

THE MESSENGER

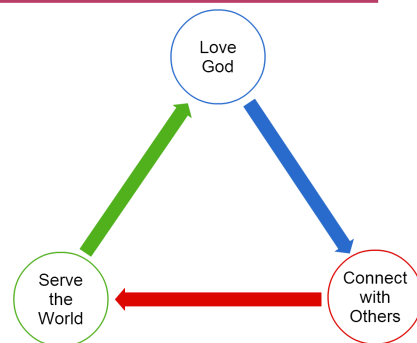
October 2023

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

Rev. Mark Harkness, Pastor
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Parsonage phone: 815/580-8553

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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

⁵¹Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, ⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴When this perishable body puts on

imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." ⁵⁵"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" ⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Listen, I Will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed. (1 Cor. 15:51) I recently attended a clergy breakfast in which the Rev. Dr. Thomas Long spoke about funerals. As a seminary professor, one might have expected that he would have focused on practical matters regarding funerals. Instead, he talked about historical funerary practice in Judaism and the Roman Empire and how those expressions found their way into Christian practice. More importantly, he talked about the theological reasons that Christians adopted certain practices, but also how many contemporary practices reflect where we have lost our biblical sense of eternal life.

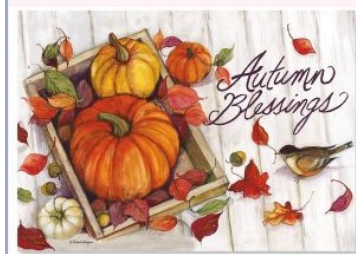
Although he didn't quote her, at moments I heard Belinda Carlisle singing. Dr. Long pointed out that we often misunderstand heaven as a place to which we go when we die. Whereas the Bible seldom talks about heaven as a place to go, but instead the place from which God comes. Even in Revelation we hear that the New Jerusalem will descend (i.e. come to us), and Jesus repeatedly speaks about the kingdom of heaven coming into our midst and that it is "at hand." Eternal life isn't something for which we have to wait – the kingdom of heaven isn't a distant promise – instead eternal life and the promise of heaven are within our reach as Christians. As Ms. Carlisle would sing, "They say in Heaven love comes first. We'll make Heaven a place on Earth."

I don't know that Ms. Carlisle is a Methodist, but John Wesley called good works a foretaste of heaven. When love comes first – when our first inclination is build up one another and to share hope -we catch a glimpse of God's glory and the fullness of life that comes in Jesus Christ. Death loses its victory and its sting because for those who live in Christ it frees us to express our love for God and one another more fully in this life – and without distraction – in the life to come.

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Later this month, we will celebrate All Saints Sunday during worship. Rather than merely remembering those who have died and seeking comfort for our on-going grief – let us ponder and claim the promise of heaven in our midst by reflecting on how we have experienced God’s love through the departed and how we can share God’s promise of heaven even today – not merely as a reward for being good (or not too bad) but as our inheritance having accepted God’s offer of life through Jesus Christ.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness



Sunday School Begins



Beginning October 15th, Sunday School will begin for children from Kindergarten and up following the Children’s Message during the worship service.

Thank you to all who are involved with this very important program!

Nursery Available During Worship

We have a wonderful space specifically dedicated as a nursery for pre-school toddlers and infants. We recently added new furnishing and made the space inviting for the children and parents as well. You are welcome to bring your infant or pre-school toddler to the nursery so that the worship service might be more meaningful without worry or distraction.

Keep Up to Date with our APP



MinistryOne™



Directory — Calendar — Streaming links — More...



Members & Friends

Sandra Baxter
Glenn Carnine
Pat Gorsuch
Doris Kuelz

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
Sean Conderman
Dan Harter
Wesley Harter
Mark Kincaide

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

Family of Lorraine Robbins



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	\$10,385.95
Expenses	<u>8,449.94</u>
Surplus	1,936.01



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

Greeters and Liturgist Volunteers Needed

We are still seeking a few dedicated people to volunteer to perform greeter and liturgist duties. 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. Your church needs you!

For more information, please speak with Juanita Barnes.

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



Scripture Readings

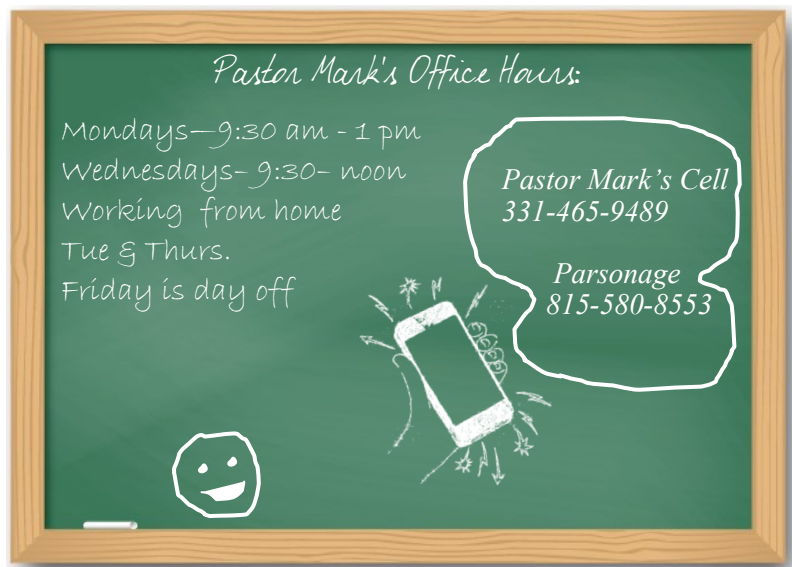
October 1 18th Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 78:1-4, 9-16
 Scripture Lesson Philippians 2:1-13
 Gospel Matthew 21:23-32
 Message "Working on Salvation"

October 8 19th Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 19
 Scripture Lesson Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
 Gospel Matthew 21:33-46
 Message "God's Top Ten"

October 15 20th Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 106:1-12, 19-23, 47-48
 Scripture Lesson Exodus 32:1-14
 Gospel Matthew 22:1-14
 Message "Where's the Beef?"

October 22 21st Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 99
 Scripture Lesson 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
 Gospel Matthew 22:15-22
 Message "That Which is God's"

October 29 22nd Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 34:1-10, 22
 Scripture Lesson Revelation 7:9-17
 Scripture Lesson 1 John 3:1-3
 Gospel Matthew 5:1-12
 Message "Seeing God"



Methodist Women



With summer break coming to an end, we met on September 10th following worship. First and foremost, we decided we need to develop a mission statement. Our primary goal is to care for this congregation with the love of Christ. Now we need to put it in a sentence that makes it visible to others.

There was a lot of discussion about our future activities. Yolanda Beets shared with us about the Craft Show that was held at the church on September 30th. We supported this activity and are happy to say that it was a successful event.

We will again sponsor the Cookie Walk on December 17th. Watch the weekly bulletins, the *Messenger* and the bulletin boards for more information regarding the Cookie Walk.

The congregation will again participate in the annual Shoe Box Ministry. Terri Burritt and Jordyn Nystrom will head up this project. The goal for having all shoe boxes ready to ship is November 1st. Terri has asked for our support in covering the cost of mailing the boxes.

We discussed a "night out" for women for food and fellowship. Dana Ward is the point of contact for this project. More information will be forthcoming.

We discussed inviting the congregation of New Milford to join us for our 5th Sunday potluck in October.

Our next meeting is October 15th following worship. All women are invited to attend. Come and help us care for this congregation.

Striving to serve.
 Donna Layng

Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Group will meet at 10 am on Wednesday, October 18th. We have all you need to get started. We have yarn, knitting needles, crochet hooks, lots of assistance and instructions. Please join us.

Lucy Powell



Note: Sometimes there's food involved



Church Council Meetings



The final Church Council Meeting for 2023 will be on November 14th at 7:00 pm.

All Saints Day



Sunday, October 29th is All Saints Sunday and we will have our traditional bell cross worship service to honor those who have passed away this year.

If you want to place a bell on the cross to honor your loved one, remember to bring your bell for the October 29th worship service.

When choosing your bell, please remember that there will be many bells on the cross so your bell should be of an appropriate size. Try to keep the bell no larger than 2" to 3".

Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry



We are collecting items for the annual Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry. Our goal is to have our shoeboxes in by November 1st. The National Collection dates are November 13th–November 20th. **See pages 6 for the items** that

you can put in your shoe box. There are 2 lists; one for girls and one for boys.

A very important part of packing the shoe box is to pray for the boy or girl that will be receiving the box.

For more information, speak with Terri Burritt or Jordyn Nystrom, project coordinators.

Thank you for supporting this program that brings so much joy to kids around the world.

Recycle Rebate Program

Thank you to all who participated in the ink cartridge recycle rebate program we enjoyed for many years. However, the company is no longer accepting the ink cartridges for rebate nor are they accepting them to recycle. **Sadly, we can no longer accept your used ink cartridges.**



You can possibly find a recycle company on line that will take your used cartridges or check with your community for places to recycle them.

Thanks to all who did bring your cartridges when we had this great program. It saved us a tidy sum against our office supplies for many years when the program was in effect.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays of the Month

- 4 Marybeth Sundberg
- 5 Charles Voorhies
- 12 Carol Conderman
- 14 Carol Behning
- 28 Ericka Kauffmann
- Erinna Kauffmann
- Hailee Kerr

Anniversaries

- 6 Ray & Yolanda Beets
- 10 Mike & Melynda Mungor
- 10 Theoren & Jordyn Nystrom
- 12 Jim & Pat Newell
- 13 David & Dana Ward
- 14 Charles & Lora Schnuckel
- 29 Dave & Jan Mills



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.



LOOKING AHEAD

Thanksgiving Day-November 23rd

Hanging of the Greens-November 26th

COOKiE wALK-December 17th

Attention All Women

FEMALES OF THE CHURCH UNITE!



Please join us for an evening of **females, food, fun and fellowship!** We would like to gather quarterly at a local restaurant with our first gathering to be **October 18th**. When a final headcount is determined, time and location will be announced. You will be responsible for the price of your dinner, tax and tip.

Should you need transportation assistance, please advise. This is a developing project so please watch the announcements in the weekly bulletins and your email.

To RSVP, contact Dana Ward at (815) 332-4846 or (815) 520-6429.



Women's Bible Study

Thank you to all who responded to our survey about an evening bible study geared specifically towards women.

We have had several responses and numerous people are interested. At this point, we are still determining a time and day of the week on which we will meet.

Even if you didn't complete a survey, all women of the church are welcome to come to the study. Watch the weekly bulletins and your email for time and date the new study will begin.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR
5th Sunday
FALL POTLUCK
LUNCHEON

OCTOBER 29
AFTER WORSHIP

BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH TO SHARE
AND A FEW OF YOUR FRIENDS!

ALL ARE WELCOME

Update Your Information



In an effort to keep our files as current as possible, we ask that if you have a change of address, change of family circumstances, i.e., marriage, birth of a child, divorce, etc., please notify the church office of the changes.



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 GCF
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



Shoebox Gift Suggestions



A "WOW" ITEM

- Doll
- Large toy
- Soccer ball and pump
- Stuffed animal
- Musical instrument



PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Comb or brush
- Toothbrush
- Washcloth
- Fun adhesive bandages
- Eating utensils
- Nail clipper and file



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils and sharpener
- Pencil case
- Erasers
- Pens
- Crayons
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Index cards
- Calculator
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Glue stick
- Small adhesive tape



CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

- Clothing and undergarments
- Flip-flops or shoes
- Cold weather items
- Sunglasses
- Bags, backpacks, or purses
- Hair accessories
- Hats
- Wristwatch or jewelry
- Flashlight



Shoebox Gift Suggestions



A "WOW" ITEM

- Soccer ball and pump
- Stuffed animal
- Musical instrument
- Large toy truck or car
- Other large toy



PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Comb or brush
- Toothbrush
- Washcloth
- Fun adhesive bandages
- Eating utensils
- Nail clipper and file



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils and sharpener
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- Calculator
- Scissors
- Ruler
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- Small adhesive tape



CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

- Clothing and undergarments
- Flip-flops or shoes
- Cold weather items
- Sunglasses
- Bags or backpacks
- Hats
- Wristwatch
- Flashlight



CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES

- Puzzles
- Binoculars
- Compass
- Chalkboard and chalk
- Fishing kit
- Jump rope
- Coloring books or pads
- Dry watercolor set
- Playdough
- Stickers
- Craft kits or colorful rope/twine
- Books or picture books



TOYS

- Ball
- Frisbee®
- Building blocks
- Finger puppets
- Slinky®
- Yo-yo
- Magnets
- Kaleidoscope
- Interactive toys
- Other small toys and figures



DO NOT INCLUDE

- Food, candy, or gum
- Toothpaste
- Used or damaged items
- Scary or war-related items
- Wearable traditional camouflage
- Seeds or organic matter
- Liquids
- Medication
- Money
- Breakable items
- Matches, fire starters, or aerosols
- Knife, saw, or razor blades

October 2023

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1 10:00 am Worship	2 6:00 Scouts BSAG	3 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	4 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm Trustees	5 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	6	7 9:00 am GA
8 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Women's Group	9 6:00 Scouts BSAG	10 6:00 pm Finance 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	11 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir	12 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	13 6:00 pm Boy Scout (Aiden Breeze)	14 9:00 am GA
15 10:00 am Worship <i>Messenger Items Due Today</i>	16 6:00 Scouts BSAG	17 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB 10:15 am Memorial Committee	18 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 2:00 pm Choir	19 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	20	21 9:00 am GA
22 10:00 am Worship	23 6:00 Scouts BSAG	24 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	25 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir 6:00 pm SPRC 7:00 pm Church Conference	26 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	27	28 9:00 am GA <i>Scout Clean up Day outside church</i>
29 10:00 am Worship <i>All Saints Day Celebration</i> <i>Trick or Treat for the Pantry</i>	30 6:00 Scouts BSAG <i>Pastor leaves for Taiwan (returns Nov.14, 2023)</i>	31 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB <i>Halloween Warming Station</i>				

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

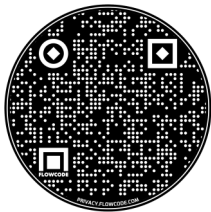


Planning Ahead

All members and friends of the church...
Plan to attend the
Annual Church Conference
October 25th @ 7:00 pm.



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



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