



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

March 2025

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 63, Number 3

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**

The Season of Lent

"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry."
– John 6:35 (NRSV)

I really enjoy the music of rocker, Bruce Springsteen. I saw Springsteen in concert at Chicago's Soldier Field in 1985 when I was in high school. From that point on, I have been a huge supporter and enthusiast. I have seen Springsteen in concert a number of times.

A few years ago a colleague told me that Springsteen has something in common with perhaps the most famous theologian of all time, Saint Augustine, the Fourth Century Bishop of Hippo. My colleague told me that Augustine's famous words, "Our hearts are restless until they rest in thee," connect to the words Springsteen sang in the song, *Hungry Heart*. In the song, Springsteen sings, "You lay down your money and you play your part, everybody's got a hungry heart."


Now this might be a bit of a stretch, but both Augustine and Springsteen, separated by 1,700 years, address the matter of hungry, restless hearts. We are made that way . . . hungry, restless, with a deep need within us for something meaningful. We want to experience God, and we want our Lord to carry us forward.

We are in some challenging times right now. The news around us has the capacity to bring great anxiety. Whether it is news on the global, national, state, or local level, there is much out there that can give us a restless heart. Yet, there is constant hope. We find hope in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. A trust in Jesus as our constant source of strength can bring comfort.

The Lenten Season is a time of forty days and forty nights in which we contemplate the nature of our restless heart. We spend time pondering "who we are" and "whose we are." We engage in the spiritual disciplines like meditation, prayer, and study that bring us closer to Christ Jesus.

I invite you to join us in worship this month as we begin Lent. We will look at the life and teachings of Jesus with a sermon series entitled, "The Way." We hope you will experience some inner peace that can propel you to live and serve in a faithful manner! Grace and peace, Pastor Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) — March 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese 2:00 pm Family Fun @ AirFX Trampoline Park	3 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766	4 6:30 SPPRC (Library)	 ASH WEDNESDAY	6 7:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	7	8
9 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese 2:00 pm Youth Service Project LL	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 6:15 pm Youth Group 7:15 pm Bell Choir	13 7:45 Leadership Team (Offsite) 1:00 pm Elizabeth Circle (Fireside)	14 7:00 pm Puzzle & Pie Palooza (Fellowship Hall)	15 9:00 - 10:30 am UWF Fair Trade & Labor Trafficking Event (Fellowship Hall)
16 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 am Children's Sunday School 12:00 pm Congolese 1:30 pm Nourished Board Meeting (Pastor Kristina's)	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 5:45 pm Trustee's (Library) 6:00 pm Finance (Fireside) 6:00 pm Health & Wholeness (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 pm Admin Council (Library)	21 5:00 pm Youth Trip to Okee Cokee Brothers Band in Iowa City	22 8:30 am Men's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall) 3:30 pm Equinox Gathering (Pastor Kristina's)
23 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 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	29
30 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 am Children's Sunday School 12:00pm Congolese 11:30pm 5th Sunday Potluck	31					

WORSHIP IN MARCH

- March 2** ***Transfiguration Sunday***
In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott will preach, "Coming Glory"
Scripture: Luke 9:28-36
- March 5** ***Ash Wednesday***
Worship at 7:00 pm
- March 9** ***First Sunday in Lent***
In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "The Journey Begins," The Way
Scripture: Mark 1:9-13
- March 16** ***Second Sunday in Lent***
In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Healing Power," The Way
Scripture: Mark 1:21-32
- March 23** ***Third Sunday in Lent***
In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Kristina Roth-Klinck will preach, "Getting the Word Out," The Way
Scripture: Matthew 7:24-29
- March 30** ***Fourth Sunday in Lent***
In-person worship at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "On the Water," The Way
Scripture: Mark 4:35-41

MEN'S BREAKFAST

MEN'S BREAKFAST IN MARCH – Join us for an hour-long Dementia Friendly Learning Session to learn more about how to support friends and loved ones on their journey. Lindsay Glynn, Director of Operations at Meth-Wick Community will be the speaker. Lindsay has worked in the aging services field for over 20 years assisting individuals with Alzheimer's and their family members. **Saturday, March 22, 8:30 am** in the fellowship hall. All are welcome!

Pastor's Study Group

The Wednesday study groups with Pastor Scott will start a Lenten study on **Wednesday, March 12**. The morning group will meet on Zoom at 9:30 am and the evening group will meet in the library at 6:00 pm. The focus is the book, *The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus*, by Adam Hamilton. The book looks at the life and teachings of Jesus. The Lenten sermon series in worship will emphasize the same book. Books are available in the church office. All are welcome to participate!

The Risk of Being Woke

The word “woke” has been a word that has flown around the media and in circles working for racial and social justice. You can simply Google the word, “woke,” and you’ll find quite a few definitions and understandings. You’ll find the idea of emerging from a state of sleep or the past tense of ‘wake,’ but what we’re really talking about when we discuss being woke in circles working for justice is the idea of being alert to racial and social injustice and discrimination. From a blog on Healing Minnesota Stories, “One early use of “woke” came in 1940 during a Negro United Mine Workers’ strike in West Virginia, cited by the Legal Defense Fund. A Black union leader learned that Black miners were earning less than white miners. “We were asleep,” he said. “But we will stay woke from now on.””¹

Being woke takes risk because you are questioning the norms of white supremacy and the ingrained culture in the world. As we’ve seen, the word woke is threatening to some people that they’ve tried to ban the word altogether and turned the word into a slur.

As we move into the Lenten season, we remember a man who risked being woke, ultimately to his death. He saw the injustice and oppression happening in the world, and he didn’t sit back and stay silent. He openly rejected the ways of the world and the government’s power of the time, bringing healing and wholeness to people who had been greatly isolated, beaten down, and oppressed.

This Lenten series, Nourished will be in a series exploring the risk of being woke, pulling from a book by Curtiss Paul Deyoung with the same name. Together, as we explore the story of Jesus’ life, ministry, and ultimately his crucifixion, we’ll ask ourselves the same question Deyoung invites us to ponder, “What is the resurrection witness in the United States that Black Lives Matter?”

We hope you will join us for this important and INCREDIBLY timely conversation! For more information, email Pastor Kristina at kristina@nourishedcr.org.

¹ “The Risk of Being Woke: A Book Review,” <https://healingmnsstories.wordpress.com/2023/07/11/the-risk-of-being-woke-a-book-review/>

The Risk Of Being WOKE



NourishedLenten Series

March 10th & 24th, April 14th @ 7pm

Easter Vigil April 19th @7pm

All at Ryan and Kristina’s

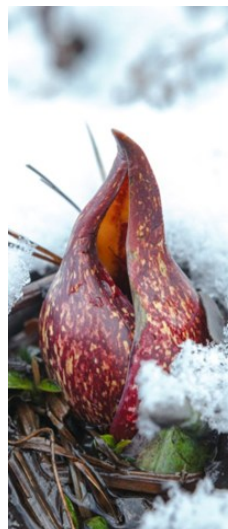


SAVE THE DATE

Friday evening
April 4th
7pm
Ryan and Kristina’s House

Comedian Zak Toscani

We’re bringing in a comedian for our community gathering in April! Save the date! You won’t want to miss this!



March Equinox Skunk Cabbage Trip

Saturday, March

22nd

3:30pm

Meet at Ryan &
Kristina’s, and we
will carpool!




PUZZLE & PIE PALOOZA

Come and celebrate Pie Day with the Health & Wholeness Committee. The committee will have identical puzzles for groups to complete, competing for a pie.


Pie will be served as well by committee members

WHEN: MARCH 14TH AT 7PM
WHERE: FELLOWSHIP HALL

Thank you to United Women in Faith and Children's Weekday Ministries for the wonderful Valentine treat boxes and special Valentine cards!



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, March 12 at 6:00 pm
Wednesday, March 26 at 6:00 pm

In the Lovely Lane 4's Preschool Room

HAPPY ENDINGS BOOK CLUB


The Happy Endings Book Club will meet on **March 10, 2025, at 10:00 am**. In the Fireside Room. The Book for March is a continued discussion of *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. We will also discuss the book *Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. The book is a gripping historical mystery inspired by the life and diary of Martha Ballard, a renowned 18th-century midwife who defied the legal system. Please contact Judy McDowell with questions at jmcdow51@aol.com




FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP

Friendly Fellowship will meet at **noon on Thursday, March 27, 2025** in the fellowship hall at Lovely Lane for a potluck lunch. The program content will be announced in March.


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.



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.



United Women in Faith invite you to learn about Fair Trade and Labor Trafficking on **Saturday, March 15 from 9:00 - 10:30 am**. Coffee and refreshments at 9:00, program will follow at 9:30, in the fellowship hall.



Fifth Sunday Potluck Lunch

Please join Us for a
Delightful Culinary Gathering
March 30, 2025 after 10:30 Worship

We encourage everyone to bring a dish that they love and would like to share. It can be an appetizer, main course or dessert.
Please bring your own table service.
Drinks will be provided.

We look forward to seeing you all there and tasting the wonderful dishes you'll bring. Let's make this potluck lunch a memorable and delightful event for everyone.
Please contact Judy McDowell with questions
jmcdow51@aol.com

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 helps 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.



*Vacation Bible School
Road Trip: On The Go With God*

Save the Date:
July 20-24
*Registration to follow

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Lovely Lane UMC
2424 42nd St NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

For more information contact:
anniew@lovelylane.org

The Lord your God is
with you wherever
you go.
Joshua 1:9



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

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LOVELY LANE AND INSTAGRAM

Lovely Lane now has an Instagram account.

Find and follow us at:

www.instagram.com/lovelylaneumc

LOVELY LANE UMC STAFF

Administration & Worship

Lead Pastor
Associate Pastor
Director of Media & Technology
Organist
Chancel Choir Director
Handbell Choir Director
Director of Children's Choirs
Chancel Choir Accompanist

Dr. Scott Meador
Rev. Kristina Roth-Klinck
Eric Wylie
Dennis Ramsey
Nancy Patrick
Charlie Kucera
Carla Jesse
Linda Bayliss

Children & Youth

Director of Family Ministries
Director of Youth Ministries
Nursery Caregiver Lead
Nursery Caregiver
Nursery Caregiver
Nursery Caregiver
Director Children's Weekday Ministries (CWM)

Annie Walker
Ryan Roth-Klinck
Tara Neveu
Paige Gerjets
Hailey Ryan
Brooke Johnson
Dawn DuPont

Office & Facilities

Office Administrator & Finance Secretary
Office Assistant
Treasurer
Membership Secretary
Facilities Manager
Custodians
Website & Social Media
Wedding Coordinator

Tammy Martin
Marti Bowman
Susan Kohl
Susan Camp
Curtis Thomas
Rex & Rhonda Heasty
Shelly Turner
Becky Wood