



Lovely Lane
United Methodist Church

February 2025

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 63, Number 2

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

Cuba Partnership Trip

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations"– Matthew 28:19 (NRSV)

As the new month begins I am in Havana, Cuba, with a small group of Lovely Laners. We are traveling with a group of folks from the Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines. Our group totals eleven in number. We arrive back in the United States on February 6.


The purpose of the trip is threefold. For starters, we are learning what it's like to have a partner congregation in Cuba. The Plymouth Church has a sister relationship with the Ebenezer Baptist Church. We are witnessing both churches come together and interact. The donations you have graciously brought to the church have been given to members of the Ebenezer Church to distribute as needed. We hope to have our own partner church coming up.

Secondarily, we are learning about the history and culture of Cuba. As many of you know, the United States has a long-storied history with Cuba. Beginning with Christopher Columbus coming to Cuba in 1492, and continuing with the American Revolution in the late 1700's, the Cuban War of Independence in 1898, the Bay of Pigs and the Cuban Missile Crisis in the 1960's, as well as the rule of Fidel Castro, Cuba has had an interesting relationship with the United States. We are anxious to learn more about this history.

Finally, in going to Cuba, we hope to have a better understanding of the beauty of diversity. We are experiencing a country that is different than the United States in many ways in regards to politics, language, and the economy. We are also experiencing a church, the Ebenezer Church, which does church differently than we do at Lovely Lane. We are looking to have a better grasp on the beauty of diversity.

I truly believe diversity is a gift from God. We need to listen, learn, and love one another. From what I have seen in my life, nothing else works but accepting diversity. Every other approach ends in injustice and some form of tragedy. Throughout his ministry, Jesus demonstrated the need to embrace folks who were different than he was. We hope to do the same. Our group looks forward to sharing our stories coming up. Please keep us in your prayers. Blessings, Pastor Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) — February 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nonagenarian Recognition Our church members who are 90+ in age will be recognized in worship on February 23. Blessings to these long-time church members!						1
2 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In- person & live-stream 10:45 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese	3 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	4	5 12:00 pm Women's Book Study (Fireside) 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kids Club 7:15 pm Bell Choir	6	7	8 4:30 - 6:30 pm Fork 'n' Folk (Pastor Kristina's)
9 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In- person & live-stream 10:45 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese 2:00 pm Youth Service Project 4:00 pm Living Last Supper (Library)	10 10:00 am Happy Endings Book Club (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766 7:00 pm Nourished Centering (at Pastor Kristina's)	11	12 9:30 am Zoom Book Study 12:00 pm Women's Book Study (Fireside) 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kids Club 6:00 pm Book Study (Library) 6:00 pm Little Learners 7:15 pm Bell Choir	13 1:00 pm Elizabeth Circle	14 	15 8:30 am Men's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall) 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Impact Life Blood Drive (Lovely Lane Parking Lot)
16 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 9:30 am Brunch 10:30 am Worship In- person & live-stream 10:45 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese	17 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	18	19 9:30 am Zoom Book Study 12:00 pm Women's Book Study (Fireside) 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kids Club 6:00 pm Book Study 7:15 pm Bell Choir	20 3:55 - 5:00 Green Square Meals	21	22
23 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In- person & live-stream 10:45 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese	24 10:00 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766 7:00 pm Nourished Centering (at Pastor Kristina's)	25	26 9:30 am Zoom Book Study 12:00 pm Women's Book Study (Fireside) 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kids Club 6:00 pm Book Study (Library) 6:00 pm Little Learners 7:15 pm Bell Choir	27 12:00 pm Friendly Fellowship Pot Luck (Fellowship Hall) 6:30 pm Rizpah Circle (Fireside)	28	

Super Bowl Sunday

You are invited to wear clothing featuring your favorite sports team to worship on **Sunday, February 9**. It's always fun to celebrate the teams we support!



High School Graduate Scholarships

High school graduates are able to apply for the Kadlec Scholarship. Information will be sent to graduating seniors coming up.

WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

- February 2** ***Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany***
In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Kristina Roth-Klinck will preach, "Social Class and Kin-Dom of God"
Scripture: Luke 12:13-28
- February 9** ***Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany***
In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "The Body of Christ"
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12-16, 26-31
- February 16** ***Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany***
In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Living for Jesus"
Scripture: Luke 6:17-26
- February 23** ***Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany - Nonagenarian Sunday***
In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "A Family Affair"
Scripture: Genesis 45:3-11,15

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP



Friendly Fellowship will meet at noon on **February 27, 2025** in the fellowship hall at Lovely Lane for a potluck lunch. The program will be just as our title reflects, "Fellowship." We will have time to visit with each other and do some planning for future meetings.

Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. Hope to see you there and, as always, please invite a friend. Please contact Judy McDowell with questions (319) 560-2960.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Upcoming gatherings are Saturdays, **February 15, and March 22, at 8:30 am**. In February, church member Leslie Neugebauer will speak about a recent trip to Peru. The focus for March is Dementia Friends. All are welcome! Contact Scott Meador with questions at: scottm@lovelylane.org

Living Last Supper

The first gathering for participants in the Living Last Supper will be **Sunday, February 9, at 4:00 pm** in the library. The production brings da Vinci's famous painting to life. Performances will take place during Holy Week. Please let Pastor Scott know if you are interested in participating, scottm@lovelylane.org



United
Women
in Faith

ELIZABETH CIRCLE MEETING - Our Annual Valentine Cookie/Candy Deliveries

Thursday, February 13 – 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Bring cookies, candy, treats. We will box them and deliver them to our church members/friends who may not get out very often.

RIZPAH CIRCLE MEETING

Thursday, February 27 – 6:30-8:00 pm

**Childcare is available for all meetings*

Please contact Deb Streff ahead of time so she can make arrangements. (319) 721-8864

JANUARY MEETING RECAPS

For the **RIZPAH** meeting on January 7, guest speakers Myrna and Jim Loehrlein shared their stories of building habitat homes with Jimmy Carter worldwide. Jimmy was a taskmaster who kept everyone on task and schedule. Rosalyn traveled and worked with him throughout their habitat work and actually throughout their married lives, even when Jimmy was president. It was a great program enjoyed by all!

At the January 9th Elizabeth Circle meeting, we filled out the library cards for our book collection and organized them on our dedicated shelves in the library. Be sure to take a look the next time you're at church. Feel free to check out a book or two!

2025 PLEDGES

There's still time to pledge to our Lovely Lane United Women in Faith. [View the pledge letter](#) we recently emailed to all the women in the church. Please give prayerful consideration to your pledge as you decide in your heart what to give. You may present your pledge at our **February 13, 2025** Elizabeth Circle meeting, drop it off at church, or mail your check to our treasurer: Cindy Sale, 3316 Riverbend Dr NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52411. Checks should be made payable to United Women in Faith.

"I'm so Happy"

There is something just so wonderful about those slow mornings at our house getting ready for work and school. Because Audrey often wakes up pretty early, we have some downtime before we have to get moving to get ready for the day. We eat our breakfast slowly at the table or, as was the case this morning, Audrey and I ate breakfast at her little table in the living room while watching her favorite Youtube star, Ms. Rachel. If you have littles in your life, maybe you've heard of her!

Ms. Rachel sings songs throughout her show, "Songs for Littles," and does rhymes and riddles. She's quite soothing to watch and listen to. There's one song in particular that I truly enjoy listening to, and it's called, "I'm so Happy." It's one of those songs that fills your cup for a busy day.

Here's how it goes: "I'm so happy, jump clap, I'm so happy today, jump, clap, spin, stomp, stomp hey! I'm so happy, jump, I'm so happy, and nothing's going to bring me down today! I can sing and dance, I can hang out with my friends, I can draw a picture of the sky...What if it rains? No, I can dance in the rain. What if it's cold? I'll have hot chocolate to drink. What if I fall? It's okay, I can get back up again. Nothing's going to bring me down today!"

Truly our day doesn't always go the way we expect it to. How many of you have found a leaky faucet or a pipe that was frozen? How many of you have been late after hitting ALL the red stop lights? Or when have you received that call from school that your kiddo is sick and you have to leave work? May these words from Ms. Rachel be a reminder to change your perspective. If it rains, we can dance in the rain. If it's too cold to be outside, then we'll have hot chocolate. Of course I realize that there are big things that make changing our perspective a little hard, but let's make it a February priority to start with the small things and lean on God to help us! - Pastor Kristina Roth-Klinck



Sponsored by Health & Wholeness

Impact Life Blood Drive
Saturday, February 15 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Save the date: "Puzzle and Pie Palooza"
March 14 at 7:00 pm

Women's Book Study

Wednesdays at noon in the Fireside Room

Current book is:

"Forgiving What You Can't Forget."

Books are available in the church office

Please contact Annie Walker at

anniew@lovelylane.org

GREEN SQUARE MEALS

Six volunteers are needed each month to help with Green Square Meals! The next date is **Thursday, February 20**, with a **3:55 pm** expected arrival time. Contact Dan Moore by phone at: (715) 432-1983 or by email at: banjobubbabad@yahoo.com if you are able to help serve. Thank you to those who have helped serve these meals!

HAPPY ENDINGS BOOK CLUB

The Happy Endings Book Club will meet on **February 10** in the Fireside Room at **10:00 am**. The Book for February is *The Briar Club* by Kate Quinn. The book captures the paranoia of the McCarthy era and evoking the changing roles for women in postwar America, *The Briar Club* is an intimate and thrilling novel of secrets and loyalty put to the test. Contact Judy McDowell with questions at (319) 560-2960.



Souper Sunday
February 9

Super Bowl
Sub Fundraiser



Support the youth on their summer service trip to St. Louis

Order by **February 5**
 Pick up **Sunday, February 9**,
 following worship services

Order here: [Souper Sunday](#)

Valentine's

PREORDERS

Sign up by February 11th
Pick up February 13th from 4pm-6pm
@ St. Paul's UMC

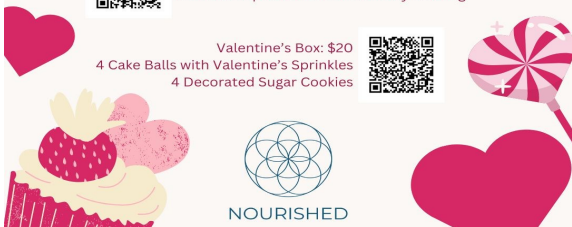


Pack of 4 Cupcakes: \$12
2 chocolate cupcakes with vanilla frosting
2 vanilla cupcakes with strawberry frosting

Valentine's Box: \$20
4 Cake Balls with Valentine's Sprinkles
4 Decorated Sugar Cookies



NOURISHED



Science and Religion Lecture

Our first annual Science and Religion Lecture will take place on **Tuesday, April 29, at 7:00 pm**. The speaker is Dr. Adam Myers, Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Mount Mercy University. The lecture series is funded with memorial money in memory of long-time church member, Jack Murphy.



NOURISHED

Centering at Pastor Kristina's 3000 Carroll Dr SE, Cedar Rapids Spirituality & Chronic Illness

Monday, February 10, 7:00 pm
Monday, February 24, 7:00 pm

Fork 'n' Folk

Saturday, February 8, 2025, 4:30 - 6:30 pm
At Pastor Kristina's - bring a dish to share and an instrument if you choose

Little Learners

Please 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.



Wednesday, February 12, 6:00 pm
Wednesday, February 26, 6:00 pm

In the Lovely Lane Preschool wing

2025 Lenten Offering Recipients

Matthew 25: Is a local non-profit that exists to strengthen core urban neighborhoods in Cedar Rapids. They build strong neighborhoods by focusing on fresh, healthy food; affordable, sustainable housing, and education. Projects include the state's first urban farm, school gardens, youth job training, a tool library, Groundswell "pay-it-forward" Café, and a variety of housing programs. Transform, the annual volunteer housing rehabilitation blitz, brings more than three hundred volunteers together the final full week of June.

Trinity Lane PreSchool Scholarships: Trinity Lane is a state-licensed, non-profit preschool. In 2022, Trinity Lane's new home was opened in Asbury United Methodist Church. The preschool includes classrooms for 2, 3, and 4 year olds. The 4 year old program is FREE in partnership with Cedar Rapids and the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program. The 2 and 3 year old programs are tuition based. Sliding Scale Scholarships are available to those who qualify. Your generous contributions will allow more lower income families to participate in this much needed early education opportunity.

Self Help International: Is an independent, non-governmental 501(c)(3), established in 1959. It is dedicated to preventing hunger in rural communities in Ghana, West Africa, Nicaragua, and Central America. It operates on the principle that people everywhere have talents and resources they can use, with help, to improve their lives. This approach was created with input from United Methodists, and has been supported generously by United Methodists over many years. Self-Help offers assistance through agricultural extension, nutritional education, micro-credit, empowerment of women, development of small business, storage of farm products, and other related programs.

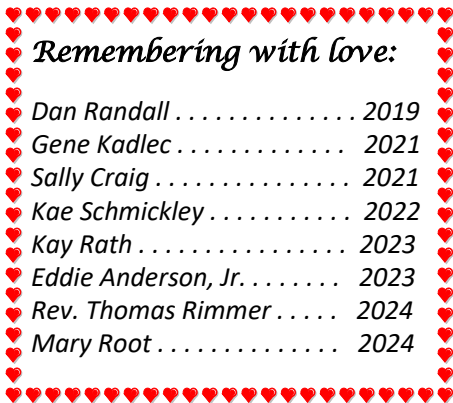
Be the Light: Their mission is to bring together individuals and communities affected by mental health and suicide through a glow walk event. By shining a light on hope and healing, they strive to create a safe and supportive environment where participants can connect, support each other, and find strength in solidarity. Together, the aim to make a positive impact on our communities and help those in need.

JOYS

- *Celebrating the long and meaningful life of President Jimmy Carter
- *Strong financial giving to end the year and increased pledges for 2025
- *Pastor Kristina arriving home after family time in Texas
- *Pastor Kristina’s brother-in-law, Sheldon, on path to become US citizen
- *Travis Meiborg’s nephew, Max, is doing better after challenges
- *Maggie Thomas’s great nephew, John, with good health news
- *Sue Moss’s brother-in-law, John, with good health news
- *Remembering our baptisms on Baptism of the Lord Sunday
- *Chris Johnson worshipping with us today! Welcome Chris!
- *John O’Bryon with healing following a spot of skin cancer
- *Pastor Kristina preaching at St. Mark’s UMC to promote Nourished
- *Pastor Sherrie Ilg assisting with worship
- *Men’s Breakfast on Saturday with speaker, Greg Edwards, focusing on artificial intelligence
- *Donations for Cuba trip
- *Nourished burning of the greens and leadership board meeting
- *United Women in Faith Thursday night presentation on Habitat for Humanity
- *Joys of grandchildren
- *Frances Roland with success in the large group state speech event
- *Nourished event with comedian coming up on April 4
- *Youth selling subs and soup on Super Bowl Sunday
- *Local scouts working with Pastor Scott on “God and Me” workbook

CONCERNS

- *Ike Schneider with health concerns
- *Pam Nixon’s cousin’s husband with upcoming surgeries
- *Sharon Kouba’s brother-in-law with health concerns
- *Sympathy to the family of Thomas Bachman
- *Melissa Davis’s aunt, Joan, with cancer diagnosis
- *Justin Davis’s cousin’s son with cancer diagnosis
- *Josh Mills’s brother with rental property lost to a fire, lifting up the renters
- *Katherine Plendl’s brother-in-law with fracture from fall
- *Family of Philip Hamilton losing their house to California fires, with Nourished love offering
- *Jim and Myrna Loehrlein’s son, John, living in California, facing potential fire challenges
- *Chris Johnson’s grandparents living in San Diego, facing potential fire challenges
- *Sympathy to Lu Serbousek after the passing of her sister
- *Barb Vancura’s brother-in-law, Dan, w/health challenges
- *Katherine Plendl’s sister’s cat facing cancer challenges
- *Marilyn Beebe with back surgery and sympathy following the passing of her brother, Jack
- *Sympathy to Ron and Margaret Nelson following the passing of Margaret’s aunt, Virginia
- *Kim Moore’s friend, Renee, with procedure for bladder cancer
- *David Garber-Garcia’s wife is ill with the flu
- *Lynn Heidt at St. Luke’s Transitional Care Center
- *Nancy Wittenburg’s friend, Sandy, with health challenges
- *Barb Waterhouse-Miller with family loss and family health challenges
- *John and Bobbie O'Bryon's neighbor with health challenges
- *Dennis Ramsey recovering at the UIHC Rehabilitation Hospital in Iowa City
- *Support for Bishop Mariann Budde as she addresses immigration issues
- *Sympathy to Rev. Bob Dagit on the passing of his wife, Jo (services at LLUMC on February 1)
- *Sympathy to Pastor Kristina following the passing of her brother-in-law, Sheldon’s, father
- *Pastor Kristina’s former teaching colleague, Rosemary, hospitalized
- *Lovely Lane – St. Paul’s Youth Co-Op looking for youth group volunteers



Remembering with love:

 Dan Randall 2019

 Gene Kadlec 2021

 Sally Craig 2021

 Kae Schmickley 2022

 Kay Rath 2023

 Eddie Anderson, Jr. 2023

 Rev. Thomas Rimmer 2024

 Mary Root 2024



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

Website: www.lovelylane.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc
Phone: (319) 393-6674
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Lovely Lane Monthly Financial Information

Cash inflow - month of 12/31/24	\$81,083
Cash inflow - YTD	\$597,951
Budget need/month	\$53,556
Cash outflow - month of 12/31/24	\$63,122
Cash outflow - YTD	\$603,046
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	Susan Camp
Facilities Manager	Curtis Thomas
Custodians	Rex & Rhonda Heasty
Website & Social Media	Shelly Turner
Wedding Coordinator	Becky Wood