

# Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

February 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.



## The Bible in Twelve Words

Several years ago I attended a continuing education event at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Orlando, Florida. One of the highlights of the event was a presentation from the church's lead pastor, the Rev. Bill Barnes, on "The Bible in Twelve Words." I have thought about his presentation over the years, but I had trouble finding my notes. With the current construction project at Lovely Lane, I have been moving items around in my office. With all this activity, I found my notes. I would like to share my learnings.

For Rev. Barnes, the Bible is a "progressive revelation of the nature of God as understood by a particular people" (the Jewish people and those who would identify as Christians). For him, words help people see a progression in Jewish tradition, history, and custom, that culminates in the life and teachings of Jesus.

For Rev. Barnes, the Twelve Words and Themes are . . .

**Creation** – the book of Genesis starts with two creation stories

**Relation** – the "Fall" and God's relationship with the Hebrew people

**Liberation** – the book of Exodus addresses the liberation of the Hebrews

**Formation** – the latter part of Exodus and the Torah bring holy structure

**Confederation** – Joshua, Judges, and Ruth address God's providence

**Accommodation** – like its neighbors, Israel insists on a king

**Deportation** – the nations of Israel and Judah are defeated and annexed

**Restoration** – the Israelites return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple

**Sensation** – Psalms, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes come from the heart

**Salvation** – the Good News – the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus

**Evangelization** – Acts and the Letters of Paul spread the church

**New Creation** – Revelation encourages believers in the First Century world

I hope some of this is helpful for you. I encourage you to turn to the Scriptures for inspiration. This is always a good discipline as we head into the Lenten season this month!

Blessings to you! Scott

*Calendar of Events (subject to change) — February 2021*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> 1-3 pm —Financial Secretary 7 pm—Virtual Women's Study	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:30 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study 6-7:15 pm Con- firmation via Zoom	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7 Communion Sunday / Super-bowl Fundraiser</b> 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person) 1 pm Youth prepare subs & soup 2:30-3:30 pm—Pickup of subs & soup 5-6:15 pm—Combined youth group (Zoom)	<b>8</b> 1-3 pm —Financial Secretary 7 pm—Virtual Women's Study	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:30 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study 6-7:15 pm Con- firmation via Zoom	<b>11</b> 9:30 am—UMW Zoom mtg.	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10 am-12 pm— Valentine's & Lent event
<b>14 Valentine's Day</b> 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person) 5-6:15 pm—Combined youth group (Zoom)	<b>15</b> 1-3 pm —Financial Secretary	<b>16</b>	<b>17 Ash Wednesday</b> 6 pm—Confirmation via Zoom 7 pm —Live-stream service only (no in-person)	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21 1st Sunday in Lent</b> 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person) 5-6:15 pm—Combined youth group (Zoom)	<b>22</b> 1-3 pm —Financial Secretary 7 pm—Virtual Women's Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:30 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28 2nd Sunday in Lent</b> 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person) 5-6:15 pm—Combined youth group (Zoom)			CCM = Care Center Ministry CWM = Children's Weekday Ministries JFON = Justice For Our Neighbors ILF = International Ladies Fellowship	UMW = United Methodist Women WOF = Women Of Faith WWW = Wednesday Women & The Word		

## Super Bowl Youth Fundraiser



The youth group is having a fundraiser for the Superbowl on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>! Please email Pastor Kristina by Weds., February 3<sup>rd</sup>, if you'd like to sign-up ([kristina@lovelylane.org](mailto:kristina@lovelylane.org)).

### SUB & SOUP COMBO

Soup Choices: Chili or Chicken Noodle  
Sub Choices: Ham, Turkey, or Roast Beef  
Provolone or Cheddar Cheese  
Includes Lettuce & Tomato

Suggested Donation: \$5-10 per combo

*Combos will be available for pickup at the church on Sunday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>,  
from 2:30pm-3:30pm! Get your tastebuds ready!!*

## SUNDAY ONLINE WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

(Jan. 31: **4th Sunday after Epiphany**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott with former Lovely Lane pastors assisting with worship / Scripture: Psalm 133 & Ephesians 4:1-16 / Sermon: "Our Church Family")

Feb. 7: **Holy Communion**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Rev. Beth Harbaugh, Women At The Well, will preach

Feb. 14: **Valentine's Day**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1-7, 13 / Sermon: "All We Need is Love"

Feb. 17: **Ash Wednesday**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 7 PM / Pastor Kristina will preach, with the Confirmation Class assisting with worship

Feb. 21: **1st Sunday in Lent**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Kristina / Scripture: Mark 9:14-29 / Sermon: "The Father and the Uncertainty of Faith", *Navigating Uncertainty*

Feb. 28: **2nd Sunday in Lent**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Matthew 18:21-35 / Sermon: "The Disciple and the Uncertainty of Faith", *Navigating Uncertainty*

## Sunday Worship at Lovely Lane

Worship services continue online thru February. We continue to follow guidance from Bishop Laurie Haller and the Linn Co. Public Health Dept. as we seek to be safe and well. Please join us on our YouTube Channel on Sundays at 10:30 am!

## Zoom Study with Pastor Scott

The Zoom Study Group with Pastor Scott is currently studying the book *Philippians* by Cynthia M. Campbell. A new study begins on Feb. 24th that will focus on the book *Embracing the Uncertain* by Magrey R. deVega. This study will follow the Lenten preaching series. All are welcome! Zoom sessions are Wednesdays at 9:30 AM and 7:00 PM.

**When I was younger**, my dad and I would garden together. It was something we liked to do. Each parsonage we had, we created a big garden in the backyard, where we'd grow watermelon, sweet corn, tomatoes, lettuce, and so much more. We enjoyed gardening together, but it didn't mean we knew a lot about soil maintenance and getting out pesky weeds. Often times, our garden looked more like a backyard jungle than a place to grow vegetables!

When I was in seminary, I had a garden plot at the church. I was able to get back into gardening again, and I learned so much from the master gardeners who tended the soil. Every spring, the soil was turned over, mixing up the rich nutrients in the soil, and I learned you shouldn't consistently plant the same seed in each spot. I even began to compost, knowing how rich compost soil is for the plants.

A few summers ago, my green beans yielded quite an abundance. I frequently gave away lbs. of green beans throughout the summer, until they no longer produced delicious pods. Fire ants had taken over the green beans, and they were slowly dying. While they still produced some green beans, I had to choose to remove what was dying to produce space for new life. In Texas, you actually had multiple growing seasons!

The season of Lent can be quite the place to reflect on our life as we wander in the wilderness for 40 days. As we think about the image of the garden, what in your life do you have to let go of in order for new life to take root? Throughout these 40 days of Lent, I pray it'll be a time to cultivate your soil, learning what nutrients you need to add and what you need to take away. May it be so!

Peace, Pastor Kristina

## LOVELY LANE UMC 2021 GOALS

(approved by Ad Council and shared during LL's 10/18/20 Charge Conference)

- 1) Remain a church focused on mission and outreach to others. We are in the midst of a pandemic and a building project. We don't want to lose focus on the need to lift up those around us. Emphasis needs to be placed on special offerings and outreach efforts. We plan at least 3 distinct outreach activities.
- 2) Address important social issues that need attention. The church needs to create settings in which matters like racism, white supremacy, LGBTQ acceptance, and the welcoming of refugees and immigrants can be talked about and learning and action can take place. Settings will include a preaching series and study groups with a call to action.
- 3) Continue to expand our W+2 Discipleship Pathway for all church members. We need to strive to reach out and expand our membership. Extra efforts should be placed on reaching youth, millennials, and young adults.
- 4) Continue to navigate the best path forward for our church through the continuing changes in the General Conference of The United Methodist Church.
- 5) Support our Congolese worshipping community on Sunday morning.

## 2021 Lenten Special Offering Recipients

Our Missions Committee has picked this year's recipients for our Lent Offering, to be highlighted on 4 upcoming Sundays, as follows:

**Matthew 25** is a local non-profit that exists to strengthen core neighborhoods on CR's west side. It partners with them to work in 3 program areas: Neighborhood Building, Youth Development and Cultivating Hope. Lovely Lane will partner with Matthew 25 again this year during Transform Week in late June. *(Feb. 21, Clint Twedt-Ball, speaker)*

**Mental Health Access Center** provides urgent, high quality crisis behavioral treatment for people 18+ years of age who are experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis in our community. It provides short-term assistance for individuals in crisis and then connects them to on-going recovery services. The goal is to reduce the number of unnecessary hospitalizations and arrests and create a healthier community. *(Feb. 28, Amy Guardado, speaker)*

**JFON** is a ministry of hospitality provided by the IA Annual Conference of the UMC. It provides legal services, advocates to bring change in immigration laws and public policy, and strives to educate immigrant communities to better understand their rights and the complex immigration process. *(March 7, Erin Foster, speaker)*

**Waypoint's Domestic Violence Victim Services Program** (DV Program) offers free, confidential services to domestic violence victims and survivors, as well as their families. It is Cedar Rapids' largest provider of shelter for women and families with children. It also offers child care and education for children ages six weeks to 12 years old daily. *(March 14, Autumn Craft, speaker)*

*You will be receiving a Lenten mailing in early to mid-Feb. that will contain a card for your use to give to any or all of these recipients. Thank you in advance for your generosity!!*

## UMW is Zooming forward!

Join us on Thursday, Feb. 11th, at 9:30 AM for our monthly meeting. We wish we could meet in person, but we will settle for seeing each other on a screen for now!

**Grab a cup of coffee and join us for a fun surprise that morning!** Be sure to let us know your email address (send to [cbrandsale@aol.com](mailto:cbrandsale@aol.com)) to receive the link to Zoom with us!

*See you on the 11th!* The UMW Executive Team

## It's daffodil time... and time is running out!



Once again Gems of Hope is selling daffodils and other items to support cancer patients and their families throughout the Corridor. We've had lots of slow downs and changes in the past year, but cancer didn't get the stay-at-home memo.

**Please consider placing an online order for daffodils by Monday, Feb. 8th, at [HopeBlooms2021.com](http://HopeBlooms2021.com).** Your daffodils will be ready for you to pick up at the Flowerama on First Ave. on March 10th.

*Have questions? Contact Cindy Sale 319-329-6118. Thanks!*

## ASH WEDNESDAY



You can pick up ashes for the livestream Ash Wednesday service at the Valentine's and Lenten event at the church on Saturday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, from 10 AM—12 PM.

Ashes will be available in the breezeway of the office doors from Monday-Wednesday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, during normal business hours.

If you cannot pick up ashes or need to make other arrangements, please contact Pastor Kristina at [kristina@lovelylane.org](mailto:kristina@lovelylane.org) to arrange to have them delivered or pick up at another time.

**Did you know** that Random Acts of Kindness Day is February 17th? Actually, the Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) Foundation (a small nonprofit that promotes kindness) has designated Feb. 14-20 as Random Acts of Kindness Week. According to their website "Scientific evidence shows us the positive effects of doing kind acts for others as well as receiving or even witnessing kindness. Even the smallest act of kindness can change a life." Check out their website ([randomactsofkindness.org](http://randomactsofkindness.org)) for suggestions of fun activities for the week as well as downloadable calendars, posters and coloring pages, inspirational quotes and stories that will put a smile on your face! *From H&W Committee*

**Valentine's & Lenten Pick-Up**  
**Saturday, Feb. 13th**  
**10 AM-12 PM at Lovely Lane UMC**

Stop by the church to pick up your Lenten devotional and ashes for Ash Wednesday,  
 along with hot chocolate/coffee, cookies, and a chance to make some Valentine's!

Please fill out the Google Form to give us an estimate on attendance:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScyopp7aGEkQNYBujFSJvt8PKSIIUW2X0p4txtp\\_VIRMmGyg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScyopp7aGEkQNYBujFSJvt8PKSIIUW2X0p4txtp_VIRMmGyg/viewform?usp=sf_link)



**WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY—NEW BOOK**

For Lent, the women's study with Pastor Kristina will be reading  
 Barbara Brown Taylor's *Learning To Walk In The Dark*.

Please reserve your book by Wednesday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, so the book order can be put in.  
 The study starts Monday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>, and continues on following Mondays at 7 PM on Zoom!

Email Pastor Kristina at [kristina@lovelylane.org](mailto:kristina@lovelylane.org) to learn more and to reserve your book.

**Thank-You Notes**

**Thank You:** I would like to thank my church family for helping my family celebrate the life of Delores "Jeannie" Kroack. Thank you for the many prayers, cards, food, calls and the memorials we received. During the last year, my sister spent most of her time in the hospital and care center; sadly, COVID-19 did not make it possible for us to visit her. The kindness and love you showed to me and my family will never be forgotten. May God bless you all. *Sharon Koubba*

**A Big Thank You** to our church family and friends for all the thoughts, prayers, cards and well wishes during Dave's cancer treatments. He finished the last infusion this week! We so appreciate all your love and support and feel so blessed to be part of Lovely Lane! Thank you so much!! *Dave & Linda Keefe*

**Thank You** for caring and for your prayers and gifts for people who come to the Ecumenical Community Center Foundation for help. May you find blessings of peace, joy, and good health in 2021! *Robin, ECCF*

**December Financial Totals**

Cash inflow—mo. of Dec.	\$ 96,908
Cash inflow—YTD	\$574,181
Budget need/month	\$ 46,202
Cash outflow—mo. of Dec.	\$ 35,071
Cash outflow—YTD	\$466,991
Unpaid apportionments	\$ 0

***Remembering with love:***

*Karen Warner.....2015*  
*Kay Rath.....2018*  
*Eddie Anderson, Jr.....2018*  
*Daniel Randall.....2019*

## Concerns & Celebrations

### **PRAYER CONCERNS:**

- \*Sympathy to Sharon Kouba & family on the passing of Sharon's sister
- \*Sympathy to Curtis Thomas's Aunt Naomi in Georgia on the death of her husband, James, & sympathy to the entire family
- \*Sympathy to Marti Bowman & her good friend, Chris; Chris's husband, Greg, passed this week
- \*Cynthia Haring requests prayers for the family of Sherry Pilarczyk on her death; she was Cynthia's long-time friend, & her family has experienced other recent family losses too
- \*Barb Olive recovering from Jan. 19 surgery
- \*Pastor Kristina's cousin, Merriellen, who is pregnant, with health concerns
- \*Prayers for Liz Briggman's brother with health concerns
- \*Waylon Stepp's mother & father in Arkansas; both have significant health concerns
- \*Susan Blum's brother & sister-in-law in PA with COVID
- \*Jeannie Chelikowsky's daughter, Marie, with health concerns
- \*Ben & Alisa Oliver's friend, Pam, hospitalized with serious health concerns
- \*Sarah Westergren's co-worker, Lisa, had her thyroid removed due to thyroid cancer but is undergoing tests because of possibility cancer has spread
- \*States hit hard with the coronavirus
- \*Local school systems returning to school activity
- \*Continued prayers for our country after the difficult & unsettling week of the insurrection; we pray for the injured & the families of those killed
- \*After the inauguration of our new President & a peaceful transfer of power, we pray for reconciliation within our country
- \*Those impacted by the plane crash in Indonesia
- \*Even as we're hope-filled with more people being vaccinated, we continue to pray for our world & for those who have lost or will lose beloved family and friends due to COVID-19
- \*For our country & its leaders, & for unity in the midst of so much division
- \*Those who have to travel during the winter storms; safety when we have to be on the roads

### **JOYS:**

- \*Happy New Year to everyone! New beginnings!
- \*Appreciation to outgoing committee chairs, Scott Hauser & Jeff Swartzendruber
- \*Thanks to all those serving on church committees
- \*Apportionments are paid in full to the Iowa Annual Conference for 2020
- \*Schools are back in session & we pray for a good restart which will continue to the end of the school year & the eventual end of the pandemic
- \*The renovations on our church building continue; the outside looks fabulous & inside work on the sanctuary is getting started
- \*Mild winter weather so far, & praying that travel conditions continue to be okay
- \*Dave & Maryann Ellis are recovering well from COVID
- \*Pastor Kristina's & Ryan's joy of getting a new puppy: an 8-wk.-old Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, who they named after Saint Macrina
- \*Kennedy students returning to in-person classes
- \*Appreciation for those still removing tree debris in our city
- \*People helping others in difficult times
- \*Remembering the important life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- \*The progress at the church building as we've moved into phase 1b of renovations
- \*Dave Keefe has completed chemotherapy; Dave & Linda thank everyone for prayers, cards, and well wishes
- \*Frontline workers helping others as the pandemic continues, & for continued vaccinations from COVID-19
- \*On Sunday, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>, former LL pastors will contribute to worship

### **Youth - Save the Date!!**

We are partnering with St. Paul's UMC youth to put on a service week for middle and high school youth, Mon., June 21, 2021 – Fri., June 25, 2021! We'll be doing various service opportunities and educational trips around the city, as well as a fun day at Lake McBride.  
*More details and signups to come!*





**Lovely Lane**  
United Methodist Church

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2424 42nd Street NE  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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



***Find out more about us:***

Website: [www.lovelylane.org](http://www.lovelylane.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc](http://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.....Vicki Cangemi  
Webmaster.....Shelly Turner

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