

THE MESSENGER

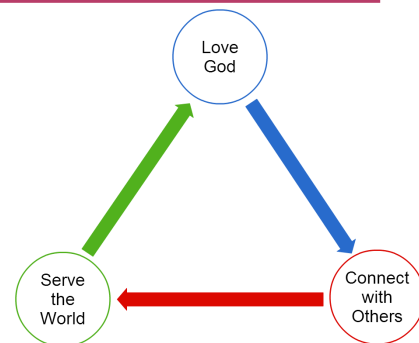
August 2024

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

6Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing

them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

(Matthew 28:16-20) NRSV)

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

What a joy it was to have nineteen children gather for Vacation Bible School, and to share the promise of God's love in Jesus Christ with them. Not only did we have children from our own church and community, but children from Centennial UMC in Rockford joined us as well.

I look forward to VBS every year. As I was preparing to move to Cherry Valley in 2018, I insisted that the Walnut church have VBS in June so that I could be a part of it before I left. As a layman, I used vacation time to volunteer for the joint VBS for Plainfield-area United Methodist Churches. Although I always hope that the children who attend along with their families will find their way into the regular fellowship of the church, I rejoice that at a minimum they've heard about God's love and experienced it. I pray that they will continue to shout "Believe it!" when reminded that God is always with us.

Each person who participated: preparing food, decorating the church, making a place to store decorations, registering kids, leading sessions, and giving donations answered Jesus' call in the Great Commission to go and make disciples. That's a call that extends to each one of us: a call unencumbered by our oratory or pedagogical prowess (ability to preach or teach) when we realize that every action we take on behalf of the church helps to share the Gospel.

Before answering the call to ordained ministry, I recorded and edited church services for cable access television broadcast, showed up for church work days to trim bushes, put the worship songs up on the wall for contemporary worship (overhead projector back then), and took a few turns at delivering the food collections to the local food pantry. Each of those things serves to preach the good news and to make disciples.

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This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

-Psalm 118:24

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We have several opportunities to serve similarly here in Cherry Valley. Next month, the newsletter and bulletin will include some opportunities for service asking each of us how we can serve. Please pray for the insight to discover your opportunity whether it ends up on the list or not – trusting that Jesus will always be with you and bless everything that we do for his glory.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives.
John F. Kennedy

2024 Administrative Board Meetings



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

August 13 September 10
November 12

Finance Committee Report

Financial Report for June

Total Revenue \$15,794.68
Total Expenditures 12,284.56
Net Revenue 3,510.12

Thank you for your financial support of the church in June. We paid our bills and had money left over!



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

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn



PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have prayer concerns that you wish to express, you may call or email the church office with your requests and the secretary will forward your requests to the church family.

For those in attendance at the Sunday worship services, we have a sharing of joys and concerns that is shared with the church family. If you request prayers but do not want the details of the prayers expressed openly, you may designate that you do not wish to share that part of your request.



Rockford Rescue Mission Donations

We will be collecting food that will be given to the Rockford Rescue Mission. The Mission's needs change so they will post a listing of needs for the month. 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. ***Please check the monthly needs list posted above the collection basket in the foyer.*** Thank you for your support of this important mission.

Keep Up to Date with our APP



MinistryOne™



Directory — Calendar — Streaming links — More...

The Next Administrative Board will meet on August 13, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Scripture Readings

August 4, 2024

Scripture: Psalm 51:1-12
2 Samuel 11:26—12:15a
John 6:24-35

Message: "Out At Home Plate [series: Field of Dreams]"

August 11, 2024

Scripture: Psalm 130
Ephesians 4:25—5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

Message: "Beefsteak Rye (series Bread of Life)"

August 18, 2024

Scripture: Psalm 111
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

Message: "Roman Meal (series Bread of Life)"

August 25, 2024

Scripture: Psalm 84
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

Message: "Wonder Bread (series Bread of Life)"



Thank You!

Thank you to all those who helped decorate the float and the sanctuary for the Outback Rock VBS.





June 11, 2024

Pastor Mark Harkness
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
PO Box 235
Cherry Valley IL 61016-0235

Dear Pastor Mark:

I feel privileged to convey this message of thanks for your congregation's partnership and to let you know how much we appreciate your recent gift to Rockford Rescue Mission.

On any given day here at the Mission, you can hear people giving thanks for God's provision in their lives—blessings made possible through your generosity. You may hear a prayer of sincere gratitude from someone who has completed one more day of sobriety. Others rejoice they have safe shelter and don't have to spend another night on the street or in an abusive environment. Still others pray with new hope—thankful for another chance to live respectable and productive lives.

With your church's ongoing support—and that of other organizations and faithful friends—we'll continue to provide meals that bring relief to empty stomachs... and comfortable shelter that allows a homeless person a safe and restful night's sleep. Because of your compassion, needy men, women and children here in the Rock River Valley will be offered a way out of their desperate situations and into the life God desires for them.

Thank you again for your congregation's gift to Rockford Rescue Mission —and for supplying the essential and life-transforming needs of God's people!

Partners in Hope,

Sherry Pitney
Sherry Pitney
Chief Executive Officer

Official Receipt for Gift to Rockford Rescue Mission

Gift Amount: \$106.50
Check Number: 9132
Processed Date: 6/10/2024

No goods or services were received in exchange for this gift.



715 west state street po box 1958 rockford, IL 61110 815.965.5332
email: info@rockfordrescuemission.org website: www.rockfordrescuemission.org



Operation Christmas Child

Shoebbox Gift Suggestions



For our Christmas Shoe Box ministry, we are trying something different. Instead of collecting items all at once, we suggest you grab a few items each time you shop. Seasonal shopping will have sales on items that you can purchase for your shoe box collection.

For example:

AUGUST: School supplies are on sale. Pick up crayons, pencils, pens, folders.

SEPTEMBER: Personal Care: wash cloths, bar soap, toothbrush, wide tooth combs.

OCTOBER: Accessories such as socks, hair bows, jewelry, small water bottles.

NOVEMBER: Donations for shipping (\$10.00 per box)

DECEMBER: Prayer for those who receive the boxes we packed with love.

PROJECT COORDINATOR:

Terri Burritt—email burritt5@hotmail.com

"Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me..." Mark 9:36



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays of the Month

- 9 Susan Layng
Karlene Brown
12 Barbara Anderson
18 Sally Lawton
Terri Burritt
Sean Conderman
20 Jennifer Dienberg
25 Kameron Taylor
26 Charlie Schnuckel
27 Ryan Herold

Anniversaries

- 14 Glenn & Nola Carnine
16 David & Barbara Anderson
17 Michael & Debora Seno
18 Nick & Katie Brown
22 Warren & Debbie Gross
23 Jim & Juanita Barnes



VBS this year really rocked! Outback Rock "Where Kids Venture into Solid Faith" 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 that God is always with us even to the end of the age. The kids made care kits for children in crisis at the Rockford Rescue Mission. We had 17 kids attend with 2 Junior Helpers and 4 of the 17 were from Centennial UMC (along with two adults who assisted the VBS team). We really appreciated their assistance.

The team would like to thank everyone who donated to VBS this year, for a total of \$375. It really helps take the burden off and we couldn't have done it without all the contributions (including prop donations, parade candy and water bottles, etc). Also, Grace UMC donated \$100 for the use of our farm decorations that are stored from previous years.

A "BIG" thank you to the following people...your dedication warms the heart and our Australian Down Under backdrop looked spectacular!!

- Juanita Barnes Melynda Mungor Pastor Mark Harkness
Susan Harkness Veronica Layng Nancy Laurent
Donna Layng Cindy Kerr Warren Gross
Karen Harter Sally Hollembeck Laverne Neff
Danice Loveridge Mike Loveridge
Mason Spears (Jr Helper)
Marley McCullough (Jr Helper)

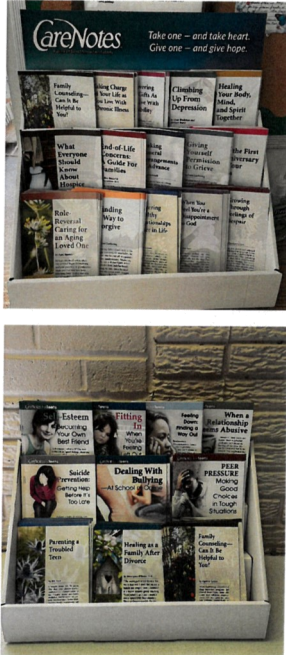
Deb Gross
VBS Director

Congregational Care News

CVUMC now has complimentary CareNotes for you or someone you care about. These easy to read pamphlets cover a broad range of topics impacting congregants and their families. Take one for you and one for someone else. Let us know if you need CareNotes on a specific topic not covered.

In the church narthex, you can find CareNotes about aging adults, physical, spiritual and emotional issues.

In the fellowship hall, you can find CareNotes about teen and family issues.



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 and view the brochure outlining the program and you can donate on line.

<http://www.rrvp.org/peanut-butter-endowment/>

CHERRY VALLEY UMC



Blessing of the Animals

COME JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL SERVICE ALL ABOUT THE ANIMALS!

Would you like to have your pets blessed in a special outdoor service?

When: Saturday, October 5, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
Where: Baumann Park Pavilion

Bring your furry, feathered, scaly, slithering or crawling pet to be prayed over and anointed at this community event.

For more information: Rev. Danice Loveridge
daniceloveridge@gmail.com
815-509-9445

Vendor and Craft Fair

Thanks to all who participated in the Vendor and Craft Fair on July 13th. We had 9 vendors displaying their various wares. All in all, it was a successful event!

Picture courtesy of Susan Harkness via Facebook. For more pictures of the event, visit Cherry Valley United Methodist group on Facebook.



Our next vendor event is tentatively scheduled for September 21st to coincide with the Village Fall Festival. Watch for more information in next month's *Messenger*.



Tanzania Mission Trip Opportunity

Pastor Kim is attending a study program in Thailand. So, I am taking the opportunity to tell you about an opportunity to visit Pastor Kim and her school in Tanzania.

Many of you have faithfully followed her journey; prayed for her and even supported her financially. What she has accomplished in 8 years is truly impressive – a God driven ministry! Now there is an opportunity to visit her; do a short term mission project and possibly go on a safari. It would be a trip of a life time! You would be blessed and so would she! Here is the information currently available.

Prairie North Mission Trip to Tanzania
Dates: June 23 – July 7, 2025

Cost: \$2000 plus airfare (airfare will be about \$2000)

Location: Global Mission Secondary School

(Rev. Young-Seon Kim's site) in Tanzania

Activities: One week at the school leading a week long summer school (VBS style). Several days of travel (potentially including a safari trip).

Ages: Those entering high school in 2025 and up (for youth, a parent must register together).

Group size: 25 people

Registration deadline: October 31

The official registration site will be open soon. Please send your interest or questions to Kris Aves at aveskris0@gmail.com I have already sent my letter of intent.

With God's grace we grow together!
Your missionary in Christ!
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

Plant a Row for the Hungry



Once again, the University of Illinois Extension-Winnebago County is encouraging gardeners to plant an extra row of veggies and donate it to help end hunger.

Do you love gardening but sometimes find yourself with more bounty than you can use? If so, please consider sharing your excess produce with those in need. The library is serving as a drop-off site for the "Plant a Row for the Hungry" program. Extension Service volunteers will collect donated fresh produce and pass it on to local food pantries.

Drop off your produce at the library on Tuesdays from **3:30-5:30pm from June 11 to September 17.**



The Rockford Rescue Mission is hosting a drive for toilet paper. Their goal is 8,150 rolls donated to the Mission by 815 Day (August 15). This will supply the Mission for about 6 months for guests and residents for this basic need.

Please bring a couple of rolls to the church within the next 3 weeks to help the Mission meet their goal. There will be a bin for your donation.

1,850 rolls, 15 days



Project Coordinator: Mary Coulter



One Day Mission Trip Opportunity

Variety of jobs to do for all ages and capabilities

Where: UMCOR Midwest Distribution Center in Chatam, IL
When: Friday, October 25
leaving church at 5:00am, returning at 8:00pm
Who: Spots for 11 people
Cost: \$12 per person, plus lunch
Contact: Deacon Danice to sign up by Aug 30
danice.loveridge@gmail.com
815-509-9445

Can't join us, please consider donating to UMCOR MDC
<https://www.midwestmission.org/donate>



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	2	3 9:00 am GA
4 10:00 am Worship	5 6:00 Scouts BSAG	6 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	7 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	8 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	9	10 9:00 am GA
11 10:00 am Worship	12 6:00 Scouts BSAG	13 6:00 pm Admin Board 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	14 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	15 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 	16	17 9:00 am GA
18 10:00 am Worship	19 6:00 Scouts BSAG	20 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	21 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	22 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	23	24 9:00 am GA
25 10:00 am Worship	26 6:00 Scouts BSAG	27 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	28 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	29 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	30	21 9:00 am GA

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

Project With a Purpose--VBS 2024

Project With a Purpose is for children that are going into 1st to 5th grade in the fall. Each year we choose a project that will improve our community in some way. We also choose a local social service organization to give the items to. We teach the kids about the organization and how being a Christian relates to doing for others and praying. We connect them to their community with hopes they become more involved in supporting their community in years to come.



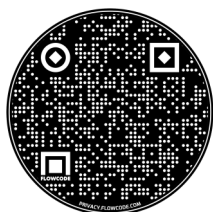
For VBS 2024, we made care kits for kids who come into the Crisis Center at the Rockford Rescue Mission. A lot of times they do not have anything when they come. In these kits the kids put together, we have toiletries—toothpaste, toothbrush and holder, washcloth, comb; Snacks—cookies, fruit bars, skittles, and fruit jellies; and some activities/toys—a book/flash cards, small toy/game, large toy, and a small stuffed character; and last but not least—a note from the congregation letting the child know they are loved and God is with them...BELIEVE IT!!

Pastor Mark prayed with the kids over the kits and the children that come in. The kits are on the way to change lives. Some of them are in two suitcases that will be given to a family that needs them. Thanks to everyone who gave to this project!

Susan Harkness



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

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