

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

January 2023

Vision **Statement**

"Lovely Lane is a dynamic faith community that seeks to welcome all people, nurture one another in the faith, and reach out in ministry and service." This vision connects with our Discipleship Pathway, Worship + 2. We encourage all persons to be active in worship and participate in two groups in the church: one group is focused on study and the other group is focused on service.

W
+
2

Making a Difference

Robert F. Kennedy once said, "The purpose of life is to contribute in some way to making things better." The calling is to make a difference. The message is the need to "be something, do something, and leave something."

The Apostle Paul was a wonderful example of this. Paul was a Pharisee, an interpreter of Jewish Law, and a Roman citizen. Paul was also a persecutor of Christians, but all that changed with his conversion experience.

Paul went on to become perhaps the greatest apostle to the Gentiles. Doing God's work, he was jailed, beaten, and stoned. Yet, he believed in his call. Paul started churches all around the Mediterranean Sea. Paul did something.

On top of this, Paul left something for the world. Paul wrote, or inspired, fourteen of the twenty-seven books in the New Testament. While in prison, he wrote about finding joy during trying times. In his own way, Paul brought out the message to "be something, do something, and leave something."

Consider another example of this message. Consider the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King was an evangelist and Civil Rights leader. He had strong academic credentials with degrees from Morehouse College and Boston University. He was the 1963 Time Magazine, "Man of the Year." Additionally, he was the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. Martin was somebody.

Beyond all that, Dr. King led the Montgomery Bus Boycott, organized the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and led the March on Washington. He taught people to believe in themselves. He did something.

Finally, Dr. King left something of significance. He left a legacy for hope in all situations. He left a book of sermons, letters from jail, and speeches that are studied today. Martin left something.

As we continually reflect on Paul in our church studies, might we take extra time to reflect on Dr. King too! As we celebrate his birthday this month, might we be inspired to make a difference ourselves.

Blessings in this New Year! Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) — January 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>New Year's Day</i> 9:30 am In-person Worship (one service only on this date; no Sunday School) 12-2 pm Congolese	2	3	4 9:30 am Zoom study 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kids Club 6 pm LL Youth Grp. 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Pastor's Study Group	5	6 5-7:30 pm Youth Co-op & Confirmation Grp. field trip (to Temple Judah)	7
8 8:30 am In-person Worship 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Sunday School for adults 10:30 am In-person & live-strm. worship 12-2 pm Congolese	9 10 am Happy Endings 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	10 9:30-11:15 am UWF Bible Study	11 9:30 am Zoom study 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kids Club 6 pm LL Youth Grp. 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Pastor's Study Group 7:15 pm Bell Choir	12 7:45 am Leadership Team (offsite) 1 pm UWF meeting/pledge service	13 6-8 pm <i>Nourished</i> New Year Potluck Gathering (@ Pastor K's)	14
15 8:30 am In-person Worship 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Sunday School for adults 10:30 am In-person & live-strm. worship 12-2 pm Congolese 7 pm-7am Youth Co-op: Lock-in (@ St. Paul's UMC)	16 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	17 9:30-11:15 am UWF Bible Study	18 9:30 am Zoom study 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kids Club 6 pm LL Youth Grp. 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Pastor's Study Group 7:15 pm Bell Choir	19 6 pm Health & Wholeness 7 pm Ad Council	20 12 noon Friendly Fellowship	21 8:30 am Men's Breakfast Grp.
22 8:30 am In-person Worship 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Sunday School for adults 10:30 am In-person & live-strm. worship 12-2 pm Congolese 2-5 pm Youth Co-op (D&D grp., board games)	23 9 am Prayer Shawl 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	24 9:30-11:15 am UWF Bible Study	25 9:30 am Zoom study 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kids Club 6 pm LL Youth Grp. 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Pastor's Study Group 7:15 pm Bell Choir	26	27 6:30-9 pm <i>Nourished</i> Movie Night (@ Pastor K's)	28 10 am-12 pm Mom's Club family game night
29 8:30 am In-person Worship 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Sunday School for adults 10:30 am In-person & live-strm. worship 12-2 pm Congolese 2:30-4 pm Youth Co-op (Improv with Improv Fort Troupe)	30 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	31 9:30-11:15 am UWF Bible Study		CCM = Care Center Ministry CWM = Children's Weekday Ministries	MMJ = Migrant Movement for Justice UWF = United Women in Faith (f/k/a UMW)	

Happy Endings, book discussion group, will meet on Monday, January 9th, at 10 AM in Fireside (change of location). The book we will discuss is "Lucy By the Sea" by Elizabeth Strout.

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP RETURNS: The Friendly Fellowship Potluck Group plans to meet on Friday, Jan. 20th, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share and table service; drinks will be provided. The program will be a presentation by Phil and Shirley Martin on their trip to Antarctica. We'll look forward to being together after a 2-year break. Everyone is welcome! Contact Nancy Miller (319-393-6340) with any questions.

WORSHIP IN JANUARY

Jan. 1: **First Sunday after Christmas**; ONE in-person service @ 9:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: John 1:1-5 / Sermon: "Fresh Starts and New Beginnings"

Jan. 8: **Baptism of the Lord Sunday**; in-person service @ 8:30 AM; in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Matthew 3:13-17 / Sermon: "Gift of Identity"

Jan. 15: **Human Relations Day**; in-person service @ 8:30 AM; in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 / Sermon: "Bold Witness"

Jan. 22: **Third Sunday after the Epiphany**; in-person service @ 8:30 AM; in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Kristina (Special Sunday focused on *Nourished*, our missional campus)

Jan. 29: **Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**; in-person service @ 8:30 AM; in-person & live-stream

Pastor's Study Groups

A new study with Pastor Scott will begin on Wednesday, January 4th, with morning sessions via Zoom at 9:30 AM, and in-person sessions in the library at 6 PM. The new study is titled "Painting the Stars: Science, Religion and an Evolving Faith." Materials are available in the church office. All are welcome!

Have you ever wondered whether Lovely Lane and Asbury, our partner church, should be in the Preschool and Child Care ministry? Following is why; and remember, we do it at top quality in a loving faith-based environment.

Need for Childcare in Iowa Data reported at Iowa Woman's Foundation Meeting 12-7-2022 @ McAuley Center

75% of households in Iowa with children 0-12 have both parents working outside the home.

National average is 65%.

78% of households in Linn County with children under 6 have both parents working outside the home.

There are 3 children in need for every childcare slot in Iowa.

Linn County has about 21,000 children with access to needed child care.

Federal government says a family should not spend more than 7% of income on childcare.

In Iowa, families are spending 12% to a whopping 40% of income on childcare.

Wages average \$10.73 an hour. **Childcare is the 3rd lowest paid profession in Iowa – right behind lifeguards and locker room attendants. Nearly all childcare workers receive NO BENEFITS.**

Before Covid:

Iowa economy lost \$935,000,000 because of childcare.

Iowa lost tax revenue of \$153,000,000.

Wages, benefits, and working conditions are THE problem with child care adequacy; and still, parents pay up to 40% of income for the service.

Total citizen support is the only answer. We need: free space; total transportation support for families and providers; staff stabilization support; and better child care subsidies available to all.

#Rest



**New Year Potluck
Gathering
Friday, January 13th
6pm-8pm
Pastor Kristina's House
3000 Carroll Drive SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403**

**Movie Night
Friday, January 27th
6:30pm-9pm
Pastor Kristina's House
3000 Carroll Drive SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403**



Men's Breakfast Gathering

The next monthly gathering is on Sat., Jan. 21st, @ 8:30 AM. Our speaker will be church member, Mitch Turner, retired judge in the Iowa District Court. All are welcome!

Remembering with love:

David Nicholas.....2021

Nov. Financial Totals

Cash inflow—mo. of Nov.	\$ 48,291
Cash inflow—YTD	\$508,700
Budget need/month	\$ 50,132
Cash outflow—mo. of Nov.	\$ 46,258
Cash outflow—YTD	\$490,573
Unpd. apprtmmts. (pd. up thru 2022) -	\$ 4,494

Dear Lord: So far today, God, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent. I'm really glad about that. But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on I'm probably going to need a lot more help. Thank you, in Jesus' name. Amen.
Health & wholeness



United Women in Faith

The United Women in Faith Program Advisory Group gathered in March for its 2022 annual meeting. The organization announced its name change from United Methodist Women to United Women in Faith, debuting a new look and new website.

United Women in Faith can be the kind of place where women around the country and around the world speak up, address big challenges and inspire others. Learn more at our pledge service "Love in Action can Change the World" led by Cindy Sale on Thursday, January 12th, at 1:00 PM in Fireside.

Lovely Lane's United Women in Faith's Bible Study will resume meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 10th. We meet on Tuesdays mornings from 9:30-11:15 AM. **This year we will meet in Fireside.** We invite you to join us for fellowship and study. We're currently studying Paul's letters to the Corinthians and will begin our study on Jan. 10th where we left off, with the passage of 1 Corinthians 13:1 where Paul beautifully tells of the superiority of love. **WE HAVE DECIDED TO NOT ONLY LUG OUR MUGS, BUT TO FILL THEM AT HOME.** So, come prepared with your favorite beverage in hand.

Monthly Treat Boxes

Nourished will be starting monthly treat boxes the first of the year. Think of it like a bakery subscription box! To sign up and for more information, email our Baker at betsy@nourishedcr.org or Pastor Kristina at kristina@nourishedcr.org



CARD SHOWER FOR MARCIE BAUGH

On January 18th, long-time LL member Marcie Baugh will be 99 years old! We'd like to have a card shower for her to commemorate this awesome occasion!

Please send birthday cards and notes of congratulations to her at:

1350 A'hearn Dr. NE #218
(Legacy Manor)
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Let's flood her mailbox with good wishes for a Very Happy Birthday!

Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai, New Bishop Assigned to the Iowa Conference

Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai has been assigned as the resident bishop for the Iowa Area, effective Jan. 1, 2023. She was elected to the episcopacy at the 2022 North Central Jurisdictional Conference. Before her election, she served as the chief connectional ministries officer of the Connectional Table for the United Methodist Church since 2018.

Bishop Bigham-Tsai has served as a district superintendent in the Michigan Annual Conference and as a local church pastor in Kalamazoo and East Lansing, Michigan.

Bigham-Tsai said of her vision of the church: "I envision a United Methodist Church that fully claims its identity as a church that centers grace. This is a church that is open and inclusive of all people. It is a church that addresses racism in the church and in society and actively seeks reconciliation, healing, and justice for its LGBTQIA+ children. Such a church approaches ministry with an outward-facing and invitational love." She describes her leadership as a "relational, collaborative, and innovative leader who makes my own physical, emotional, and spiritual health a priority. I am a visionary who is mission-directed and willing to experiment. I believe in surrounding myself with strong leaders, then equipping and allowing them to lead. I enjoy leading with people who are open to the creative movement of the Spirit, and I enjoy mentoring and developing new leaders."

Bishop Bigham-Tsai is married to Kee Tsai. They have two children, Keeton and Kadem Bigham-Tsai, and a German Shepherd, Kyto. *[Communications Ministry Team, email of 11/5/22]*

YOUTH GROUP IN JANUARY

- 1/1—No Youth Co-op
- 1/4—Weds. Faith Formation, 6-7 PM
- 1/6—Shabbat Service @ Temple Judah, 5-7:30 PM
- 1/11—Weds. Faith Formation, 6-7 PM
- 1/15—Church Lock-in @ St. Paul's UMC, 7 PM-7 AM on 1/16 [pizza, games, movies, Sardines, Hide & Seek backwards]
- 1/18—Weds. Faith Formation, 6-7 PM
- 1/22—Dungeons & Dragons and board games, 2-5 PM
- 1/25—Weds. Faith Formation, 6-7 PM
- 1/29—Improv with the Improv Fort Troupe, 2:30-4 PM

Questions about Youth Group? Contact
Ryan Roth-Klinck, Youth Director,
(940)390-7437 or ryan@lovelylane.org

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SERVANT SIGN UP

Go to the church's website (www.lovelylane.org) to sign up as a Worship Volunteer Servant: greeter, usher, lector, &/or communion server. You'll find sign-up links for the 8:30 and 10:30 AM services listed in the website under *Worship Servant Signup*. Please check your calendar and choose a date(s) to serve!

SUNDAY SCHOOL & KID'S CLUB

Starting on Jan. 8th, Sunday School for children will be during the 10:30 AM service after the Children's Time. Kid's Club will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 4th, at 5:30 PM (meal followed by the program @ 6 PM). Please RSVP for the Weds. evening meal at the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054BA4AA22ABF49-wednesday9>.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Annie Walker, Dir. of Family Ministries,
anniew@lovelylane.org

CHURCH STAFF NEWS: After 9 years of outstanding service, Marcie Stumpf has resigned her Lovely Lane Treasurer staff position. She plans to stay on thru February to complete year-end financials and tax return preparation. We've been fortunate to have Marcie in this position and want to ensure a smooth transition by finding her replacement as soon into the new year as possible. If you are interested, or know of someone who may be interested in learning more, please see the job description on our website, lovelylane.org.

Concerns & Celebrations

JOYS:

- *Welcoming a large class of new members to the church!
- *Baptism for Amanda Bentley as she joins the church
- *Successful bake sale for the Nourished Community at Nature's Noel
- *Mary Vorwerk celebrates the life of her Aunt Viola
- *Jayne Woodson celebrates time with dtr., Sherrie
- *Marla Gonzalez with good health news; continued prayers during radiation
- *Claire Hauser graduating from college
- *Denny & Linda Fitz celebrating 46 years of marriage
- *LL's Angel tree program is wrapping up
- *Lovely Lane continuing to remain United Methodist
- *Legislation supporting same gender marriage
- *Christmas Eve Worship services @ 3:30, 5:30, 7:30
- *Special offering support for Argentina 47 mission & ministry
- *Children's Christmas program & ministries at Lovely Lane
- *Children's Sunday School moving to within 10:30 worship service on Jan. 8th
- *Happy Hanukkah to our Jewish friends
- *Nourished Community with successful menstrual care drive
- *Special music in worship from Avery Crow
- *Schoolteacher, Lillian Hankemeier, with encouraging health news
- *Family over the holidays
- *Spending time with children

Lovely Lane welcomed the following New Members during 2022:

- March '22: Corrine Davey
- June '22: Dustin Ashmore, Tracy Ashmore, Stan Coleman, Debbie Hahn, Sheila Hahn, Nancy Patrick, Cindy Pringle, Mitch Turner, Alfred Zigbuo
- December '22: Amanda Bentley, Anne Craig, David Dix & Thiara Smith, Denny & Linda Fitz, Marla Gonzalez, Terry & Kathy Hartgrave, Linda Henecke, Neil & Denise Lawton, Heather Leske, Patrick Mahoney, Tammy Martin, Ryan Roth-Klinck, Dave & Nancy Wittenburg

CONCERNS:

- *Sympathy to Denise Lawton after the passing of her husband, Neil, after a short illness
- *Carmen Johnson expresses appreciation for prayers after her father's passing
- *Barb Vancura's aunt passed away
- *Lu Serbousek's sister's family grieving loss of step-grandson
- *Darla Tinderholt's family after death of cousin Steve
- *Vorwerk family after loss of family friend
- *Sympathy to former pastor, Rev. Brian Milford, after the passing of his mother, Betty
- *Ron & Margaret Nelson's friend, Ken, after the passing of his wife, Mary
- *Regina Culbertson hospitalized with diabetes complications
- *Les Minor following knee surgery
- *Rory & Karon Niebuhr with health concerns
- *Carol Wilson with health concerns
- *Marla Gonzalez following medical procedure
- *Bob & Jo Hoover recovering from Covid
- *Larry Wear after procedure for his hearing
- *Tariq Baloch with health concerns
- *Heather Leske & family with health concerns
- *Nancy Patrick's family members w/health concerns
- *Carla Jesse's sister, Anita, & sister-in-law, Marilyn, with health concerns
- *Phil & Shirley Martin's great grandson, w/diabetes
- *Nancy Wittenburg's mother with transition to a care facility
- *Phil Martin's brother Jim with health challenges
- *Heather Hingtgen's friend undergoing chemotherapy
- *Jerry Weiland's friend with lung cancer
- *Jim Loehrlein's friend's fiancé with stage 4 cancer
- *Teri Krumm's family friend Ridley with RSV
- *Leslie Neugebauer's sister, Jane, w/health concerns
- *Jim Moss's aunt recovering from injury due to a fall
- *Alfred Zigbuo's family with health matters
- *Andre & Misha - Nelsons' friends from Ukraine
- *Afghan refugees we sponsor experiencing loneliness
- *Gerry Kreitzer, music director at First Congregational – his 4-year-old grandson with health complications
- *Explosion in Marengo
- *Those with depression &/or other mental illnesses
- *All persons hospitalized during the holidays
- *Family with school-aged children facing eviction
- *Country of Ukraine
- *National & international concerns
- *Need for peace in our world



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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 UMC STAFF

Administration & Worship

Lead Pastor	Dr. Scott Meador
Associate Pastor	Rev. Kristina Roth-Klinck
Director of Media & Technology	Eric Wylie
Organist	Dennis Ramsey
Chancel Choir Director	Nancy Patrick
Handbell Choir Director	Charlie Kucera
Director of Children's Choirs	Carla Jesse
Chancel Choir Accompanist	Linda Bayliss

Children & Youth

Director of Family Ministries	Annie Walker
Director of Youth Ministries	Ryan Roth-Klinck
Nursery Caregivers	Shelbie Wood
	Brenda Holub
Director of Children's Weekday Ministries	Dawn DuPont

Office & Facilities

Sr. Office Manager	Sue Moss
Office Manager	Marti Bowman
Treasurer	Marcie Stumpf
Financial Secretary	Tammy Martin
Membership Secretary	Susan Camp
Website & Social Media	Shelly Turner
Facilities Manager	Curtis Thomas
Custodians	Rex & Rhonda Heasty
Wedding Coordinator	Becky Wood