

# THE MESSENGER

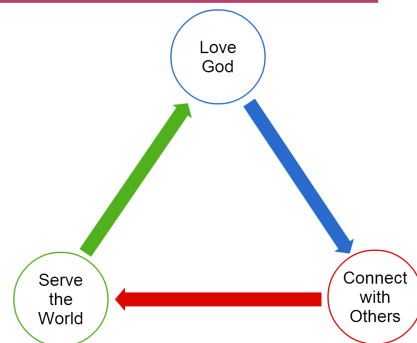
May 2024

## 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

*Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>3</sup>I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.*

*<sup>4</sup>Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup>I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you.*  
(1 Timothy 1:1-5 NRSV)

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

Although it isn't on the church's official liturgical calendar, seminarians are advised that they forgo acknowledging Mother's Day at their own peril. This gets me to thinking: Is it Mothers Day? Mother's Day? Or Mothers' Day? I think we've all seen spelled each way. Properly it's Mother's Day – with an apostrophe that seems to indicate the singular possessive case.

Although Ann Jarvis specified that spelling when she proposed Mother's Day as a day in which each person/family would celebrate their own mother, I prefer Mothers Day (sans apostrophe) because it indicates that the day is about acknowledging and celebrating mothers and motherhood rather than a day that belongs to any particular mother. In the latter case Mothers Day becomes an outlet for all of us to express what we sometimes forget.

It's a running joke/truth that my mother never knows when she'll get a Mother's Day card from me. Maybe Thanksgiving, some time in the summer, or even on occasion, Father's Day weekend, just not on Mother's Day. That's not intentional it just happens. I apologized to the church the first time that I mailed my Mother's Day card and arranged for the florist to deliver on Mother's Day, that the freezing temperature in the church that day (the boiler had been shut down the week before) was my fault as Hell had frozen over.

She always gets a phone call – except for those times when we are together in person – but there's something to be said for knowing that card is out there waiting to arrive because that awareness lingers. Traditionally, Mother's Day (even going as far back to Mothering Sunday in 14<sup>th</sup> century England) is a day of church attendance – a day for returning to church - as we spend time with our mothers.

In his pastoral letter to Timothy above, Paul gives thanks for Timothy's faith which first in his grandmother and mother. Teaching religion is a mother's responsibility in Jewish households. Even Jesus learned from his mother, Mary.

(Continued on page 2)

### In this issue

- Finance Report ..... Page 2
- Prayers for Friends..... Page 2
- Apportionments ..... Page 2
- Scripture Readings..... Page 3
- Ad Council Schedule..... Page 3
- Ministry One App..... Page 3
- Pastor's Schedule..... Page 3
- Methodist Women..... Page 3
- Dates to Remember..... Page 3
- From the Deacon ..... Page 4
- Birthday/Anniversary.... Page 4
- NIC Prayer Network..... Page 4
- Rummage Sale..... Page 5
- Prayer Shawl Ministry.. Page 5
- RRV Pantry ..... Page 5
- News from Trudy..... Page 5
- Choir ..... Page 5
- Missions & Outreach .... Page 6
- Rfd Rescue Mission..... Page 6
- Tanzania Mission..... Page 6
- VBS ..... Page 6
- Fill the Truck ..... Page 6
- Calendar ..... Page 7



(Continued from page 1)

I give thanks that my grandmother took her children to church and taught Sunday School until she had to give up driving. I give thanks that my mother brought me and my siblings to church on Sundays (Even if I wasn't keen for her to be my Sunday School teacher).

Whereas Nicodemus may wonder how one could be born again, I can see in my mother and grandmother the women through whom I was given life in the world and whose bodies fed their children. I give thanks because their devotion (as imperfect as it could be at times) brought me to new life in Jesus Christ and nourished my faith.

However we spell it, Mother's Day gives each of us an excuse to celebrate the gift of life that we have been given and those women who nurture it. So that even if our relationship with our own mother is strained, we might find a testament to the good that God has instilled in each person proven through our very existence.

Who knows maybe I'll pull a fast one on my mom this year and mail her a Mother's Day card on time, and then another later on. Regardless, I give thanks for my faith in Jesus Christ that lived first in my grandmother Zelma and my mother, Linda.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

\*\*\*\*\*

### Finance Committee Report

#### March Finance Report

Total Revenue	\$13,731.37
Total Expenditures	<u>13,084.35</u>
Net Revenue	647.02

\$940. given in response to the Easter Appeal is included in the revenue.

#### Quarterly Finance Report

Total Revenue	\$35,482.90
Total Expenditures	<u>41,210.97</u>
Net Revenue	<b>-5,728.07</b>

Thank you for your support of the church's ministry!



#### Members & Friends

Sandra Baxter  
 Glenn Carnine  
 Patty Campbell  
 Barb Clucas  
 Pat Gorsuch  
 Dawn Harter  
 Trudy Hunt  
 Lori Lothar

#### 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.

### What are Apportionments?

The basic idea behind apportionments is that local congregations send some of the money they collect to accomplish things that are either beyond their ability to do as individual congregations or that can be done more effectively or efficiently together. Apportionments allow the church to produce goods and services funded by all for the benefit of all – collective goods.

Apportionments are the way that congregations are connected to the conference and the world. Apportionments are used to fund the global mission and witness of our church, to help provide the necessary structure to respond in moments of crisis locally, nationally, internationally, and to develop and nurture the leaders we need today and tomorrow.

CVUMC Apportionment for 2024 is \$8500. We have paid \$2130 in the first quarter. That means we are meeting our apportionment goal this year. When you give to the church, you may give a designated amount for Apportionments. Apportionment payments to the conference are taken from designated Apportionment Giving and the General Fund.

Lucy Powell, Finance Chair

The Next Administrative Board will meet on May 14, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

## Scripture Readings

### May 5, 2024

Scripture: Psalm 98  
Acts 10:44-48  
John 15:9-17  
Message: "Say What?"

### May 12, 2024

Scripture: Psalm 1  
1 John 5:9-13  
John 17:6-19  
Message: "Let There Be Life  
[SERIES: Cultivating Soulfulness]"

### May 19, 2024

Scripture: Psalm 104:24-35  
Romans 8:22-27  
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15  
Message: "A Pregnant Hope  
[SERIES: Cultivating Soulfulness]"

### May 26, 2024

Scripture: Psalm 29  
Romans 8:12-17  
John 3:1-17  
Message: "Sprouting Into Light  
[SERIES: Cultivating Soulfulness]"



## Methodist Women



The Methodist Women met on April 14<sup>th</sup> following worship. Most of our business consisted of discussion revolving around the upcoming Garage Sale on **May 17<sup>th</sup> and May 18<sup>th</sup>**. We will begin accepting donations on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> in a designated area. Start saving your garage sale items now.

For more information about the garage sale, see the item on page 5.

We will meet on the first Sunday in May, (May 5<sup>th</sup>) rather than our usual second Sunday meeting, which is Mothers Day. All are welcome.

*Donna Hayes*



## 2024 Administrative Board Meetings



The following are the meetings dates for the Administrative Board for this year. All meeting times are 6:00 pm unless otherwise announced.

May 14	June 11	
August 13	September	10
November 12		

## Keep Up to Date with our APP



MinistryOne™



Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

## Dates to Remember

May 12	Mothers Day
May 14	9-11 am and 5-7 pm. Drop off day for garage sale items
May 14	6:00 pm Administrative Board Meeting
May 15	9-11 am and 5-7 pm. Drop off day for garage sale items
May 17	8 am-4 pm Garage Sale
May 18	8 am-2 pm Garage Sale
May 19	<b>Pentecost Sunday—Wear Red</b>
May 27	Memorial Day Observed





## Order of Deacon

Leading and Equipping the Church in Servant Ministry  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

From the Deacon's Desk  
May, 2024

Dear Church,

In December, I shared with you the difference between the calling of the elder (Pastor Mark) and the deacon (myself). Both are ordained and their callings are equal but distinctly different. It's time I shared with you how as a I deacon, I bridge the needs of the world with the Christian Community.

I am a certified health and wellness coach. I have a personal ministry where I empower others to attain optimal health in mind, body, spirit and finances so that they can become all they were created to be. You can learn more about what I do here: [https://www.4mycard.net/u/jbz5/Danice\\_Loveridge](https://www.4mycard.net/u/jbz5/Danice_Loveridge).

Often I receive calls to provide funeral services for someone who does not have a home church. This allows for the deceased to have their life honored and illuminate the ways in which God was working in and through them.

Additionally, I volunteer as the group leader for the Rockford Area Moms Demand Action For Gun Sense. Collectively, we help legislate for safer gun laws, we educate families and entites on safe gun storage, and we advocate for gun violence victims and their families. You can learn more about what we do here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/z3sXnbJjkXLse7ZR/?mibextid=K35XfP>.

I am involved in the UMC directly as a leader for the Residency Program that all newly commissioned UMC clergy must complete prior to becoming ordained. This program offers them continuing education, fellowship and safe spaces to process their ministry. I also fill in at other churches in our district when their pastors are ill or on vacation. In the winter months, I serve as a deacon to a small UMC in Florida.

The Administration Council and I will be establishing dates and places for gatherings where you can fellowship with me and my husband Mike to get to know us better and learn more about who I am and how I serve. Until then, feel free to reach out to me anytime and chat over coffee!

Grace and peace,

Rev. Danice Loveridge, Deacon  
[danice.loveridge@gmail.com](mailto:danice.loveridge@gmail.com)  
815-509-9445

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### 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
- 31 Jenny & Derek Dwyer



## NIC Prayer Network

*Equipping & Encouraging Growth in Discipleship*  
[umcnic.org/prayernetwork](http://umcnic.org/prayernetwork)

### NIC Prayer Network Monthly Zoom Meetings

The NIC Prayer Network is an entryway for joining in common prayer for the ministries of the Northern Illinois Conference. NIC Prayer Network team meets every month on the 2nd Thursday at 10:00 AM to pray for the churches, pastors and ministries of Northern Illinois. All are invited to join. No preparation is necessary; just log in [umcnic.org/prayernetwork](http://umcnic.org/prayernetwork)

Meeting ID: 813 9510 9144, Passcode: 459872. You can also call 312-626-6799.

If you'd like to pray but have other appointments at that time, email Katherine Howell and request the agenda or add to the agenda. Her email is [howellkvh@gmail.com](mailto:howellkvh@gmail.com) Also, pray along each week for clergy, churches, leaders, and NIC Advances by visiting the **Prayer Network website**.

*Prayer changes things.*

*"Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, who I want to be, and what I can do, and use it for a purpose greater than myself."*

– Martin Luther King Jr.

# Coming May 17th & May 18th



Have some gently used items that you are thinking of moving on? We would love to have them for our Spring Rummage sale! Kitchenware, décor, crafts supplies, Jewelry, office supplies, furniture, etc...

**The only items we are NOT able to use are clothing and electronics.**

FRIDAY MAY 17<sup>TH</sup> FROM 8 AM TO 4 PM  
SATURDAY MAY 18<sup>TH</sup> FROM 8 AM TO 2 PM

## Spring Rummage Sale

Cherry Valley UMC will be participating in the Cherry Valley Village Spring Garage Sale Weekend!

Have some gently used items that you are thinking of moving on? We would love to have them for our Spring Rummage sale! Kitchenware, décor, crafts supplies, Jewelry, office supplies, furniture, etc.

**The only items we are NOT able to use are clothing and electronics.**

We ask that you hold on to the items until the week of the sales as we do not have enough room to store until then. There will be a **designated area to drop off on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 am and 5-7 pm.** Look for the sign downstairs for area—it will be to the left of the stairs.

Looking for ways to help? We will need volunteers to set up tables, set up the items/pricing, and to work the sale in shifts. We plan to pack up remaining items Sunday after church (and maybe find something for yourself!). Also looking for a team to do the haul away with a truck on Monday or Tuesday. A sign up sheet will be out closer to the date with dates and times.

Other ways to help?---**Come and shop and spread the word!** First two times we did well. Let's do this again!

## Prayer Shawl Ministry



Jan Mills will host our gathering on Wednesday, May 15 at her home.

We meet at 10 a.m. for stitching and conversation and then have lunch at noon.

New crafters are always welcome!

## 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.

## News From A Long Time Friend

Dear Friends at CVUMC,

It's Easter Sunday morning and I have just returned home from church which ended with all 600 of us singing the Hallelujah Chorus. I think two of the Sunday services end this way on Easter.

I am not sure how the other 3 top off this Sunday, but I like this one the best.

I ask that you continue sending me the newsletter so that I can stay in touch with the folks at CVUMC. There are several that I stay in touch with by phone and I really love those phone calls. Even though I'm now a Lutheran, I still, and will always have a special place in my heart for my forever friends at CVUMC.

Love,  
Trudy (Hunt)



**The choir will continue through May 26th. The Praise Team will begin on June 2nd. Thank you to all the members of the choir for your joyous contribution to the worship services through the year.**







## Missions and Outreach Update

When I last reported to you, the M and O team felt that we needed to hear from the Pastor and Administrative Council on their thoughts as to the direction of the church before we could move forward on developing mission ideas. After discussing this, Administrative Council felt it best to have the church body focus more on inviting folks to our building and reminding them that we are a church.

The M and O team will take a hiatus until such time that there is an intentional outreach that will be pursued. In the meantime, we will look at ways to be in intentional community with one another. If you have ideas for ways you would like to see the church being used in the community, or have ideas for how you would like to see the church nurture and care for its members and visitors, please feel free to reach out to me. Pastor Mark, or members of the Administrative Council.

We will continue to partner with Rockford Rescue Mission and serve lunch on the third Thursday of the month. *We welcome anyone who would like to assist.* There are jobs to be done at all skill and ability levels. We will also continue to collect stockings for Rock House Kids, collect food for the local food pantries, and support Operation Christmas Child Shoebox ministry.

In His Service,  
Deacon Danice

## Rockford Rescue Mission Donations

We will be collecting food that will be given to the Rockford Rescue Mission as decided by the Administrative Council at the March meeting. The Mission's needs change so they do not have a firm list of items that they need. Non-perishable goods are always welcome, such as peanut butter and pasta but there are other suggestions that you may use when deciding on your donation. They have stressed their need for *coffee, canned goods of fruit & vegetables, drink mixes, and cereal.* You may leave your donations in the basket located in the foyer. Thank you for your support of this important mission.

### 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



## MIDWEST MISSION DISTRIBUTION CENTER

**NIC Fill the Truck Mission Challenge: May 15<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Help Us Reach and Beat the Conference Goals**

**6,000 Pounds and \$1,000!**

### MMDC Top Needs

#### Personal Dignity Kit (Needed Items)

- Toothpaste— 2.5 oz. or larger
- Wash Cloths (Bath)
- Hand Towels (Bath)



#### Layette Kit (Needed Items)

- Onesies
- Donation of \$2 for Diaper Cream
- Cloth Diaper (Sewing instructions are on [website](#))
- Receiving Blanket— 28" by 28" or 32" by 32" (store bought or handmade)



#### Homecare Kit (Needed Items)

- Liquid Laundry Detergent—32-64 oz.
- Dish Soap—16-34 oz.
- Liquid Household Cleaner—16-40 oz. (NO Sprays)



#### Student Kit (Needed Items)

- Box 12 Colored Pencils
- Rulers



#### Cloth Face Mask

- Cotton or tightly woven wool, or viscose/rayon. Also rope elastic or ribbon.

#### Flannel Fabric

- Donate by the yard
- No camouflage, hand prints, foot prints, or paw prints on fabric

If you want to assemble full kits, info is located on our website under "Kits, Projects, and Patterns."

Items listed here are our greatest needs.



[www.midwestmission.org](http://www.midwestmission.org)



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			<b>1</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir	<b>2</b> 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9:00 am GA
<b>5</b> 10:00 am Worship	<b>6</b> 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	<b>7</b> 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	<b>8</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir	<b>9</b> 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9:00 am GA
<b>12</b> 10:00 am Worship <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>13</b> 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	<b>14</b> <i>9-11 am Garage Sale Drop-off</i> <i>5-7 pm Garage Sale Drop-off</i> 6:00 pm Administrative Board Meeting 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	<b>15</b> <i>9-11 am Garage Sale Drop-off</i> <i>5-7 pm Garage Sale Drop-off</i> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 2:00 pm Choir 	<b>16</b> 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>17</b> <i>8 am-4 pm Garage Sale</i>	<b>18</b> 9:00 am GA <i>8 am-2 pm Garage Sale</i>
<b>19</b> 10:00 am Worship <i>Day of Pentecost</i>	<b>20</b> 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	<b>21</b> 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	<b>22</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir	<b>23</b> 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 9:00 am GA
<b>26</b> 10:00 am Worship	<b>27</b> 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study <i>Memorial Day</i>	<b>28</b> 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

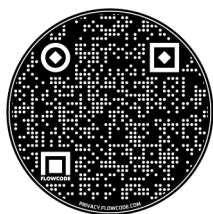
*MESSENGER ITEMS ARE DUE TO THE SECRETARY ON THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.*



# Happy Mother's Day



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



Let us  
**WORSHIP**  
Together

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](mailto:churchinthevalley@comcast.net)

Web Site: [cherryvalleyumc.com](http://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