

THE MESSENGER

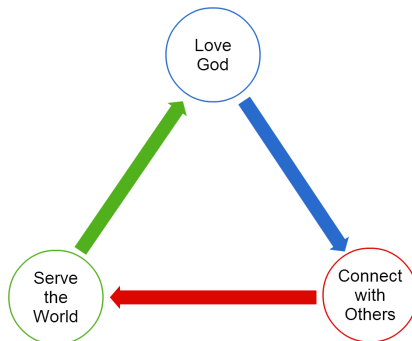
Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

August 2026

Rev. Alex Lee, Pastor
Pastor's Cell: 520-450-0899
Pastor's E-mail: qq4ever@gmail.com

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

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ!

It was great to see many of you face to face on the first Sunday of July. Any gathering, including Sunday, is an opportunity to experience the grace of God provided freely. We experience joy as we sing together and break bread together. In the presence of our Lord, we are being renewed to continue the journey of faith in spreading the love of God to our community and beyond.

My family and I are grateful for your warm welcome and the work that was done at the parsonage. We finished opening all the boxes, and there are still a couple of items I can't find. Maybe I lost them forever. It's my duty to be a good steward of the housing I am provided with. I do not take the role of maintaining the abode lightly. It's a great place for my family, and I thank all of you for your care.

I had a blast with many of the church family during the third week of July hosting the VBS for all the kids in our community. We had a great turnout, and we couldn't be happier to see all the kids singing, dancing, playing games, and learning about the love of God. We are spreading the message of hope; to tell them that there is someone who loves you is a message that all of us need to hear. I want to thank all of you who prepared, planned, and helped to make this a success. I'm hoping that we can continue to impact the community by showing them that God is making a difference today.

Summer comes and goes; before you know it, all your summer fun becomes memories. Speaking of, August signals the beginning of a new school year. We want to bless all the students on Sunday, August 9. Have your kids bring their backpacks to kickstart another school year with the grace of God.

(Continued on page 2)

In this issue

Christmas Shoe Box.....	Page 2
Prairie North Conf.....	Page 2
Dates to Remember	Page 2
Prayers for Friends	Page 2
Finance Report.....	Page 2
Pay Pal Donation.....	Page 2
Scripture Readings	Page 3
Craft Fair	Page 3
VBS.....	Page 3
Pastor's Schedule.....	Page 3
Prayer Shawl.....	Page 3
Women's Bible Study.....	Page 4
Choir	Page 3
Birthday/Anniversary	Page 4
Global Missionary.....	Page 4
Greeter/Liturgist.....	Page 4
Congregational News....	Page 5
Rockford Rescue	Page 5
VBS Pictures.....	Page 5
VBS Pictures.....	Page 6
August Calendar.....	Page 7



In thy presence is fullness of joy,
at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.
Psalm 16:11

(Continued from page 1)

I briefly mentioned last month's letter, and it might have been overlooked. I want to hear from you about what we can do for our church and the community of Cherry Valley. I'm all ears, and you can talk to me about your expectations and plans as we move forward. My office is open and you can reach out to me to discuss any matter regarding the church.

Have a great rest of summer. See you at church.

Blessings,

Pastor Alex Lee

Pastor Alex Lee

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox



We have begun our annual participation in the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry.

Our focus at this time is on school supply items that are currently on sale all over the area in most stores. We need pens, pencils, blunt end

scissors, crayons, colored pencils, markers and journals. If we start collecting now, we will be able to collect season appropriate items as we approach the send date in November. If you need further information, please speak with Terri Burritt or email her at burritt5@hotmail.com

Visit the website at sumaratinspurse.org to learn more about Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry.

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

*August 8.....9:am-3:30 pm Retreat Our Saviors
Schaumburg*
August 9.....10:00 am Blessing of the Students
August 11.....6:00 pm Administrative Council
August 26.....2:00 pm Choir Rehearsals begin

*Lord please
hear my
prayer*



Members & Friends

Dwight Banks
Glenn Carnine
Pat Gorsuch
Trudy Hunt
Herman Krunfus
Charlie Schnuckel
Dana Ward

Military Personnel

Sean Conderman
Dan Harter
Wesley Harter

Mission

Pastor Kim & the Next
Generation Ministry

Those Who Mourn



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.

Finance Committee Report

Financial Report for June

Total Revenue	\$16,522.80
Total Expenditures	17,218.65
Net Revenue	- 695.85

Total Revenue includes \$5,350 given to Parsonage Appeal. Total given to Parsonage Appeal is \$11,780.00.

We thank you for your response to all the extra expenses we have had over the past year. The Administrative Board will be sending information on all the extra projects we have completed over the last year and projects we need to complete in the future.



Donate with **PayPal**



Scripture Readings

August 2—10th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Proverbs 3:3-4
1 John 4:20

Message: "Loving Others"

The following readings are from the lectionary

August 9—11th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Genesis 37:1-412-28; Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

August 16—12th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Psalm 133
Genesis 45:1-15; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:(10-20),21-28

August 23—13th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Psalm 124
Exodus 1:8-2:10; Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

August 30—14th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26
Exodus 3:1-15; Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28



Indoor Vendor & Craft Fair

Saturday, August 15, 2026

10 am - 1 pm (set up 9am)



Cherry Valley UMC

112 S. Cherry, Cherry Valley, IL

Reserve your 8'x8' accessible air conditioned space today for \$25

Contact Yolanda Beets

ybeets@comcast.net or 815-742-2138

Pastor Alex's Office Hours:

Wednesdays-9:30- noon

Thursdays-9:30-noon

Monday & Tuesday

Work from home

Friday is day off



Pastor Alex will still be

available for calls on days when not in the office.



Pastor Alex's Cell
520-450-0899

Prayer Shawl Group



The Prayer Shawl Group will resume their regular Wednesday morning gatherings on September 16th at 10:00 am.

For information about this group and for the name and address of the next host of the meeting, contact Lucy Powell. Telephone or text 815-904-9462 or email Lucy at lpowell530@yahoo.com.

Monday Evening Women's Bible Study

The Monday Evening Women's Bible study meet on Mondays at 6:30 pm. The next meeting is September 14th at 6:30 pm.

Women interested in this group may contact Lucy Powell at 815-904-9462 or email her at lpowell530@yahoo.com.

All women are welcome.



Choir



The Choir will begin rehearsals on August 26th at 2:00 pm. If you are interested in joining the choir, please see Choir Director, Nola Carnine. The first performance of the choir for the season will be on September 13th.

VBS 2026

This year we had a fantastic turnout for Hey Day Vacation Bible School! We are so grateful for the chance to be able to provide this program to the many children of our community. Thank you to all who helped make it possible! Check out the pictures on page 5 and 6 to see what a fun time it was.

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

7 Zachery Dienberg
9 Susan Layng
Karlene Brown
12 Barbara Anderson
18 Sally Lawton
Terri Burritt
Sean Conderman
20 Jennifer Dienberg
25 Kameron Taylor
26 Charlie Schnuckel
29 Leilani Roselyn Taylor

ANNIVERSARIES

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



2026-2027 NIC/GCORR CRCC Cohort

Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural Cohort Sponsored by the Northern Illinois Conference and the General Commission on Religion and Race

COHORT SCHEDULE:

Opening Retreat:

Identity, Self-Care and the Art of Theological Reflection

Sat. 8/8/2026, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.,
Our Saviour's UMC in Schaumburg (Clergy & 2-3 Church leaders)
Strengthen awareness of personal and cultural identity as CRCC clergy and practice theological reflection as a tool for belonging and resilience in CRCC ministry.

Session 1: Leading Self

Tues. 9/8/2026, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Journey of Hope UMC in Elgin (Clergy only)
Trauma informed leadership, practices to sustain wellbeing, cultivate emotional intelligence as a pastoral leadership skill.

Session 2: Leading Others

Tues. 10/20/2026, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Journey of Hope UMC in Elgin (Clergy only)
Apply adaptive leadership principles to CRCC ministry challenges that require experimentation, curiosity, and courage.

World Celebrations of Christmas

Sat. 12/5/2026, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.,
Journey of Hope UMC in Elgin (Clergy & 2-3 Church leaders)
Explore global expressions of Christmas and how they enrich the church's incarnational ministry.

Session 3: Leading Systems: Recognizing Conflict

Tues. 1/5/2027, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Journey of Hope UMC in Elgin (Clergy only)
Recognize how systems (congregations, conferences, cultures) shape expectations, conflict and pastoral authority.

Session 4: Leading Systems: Disruption & Repair

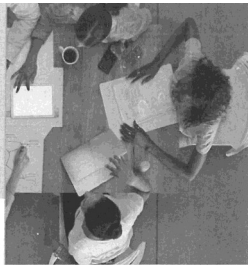
Tues. 2/23/2027, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Journey of Hope UMC in Elgin (Clergy only)
Understand the role of disruption as a faithful and necessary leadership practice in confronting inequity, bias, and harm.

Session 5: Leading with Hope

Tues. 4/13/2027, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Journey of Hope UMC in Elgin (Clergy only)
Reclaim hope as a theological, emotional, and communal resource for long-term ministry in CRCC contexts.

Closing Retreat - Lessons for the journey ahead.

Sat. 5/22/2027, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Our Saviour's UMC in Schaumburg (Clergy & 2-3 Church leaders)



PURPOSE:

The cohort exists to strengthen adaptive leadership of Cross-Racial/Cross-cultural (CRCC) clergy in the Northern Illinois Conference by affirming belonging, creating space for theological reflection and navigating cultural awareness and healing. Through a trauma-informed and formational learning environment, the cohort supports CRCC clergy in integrating their lived experience, cultural identity, and theological vocation, fostering both personal healing and sustained leadership in CRCC ministry settings.

AUDIENCE:

This NIC CRCC cohort program is being developed to serve three distinct groups, recognizing their differing developmental needs and ministry realities:

1. CRCC pastors with 1-3 years of a cross-racial or cross-cultural pastoral experience who navigate the initial transition, identity negotiation, congregational dynamics, and establishment of pastoral authority in a new cultural context.
2. CRCC pastors who have served 3-8 years in cross-racial or cross-cultural ministry settings with tools for institutional navigation and continued growth in adaptive and transformative leadership.
3. CRCC pastors with 9+ years experience who are navigating long-term sustainability and leadership maturation.

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

2026-2027 NIC/GCORR CRCC

The Northern Illinois Conference and the General Commission on Race and Religion (NIC/GCORR) has scheduled retreats to strengthen leadership through a learning environment of cross cultural clergy who are navigating cultural awareness and healing.

About 40 percent of Northern Illinois Conference appointments are cross-cultural/cross-racial; that is, the pastor serves a congregation consisting mostly of people of a different cultural or racial group. Though the NIC is a diverse conference, not all of its churches and communities are prepared to receive a pastor of another culture or race. Several clergy serving these churches face challenging times in ministry.

Pastor Alex will be attending the sessions throughout the rest of this year and encourages 2 –3 of the church leaders to attend the sessions that includes clergy and leaders.

The first session will be on **Saturday, August 8 at Our Saviors UMC in Schaumburg, 9 am—3:30 pm.** There are two other retreats that include church leaders and they are listed in the brochure here.

If you are interested in attending, please speak with Pastor Alex at the earliest convenience.

Questions?

Rev. Fabiola Grandon-Mayer,
NIC Director of Connectional Ministries
fgrandon-mayer@umcnic.org



RELIGION & RACE
The United Methodist Church



Northern Illinois Conference
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Speak to
Juanita
Barnes
about either
of these
ministries.

Be A Liturgist!



Congregational Care News

Check out the CVUMC complimentary CareNotes available 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.



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.

The core values of the Rockford Rescue Mission are :

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

- *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 the envelopes available on the table in the sanctuary.



Friday!!!



Dinner Time



Crafts



Music! Music! Music!



Story Time

2026 Class and Crew



August 2026

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
2 10:00 am Worship	3	4	5 1:00 pm Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	6	7	8 9:00 am GA
9 10:00 am Worship <i>Blessing of the Students</i>	10 6:00 Scouts BSAG	11 6:00 pm <i>Church Council</i> 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB <i>Boone County Fair Aug 11—Aug 16</i>	12 1:00 pm Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	13 6:30 pm Cub Scouts  <i>1st Day of School Rockford 205 School District</i>	14	15 9:00 am GA 10am—1pm <i>Vendor and Craft Fair</i> <i>815 Day in Cherry Valley Passport Challenge</i>
16 10:00 am Worship	17 6:00 Scouts BSAG	18 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	19 1:00 pm Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal <i>Winnebago County Fair Aug 19—Aug 23</i>	20 6:30 pm Cub Scouts  <i>1st Day of School Belvidere School District 100</i>	21	22 9:00 am GA
23 10:00 am Worship	24 6:00 Scouts BSAG	25 6:30 pm Scouts BSAB	26 1:00 pm Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	27 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	28	29 9:00 am GA
30 10:00 am Worship	31 6:00 Scouts BSAG					

Messenger items are due on the 15th of each month.

Enjoy
your
summer

*"...As soon as its twigs
get tender and its leaves
come out, you know
that summer is near"*

(Matthew 24:32, NIV)



Cherry Valley United Methodist Church
Upcoming Events

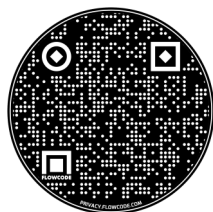
*August 8,
9:am-3:30 pm Retreat
@ Our Saviors in Schaumburg*

*August 26
6:00 pm
Church Council*

*August 26
2:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal begins*



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



let's
Worship
together

Sunday@ 10:00 am—In-person Worship
Live You Tube streaming at Cherry Valley
United Methodist Church.

Contact us:

Office phone: 815/332-5075

E-mail: churchinthevalley@comcast.net

Web Site: cherryvalleyumc.com

Facebook: Cherry Valley United Methodist Church

Pastor: Rev. Alex Lee
Deacon: Rev. Danice Loveridge
Secretary: Nancy Laurent

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