



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

November 2025

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 63, 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**

Telling our Stories

"We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord and his might." – Psalm 78:4 (NRSV)

As we find ourselves in this final stretch of 2025, we have some big festivities around the corner. Coming up, we will have Halloween and Thanksgiving, followed by Christmas and New Year's. While each of the holidays invite "celebrations" in some form, they also encourage us to look at "rituals and narratives." Rituals are the physical and symbolic acts that bring meaning to what is so important to us. Narratives, simply put, are stories that come from the rituals and reinforce what is so special about life. About all this, Miller Williams, an American poet, once said, "Ritual is important to us as human beings. It ties us to our traditions and stories."

In regards to the holidays, we have our rituals. Depending on the holiday, we gather together with family and friends, have a nice meal, then we focus on the traditions we hold sacred. Traditions might involve gift giving, singing, taking a walk in the neighborhood, or helping those in need. And of course, each of the rituals brings some lively stories. We each have stories from that family gathering from so many years ago that still brings some laughter and fun. We remember Grandma Sally or Uncle Joe doing something silly or amusing. We love to tell our stories!

Now this whole idea of ritual and narrative connects to the work we do in the church. During the stewardship season, we complete an "Estimate of Giving Card" for our financial giving in the New Year. Along the way we tell our faith stories and connections to the church (which we will do coming up). The encouragement is to grow as a giver. And, of course, Advent and Christmas move us to focus on rituals and narratives in our congregation. We have families lighting candles in worship and folks wrapping gifts for children from families in need. We also collect special offerings for groups and organizations who need assistance. Through it all, we tell the story of Jesus coming into the world as Lord and Savior to bring new life and new beginnings.

I look forward to the remainder of this year with each of you. God is good and God is present all the time. Peace and blessings, Pastor Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) - November 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Study groups with Pastor Scott continue to meet on Wednesdays. The morning group meets on Zoom at 9:30 am. The evening group meets in the library at 6:00 pm. Focus this month is "Prayer." The Advent Study will start on December 3. The book, "Prepare the Way for the Lord," by Adam Hamilton, will be looked at.						1 8:30 - 1:00 pm Women's Fall Retreat (Fellowship Hall)
2 8:30 am Worship In-person 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 Children SS 12:00 pm Congolese 4:00 New Member Class (Library)	3 9:45 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside Rm) 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	4 Election Day 	5 9:30 am Book Study Via Zoom 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 Youth Group 6:00 pm Confirmation 7:15 pm Bells	6	7	8 10:30 am Memorial Service for Maryann Stewart At Lovely Lane
9 8:30am Worship In-person 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 Children SS 12:00 pm Congolese 4:00 New Member Class (Library)	10 10:00 am Happy Endings Book Club (Fireside Room) 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	11	12 9:30 am Book Study Via Zoom 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 Youth Group 6:00 pm Confirmation 7:15 pm Bells	13 1:00-3:00pm Elizabeth Circle (Fireside) 6:30 pm Missions Mtg (Library)	14	15 8:30 am Men's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
16 8:30 am Worship In-person 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 Children SS 12:00 pm Congolese	17 9:45 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside Rm) 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	18 6:30 pm SPPRC (Library)	19 9:30 am Book Study Via Zoom 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 Youth Grp 7:15 pm Bells	20 3:55 pm Green Square Meals 6:00 pm Finance (Fireside) 6:00 pm Health & Wholeness (FH) 7:00 pm Ad Council (Library)	21	22
23 8:30 am UWF Bake Sale 8:30am Worship In-person 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 Children SS 12:00 pm Congolese	24 5:30 - 7:30 pm Nourished Friendsgiving @ Pastor Kristina's 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	25	26 <i>No Wednesday Activities</i>	 Church office closed	28	29
30 1st Sunday Advent 8:30am Worship In-person 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Adult SS 10:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 Children SS 12:00 pm Congolese	New Member Class New member classes will take place on Sundays, November 2 & 9 at 4:00 pm in the library. All those who are interested in joining the church, or just want to learn more about Lovely Lane, are welcome. Please contact Pastor Scott for more information, scottm@lovelylane.org .					

WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

November 2 *All Saints Sunday*

In-person service at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Trust in Action"
Scripture: Matthew 6:25-33

November 9 *Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost*

In-person service at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Telling Our Stories," Part 1
Scripture: Acts 9:1-19

November 16 *Stewardship Sunday*

In-person service at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Telling Our Stories," Part 2
Scripture: Matthew 6:19-24

November 23 *Reign of Christ Sunday*

In-person service at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Kristina will preach. This is the final Sunday of the church year.

November 30 *First Sunday of Advent*

In-person service at **8:30 am**, in-person & live-stream service at **10:30 am**
Pastor Scott Meador will preach, "Preparing the Way" Part 1

Stewardship Season

During worship services on **November 9 and 16** we will focus on stewardship. The theme this year is "Telling our Stories." Inspired by scripture, we tell the stories of our connection to God and others. Through it all, we look to grow as a giver. "Estimate of Giving Cards" for the general fund for 2026 will be collected in worship on November 16.

Men's Breakfast

The next gathering will be
Saturday, November 15, 8:30 am.
Steve Kahler, an attorney and School for Lay Ministry instructor, will speak.
A light breakfast will be served.
All are welcome!





Childrens Weekday Ministries has some positions to fill if you know someone who may be a good fit, please have them email Dawn DuPont at ddupont@lovelylane.org for more info.

Immediate positions open:

- Before school daycare staff on Monday/Wednesday mornings
- Preschool subs at Lovely Lane and Trinity Lane
- Cleaning custodian at Trinity Lane

January 2026 positions opening:

- Before school staff Monday-Friday mornings
- Breakfast cook Monday-Friday mornings
- 4 yr old preschool teacher assistant at Lovely Lane
- Part time afternoon office admin

Volunteer Opportunity at Kennedy High School

The Kennedy High School Food Pantry is in need of more volunteers for the '25 -'26 school year. The pantry is open on Thursday afternoons for a little less than one hour. In addition to food/snack items, some clothing and school accessories can be found at the pantry.

This is a great way to meet your "Worship + 2" goals. While you will be assisting those students at Kennedy, you will also be making a difference in our community. If interested, please contact Jenny at jmcattee@crschools.us.





Children's Weekday Ministries is off to a great start for the school year. We're currently serving 50 Pierce students in our before/after school program, 76 preschoolers at Lovely Lane and 75 preschoolers at Trinity Lane. In this month of thankfulness, I wanted to express my sincere appreciation to the congregation for the various support we have received in the past year and present.

- Denise Lawton volunteers every Monday helping with teacher prep and counting Hy Vee Receipts. We receive \$1 for every \$200 of receipts we turn in to Hy-Vee on April 1, 2026. We are halfway to our goal!
 - Lyn Lewis, Denise Lawton and Marla Gonzalez serve on our board.
 - Judy McDowell washes the dirty towels from the kitchen every week.
 - Craig Nixon mows the grass and looks after our pumpkin patch for the preschoolers to visit.
 - Lyn Lewis painted the new 4 yr old daycare room that opened this fall and has been cleaning at Trinity Lane.
 - Margaret Nelson purchased some really cool building toys from www.YOXtoys.com for our daycare this summer.
 - Missions Committee provided breakfast one morning during staff appreciation week last year.
 - Lou Serbousek volunteered in the preschool Christmas store and donated some items for our daycare.
 - Dave Dix played the piano for our preschool Christmas and graduation programs.
 - Myrna Loehrlein- Long-standing advocate for early childhood education and expanding access to quality daycare to meet the needs of our community
 - Curtis Thomas- Goes above and beyond his job duties to help assemble or fix items in classrooms and playground.
 - Memorials and other private donations from church members have been given each year for pre-school scholarships.
- Dawn Dupont

2025 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 committed to be an ongoing supporting partner of this ministry.

Waypoint: Waypoint's Domestic Violence Victim Services Program (DV Program) offers free, confidential services to domestic violence victims and survivors, as well as their families. Waypoint is Cedar Rapids' largest provider of shelter for women and families with children. It also offers daily child care and education for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years of age.

Fire and Fragrance: This mission is part of the "Youth With a Mission" family. Currently, Ellen Stines, a former member of Lovely Lane is serving in her fourth year as a full time missionary with them in South Africa. Ministries include evangelism, discipleship of women in a rehab center, worship and prayer, and promoting events helping to spread the body of Christ across South Africa. All financial support comes from churches, friends, and family.

National Alliance on Mental Illness: National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. NAMI provides advocacy, education, support and public awareness so that all individuals and families affected by mental illness can build better lives. Most of NAMI's funding comes from individual contributions.

Kennedy Food Pantry List



Apples
Canned fruit
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Ramen Noodles
Fruit roll ups and fruit snacks
Toothpaste
Aluminum baking dishes,
Muffin and cake pans
Cake Mixes
Popcorn
Chips
Cheeze-its, snack crackers
Tuna
Canned Pasta

Donations can be placed in the tubs
at the left entrance to the sanctuary.
Thank you!

New Staff Member

We want to lift up Marcie Stumpf as our new pianist in worship. Marcie will play each week with the exception of the last Sunday of the month. Linda Bayliss will play the organ on the final Sunday. We are so happy to have Marcie in this role. We also continue to keep Dennis Ramsey in our thoughts and prayers as he recovers from the stroke he had earlier this year!



Happy Endings Book Club

Happy Endings Book Club will meet on **November 10 at 10:00 am** in the Fireside Room.



It was suggested we read a banned book and the banned book most noted for 2025 is **1984** by George Orwell. This book has repeatedly been banned and challenged in the past for its social and political themes, as well as for sexual content. Additionally, in 1981, the book was challenged in Jackson County, Florida, for being pro-communism.

Also on a lighter note we will read **The Banned Books Club (a novel)** by Brenda Novak. Despite their strained relationship, when Gia Rossi's sister, Margot, begs her to come home to Wakefield, Iowa, to help with their ailing mother, Gia knows she has no choice. After her rebellious and at-times tumultuous teen years, Gia left town with little reason to look back. But she knows Margot's borne the brunt of their mother's care and now it's Gia's turn to help, even if it means opening old wounds. As expected, Gia's homecoming is far from welcome. There's the **Banned Books Club** she started after the PTA overzealously slashed the high school reading list.

-Judy McDowell

Children's Weekday Ministries are happy to report that they have reached \$75,000 in Hy-Vee receipts submitted so far this year. This is the half-way point of their goal of \$150,000 for the year. Receipts can be placed in the box outside of the sanctuary entrance.

For every \$200 in eligible Hy-Vee Receipts collected, CWM will receive \$1. The receipts can be from various Hy-Vee locations and departments, including groceries, catering, pharmacies, fuel, and more.

Thank you for your support!

JOYS

- *Happy 96th Birthday to Don Whitford
- *Don and Marti Sparrow celebrate birthday of son, Chris, and military assignment for son, Mike
- *Katherine Plendl's father with good health news and continued sobriety
- *Joan Roscovius feeling better after time in the gym
- *LuAnn Basemann's great niece with early birth of baby boy, Elliott
- *Lynn Heidt joining us for worship after health challenges
- *Happy 42nd anniversary to Dan and Kim Moore
- *Sharilyn Forcht with birth of great grandchild, Laney Lynn
- *Steve Odegaard with honor flight on Tuesday
- *New siding work is scheduled to begin in early November
- *Pastors Kristina and Ryan beginning the moving process
- *Jim and LuAnn Basemann celebrating 33rd anniversary
- *Jim and Sue Moss preparing to move into their new home
- *Marla Gonzalez's grand-nephew doing better after seizures
- *Stephanie French celebrating new grandchild, Levi Ryan
- *Linda Bayliss able to see son, David, who is serving in the Military
- *District Superintendent, Rev. Scott Keele Kober, worshipping with us
- *Denise Lawton and Barb Oldenburg returning from great trip to Iceland
- *Happy 92nd birthday to Debbie Beckner's father-in-law, DeWayne

Remembering with love:

James Stucker 2023
Donna Lewis 2020
Karla Morris 2023
Rick Taylor 2023

CONCERNS

- *Wilma Parsons following hip surgery
- *Craig and Pam Nixon's friend, Rick, following a foot amputation
- *Sue Moss's friend, Janet, losing her brother to Covid and COPD
- *Sympathy to the family of Maryann Stewart after her passing (memorial service at LLUMC, Nov. 8)
- *Sympathy to Curtis and Maggie Thomas after passing of Curtis's brother, Mike
- *John O'Bryon's niece with health challenges
- *John and Bobbie O'Bryon caring for neighborhood cats
- *Sympathy to Dave and Linda Keefe after passing of Dave's mother, Edna Mae
- *LuAnn Basemann's niece's husband receiving medical care
- *Marci Wittles following cancer diagnosis and mother with hospice news
- *Sympathy to Belinda Muller and family following passing of her sister-in-law, Denise
- *Sympathy to Judy McDowell following passing of her mother, Virginia
- *Heather Hingtgen's father, Ray, following heart procedure
- *Joe Helle's mother, Diana, with transition to new residence in Edgewood
- *Sympathy to Pastor Alicita from our sister church in Cuba after passing of her father
- *Steve and Deb Streff's friend, Amanda, and her family experiencing loss and challenges
- *Dale and Nancy Snyder's son with a knee procedure this week
- *Karon Niebuhr's close friend, Shari, following a heart attack
- *John Roland's uncle, David, with leukemia diagnosis

Friendly Fellowship will not meet in November or December. We will resume our potluck lunches in January. Please contact Judy McDowell if you have any questions. (319) 560-2960.



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 9/30/25	\$105,418
Cash inflow - YTD	\$483,489
Budget need/month	\$56,735
Cash outflow - month of 9/30/25	\$47,341
Cash outflow - YTD	\$453,986
Unpaid apportionments	\$0

LOVELY LANE UMC STAFF

Administration & Worship

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

Dr. Scott Meador
Rev. Kristina Roth-Klinck
Eric Wylie
Marcie Stumpf
Nancy Patrick
Charlie Kucera
Linda Bayliss
Olivia Schneider

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
Sarah Alterbal
Susan Kohl
Susan Camp
Curtis Thomas
Rex & Rhonda Heasty
Shelly Turner
Becky Wood