

Lovely Lane *connection* United Methodist Church

February 2024

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

Getting Ready!

"Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will succeed"
– Proverbs 16:3 (CEB)

So now we know who will play in the Super Bowl! On February 11, the San Francisco 49ers will face off against the Kansas City Chiefs in Las Vegas. This should be a good contest with numerous story lines to consider and discuss. We are now in a time of waiting before the game begins.

The lead-up to the Super Bowl is two weeks in length. There are reasons behind this. Appropriate time is needed so the game can be hyped. Travel plans also need to be arranged for all parties. Furthermore, the coaching staffs on both teams need to establish a game plan. This is the biggest game of the year.

Preparation is critical in all walks of life too. It is a horrifying thought for me to come to church on Sunday morning and not be prepared for worship. I am sure it is horrifying for many of you to lead a meeting or a small group discussion or a go on a trip without some preparation ahead of time. I think about words from Alexander Graham Bell who said, "Before anything else, preparation is the key to success."

The problem with preparation though, is that it is not always a lot of fun. Many of us don't look forward to it. The time to plan for what comes next is often boring and uninteresting. We want to hurry up and get to the good stuff. This is understandable.

Fortunately, there are things we can do. We can work to understand better what we are preparing for. We can ask the "why" behind our work and how our work connects to the big picture. We can also pace ourselves. We don't need to plan everything right away and we don't want to wait until the last minute. Finally, we can see the benefit of setting aside time to prepare. Write it on the calendar and have a finishing time.

Might we enjoy the lead-up to the big game in Vegas! Might we also see the advantage that comes from preparation today! *Peace & blessings, Scott*

Calendar of Events (subject to change) — February 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		MMJ = Migrant Movement for Justice UWF = United Women in Faith	WWG = Wednesday Women's Group CWM = Children's Weekday Ministries	1	2	3
4 Communion Sunday 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 4 pm Living Last Supper (LLS) practice 4-6 pm Youth Co-op (@ LL)	5 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	6	7 9:30 am Zoom study 5:30 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kid's Club 6 pm Youth Grp. 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Pastor Scott's Study Group 7:15 pm Bell Choir	8 7:45 am Leadership Team (offsite) 1 PM UWF assembling Valentine's Cookie Boxes 6:30-8:30 pm Church Directory Team	9	10 8:30 am Men's Breakfast
11 Transfiguration Sunday 8:30 am In-person Worship 9 am Choir rehearsal 9:30 am Sunday School for adults 9:45 am Infant/Toddler Sunday Schl. Class 10:30 am In-person & live-strm. worship 12-2 pm Congolese 6 pm Youth Co-op: Big Game Watch Party (@ St. P's)	12 10 am Happy Endings 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766 7 pm <i>Nourished</i> Monday Centering (@ Pastor Kristina's)	13 6 pm Pastor's Study Group	14 Ash Wednesday 9:30 am Zoom study 12 noon Women's Study for Lent 5:30-7 pm Pancake Supper 7 pm AW Worship	15 6 pm Trustees 6 pm Health & Wholeness 7 pm Linn Co. UN Assoc. mtg.	16	17 1-3:30 pm Troop 766 Merit Badge
18 1st Sunday in Lent 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 1:30-3:30 pm Youth Co-op: Ice Skating (@ImOn Arena)	19 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	20	21 9:30 am Zoom study 12 noon Women's Study for Lent 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kid's Club 6 pm Youth Grp. 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Pastor Scott's Study Group 7:15 pm Bell Choir	22 12 noon Friendly Fellowship 6:30 pm Rizpah (UWF)	23 8 am-2 pm District mtg. 5-8 pm Parent's Night Out	24
25 2nd Sunday in Lent 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 1-5 pm Troop 766 Merit Badge 4 PM LLS practice NO Youth Co-op:	26 10 am Prayer Shawl 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	27	28 9:30 am Zoom study 12 noon Women's Study for Lent 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kid's Club 6 pm Youth Grp. 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Pastor Scott's Study Group 7:15 pm Bell Choir	29		

Parent's Night Out

Friday, Feb. 23, 5-8 pm, LL's Fellowship Hall

This event is a fundraiser for the youth group, in conjunction with children's ministries and the daycare. While parents have a chance for a night out, kids will play games, eat pizza, and watch movies.

WOMEN'S STUDY FOR LENT

The Weds. Women's Group starts a study for Lent on Feb. 14th at noon in Fireside. The study is by a group of authors, edited by Kelly M. Wahlquist, entitled *Walk in Her Sandals: Experiencing Christ's Passion through the Eyes of Women*. Books are available for \$10 in the church office. *Annie Walker*

WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

Feb. 4: Communion Sunday; in-person service @ 8:30 AM; in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Mark 1:29-39 / Sermon: "More Than a Healer"

Feb. 11: Transfiguration Sunday; in-person service @ 8:30 AM; in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Mark 9:2-9 / Sermon: "A Glimpse of Glory"

Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday Worship @ 7:00 PM; Pastor Kristina will begin the sermon series "Seven Words"

Feb. 18: First Sunday in Lent; in-person service @ 8:30 AM; in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Kristina / Sermon: "Seven Words" - Part 1

Feb. 25: Second Sunday in Lent; in-person service @ 8:30 AM; in-person & live-stream service @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Sermon: "Seven Words" - Part 2

Pastor's Study Group

A Lenten study will start on Wednesday, February 21. Groups will meet on Zoom at 9:30 am and in-person at 6 pm. The focus is the book, "Seven Words: Listening to Christ From the Cross," by Susan Robb. Everyone is welcome!

One of the things I'm learning as a parent is that my house is likely always going to be a little bit messy. There will always be a block under the chair in the living room no matter how many times I pick it up and put it away. To prevent the bowls, plates, and spoons from being pulled out from Audrey's cabinet I put a child lock on them. But now, she's pulling out the items in the baskets on her shelf when she previously wasn't interested in them because of the bowls, plates, and spoons. Parenting is beautiful and yet also quite exhausting. Sometimes it's hard to see the beauty in the mundane task of picking up toys all over the house whenever she goes to bed at night just to wait for tomorrow when they all get pulled out again. Can you relate to that?

As a spiritual leader and a mom, I'm learning to find joy in those simple tasks, and see them as opportunities to spend time with God. While picking up toys and doing the dishes, I listen to some worship tunes or a podcast that fills my cup. Suddenly, the task of tidying up becomes something of enjoyment and something to recenter me in the quite mundane task of cleaning up after a busy day. What can you add to these daily tasks to bring centering to your life. Maybe you listen to some favorite tunes, say a prayer, or find yourself in a feeling of mindfulness, being mindful of every action and moving slowly.

One of the albums I've been listening to is Sanctuary Songs by The Porter's Gate to recenter me while doing those mundane tasks. You can find it on Spotify or anywhere else you stream music. I also recommend Kate Bowler's podcast, Everything Happens.

May we find peace together in these daily tasks. *Peace, Pastor Kristina*

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP

Friendly Fellowship will meet on February 22 at Noon for a Potluck Lunch and Program. The program will be led by Floyd Sandford. He will talk about his recent trip to Newfoundland. Newfoundland is full of history and amazing scenic sites. Floyd led a program last year on Grant Wood.

Please bring a dish to share and your own table service if you can. If you have questions, let me know; call Judy McDowell @ 319 560-2960.

Note: Sergeant Nathan Trimble with the CRPD will be the speaker for March with the K9 Unit.

Men's Breakfast Gathering

The next gathering is Saturday, Feb. 10 @ 8:30 am (this is a week earlier than normal). The Rev. Brian Gross, rector at Christ Episcopal Church, will speak about the history of the Episcopal Church. Pastor Scott will add commentary about the early Methodist Church that developed from the Church of England. All are welcome!



United
Women
in Faith

UWF ACTIVITIES & EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2024

Lovely Lane UWF Rizpah

Rizpah, of United Women in Faith, meets on Feb. 22nd, from 6:30-8 PM (& will continue to meet on the 4th Thurs. of the month). Our topic will be *Greening Our Church*, Part 1 (Part 2 will be in March). All women are welcome. Bring a friend or neighbor! Being Methodist or attending Lovely Lane aren't requirements. Contact Deb Streff (319-721-8864) with questions.

UWF Board & General/Circle Meetings

THE UWF board meets on the second Thursday of each month at 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall (not in Feb.). All members of UWF are welcome to attend. At 2 PM on the second Thursday of each month, there will be a general/circle meeting (not in Feb.). Remember that all women are welcome. You don't have to be Methodist or a member of Lovely Lane to participate in UWF.

Valentine's Cookies for Shut-Ins

Valentine's Day is fast approaching and it's time to make cookies for our shut-ins. **We need lots of volunteers; all women are welcome to participate!** We anticipate delivering cookies to 10-20 folks. **We'll meet at 1 PM on Thursday, Feb. 8th**, to assemble our cookie boxes. A BIG Thank You goes to CWM's Before/After School kids for making Valentine cards to go with the cookies! Bakers should bring their cookies to the meeting or drop them off beforehand. Each person will be asked to deliver cookies to a church member and then ENJOY their smile of appreciation!

Please RSVP to Deb Streff via text message or phone (319-721-8864) to let her know you can donate and/or deliver cookies. *There will be extra cookies and coffee for snacks!!*

United Women in Faith in 2024

As we start a new year in United Women in Faith, we recognize that our organization has been in mission for more than 150 years. United Women in Faith mission giving makes missions possible to improve the lives of women, children, and youth all around the world. Our pledge to the East Central District United Women in Faith and through the Iowa Conference United Women in Faith supports all missions. We also support our own church missions, such as the preschool and youth mission trips.

We as United Women of Faith have inherited a legacy as we still continue to work for missions. We are asking for donations from any women who want to support our work with women, youth, and children. Please give prayerful consideration to your pledge as you decide in your heart what to give. **We have someone who will match up to \$1,000.00 in pledges given through the end of February.** You may present your pledge at a meeting or mail your pledge card (available @ next meeting) and pledge to Lovely Lane United Methodist Church or our UWF treasurer, Cindy Sale, 3316 Riverbend Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52411. Checks may still be made out to Lovely Lane United Women in Faith.

Valentine's Day

EACH BOX WILL INCLUDE AN ASSORTMENT OF SUGAR
COOKIES, CAKE BALLS, AND CUPCAKES
ORDER BY FEBRUARY 11TH
PICK UP FEBRUARY 13TH 4PM-6PM AT ST. PAUL'S UMC
TREAT BOX IS \$24



Sign up by
scanning
the QR code



NOURISHED

HAPPY ENDINGS

Our book discussion club, Happy Endings, will meet on Monday, Feb. 12th, at 10:00 AM in Fireside. The book we will discuss is *North Woods* by Daniel Mason.

Everyone is welcome to join us!

*Health & Wholeness is Sponsoring 2 Drives
in February for the ECCF*:*

WINTER GLOVE DRIVE



"Show some love; donate gloves!"

New or gently used; mittens okay

PERSONAL CARE DRIVE



"Show you care!" Donate the following:

Soap (bath, laundry, & dish) Shampoo & conditioner
Deodorant Toilet Tissue Toothpaste & brushes
(Sample sizes of all accepted)

(*Ecumenical Community Center Foundation)

Winter In My Heart

Nourished Centering

February 12th

7pm

@Pastor Kristina's

3000 Carroll Drive SE

Cedar Rapids

Chancel Choir Spotlight

Feb. 4: "Creation of Peace" (Miller/Hope) - This song was requested by Pastor Kristina. It will be presented with various soloists from the choir. Enjoy!

Feb. 11: "There is a Balm in Gilead" (Helvey/Traditional Spiritual)

Feb. 18: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" (Sebastian Temple/Prayer of St. Francis) - This song because popular when sung a Princess Diana's funeral.

Feb. 25: "This is My Father's World" - Men's Ensemble



Our Coffee Servants need someone to clean up coffee pots and wash coffee cups after second service on the first Sunday of the month. Please call or E-mail me if you are interested. Thanks! Judy McDowell, 319-560-2960 or Jmcdow51@aol.com

YOUTH CO-OP

2/4: Service Project @ LL, 4-6 pm
 2/11: "Big Game" Watch Party @ St. Paul's UMC, 6 pm to end of game
 2/18: Ice Skating @ the ImOn Arena, 1:30-3:30 pm, cost is \$11
 2/25 NO Co-op

WEDS. NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

(5:30 pm family meal @ LL,
 then 6 pm meeting @ St. Paul's)

2/7: Midweek Youth - Fun & Games @ Spare Time
 2/11: Soup & Subs Fundraiser from 8 am to 12 pm
 2/14: Ash Wednesday Pancake Dinner Fundraiser, helping from 5 to 7:30 pm
 2/21: Midweek Youth - *What is Lent?* @ St. Paul's
 2/23: Parent's Night Out Fundraiser from 5:30 to 9 pm
 2/28: Midweek Youth - *Addressing the Prosperity Gospel* @ St. Paul's

Save the dates for our summer 2024 trips! The middle school trip to Kansas City, Missouri is June 20-23. The high school trip to Memphis, Tennessee is July 13-19. Each trip has 20 spots available. Registration & more details will be shared soon.

Contact Ryan Roth-Klinck, Youth Director, with questions: (940)390-7437 or ryan@lovelylane.org.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS/SERVANTS

Go to the church's website (www.lovelylane.org) to sign up as a Worship Volunteer Servant: greeter, usher, lector, and/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! If you need help, call the church office and Sue or Marti can sign you up online.

December Financial Totals

Cash inflow—mo. of Dec.	\$ 72,745
Cash inflow—YTD	\$610,962
Budget need/month	\$ 47,614
Cash outflow—mo. of Dec.	\$ 60,953
Cash outflow—YTD	\$606,999
Unpaid apportionments	\$ 0

SUPER BOWL SUB FUNDRAISER

SUPPORT THE YOUTH ON
 THEIR SUMMER SERVICE
 TRIPS TO KANSAS CITY
 AND MEMPHIS



ORDER BY
 FEBRUARY 7TH
 PICK UP SUNDAY,
 FEBRUARY 11TH
 AFTER EACH
 SERVICE

ORDER NOW

SCAN
 ME

INFANT & TODDLER SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

This is a Sunday School designed for our youngest disciples. This time for parents and little ones will include a toddler-focused Bible story, music, and sensory exploration centers. Next class: Feb. 11th, 9:45-10:15 am, in the Preschool Wing @ Lovely Lane.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & KID'S CLUB

Sunday School for children takes place during the 10:30 service after the Children's Time. Kid's Club is on Weds. at 5:30 PM (meal followed by program @ 6 PM). We no longer ask that you sign up for the Weds. evening meal for Kid's Club.

Don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions and/or would like to volunteer to help. Thank you!

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

Remembering with love:

Eddie Anderson, Jr.....2018

Kay Rath.....2018

Daniel Randall.....2019

Sally Craig.....2021

Gene Kadlec.....2021

Kae Schmickley.....2022

Concerns & Celebrations

JOYS:

- *Happy New Year, celebrating 2024!
- *Jerry Weiland is back in worship, pain-free
- *New coaching relationship for *Nourished* Community
- *Celebrating the welcoming statement in our bulletin
- *Assisting at Green Square Meals; contact Carmen Johnson (cfjohnson0802@gmail.com) to help
- *Pastor Kristina remembering a trip to Israel & baptismal renewal
- *Prayer partners now shared in both services
- *Appreciation to snow plow drivers & tow truck drivers
- *Neighbors assisting one another during the winter
- *Pastor Kristina preaching at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
- *Remembering the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- *College students beginning a new semester
- *Rev. Katie Dawson preaching & leading Sunday School on 1/21
- *JR Streff speaking at the men's breakfast on 1/20
- *Children's Weekday Ministries has filled open staff positions
- *Annie Walker was been hired as the morning day-care supervisor for CWM
- **Nourished* board member, Philip, attending worship
- **Nourished* Community with Burning of the Greens event
- *Happy Birthday to Dave Keefe
- *Charlie Kucera with the Tosca Opera weekend
- *Joy Jackson's brother-in-law with good health news
- *Baptism of Cameron Ellis Worley on 1/28
- *Celebrating birthdays in the Mills family
- *Katrina & Patrick Mahoney expecting their third child
- *Helen Anderson's brother Tom with a successful bypass surgery
- *Celebrating the ministry & mission of our church
- *Check out Facebook page for video clip from Sunday's worship

Quotable Quotes

- "You can't start the next chapter of your life if you keep re-reading the last one." - Unknown
- "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." - Anne Frank

CONCERNS:

- *Remembering the life of Rae Keegan (service was on 1/20)
- *Waylon & Shawn Stepp following the death of Waylon's mom, Lee
- *Dick & Marlo Jack after the funeral for Dick's brother, Rev. Duane Jack
- *Sympathy to Jan Robinson after the passing of her sister
- *Sympathy to Jan Loftus after her son's significant other died
- *Bob Hoover traveling to funeral service for family friend, Mary
- *Dave & Linda Keefe's grandson, Tyler, with co-worker whose mom died
- *Carol Wishnowski recovering after a fall
- *Jack Murphy with health concerns
- *Don Whitford in the hospital & Wanda Whitford with a broken pelvis
- *Regina Culbertson hospitalized
- *Teri Krumm following a procedure
- *Audrey Roth-Klinck, Ryan, & Pastor Kristina following Audrey's seizure
- *Cathy Homard's recovery from knee surgery
- *Leslie Neugebauer traveling to Peru for building project work
- *Heather Hingtgen's father, Ray, with health concerns
- *Annie Walker's father with health concerns
- *Darla Reed-Tinderholt's sister Debby with health concerns
- *Megan Kerns's uncle, Chuck, with upcoming surgery
- *Sue Moss's brother-in-law, Steve in AZ, with continued health challenges after brain surgery
- *Terrie & Scott Seibert request prayers for Scott's 7-mo. old great nephew with craniosynostosis (skull fused too early)
- *Virginia Weiland with family members having health concerns
- *Barb Olive's friend's mother after a fall
- *Marla Gonzalez' friend going through a difficult time
- *Joan Roscovius's friend, Tariq, with health challenges
- *Carmen Johnson's friend with hip replacement challenges
- *Community of Perry after the school shootings
- *Israel & Gaza & Palestine with conflict
- *National & international concerns



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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 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	Tara Neveu (lead)
	Brenda Holub,
	Paige Gerjets &
	Claire Van Erde-Wyk
Director of CWM	Dawn DuPont
(Children's Weekday Ministries)	

Office & Facilities

Sr. Office Manager	Sue Moss
Office Manager	Marti Bowman
Treasurer	Susan Kohl
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