



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

November 2024

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 62, Number 11

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**

John Wesley and Money

“But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires . . .” – 1 Timothy 6:9 (NRSV)

Some of our Wednesday study groups have been focusing on the life and teachings of John Wesley. Wesley was a Church of England pastor in Great Britain in the 1700’s. His actions led to the development of Methodism in his home country and the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America.



As a group we have learned about Wesley’s brilliant organizational skills. We have seen his expertise come out in other areas too. These areas include music, medicine, and money. In fact, Wesley had a lot to say about money. He was concerned that prosperity would lead Methodists down a destructive path. In his famous sermon, “The Use of Money,” he lifted up three rules for Christians. The rules were, “Gain all you can. Save all you can. Give all you can.” These rules made an impact during his time. They make an impact today.

As much as anything, Wesley lived what he taught. For him, the first tenth of his income to God was a minimum. In his early years of ministry Wesley earned thirty pounds a year. He gave away two pounds and lived on twenty-eight. The next year his salary increased to sixty pounds, and he gave away thirty-two. As the years moved on (and his book sales became an important part of his revenue) he gave away more of his money and lived on the smaller amount. He was focused and devoted. He knew that a person’s use of money can shed light on that individual’s spirituality.

It’s probably very hard for a person to live like Wesley today, but we can be inspired to use our money in a manner that glorifies God. As we reflect on Brother Wesley, we move into our stewardship campaign this month. The theme is “Building a Better Life.” We will consider ways we can faithfully manage our resources and assist others along the way. Commitment Cards for 2025 will be collected in worship on November 24.

Let us prayerfully consider our giving commitment for the year to come! Grace and peace, Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) — November 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 7:00 pm Day of the Dead (Kristina's)	2 1:00 pm Mahjong (Fellowship Hall) 1:00 pm Bass Farms Outing (Mt. Vernon)
3 <i>All Saints Sunday</i> 8:30 am Worship in-person 9:00 am Choir 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship in-person & live-stream 10:45 am Children Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese	4 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766 (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 pm Nourished Centering (@ Kristina's)	5 Election Day  6:00 pm—9:00 pm Election Watch Party (@ Kristina's) 8:00 pm Band Practice (Youth Rm)	6 9:30 am Zoom Scripture Study 10:45 am—11:15 am Post-Election Prayer Vigil (Fireside Room) 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kids Club 6:00 pm Scripture Study 7:15 pm Bell Choir	7	8	9 8:30 am - 2:00 pm Women's Retreat (Fellowship Hall)
10 8:30 am Worship in-person 9:00 am Choir 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship in-person & live-stream 10:45 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese	11 10:00 am Happy Endings (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766 7:00 pm Nourished Centering (@ Kristina's)	12 8:00 pm Band Practice (Youth Room)	13 9:30 am Zoom Scripture Study 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kids Club 6:00 pm Scripture Study 6:00 pm Little Learners 7:15 pm Bell Choir	14 7:45 am Leadership Team (Offsite) 1:00 pm United Women in Faith (Fireside)	15	16 8:30 am Men's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
17 8:30 am Worship in-person 9:00 am Choir 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship in-person & live-stream 10:45 am Children Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese 4:00 pm New Member Class (Library)	18 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	19 6:30 SPPRC (Library) 8:00 pm Band Practice (Youth Room)	20 9:30 am Zoom Scripture Study 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kids Club 6:00 pm Scripture Study 7:15 pm Bell Choir	21 3:55 pm Green Square Meals 6:00 pm Finance Council Mtg (FS) 6:00 pm Health & Wholeness (FH) 7:00 pm Admin Council (Library) 7:00 pm Linn Co UNA	22	23
24 8:30 am Worship 8:30 am Bake Sale 9:00 am Choir 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship in-person & live-stream 10:45 am Children Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese 4:00 pm New Member Class (Library)	25 10:00 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766 6:00pm Friendsgiving Fork 'n' Folk (@ Kristina's)	26 8:00 pm Band Practice (Youth Room)	27 No Wednesday Activities	28 Thanksgiving Day  Church office closed	29 Day After Thanksgiving Church office closed	30

Pastor Scott's Study Groups

During the season of Advent, the Wednesday study groups will focus on the book, *On the Way to Bethlehem*, by Rob Fuquay. The study will examine the cities that were central to the birth of Jesus. These cities include Rome, Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem. The study will start on **November 20**. The morning group will meet on Zoom at 9:30 and the evening group will gather in the library at 6:00. Books will be available in the church office. All are welcome!

Advent Giving Tree

We will again purchase gifts for Tanager, Four Oaks and Trinity Lane Preschool. The tree and approximately 75 tags will be in the narthex by **November 17**.

Sponsored by the Missions Committee.



WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

November 3 *All Saints Sunday*

In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Scott Meador will preach, "Called to Be Saints", Scripture: Revelation 21:1-6a

November 10 *Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Kristina Roth-Klinck will preach

November 17 *Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*

In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Scott Meador will preach, "Purpose and Discipline," *Building a Better Life*
Scripture: Matthew 7:24-27

November 24 *Stewardship Sunday*

In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Scott Meador will preach, "Service and Sharing," *Building a Better Life*
Scripture: *Corinthians 9:6-11*

Saints of a Haunted Land

This coming week, on November 1, we'll celebrate All Saint's Day, remembering our loved ones, family, friends and ancestors who have gone before us. It's a day to honor our grief and those we are missing in this life on Earth. Regardless of how long they may have been gone, it still hits hard on this day and many days. Grief comes in waves. The other day I found myself missing my grandmother who died 14 years ago last March. Most days are fine, but this one day in particular, I found myself wishing I could hear her sweet voice sing the song she sang just for me.

This All-Saint's Day, I've been thinking about the Mexican holiday of Dia De Los Muertos (Day of the Dead). All across Mexico and in many other countries, the day is celebrated with sugar skulls called calaveras, marigolds, candles, pictures of ancestors and colorful fabrics that are all placed on the home altar called an ofrenda. It's a day of mourning, but it's also a day of celebration. As is depicted in the popular movie, *Coco*, on the Day of the Dead, you tell stories of your ancestors and loved ones that you've placed on the altar. Maybe you share that wonderful story of your great-grandmother to your own grandkids, so the story stays alive. But for many families, All-Saint's Day/Day of the Dead is a day to remember and mourn family, friends and citizens who die each year along the U.S./Mexico border.

According to an article in this month's edition of *Sojourners*, "hundreds of migrants die every year along one of the world's deadliest land borders. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency reports that 8,050 people have died attempting to cross the border between 1998 and 2000. The agency also reported an additional 568 in 2021 and 895 in 2022- the highest deaths recorded in a single year." Many more than that die from exposure and are left undocumented and unclaimed. Then there are many who die in other countries, enroute to the border. For these reasons, the nearly 2,000 mile stretch along the U.S./Mexico border has been regarded as a haunted land.

As people of faith, holding a spirituality of justice means that we have the hope in someday witnessing the Kingdom of God here on earth, when there is health care for all, education that lifts us up, a structure that supports all to be housed and live freely and where immigrants can find a better life. This All-Saint's Day, I hope you'll join me in lighting a candle for the hundreds of people who die each year on one of the world's deadliest borders, true saint's who risked their lives for a better life. It shouldn't have to be this way, and so we pray that someday we overcome it all. "Deep in my heart, I do believe, we shall overcome someday." - Kristina

WEAVING PLASTIC MATS FOR THE HOMELESS

The Cedar Rapids Metro Circuit Lay Ministry Board and Kenwood Park UMC mat weaving team invite you and your congregation to participate in a ministry to the homeless people in Cedar Rapids. Since last February, we have been weaving sleeping mats made from plastic shopping bags and delivering them to Green Square Meals where they have been well received by the homeless population that receives meals there.

The weaving requires a loom consisting of a mat sized rectangular wooden frame with pegs on the short ends and metal rods on the long sides. Kenwood Park and St. Paul's have looms made by local craftsmen. The weaving team consists of 4 people who do the actual weaving and a small crew who cut up the donated plastic bags to create the plastic yarn used to weave the mats. Drawing plans for building the loom and training videos are available on the Midwest Mission web site <https://www.midwestmission.org/loom>



The team at Kenwood Park UMC is willing to assist your team in getting this ministry started at your church. **(If you would prefer to simply become a member of an existing loom team please contact us.)** As a first step, we would suggest visiting a weaving session at Kenwood Park UMC. Our weaving sessions are from **1:30 to 3:30 pm on Thursday afternoon**. If that is not convenient or you would like more information or training, contact me at w.western06@gmail.com. -Warren Western

LITTLE LEARNERS

Are you looking to meet some other parents?
Looking for time for your little one to play with others?
Then join us for "Little Learners," a gathering designed for children ages 0-5 and their parents for music and singing, a short story, and playtime.

2nd and 4th Wednesdays of
each month
6pm-6:45pm
Lovely Lane UMC
4's Preschool Room

Dates for remainder of 2024:
November 13th
December 11th

Schedule:
6pm-6:15pm Music
6:15pm-6:25pm Story
6:25-6:45pm Playtime



LOVELY LANE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Fall Bake Sale

Sunday, November 24th

**Asking all church members to consider donating items. Drop off your priced baked goods to sell in the lobby on Sunday morning*

Pick up fresh baked goodies
for your Thanksgiving gathering!



Children's Weekday Ministries Fundraiser

Support CWM by purchasing a "Savearound" coupon book for \$25 or a Dirt Road Christmas/Winter Theme candle for \$25. Stop in the CWM office or contact Dawn DuPont at ddupont@lovelylane.org

New Member Classes

New member classes will take place on **Sundays, November 17 and 24**. The group will meet in the church library at 4:00 pm both days. Please let Pastor Scott know if you are interested in joining the church or just want more information about Lovely Lane. All are welcome!

CUBA PARTNERSHIP TRIP

A small group in our church will travel to Havana, Cuba from January 28 – February 6, 2025. The group is accompanying a group from Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines. The aim of the trip is to learn about the partner relationship the Plymouth Church has with their sister congregation, Ebenezer Baptist Church in Havana. A further aim is to understand how and whether to seek a relationship with our own sister church in Cuba. This relationship may result in future trips from members of our church to Cuba.

In preparation for the trip, Lovely Lane members will have the opportunity to donate personal items, medications, and medical supplies the group can take to Cuba. Each traveler is asked to bring an extra suitcase with these items. We are also planning to collect a special offering during Advent to assist with expenses and provide additional support for the Ebenezer Church. Part of the inspiration for this journey comes from the “Great Ideas” initiative that took place last year. Many folks suggested a desire for an international experience. More information is coming!

PREPARING FOR THE ELECTION

A Centering series on preparing our hearts for whatever happens

Centering:

October 28th 7pm-8:30pm

November 4th 7pm-8:30pm

November 11th 7pm-8:30pm

*Each at Pastor Kristina’s

Watch Party- November 5th

6pm-9pm at Pastor Kristina’s

*Bring a dish to share for a potluck meal and a board game.



NOURISHED

Post-Election Prayer Vigil
Wednesday, November 6
10:45 am - 11:15 am
Lovely Lane Fireside Room

2024 Advent Offering Recipients

Women at the Well: Is a United Methodist congregation located within the walls of the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women, in Mitchellville, Iowa. It offers ministries designed to encourage the spiritual growth of its members, assist them when they transition back into the world outside the walls and to better understand the hurts and hopes of those who reside within the Iowa Correctional Institute for Women. Lovely Lane is a committed partner supporting this ministry.

HACAP Food Reservoir: HACAP Food Reservoir leads the fight against hunger in east central Iowa by providing food access, advocacy, education, and disaster response. The Food Reservoir distributes over 10 million meals annually through partner organizations in seven counties. Food Reservoir programs include Backpack Program, Mobile Food Pantry, and Diversity Food Program. There continues to be an enormous burden on the local available Food Reservoir supplies.

Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice: In the face of unprecedented need, Iowa MMJ is building on the legacy of two trusted organizations: the **American Friends Service Committee Iowa** and **Iowa Justice for Our Neighbors**. Iowa MMJ stands firmly on the belief that migration is a fundamental human right and that everyone deserves to live in safety and with dignity. Iowa MMJ is committed to providing high-quality, accessible immigration legal services throughout the state, empowering communities and supporting those in need.

Cuba Mission Trip: A small group is traveling to Havana, Cuba from January 28 – February 6, 2025. The group is accompanying a group from Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines. The aim is to learn about the partner relationship the Plymouth Church has with their sister congregation, Ebenezer Baptist Church in Havana. A further aim is to understand how and whether to seek a relationship with our own sister church. Members are planning to pay their own travel expenses, but any funds from the offering in excess of the amounts needed for the Ebenezer Church could be used to defray travel costs now or in the future.



"Caring for the Soul & Mind"
LOVELY LANE
FALL WOMEN'S
RETREAT

Saturday, November 9, 2024
9:00am - 2:00pm
Registration & Light Breakfast at 8:30am
Fellowship Hall

Join us for a restful day focusing on stress reduction and caring for our mental health. We will have professionals from the mental health field present on brain health and stress reduction.

Registration fee is \$20 (includes lunch & crafts);
scholarships are available upon request.

You may register by emailing
 Annie Walker (annielovelylane.org)
 or scanning the QR code on this form.
 Deadline is November 2, 2024





Save The Dates

September 8 - Fall Kick Off - Spare Time Bowling
4pm - 5pm

September 11 - Kids Club Begins
5:15pm-6:00pm

September 15 - Sunday School Begins
10:30am Service

October 26 - Trunk or Treat
1:00-2:30pm

November 2- Bass Farms
1:00pm - 3:00pm

December 15 -Children's Christmas Pageant
10:30am Service




PLEASE JOIN LOVELY LANE AT

BASS FARMS

100 PM
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2024

Enjoy time playing mini golf, shopping, and other family activities

840 BASS LANE
MT. VERNON, IA 52314

GREEN SQUARE MEALS

Six volunteers are needed each month to help with Green Square Meals! The next date is **Thursday, November 21**, with a **3:55 pm** expected arrival time. Contact Dan Moore by phone at: (715) 432-1983 or by email at: banjobubbadad@yahoo.com if you are able to help serve. Thank you to those who have helped in past months and those who will help in the future!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

November 16, Dave Markward, retired Cedar Rapids School Superintendent, will speak about his new book, *From Dubuque to Selma and Beyond: My Journey to Understand Racism in America*. All are welcome to join us at **8:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Scott Meador with questions at scottm@lovelylane.org

JOYS

- *World Communion Sunday celebrations
- *Fall weather and outside activities
- *Wedding congratulations for Gabe Johnson and Jasmine Boney
- *Especially for You Walk in Cedar Rapids
- *Successful golf fundraiser for Travis Meiborg's nephew, Max
- *United Women in Faith Annual Meeting
- *Toddler & Preschool Sunday School class
- *New photo directory on the way
- *Lyn Lewis, LuAnn Basemann, Julie Meyer, others who help with the Wednesday evening meal
- *Travels for the Roth-Klinck family to visit friends
- *Toddler and preschool Sunday school class
- *Northern Lights
- *Birthdays in the Davis household
- *Pastor Scott in Epworth for a baptism
- *Baptisms for Landen and Brinley Bentley
- *Third grade Bibles for Landen Bentley and Quinn Meredith
- *Marla Gonzalez expresses appreciation for family and friends in worship
- *Cuba Partnership Trip in January
- *Phil Martin expresses thanks for prayers following procedure
- *Katrina Mahoney celebrates family is healthy again
- *Happy 41st anniversary for Dan and Kim Moore
- *Happy 28th anniversary for Darwin and Pam Moore
- *Pastor Kristina and family traveling out of state
- *Katherine Plendl celebrates closing on new home
- *Katherine Plendl's sister, Jennifer, recovering well from procedure
- *Sue Moss celebrates good news about upcoming move
- *Doug Williams, missionary to Argentina, preaching in worship
- *Children's Weekday Ministry (CWM) fundraisers, see announcements
- *Pat Swartzendruber back in worship following medical treatments
- *Phil and Shirley Martin with son, Doug, and daughter-in-law, Sandra, in worship
- *Jan Loftus's condo with work completed following the Derecho

CONCERNS

- *Communities on east coast impacted by Hurricane Helene and Milton
- *Sympathy to Nancy Patrick after the passing of her brother
- *Sympathy to Dave and Nancy Wittenburg after passing of Nancy's mother
- *Lynn Heidt hospitalized
- *Phil Martin with recovery following medical procedure
- *Curtis Thomas's aunt, Naomi, hospitalized
- *Ryan Roth-Klinck's uncle, Mike, impacted by Hurricane Helene
- *Regina Culbertson hospitalized
- *Passing of Lucille King, mother of Susan Staed
- *Margaret and Ron's Nelson's friend Calvin after his passing
- *Pat Swartzendruber with ongoing medical treatments
- *Memorial Service for Phil Hamilton
- *Sue Moss's friend, Kathy, with shoulder surgery
- *Patty Logsdon's friend, Jean with pancreatic cancer
- *Communities impacted by recent hurricanes
- *Darla Reed-Tinderholt with friends, Wendy and Cathy, needing support
- *Sympathy to Stephanie French and family following the passing of her mother-in-law, Florence
- *Persons experiencing addiction and mental illness struggles
- *National and international concerns



Remembering with love:

James Stucker 2023

Donna Lewis 2020

Karla Morris 2023

Rick Taylor 2023



Find out more about us:

Website: www.lovelylane.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc
 Phone: (319) 393-6674
 2424 42nd Street NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Lovely Lane Monthly Financial Information	
Cash inflow - month of 9/30/24	\$50,945
Cash inflow - YTD	\$428,732
Budget need/month	\$53,556
Cash outflow - month of 9/30/24	\$53,466
Cash outflow - YTD	\$450,718
Unpaid apportionments	\$0

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 Caregiver Lead	Tara Neveu
Nursery Caregiver	Paige Gerjets
Nursery Caregiver	Hailey Ryan
Nursery Caregiver	Brooke Johnson
Director Children's Weekday Ministries (CWM)	Dawn DuPont

Office & Facilities

Office Administrator & Finance Secretary	Tammy Martin
Office Assistant	Marti Bowman
Treasurer	Susan Kohl
Membership Secretary	Shelly Turner
Facilities Manager	Curtis Thomas
Custodians	Rex & Rhonda Heasty
Wedding Coordinator	Becky Wood