

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

August 2021

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.



New Beginnings

In 1978 Brian Wren wrote the hymn, "This Is a Day of New Beginnings." In the hymn we sing, "Christ is alive, and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new."

Wren wrote this hymn for a New Year's Day service in England. Wren says that while the New Year is an arbitrary convention, faith in the really new events of the Christian story can make any day or month a catalyst for transformation.

This hymn, found in our *United Methodist Hymnal*, speaks to the season of life we find ourselves in as the people of Lovely Lane United Methodist Church. We have spent the last seventeen months separated because of a global pandemic and building construction inside and outside our church building. We are now ready to come back together. In-person worship services resume on Sunday, August 1, at 10:30 am. We will also continue our live stream worship on our YouTube Channel. Starting September 12, we will move to two services at 8:30 and 10:30 am, with a Christian Education hour at 9:30 am.

As we return to in-person worship and life inside our church building, we gather as a people who have been impacted by the events of the last year and a half. To varying degrees, we come together with a different perspective on life. This is all understandable. As we return though, might we reconvene with a renewed energy to keep doing the ministry we are called to do!

I encourage each of you to recommit to our discipleship pathway, Worship + 2. We want to make worship a priority. We also want to participate in two groups in the church. One group should involve a focus on spiritual development and a second group should be service in nature.

Furthermore, we want to continue to have a strong focus on welcoming all people. At Lovely Lane, "all means all."

I look forward to seeing each of you soon. This is an exciting time!

Blessings to you, Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) — August 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Communion Sunday 10:30 am—In-person & Live-stream worship	2 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	3 10 am Coffee with Pastor Kristina	4 9:30 am & 7 pm— <i>Online Bible Study</i>	5	6	7 2-4 pm Sally Craig memorial service
8 10:30 am—In-person & Live-stream worship 12-6 pm Olivia Schneider graduation party 4-5 Youth Grp. outing	9 10 am Happy Endings 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	10 10 am Coffee with Pastor Kristina	11 9:30 am & 7 pm— <i>Online Bible Study</i>	12 6:30 pm Missions 7 pm <i>Nourished</i> worship @ Matt. 25 Urban Farm	13	14 9 am—12 noon BLOOD DRIVE
15 Blessing of Backpacks 10:30 am—In-person & Live-stream worship 7:30 PM "Come Out & Look Up" (@ Hope UCC)	16 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	17 10 am Coffee with Pastor Kristina	18 9:30 am & 7 pm— <i>Online Bible Study</i>	19 6 pm Health & Wholeness 7 pm Ad Council	20	21 1:30-3:30 pm Jack Sackett memorial service 4 pm Renovation Celebration set-up
22 All-Together Sunday / Ribbon-cutting Ceremony 10:30 am—In-person & Live-stream worship 4-5:30 Youth Grp. outing	23 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	24 10 am Coffee with Pastor Kristina 10 am—6 pm District interviews 7 pm Summer Book Club (w/ Pastor Kristina)	25 9:30 am & 7 pm— <i>Online Bible Study</i> 9:30 & 10:15 am CCM	26 6 pm <i>Nourished</i> worship @ Grounds-well	27	28
29 10:30 am—In-person & Live-stream worship	30 9 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	31		UMW = United Methodist Women CWM = Children's Weekday Ministries CCM = Care Center Ministry		

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

Thursday, August 12th, 7 pm—Fork n' Folk Worship at Matthew 25 Urban Farm (437 G Ave NW). Bring your lawn chair, a snack to share, and your favorite instrument if you have one for an evening of Fork n' Folk worship.

Thursday, August 26th, 6 pm—Thursday Centering at Groundswell Café (201 Third Ave SW). Worship at Matthew 25's Groundswell Café.

School Supply Drive benefiting Big Brothers Big Sisters—Nourished will be collecting school supplies to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters. School supplies can be dropped off at Lovely Lane Monday-Thursday 9 am-3 pm and Sunday mornings, OR at Matthew 25 (201 Third Ave SW) 10 am-2 pm Monday-Friday. School supplies must be dropped off by Tuesday, August 17th.

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

 facebook.com/nourishedCR

SUNDAY WORSHIP IN AUGUST

August 1: **Holy Communion**—in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-16 / Sermon: “Our Wonderful Family”

August 8: **11th Sunday after Pentecost**—in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Ephesians 4:25-5:2 / Sermon: “Our New Life Together”

August 15: **12th Sunday after Pentecost**—in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Kristina / Scripture: Ephesians 5:15-20 / Sermon: “Wisdom By Way of the Spirit”

August 22: **All Together Again Sunday**—in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Matthew 22:34-40 / Sermon: “A Crazy Little Thing Called Love”

August 29: **14th Sunday after Pentecost**—in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: James 1:17-27 / Sermon: “Life Lessons”

Summer Book Club with Pastor Kristina

August: *The Hate You Give* by Angie Thomas

Order the book from Amazon, your local bookstore, or wherever you purchase books, read throughout the month, and join me for conversation and discussion!

NEW August Discussion Date:

Tuesday, August 24th, 7 PM, @ Lovely Lane UMC

Email Pastor Kristina at kristina@lovelylane.org if you have any questions!

Zoom Study Groups with Pastor Scott

Zoom Study Groups with Pastor Scott continue this month on Wednesdays at 9:30 AM and 7 PM. The focus is the book *Nine Essential Things I've Learned about Life* by Rabbi Harold S. Kushner. Books are still available in the church office for \$10 each. All are welcome! It's a great book!!

Just a few weeks ago, I received a text message from my dad which read, “Welcome to the world, dear child of wisdom, beloved child of God, baby Sophia!” My sister had given birth to their baby girl Sophia Jo, my niece, my parent’s first grandbaby, on July 10th at 6:31 AM. We were all thrilled to finally get to meet her, shower her with kisses and cuddles, and tell her she is deeply, so deeply loved.

After receiving so many pictures and videos these past few weeks, I was thrilled to be able to drive down to their home in Arkansas to visit and meet my sweet new niece. I grew emotional as I held her in my arms, and she so lovingly grasped onto my fingers. It seems that holding a newborn baby is one of the most peaceful things. We read books in the nursery about women and dreamers persisting in society and gazed into each other’s eyes. Proud Mom and Dad even got to go on a date while I, a proud Aunt, took care of baby Sophia.

As I gazed down at her while she slept in my arms, I was reminded of Psalm 139, the text of my first sermon here at Lovely Lane over a year ago. Psalm 139 is about an inescapable God, a peaceful watchful presence as a mother watches a new-born baby sleep soundly. God knit little sweet Sophia together, and she is wonderfully made. This was a sweet reminder of God’s comforting presence. God knows us better than we know ourselves. God knows when we sit and stand up. God knows where we’re going and what we’ll say before we say it. God surrounds us, putting God’s comforting hand on our shoulder. God is always near, and God names that we are wonderful and beautiful as we are.

This Psalm is one we can come back to whenever we’re discouraged or down about who we are. It’s a text we can return to time and time again when we are overwhelmed by the mean nasties (as Brené Brown calls them), the voices in our head that tell us we’re never good enough and will never amount to anything. God very carefully knit us together and calls us good, exactly as we are, flaws and all. That is something to be thankful for!

May you feel God’s peaceful watchful presence upon you! *Pastor Kristina*



Backpack Blessing

Our Backpack Blessing will take place during the 10:30 AM in-person worship on Sunday, Aug. 15th.

We will have a gift for the children during worship, so if you cannot be there in person, please E-mail Pastor Kristina to arrange an alternative pick-up (kristina@lovelylane.org).



Fall Women's Retreat: "Strong and Courageous"

October 2, 2021

@ Lovely Lane UMC

Sign-Ups coming soon!



We're excited to announce our Guest Speaker, Lindsay Leahy. Lindsay is a proud wife, daughter, auntie, and friend, as well as a Jesus lover, hugger, dreamer, lifelong learner, and author of the blog *Grit, Gratitude, and Grace*. She is the founder of The Restoration Project, a company that coaches individuals and consults organizations to live, lead, and work in an integrated, meaningful way. Lindsay's personal adversity story coupled with her experience in sales, leadership and business strategy are the foundation of her reflective, inspirational, and disciplined style. Her vision is to create a world that is caring enough to accept what is, and courageous enough to chase what could be by building connection, restoring intention, and inspiring action.

Come Out & Look Up
Sunday, August 15th, 7:30 PM
Hope UCC Parking Lot
150 9th Ave., Hiawatha

Since it was canceled due to weather during VBS this year, NASA Ambassador Mark Brown will return to Hope United Church of Christ to present a short program about the summer night sky, and then offer a chance to view some of the heavenly bodies through his own telescope that will be set-up in the parking lot that evening.

This event is for all ages, regardless if you signed up for VBS or not. All are welcome!

Bring your lawn chair, your bug repellent, and your curiosity as we take this opportunity to come out and look up in the night skies to discover the wonders of the moon, the stars, and beyond.

CARD SHOWER FOR HARRY (HANK) WIDMER

You are invited to send a birthday card to Harry
for his birthday on Aug. 24th, to his address:
105 Bluebell Ct., Lexington, SC 29072.
Let's SHOWER him with love!!

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CHURCH DIRECTORY CHANGES:

Janell Smiley
6325 Rockwell Dr. NE
Apt. 115
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
(is different apartment no.)

Marge Morris
Room 17 (still at The Villages)

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THANK-YOU'S

Words cannot truly express the impact you are making, but it is important that you know you have played an integral part in our success. Because of you, Waypoint is able to transform lives and provide positive outcomes for over 7,500 people each year. Your compassion fills us with hope for a brighter future and a stronger community. Thank you again for believing in Waypoint and providing hope to those who need it most.

(Donation from LL was in the amount of \$3,503.75)

The dear people you just helped with your gift (\$248.17) to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be - ***Thank you!*** Since 1940, UMCOR has served as the humanitarian agency of The United Methodist Church, providing disaster response and relief to areas impacted by natural and man-made disasters around the world. And thru your financial support, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships as UMCOR responds to increasingly-frequent and destructive storms—sharing 100% of donated funds with those in need! Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate genuine love for our neighbors.

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The Roller Coaster Season

Although I haven't wanted to get on a roller coaster for decades, I feel like I'm on one a lot of the time. With the availability of the Covid vaccine, I felt the exhilaration of making it up a steep climb, followed by a terrifying drop and then the thankfulness of riding it out without "losing it." With the spread of the latest strain and the low numbers of vaccinations, I've got that old lurching stomach, can't breathe, dread again. I can't tell you how reassuring it is to hear our ministers remind us that with God, all things are possible and a constant throughout time is HOPE. Thank you Pastor Scott and Pastor Kristina for holding our hands on this roller coaster. *From your Lovely Lane Health & Wholeness Committee*

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BLOOD DRIVE

BLOODCENTER.ORG

Lovely Lane United Methodist Church Blood Drive

Saturday, August 14th

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

MVRBC Donor Bus – Parking Lot

Sign up online at www.bloodcenter.org or scan the code below.
You may also contact Sue Moss at suem@lovelyLane.org or Lisa
Taylor at lisataylor52402@gmail.com

MASKS AND APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED.



**DONORS GET THEIR CHOICE OF
A PERFORMANCE PULLOVER
OR GIFT CARD!**

Please eat and hydrate before donating



ImpactLife

Summer Youth Group Events for August

Sunday, August 8th, 4pm-5pm: Parlor City Ice Cream. Meet at the church,
and we'll walk to Parlor City.

Sunday, August 22nd, 4pm-5:30pm: Mini-Golfing at Twin Pine's Golf Course.
Meet at Twin Pine's: 3800 42nd Street NE, Cedar Rapids

Coffee and Conversation with Pastor Kristina



August is the last month for the summer's

"Coffee and Conversation with Pastor Kristina" on **Tuesdays at 10 AM.**

Coffee will be provided, and the meeting will be in the church library.

Dates for August: Aug. 3, 10, 17 & 24

Concerns & Celebrations

JOYS:

- *Wedding congratulations for Carissa Serbousek & Chris Prevenas
- *Congratulations to Patrick & Katrina Mahoney on the birth of Jack Thomas Mahoney
- *Retirement congratulations for Tod Serbousek
- *Kristina & Ryan Roth-Klinck becoming aunt & uncle to niece, Sophia
- *Rob & Nick Olive with a trip to California
- *4th of July celebrations; summer travel & vacation time
- *Vacation Bible School held (at Hope UCC)
- *Summer weather & travel opportunities
- *Outdoor worship service on the lawn
- *Church Open House; return to renovated church building & sanctuary
- *Special offering to purchase school supplies for Pierce & Kennedy students
- *Successful youth work week, local mission projects completed
- *Recent work day at the church
- *Kernels baseball game; money raised for local missions
- *Faithfulness in financial offerings & gifts to the church

HAPPY ENDINGS



Happy Endings, the book discussion group, will meet August 9th at 10 AM in the church library. The book we will discuss is *The Kitchen Front* by Jennifer Ryan. Cheryl Murphy will lead the discussion.

The September 13th meeting/program will be a discussion by the group members about books we have read during the time that we couldn't meet. At that time, we will decide what books we want to read for the next few months. Anyone is welcome to join us at either meeting!

Please call Nancy Miller (393-6340) with any questions.

Remembering with love:

Chris Burr.....2015

Alice Tiffin.....2016

Lloyd Peterson.....2019

Dean Lanning.....2020

CONCERNS:

- *Sympathy to Gerry Stolba & family following Lou's passing; his service was on 7/6
- *Sympathy to Bev Kadlec & family following Gene's passing; his service was on 7/17
- *Sympathy to Donna Mooney & family following the passing of Steve; his service was on 7/29
- *Sympathy to Susan Ovel & family following the passing of Steve Ovel
- *Curtis & Maggie Thomas's friend's son passed - Andrew, 24 years old
- *Dawn Nylin after hospitalization; back at Meth-Wick
- *Regina Culbertson following foot procedure
- *Sue Moss with mild pneumonia
- *Karon Niebuhr's brother, Brian Goodhall, is in hospice; he has COPD & lung cancer
- *Jan Robinson's sister, Cheri, with health concerns & family move to come
- *Barb Geissinger's son, Brett, following Achilles heel surgery
- *Jeff & Pat Swartzendruber's daughter, Jennifer, with a medical procedure
- *Karlene Nesslage's mother, Carol, with procedure at the Mayo Clinic
- *Michele Haines' father w/medical procedure & her stepfather w/health concerns
- *Lisa Taylor's friend, Heather, having surgery
- *Leisa Rosche's friend, Kathy, with health concerns
- *IL church camp with many children facing COVID
- *Community of Surfside, FL, after building collapse
- *Brown County, Illinois, with storm damage
- *National & international concerns
- *Flooding in Germany & western Europe
- *Pandemic concerns, vaccine distribution efforts, & struggles to return to normalcy
- *Summer travel on the highways

Cedar Rapids HOPEwalk

**A walk of Support / A walk of Remembrance /
A walk for Suicide Awareness & Prevention
Sat., Sept. 18, @ Cherry Hill Park/Pavilion
Pre-register at hopewalk-cr.com
or register the day of the walk**

Join in the 8th annual CR HOPEwalk! Check-in begins at 8:30 AM; opening presentation is at 9:30, followed by a One Lap Walk.

June Financial Totals

Cash inflow—mo. June	\$ 35,004
Cash inflow—YTD	\$143,339
Budget need/month	\$ 45,253
Cash outflow—mo. of June	\$ 34,275
Cash outflow—YTD	\$228,891
Unpaid apportionments	\$ 0



Lovely Lane
United Methodist Church

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2424 42nd Street NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

EMBODYING ...
DISCERNING ...
DISCOVERING ...
THE WILL OF
GOD



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
Building Project Manager.....Amber Mulnik
Director Children's Weekday Min.....Dawn DuPont
Kid's Club Director.....Julie Meyer
Christian Educator..... Barb Geissinger
High School Youth Director.....Ryan Roth-Klinck
Choir Director.....K. Weiler
Organist.....Dennis Ramsey
Children's Choirs.....Carla Jesse
Director of Handbells.....Charlie Kucera
Nursery.....Shelbie Wood, Tara Neveu,
& Paige Gerjets
Wedding Coordinator.....Becky Wood
Custodians.....Rex, Rhonda & Jessica Heasty
Audio/Visual Coordinator.....Eric Wylie
Treasurer.....Marcie Stumpf
Finance Secretary.....Patty Logsdon
Webmaster.....Shelly Turner