

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

March 2022

Vision

Statement

We are here to reflect God's glory in our congregation, in our world, and in our hearts.

Forgiven by Christ, we forgive. Accepted by God, we accept.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we equip, enable, and inspire God's household to servant leadership.



Disciplines for the Journey

This month we move into the season of Lent. Lent is a season of spiritual preparation that leads to Holy Week and Easter. Lent is forty days and forty nights that recalls Jesus's surrender and retreat into the desert. Whereas Easter rejoices in the resurrected Christ, Lent recalls the events leading up to his death at the hands of the Roman government.

I believe we need to take Lent seriously. Essentially, we cannot rightfully get to the joy of Easter without the self-sacrifice of Lent. As New Testament scholar N.T. Wright says, "Lent is a time for discipline, for confession, for honesty, not because God is mean or fault-finding, but because God wants us to know the joy of being cleaned out, ready for all the good things in store."

I think we do ourselves and others a favor when we engage in the spiritual disciplines this time of year. Spiritual disciplines are regular actions undertaken to aid in our personal development and cleaning out process. Spiritual disciplines were important to Jesus. They should be important to us too!

Now spiritual disciplines are numerous in variety and scope. Common disciplines are prayer, fasting, worship, journaling, and service. In Mark 1:35 we read, "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed." (NIV) Prayer was critical to Jesus. Also important were the other disciplines lifted up.

About these disciplines too, Jesus would say in Matthew 6:1, "Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness to be seen by others. If you do, you will have no reward in heaven." We are to do what we do in humility. We do not engage in the disciplines for show, but for our own benefit as disciples for Christ!

Might we take Lent seriously! This is an incredible journey that leads to the incredible joy of Easter! *Many blessings to each of you, Scott*

PLEASE NOTE that our masking policy has changed! **Masking is now optional**, according to the CDC and Linn County Public Health.

Calendar of Events (subject to change) — March 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Ash Wednesday 6 pm Pancake Supper 7 pm Ash Wednesday worship service	3	4	5
6 First Sunday in Lent 8:30 am In-person Worship 9:30 am Sunday Schl. 10:30 am In-person & Live-stream worship 4 pm Living Last Supper practice	7 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	8 9:30 am UMW Bible Study	9 9:30 am <i>Online Bible Study</i> 5:30 pm Family meal 6 pm KidsClub 6 pm Bible Study 6-7:15 pm Confirmation Class 6-7:15 pm Youth Grp. 7:15 pm Bell Choir	10 8 am Leadership Team (offsite) 11:30 am UMW mtg. (@ Matthew 25) 6-7 pm <i>Nourished</i> Thursday Centering (@ Groundswell Café)	11	12
13 Second Sunday in Lent 8:30 am In-person Worship 9:30 am Sunday Schl. 10:30 am In-person & Live-stream worship 4 pm LLS practice	14 Spring Break week 10 am Happy Endings 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	15 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 10 am-4 pm Iowa MMJ (fka JFON) Atty. office hrs	16 9:30 am <i>Online Bible Study</i> 6 pm Bible Study 7:15 pm Bell Choir	17 5:45 pm Trustees 6 pm Health & Wholeness	18 6-8 pm <i>Nourished</i> Fork n' Folk (@ 5765 Hamm Dr., Marion)	19 8:30 am Men's Breakfast Group
20 Third Sunday in Lent 8:30 am In-person Worship 9:30 am Sunday Schl. 10:30 am In-person & Live-stream worship 4 pm LLS practice 5-6:30 pm Youth Grp. (tour of New Pt)	21 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	22 9:30 am UMW Bible Study	23 9:30 am CCM 9:30 am <i>Online Bible Study</i> 5:30 pm Family meal 6 pm KidsClub 6 pm Bible Study 6-7:15 pm Confirmation Class 6-7:15 pm Youth Grp. 7:15 pm Bell Choir	24 6-7 pm <i>Nourished</i> Thursday Centering (@ Groundswell Café)	25 <i>Simpson College</i> Choir performing @ LLUMC	26
27 Fourth Sunday in Lent 8:30 am In-person Worship 9:30 am Sunday Schl. 10:30 am In-person & Live-stream worship 4 pm LLS practice 5-6:30 pm Youth Grp. (hiking @ Indian Crk. NC)	28 9 am Prayer Shawl 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	29 9:30 am UMW Bible Study	30 9:30 am <i>Online Bible Study</i> 5:30 pm Family meal 6 pm KidsClub 6 pm Bible Study 6-7:15 pm Confirmation Class 6-7:15 pm Youth Grp. 7:15 pm Bell Choir	31 6:30 pm <i>Nourished</i> Yoga (@ Groundswell Café)	CCM = Care Center Ministry CWM = Children's Weekday Ministries UMW = United Methodist Women	

Nourished: The Missional Campus of Lovely Lane—March Events:

Our Lenten series: "Sabbath as Resistance"

Thursday Centering, March 10th, 6 PM, at Groundswell Café (201 Third Ave SW)

Thursday Centering, March 24th, 6 PM, at Groundswell Café (201 Third Ave SW)

Opportunities for rest and renewal during Lent


Yoga with Leslie Neugebauer, March 31st, 6:30 PM, at Groundswell Café (201 Third Ave SW)

Bring your yoga mat if you have one!

Forest Bathing with Emmy Sautter, April 9th, 1 PM-3 PM, at Indian Creek Nature Center (More information and signups to come!)

Fork n' Folk: Friday, March 18th, 6 PM-8 PM, @ Marin and Justin Noska's house (5765 Hamm Dr., Marion); bring a dish to share & favorite instrument if you have one for an evening of good food & good music!

For more information about the Nourished Community, email Pastor Kristina at kristina@lovelylane.org

 [facebook.com/NourishedCR](https://www.facebook.com/NourishedCR)

SUNDAY WORSHIP IN MARCH

March 6: *First Sunday in Lent / Communion*—in-person @ 8:30, in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Luke 4:1-13 / Sermon: “Ordinary Lives Can Be Holy” *This begins the “Good Enough” preaching series.*

March 13: *Second Sunday in Lent*—in-person @ 8:30, in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Luke 13:31-35 / Sermon: “So Much is Out of Our Control”

March 20: *Third Sunday in Lent*—in-person @ 8:30, in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Kristina / Scripture: Luke 13:1-9 / Sermon: “Lots of Things Can Be Medicine”

March 27: *Fourth Sunday in Lent*—in-person @ 8:30, in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 / Sermon: “We Often Believe We are the Problem”

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: March 2nd, 7 PM

After enjoying a delicious Pancake Supper in the Fellowship Hall at 6 PM, please join us for a special Ash Wednesday service led by our confirmation class. Pastor Kristina’s sermon will be “Perfectionism is Impossible; Transformation Isn’t” (based on Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21).

Pastor’s Study Group

The Wednesday Groups continue at 9:30 AM on Zoom and 6:00 in the library. A new Lenten focus will start on March 23. All are welcome!

Nourished’s Lenten Series: Sabbath As Resistance

Our society's culture is one that pushes us to be successful, to climb the ladder to the top, and makes us believe that we are never good enough. Our work is never complete. There's always more we can be doing. When we've finished one project, society tells us we can't rest, but must start working on the next thing. And if we take any vacation or time for rest, then we're seen as lazy and incompetent. It's no wonder so much vacation time goes unused each year throughout this country. This is a huge problem to our mental, spiritual, physical, and emotional health. It's especially a problem for those living on the margins who are working multiple jobs and the idea of a vacation is far from their minds because they simply don't have time and can't afford it. We're overworked to the point of breakdown.

For this Lenten season, we are resisting the ways of society through Sabbath. Our conversations at Thursday Centering will center around the systemic injustice of no rest in a max out culture, identifying what Sabbath is and how we can rest, and feasting on the Sabbath together in community.

As we all need rest and renewal, we are offering multiple opportunities throughout this season. Mark your calendars:

*Yoga on Thursday, March 31st at 6:30pm at Groundswell Café (Bring your yoga mat if you have one!)

*Forest Therapy on Saturday, April 9th from 1pm-3pm, meeting at the Indian Creek Nature Center (More information to come and signups as space will be limited.)

Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper March 2, 6 PM

Free-will donation; proceeds go to the Youth for their Summer Service Trip



Gluten-free pancakes will be available.

7 PM Worship will follow supper!
Lovely Lane UMC

LIVING LAST SUPPER

Plans are in place to present the *Living Last Supper* in the sanctuary on April 10th and 14th. The production brings da Vinci's famous painting to life. Practices are on Sundays at 4 PM, starting on March 6th. Please let Pastor Scott know if you would like to participate!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next gathering is on Saturday, March 19th, at 8:30 AM. Art Staed, from the Iowa House of Representatives, will speak. Please join us (& bring a friend)!

HAPPY ENDINGS

Happy Endings, book discussion group, will meet on Monday, March 14th, at 10 AM in the church library. The book we will discuss is *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger. The book to read for April 11th is *Apples Never Fall* by Liane Moriarty. Come join us for good fellowship and lively discussion!

Youth Group: March Gatherings

- 3/2 Pancake Fundraiser—see above flyer
- 3/6 NO Youth Group (Ryan & Kristina out of town for a wedding)
- 3/9 TV Talks, 6-7 PM, after Kid's Club meal
- 3/13-3/19 NO Youth Group: Spring Break!
- 3/20 Tour at New Pioneer Food Co-op
- 3/23 TV Talks, 6-7 PM, after Kid's Club meal
- 3/27 Hiking at Indian Creek Nature Center
- For more information about Lovely Lane's youth group, please contact our youth leader, Ryan Roth-Klinck, at ryan@lovelylane.org.

KidsClub on Wednesdays

- KIDSClub begins every Wednesday with a family meal at 5:30 PM, followed by the program. Our theme this year is "Learning to Love Like God."
- There's a registration form to fill out on the church website (www.lovelylane.org). Please fill out the form completely (it's for KidsClub & Sunday Schl.). The SignUp Genius link is sent out weekly with the menu for the next Wednesday. We need weekly sign-ups so we know how many meals to prepare.
- Masks are required for the children, assistants, and for all attending. We are monitoring the CDC's recommendations as the year progresses.

Thank You Note

With the start of a new year, we can look back at the incredible things we were able to accomplish at the LGBTQ+ Center in the latter half of 2021 because of your support. The Center has become a powerful prevention program that helps many of the youth in our community feel safe, supported and loved. We are incredibly grateful to be your partner in bringing inspiration, empowerment and healing during this most difficult time for so many, and thank you sincerely for your support. *Tanager Place*

Think Spring!

March 20th is the first day of spring and it's not too early to start planning your garden and outdoor living space. For inspiration, plan to attend one (or more!) of the Linn County Master Gardener Library Talks currently taking place at local community libraries. Although you may have missed out on the February talks, there are two more months' worth of presentations to choose from. All presentations are from 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM, and you can click on this link for upcoming topics and locations – [Free Linn County Master Gardener Library Talks 2022 | Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Linn County \(iastate.edu\)](#).

"Essential advice for the gardener: *grow peas* of mind,
lettuce be thankful, *squash* selfishness, *turnip* to help thy neighbor,
and always make *thyme* for loved ones." *Author Unknown*

Health & Wholeness Committee

Simpson College Choir

The college choir will perform at Lovely Lane on Friday, March 25th. We are excited about this opportunity. Stay tuned for more information.

January Financial Totals

Cash inflow—mo. of Jan.	\$ 73,004
Cash inflow—YTD	\$ 73,004
Budget need/month	\$ 50,132
Cash outflow—mo. of Jan.	\$ 52,280
Cash outflow—YTD	\$ 52,280
Unpaid apportionments	\$ 0

**SAVE THE DATE FOR A BLOOD DRIVE
AT LOVELY LANE ON SAT., APRIL 9TH,
9 AM-12:30 PM, IN OUR PARKING LOT
(with the blood center's mobile unit).
Stay tuned for more information!!!!**

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



If the CR School District cancels classes due to inclement weather, LL church activities/events will also be canceled that day. You can call the church with specific questions. If Sunday AM worship is canceled, look for the notice that should be posted on KCRG-TV (ch. 9) and KGAN-TV (ch. 2).

We will also attempt to post a notice on our website when activities are canceled or postponed.

United Methodist Women News

LOVELY LANE UMW GENERAL MEETING

For our March meeting, we plan to meet **Thursday, March 10th, at 11:30 AM, at MATTHEW 25, 402 3rd Ave. S.W., CR.** We'll have lunch there at the Groundswell Café and learn a little about M25's current projects and programs, plus do some planning for our own future programs and projects. It's always a pleasure to eat at Groundswell Café and we invite you to join us! RSVP to Cheryl Murphy at 377-6205.

UMW TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We will again meet in person on Tuesday, March 8th, from 9:30-11:15 AM in Lovely Lane's Library. We'll begin by finishing up our study of Romans and then begin a study of Paul's letters to the Corinthians. If you're available on Tuesday mornings, we invite you to join us. We've decided to not only lug our mugs, but to fill them at home, so bring your coffee/tea/juice/water along.

Trinity Lane Preschool is Moving! We are excited to announce that our Children's Weekday Ministries' (CWM) mission preschool, Trinity Lane, will move to a new location for the 2022-23 school year. What started as an outreach preschool on the west side has become a well-respected preschool program known in our community for its quality programming and staff, and heart for working poor families. We provide many scholarships so that any child can attend our program. For the last 4 years we've been renting space in the old St. Ludmila's Elementary School that closed in 2019. We previously partnered with Trinity United Methodist Church on 3rd Ave. SW, but in 2019 they put their building up for sale and merged with St. James UMC. You know the saying of when one door closes, another one opens? That is exactly what happened. GOD had a plan for us to keep our program going. We needed to move out of Trinity UMC the same month St. Ludmila's Elementary shut their doors. It was a huge relief and blessing to find a new location. Literally weeks before we were to announce we were no longer going to be able to continue our program, we saw the article in the paper about the Catholic school closing and the rest is history. It was good to see 2 different denominations come together for the sake of the children in need in our community. However, with that said, St. Ludmila's is moving forward with future plans for their church. They are planning on tearing down the old school building and building a brand new Christian education center and gymnasium. So once again we started looking for a new location. Another door opened forming a new partnership with Asbury UMC. We feel so excited for this new opportunity to be back in a United Methodist church. Even though we are eternally thankful to St. Ludmila's for taking us in when we desperately needed a space, it is time for us to move on. Asbury UMC will allow us to form a full partnership in ministry vs. purely renting space. Some of you met trustees from Asbury during a recent Sunday service. They are excited to welcome this ministry into their building and be directly involved in helping us serve families on the SW side of Cedar Rapids. Starting this summer our preschool will be referenced as "Trinity Lane Preschool at Asbury." We will move over to our new location in June. There will only need to be minor construction done inside to have the rooms ready for DHS and the 65 children who will be attending in the fall. The big project will be building a playground, which we are in the process of applying for grants to support. We plan to have an open house early next fall. Asbury is located at 350 27th Ave SW, Cedar Rapids.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

Children's classes: Beginning March 6th, children will leave during 10:30 worship, after the Time for Young Disciples, and gather in the Fellowship Hall. Our theme is *Beginning to learn more about Jesus and our faith lives.*

Adult classes: Faith Issues meets in the Library and looks at contemporary topics and social issues. Myrna Loehrlein is the class leader; members alternate teaching. Faith Journeys is currently in a study on the book, "The Lord's Prayer," by Adam Hamilton. The Rev. Steve Pudinski leads this class that meets in Rm. 205 (1st room on the left in the education part of the bldg.). Both adult classes meet at 9:30 AM.

Concerns & Celebrations

JOYS:

- *Winter Olympics in Beijing, China
- *CR native, Timothy LeDuc, competing in the Olympics as first non-binary team USA athlete
- *Black History Month in February
- *Partnerships with neighboring schools, Kennedy & Pierce
- *Youth Group made tasty Super Bowl subs as a fundraiser for their summer service trip (raised \$700+)
- *Living Last Supper group coming together
- *Exploratory committee forming @ LL to assist families from Afghanistan
- *Valentine's Day celebrations
- *Children's Weekday Ministry new partnership with Asbury UMC
- *Happy Birthday to Tom DeVriese
- *Happy Anniversary to Alfred & Fatu Zigbuo
- *Alfred thanks God for a new day
- *Health & Wholeness Heart Healthy Brunch
- *Confirmation Class worshipped at St. George Orthodox Church
- *Sharon Kouba's great-great niece doing better with her health
- *Giving thanks for Regina Culbertson & Rollo in children's time in worship
- *February birthdays for LL staff members: Sue Moss & Eric Wylie
- *Jayne Woodson's son moving to CR to live & found a house to rent
- *Joy that the manager at Craft'd Coffee opened up the coffee shop after hours for Youth Group this week
- *Nourished's last series had highest no. in attendance each week & really good intentional conversation
- *Percentage of COVID numbers and hospitalizations going down in Linn County
- *New Matt 25 grocery store opening up end of March
- *First black woman to be nominated to the Supreme Court
- *Ahmaud Arbery trial came to a close with justice being served

Remembering with love:

Marge Thornton.....2018

Karmen Shedenhelm.....2020

CONCERNS:

- *Sympathy to the family of Kae Schmickley; her funeral was on 2/21 at Marion Methodist Church
- *Sympathy to the family of Kathy (Nicholas) Hall
- *Sympathy to Brian & Shelly Turner after passing of Shelly's mother
- *Chris Budny's Aunt Betty passed away; sympathy to the Budny family
- *Maggie & Curtis Thomas recovering from minor surgeries
- *Carol Wilson with health challenges
- *Iowa UMC Bishop, Laurie Haller, after a fall while running outside
- *Regina Culbertson's mom, Moana, after foot surgery
- *Virginia Weiland's sisters with Covid challenges
- *Frank & Susan Camp's sister-in-law, Georgia, waiting for organ donation
- *Eric Engelmann's friend's daughter with health concerns
- *Eric Engelmann & Frank Camp have a friend in Ukraine: Stakh Vozniak & family, Stakh Natalia, & Yama
- *Frank Howell, former Washington HS coach, with brain cancer
- *Fires at Geneva Towers - prayers for the residents displaced
- *Minneapolis community after the shooting of Amir Locke
- *Olympic athletes during competitions (with the whole world watching)
- *Border conflict with Russia & the Ukraine
- *Continued prayers for the situation in Ukraine, prayers for safety & protection
- *COVID-19 pandemic situation around the world

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SERVANT SIGN UP

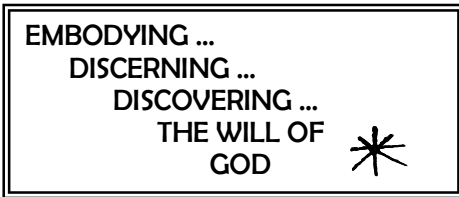
- Please visit our website (www.lovelylane.org) to sign up as a Worship Volunteer Servant: greeter, usher, and/or lector. You will find the sign up link for both the 8:30 and 10:30 AM service listed in the website under "Worship Servant Signup." Please check your calendar and choose a date(s) to serve in this important ministry!
- Thank you in advance for your participation!!



Lovely Lane
United Methodist Church

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2424 42nd Street NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Find out more about us:

Website: www.lovelylane.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc
Phone: 319-393-6674

Lovely Lane Staff

Lead Pastor.....Dr. Scott Meador
Associate Pastor.....Rev. Kristina Roth-Klinck
Sr. Office Manager.....Sue Moss
Office Manager.....Marti Bowman
Director Children’s Weekday Min.....Dawn DuPont
Kid’s Club Director.....Julie Meyer
Christian Educator..... Barb Geissinger
High School Youth Director.....Ryan Roth-Klinck
Organist.....Dennis Ramsey
Choir Director.....Nancy Patrick
Children’s Choirs.....Carla Jesse
Director of Handbells.....Charlie Kucera
Nursery.....Shelbie Wood, Tara Neveu,
& Paige Gerjets
Wedding Coordinator.....Becky Wood
Facilities Manager.....Curtis Thomas
Custodians.....Rex, Rhonda & Jessica Heasty
Audio/Visual Coordinator.....Eric Wylie
Treasurer.....Marcie Stumpf
Finance Secretary.....Patty Logsdon
Webmaster.....Shelly Turner