

THE MESSENGER

November 2023

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

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

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Cell phone: 815-509-9445

Our Mission: *Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of*

A Word From the Pastor

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:19-25 (NRSV)

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

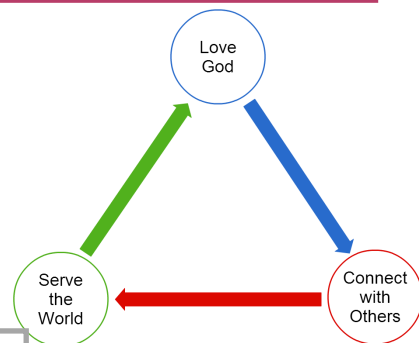
In the midst of preparing for our recent church conference, I've been busy planning for Susan and my trip to Taiwan where my brother will be getting married. In addition to the usual challenges of travel planning: booking transportation, finding a hotel room, planning for the care of dogs while we are away, etc., one particular challenge was finding a church/churches to attend while we are away. Because all of my traveling before now has been in the United States, I've been able to easily find a church for Sunday mornings while travelling. Usually, I make the choice based on the time of the service location relative to my daily itinerary.

Although there are several Christian churches in Taipei, most worship in Mandarin. I don't speak Mandarin. I did find three churches (two Protestant, one Catholic) with English language worship services. However, they are in different parts of the city than our hotel; the closest is about 45min away via public transit. What this means is that we will need to plan at least (depending on pick-up/drop off times) an extra hour and a half for worship on Sunday mornings. Should I?

Another option – is to attend a non-English speaking church (and to utilize the translate app on my phone). What's not an option for me is to skip gathering with the faithful for worship. I suspect that the effort might just magnify that experience.

I learned years ago during an August backpacking trip in which I had to fill my canteens from puddles for which I had to search, not to take water for granted; quite differently from the running faucet while I brush my teeth in the morning. Jesus promised living water to his disciples, but we need to drink it if we are to claim life. When water is scarce we yearn for it and look for those places where we find refreshment.

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grateful
IS A
happy
PLACE TO BE



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I'm still recovering from the spiritual drought that was covid isolation which limited us to virtual worship gatherings. Although I found some refreshment in that, it was more like sucking water from a sponge instead of opening up a tap.

Do you feel like maybe you're just getting by in life? Are you tired and dried out? Jesus offers life in the midst of one another where we find life as we encourage one another in faith.

The seasons are changing – summer travel has come to an end – and even if it hasn't there's always time and a place somewhere to find refreshment in worship together with other Christians. Come join us (in Cherry Valley, not Taipei) for worship on Sundays; and when you're away seek out a place to worship.

As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord (Joshua 24:15). Whether I attend English-speaking or Chinese-speaking churches – whether I understand the words or not – I know that the Gospel (the good news) will make itself know wherever and whenever I join God's people in praise.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

.....



Sunday School Has Begun



Sunday School has begun 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!



Keep Up to Date with our APP



MinistryOne™



Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

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 Floyd Simonson



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	\$10,138.68
Expenses	<u>12,033.49</u>
Deficit	-1,894.81



The 2024 budget is available in the Church Conference Reports.

Church Council Meetings



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

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.

Scripture Readings

November 5.....23rd Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
 Scripture Lesson 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
 Gospel.....Matthew 23:1-112
 MessageRev. Paul Bundschuh

November 12.....24th Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 78:1-7
 Scripture Lesson 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 Gospel.....Matthew 25:1-13
 MessageRev. Danice Loveridge

November 19.....25th Sunday After Pentecost
 Psalm 123
 Scripture Lesson 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
 Gospel.....Matthew 25:14-30
 Message“So, You Know, Do You?”

November 26.....Christ the King Sunday
 Psalm 100
 Scripture Lesson Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
 Gospel.....Matthew 25:31-46
 Message“Sorting Lost Socks”



Pastor Mark's Office Hours:

Mondays—9:30 am - 1 pm
 Wednesdays—9:30- noon
 Working from home
 Tue & Thurs.
 Friday is day off

Pastor Mark's Cell
 331-465-9489

Parsonage
 815-580-8553



Methodist Women



Wow! This has been a busy month! First, we assisted the Trustees as they hosted an Autumn Vendor and Craft Fair in the fellowship hall. It was a very successful event with a good turnout. The vendors reported that they did better at this event than they have done in some larger venues. That is good to hear!

Then the following Saturday, we participated in the Cherry Valley Street Festival with our bake sale items. In fact, we were so busy that I forgot that we had a meeting the following day!

We will once again supply 200 Christmas stockings to Rock House Kids. We have been supplying stockings to RHK since 2015, so this is our 9th Christmas! We have already reached our goal for this year and we will be delivering them just after Thanksgiving. Now and on “Black Friday” is a good time to shop to get a head start on next year.

The annual Cookie Walk is scheduled for December 17. For those new to this event, we ask each woman to donate candy, breads, or 3 dozen cookies. Then each one chooses a box, and selects from the variety of cookies. We sell cookies for \$5 per pound. Breads are priced individually. This is a delightful way to obtain a variety of treats for your holiday celebration.

Our next meeting is November 12 following worship. Our plan is to review our Christmas card list for our home bound and those we miss at worship.

Thank you to all who support us in these activities. We cannot do these things without your help and support.

Striving to serve.
 Donna Layng

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer
 Shawl Ministry



Prayer Shawl Group will meet on November 15 at 10 a.m. Location to be determined. We have several prayer shawls ready to be given to those in need, so we will be making baby blankets.

Join us for knitting, crocheting, fellowship and lunch.

Lucy Powell



FALL BACK

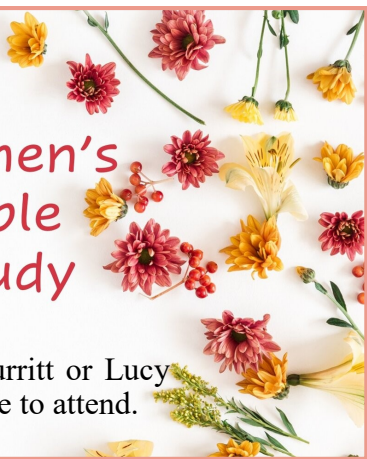
Turn your clocks back one hour

A Women's Bible Study will begin on Monday, November 6 at 6:30 p.m.

We will be studying *Ten Women of the Bible* by Max Lucado.

Women's Bible Study

Please contact Terri Burritt or Lucy Powell if you would like to attend.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays of the Month

- 1 Yolanda Beets
Hannah Lawrence
- 4 Joseph Dienberg
- 11 Gary Conderman
Debora Seno
- 14 Tim Conderman
Angela DeWitt
- 15 Zachary Brown
- 21 Cally Ward
- 23 Deborah Gross
Pat Newell
- 26 James John

Anniversaries

- 6 Bill & Ann Harned



Greeters and Liturgist Needed



We are still seeking a few dedicated people to volunteer to greet and perform liturgist duties.



We have provided a sign-in sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Please check your for 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.

*Owe no one anything,
except to love one another...*

Romans 13:8

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 panty 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.



Hanging of the Greens

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26
AFTER WORSHIP
ALL ARE WELCOME!



LOOKING AHEAD

- Thanksgiving Day-November 23rd
- Hanging of the Greens-November 26th
- COOKiE wALK-December 17th

Women's Quarterly Night Out

The newly formed "Women's Quarterly Night Out" gathered on October 18th in the fellowship hall of the church. It was absolutely a wonderful time of sharing, laughing, and eating together.

The dinner was catered by Salamone's and everyone enjoyed delightful appetizers of bruschetta and finger food supplied by Dana Ward.

The meal consisted of pasta alfredo, mostaccioli, meatballs and salad. There were various desserts supplied by several of the women.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event happen. Special thank you to **Dana Ward** who spearheaded the event. She organized everything from start to finish and coordinated with the caterer, seeing to all the details including decorating the room in a festive autumn theme.

All in all, it was a very enjoyable evening and it was decided to meet again in late January or early February for a soup and salad event. More information will be forthcoming about that event and all women of the church are invited to attend.



*All pictures courtesy of Susan Harkness.
They may be viewed on the Cherry Valley United
Methodist Group Facebook page.*



Global Mission Update

Those of you who follow Pastor Kim on Facebook know that my articles on her ministry are excerpts of her posts. Making a choice on what to share this month was hard.

Recently, she posted pictures of the dedication of the new chapel. This chapel was funded by the First Korean Church of Wheeling in honor of their 100th anniversary. Now, the campus has a chapel and a prayer tower centered and surrounded by the school buildings. God is intentionally and concretely the foundation and the focus of the school!

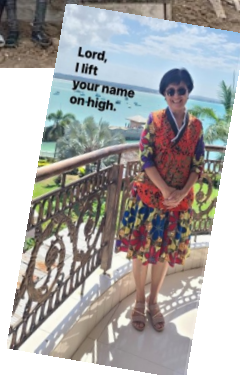
Her most recent posts describe the celebration of the Korean thanksgiving celebration. The influence of the Korean missionaries in Tanzania is growing and making a difference. The Korean community leaders prepared a Korean Thanksgiving Celebration on September 30, 2023. During the celebration, Pastor Kim wore a Korean traditional woman's jacket made from Tanzanian fabrics. She said the Korean food was just so great and her Tanzanian mom enjoyed every minute.

Her pride in the celebration was very evident. She said, In Tanzania, Koreans are known as hardworking people who produce quality work. Korean phones, electronics, and drama are favored by many Tanzanians. May God bless continuously all Korea's efforts in helping Tanzania grow as a country of faith.

As we all know spreading God's word happens through the relationships of people helping other people in their daily lives. It is evident that God's word is alive and well in Tanzania. Let us pray and support Pastor Kim in her love for Christ and sharing the gospel wherever she goes.

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

Operation Christmas Child

The following is a Facebook post of Terri Burritt's and is a great example of the compassion these kids have and the wonderful things they can accomplish. I thought it was worth sharing to all so that our church can see what we can accomplish through love. Kudos to Kameron, Lorilai, Delilah and Ellie!

I belong to a Facebook group for project leaders for Operation Christmas Child and was getting a little frustrated with all the posts being from churches packing 300-600 boxes! Today, I posted to that group on behalf of the little churches and shared CVUMCs packing party today. Look at all these positive posts! These are for you Kameron, Lorilai, Delilah and Ellie! Over 200 people have responded to let you know your boxes will make a difference for another child! I hope you know how proud your church is!

Terri Burritt



Look for an update about our Shoebox ministry in the December issue of the *Messenger*.

November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm Trustees	2 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	3	4 9:00 am GA
5 10:00 am Worship	6 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	7 6:00 pm Finance 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	8 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir	9 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	10	11 9:00 am GA
12 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Women's Group	13 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	14 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	15 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 2:00 pm Choir <i>Messenger Items Due Today</i>	16 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	17	18 9:00 am GA
19 10:00 am Worship	20 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	21 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	22 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir	23 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i> Church Office Closed 	24 Church Office Closed	25 9:00 am GA
26 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am <i>Hanging of the Greens</i>	27 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	28 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	29 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir	30		

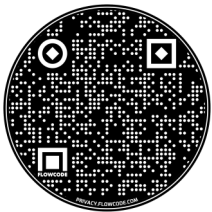
MESSENGER ITEMS ARE DUE TO THE SECRETARY ON THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH



Not what we say about
our blessings,
but how we use them,
is the true measure
of our Thanksgiving.



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