



# Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

August 2025

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 63, Number 8

## **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**

## **Paul's Travels**

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"*

- 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

The apostle Paul is one of the most intriguing individuals in the Bible. A younger contemporary of Jesus, he was at the forefront of the beginnings of the Christian religion. His influence on the religion is massive in scope. The book, *The 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History*, by Michael H. Hart, ranks Paul as the sixth most influential person in history.

We know about Paul's impact on Christianity through thirteen letters in the New Testament and a short travel-log of his ministry by the physician, Luke, in the Book of Acts. You might remember that Luke wrote his own gospel, as well as Acts. Paul comes to us initially as Saul, a persecutor of Christians. Yet after his conversion on Damascus Road he becomes a great champion for the new religion.



Paul's ministry involved bringing people to Christianity and winning converts in areas like Asia Minor, Greece, Syria, and Palestine. While he did not have great success preaching to the Jewish people like Peter did, he experienced phenomenal success preaching to non-Jews. He is often referred to as the "Apostle to the Gentiles."

During his work to further the Christian religion, Paul took four missionary journeys. The first three journeys are recorded in Acts. The fourth is alluded to in Paul's letters. The first journey is recorded in Acts 13 and began with a stop in Cyprus accompanied by Barnabas around 46 AD. The final journey led to imprisonment in Rome.

During the month of August we will spend three Sundays looking at Paul's travels during our worship services. We will focus on three important stops. On August 17th we will look at Paul's time in Athens during his second missionary journey. In Athens, he preached from Mars Hill as he looked out at the Acropolis and the Parthenon. On August 24th we will focus on Paul's time in Corinth, just across the way from Athens. Corinth was a church with significant internal conflict. On August 31st attention will be directed on his time in Ephesus. Paul spent over two years there on his third journey.

Paul is loved by some and disliked by others. For many, he is simply misunderstood. I think we can all agree he made a difference in the development of Christianity. I look forward to speaking about him with each of you. Peace and blessings, Pastor Scott

## Calendar of Events (subject to change) - August 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>"Where Did the Summer Go?"</b> – Musical event with acts from various United Methodist Churches in the circuit. Please join us at Lovely Lane UMC on <b>Sunday, August 17</b> . The evening includes music and desserts starting at 5:00 pm. All are welcome!				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 12:30 pm "Learn to Sew" lunch & workshop @ Christ Presbyterian Church
<b>3</b> 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese	<b>4</b> 9:45 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7:45 am Leadership Team (Offsite)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 12:00-4:00 pm (Private Shower - Fellowship Hall)
<b>10</b> 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese	<b>11</b> 10:00 am Happy Endings Book Club @ Cedar Rapids Public Library 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 pm Nourished Centering @ St. Pauls	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 1:00 - 3:00 pm Elizabeth Circle (Fireside Room) 6:30-7:30 pm Missions Meeting (Library)	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese 5:00 pm Summer Circuit Concert LL Sanctuary/ Fellowship Hall	<b>18</b> 9:45 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 3:55 pm Green Square Meals 5:45 pm Trustee's (Library) 6:00 pm Finance (Fireside) 6:00 pm Health & Wholeness (FH) 7:00 pm Ad Council (Library)	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 1:00-4:00 pm (Private Reservation Fellowship Hall)
<b>24</b> 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese 2:00 PM Golf Outing Lake MacBride	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 pm Nourished Centering @ St. Paul's	<b>26</b> 6:30 SPPRC (Library)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:30 Fifth Sunday Brunch - Potluck 12:00 pm Congolese		Men's Breakfast will resume in September. More details and information to follow soon.				

### WORSHIP IN AUGUST

- August 3**      ***Eighth Sunday after Pentecost***  
In-person worship at **9:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service  
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "The Rich Fool," Luke 12:13-21
- August 10**      ***Ninth Sunday after Pentecost***  
In-person worship at **9:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service  
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "A People of Faith," Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
- August 17**      ***Tenth Sunday after Pentecost***  
In-person worship at **9:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service  
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Athens" *Paul's Travels*, Acts 17:16-34
- August 24**      ***Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost***  
In-person worship at **9:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service  
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Corinth," *Paul's Travels*, Acts 18:1-17
- August 31**      ***Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost***  
In-person worship at **9:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service  
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Ephesus," *Paul's Travels*, Acts 19:23-41

**Lovely Lane Golf Outing - Sunday, August 24** - We will golf at the Lake MacBride Golf Course in Solon. The cost is \$35 per person. This includes nine holes and a cart. Tee times start at 2:00 pm. Contact Denny Fitz if you would like to participate, [dmf.rboyz@gmail.com](mailto:dmf.rboyz@gmail.com). All are welcome!

Pastor Scott's book study will resume on **Wednesday, September 10, 2025**. This study meets on Zoom on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am and on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm in the library. More information to follow.

Please join us for a Brunch/Potluck  
**August 31, 2025 after 9:30 Worship**

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



Please contact Judy McDowell with questions  
[jmcdow51@aol.com](mailto:jmcdow51@aol.com)

# LOVELY LANE KIDS CLUB

Please Join Us On Wednesday Nights Starting  
September 3, 2025

Family Meal  
5:15pm - 6:00pm

Programming  
6:00pm - 7:00pm



Please contact Annie Walker  
with questions  
anniew@lovelylane.org

For Ages  
Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

## The Happy Endings Book Club



Happy Endings Book Club will be meeting at the **Cedar Rapids Public Library** on **August 11 at 10:00 am**.

We will be informed about the digital library and with any updated information that may be available. We will also learn about any new fiction that our group may be interested in. If you have any questions, please contact Judy McDowell, [jmcdow51@aol.com](mailto:jmcdow51@aol.com)

## 🎵 Children's Music Director Opening 🎵

The director will have the primary responsibility to develop a high-quality, spirited, inviting music ministry for young children (Pre-Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade) within the congregation. Musical instruction will take place during Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Kid's Club, and the Children's Christmas Program. Generally, 8-10 hours a week. If interested, please send cover letter and resume to: SPPRC Committee, Lovely Lane UMC, 2424-42<sup>nd</sup> St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.

## The Bell Choir of Lovely Lane, known as

**AcabeLLa**, is seeking new members. We have an opening for a ringer this coming ringing season. Our first rehearsal will be **September 10, at 7:15 pm** in the sanctuary of Lovely Lane. The Bell Choir rehearses every Wednesday night from 7:15 to 8:30 pm and performs the last Sunday of each month. If you are interested in ringing with AcabeLLa please contact the director, Charlie Kucera at (319) 389-0877 or email at [djchkucera@aol.com](mailto:djchkucera@aol.com).



Chancel Choir will begin their 2025-2026 season with rehearsal on **Sunday, September 14 at 9:00 am** in the Choir Room. We will sing for the first time the following Sunday, September 21. If you have ever considered "Singing to the Lord", the time is now. Rehearsal is 9:00 am as previously mentioned and we sing at the 10:30 service every Sunday except the last Sunday of the month. Come join us! We are a wonderful family of music makers. You say you can't read music? You don't have to. You think the robes are too hot? At times, yes, they are. All are welcome. Give us a try!

## NOURISHED



NOURISHED

**Saturday, August 2, 12:30 pm** - Lunch followed by “Learn to Sew” workshop

At Christ Presbyterian Church, 2000 1st Ave NW, Cedar Rapids

**Monday, August 11, 7:00 pm** - Nourished Centering at St. Paul’s UMC

1340 3rd Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, Art Room on 3rd floor

**Monday, August 25, 7:00 pm** - Nourished Centering at St. Paul’s UMC

1340 3rd Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, Art Room on 3rd floor

### *Wilderness: Times of Transition and Transformation*

*We have a lot of people in our congregation who are amid transition. Some are in the transition of changing jobs, taking on new roles and responsibilities. We have some people in our community who are in the transition of medication and health, finding the right balance for their mental and physical health or transitioning to care under a doctor for an illness. We have people in our community who are trying to sort out what they really want to do with their lives, either entering into retirement or figuring out the next best thing in life. We have people in our community who are just trying to make it to the next day. We have some in transition to a new school or heading off to college. For my family, we are in the transition of moving to a family of four and soon starting a new role to pastor another church. For all of us, we are in the time of transition to some capacity. While each of our circumstances might be different, we likely have felt a feeling of excitement, anxiety, fear, confusion, maybe even frustration. There is a wide range of emotions in transition, and it can feel like we are in the wilderness.*

*Times of transition often remind us that we are just travelers in the world, never quite fully settled, but in thinking of ourselves as travelers, we also get the opportunity for transformation and seeing new things. Transitions can be quite beautiful. Without transition, we wouldn’t have new experiences, and without transition, we might not experience transformation. Yes, we are at the mercy of a lot of things we can’t control, so in these times of transition, we ought to ask God to help us in the season of changes in our lives.*

*What helps you move forward in times of transition? What spiritual practices help you to experience transformation in times of transition? It’s in those practices that we will feel grounded even when everything around us is unsettled.*

*May we as a church and as people of faith journey together in the uncertainties ahead and step into the wide unknown of what will be and what we will become together.*

*Peace, Pastor Kristina*



## Summer Updates

There were no meetings in July. Deb Streff presented two sex trafficking presentations through United Women in Faith. She is scheduled to do another presentation on sex trafficking at the NE district meeting in Decorah for United Women in Faith on September 27th. She will also be selling Fair-trade at that event. Women have sold fair-trade this summer 3 times.



United  
Women  
in Faith

**Thursday, August 14 - 1:00 to 3:00 pm - Elizabeth Circle**  
**No Rizpah circle in August.**

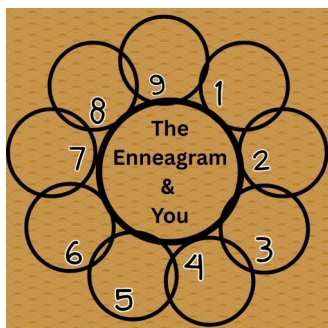
**Thursday, September 11 - 1:00 to 3:00 pm - Elizabeth Circle**  
**Thursday, September 25 - 6:30 to 7:30 pm Rizpah**

Attendance has been decreasing for Rizpah, but it is important to have an evening meeting for women who are working. Please come and bring a friend, a neighbor, or a family member. ALL women are welcome to our meetings. There will be several upcoming events starting in September.

United Women in Faith would like to encourage Lovely Lane women to attend the district meeting for United Women in Faith on **September 27**. The two presentations will be on food insecurity and sex trafficking. More information to come soon.

**Nourished Centering** - The Enneagram Institute says, "The Enneagram is a powerful tool that helps us understand our motivations, core beliefs, and unconscious patterns that drive our behavior. We have all 9 types in us, although one of the Enneagram types is dominant for each of us. A good place to start with the Enneagram is to learn about all 9 types.

Throughout the month of August, we will be in a Centering series called, "The Enneagram and You," led by Andrew Barden. We will learn about the Enneagram as a tool to get to know ourselves better and its role in our lives.



**Monday,  
August 11  
&  
Monday  
August 25**

**7:00 pm**

**St. Paul's UMC  
3rd Floor  
Art Room**

*As my time with the children's choirs at Lovely Lane comes to an end, please accept my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to lead this program. My vision has always been to sow musical seeds of love with every note. I pray those seeds will continue to thrive and grow in the kids that have only started with "Jesus Loves Me" in preschool, and those who have gone off to college or begin their own families. I especially appreciate the gifted musicians that helped us sound even better. Marcie Stumpf, Morgan Stumpf and Jayce Hintgen - Thank you.*

*As I move forward to other callings in life, I'll be finding new ways participate at Lovely Lane. As I look back, I feel richly blessed to have experienced such joy coming back to me ten-fold. Thank you for the music, the memories, and the love.*



*Sing unto the Lord a new song,  
Carla Jesse  
Director of Children's Choirs*

## JOYS

- \*Pastor Paul Witmer from Women at the Well leading in worship
- \*Pride Fest celebrations
- \*Vacation Bible School
- \*Kim Moore celebrating friend Jackie in worship
- \*David Garcia lifting up that wife Angela comes home in 54 days
- \*Deb and Steve Streff lifting up joy of JR's music and dance camp
- \*Cheryl Mills lifting up joy of having her son and grandkids help out with storm cleanup
- \*Barb Waterhouse-Miller celebrating 90th birthday and thankful for the Lovely Lane community
- \*Stephanie French with good health news
- \*Pastor Scott and Heather doing some travels and taking some time off
- \*Dale and Nancy Snyder celebrating 70th wedding anniversary
- \*Marla Gonzalez' son building a home
- \*Cedar Rapids Kernels game
- \*Baby shower for Annie Walker
- \*Nourished pool party at Noelridge
- \*Vacation Bible School presentation (thanks everyone!)
- \*Celebrating the ministry of Carla Jesse as she steps down from staff, will be attending graduate school
- \*Olivia Schneider and crew with VBS decorations
- \*Kadlec scholarship recipients Connor Culbertson and Brooke Johnson
- \*Appreciation for church shower contributions
- \*New office assistant, Sarah Alterbal
- \*Successful week of RAGBRAI for so many riders
- \*Emmett Mills riding on RAGBRAI
- \*New Spiritual Cultivator at Nourished
- \*"Love Makes a Family Event" at St. Paul's UMC, July 30
- \*Happy birthday to Tracy Ashmore
- \*Happy birthday to Millie Corbett
- \*JR Streff participating at Colorado dance camp
- \*Landen Bentley celebrating a pet caterpillar

## CONCERNS

- \*Lynn Heidt with health concerns
- \*Maryann Stewart with health concerns
- \*Immigrants and those being detained
- \*National and international concerns
- \*Chris Johnson's dad traveling to San Diego to help grandparents move into assisted living
- \*Mike Nesslage requests prayers for dad Gary with health challenges and making decisions for long term care
- \*Continued flooding relief in Texas- ongoing special offering through UMCOR
- \*Those riding RAGBRAI, including Frank Camp
- \*Phil and Shirley Martin's son Daniel recovering from surgery
- \*Marla Gonzalez after the death of her brother on July 8
- \*Susan Camp's mother Esther with some health challenges
- \*Henry and Beth Mills in LA for soccer tournament
- \*Katherine Plendl's sister Michelle with ongoing health challenges
- \*Church friends, Misha and Andrii, living in Ukraine
- \*Regina Culbertson hospitalized
- \*Jim Moss with a stomach bug
- \*Teri Krumm's friend following the passing of a family pet
- \*Don Whitford hospitalized
- \*Jan Peterson staying at the Hiawatha Care Center
- \*Jayne Woodson recovering from a fall

### *Remembering with love:*

Lloyd Peterson . . . . . 2019  
Dean Lanning . . . . . 2020  
Marjorie Davis . . . . . 2023  
Carol Wilson . . . . . 2024  
Jack Murphy . . . . . 2024



# Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

Website: [www.lovelylane.org](http://www.lovelylane.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc](https://www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/lovelylaneumc](https://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 6/30/25	\$29,397
Cash inflow - YTD	\$306,590
Budget need/month	\$56,735
Cash outflow - month of 6/30/25	\$46,913
Cash outflow - YTD	\$294,974
Unpaid apportionments	\$0

### LOVELY LANE UMC STAFF

#### Administration & Worship

Lead Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Director of Media & Technology  
Organist  
Chancel Choir Director  
Handbell Choir Director  
Chancel Choir Accompanist

Dr. Scott Meador  
Rev. Kristina Roth-Klinck  
Eric Wylie  
Dennis Ramsey  
Nancy Patrick  
Charlie Kucera  
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  
Office Assistant  
Treasurer  
Membership Secretary  
Facilities Manager  
Custodians  
Website & Social Media  
Wedding Coordinator

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