



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

June 2025

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 63, Number 6

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**

A Matter of Trust

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."

Proverbs 3:5 (NIV)

The *National Review* ran a story the day after Memorial Day that was titled, "'Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning,' In Cruise We Trust." The article brought out the belief that a new movie from Tom Cruise can boost the box office just as his character, Ethan Hunt, can save the day and make our world safer. It's nice to have those we can turn to and trust.

Now this headline was written in a tongue-in-cheek manner, but I think it's true that we put our trust in others. We like to believe that others will come through for us. In his book, *Talking to Strangers*, Malcolm Gladwell writes about the ways we "default to truth." We like to believe that others are trustworthy. We want to believe the best about others. Even when someone is doing something that looks suspicious we want to believe that individual is up to something good, not something bad. If we didn't default to truth, then we would never trust someone.

Trust is often defined as the belief that someone is reliable and will behave in a way we expect. This belief is foundational in the key relationships in our lives, whether they are family, church, community, or work. It is often said that "once trust is broken, it can take a long time to heal." That's how important this quality is!

Trust is found in the Bible. The ancient Israelites put their trust in Moses that he would lead them out of Egypt and bring them into the Promised Land. Jesus put his trust in the disciples and they returned that firm belief. The apostle, Paul, had a firm conviction that others would welcome him as he travelled great distances to spread the Gospel.

Of course, it's easy to trust people when times are good. The challenges come when times are difficult. While we don't want to lose faith in others, we want to put our ultimate trust in God. Trusting God means that we surrender to the Great Almighty. It means that while we may not comprehend what is taking place around us, we know that God is present.

We are living in some interesting times. Might we continually turn to the one who will never let us down! God's track record is perfect. This is something we can hold on to! Peace and blessings, Pastor Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) - June 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese	2	3	4	5	6 7:00 pm Nourished Movie Night @ Pastor Kristina's	7
8 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese	9 9:45 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside) 10:00 am Happy Endings Book Club (Fireside Room) 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766 (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 pm Nourished Centering @ Pastor Kristina's	10	11	12 7:45 am Leadership Team (offsite) 1:00-3:00 pm UWF Elizabeth Circle (Fireside Room)	13	14 Happy Flag Day 
15 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese 	16 10:00 am Happy Endings Book Club (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766 (Fellowship Hall)	17	18	19	20	21 7:00 - 9:00 pm Summer Solstice Party @ Pastor Kristina's
22 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese	23 9:45 am Prayer Shawl (FS) 6:30 pm Scouts BSA Troop 766 (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 pm Nourished Centering @ Pastor Kristina's	24	25	26 6:30 - 8:00 pm UWF Rizpah Circle (Fireside Room) 7:00 pm Nourished at Mega Market - Cultivate Hope Farm	27	28
29 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 - 5th Sunday Potluck 12:00 pm Congolese	30	<div style="background-color: #e6f2ff; padding: 10px;"> <p>Did you know you could be a Chief Coffee Orderer?</p> <p>We are looking for team members for our Fair-Trade project. United Women in Faith are selling Fair-Trade and eco-friendly items to promote being good stewards to the earth. Proceeds from sales help support United Methodist Iowa projects as well as Lovely Lane's local missions. We are in need of people to help select and order items (like Fair Trade coffee for example) and people to work shifts at sales opportunities we have throughout our community. If this sounds like a project you want to become involved with, please contact Deb Streff (319) 721- 8864 or Cindy Sale (319) 329-6118, for more information.</p> </div>				

WORSHIP IN JUNE

- June 1** ***Ascension Sunday***
In-person worship at **9:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Power, Promise and Presence," Acts 1:1-11
- June 8** ***Pentecost Sunday***
In-person worship at **9:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service
Pastor Kristina Roth-Klinck will preach
- June 15** ***Father's Day - Annual Conference Sunday***
In-person worship at **9:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service
United Women in Faith will lead worship
- June 22** ***Second Sunday after Pentecost***
In-person worship at **9:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "When God Shows Up," 1 Kings 19:1-15a
- June 29** ***Third Sunday after Pentecost***
In-person worship at **9:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Called to Freedom," Galatians 5:1, 13-25


5th Sunday Potluck

Please plan to share your favorite dish on **Sunday, June 29**, following the worship service for the Lovely Lane 5th Sunday Potluck.

Bring your own table service. Drinks will be provided. Sponsored by the Hospitality Committee.

The Prayer Shawl Group continues to meet over the summer on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 9:45 am in the Fireside Room. They stitch prayer shawls for new babies, Lovely Lane Graduates, those who are ill and those who are grieving. Blankets and shawls are knitted, crocheted or sewn. If you would like to stitch and enjoy some good fellowship, please contact Sharon Kouba at (319) 329-7228.

Congratulations to the Graduates
of Lovely Lane



Mara Budny - Linn-Mar
Max Burrier - Washington
Connor Culbertson - Prairie
Kepler Engelmann - Kennedy
Kiya Hinkel - Linn-Mar
Brooke Johnson - Linn-Mar
Alex Meyers - Kennedy

Graduates were recognized at the May 18
Worship Service. Best wishes for your future!



SUMMER SOLSTICE PARTY

Celebrate the Summer Solstice with Nourished!
Food, Crafts, Music, Spirituality, and More!

Saturday, June 21st 7pm-9pm
Pastor Kristina's House
Email Kristina for more information:
kristina@nourishedcr.org

 NOURISHED



Summer BLOCKBUSTERS

Throughout the month of June, Nourished will be in a Centering series exploring some themes of spirituality and justice in some great summer movies and tv shows!

FRIDAY, JUNE 6TH 7PM "BLACK PANTHER"
MONDAY, JUNE 9TH 7PM CENTERING
Discussion over Black Panther
MONDAY, JUNE 23RD 7PM CENTERING
Discussion over a T.V. Show
All events are held at Pastor Kristina's

 NOURISHED



PLEASE JOIN US


Annie Walker BABY SHOWER

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025
10:00 AM TO NOON

Annie is registered at Target
as Annie Walker & Ben Boyd Due 9/9/2025

Oh
BOY!

LOVELY LANE FELLOWSHIP HALL
2424 42ND ST NE
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA



Save the date!

Lovely Lane at the
Kernels Baseball
Game


Friday, July 25
Tickets \$15

More
Information
to come

NOURISHED

Friday, June 6, 7:00 pm - Nourished Movie Night
Monday, June 9, 7:00 pm - Nourished Centering
Saturday, June 21, 7:00 - 9:00 pm - Summer Solstice Gathering
Monday, June 23, 7:00 pm - Nourished Centering
Thursday, June 26, 4:00 - 7:00 pm Nourished at Mega Market - Cultivate Hope Farm

3000 Carroll Dr SE, Cedar Rapids, IA

 NOURISHED

Vacation Bible School Road Trip: On The Go Wlth God

July 20-24

Register now!

Please use the QR code or link below



<https://lovelylane.breezechms.com/form/f34620>

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

For more information contact:
anneu@lovelylane.org

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

The Happy Endings Book Club

will meet on **June 9, 2025** in the Fireside Room at **10:00 am**. We will be discussing the book *The Ultimate Journey* by Jim Stovall.



This book completes Stovall's trilogy on billionaire Red Stevens-his death, legacy, and the life lessons he wants grandson Jason and bride Alexia to learn. The story is told through the voice of James, Red's longtime limo driver and friend; Red's diaries; and video recordings. The book for July is *The Light We Carry* by Michelle Obama. Happy reading!

Welcome to the Lovely Lane New Member Class Spring of 2025

Tim Muller
Steve & Mary Odegaard
Katherine Plendl
Tom & Leah Rodenberg

*We are Blessed that you have chosen
Lovely Lane as your church home.*

Matthew 25

10th Annual Transform Week

This year, Matthew 25 will host its 10th Annual Transform Week, **June 23–27**. Thanks to an amazing number of volunteers, the total of which grows every year, we continue the commitment to quality affordable housing and strong neighborhood building. Our hope is to make this a very impactful week, helping many homeowners who are truly in need.

Lovely Lane will again have a team taking on one or more of the projects during the week. As a volunteer you can work what your Schedule allows. You can sign up for half days, full days, multiple days or all week. It is a very rewarding feeling to see a project completed for someone truly deserving! Serving as a Transform Week volunteer also is a great way to become better acquainted with fellow members of Lovely Lane.

There is a registration deadline of Friday, June 6, this year, so early signup is strongly encouraged. The number of volunteers will be capped at 150 per day to keep ratios consistent between volunteers and projects.

To register go to **hub25.org**, click on **Volunteer** and then choose **Transform Week**. When registering please indicate you are a volunteer with the Lovely Lane group. When committing to a project it is very helpful for us to know how many volunteers we have and what skills they do possess. This is all covered during the sign-up process.

For questions please contact Les Minor,
lminor@imonmail.com or (319) 310-1945.

May Event Recap

In May, our major event was presented by Chains Interrupted, an organization in Cedar Rapids that works to educate youth and adults to prevent Sex Trafficking. Some important points from the presentation:

- Sex Trafficking happens in Iowa!
- Contacts most often occur via computer apps such as TikTok
- 50% of Sex Trafficking is within the family with mothers and fathers pimping out their children, spouses and significant others.

We must be vigilant and do whatever we can. Two women in United Women of Faith have now been trained as speakers and are already scheduling events. The first event is in Independence on **June 5**.

United Women in Faith Annual Service

The United Women in Faith will be leading the worship service on **Sunday, June 15**, while the pastors are at annual conference. We would like as many women as possible to assist in the service. There are many opportunities for all of you! Please call or text Deb Streff at (319) 721-8864 if you are interested in helping.

Elizabeth Circle Meeting - Thursday, June 12, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Rizpah Circle Meeting - Thursday, June 26, 6:30 – 8:00 pm



United
Women
in Faith

“You Can Make A Difference”

“You can make a difference.” I’ve heard that phrase a lot throughout my life, and I’ve often wondered if I truly can make a difference as just one person. I’ve never gotten involved in legislative change in either the United Methodist Church or on a political level. I’ve been timid, maybe a little scared, but I’ve also thought whether I could even move the needle for change.

In the fall of 2023, I began to get involved with a group of young United Methodists who were beginning to work on some legislative ideas for creating a more robust parental leave policy for clergy in the United Methodist Church. This work began after Bishop Carcaño’s trial in September 2023, in the California-Nevada Conference, which included some challenges for a clergywoman’s maternity leave. Over the course of these last few years of Zoom meetings and heavy theological and political work, a proposed legislation has been written and put together to propose to United Methodist Conferences across the denomination to increase parental leave for clergy to thirteen weeks, which includes live birth, adoption, and foster care (which had not previously been recognized). I’ve been working on this for a few years now, attending Zoom meetings across the connection and working to propose this policy in the Iowa United Methodist Church for this year’s Annual Conference held in Des Moines on June 13-15. I’m nervous and excited to see where things land on the voting floor at Annual Conference this year. I’m now serving a term on The Commission on the Status and Role of Women from my work on this legislative proposal. (COSROW works for the full inclusion of women in the life of the United Methodist Church.) Our team at COSROW welcomes your prayers as this important proposal will be voted on at Annual Conference this year.

I’ve never done anything like this. I’ve learned a lot in the process about the legislative system in the United Methodist Church, and I know that whether this passes this year or not, that I am making a difference, and you can, too! - Pastor Kristina

JOYS

- Teacher Appreciation Week (thanks to our local teachers and CWM staff)!
- *New vision for UMC with call to “love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously”
- *Thank you to our Wednesday night meal crew, Lyn Lewis, Julie Meyer, LuAnn Basemann
- *Happy birthday to Chris Johnson!
- *Erika Serbousek with a clear six-month MRI
- *Congratulations to Ryan Stumpf on college graduation
- *J.R. Streff with great success in the Special Olympics
- *Meaningful presentation from Chains Interrupted about sex and human trafficking
- *Rick and Cathy Homard traveling to Texas for wedding
- *Sue Moss with a new position providing home care for those in need
- *Religious trauma workshops with Dr. Hannah Sutton-Adams
- *All state music festival
- *Election of American Pope, Pope Leo the 14th
- *Maggie Thomas' great nephew John with clear cancer scans
- *Eric and Krista Wylie visiting son Nathan in France
- *Meador family enjoyed Sophia visiting
- *Pastor Kristina's family visiting and celebrating her dad's upcoming retirement from active pastoral ministry
- *JR Streff's presentation
- *Celebrating our high school graduates during worship
- *Preschool graduation and end-of-the-year celebrations with Children's Weekday Ministries
- *Covenant approved with our new sister church in Matanzas, Cuba
- *Installation of Pope Leo XIV in Rome
- *Sue Shaffer's grandson, Adam, graduating from college
- *Appreciation for those who help with Green Square Meals
- *Memorial Day remembrances for those who served
- *High school and college graduates with new experiences to come
- *Holiday travel on the road
- *Celebrating our new member class to the church
- *JR Streff with great success at the Special Olympics
- *Pastor Kristina preaching at Asbury and Kenwood Park UMC's
- *Honor flight experience for Mark Beebe

CONCERNS

- *Lynn Heidt with health challenges
- *Maryann Stewart with health challenges
- *Norm Nielsen grieving the passing of two close friends
- *Travis Meiborg's uncle in Montezuma with health concerns
- *Iowa law makers wishing to end same sex marriage
- *Iowa voting materials will now only be in English
- *New Iowa science standards that leave out climate change
- *Lynn Heidt with health challenges
- *Maryann Stewart with health challenges
- *Israel and Palestine
- *Ukraine
- *Fighting between India and Pakistan
- *Marci Wittles with recent deaths in her family
- *Travis Meiborg's Uncle Denny doing better but with ongoing health challenges
- *Millie Corbett's daughter with a friend named Bob diagnosed with ALS
- *Liz Briggman's daughter's boyfriend, Steve, with health concerns
- *New York City following incident with ship hitting Brooklyn Bridge
- *Judy McDowell lifts family members in Kentucky impacted by storms
- *Pam Moore's cousin, Laurie, with health concerns
- *Frank and Susan Camp after an incident with a dog in the neighborhood
- *Tom Muller with a broken ankle
- *Rob and Barb Olive's nephew, Steven, deployed to Iraq
- *UMC pastor, Rev. Doug Cue, passed away suddenly, service on 5/30
- *Katherine Plendl's sister, Michelle, with ongoing health concerns
- *Remembering the life of George Floyd after his passing five years ago
- *Marci Wittles experiencing family loss

Remembering with love:

Louis Stolba 2021

Do Koudelka 2023



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

Website: www.lovelylane.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc

Instagram: www.instagram.com/lovelylaneumc

Phone: (319) 393-6674

2424 42nd Street NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Lovely Lane Monthly Financial Information

Cash inflow - month of 4/30/25	\$56,702
Cash inflow - YTD	\$223,775
Budget need/month	\$56,735
Cash outflow - month of 4/30/25	\$54,396
Cash outflow - YTD	\$199,935
Unpaid apportionments	\$0

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