

THE MESSENGER

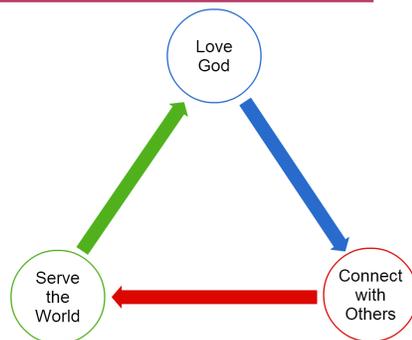
September 2023

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

Rev. Mark Harkness, Pastor
Pastor's Cell: 331-465-9489
Pastor's E-mail: mark.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

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up— for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; ⁶but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— ⁷then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.

⁸And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

⁹Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for the food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. ¹⁰A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. ¹¹The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; ¹²and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. ¹³The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. ¹⁴The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

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

Except for those rare years when September 1st falls on a Monday, the first weekend in September is Labor Day Weekend. When we think of Labor Day Weekend we tend to look at it as the last hurrah of summer: the last weekend for public swimming pools, the last weekend for summer vacations, back-to-school time, the last weekend for camping, backyard cookouts, special furniture and auto sales, and an extra day off work. How many of us contemplate workers? And celebrate human endeavor?

In the first chapter of Genesis we hear that humankind is made in the image of God; in chapter two (see above) the man was placed into the garden that God had made to till and tend it. Work is an essential component of our dignity as human beings and relationship to God. All honest work is not only dignified but a means to express the divine spark which gives us life.

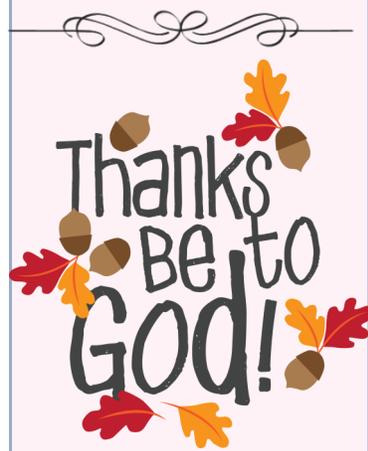
I've had many jobs throughout my life – some more pleasant than others. With rare occasion I've found satisfaction in each of them. Although I despised bailing hay, there was a purpose – providing nourishment for my employer's horses. On those days when I was shoveling manure for \$3.35/hr, I was replenishing soil so that it could support beautiful vegetation. When I was surrounded by a fine silica spray – wet and cold – preparing bearing rings for battleship gun turrets or the control rods for nuclear reactors, I was helping to keep my fellow citizens safe and to make sure that others enjoyed reliable energy to warm their homes, cook their food, and to do their work. I could go on.

Too often we as individuals and as a people dismiss certain occupations or work as menial or unimportant, instead of recognizing the truth that ALL honest work expresses one's dignity as a child of God. Maybe that's because we focus too much on the "task(s)" rather than the purpose of work.

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As Christians, we hear in Scripture that work connects us to God and God’s purpose in the world. Even for those of us who have the good fortune to have retired from paid employment discover purpose and life (Often those who die earliest in retirement are those who retire to their chair.) in work. As frustrating as our jobs can sometimes be, I invite you to look at work through another lens – your own and that of those around you.

The mechanic who changes your oil provides a means for people to travel to work. The immigrant flipping burgers at the fast food restaurant is providing affordable and speedy nourishment so that others might have a few extra moments of rest to enjoy the fruits of their labor. The volunteer sorting through donations at the thrift store is uncovering finances to support those in need. Whatever your work – you do something important and a source of dignity.

I invite you to consider your work – whatever it is – to claim the importance of what you are doing, and to look for that in other’s work. It will sustain you and provide a means to appreciate others – a dignified and holy expression of who we each are. Proverbs 16:3 says. “Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

Don’t miss out on what God is doing through you, and around you in others.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

Finance Committee Report

July

Income	\$14,926.18
Expenses	<u>14,440.11</u>
Surplus	486.07



Thank you for your faithful financial support of the church. We are grateful to be “in the black.”

Keep Up to Date with our APP



MinistryOne™



Directory — Calendar — Streaming links — More...



Members & Friends

- Sandra Baxter
- Glenn Carnine
- Pat Gorsuch
- 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



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.



Dear Friends in Ministry,

Thank you for your financial support. Through your gift of **\$100 received on July 7, 2023**, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships in more than 60 countries.

Supporting: The Next Generation Ministries in Tanzania

Grace and Peace

Roland Fernandes, General Secretary



Church Council Meetings



Church Council

The following are Church Council Meetings for the remainder of 2023. The Church Council meets at 7:00 pm.

- September 12
- November 14.

ATTENTION WOMEN

We are looking to gauge interest in an evening bible study geared specifically toward women. Please take our survey on page 10 and return it by October 1 to Terri Burritt or Lucy Powell.

Scripture Readings

September 3 14th Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 105:1-11
 Scripture Lesson Romans 12:9-21
 Gospel Matthew 16:21-28
 Message "Zest For the Lord"

September 10 15th Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 149
 Scripture Lesson Romans 13:8-14
 Gospel Matthew 18:15-20
 Message "Love's Key"

September 17 16th Sunday After Pentecost
 Scripture Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
 Scripture Lesson Romans 14:1-12
 Gospel Matthew 18: 21-35
 Message "When is Enough Enough?"

September 24 17th Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
 Scripture Lesson Exodus 16:2-15
 Gospel Matthew 20:1-16
 Message "Exactly Enough"



Methodist Women



The Methodist Women will resume their regular meetings on September 10 at 11:00 am after worship. All women of the church are welcome to the meeting. This group really does a lot for the church and the funds they raise help with projects and programs around the church. Consider visiting the meeting to see if this is a

group in which you would like to be involved. Speak with Donna Layng for more information about the group.

Greeters and Liturgist Volunteers Needed

September ends the summer season when the church resumes regular committee meetings, Sunday school sessions, and the choir begins regular performances. It is also a time when we ask for volunteers to be greeters and liturgist for the remainder of Ordinary Time and for the upcoming Advent and Christmas season.

We have provided a sign-in sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Please check your availability and consider volunteering for these very important aspects of the worship service. For more information, about the greeter ministry, please speak with Juanita Barnes.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Group will meet at 10 am on Wednesday, September 20 at the home of Judy Krunfus. We have all the supplies available - yarn, knitting needles, crochet hooks and free instructions.

Please join us for fellowship and lunch.

Lucy Powell

Choir has resumed weekly practice sessions on Wednesdays at 2:00 pm. For those interested in choir, please speak with Music Director, Nola Carnine.

First performance: Sunday, September 10

"I Will Sing
 To The Lord
 All My Life;
 I Will Sing Praise
 To My God
 As Long As I Live."

~Psalm 104:33



Volunteers

do not necessarily
 have the time;
 they just have the heart.



**Say
 yes!**



Installation Service Prairie North DS Hwa-Young Chong

September 24

at 4:00 pm

Rockford: Grace UMC

3555 McFarland Road, Rockford, IL 61114



Birthdays & Anniversaries

September

Birthdays of the Month

- 2 Mary Coulter
- 6 Grace Harter
- 7 Melynda Mungor
Warren Gross
- 8 Zane Clevenger
- 10 Amy Flood
- 22 David Burritt
- 23 Jeanette Krueger
Monica Plummer

- 24 David Ziemke
Chris Flood
- 25 Mandy Kloepfer
- 27 Sherry Gordon
- 28 Patty Campbell
- 29 Holly Snyder

Anniversaries

- 3 Gary & Sue Wilt



VBS Was A Big HIT!

Pets Unleashed “Where Jesus Cares Fur You” took us to new interesting visions and creative ideas. The team was very excited to work with something very different from past years. The response from the kids was overwhelming; you could see it in their faces...they really had a great time! The children discovered they can give all their worries and cares to God because he truly cares for them. The kids made rope toys and VBS families and church members donated pet food and toys to Kibble Korner, a food pantry for area pets. Special “Thank You” to Lutheran Church Charities and the Cherry Valley Police Department, along with their comfort dogs Samson and Stormy, who gave a wonderful presentation about their services in our community.

The team would like to thank everyone who donated to VBS this year, for a total of \$640.00. It really helps take a burden off and we couldn’t have done it without all the contributions (including prop donations, parade candy and water bottles, etc).

A “BIG” thank you to the following people...your dedication warms the heart and a vision never looked so “Purrfect”!

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Juanita Barnes | Sydney Schwartz | Warren Gross |
| Dave Ward | Eleanor Hanson | Judy Long |
| Melynda Mungor | Nancy Laurent | Karen Harter |
| Pastor Mark | Donna Layng | Shirley Cardani |
| Susan Harkness | Cindy Kerr | Ray Beets |
| Veronica Layng | Nola Carmine | Laverne Neff |

Thanks, everyone, very much!

Deb Gross, VBS Chair

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.

PETS UNLEASHED VBS



Thank You



We had a really fabulous VBS this year! Much thanks and appreciation to **Deb Gross!**

Deb chose a wonderful VBS program and did a great job of coordinating the volunteers. Her talent and attention to detail resulted in an excellent visual that helped to put the kids in the frame of mind to learn the lessons that the team had prepared. Thank you so much for your dedication!



Global Missions Secondary School

The following is from Pastor Kim, translated from the Korean and paraphrased by Judy Long:

Follow the Word, Follow the Holy Spirit (1092) Global Mission Middle School belongs to Ilala district, Dar Salaam metropolitan city. There are 99 middle schools in the region, but the recent 9 subject grades evaluation of students (2023. 14 GMSS students rank to the top rank in 1-5 May) In addition, 3 freshmen, 2 sophomores, 2 third graders - a total of 7 got 1st place in 5 subjects. I was really surprised.

Often it is difficult to figure out exactly Pastor Kim's messages especially when her words are translated from Korean. However, what I did figure out is that the students did very well overall compared to the rest of the students in the other 99 middle schools in the district.

The one subject that stumped many of the students was math. However, that was true for the majority of the students throughout the district. Therefore, she was pleasantly surprised; yet on the other hand, she was not completely satisfied.

In her analysis of the test results she realized that the standards throughout the district were low and many of the students throughout the district struggled with math too. Now it is of no surprise to me that she was not satisfied and I suspect that those of you who knew Pastor Kim are not surprised either. She wants them to excel! And she wants them to not only work hard in all aspects of their boarding school environment, but also to realize their efforts are indelibly linked to worship and prayer.

Here is her closing message. "If our students who dream [to be] global leaders don't know how to pray, it will be a big problem. "I thank God" - Students who say it is answered and thank God are so precious."

Pastor Kim's work continues and it is a blessing to the students and the staff as she raises the bar for them every day.

With God's grace we grow together!

Judy Long



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

Thank You!



As of July 14th, Grace United Methodist Church has made 90,000 sandwiches for Miss Carly's mission.

Dave Ward and **Judy Long** have been a part of this effort for the last two years. On Sunday, August 6 Miss Carly spoke at Grace UMC church service.

The service was live-streamed and we encourage all to view her message via You Tube. Copy and paste the following link into your browser to view the service. <https://www.youtube.com/@graceumcrockford/videos>



Update from Pastor Kim:

The Global Mission Secondary School Chapel is almost complete. Students, staff and neighbors will now have a place to worship. God's message is taking root – with a strong foundation! Praise the Lord!

"IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME."

WITH God
all things are
POSSIBLE



September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 9:00 am GA
3 10:00 am Worship	4 6:00 Scouts BSAG	5 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	6 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm Trustees	7	8	9 8:00 am-5:00 pm Scout recruiting Event 9:00 am GA
10 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Women's Group <i>Choir Season Opener</i> 	11 6:00 Scouts BSAG	12 6:00 pm Finance 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB 7:00 pm Church Council	13 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir	14	15 <i>Messenger Items Due Today</i>	16 9:00 am GA
17 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	18 6:00 Scouts BSAG	19 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	20 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group @ Krunfus home. 2:00 pm Choir	21	22	23 9:00 am GA <i>1st Day of Autumn</i> 
24 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	25 6:00 Scouts BSAG	26 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	27 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir	28	29	30 9:00 am GA

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

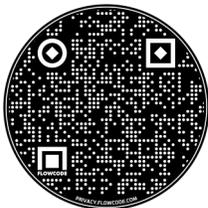


Planning Ahead

**The Annual Church Conference is October 25 @ 7:00 pm.
All members and friends of the church
should plan to attend.**



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.

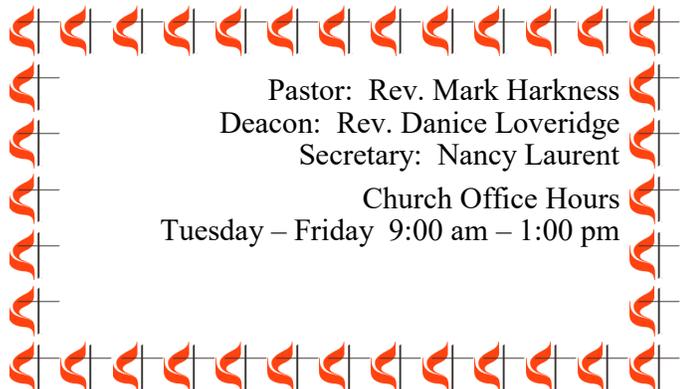
Contact us:

Office phone: 815/332-5075

E-mail: churchinthevalley@comcast.net

Web Site: cherryvalleyumc.com

Facebook: Cherry Valley United Methodist Church



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

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

Mailing Address Updates



This is a listing of people on our membership rolls for which we have no known address or the address we have is incorrect. In an effort to keep our files up to date, we ask that you review the list. If any of them are a relative or friend, please ask them to email us at churchinthevalley@comcast.net or call the church office at 815-332-5075.

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Kelly Adami | 16. Todd Hudson | 31. Dallas Ries |
| 2. Brad Ware | 17. Tricia Hudson | 32. Jodi Severson |
| 3. Kathy Ware | 18. Lisa Ingram | 33. Floyd Simonson |
| 4. Colin Edmison | 19. Kevin Knautz | 34. Sue Simonson |
| 5. Morgan Barrickman | 20. Sandra Knautz | 35. Stacy Slothower |
| 6. Christine Nyquist | 21. Jody Kyle | 36. Linda Smith |
| 7. Andy Abramson | 22. Angela Lemmons | 37. Michael Smith |
| 8. Eloise Baker | 23. Dawn Maffioli | 38. Erik Schweitzer |
| 9. Brian Freeman | 24. Douglas Morehead | 39. Sarah Sodko |
| 10. Tess Freeman | 25. Jane Morehead | 40. Erik Steiner |
| 11. Alex Gartner | 26. Dale Moyer | 41. Nicole Steiner |
| 12. David Gillingham | 27. Jordon Moyer | 42. Amanda Strewlow |
| 13. Wendy Gulotta | 28. Tiffany Palmer | 43. Ashley Strewlow |
| 14. Stephanie Hicks | 29. Denise Porter | 44. Justin Tryggstad |
| 15. Michael Holland | 30. Emily Prather | |

SCOUTS BSA

CUB SCOUT PACK 429 (BOYS AND GIRLS) GRADES K-5TH

TROOP 181B (BOYS) GRADES 6-12

TROOP 181G (GIRLS) GRADES 6-12

JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATIONAL/FUN DAY ON
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH FROM 1-3PM
CHERRY VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
112 S CHERRY STREET IN CHERRY VALLEY

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CALL OR TEXT
SANDY SCHWARTZ 779-771-3567

Evening Bible Study For Women Survey

Please answer the following questions regarding your interest in an evening bible study geared specially for women. ***Please return the completed survey to the church office or give to Terri Burritt or Lucy Powell no later than October 1, 2023.***

1. Are you interested in a weekly small group Bible Study for Women in the evening?

_____ Yes _____ No

2. If interested, what night do you prefer to attend?

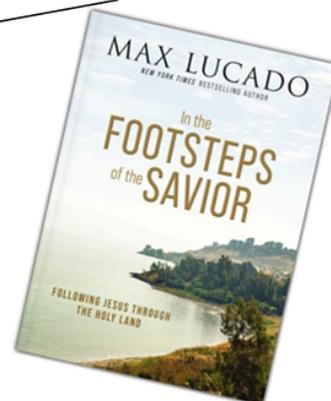
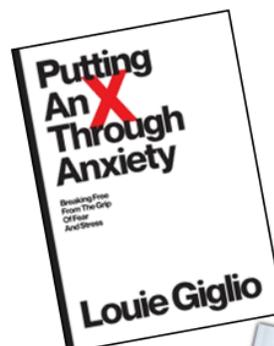
Monday _____

Tuesday _____

Wednesday _____

Thursday _____

Friday _____



3. What type of study do you prefer?

_____ Topical Study (examples: prayer, anxiety, peace, grace, hope, etc.)

_____ Study a Book of the Bible (examples: Genesis, John, Psalms, etc.)

_____ Series Study (examples: Women of Faith, Coffee Cup Bible Studies)

_____ Author Study (examples: Beth Moore, Lysa TerKeurst, Max Lucado)

_____ Video Series (example: The Chosen)

4. Do you need transportation to and from the church? (Don't drive at night, don't drive in inclement weather, don't like being out alone, etc.) _____ Yes _____ No

5. Do you have other suggestions regarding how we can gather as women of faith and support each other in our community? (examples: monthly book club, Facebook group for prayer requests, "night out" for young parents)

Name & Phone # (Optional) _____

