound to annual conferences, etc) and episcopal (overseen by bishops). Our congregations serve together as a whole rather than standing alone as independent communities or denominational franchises. It gives us strength. Through that connection, each of us has bragging rights for the ministries of every congregation. We share our missionaries and the work of our mission agencies.

We also share something more intimate. Unlike congregational denominations, ordained United Methodist clergy are not members of the local congregation. We are members of the Annual Conference. Although pastors are appointed to particular ministry settings, our ministry is for the entire church.



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"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,
the new creation has come;
The old is gone, the new is here!
Corinthians 5:17 NIV



On April 16, an announcement was made at the end of worship that as of July 1, my appointment to ministry will be changing. I will continue to serve as pastor of this congregation, but will also serve as pastor of New Milford United Methodist Church. One of my challenges will be dashing between churches on Sunday morning during the half hour following the conclusion of worship in New Milford and the beginning of worship in Cherry Valley. Likewise, some days, I'll be doing pastoral duties in New Milford rather than in Cherry Valley. However, much of the work of ministry overlaps: sermon preparation is sermon preparation.

At a practical level, this change will free up some financial resources for Cherry Valley to use in its ministry. It also provides us with other opportunities for ministry through a shared ministry with the people of New Milford. We can have shared Bible studies with a daytime option at one church and an evening option at another. We'll have a direct line to know how we can support one another.

"The Red Green Show" always ended with a meeting of the Possum Lodge in which the members joined in the *Man's Prayer*: "I'm a man. I can change. If I have to. I guess." As human beings we have disinclination to change. I am suspicious of change for the sake of change. Some change like the change from winter to spring or childhood to adulthood uncovers new opportunities for life.

As we hear in the Scripture above, when we join together in godliness and mutual affection, we discover new ways to be effective and fruitful in sharing the knowledge of Jesus Christ and our entrance into eternal life. Remember, we're all in this together.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

Thank You



Thank you to all who donated peanut butter and money during our April Peanut Butter Rally! We will update you in the June *Messenger* about how well we did in providing this much needed assistance to the Rock River Valley Food Pantry.

Your donations go a long way to help the pantry in their efforts to feed school age children in the summer months when school is not in session and food is unavailable. Without this program, some kids would go hungry during the summer months. Thank you so much for your care and compassion!



Members & Friends

Sandra Baxter
Glenn Carnine
Pat Gorsuch
Joe Hunt
Trudy Hunt
Patricia Irps
Doris Kuelz
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

Violet Collier family
Lyons Meyers 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.

Finance Committee Report

Income for March	\$30,767.14
Expenses for March	<u>13,206.21</u>
Surplus for March	\$17,560.93
Year to date	
Income	\$57,614.43
Expenses	<u>47,785.08</u>
Surplus	\$ 9,829.35

Thank you for your response to the letter regarding finances that was sent out in March. As you can see, we are operating "in the black" as of the end of March.

Thirteen pledge cards were returned as of April 11. The amount pledged is \$4,632.50 per month.

Our operating budget is \$15,122.00 per month. You may still put your pledge card in the box in the sanctuary. If you plan to give regularly to the church and prefer to remain anonymous, please put the amount on the card and do not sign it. Pledge cards are seen by only two people who record the information on the Statement of Giving computer program.



Scripture Readings

May 7.....5th Sunday of Easter
 Psalm31:1-16
 Scripture LessonActs 7:55-60
 Scripture Lesson1 Peter 2:2-10
 Gospel.....John 14:1-14
 Message“The Spirit Comfort”
 Series:*Divine Accords #4*

May 14..... 6th Sunday of Easter
 Psalm 66:8-20
 Scripture LessonsActs 17:22-31
 Scripture Lesson1 Peter 3:13-22
 Gospel Lesson.....John 14:15-21
 Message“Dispatch of the Idols”
 Series:*Divine Accords #5*

May 21.....7th Sunday of Easter
 Psalm68:1-10
 Scripture LessonActs 1:6-14
 Scripture Lesson1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11
 Gospel.....John 17:1-11
 MessageSympathy of the Sublime
 Series:*Divine Accords #6*

May 28.....Day of Pentecost
 Psalm104:24-35
 Scripture Lesson1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
 Gospel.....John 7:37-39
 Message“Say It: ‘Jesus is Lord!’”



The Worship Committee



Thank you to those who helped decorate the sanctuary during the Lenten and Easter Season. We are now in the Easter season until the Day of Pentecost on May 28. At that time we will switch the liturgical colors from white (Easter) to red (Pentecost). If you can help at the time of the change over of the banners, it would be greatly appreciated.

A big thank you to the Trustees for approving the shelving upgrade in the Worship closet and thank you to Ray Beets for his help in the installation process. The shelving makes things so much easier for the Worship Committee to keep banners organized and in a better storage arrangement to prolong their longevity.

Juanita Barnes,
 Worship Committee Chair



Church Council Meetings



The following are Church Council Meetings for the coming year. The Church Council meets at 7:00 pm.

May 9
 July 11
 September 12
 November 14.

amazon smile

You shop. Amazon gives.
GREAT NEWS!

Cherry Valley UMC 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.



Our women's group met after worship on April 16. Our group remains small but very dedicated. Our goal is to keep the congregation in touch with one another. We are within ourselves a community; a community of Christ.

As this community of Christ, we will gather on April 30 for our 5th Sunday Potluck. There will be good food and good people. After the potluck, Pastor Mark will hold an informational meeting and will share with us what is happening in the United Methodist Church. Plan to attend... You need to know!

All are welcome to come to the Women's Group meeting on May 21st following worship. This will be your last chance to meet with us until September 10th! We will be on summer hiatus during the months of June, July and August.

Donna Haying

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:11 ESV

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.

Birthdays of the Month

- 1 Pat Gorsuch
- Trudy Hunt
- 12 Jeff Sundberg
- 16 Kyle Ward
- 29 Gwen Flood

Anniversaries

- 21 Jim & Mary Coulter
- 26 Herman & Judy Krunfus



Women's Evening Bible Study

We are in the process of gauging interest in an evening bible study geared towards women. Watch for a survey in the near future. We appreciate your feedback.

Celebration of DS Fabiola Grandon-Mayer's Ministry in the Prairie North District

Sunday, May 21

3:00 pm

Freeport: First UMC

503 N. Lily Creek Road, Freeport IL 61032

Includes a worship service with special music and testimonials from a variety of individuals and groups around the District.

The service will be followed by a receiving line and refreshments.

DS Fabiola requests no gifts, but cards of appreciation would be welcome. Attendants (and those unable to attend) are encouraged to consider a donation toward the Bishop's Appeal. There will be a basket to accept gifts (checks made out to NIC, with Bishop's Appeal in the memo line) at the event, people may also give at Annual Conference or online.

Northern Illinois Conference
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

184th Northern Illinois Annual Conference

Fill the Truck

Mission Challenge Collection Drive

Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center 1551 Thoreau Dr. N. Schaumburg, IL

If you are able to make a donation, please bring them to the church no later than

Sunday, June 4.

See list of needed items below

Pastor Mark, Deacon Danice Loveridge and Dave Ward will drop off your donations at the Midwest Mission truck at the Schaumburg Convention Center during the Annual Conference.



The NIC Board of Global Ministries is coordinating with Midwest Mission to organize its annual conference collection drive for Midwest Mission's Most Needed Items.

MIDWEST MISSION CURRENTLY HAS A URGENT NEEDS FOR:

- Liquid Laundry Detergent – 100 - 105 oz.
- Liquid Household Cleaner – 54 - 80 oz. (no spray bottles)
- Liquid Dish Soap - 42 - 64 oz.
- Shampoo – 12 - 19 oz.
- Hand towels or other Personal Dignity Kit items (no kitchen towels)
- Rulers (12" long with metric) or other School Kit items
- 24 Heavy-duty trash bags (33-45 gal.) or other Tornado Kit items
- Receiving blankets – 28" x 28" to 32" x 32" or other Birthing Kit items

If you prefer to make a financial contribution or a bulk purchase, you can:

- Send a check written to the Northern Illinois Conference with the Advance #50000150 in the memo section
- Give to Midwest Mission online midwestmission.org/donate
- Send a check written to Midwest Mission Distribution Center, 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62558
- For competitive prices on Midwest Mission's bulk supply wish-list items, check the website below for a links

Find out more at umcnic.org/2023MissionChallenge



BAKED POTATO DRIVE-THRU

May 6th: 11am-6pm

May 7th: 11am-3pm

Poplar Grove United Methodist Church
105 E. Grove Street Poplar Grove, IL

COMING IN AUGUST



Vacation Bible School
August 11, 12, & 13
Ages 3 years to 5th grade.

Spread the word!



*Thanks so much for the Easter card,
the teddy bear and the lovely Easter lily.
Your thoughtfulness
is very much appreciated!*
Doris Kuebel



We Love Our Choir!

Our choir at CVUMC is a very cohesive group! Not only do they sing beautifully together to enhance the worship services, they enjoy socializing together and are a group that cares deeply about one another.

Just one example of this is their care and attention to Patricia. They visit her often and take care packages and help see to her personal issues that she is unable to take care of at this time.

I have witnessed other examples of their love for music and each other. One could just feel the joy they got from participating in the Christmas Carol sing-a-long.

Much of their camaraderie, I believe, comes from their leader, Nola. Nola works very hard to be sure that the music presented at worship is relevant and makes sure that the choir is prepared.

So, when you are in worship and you are not singing the hymns because you take for granted that the choir is there to fill in the gaps, remember to tell them you appreciate them and their ministry.



School Motto – ‘We are the dreamers!’

Following the Word, following the Holy Spirit....

Pastor Kim’s most recent Facebook post was about a young man named Han-chun from New York who was a math teacher. Pastor Kim said from his first day that he arrived at the school he energetically taught the students math as a language that is essential for the lives of the students.

He focused on the early students in grades 1-3. He encouraged the students to solve the math problems in groups appointing one of the students in each group to be the leader. By the time he finished his week he turned the minds and attitudes of the students from one of a low attitude to that of a positive one.

The students were sad to see him leave and I suspect that was true of Pastor Kim as well. Pastor Kim reflected on how meaningful his visit was to her – She said, ‘the Lord who loves the GMSS children sent her a Christian leader who had a good listening ear.’



*Proverbs 2:6
For
the LORD gives
wisdom;
from his mouth
come
knowledge and
understanding.*

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



Way to Go, Grace UMC!

Many hands can make a difference. Grace United Methodist church members reached a milestone in their sandwich making ministry for Miss Carly’s...What started out as a short term mission project has blossomed into a labor of love. As of March 24, 2023 Grace UMC has made 80,000 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.



If you want to help, just show up on Friday mornings at 8:30 a.m. They will gladly show you what to do. Tell them Dave and Judy encouraged you to come!



May 2023

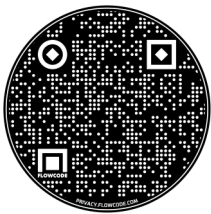
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 6:00 Scouts BSAG	2 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	3 6:30 pm Trustees 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	4 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	5	6 9:00 am GA
7 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	8 6:00 Scouts BSAG	9 6:00 pm Finance 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB 7:00 pm Church Council	10 9:00 am Bible Study	11 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm Mission/ Outreach	12	13 9:00 am GA
14 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship <i>Mother's Day</i> 	15 6:00 Scouts BSAG	16 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	17 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group	18 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	19	20 9:00 am GA
21 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Methodist Women	22 6:00 Scouts BSAG	23 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	24 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir	25 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	26	27 9:00 am GA
28 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship <i>Pentecost</i> 	29 6:00 Scouts BSAG	30 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	31 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir			

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





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