

THE MESSENGER

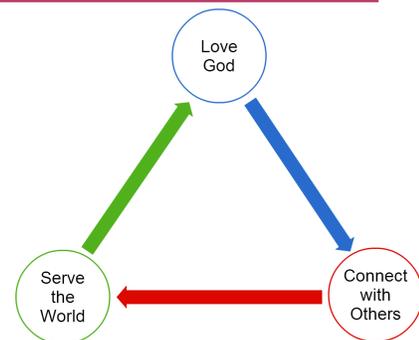
November 2025

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

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

¹⁴ Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, "The wedding attendants cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. ¹⁷ Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are ruined, but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved." (Matthew 9:10-17 NRSV)

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

It's that time of year again. Thanksgiving is just around the corner the beginning of the holiday season and all those occasions for gathering with our families. That's not always easy.

Sometime the difficulty in family gatherings is merely being able to gather when many are spread out around the country or even the world. Sometimes the difficulty is the challenge of being together with people who drive us batty; but that's also the wonderful opportunity.

If your family is anything like mine, it includes people with whom you would likely never associate, except that you're related – whether that be by blood, adoption, or marriage. In that mix are probably a fair share of sinners and even one or two "tax collectors" (scoundrels). Things get even more complicated when we remember that just as there were Pharisees and Sadducees, our table will include progressives and conservatives. Some of whom may be just itching to get things riled up by explaining why they are right.

I think that the Pharisees who questioned why Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners were like that and expected Jesus to be, as well. "Don't linger in their company, but set them straight!" To which Jesus replies, "I'm going to hang out wherever people need healing – wherever people need to be valued as children of God. And when I do that – we're not going to dwell on pointing all of the problems in our lives or the rest of the world, but we're going to feast and learn to enjoy our time together.

The strangeness of who God puts us together with in our families – people with whom we gather just because – might just be so that we learn to be more tolerant and maybe even accepting of others we encounter day to day.

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Lord please hear my prayer



Members & Friends

Dwight Banks
 Joan Blanchard
 Glenn Carnine
 Dave Dienberg
 Kathy Duke
 Pat Gorsuch
 Dawn Harter
 Trudy Hunt
 Herman Krunfus
 Tim Murphy
 Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
 Sean Conderman
 Dan Harter
 Wesley Harter

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
 Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

Family of Sandra Baxter



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Scripture Readings

November 2

Scripture: Psalm 119:137-144
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Luke 19:1-10
Message: "The Work of Waiting"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #1*

November 9

Scripture: Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38
Message: "Skipping to the End"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #2*

November 16

Scripture: Psalm 118:14-29
Isaiah 65:17-25
Luke 21:5-19
Message: "Full Disclosure"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #3*

November 23—Christ the King

Scripture: Luke 1:68-79
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Luke 23:33-43
Message: "Proving Who You Are"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #4*

November 30—Advent 1—Hope

Scripture: Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44
Message: "The Prophet's Candle"



Finance Committee Report

September 2025 Report

Revenue	\$12,440.02
Expenditures	\$15,229.37
Net Revenue	\$-2,789.35
Emergency Fund Balance:	\$6,021.74



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



The results of the Fall Bake Sale are in! Thanks to your generous donations of baked goods packaged for sale, our profit was \$348!

The profit will go towards payment of the new water heater at the parsonage. Thank you Mandy and Yolanda for organizing the bake sale and thanks to all who participated.

Teamwork makes the dream work!



Our next meeting will be on Sunday, November 9th after worship. All women of the church are welcome to attend.

Prayer Shawl Group

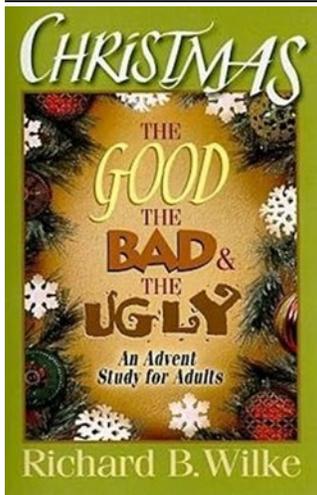


The prayer shawl group continues their monthly Wednesday meetings. The next meeting will be on November 19th at 10 am. They will meet at the home of Cindy Kerr for knitting, crocheting, conversation and lunch. If you need directions to Cindy's home, you may contact her at 815-332-9683 or [email at cynkerr201@aol.com](mailto:cynkerr201@aol.com). For information about this group, contact Lucy Powell at 815-904-9462 or email lpowell530@yahoo.com.

Kitchen Clean-up Day

The kitchen clean-up was a success! It looks (and smells) a lot better. The crew cleaned the area and discarded a lot of unused and no longer needed items. Thank you to Juanita Barnes, Mary Coulter, Deb Gross, Cindy Kerr, Mandy Kloepfer, Jan Mills, and Lucy Powell for their hard work!

Advent Bible Study



Pastor Mark is facilitating a four-week Advent study on Monday, December 1st thru December 22nd at 10 am at New Milford. The study is entitled, *Christmas, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* by Richard B. Wilke. In this book, the focus is on people in the story of Christ's birth. There are those that are associated with the joy and celebration of Christmas—the wise men, the shepherds, and Joseph. Yet the author reminds us not to forget that the evil King Herod is also part of the Christmas story, and how it is because there is evil in our world that we so desperately needed—and need—a Savior.

Weeknight sessions at Cherry Valley UMC will be added if there is sufficient interest.

The book is available at Amazon for \$8.36 as of 10/15.

[Christmas: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: An Advent Study for Adults: Wilke, Richard B.: 9780687660346: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780687660346)



FREE! Turkey Dinner

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, DRESSING, VEGETABLES,
ROLL w/ BUTTER, CRANBERRY SAUCE, APPLESAUCE,
SLICE OF PIE, MILK AND/OR WATER

CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY
LIMIT OF 2 MEALS PER PERSON

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

CONTACT JEANINE WANG @ (815) 218-1700

DONATE WINTER WEAR

HATS, GLOVES, MITTENS, SCARVES, EAR MUFFS, WARM SOCKS,
NEW OR GENTLY-USED SWEATPANTS & SWEATSHIRTS

DONATE PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

LIP BALM, SM. BOTTLES OF HAND LOTION, ETC.

DONATE BOTTLES OF WATER

DROP ITEMS OFF AT

COURT STREET UMC OR NORTHWESTERN IL AREA AGENCY ON AGING (NIAAA),
LOCATED AT 1111 S. ALPINE ROAD, SUITE 600



COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

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



- 6 Bill & Ann Harned



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry

We are having a Packing Party
on November 9th following worship
for the Operation Christmas Child boxes

There will be items out on tables
ready for you to fill your boxes.

We will send them
during the national collection week.

Terri Burritt

burritt5@hotmail.com



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.



Church Landscape



The next time you come to the church, please remember to check out the gardens.

Juanita Barnes and

Mary Coulter have put a lot of work into cleaning up and getting rid of a lot of weeds and other unwanted vegetation. There may be others who have helped with this task of whom we are unaware, but we THANK YOU all!

Additionally, we owe a lot of thanks to Greg Allton who allows us to put our recycling and yard waste with his. Also, at his urging, to the village, there are two new cherry trees planted on the parkway in front of the church. Greg is truly a great friend of CVUMC!

Katie's Cup Fundraiser



Katie's Cup is a mission place designated to promote community well-being through social interaction and economic development. It is possible because of the financial support from local churches, businesses and individuals. It was established in 2009 as a community development project of Zion Development Corporation and Rockford Lutheran Ministries to encourage renewal of the midtown district.

The fundraiser will be a dinner and dessert auction on November 13 at the Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, 5151 Guilford Road—Rockford at 5:30 check in. Dinner will be at 6:15 pm. The cost is \$65 per person. Tables of 8 are available.

For more information visit the web site at www.katiescup.com

Rockford Rescue Mission

The focus of our giving is the Rockford Rescue Mission. The Rescue Mission is a safe and caring place that offers a Christ-centered care to people struggling with challenges like homelessness, poverty, abuse and addiction.

Rescue those in immediate crisis
Recover people's dignity and sense of self-worth
Restore the lives of men, women and children

The core values of the Rockford Rescue Mission are :

- *Living for the Glory of God*
- *Respecting Human Dignity and Immortality*
- *Proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ*
- *Modeling Compassionate Generosity*
- *Partnering with the Church and Community*
- *Serving with Integrity and Excellence*
- *Rejoicing in Lives Changed by God*

Each month the Mission publishes an urgent needs list which we will post in the church. If you do not wish to contribute with goods, you may donate money that may be placed in designated envelopes that are on the table in the sanctuary.



We need **140** stockings

WE ARE COLLECTING CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR THE ROCK HOUSE KIDS.

WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

WE WILL DELIVER THE STOCKINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER.

A collection bin will be in the foyer beginning November 2.

Global Mission Secondary School

Today, I was blessed with the grace of sharing my testimony sermon at Flushing First United Methodist Church. Wearing a hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted by Elder Haemyung Lee, I felt as though God had especially prepared this moment.

From the Korean Choir in the 2nd service, to the praise team in the 3rd service, and even the English service praise team—the songs offered before the sermon filled my soul with joy and gratitude. As I preached, I laughed and cried, sharing stories of mission in Tanzania. In particular, I testified to the Way Maker God who has been at work in the process of building GMSS Middle School and in the growth of our students.

Flushing First Church was the very church that, back in 2017, gave a seed offering when I first came to New York with the vision of GMSS Middle School. Amazingly, in 2025, as I shared the vision for GMSS High School, the church once again offered a seed gift of faith. Hallelujah!

In the future, as doors open through universities in Korea and the U.S., and institutions like Africa University established by the UMC in Africa, graduates of GMSS High School will be able to cross borders with scholarships to pursue higher studies. Equipped with their professions and living “For Christ and His Kingdom,” they will go on to serve both Tanzania and the world.

When I look at myself, and when I look at the history of Korea today, I see hope—and above all, my heart is filled with gratitude.

During my student years in USA, I often heard Pastor Dongho Kim at the KOSTA conference say, “Study, not for yourself, but to give to others.” That word still lingers deeply in my heart. Just as Korea in the 1960s and 70s reminds me of Tanzania today, I dream of our students growing up to live lives of “studying to give to others”—becoming disciples of Jesus and global leaders who shine as a light that does not fade, and live as salt that never loses its flavor.

Lord, even the thought of this fills my heart with joy and overflowing happiness.

Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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



Young Seon (Christina) Kim wearing the traditional Korean hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted to her by Elder Haemyung Lee.

“If we are going to wait until every possible hindrance has been removed before we do a work for the Lord, we will never attempt to do anything.”

– T.J. Bach, 1881-1963, Missionary to Venezuela



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
						1 9:00 am Scout Clean Up Day 9:00 am GA
2 10:00 am Worship <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 	3 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	5 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	6 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	7	8 9:00 am GA 11:00 am <i>Veterans Day Service @ Baumann Park</i>
9 10:00 am Worship	10 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 6:00 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB <i>Veterans Day</i> THANK YOU VETERANS 	12 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	13 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	14	15 9:00 am GA
16 10:00 am Worship	17 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	18 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	19 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 2:00 pm Choir Practice	20 6:00 pm <i>Annual Church Conference</i>	21	22 9:00 am GA
23 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am <i>Hanging of the C</i> 	24 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	25 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	26 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	27 <i>Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed</i> 	28 <i>Thanksgiving Holiday Church Office Closed</i>	29 9:00 am GA
30 10:00 am Worship <i>Advent Hope</i> 						

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

Give Thanks



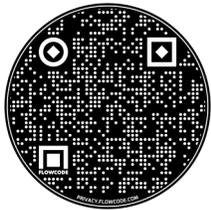
Cherry Valley United Methodist
Upcoming Events

November 20
6:00 p.m.
Annual Church Conference

November 23
11 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens



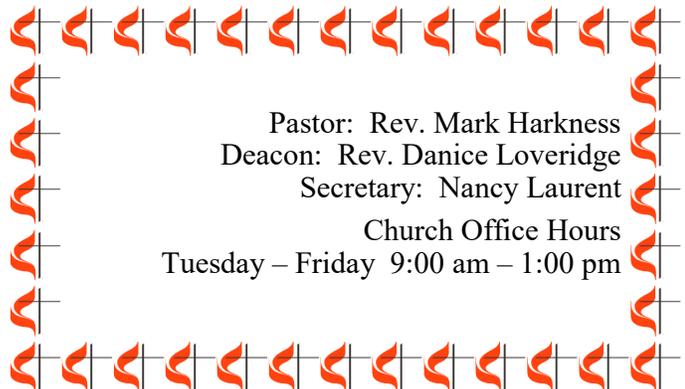
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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



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Secretary: Nancy Laurent

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

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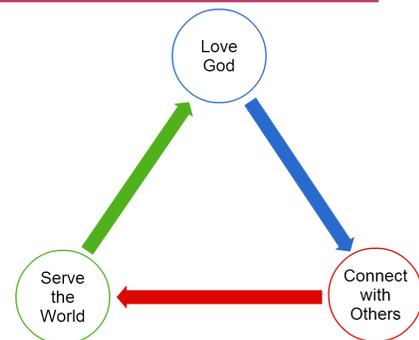
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 Isaiah 65:17-25
 Luke 21:5-19
 Message: "Full Disclosure"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #3*

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Scripture: Luke 1:68-79
 Jeremiah 23:1-6
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September 2025 Report

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 Wednesdays—9:30- noon
 Working from
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 Tue & Thurs.
 Friday is day off

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Parsonage
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The profit will go towards payment of the new water heater at the parsonage. Thank you Mandy and Yolanda for organizing the bake sale and thanks to all who participated.

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All women of the church are welcome to attend.

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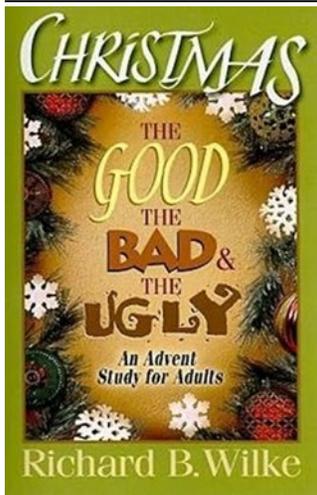


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11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

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ROLL w/ BUTTER, CRANBERRY SAUCE, APPLESAUCE,
SLICE OF PIE, MILK AND/OR WATER

CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY
LIMIT OF 2 MEALS PER PERSON

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

CONTACT JEANINE WANG @ (815) 218-1700

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COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

- 1 Yolanda Beets
Hannah Lawrence
- 4 Joseph Dienberg
- 11 Gary Conderman
- 14 Tim Conderman
Angela DeWitt
- 15 Zachary Brown
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Juanita Barnes and

Mary Coulter have put a lot of work into cleaning up and getting rid of a lot of weeds and other unwanted vegetation. There may be others who have helped with this task of whom we are unaware, but we THANK YOU all!

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We need **140** stockings

WE ARE COLLECTING CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR THE ROCK HOUSE KIDS.

WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

WE WILL DELIVER THE STOCKINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER.

A collection bin will be in the foyer beginning November 2.

Global Mission Secondary School

Today, I was blessed with the grace of sharing my testimony sermon at Flushing First United Methodist Church. Wearing a hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted by Elder Haemyung Lee, I felt as though God had especially prepared this moment.

From the Korean Choir in the 2nd service, to the praise team in the 3rd service, and even the English service praise team—the songs offered before the sermon filled my soul with joy and gratitude. As I preached, I laughed and cried, sharing stories of mission in Tanzania. In particular, I testified to the Way Maker God who has been at work in the process of building GMSS Middle School and in the growth of our students.

Flushing First Church was the very church that, back in 2017, gave a seed offering when I first came to New York with the vision of GMSS Middle School. Amazingly, in 2025, as I shared the vision for GMSS High School, the church once again offered a seed gift of faith. Hallelujah!

In the future, as doors open through universities in Korea and the U.S., and institutions like Africa University established by the UMC in Africa, graduates of GMSS High School will be able to cross borders with scholarships to pursue higher studies. Equipped with their professions and living “For Christ and His Kingdom,” they will go on to serve both Tanzania and the world.

When I look at myself, and when I look at the history of Korea today, I see hope—and above all, my heart is filled with gratitude.

During my student years in USA, I often heard Pastor Dongho Kim at the KOSTA conference say, “Study, not for yourself, but to give to others.” That word still lingers deeply in my heart. Just as Korea in the 1960s and 70s reminds me of Tanzania today, I dream of our students growing up to live lives of “studying to give to others”—becoming disciples of Jesus and global leaders who shine as a light that does not fade, and live as salt that never loses its flavor.

Lord, even the thought of this fills my heart with joy and overflowing happiness.

Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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



Young Seon (Christina) Kim wearing the traditional Korean hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted to her by Elder Haemyung Lee.

“If we are going to wait until every possible hindrance has been removed before we do a work for the Lord, we will never attempt to do anything.”

– T.J. Bach, 1881-1963, Missionary to Venezuela



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 am Scout Clean Up Day 9:00 am GA
2 10:00 am Worship <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 	3 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	5 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	6 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	7	8 9:00 am GA 11:00 am <i>Veterans Day Service @ Baumann Park</i>
9 10:00 am Worship	10 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 6:00 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB <i>Veterans Day</i> THANK YOU VETERANS 	12 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	13 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	14	15 9:00 am GA
16 10:00 am Worship	17 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	18 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	19 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 2:00 pm Choir Practice	20 6:00 pm <i>Annual Church Conference</i>	21	22 9:00 am GA
23 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am <i>Hanging of the C</i> 	24 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	25 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	26 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	27 <i>Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed</i> 	28 <i>Thanksgiving Holiday Church Office Closed</i>	29 9:00 am GA
30 10:00 am Worship <i>Advent Hope</i> 						

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

Give Thanks



Cherry Valley United Methodist
Upcoming Events

November 20
6:00 p.m.
Annual Church Conference

November 23
11 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens



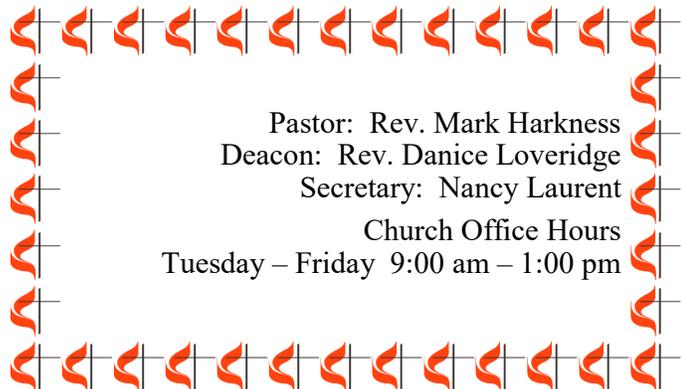
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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

THE MESSENGER

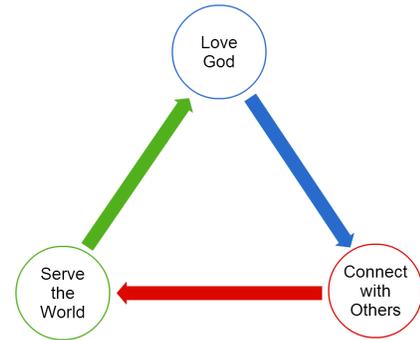
November 2025

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

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

¹⁴ Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, "The wedding attendants cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. ¹⁷ Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are ruined, but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved." (Matthew 9:10-17 NRSV)

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

It's that time of year again. Thanksgiving is just around the corner the beginning of the holiday season and all those occasions for gathering with our families. That's not always easy.

Sometime the difficulty in family gatherings is merely being able to gather when many are spread out around the country or even the world. Sometimes the difficulty is the challenge of being together with people who drive us batty; but that's also the wonderful opportunity.

If your family is anything like mine, it includes people with whom you would likely never associate, except that you're related – whether that be by blood, adoption, or marriage. In that mix are probably a fair share of sinners and even one or two "tax collectors" (scoundrels). Things get even more complicated when we remember that just as there were Pharisees and Sadducees, our table will include progressives and conservatives. Some of whom may be just itching to get things riled up by explaining why they are right.

I think that the Pharisees who questioned why Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners were like that and expected Jesus to be, as well. "Don't linger in their company, but set them straight!" To which Jesus replies, "I'm going to hang out wherever people need healing – wherever people need to be valued as children of God. And when I do that – we're not going to dwell on pointing all of the problems in our lives or the rest of the world, but we're going to feast and learn to enjoy our time together.

The strangeness of who God puts us together with in our families – people with whom we gather just because – might just be so that we learn to be more tolerant and maybe even accepting of others we encounter day to day.

(Continued on page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

When we gather together as families – even if we already saw the “answers” on Facebook, we tend to ask questions: How have you been? Feeling better? Any luck on the job search? Or how is it in your new work? Did you get to go on that trip? You get the idea. If we’re wise, when aunt Jane starts her rant about whatever aunt Jane always rants about, we can ask a question that helps her feel heard and valued. When cousin Kevin starts to get a little soused, we can pull him away and ask him what he thinks I should do about my car. These questions won’t necessarily “fix” anything, but they do fashion and occasion to be welcomed and valued in a way that cracks an opening for them to seek something better.

At Thanksgiving we meet families in their fullness: the fun, the boring, and the obnoxious as a group of people bound together by happenstance rather than choice. So let’s enjoy it for what it is – a chance to thank God not just for tangible blessings but for this opportunity to grow in our love for others, so that what we practice on family we might live in the world.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

Prairie North Conference



Keep up to date with all the Prairie North Conference Events in the weekly email.

Visit the website [Prairie North - Northern Illinois Annual Conference](#). There is also a listing of district contacts at the conference along with achieved newsletters.

Sign up for the weekly e-news by clicking on the latest newsletter and clicking on the “Join Our Email List” in the banner at the top of the page.

Future Dates to Remember

- November 1..... Scout Clean-up Day*
- November 2..... Daylight Saving Time Ends*
- November 9..... 11 am, Methodist Women Meet*
- November 11..... 6 pm Church Council*
- November 20..... 6 pm Annual Church Conference*
- November 23..... 11 am Hanging of the Greens*
- November 27..... Thanksgiving Church office closed*
- November 28..... Thanksgiving Holiday church office closed.*

Lord please hear my prayer



Members & Friends

Dwight Banks
 Joan Blanchard
 Glenn Carnine
 Dave Dienberg
 Kathy Duke
 Pat Gorsuch
 Dawn Harter
 Trudy Hunt
 Herman Krunfus
 Tim Murphy
 Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
 Sean Conderman
 Dan Harter
 Wesley Harter

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
 Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

Family of Sandra Baxter



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.



The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, November 11 at 6:00 pm. Agenda and other items for the meeting can be found on SharePoint. If you have trouble signing in, please speak with Pastor Mark to obtain a user ID and password. A copy of the minutes of the last meeting will be sent by the secretary to the members of the Council.



Scripture Readings

November 2

Scripture: Psalm 119:137-144
 Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
 Luke 19:1-10
 Message: "The Work of Waiting"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #1*

November 9

Scripture: Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
 Luke 20:27-38
 Message: "Skipping to the End"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #2*

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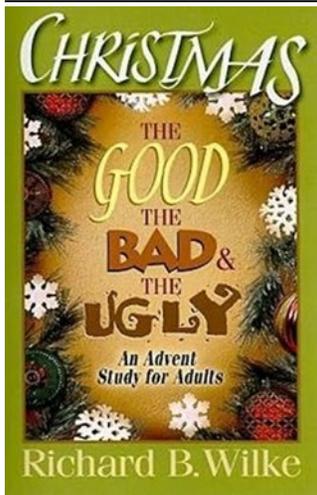


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WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

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Global Mission Secondary School

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Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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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



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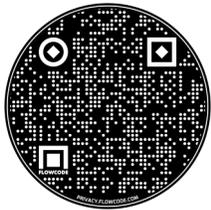
Cherry Valley United Methodist
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6:00 p.m.
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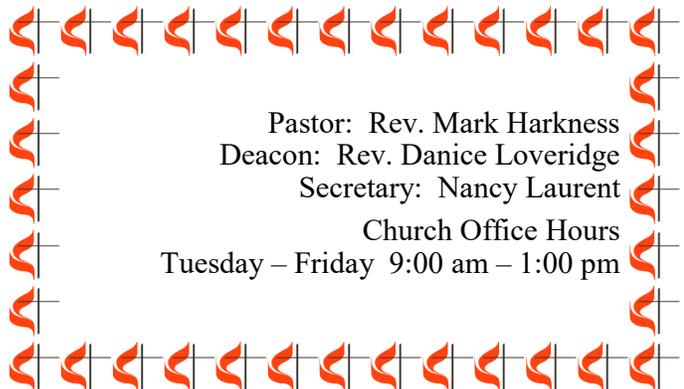
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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
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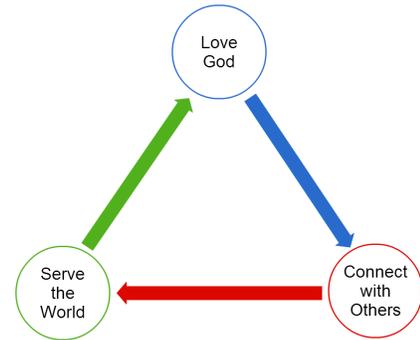
November 2025

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

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

¹⁴ Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, "The wedding attendants cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. ¹⁷ Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are ruined, but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved." (Matthew 9:10-17 NRSV)

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

It's that time of year again. Thanksgiving is just around the corner the beginning of the holiday season and all those occasions for gathering with our families. That's not always easy.

Sometime the difficulty in family gatherings is merely being able to gather when many are spread out around the country or even the world. Sometimes the difficulty is the challenge of being together with people who drive us batty; but that's also the wonderful opportunity.

If your family is anything like mine, it includes people with whom you would likely never associate, except that you're related – whether that be by blood, adoption, or marriage. In that mix are probably a fair share of sinners and even one or two "tax collectors" (scoundrels). Things get even more complicated when we remember that just as there were Pharisees and Sadducees, our table will include progressives and conservatives. Some of whom may be just itching to get things riled up by explaining why they are right.

I think that the Pharisees who questioned why Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners were like that and expected Jesus to be, as well. "Don't linger in their company, but set them straight!" To which Jesus replies, "I'm going to hang out wherever people need healing – wherever people need to be valued as children of God. And when I do that – we're not going to dwell on pointing all of the problems in our lives or the rest of the world, but we're going to feast and learn to enjoy our time together.

The strangeness of who God puts us together with in our families – people with whom we gather just because – might just be so that we learn to be more tolerant and maybe even accepting of others we encounter day to day.

(Continued on page 2)

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When we gather together as families – even if we already saw the “answers” on Facebook, we tend to ask questions: How have you been? Feeling better? Any luck on the job search? Or how is it in your new work? Did you get to go on that trip? You get the idea. If we’re wise, when aunt Jane starts her rant about whatever aunt Jane always rants about, we can ask a question that helps her feel heard and valued. When cousin Kevin starts to get a little soused, we can pull him away and ask him what he thinks I should do about my car. These questions won’t necessarily “fix” anything, but they do fashion and occasion to be welcomed and valued in a way that cracks an opening for them to seek something better.

At Thanksgiving we meet families in their fullness: the fun, the boring, and the obnoxious as a group of people bound together by happenstance rather than choice. So let’s enjoy it for what it is – a chance to thank God not just for tangible blessings but for this opportunity to grow in our love for others, so that what we practice on family we might live in the world.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

Prairie North Conference



Keep up to date with all the Prairie North Conference Events in the weekly email.

Visit the website [Prairie North - Northern Illinois Annual Conference](#). There is also a listing of district contacts at the conference along with achieved newsletters.

Sign up for the weekly e-news by clicking on the latest newsletter and clicking on the “Join Our Email List” in the banner at the top of the page.

Future Dates to Remember

- November 1..... Scout Clean-up Day*
- November 2..... Daylight Saving Time Ends*
- November 9..... 11 am, Methodist Women Meet*
- November 11..... 6 pm Church Council*
- November 20..... 6 pm Annual Church Conference*
- November 23..... 11 am Hanging of the Greens*
- November 27..... Thanksgiving Church office closed*
- November 28..... Thanksgiving Holiday church office closed.*

Lord please hear my prayer



Members & Friends

Dwight Banks
 Joan Blanchard
 Glenn Carnine
 Dave Dienberg
 Kathy Duke
 Pat Gorsuch
 Dawn Harter
 Trudy Hunt
 Herman Krunfus
 Tim Murphy
 Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
 Sean Conderman
 Dan Harter
 Wesley Harter

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
 Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

Family of Sandra Baxter



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.



The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, November 11 at 6:00 pm. Agenda and other items for the meeting can be found on SharePoint. If you have trouble signing in, please speak with Pastor Mark to obtain a user ID and password. A copy of the minutes of the last meeting will be sent by the secretary to the members of the Council.



Scripture Readings

November 2

Scripture: Psalm 119:137-144
 Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
 Luke 19:1-10
 Message: "The Work of Waiting"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #1*

November 9

Scripture: Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
 Luke 20:27-38
 Message: "Skipping to the End"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #2*

November 16

Scripture: Psalm 118:14-29
 Isaiah 65:17-25
 Luke 21:5-19
 Message: "Full Disclosure"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #3*

November 23—Christ the King

Scripture: Luke 1:68-79
 Jeremiah 23:1-6
 Luke 23:33-43
 Message: "Proving Who You Are"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #4*

November 30—Advent 1—Hope

Scripture: Psalm 122
 Romans 13:11-14
 Matthew 24:36-44
 Message: "The Prophet's Candle"



Finance Committee Report

September 2025 Report

Revenue	\$12,440.02
Expenditures	\$15,229.37
Net Revenue	\$-2,789.35
Emergency Fund Balance:	\$6,021.74



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



The results of the Fall Bake Sale are in! Thanks to your generous donations of baked goods packaged for sale, our profit was \$348!

The profit will go towards payment of the new water heater at the parsonage. Thank you Mandy and Yolanda for organizing the bake sale and thanks to all who participated.

Teamwork makes the dream work!



Our next meeting will be on Sunday, November 9th after worship. All women of the church are welcome to attend.

Prayer Shawl Group

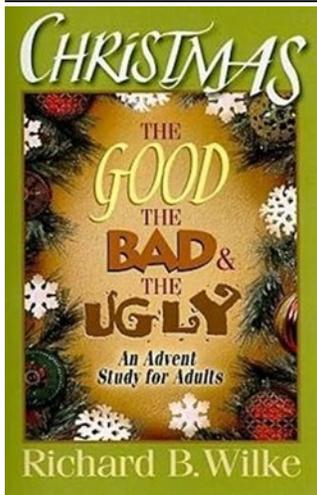


The prayer shawl group continues their monthly Wednesday meetings. The next meeting will be on November 19th at 10 am. They will meet at the home of Cindy Kerr for knitting, crocheting, conversation and lunch. If you need directions to Cindy's home, you may contact her at 815-332-9683 or [email at cynkerr201@aol.com](mailto:cynkerr201@aol.com). For information about this group, contact Lucy Powell at 815-904-9462 or email lpowell530@yahoo.com.

Kitchen Clean-up Day

The kitchen clean-up was a success! It looks (and smells) a lot better. The crew cleaned the area and discarded a lot of unused and no longer needed items. Thank you to Juanita Barnes, Mary Coulter, Deb Gross, Cindy Kerr, Mandy Kloepfer, Jan Mills, and Lucy Powell for their hard work!

Advent Bible Study



Pastor Mark is facilitating a four-week Advent study on Monday, December 1st thru December 22nd at 10 am at New Milford. The study is entitled, *Christmas, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* by Richard B. Wilke. In this book, the focus is on people in the story of Christ's birth. There are those that are associated with the joy and celebration of Christmas—the wise men, the shepherds, and Joseph. Yet the author reminds us not to forget that the evil King Herod is also part of the Christmas story, and how it is because there is evil in our world that we so desperately needed—and need—a Savior.

Weeknight sessions at Cherry Valley UMC will be added if there is sufficient interest.

The book is available at Amazon for \$8.36 as of 10/15.

[Christmas: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: An Advent Study for Adults: Wilke, Richard B.: 9780687660346: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780687660346)



FREE! Turkey Dinner

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, DRESSING, VEGETABLES,
ROLL w/ BUTTER, CRANBERRY SAUCE, APPLESAUCE,
SLICE OF PIE, MILK AND/OR WATER

CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY
LIMIT OF 2 MEALS PER PERSON

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

CONTACT JEANINE WANG @ (815) 218-1700

DONATE WINTER WEAR

HATS, GLOVES, MITTENS, SCARVES, EAR MUFFS, WARM SOCKS,
NEW OR GENTLY-USED SWEATPANTS & SWEATSHIRTS

DONATE PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

LIP BALM, SM. BOTTLES OF HAND LOTION, ETC.

DONATE BOTTLES OF WATER

DROP ITEMS OFF AT

COURT STREET UMC OR NORTHWESTERN IL AREA AGENCY ON AGING (NIAAA),
LOCATED AT 1111 S. ALPINE ROAD, SUITE 600



COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

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



- 6 Bill & Ann Harned



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry

We are having a Packing Party
on November 9th following worship
for the Operation Christmas Child boxes

There will be items out on tables
ready for you to fill your boxes.

We will send them
during the national collection week.

Terri Burritt

burritt5@hotmail.com



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.



Church Landscape



The next time you come to the church, please remember to check out the gardens.

Juanita Barnes and

Mary Coulter have put a lot of work into cleaning up and getting rid of a lot of weeds and other unwanted vegetation. There may be others who have helped with this task of whom we are unaware, but we THANK YOU all!

Additionally, we owe a lot of thanks to Greg Allton who allows us to put our recycling and yard waste with his. Also, at his urging, to the village, there are two new cherry trees planted on the parkway in front of the church. Greg is truly a great friend of CVUMC!

Katie's Cup Fundraiser



Katie's Cup is a mission place designated to promote community well-being through social interaction and economic development. It is possible because of the financial support from local churches, businesses and individuals. It was established in 2009 as a community development project of Zion Development Corporation and Rockford Lutheran Ministries to encourage renewal of the midtown district.

The fundraiser will be a dinner and dessert auction on November 13 at the Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, 5151 Guilford Road—Rockford at 5:30 check in. Dinner will be at 6:15 pm. The cost is \$65 per person. Tables of 8 are available.

For more information visit the web site at www.katiescup.com

Rockford Rescue Mission

The focus of our giving is the Rockford Rescue Mission. The Rescue Mission is a safe and caring place that offers a Christ-centered care to people struggling with challenges like homelessness, poverty, abuse and addiction.

Rescue those in immediate crisis
Recover people's dignity and sense of self-worth
Restore the lives of men, women and children

The core values of the Rockford Rescue Mission are :

- *Living for the Glory of God*
- *Respecting Human Dignity and Immortality*
- *Proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ*
- *Modeling Compassionate Generosity*
- *Partnering with the Church and Community*
- *Serving with Integrity and Excellence*
- *Rejoicing in Lives Changed by God*

Each month the Mission publishes an urgent needs list which we will post in the church. If you do not wish to contribute with goods, you may donate money that may be placed in designated envelopes that are on the table in the sanctuary.



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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



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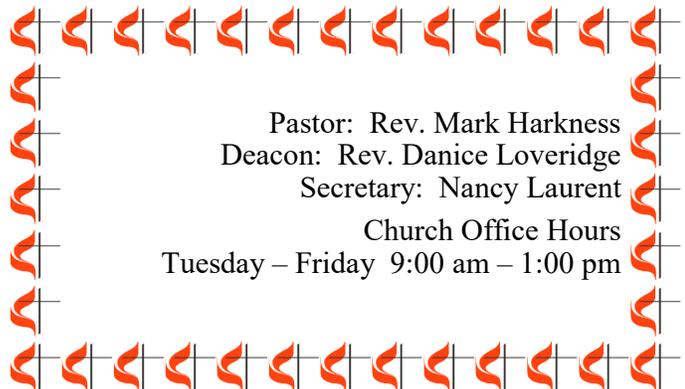
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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
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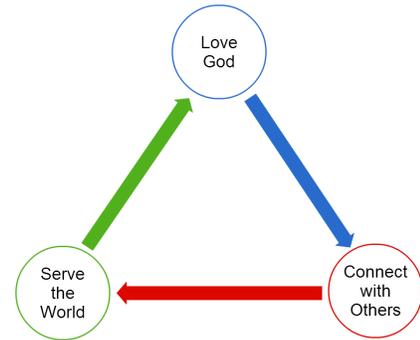
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¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, "The wedding attendants cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. ¹⁷ Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are ruined, but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved." (Matthew 9:10-17 NRSV)

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

It's that time of year again. Thanksgiving is just around the corner the beginning of the holiday season and all those occasions for gathering with our families. That's not always easy.

Sometime the difficulty in family gatherings is merely being able to gather when many are spread out around the country or even the world. Sometimes the difficulty is the challenge of being together with people who drive us batty; but that's also the wonderful opportunity.

If your family is anything like mine, it includes people with whom you would likely never associate, except that you're related – whether that be by blood, adoption, or marriage. In that mix are probably a fair share of sinners and even one or two "tax collectors" (scoundrels). Things get even more complicated when we remember that just as there were Pharisees and Sadducees, our table will include progressives and conservatives. Some of whom may be just itching to get things riled up by explaining why they are right.

I think that the Pharisees who questioned why Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners were like that and expected Jesus to be, as well. "Don't linger in their company, but set them straight!" To which Jesus replies, "I'm going to hang out wherever people need healing – wherever people need to be valued as children of God. And when I do that – we're not going to dwell on pointing all of the problems in our lives or the rest of the world, but we're going to feast and learn to enjoy our time together.

The strangeness of who God puts us together with in our families – people with whom we gather just because – might just be so that we learn to be more tolerant and maybe even accepting of others we encounter day to day.

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- November 27..... Thanksgiving Church office closed*
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Lord please hear my prayer



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Dwight Banks
 Joan Blanchard
 Glenn Carnine
 Dave Dienberg
 Kathy Duke
 Pat Gorsuch
 Dawn Harter
 Trudy Hunt
 Herman Krunfus
 Tim Murphy
 Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
 Sean Conderman
 Dan Harter
 Wesley Harter

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
 Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

Family of Sandra Baxter



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 Luke 19:1-10
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 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



The results of the Fall Bake Sale are in! Thanks to your generous donations of baked goods packaged for sale, our profit was \$348!

The profit will go towards payment of the new water heater at the parsonage. Thank you Mandy and Yolanda for organizing the bake sale and thanks to all who participated.

Teamwork makes the dream work!



Our next meeting will be on Sunday, November 9th after worship.

All women of the church are welcome to attend.

Prayer Shawl Group

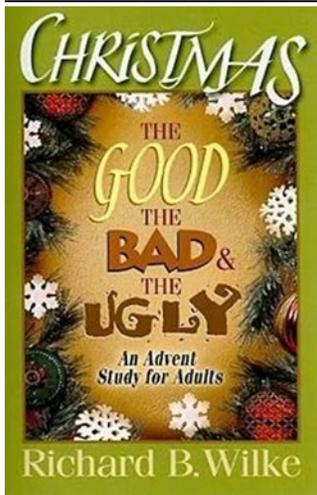


The prayer shawl group continues their monthly Wednesday meetings. The next meeting will be on November 19th at 10 am. They will meet at the home of Cindy Kerr for knitting, crocheting, conversation and lunch. If you need directions to Cindy's home, you may contact her at 815-332-9683 or [email at cynkerr201@aol.com](mailto:cynkerr201@aol.com). For information about this group, contact Lucy Powell at 815-904-9462 or email lpowell530@yahoo.com.

Kitchen Clean-up Day

The kitchen clean-up was a success! It looks (and smells) a lot better. The crew cleaned the area and discarded a lot of unused and no longer needed items. Thank you to Juanita Barnes, Mary Coulter, Deb Gross, Cindy Kerr, Mandy Kloepfer, Jan Mills, and Lucy Powell for their hard work!

Advent Bible Study



Pastor Mark is facilitating a four-week Advent study on Monday, December 1st thru December 22nd at 10 am at New Milford. The study is entitled, *Christmas, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* by Richard B. Wilke. In this book, the focus is on people in the story of Christ's birth. There are those that are associated with the joy and celebration of Christmas—the wise men, the shepherds, and Joseph. Yet the author reminds us not to forget that the evil King Herod is also part of the Christmas story, and how it is because there is evil in our world that we so desperately needed—and need—a Savior.

Weeknight sessions at Cherry Valley UMC will be added if there is sufficient interest.

The book is available at Amazon for \$8.36 as of 10/15.

[Christmas: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: An Advent Study for Adults: Wilke, Richard B.: 9780687660346: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780687660346)



FREE! Turkey Dinner

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, DRESSING, VEGETABLES,
ROLL w/ BUTTER, CRANBERRY SAUCE, APPLESAUCE,
SLICE OF PIE, MILK AND/OR WATER

CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY
LIMIT OF 2 MEALS PER PERSON

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

CONTACT JEANINE WANG @ (815) 218-1700

DONATE WINTER WEAR

HATS, GLOVES, MITTENS, SCARVES, EAR MUFFS, WARM SOCKS,
NEW OR GENTLY-USED SWEATPANTS & SWEATSHIRTS

DONATE PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

LIP BALM, SM. BOTTLES OF HAND LOTION, ETC.

DONATE BOTTLES OF WATER

DROP ITEMS OFF AT

COURT STREET UMC OR NORTHWESTERN IL AREA AGENCY ON AGING (NIAAA),
LOCATED AT 1111 S. ALPINE ROAD, SUITE 600



COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

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



- 6 Bill & Ann Harned



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry

We are having a Packing Party
on November 9th following worship
for the Operation Christmas Child boxes

There will be items out on tables
ready for you to fill your boxes.

We will send them
during the national collection week.

Terri Burritt

burritt5@hotmail.com



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.



Church Landscape



The next time you come to the church, please remember to check out the gardens.

Juanita Barnes and

Mary Coulter have put a lot of work into cleaning up and getting rid of a lot of weeds and other unwanted vegetation. There may be others who have helped with this task of whom we are unaware, but we THANK YOU all!

Additionally, we owe a lot of thanks to Greg Allton who allows us to put our recycling and yard waste with his. Also, at his urging, to the village, there are two new cherry trees planted on the parkway in front of the church. Greg is truly a great friend of CVUMC!

Katie's Cup Fundraiser



Katie's Cup is a mission place designated to promote community well-being through social interaction and economic development. It is possible because of the financial support from local churches, businesses and individuals. It was established in 2009 as a community development project of Zion Development Corporation and Rockford Lutheran Ministries to encourage renewal of the midtown district.

The fundraiser will be a dinner and dessert auction on November 13 at the Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, 5151 Guilford Road—Rockford at 5:30 check in. Dinner will be at 6:15 pm. The cost is \$65 per person. Tables of 8 are available.

For more information visit the web site at www.katiescup.com

Rockford Rescue Mission

The focus of our giving is the Rockford Rescue Mission. The Rescue Mission is a safe and caring place that offers a Christ-centered care to people struggling with challenges like homelessness, poverty, abuse and addiction.

Rescue those in immediate crisis
Recover people's dignity and sense of self-worth
Restore the lives of men, women and children

The core values of the Rockford Rescue Mission are :

- *Living for the Glory of God*
- *Respecting Human Dignity and Immortality*
- *Proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ*
- *Modeling Compassionate Generosity*
- *Partnering with the Church and Community*
- *Serving with Integrity and Excellence*
- *Rejoicing in Lives Changed by God*

Each month the Mission publishes an urgent needs list which we will post in the church. If you do not wish to contribute with goods, you may donate money that may be placed in designated envelopes that are on the table in the sanctuary.



We need **140** stockings

WE ARE COLLECTING CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR THE ROCK HOUSE KIDS.

WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

WE WILL DELIVER THE STOCKINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER.

A collection bin will be in the foyer beginning November 2.

Global Mission Secondary School

Today, I was blessed with the grace of sharing my testimony sermon at Flushing First United Methodist Church. Wearing a hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted by Elder Haemyung Lee, I felt as though God had especially prepared this moment.

From the Korean Choir in the 2nd service, to the praise team in the 3rd service, and even the English service praise team—the songs offered before the sermon filled my soul with joy and gratitude. As I preached, I laughed and cried, sharing stories of mission in Tanzania. In particular, I testified to the Way Maker God who has been at work in the process of building GMSS Middle School and in the growth of our students.

Flushing First Church was the very church that, back in 2017, gave a seed offering when I first came to New York with the vision of GMSS Middle School. Amazingly, in 2025, as I shared the vision for GMSS High School, the church once again offered a seed gift of faith. Hallelujah!

In the future, as doors open through universities in Korea and the U.S., and institutions like Africa University established by the UMC in Africa, graduates of GMSS High School will be able to cross borders with scholarships to pursue higher studies. Equipped with their professions and living “For Christ and His Kingdom,” they will go on to serve both Tanzania and the world.

When I look at myself, and when I look at the history of Korea today, I see hope—and above all, my heart is filled with gratitude.

During my student years in USA, I often heard Pastor Dongho Kim at the KOSTA conference say, “Study, not for yourself, but to give to others.” That word still lingers deeply in my heart. Just as Korea in the 1960s and 70s reminds me of Tanzania today, I dream of our students growing up to live lives of “studying to give to others”—becoming disciples of Jesus and global leaders who shine as a light that does not fade, and live as salt that never loses its flavor.

Lord, even the thought of this fills my heart with joy and overflowing happiness.

Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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



Young Seon (Christina) Kim wearing the traditional Korean hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted to her by Elder Haemyung Lee.

“If we are going to wait until every possible hindrance has been removed before we do a work for the Lord, we will never attempt to do anything.”

– T.J. Bach, 1881-1963, Missionary to Venezuela



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 am Scout Clean Up Day 9:00 am GA
2 10:00 am Worship <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 	3 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	5 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	6 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	7	8 9:00 am GA 11:00 am <i>Veterans Day Service @ Baumann Park</i>
9 10:00 am Worship	10 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 6:00 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB <i>Veterans Day</i> THANK YOU VETERANS 	12 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	13 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	14	15 9:00 am GA
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23 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am <i>Hanging of the C</i> 	24 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	25 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	26 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	27 <i>Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed</i> 	28 <i>Thanksgiving Holiday Church Office Closed</i>	29 9:00 am GA
30 10:00 am Worship <i>Advent Hope</i> 						

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

Give Thanks



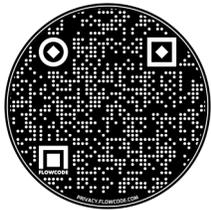
Cherry Valley United Methodist
Upcoming Events

November 20
6:00 p.m.
Annual Church Conference

November 23
11 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens



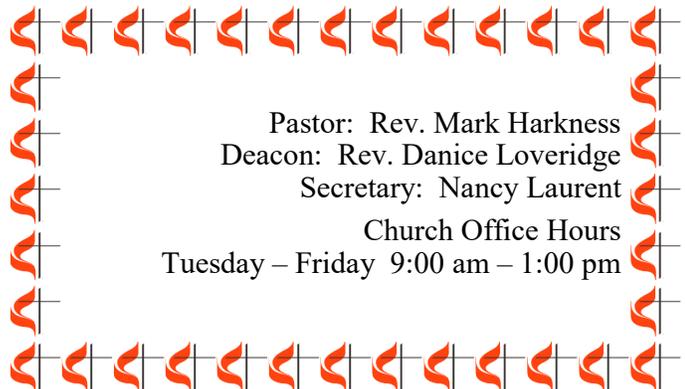
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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

THE MESSENGER

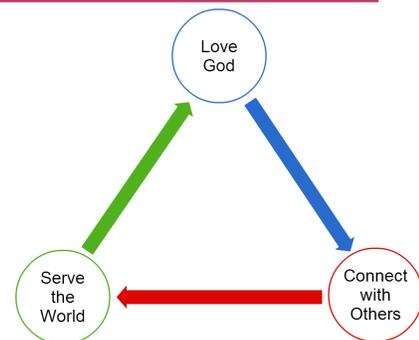
November 2025

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Pastor's E-mail: mark.harkness@gmail.com
Parsonage phone: 815/580-8553

Rev. Danice Loveridge, Deacon
Email: danice.loveridge@gmail.com
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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

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Parsonage
815-580-8553



Methodist Women



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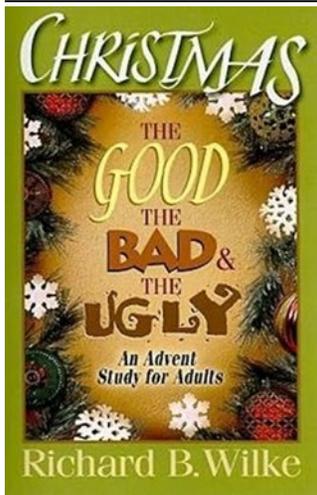


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11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

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ROLL w/ BUTTER, CRANBERRY SAUCE, APPLESAUCE,
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CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY
LIMIT OF 2 MEALS PER PERSON

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

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COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

- 1 Yolanda Beets
Hannah Lawrence
- 4 Joseph Dienberg
- 11 Gary Conderman
- 14 Tim Conderman
Angela DeWitt
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WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

WE WILL DELIVER THE STOCKINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER.

A collection bin will be in the foyer beginning November 2.

Global Mission Secondary School

Today, I was blessed with the grace of sharing my testimony sermon at Flushing First United Methodist Church. Wearing a hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted by Elder Haemyung Lee, I felt as though God had especially prepared this moment.

From the Korean Choir in the 2nd service, to the praise team in the 3rd service, and even the English service praise team—the songs offered before the sermon filled my soul with joy and gratitude. As I preached, I laughed and cried, sharing stories of mission in Tanzania. In particular, I testified to the Way Maker God who has been at work in the process of building GMSS Middle School and in the growth of our students.

Flushing First Church was the very church that, back in 2017, gave a seed offering when I first came to New York with the vision of GMSS Middle School. Amazingly, in 2025, as I shared the vision for GMSS High School, the church once again offered a seed gift of faith. Hallelujah!

In the future, as doors open through universities in Korea and the U.S., and institutions like Africa University established by the UMC in Africa, graduates of GMSS High School will be able to cross borders with scholarships to pursue higher studies. Equipped with their professions and living “For Christ and His Kingdom,” they will go on to serve both Tanzania and the world.

When I look at myself, and when I look at the history of Korea today, I see hope—and above all, my heart is filled with gratitude.

During my student years in USA, I often heard Pastor Dongho Kim at the KOSTA conference say, “Study, not for yourself, but to give to others.” That word still lingers deeply in my heart. Just as Korea in the 1960s and 70s reminds me of Tanzania today, I dream of our students growing up to live lives of “studying to give to others”—becoming disciples of Jesus and global leaders who shine as a light that does not fade, and live as salt that never loses its flavor.

Lord, even the thought of this fills my heart with joy and overflowing happiness.

Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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



Young Seon (Christina) Kim wearing the traditional Korean hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted to her by Elder Haemyung Lee.

“If we are going to wait until every possible hindrance has been removed before we do a work for the Lord, we will never attempt to do anything.”

– T.J. Bach, 1881-1963, Missionary to Venezuela



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 am Scout Clean Up Day 9:00 am GA
2 10:00 am Worship <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i>  FALL BACK	3 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	5 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	6 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	7	8 9:00 am GA 11:00 am <i>Veterans Day Service @ Baumann Park</i>
9 10:00 am Worship	10 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 6:00 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB <i>Veterans Day</i> THANK YOU VETERANS 	12 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	13 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	14	15 9:00 am GA
16 10:00 am Worship	17 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	18 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	19 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 2:00 pm Choir Practice	20 6:00 pm <i>Annual Church Conference</i>	21	22 9:00 am GA
23 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am <i>Hanging of the C</i> 	24 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	25 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	26 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	27 <i>Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed</i> 	28 <i>Thanksgiving Holiday Church Office Closed</i>	29 9:00 am GA
30 10:00 am Worship <i>Advent Hope</i>  HOPE						

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

Give Thanks



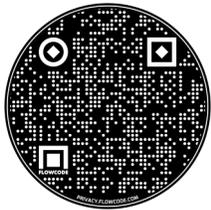
Cherry Valley United Methodist
Upcoming Events

November 20
6:00 p.m.
Annual Church Conference

November 23
11 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens



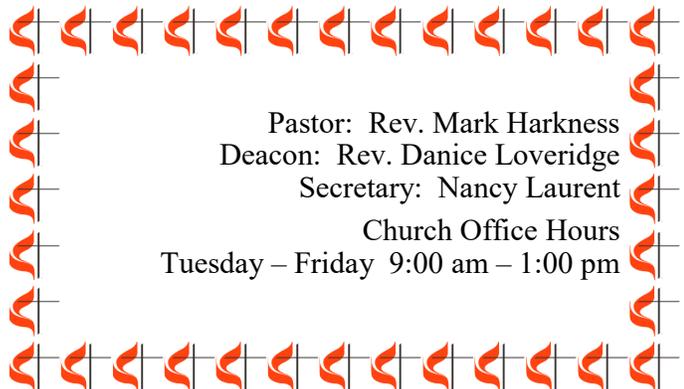
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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

THE MESSENGER

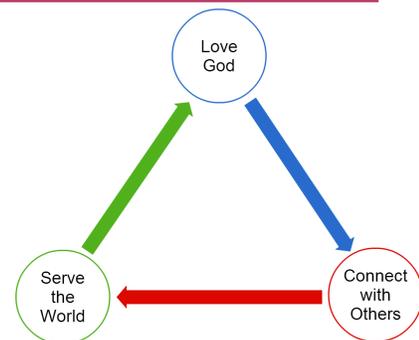
November 2025

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

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

¹⁴ Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, "The wedding attendants cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. ¹⁷ Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are ruined, but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved." (Matthew 9:10-17 NRSV)

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

It's that time of year again. Thanksgiving is just around the corner the beginning of the holiday season and all those occasions for gathering with our families. That's not always easy.

Sometime the difficulty in family gatherings is merely being able to gather when many are spread out around the country or even the world. Sometimes the difficulty is the challenge of being together with people who drive us batty; but that's also the wonderful opportunity.

If your family is anything like mine, it includes people with whom you would likely never associate, except that you're related – whether that be by blood, adoption, or marriage. In that mix are probably a fair share of sinners and even one or two "tax collectors" (scoundrels). Things get even more complicated when we remember that just as there were Pharisees and Sadducees, our table will include progressives and conservatives. Some of whom may be just itching to get things riled up by explaining why they are right.

I think that the Pharisees who questioned why Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners were like that and expected Jesus to be, as well. "Don't linger in their company, but set them straight!" To which Jesus replies, "I'm going to hang out wherever people need healing – wherever people need to be valued as children of God. And when I do that – we're not going to dwell on pointing all of the problems in our lives or the rest of the world, but we're going to feast and learn to enjoy our time together.

The strangeness of who God puts us together with in our families – people with whom we gather just because – might just be so that we learn to be more tolerant and maybe even accepting of others we encounter day to day.

(Continued on page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

When we gather together as families – even if we already saw the “answers” on Facebook, we tend to ask questions: How have you been? Feeling better? Any luck on the job search? Or how is it in your new work? Did you get to go on that trip? You get the idea. If we’re wise, when aunt Jane starts her rant about whatever aunt Jane always rants about, we can ask a question that helps her feel heard and valued. When cousin Kevin starts to get a little soused, we can pull him away and ask him what he thinks I should do about my car. These questions won’t necessarily “fix” anything, but they do fashion and occasion to be welcomed and valued in a way that cracks an opening for them to seek something better.

At Thanksgiving we meet families in their fullness: the fun, the boring, and the obnoxious as a group of people bound together by happenstance rather than choice. So let’s enjoy it for what it is – a chance to thank God not just for tangible blessings but for this opportunity to grow in our love for others, so that what we practice on family we might live in the world.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

Prairie North Conference



Keep up to date with all the Prairie North Conference Events in the weekly email.

Visit the website [Prairie North - Northern Illinois Annual Conference](#). There is also a listing of district contacts at the conference along with achieved newsletters.

Sign up for the weekly e-news by clicking on the latest newsletter and clicking on the “Join Our Email List” in the banner at the top of the page.

Future Dates to Remember

- November 1..... Scout Clean-up Day*
- November 2..... Daylight Saving Time Ends*
- November 9..... 11 am, Methodist Women Meet*
- November 11..... 6 pm Church Council*
- November 20..... 6 pm Annual Church Conference*
- November 23..... 11 am Hanging of the Greens*
- November 27..... Thanksgiving Church office closed*
- November 28..... Thanksgiving Holiday church office closed.*

Lord please hear my prayer



Members & Friends

Dwight Banks
 Joan Blanchard
 Glenn Carnine
 Dave Dienberg
 Kathy Duke
 Pat Gorsuch
 Dawn Harter
 Trudy Hunt
 Herman Krunfus
 Tim Murphy
 Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
 Sean Conderman
 Dan Harter
 Wesley Harter

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
 Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

Family of Sandra Baxter



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.



The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, November 11 at 6:00 pm. Agenda and other items for the meeting can be found on SharePoint. If you have trouble signing in, please speak with Pastor Mark to obtain a user ID and password. A copy of the minutes of the last meeting will be sent by the secretary to the members of the Council.



Scripture Readings

November 2

Scripture: Psalm 119:137-144
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Luke 19:1-10
Message: "The Work of Waiting"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #1*

November 9

Scripture: Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38
Message: "Skipping to the End"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #2*

November 16

Scripture: Psalm 118:14-29
Isaiah 65:17-25
Luke 21:5-19
Message: "Full Disclosure"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #3*

November 23—Christ the King

Scripture: Luke 1:68-79
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Luke 23:33-43
Message: "Proving Who You Are"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #4*

November 30—Advent 1—Hope

Scripture: Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44
Message: "The Prophet's Candle"



Finance Committee Report

September 2025 Report

Revenue	\$12,440.02
Expenditures	\$15,229.37
Net Revenue	\$-2,789.35
Emergency Fund Balance:	\$6,021.74



Pastor Mark's Office Hours:

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

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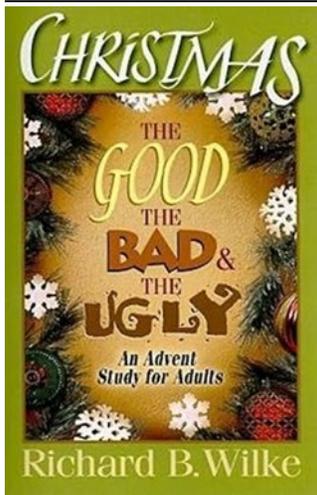


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From the Korean Choir in the 2nd service, to the praise team in the 3rd service, and even the English service praise team—the songs offered before the sermon filled my soul with joy and gratitude. As I preached, I laughed and cried, sharing stories of mission in Tanzania. In particular, I testified to the Way Maker God who has been at work in the process of building GMSS Middle School and in the growth of our students.

Flushing First Church was the very church that, back in 2017, gave a seed offering when I first came to New York with the vision of GMSS Middle School. Amazingly, in 2025, as I shared the vision for GMSS High School, the church once again offered a seed gift of faith. Hallelujah!

In the future, as doors open through universities in Korea and the U.S., and institutions like Africa University established by the UMC in Africa, graduates of GMSS High School will be able to cross borders with scholarships to pursue higher studies. Equipped with their professions and living “For Christ and His Kingdom,” they will go on to serve both Tanzania and the world.

When I look at myself, and when I look at the history of Korea today, I see hope—and above all, my heart is filled with gratitude.

During my student years in USA, I often heard Pastor Dongho Kim at the KOSTA conference say, “Study, not for yourself, but to give to others.” That word still lingers deeply in my heart. Just as Korea in the 1960s and 70s reminds me of Tanzania today, I dream of our students growing up to live lives of “studying to give to others”—becoming disciples of Jesus and global leaders who shine as a light that does not fade, and live as salt that never loses its flavor.

Lord, even the thought of this fills my heart with joy and overflowing happiness.

Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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



Young Seon (Christina) Kim wearing the traditional Korean hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted to her by Elder Haemyung Lee.

“If we are going to wait until every possible hindrance has been removed before we do a work for the Lord, we will never attempt to do anything.”

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Give Thanks



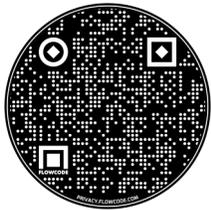
Cherry Valley United Methodist
Upcoming Events

November 20
6:00 p.m.
Annual Church Conference

November 23
11 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens



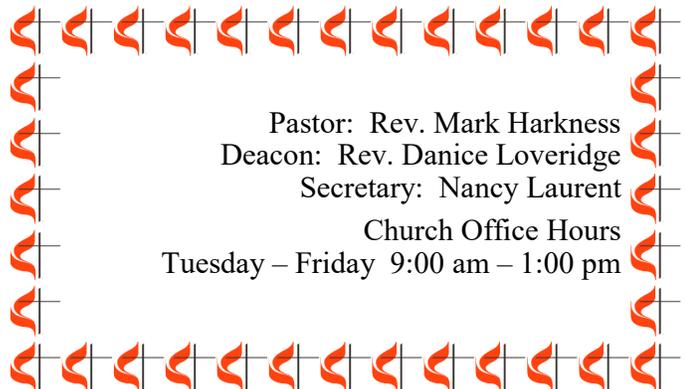
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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

THE MESSENGER

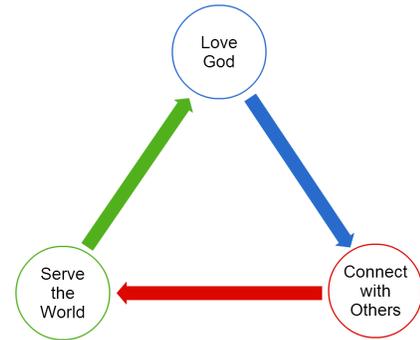
November 2025

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

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

¹⁴ Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, "The wedding attendants cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. ¹⁷ Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are ruined, but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved." (Matthew 9:10-17 NRSV)

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

It's that time of year again. Thanksgiving is just around the corner the beginning of the holiday season and all those occasions for gathering with our families. That's not always easy.

Sometime the difficulty in family gatherings is merely being able to gather when many are spread out around the country or even the world. Sometimes the difficulty is the challenge of being together with people who drive us batty; but that's also the wonderful opportunity.

If your family is anything like mine, it includes people with whom you would likely never associate, except that you're related – whether that be by blood, adoption, or marriage. In that mix are probably a fair share of sinners and even one or two "tax collectors" (scoundrels). Things get even more complicated when we remember that just as there were Pharisees and Sadducees, our table will include progressives and conservatives. Some of whom may be just itching to get things riled up by explaining why they are right.

I think that the Pharisees who questioned why Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners were like that and expected Jesus to be, as well. "Don't linger in their company, but set them straight!" To which Jesus replies, "I'm going to hang out wherever people need healing – wherever people need to be valued as children of God. And when I do that – we're not going to dwell on pointing all of the problems in our lives or the rest of the world, but we're going to feast and learn to enjoy our time together.

The strangeness of who God puts us together with in our families – people with whom we gather just because – might just be so that we learn to be more tolerant and maybe even accepting of others we encounter day to day.

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When we gather together as families – even if we already saw the “answers” on Facebook, we tend to ask questions: How have you been? Feeling better? Any luck on the job search? Or how is it in your new work? Did you get to go on that trip? You get the idea. If we’re wise, when aunt Jane starts her rant about whatever aunt Jane always rants about, we can ask a question that helps her feel heard and valued. When cousin Kevin starts to get a little soused, we can pull him away and ask him what he thinks I should do about my car. These questions won’t necessarily “fix” anything, but they do fashion and occasion to be welcomed and valued in a way that cracks an opening for them to seek something better.

At Thanksgiving we meet families in their fullness: the fun, the boring, and the obnoxious as a group of people bound together by happenstance rather than choice. So let’s enjoy it for what it is – a chance to thank God not just for tangible blessings but for this opportunity to grow in our love for others, so that what we practice on family we might live in the world.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

Prairie North Conference



Keep up to date with all the Prairie North Conference Events in the weekly email.

Visit the website [Prairie North - Northern Illinois Annual Conference](#). There is also a listing of district contacts at the conference along with achieved newsletters.

Sign up for the weekly e-news by clicking on the latest newsletter and clicking on the “Join Our Email List” in the banner at the top of the page.

Future Dates to Remember

- November 1..... Scout Clean-up Day*
- November 2..... Daylight Saving Time Ends*
- November 9..... 11 am, Methodist Women Meet*
- November 11..... 6 pm Church Council*
- November 20..... 6 pm Annual Church Conference*
- November 23..... 11 am Hanging of the Greens*
- November 27..... Thanksgiving Church office closed*
- November 28..... Thanksgiving Holiday church office closed.*

Lord please hear my prayer



Members & Friends

Dwight Banks
 Joan Blanchard
 Glenn Carnine
 Dave Dienberg
 Kathy Duke
 Pat Gorsuch
 Dawn Harter
 Trudy Hunt
 Herman Krunfus
 Tim Murphy
 Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
 Sean Conderman
 Dan Harter
 Wesley Harter

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
 Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

Family of Sandra Baxter



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.



The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, November 11 at 6:00 pm. Agenda and other items for the meeting can be found on SharePoint. If you have trouble signing in, please speak with Pastor Mark to obtain a user ID and password. A copy of the minutes of the last meeting will be sent by the secretary to the members of the Council.



Scripture Readings

November 2

Scripture: Psalm 119:137-144
 Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
 Luke 19:1-10
 Message: "The Work of Waiting"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #1*

November 9

Scripture: Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
 Luke 20:27-38
 Message: "Skipping to the End"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #2*

November 16

Scripture: Psalm 118:14-29
 Isaiah 65:17-25
 Luke 21:5-19
 Message: "Full Disclosure"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #3*

November 23—Christ the King

Scripture: Luke 1:68-79
 Jeremiah 23:1-6
 Luke 23:33-43
 Message: "Proving Who You Are"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #4*

November 30—Advent 1—Hope

Scripture: Psalm 122
 Romans 13:11-14
 Matthew 24:36-44
 Message: "The Prophet's Candle"



Finance Committee Report

September 2025 Report

Revenue	\$12,440.02
Expenditures	\$15,229.37
Net Revenue	\$-2,789.35
Emergency Fund Balance:	\$6,021.74



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



The results of the Fall Bake Sale are in! Thanks to your generous donations of baked goods packaged for sale, our profit was \$348!

The profit will go towards payment of the new water heater at the parsonage. Thank you Mandy and Yolanda for organizing the bake sale and thanks to all who participated. Teamwork makes the dream work!



Our next meeting will be on Sunday, November 9th after worship. All women of the church are welcome to attend.

Prayer Shawl Group

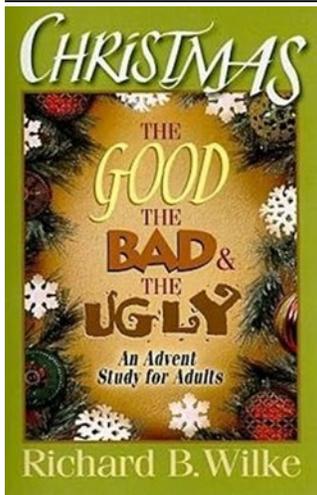


The prayer shawl group continues their monthly Wednesday meetings. The next meeting will be on November 19th at 10 am. They will meet at the home of Cindy Kerr for knitting, crocheting, conversation and lunch. If you need directions to Cindy's home, you may contact her at 815-332-9683 or [email at cynkerr201@aol.com](mailto:cynkerr201@aol.com) For information about this group, contact Lucy Powell at 815-904-9462 or email lpowell530@yahoo.com.

Kitchen Clean-up Day

The kitchen clean-up was a success! It looks (and smells) a lot better. The crew cleaned the area and discarded a lot of unused and no longer needed items. Thank you to Juanita Barnes, Mary Coulter, Deb Gross, Cindy Kerr, Mandy Kloepfer, Jan Mills, and Lucy Powell for their hard work!

Advent Bible Study



Pastor Mark is facilitating a four-week Advent study on Monday, December 1st thru December 22nd at 10 am at New Milford. The study is entitled, *Christmas, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* by Richard B. Wilke. In this book, the focus is on people in the story of Christ's birth. There are those that are associated with the joy and celebration of Christmas—the wise men, the shepherds, and Joseph. Yet the author reminds us not to forget that the evil King Herod is also part of the Christmas story, and how it is because there is evil in our world that we so desperately needed—and need—a Savior.

Weeknight sessions at Cherry Valley UMC will be added if there is sufficient interest.

The book is available at Amazon for \$8.36 as of 10/15.

[Christmas: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: An Advent Study for Adults: Wilke, Richard B.: 9780687660346: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780687660346)



FREE! Turkey Dinner

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, DRESSING, VEGETABLES,
ROLL w/ BUTTER, CRANBERRY SAUCE, APPLESAUCE,
SLICE OF PIE, MILK AND/OR WATER

CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY
LIMIT OF 2 MEALS PER PERSON

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

CONTACT JEANINE WANG @ (815) 218-1700

DONATE WINTER WEAR

HATS, GLOVES, MITTENS, SCARVES, EAR MUFFS, WARM SOCKS,
NEW OR GENTLY-USED SWEATPANTS & SWEATSHIRTS

DONATE PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

LIP BALM, SM. BOTTLES OF HAND LOTION, ETC.

DONATE BOTTLES OF WATER

DROP ITEMS OFF AT

COURT STREET UMC OR NORTHWESTERN IL AREA AGENCY ON AGING (NIAAA),
LOCATED AT 1111 S. ALPINE ROAD, SUITE 600



COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

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



- 6 Bill & Ann Harned



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry

We are having a Packing Party
on November 9th following worship
for the Operation Christmas Child boxes

There will be items out on tables
ready for you to fill your boxes.

We will send them
during the national collection week.

Terri Burritt

burritt5@hotmail.com



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.



Church Landscape



The next time you come to the church, please remember to check out the gardens.

Juanita Barnes and

Mary Coulter have put a lot of work into cleaning up and getting rid of a lot of weeds and other unwanted vegetation. There may be others who have helped with this task of whom we are unaware, but we THANK YOU all!

Additionally, we owe a lot of thanks to Greg Allton who allows us to put our recycling and yard waste with his. Also, at his urging, to the village, there are two new cherry trees planted on the parkway in front of the church. Greg is truly a great friend of CVUMC!

Katie's Cup Fundraiser



Katie's Cup is a mission place designated to promote community well-being through social interaction and economic development. It is possible because of the financial support from local churches, businesses and individuals. It was established in 2009 as a community development project of Zion Development Corporation and Rockford Lutheran Ministries to encourage renewal of the midtown district.

The fundraiser will be a dinner and dessert auction on November 13 at the Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, 5151 Guilford Road—Rockford at 5:30 check in. Dinner will be at 6:15 pm. The cost is \$65 per person. Tables of 8 are available.

For more information visit the web site at www.katiescup.com

Rockford Rescue Mission

The focus of our giving is the Rockford Rescue Mission. The Rescue Mission is a safe and caring place that offers a Christ-centered care to people struggling with challenges like homelessness, poverty, abuse and addiction.

Rescue those in immediate crisis
Recover people's dignity and sense of self-worth
Restore the lives of men, women and children

The core values of the Rockford Rescue Mission are :

- *Living for the Glory of God*
- *Respecting Human Dignity and Immortality*
- *Proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ*
- *Modeling Compassionate Generosity*
- *Partnering with the Church and Community*
- *Serving with Integrity and Excellence*
- *Rejoicing in Lives Changed by God*

Each month the Mission publishes an urgent needs list which we will post in the church. If you do not wish to contribute with goods, you may donate money that may be placed in designated envelopes that are on the table in the sanctuary.



We need **140** stockings

WE ARE COLLECTING CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR THE ROCK HOUSE KIDS.

WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

WE WILL DELIVER THE STOCKINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER.

A collection bin will be in the foyer beginning November 2.

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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



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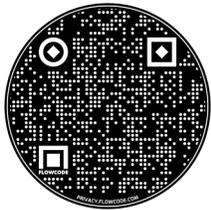
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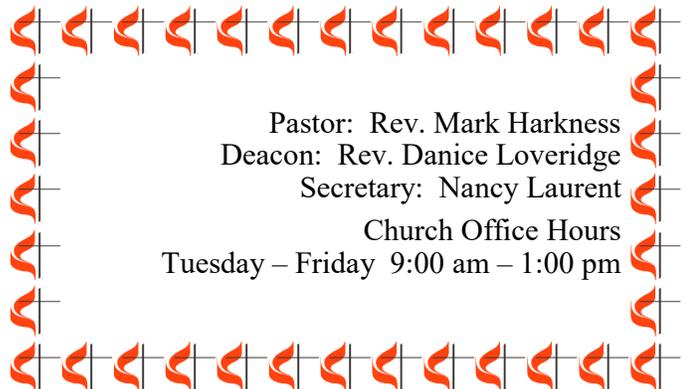
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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



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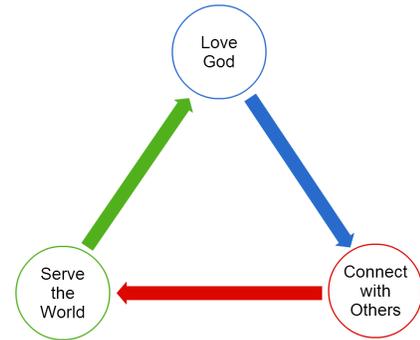
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Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

It's that time of year again. Thanksgiving is just around the corner the beginning of the holiday season and all those occasions for gathering with our families. That's not always easy.

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If your family is anything like mine, it includes people with whom you would likely never associate, except that you're related – whether that be by blood, adoption, or marriage. In that mix are probably a fair share of sinners and even one or two "tax collectors" (scoundrels). Things get even more complicated when we remember that just as there were Pharisees and Sadducees, our table will include progressives and conservatives. Some of whom may be just itching to get things riled up by explaining why they are right.

I think that the Pharisees who questioned why Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners were like that and expected Jesus to be, as well. "Don't linger in their company, but set them straight!" To which Jesus replies, "I'm going to hang out wherever people need healing – wherever people need to be valued as children of God. And when I do that – we're not going to dwell on pointing all of the problems in our lives or the rest of the world, but we're going to feast and learn to enjoy our time together.

The strangeness of who God puts us together with in our families – people with whom we gather just because – might just be so that we learn to be more tolerant and maybe even accepting of others we encounter day to day.

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Lord please hear my prayer



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Dwight Banks
 Joan Blanchard
 Glenn Carnine
 Dave Dienberg
 Kathy Duke
 Pat Gorsuch
 Dawn Harter
 Trudy Hunt
 Herman Krunfus
 Tim Murphy
 Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
 Sean Conderman
 Dan Harter
 Wesley Harter

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
 Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

Family of Sandra Baxter



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 Working from home
 Tue & Thurs.
 Friday is day off

Pastor Mark's Cell
 331-465-9489

Parsonage
 815-580-8553



Methodist Women



The results of the Fall Bake Sale are in! Thanks to your generous donations of baked goods packaged for sale, our profit was \$348!

The profit will go towards payment of the new water heater at the parsonage. Thank you Mandy and Yolanda for organizing the bake sale and thanks to all who participated.

Teamwork makes the dream work!



Our next meeting will be on Sunday, November 9th after worship. All women of the church are welcome to attend.

Prayer Shawl Group

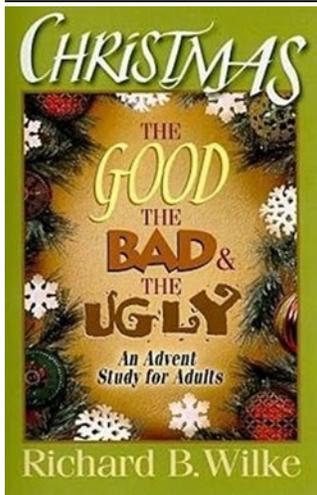


The prayer shawl group continues their monthly Wednesday meetings. The next meeting will be on November 19th at 10 am. They will meet at the home of Cindy Kerr for knitting, crocheting, conversation and lunch. If you need directions to Cindy's home, you may contact her at 815-332-9683 or [email at cynkerr201@aol.com](mailto:cynkerr201@aol.com). For information about this group, contact Lucy Powell at 815-904-9462 or email lpowell530@yahoo.com.

Kitchen Clean-up Day

The kitchen clean-up was a success! It looks (and smells) a lot better. The crew cleaned the area and discarded a lot of unused and no longer needed items. Thank you to Juanita Barnes, Mary Coulter, Deb Gross, Cindy Kerr, Mandy Kloepfer, Jan Mills, and Lucy Powell for their hard work!

Advent Bible Study



Pastor Mark is facilitating a four-week Advent study on Monday, December 1st thru December 22nd at 10 am at New Milford. The study is entitled, *Christmas, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* by Richard B. Wilke. In this book, the focus is on people in the story of Christ's birth. There are those that are associated with the joy and celebration of Christmas—the wise men, the shepherds, and Joseph. Yet the author reminds us not to forget that the evil King Herod is also part of the Christmas story, and how it is because there is evil in our world that we so desperately needed—and need—a Savior.

Weeknight sessions at Cherry Valley UMC will be added if there is sufficient interest.

The book is available at Amazon for \$8.36 as of 10/15.

[Christmas: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: An Advent Study for Adults: Wilke, Richard B.: 9780687660346: Amazon.com: Books](#)



FREE! Turkey Dinner

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, DRESSING, VEGETABLES,
ROLL w/ BUTTER, CRANBERRY SAUCE, APPLESAUCE,
SLICE OF PIE, MILK AND/OR WATER

CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY
LIMIT OF 2 MEALS PER PERSON

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

CONTACT JEANINE WANG @ (815) 218-1700

DONATE WINTER WEAR

HATS, GLOVES, MITTENS, SCARVES, EAR MUFFS, WARM SOCKS,
NEW OR GENTLY-USED SWEATPANTS & SWEATSHIRTS

DONATE PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

LIP BALM, SM. BOTTLES OF HAND LOTION, ETC.

DONATE BOTTLES OF WATER

DROP ITEMS OFF AT

COURT STREET UMC OR NORTHWESTERN IL AREA AGENCY ON AGING (NIAAA),
LOCATED AT 1111 S. ALPINE ROAD, SUITE 600



COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

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



- 6 Bill & Ann Harned



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry

We are having a Packing Party
on November 9th following worship
for the Operation Christmas Child boxes

There will be items out on tables
ready for you to fill your boxes.

We will send them
during the national collection week.

Terri Burritt

burritt5@hotmail.com



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.



Church Landscape



The next time you come to the church, please remember to check out the gardens.

Juanita Barnes and

Mary Coulter have put a lot of work into cleaning up and getting rid of a lot of weeds and other unwanted vegetation. There may be others who have helped with this task of whom we are unaware, but we THANK YOU all!

Additionally, we owe a lot of thanks to Greg Allton who allows us to put our recycling and yard waste with his. Also, at his urging, to the village, there are two new cherry trees planted on the parkway in front of the church. Greg is truly a great friend of CVUMC!

Katie's Cup Fundraiser



Katie's Cup is a mission place designated to promote community well-being through social interaction and economic development. It is possible because of the financial support from local churches, businesses and individuals. It was established in 2009 as a community development project of Zion Development Corporation and Rockford Lutheran Ministries to encourage renewal of the midtown district.

The fundraiser will be a dinner and dessert auction on November 13 at the Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, 5151 Guilford Road—Rockford at 5:30 check in. Dinner will be at 6:15 pm. The cost is \$65 per person. Tables of 8 are available.

For more information visit the web site at www.katiescup.com

Rockford Rescue Mission

The focus of our giving is the Rockford Rescue Mission. The Rescue Mission is a safe and caring place that offers a Christ-centered care to people struggling with challenges like homelessness, poverty, abuse and addiction.

Rescue those in immediate crisis
Recover people's dignity and sense of self-worth
Restore the lives of men, women and children

The core values of the Rockford Rescue Mission are :

- *Living for the Glory of God*
- *Respecting Human Dignity and Immortality*
- *Proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ*
- *Modeling Compassionate Generosity*
- *Partnering with the Church and Community*
- *Serving with Integrity and Excellence*
- *Rejoicing in Lives Changed by God*

Each month the Mission publishes an urgent needs list which we will post in the church. If you do not wish to contribute with goods, you may donate money that may be placed in designated envelopes that are on the table in the sanctuary.



We need **140** stockings

WE ARE COLLECTING CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR THE ROCK HOUSE KIDS.

WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

WE WILL DELIVER THE STOCKINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER.

A collection bin will be in the foyer beginning November 2.

Global Mission Secondary School

Today, I was blessed with the grace of sharing my testimony sermon at Flushing First United Methodist Church. Wearing a hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted by Elder Haemyung Lee, I felt as though God had especially prepared this moment.

From the Korean Choir in the 2nd service, to the praise team in the 3rd service, and even the English service praise team—the songs offered before the sermon filled my soul with joy and gratitude. As I preached, I laughed and cried, sharing stories of mission in Tanzania. In particular, I testified to the Way Maker God who has been at work in the process of building GMSS Middle School and in the growth of our students.

Flushing First Church was the very church that, back in 2017, gave a seed offering when I first came to New York with the vision of GMSS Middle School. Amazingly, in 2025, as I shared the vision for GMSS High School, the church once again offered a seed gift of faith. Hallelujah!

In the future, as doors open through universities in Korea and the U.S., and institutions like Africa University established by the UMC in Africa, graduates of GMSS High School will be able to cross borders with scholarships to pursue higher studies. Equipped with their professions and living “For Christ and His Kingdom,” they will go on to serve both Tanzania and the world.

When I look at myself, and when I look at the history of Korea today, I see hope—and above all, my heart is filled with gratitude.

During my student years in USA, I often heard Pastor Dongho Kim at the KOSTA conference say, “Study, not for yourself, but to give to others.” That word still lingers deeply in my heart. Just as Korea in the 1960s and 70s reminds me of Tanzania today, I dream of our students growing up to live lives of “studying to give to others”—becoming disciples of Jesus and global leaders who shine as a light that does not fade, and live as salt that never loses its flavor.

Lord, even the thought of this fills my heart with joy and overflowing happiness.

Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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



Young Seon (Christina) Kim wearing the traditional Korean hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted to her by Elder Haemyung Lee.

“If we are going to wait until every possible hindrance has been removed before we do a work for the Lord, we will never attempt to do anything.”

– T.J. Bach, 1881-1963, Missionary to Venezuela



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 am Scout Clean Up Day 9:00 am GA
2 10:00 am Worship <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i>  FALL BACK	3 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	5 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	6 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	7	8 9:00 am GA 11:00 am <i>Veterans Day Service @ Baumann Park</i>
9 10:00 am Worship	10 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 6:00 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB <i>Veterans Day</i> THANK YOU VETERANS 	12 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	13 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	14	15 9:00 am GA
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30 10:00 am Worship <i>Advent Hope</i>  HOPE						

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

Give Thanks



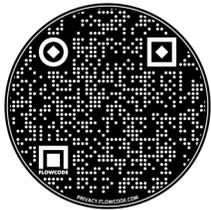
Cherry Valley United Methodist
Upcoming Events

November 20
6:00 p.m.
Annual Church Conference

November 23
11 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens



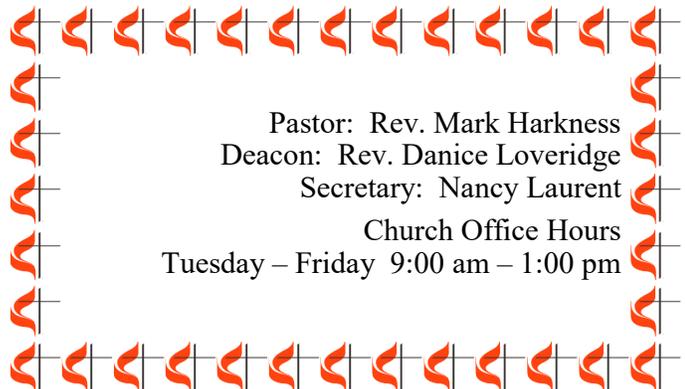
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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

THE MESSENGER

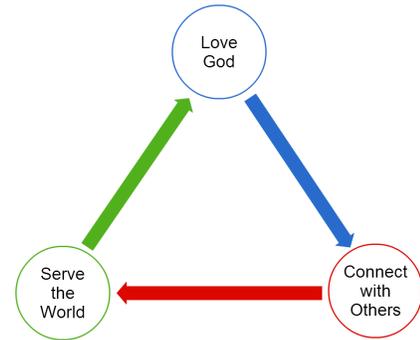
November 2025

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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

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Methodist Women



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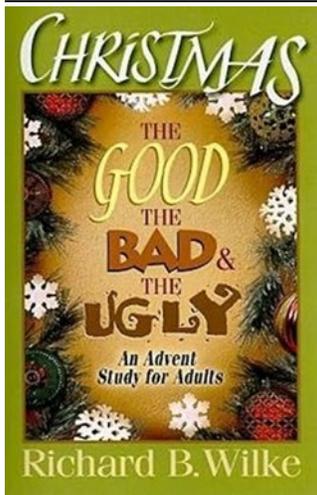


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11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

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CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY
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HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

CONTACT JEANINE WANG @ (815) 218-1700

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COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

- 1 Yolanda Beets
Hannah Lawrence
- 4 Joseph Dienberg
- 11 Gary Conderman
- 14 Tim Conderman
Angela DeWitt
- 15 Zachary Brown
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Mary Coulter have put a lot of work into cleaning up and getting rid of a lot of weeds and other unwanted vegetation. There may be others who have helped with this task of whom we are unaware, but we THANK YOU all!

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WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

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From the Korean Choir in the 2nd service, to the praise team in the 3rd service, and even the English service praise team—the songs offered before the sermon filled my soul with joy and gratitude. As I preached, I laughed and cried, sharing stories of mission in Tanzania. In particular, I testified to the Way Maker God who has been at work in the process of building GMSS Middle School and in the growth of our students.

Flushing First Church was the very church that, back in 2017, gave a seed offering when I first came to New York with the vision of GMSS Middle School. Amazingly, in 2025, as I shared the vision for GMSS High School, the church once again offered a seed gift of faith. Hallelujah!

In the future, as doors open through universities in Korea and the U.S., and institutions like Africa University established by the UMC in Africa, graduates of GMSS High School will be able to cross borders with scholarships to pursue higher studies. Equipped with their professions and living “For Christ and His Kingdom,” they will go on to serve both Tanzania and the world.

When I look at myself, and when I look at the history of Korea today, I see hope—and above all, my heart is filled with gratitude.

During my student years in USA, I often heard Pastor Dongho Kim at the KOSTA conference say, “Study, not for yourself, but to give to others.” That word still lingers deeply in my heart. Just as Korea in the 1960s and 70s reminds me of Tanzania today, I dream of our students growing up to live lives of “studying to give to others”—becoming disciples of Jesus and global leaders who shine as a light that does not fade, and live as salt that never loses its flavor.

Lord, even the thought of this fills my heart with joy and overflowing happiness.

Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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



Young Seon (Christina) Kim wearing the traditional Korean hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted to her by Elder Haemyung Lee.

“If we are going to wait until every possible hindrance has been removed before we do a work for the Lord, we will never attempt to do anything.”

– T.J. Bach, 1881-1963, Missionary to Venezuela



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 am Scout Clean Up Day 9:00 am GA
2 10:00 am Worship <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 	3 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	5 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	6 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	7	8 9:00 am GA 11:00 am <i>Veterans Day Service @ Baumann Park</i>
9 10:00 am Worship	10 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 6:00 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB <i>Veterans Day</i> THANK YOU VETERANS 	12 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	13 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	14	15 9:00 am GA
16 10:00 am Worship	17 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	18 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	19 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 2:00 pm Choir Practice	20 6:00 pm <i>Annual Church Conference</i>	21	22 9:00 am GA
23 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am <i>Hanging of the C</i> 	24 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	25 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	26 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	27 <i>Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed</i> 	28 <i>Thanksgiving Holiday Church Office Closed</i>	29 9:00 am GA
30 10:00 am Worship <i>Advent Hope</i> 						

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

Give Thanks



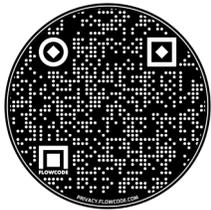
Cherry Valley United Methodist
Upcoming Events

November 20
6:00 p.m.
Annual Church Conference

November 23
11 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens



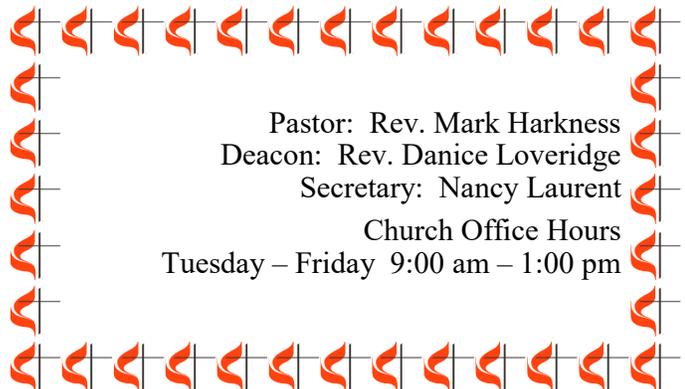
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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

THE MESSENGER

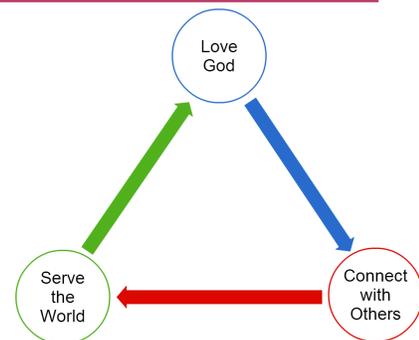
November 2025

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

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

¹⁴ Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, "The wedding attendants cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. ¹⁷ Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are ruined, but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved."

(Matthew 9:10-17 NRSV)

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

It's that time of year again. Thanksgiving is just around the corner the beginning of the holiday season and all those occasions for gathering with our families. That's not always easy.

Sometime the difficulty in family gatherings is merely being able to gather when many are spread out around the country or even the world. Sometimes the difficulty is the challenge of being together with people who drive us batty; but that's also the wonderful opportunity.

If your family is anything like mine, it includes people with whom you would likely never associate, except that you're related – whether that be by blood, adoption, or marriage. In that mix are probably a fair share of sinners and even one or two "tax collectors" (scoundrels). Things get even more complicated when we remember that just as there were Pharisees and Sadducees, our table will include progressives and conservatives. Some of whom may be just itching to get things riled up by explaining why they are right.

I think that the Pharisees who questioned why Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners were like that and expected Jesus to be, as well. "Don't linger in their company, but set them straight!" To which Jesus replies, "I'm going to hang out wherever people need healing – wherever people need to be valued as children of God. And when I do that – we're not going to dwell on pointing all of the problems in our lives or the rest of the world, but we're going to feast and learn to enjoy our time together.

The strangeness of who God puts us together with in our families – people with whom we gather just because – might just be so that we learn to be more tolerant and maybe even accepting of others we encounter day to day.

(Continued on page 2)

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- Ad Council..... Page 2
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(Continued from page 1)

When we gather together as families – even if we already saw the “answers” on Facebook, we tend to ask questions: How have you been? Feeling better? Any luck on the job search? Or how is it in your new work? Did you get to go on that trip? You get the idea. If we’re wise, when aunt Jane starts her rant about whatever aunt Jane always rants about, we can ask a question that helps her feel heard and valued. When cousin Kevin starts to get a little soused, we can pull him away and ask him what he thinks I should do about my car. These questions won’t necessarily “fix” anything, but they do fashion and occasion to be welcomed and valued in a way that cracks an opening for them to seek something better.

At Thanksgiving we meet families in their fullness: the fun, the boring, and the obnoxious as a group of people bound together by happenstance rather than choice. So let’s enjoy it for what it is – a chance to thank God not just for tangible blessings but for this opportunity to grow in our love for others, so that what we practice on family we might live in the world.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

Prairie North Conference



Keep up to date with all the Prairie North Conference Events in the weekly email.

Visit the website [Prairie North - Northern Illinois Annual Conference](#). There is also a listing of district contacts at the conference along with achieved newsletters.

Sign up for the weekly e-news by clicking on the latest newsletter and clicking on the “Join Our Email List” in the banner at the top of the page.

Future Dates to Remember

- November 1..... Scout Clean-up Day*
- November 2..... Daylight Saving Time Ends*
- November 9..... 11 am, Methodist Women Meet*
- November 11..... 6 pm Church Council*
- November 20..... 6 pm Annual Church Conference*
- November 23..... 11 am Hanging of the Greens*
- November 27..... Thanksgiving Church office closed*
- November 28..... Thanksgiving Holiday church office closed.*



Members & Friends

Dwight Banks
 Joan Blanchard
 Glenn Carnine
 Dave Dienberg
 Kathy Duke
 Pat Gorsuch
 Dawn Harter
 Trudy Hunt
 Herman Krunfus
 Tim Murphy
 Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
 Sean Conderman
 Dan Harter
 Wesley Harter

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
 Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

Family of Sandra Baxter



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.



The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, November 11 at 6:00 pm. Agenda and other items for the meeting can be found on SharePoint. If you have trouble signing in, please speak with Pastor Mark to obtain a user ID and password. A copy of the minutes of the last meeting will be sent by the secretary to the members of the Council.



Scripture Readings

November 2

Scripture: Psalm 119:137-144
 Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
 Luke 19:1-10
 Message: "The Work of Waiting"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #1*

November 9

Scripture: Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
 Luke 20:27-38
 Message: "Skipping to the End"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #2*

November 16

Scripture: Psalm 118:14-29
 Isaiah 65:17-25
 Luke 21:5-19
 Message: "Full Disclosure"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #3*

November 23—Christ the King

Scripture: Luke 1:68-79
 Jeremiah 23:1-6
 Luke 23:33-43
 Message: "Proving Who You Are"
 Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #4*

November 30—Advent 1—Hope

Scripture: Psalm 122
 Romans 13:11-14
 Matthew 24:36-44
 Message: "The Prophet's Candle"



Finance Committee Report

September 2025 Report

Revenue	\$12,440.02
Expenditures	\$15,229.37
Net Revenue	\$-2,789.35
Emergency Fund Balance:	\$6,021.74



Pastor Mark's Office Hours:

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

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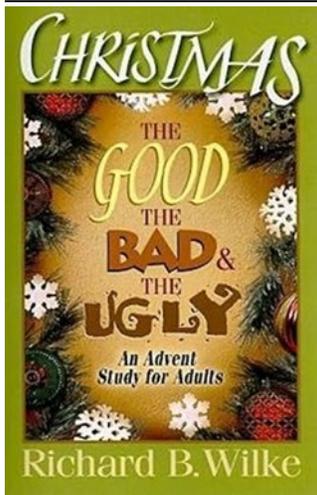


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Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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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



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Upcoming Events

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6:00 p.m.
Annual Church Conference

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11 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens



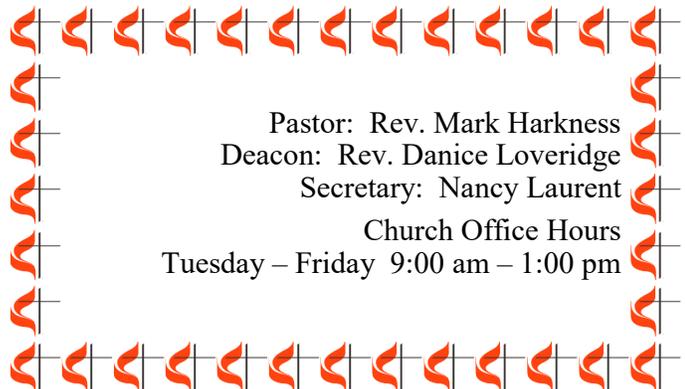
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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
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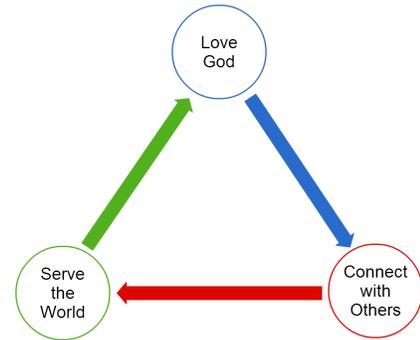
November 2025

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

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A Word From the Pastor

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Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

It's that time of year again. Thanksgiving is just around the corner the beginning of the holiday season and all those occasions for gathering with our families. That's not always easy.

Sometime the difficulty in family gatherings is merely being able to gather when many are spread out around the country or even the world. Sometimes the difficulty is the challenge of being together with people who drive us batty; but that's also the wonderful opportunity.

If your family is anything like mine, it includes people with whom you would likely never associate, except that you're related – whether that be by blood, adoption, or marriage. In that mix are probably a fair share of sinners and even one or two "tax collectors" (scoundrels). Things get even more complicated when we remember that just as there were Pharisees and Sadducees, our table will include progressives and conservatives. Some of whom may be just itching to get things riled up by explaining why they are right.

I think that the Pharisees who questioned why Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners were like that and expected Jesus to be, as well. "Don't linger in their company, but set them straight!" To which Jesus replies, "I'm going to hang out wherever people need healing – wherever people need to be valued as children of God. And when I do that – we're not going to dwell on pointing all of the problems in our lives or the rest of the world, but we're going to feast and learn to enjoy our time together.

The strangeness of who God puts us together with in our families – people with whom we gather just because – might just be so that we learn to be more tolerant and maybe even accepting of others we encounter day to day.

(Continued on page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

When we gather together as families – even if we already saw the “answers” on Facebook, we tend to ask questions: How have you been? Feeling better? Any luck on the job search? Or how is it in your new work? Did you get to go on that trip? You get the idea. If we’re wise, when aunt Jane starts her rant about whatever aunt Jane always rants about, we can ask a question that helps her feel heard and valued. When cousin Kevin starts to get a little soused, we can pull him away and ask him what he thinks I should do about my car. These questions won’t necessarily “fix” anything, but they do fashion and occasion to be welcomed and valued in a way that cracks an opening for them to seek something better.

At Thanksgiving we meet families in their fullness: the fun, the boring, and the obnoxious as a group of people bound together by happenstance rather than choice. So let’s enjoy it for what it is – a chance to thank God not just for tangible blessings but for this opportunity to grow in our love for others, so that what we practice on family we might live in the world.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Mark Harkness

Prairie North Conference



Keep up to date with all the Prairie North Conference Events in the weekly email.

Visit the website [Prairie North - Northern Illinois Annual Conference](#). There is also a listing of district contacts at the conference along with achieved newsletters.

Sign up for the weekly e-news by clicking on the latest newsletter and clicking on the “Join Our Email List” in the banner at the top of the page.

Future Dates to Remember

- November 1..... Scout Clean-up Day*
- November 2..... Daylight Saving Time Ends*
- November 9..... 11 am, Methodist Women Meet*
- November 11..... 6 pm Church Council*
- November 20..... 6 pm Annual Church Conference*
- November 23..... 11 am Hanging of the Greens*
- November 27..... Thanksgiving Church office closed*
- November 28..... Thanksgiving Holiday church office closed.*

Lord please hear my prayer



Members & Friends

Dwight Banks
 Joan Blanchard
 Glenn Carnine
 Dave Dienberg
 Kathy Duke
 Pat Gorsuch
 Dawn Harter
 Trudy Hunt
 Herman Krunfus
 Tim Murphy
 Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
 Sean Conderman
 Dan Harter
 Wesley Harter

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
 Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn

Family of Sandra Baxter



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.



The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, November 11 at 6:00 pm. Agenda and other items for the meeting can be found on SharePoint. If you have trouble signing in, please speak with Pastor Mark to obtain a user ID and password. A copy of the minutes of the last meeting will be sent by the secretary to the members of the Council.



Scripture Readings

November 2

Scripture: Psalm 119:137-144
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Luke 19:1-10
Message: "The Work of Waiting"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #1*

November 9

Scripture: Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38
Message: "Skipping to the End"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #2*

November 16

Scripture: Psalm 118:14-29
Isaiah 65:17-25
Luke 21:5-19
Message: "Full Disclosure"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #3*

November 23—Christ the King

Scripture: Luke 1:68-79
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Luke 23:33-43
Message: "Proving Who You Are"
Series: *The End of the World as We Know It #4*

November 30—Advent 1—Hope

Scripture: Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44
Message: "The Prophet's Candle"



Finance Committee Report

September 2025 Report

Revenue	\$12,440.02
Expenditures	\$15,229.37
Net Revenue	\$-2,789.35
Emergency Fund Balance:	\$6,021.74



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



The results of the Fall Bake Sale are in! Thanks to your generous donations of baked goods packaged for sale, our profit was \$348!

The profit will go towards payment of the new water heater at the parsonage. Thank you Mandy and Yolanda for organizing the bake sale and thanks to all who participated.

Teamwork makes the dream work!

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, November 9th after worship. All women of the church are welcome to attend.



Prayer Shawl Group

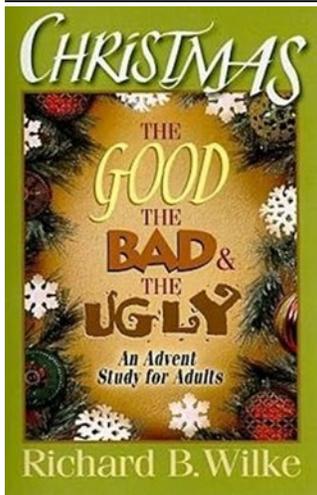


The prayer shawl group continues their monthly Wednesday meetings. The next meeting will be on November 19th at 10 am. They will meet at the home of Cindy Kerr for knitting, crocheting, conversation and lunch. If you need directions to Cindy's home, you may contact her at 815-332-9683 or [email at cynkerr201@aol.com](mailto:cynkerr201@aol.com). For information about this group, contact Lucy Powell at 815-904-9462 or email lpowell530@yahoo.com.

Kitchen Clean-up Day

The kitchen clean-up was a success! It looks (and smells) a lot better. The crew cleaned the area and discarded a lot of unused and no longer needed items. Thank you to Juanita Barnes, Mary Coulter, Deb Gross, Cindy Kerr, Mandy Kloepfer, Jan Mills, and Lucy Powell for their hard work!

Advent Bible Study



Pastor Mark is facilitating a four-week Advent study on Monday, December 1st thru December 22nd at 10 am at New Milford. The study is entitled, *Christmas, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* by Richard B. Wilke. In this book, the focus is on people in the story of Christ's birth. There are those that are associated with the joy and celebration of Christmas—the wise men, the shepherds, and Joseph. Yet the author reminds us not to forget that the evil King Herod is also part of the Christmas story, and how it is because there is evil in our world that we so desperately needed—and need—a Savior.

Weeknight sessions at Cherry Valley UMC will be added if there is sufficient interest.

The book is available at Amazon for \$8.36 as of 10/15.

[Christmas: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: An Advent Study for Adults: Wilke, Richard B.: 9780687660346: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780687660346)



FREE! Turkey Dinner

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, DRESSING, VEGETABLES,
ROLL w/ BUTTER, CRANBERRY SAUCE, APPLESAUCE,
SLICE OF PIE, MILK AND/OR WATER

CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY

LIMIT OF 2 MEALS PER PERSON

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

CONTACT JEANINE WANG @ (815) 218-1700

DONATE WINTER WEAR

HATS, GLOVES, MITTENS, SCARVES, EAR MUFFS, WARM SOCKS,
NEW OR GENTLY-USED SWEATPANTS & SWEATSHIRTS

DONATE PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

LIP BALM, SM. BOTTLES OF HAND LOTION, ETC.

DONATE BOTTLES OF WATER

DROP ITEMS OFF AT

COURT STREET UMC OR NORTHWESTERN IL AREA AGENCY ON AGING (NIAAA),
LOCATED AT 1111 S. ALPINE ROAD, SUITE 600



COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

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



- 6 Bill & Ann Harned



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry

We are having a Packing Party
on November 9th following worship
for the Operation Christmas Child boxes

There will be items out on tables
ready for you to fill your boxes.

We will send them
during the national collection week.

Terri Burritt

burritt5@hotmail.com



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.



Church Landscape



The next time you come to the church, please remember to check out the gardens.

Juanita Barnes and

Mary Coulter have put a lot of work into cleaning up and getting rid of a lot of weeds and other unwanted vegetation. There may be others who have helped with this task of whom we are unaware, but we THANK YOU all!

Additionally, we owe a lot of thanks to Greg Allton who allows us to put our recycling and yard waste with his. Also, at his urging, to the village, there are two new cherry trees planted on the parkway in front of the church. Greg is truly a great friend of CVUMC!

Katie's Cup Fundraiser



Katie's Cup is a mission place designated to promote community well-being through social interaction and economic development. It is possible because of the financial support from local churches, businesses and individuals. It was established in 2009 as a community development project of Zion Development Corporation and Rockford Lutheran Ministries to encourage renewal of the midtown district.

The fundraiser will be a dinner and dessert auction on November 13 at the Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, 5151 Guilford Road—Rockford at 5:30 check in. Dinner will be at 6:15 pm. The cost is \$65 per person. Tables of 8 are available.

For more information visit the web site at www.katiescup.com

Rockford Rescue Mission

The focus of our giving is the Rockford Rescue Mission. The Rescue Mission is a safe and caring place that offers a Christ-centered care to people struggling with challenges like homelessness, poverty, abuse and addiction.

Rescue those in immediate crisis
Recover people's dignity and sense of self-worth
Restore the lives of men, women and children

The core values of the Rockford Rescue Mission are :

- *Living for the Glory of God*
- *Respecting Human Dignity and Immortality*
- *Proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ*
- *Modeling Compassionate Generosity*
- *Partnering with the Church and Community*
- *Serving with Integrity and Excellence*
- *Rejoicing in Lives Changed by God*

Each month the Mission publishes an urgent needs list which we will post in the church. If you do not wish to contribute with goods, you may donate money that may be placed in designated envelopes that are on the table in the sanctuary.



We need **140** stockings

WE ARE COLLECTING CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR THE ROCK HOUSE KIDS.

WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

WE WILL DELIVER THE STOCKINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER.

A collection bin will be in the foyer beginning November 2.

Global Mission Secondary School

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Contact information for Young
Seon Kim
Telephone: +255 68 976 1708
Email: yskim1023@gmail.com
Facebook: Young Seon Kim
Kakaotalk: yskim1470



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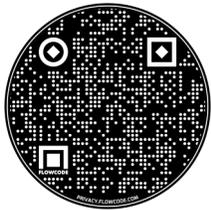
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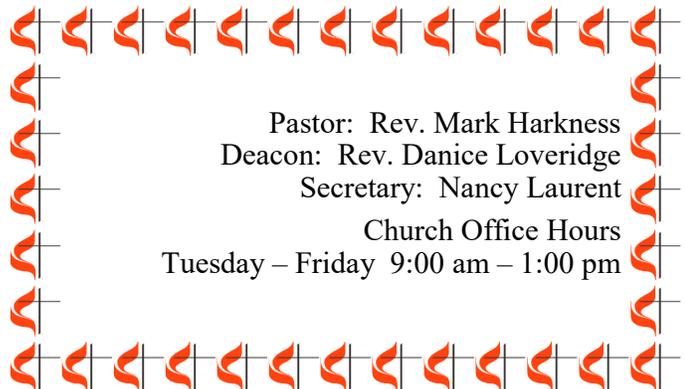
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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



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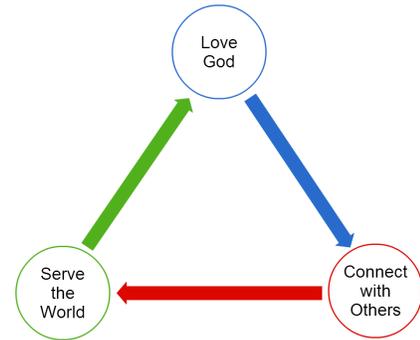
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Greetings in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ!

It's that time of year again. Thanksgiving is just around the corner the beginning of the holiday season and all those occasions for gathering with our families. That's not always easy.

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If your family is anything like mine, it includes people with whom you would likely never associate, except that you're related – whether that be by blood, adoption, or marriage. In that mix are probably a fair share of sinners and even one or two "tax collectors" (scoundrels). Things get even more complicated when we remember that just as there were Pharisees and Sadducees, our table will include progressives and conservatives. Some of whom may be just itching to get things riled up by explaining why they are right.

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 Glenn Carnine
 Dave Dienberg
 Kathy Duke
 Pat Gorsuch
 Dawn Harter
 Trudy Hunt
 Herman Krunfus
 Tim Murphy
 Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Gage Christensen
 Sean Conderman
 Dan Harter
 Wesley Harter

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Pastor Kim & the Next
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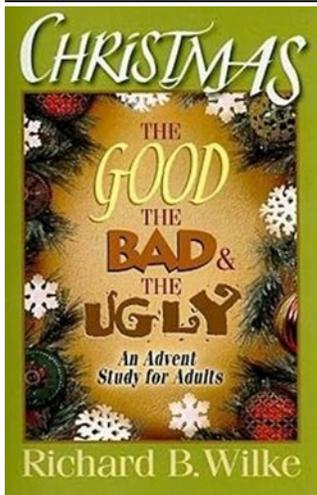


The prayer shawl group continues their monthly Wednesday meetings. The next meeting will be on November 19th at 10 am. They will meet at the home of Cindy Kerr for knitting, crocheting, conversation and lunch. If you need directions to Cindy's home, you may contact her at 815-332-9683 or [email at cynkerr201@aol.com](mailto:cynkerr201@aol.com). For information about this group, contact Lucy Powell at 815-904-9462 or email lpowell530@yahoo.com.

Kitchen Clean-up Day

The kitchen clean-up was a success! It looks (and smells) a lot better. The crew cleaned the area and discarded a lot of unused and no longer needed items. Thank you to Juanita Barnes, Mary Coulter, Deb Gross, Cindy Kerr, Mandy Kloepfer, Jan Mills, and Lucy Powell for their hard work!

Advent Bible Study



Pastor Mark is facilitating a four-week Advent study on Monday, December 1st thru December 22nd at 10 am at New Milford. The study is entitled, *Christmas, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* by Richard B. Wilke. In this book, the focus is on people in the story of Christ's birth. There are those that are associated with the joy and celebration of Christmas—the wise men, the shepherds, and Joseph. Yet the author reminds us not to forget that the evil King Herod is also part of the Christmas story, and how it is because there is evil in our world that we so desperately needed—and need—a Savior.

Weeknight sessions at Cherry Valley UMC will be added if there is sufficient interest.

The book is available at Amazon for \$8.36 as of 10/15.

[Christmas: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: An Advent Study for Adults: Wilke, Richard B.: 9780687660346: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780687660346)



FREE! Turkey Dinner

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, DRESSING, VEGETABLES,
ROLL w/ BUTTER, CRANBERRY SAUCE, APPLESAUCE,
SLICE OF PIE, MILK AND/OR WATER

CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY
LIMIT OF 2 MEALS PER PERSON

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

CONTACT JEANINE WANG @ (815) 218-1700

DONATE WINTER WEAR

HATS, GLOVES, MITTENS, SCARVES, EAR MUFFS, WARM SOCKS,
NEW OR GENTLY-USED SWEATPANTS & SWEATSHIRTS

DONATE PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

LIP BALM, SM. BOTTLES OF HAND LOTION, ETC.

DONATE BOTTLES OF WATER

DROP ITEMS OFF AT

COURT STREET UMC OR NORTHWESTERN IL AREA AGENCY ON AGING (NIAAA),
LOCATED AT 1111 S. ALPINE ROAD, SUITE 600



COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

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



- 6 Bill & Ann Harned



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry

We are having a Packing Party
on November 9th following worship
for the Operation Christmas Child boxes

There will be items out on tables
ready for you to fill your boxes.

We will send them
during the national collection week.

Terri Burritt

burritt5@hotmail.com



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.



Church Landscape



The next time you come to the church, please remember to check out the gardens.

Juanita Barnes and

Mary Coulter have put a lot of work into cleaning up and getting rid of a lot of weeds and other unwanted vegetation. There may be others who have helped with this task of whom we are unaware, but we THANK YOU all!

Additionally, we owe a lot of thanks to Greg Allton who allows us to put our recycling and yard waste with his. Also, at his urging, to the village, there are two new cherry trees planted on the parkway in front of the church. Greg is truly a great friend of CVUMC!

Katie's Cup Fundraiser



Katie's Cup is a mission place designated to promote community well-being through social interaction and economic development. It is possible because of the financial support from local churches, businesses and individuals. It was established in 2009 as a community development project of Zion Development Corporation and Rockford Lutheran Ministries to encourage renewal of the midtown district.

The fundraiser will be a dinner and dessert auction on November 13 at the Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, 5151 Guilford Road—Rockford at 5:30 check in. Dinner will be at 6:15 pm. The cost is \$65 per person. Tables of 8 are available.

For more information visit the web site at www.katiescup.com

Rockford Rescue Mission

The focus of our giving is the Rockford Rescue Mission. The Rescue Mission is a safe and caring place that offers a Christ-centered care to people struggling with challenges like homelessness, poverty, abuse and addiction.

Rescue those in immediate crisis
Recover people's dignity and sense of self-worth
Restore the lives of men, women and children

The core values of the Rockford Rescue Mission are :

- *Living for the Glory of God*
- *Respecting Human Dignity and Immortality*
- *Proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ*
- *Modeling Compassionate Generosity*
- *Partnering with the Church and Community*
- *Serving with Integrity and Excellence*
- *Rejoicing in Lives Changed by God*

Each month the Mission publishes an urgent needs list which we will post in the church. If you do not wish to contribute with goods, you may donate money that may be placed in designated envelopes that are on the table in the sanctuary.



We need **140** stockings

WE ARE COLLECTING CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR THE ROCK HOUSE KIDS.

WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

WE WILL DELIVER THE STOCKINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER.

A collection bin will be in the foyer beginning November 2.

Global Mission Secondary School

Today, I was blessed with the grace of sharing my testimony sermon at Flushing First United Methodist Church. Wearing a hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted by Elder Haemyung Lee, I felt as though God had especially prepared this moment.

From the Korean Choir in the 2nd service, to the praise team in the 3rd service, and even the English service praise team—the songs offered before the sermon filled my soul with joy and gratitude. As I preached, I laughed and cried, sharing stories of mission in Tanzania. In particular, I testified to the Way Maker God who has been at work in the process of building GMSS Middle School and in the growth of our students.

Flushing First Church was the very church that, back in 2017, gave a seed offering when I first came to New York with the vision of GMSS Middle School. Amazingly, in 2025, as I shared the vision for GMSS High School, the church once again offered a seed gift of faith. Hallelujah!

In the future, as doors open through universities in Korea and the U.S., and institutions like Africa University established by the UMC in Africa, graduates of GMSS High School will be able to cross borders with scholarships to pursue higher studies. Equipped with their professions and living “For Christ and His Kingdom,” they will go on to serve both Tanzania and the world.

When I look at myself, and when I look at the history of Korea today, I see hope—and above all, my heart is filled with gratitude.

During my student years in USA, I often heard Pastor Dongho Kim at the KOSTA conference say, “Study, not for yourself, but to give to others.” That word still lingers deeply in my heart. Just as Korea in the 1960s and 70s reminds me of Tanzania today, I dream of our students growing up to live lives of “studying to give to others”—becoming disciples of Jesus and global leaders who shine as a light that does not fade, and live as salt that never loses its flavor.

Lord, even the thought of this fills my heart with joy and overflowing happiness.

Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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



Young Seon (Christina) Kim wearing the traditional Korean hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted to her by Elder Haemyung Lee.

“If we are going to wait until every possible hindrance has been removed before we do a work for the Lord, we will never attempt to do anything.”

– T.J. Bach, 1881-1963, Missionary to Venezuela



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 am Scout Clean Up Day 9:00 am GA
2 10:00 am Worship <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 	3 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	5 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	6 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	7	8 9:00 am GA 11:00 am Veterans Day Service @ Baumann Park
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30 10:00 am Worship <i>Advent Hope</i> 						

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

Give Thanks



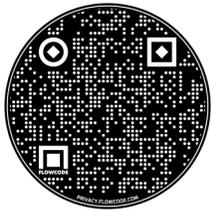
Cherry Valley United Methodist
Upcoming Events

November 20
6:00 p.m.
Annual Church Conference

November 23
11 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens



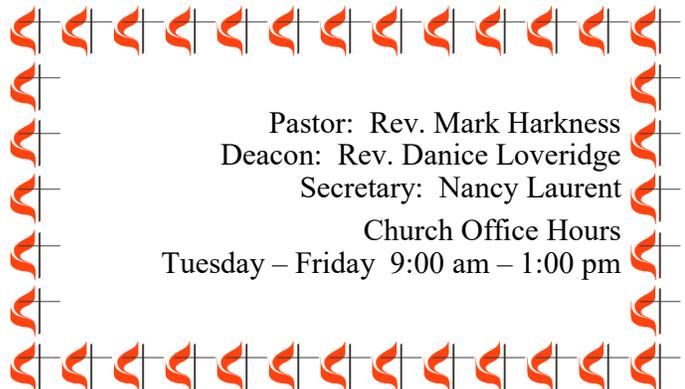
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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

THE MESSENGER

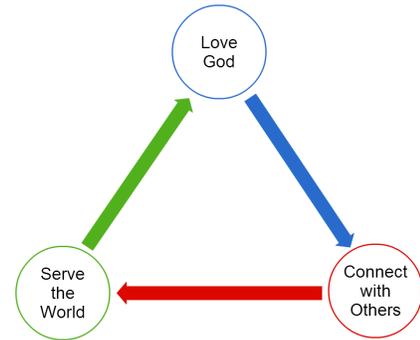
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Parsonage phone: 815/580-8553

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Email: danice.loveridge@gmail.com
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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

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

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All women of the church are welcome to attend.

Prayer Shawl Group

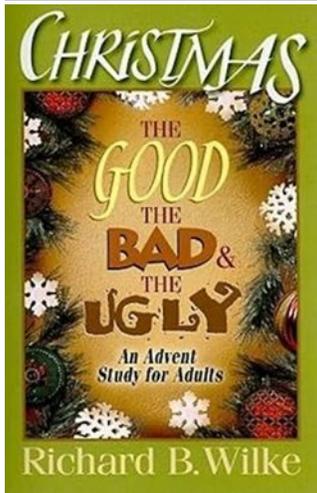


The prayer shawl group continues their monthly Wednesday meetings. The next meeting will be on November 19th at 10 am. They will meet at the home of Cindy Kerr for knitting, crocheting, conversation and lunch. If you need directions to Cindy's home, you may contact her at 815-332-9683 or [email at cynkerr201@aol.com](mailto:cynkerr201@aol.com). For information about this group, contact Lucy Powell at 815-904-9462 or email lpowell530@yahoo.com.

Kitchen Clean-up Day

The kitchen clean-up was a success! It looks (and smells) a lot better. The crew cleaned the area and discarded a lot of unused and no longer needed items. Thank you to Juanita Barnes, Mary Coulter, Deb Gross, Cindy Kerr, Mandy Kloepfer, Jan Mills, and Lucy Powell for their hard work!

Advent Bible Study



Pastor Mark is facilitating a four-week Advent study on Monday, December 1st thru December 22nd at 10 am at New Milford. The study is entitled, *Christmas, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* by Richard B. Wilke. In this book, the focus is on people in the story of Christ's birth. There are those that are associated with the joy and celebration of Christmas—the wise men, the shepherds, and Joseph. Yet the author reminds us not to forget that the evil King Herod is also part of the Christmas story, and how it is because there is evil in our world that we so desperately needed—and need—a Savior.

Weeknight sessions at Cherry Valley UMC will be added if there is sufficient interest.

The book is available at Amazon for \$8.36 as of 10/15.

[Christmas: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: An Advent Study for Adults: Wilke, Richard B.: 9780687660346: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0780687660346)



FREE! Turkey Dinner

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SERVED WITH

MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, DRESSING, VEGETABLES,
ROLL w/ BUTTER, CRANBERRY SAUCE, APPLESAUCE,
SLICE OF PIE, MILK AND/OR WATER

CARRYOUT OR DRIVE-THRU ONLY
LIMIT OF 2 MEALS PER PERSON

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

VOLUNTEER FOR SHIFTS

CONTACT JEANINE WANG @ (815) 218-1700

DONATE WINTER WEAR

HATS, GLOVES, MITTENS, SCARVES, EAR MUFFS, WARM SOCKS,
NEW OR GENTLY-USED SWEATPANTS & SWEATSHIRTS

DONATE PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

LIP BALM, SM. BOTTLES OF HAND LOTION, ETC.

DONATE BOTTLES OF WATER

DROP ITEMS OFF AT

COURT STREET UMC OR NORTHWESTERN IL AREA AGENCY ON AGING (NIAAA),
LOCATED AT 1111 S. ALPINE ROAD, SUITE 600



COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
215 North Court Street | Rockford, IL 61103
815.962.6061 | www.courtstreetumc.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays This Month

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



- 6 Bill & Ann Harned



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry

We are having a Packing Party
on November 9th following worship
for the Operation Christmas Child boxes

There will be items out on tables
ready for you to fill your boxes.

We will send them
during the national collection week.

Terri Burritt

burritt5@hotmail.com



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.



Church Landscape



The next time you come to the church, please remember to check out the gardens.

Juanita Barnes and

Mary Coulter have put a lot of work into cleaning up and getting rid of a lot of weeds and other unwanted vegetation. There may be others who have helped with this task of whom we are unaware, but we THANK YOU all!

Additionally, we owe a lot of thanks to Greg Allton who allows us to put our recycling and yard waste with his. Also, at his urging, to the village, there are two new cherry trees planted on the parkway in front of the church. Greg is truly a great friend of CVUMC!

Katie's Cup Fundraiser



Katie's Cup is a mission place designated to promote community well-being through social interaction and economic development. It is possible because of the financial support from local churches, businesses and individuals. It was established in 2009 as a community development project of Zion Development Corporation and Rockford Lutheran Ministries to encourage renewal of the midtown district.

The fundraiser will be a dinner and dessert auction on November 13 at the Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club, 5151 Guilford Road—Rockford at 5:30 check in. Dinner will be at 6:15 pm. The cost is \$65 per person. Tables of 8 are available.

For more information visit the web site at www.katiescup.com

Rockford Rescue Mission

The focus of our giving is the Rockford Rescue Mission. The Rescue Mission is a safe and caring place that offers a Christ-centered care to people struggling with challenges like homelessness, poverty, abuse and addiction.

Rescue those in immediate crisis
Recover people's dignity and sense of self-worth
Restore the lives of men, women and children

The core values of the Rockford Rescue Mission are :

- *Living for the Glory of God*
- *Respecting Human Dignity and Immortality*
- *Proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ*
- *Modeling Compassionate Generosity*
- *Partnering with the Church and Community*
- *Serving with Integrity and Excellence*
- *Rejoicing in Lives Changed by God*

Each month the Mission publishes an urgent needs list which we will post in the church. If you do not wish to contribute with goods, you may donate money that may be placed in designated envelopes that are on the table in the sanctuary.



We need **140** stockings

WE ARE COLLECTING CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR THE ROCK HOUSE KIDS.

WE HAVE 60 STOCKINGS FROM LAST YEAR SO WE ONLY NEED 140 FOR THE 200 THAT IS NEEDED.

WE WILL DELIVER THE STOCKINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER.

A collection bin will be in the foyer beginning November 2.

Global Mission Secondary School

Today, I was blessed with the grace of sharing my testimony sermon at Flushing First United Methodist Church. Wearing a hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted by Elder Haemyung Lee, I felt as though God had especially prepared this moment.

From the Korean Choir in the 2nd service, to the praise team in the 3rd service, and even the English service praise team—the songs offered before the sermon filled my soul with joy and gratitude. As I preached, I laughed and cried, sharing stories of mission in Tanzania. In particular, I testified to the Way Maker God who has been at work in the process of building GMSS Middle School and in the growth of our students.

Flushing First Church was the very church that, back in 2017, gave a seed offering when I first came to New York with the vision of GMSS Middle School. Amazingly, in 2025, as I shared the vision for GMSS High School, the church once again offered a seed gift of faith. Hallelujah!

In the future, as doors open through universities in Korea and the U.S., and institutions like Africa University established by the UMC in Africa, graduates of GMSS High School will be able to cross borders with scholarships to pursue higher studies. Equipped with their professions and living “For Christ and His Kingdom,” they will go on to serve both Tanzania and the world.

When I look at myself, and when I look at the history of Korea today, I see hope—and above all, my heart is filled with gratitude.

During my student years in USA, I often heard Pastor Dongho Kim at the KOSTA conference say, “Study, not for yourself, but to give to others.” That word still lingers deeply in my heart. Just as Korea in the 1960s and 70s reminds me of Tanzania today, I dream of our students growing up to live lives of “studying to give to others”—becoming disciples of Jesus and global leaders who shine as a light that does not fade, and live as salt that never loses its flavor.

Lord, even the thought of this fills my heart with joy and overflowing happiness.

Young Seon (Christina) Kim

Update: I JUST HEARD FROM pastor Kim. She was in New York; then Texas and then in Schaumburg. She has learned that the conference will designate her project for the 2026 Bishop’s Special Appeal. The high school represents the final stage in her work in Tanzania. What an incredible journey!

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



Young Seon (Christina) Kim wearing the traditional Korean hanbok made from Tanzanian fabric gifted to her by Elder Haemyung Lee.

“If we are going to wait until every possible hindrance has been removed before we do a work for the Lord, we will never attempt to do anything.”

– T.J. Bach, 1881-1963, Missionary to Venezuela



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 am Scout Clean Up Day 9:00 am GA
2 10:00 am Worship <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 	3 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	5 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	6 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	7	8 9:00 am GA 11:00 am <i>Veterans Day Service @ Baumann Park</i>
9 10:00 am Worship	10 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 6:00 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB <i>Veterans Day</i> THANK YOU VETERANS 	12 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	13 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	14	15 9:00 am GA
16 10:00 am Worship	17 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	18 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	19 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 2:00 pm Choir Practice	20 6:00 pm <i>Annual Church Conference</i>	21	22 9:00 am GA
23 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am <i>Hanging of the C</i> 	24 6:00 Scouts BSAG 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	25 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	26 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Practice	27 <i>Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed</i> 	28 <i>Thanksgiving Holiday Church Office Closed</i>	29 9:00 am GA
30 10:00 am Worship <i>Advent Hope</i> 						

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

Give Thanks



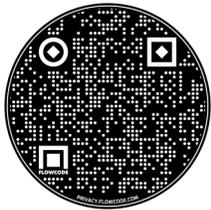
Cherry Valley United Methodist
Upcoming Events

November 20
6:00 p.m.
Annual Church Conference

November 23
11 a.m.
Hanging of the Greens



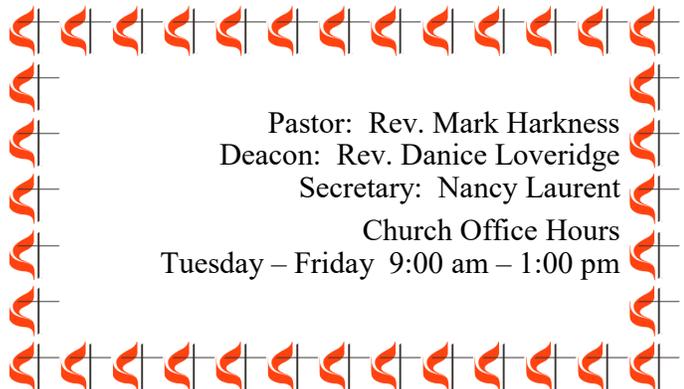
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
112 South Cherry Street, P.O. Box 235
Cherry Valley, Illinois 61016



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