



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

August 2026

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 64, 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

Beliefs and Behavior

"Faith without works is dead."

James 2:26 (NIV)

We are often told we have to choose a side in regards to religious life. We are told we need to either connect with folks who are working on their personal faith and walk with God and Christ Jesus or we need to engage with others who are focused on social justice matters that reach out to the most vulnerable in our society.

While some churches and faith traditions might emphasize one side over the other or they might be better equipped to stress one side versus another, I tend to think we need to focus on both sides. We need to develop a strong inward faith that leads to outward actions that change lives for those in need.

This month in worship I would like to take a closer look at this need to go inward so we can go outward and balance our beliefs and behavior. To assist in the process I will focus on some of the important persons from church history and theological life. A different historical person will be the focus in worship each week. We will look at that individual's life and theological work. We will focus on the specific language the historical figure used to address the matters at hand. Videos have been recorded from scholars and pastors in our local area too. Clips from those interviews will enhance the messages in worship. The series is titled, "Beliefs and Behavior." The schedule and focus will be . . .

August 2, John Wesley, Beliefs and Behavior

August 9, Phoebe Palmer, Holiness and Acts of Love and Service

August 16, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Cheap Grace and Costly Grace

August 23, Thomas Merton, Contemplation and Social Justice

I might add that this focus on inward faith and outward actions connects with our discipleship pathway, Worship + 2. At Lovely Lane we seek to become an active participant in worship as we participate in a group that deepens our spiritual life and a group that helps us reach out to others in need. I look forward to worship with each of you this month. I also look forward to seeing the ways we can grow and develop as disciples for Christ. See you coming up!

Peace and blessings, Pastor Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) - August 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Women's Book Study will resume on Wednesday, September 9, 12:00 pm in the Fireside Room. More information to come soon.						1 10:00 am Nourished Picnic at Bever Park Red Oak Pavilion
2 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese	3 9:45 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	4 6:00 - 7:30 pm National Night Out on the Church Lawn	5	6	7	8
9 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese	10 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	11	12 6:00 - 8:00 pm Youth Co-Op at Play Lab Trampoline Park	13 4:00 pm Green Square Meals	14	15
16 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese	17 9:45 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	18	19 6:00 pm Missions Mtg and Cookout at Les Minor's Home	20	21 6:30 - 8:30 pm Nourished Centered Gathering at St. Paul's	22 8:00 - 11:00 am Church Workday
23 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese 1:30 pm Lovely Lane Golf Outing at Lake MacBride Golf Course in Solon	24 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	25	26	27	28	29
30 9:30 am Worship In-person/livestream 12:00 pm Congolese 10:30 am Fifth Sunday Potluck (Fellowship Hall)	31 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	Men's Breakfast Gathering The next gathering will take place on Saturday, September 12, 8:30 am. More information is coming soon.				

Family Ministries

Sunday School begins on **Sunday, September 13** during the 10:30 worship service for both K-5th grades and middle school which will be led by Melissa Davis.

Kids Club will be begin **Wednesday, September 9.**

WORSHIP IN AUGUST

- August 2** ***Tenth Sunday after Pentecost***
Pastor Scott will preach, "Beliefs and Behavior: John Wesley"
Scripture: James 2:14-17
In-person & livestream service at **9:30 am**
- August 9** ***Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost***
Pastor Scott will preach, "Beliefs and Behavior: Phoebe Palmer"
Scripture: Philippians 2:1-11
In-person & livestream service at **9:30 am**
- August 16** ***Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost***
Pastor Scott will preach, "Beliefs and Behavior: Dietrich Bonhoeffer"
Scripture: Colossians 3:12-17
In-person & livestream service at **9:30 am**
- August 23** ***Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost***
Pastor Scott will preach, "Beliefs and Behavior: Thomas Merton"
Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
In-person & livestream service at **9:30 am**
- August 30** ***Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost***
Pastor Alecia will preach, "Nothing Between"
Scripture: Romans 8:26-39
In-person & livestream service at **9:30 am**

LOVELY LANE YOUTH

We are starting back on **Wednesday, September 9** and will be meeting at St. Paul's for the first of the year. Families can still meet for a meal at LLUMC. At 6:00 Kim Moore and Ben Swan will be able to transport the youth, if they need a ride. The youth can then be picked up at St. Paul's at 7:30. Please let Kim Moore know if you have any questions or concerns, kimm@lovelylane.org.



Annual Lovely Lane Golf Outing Sunday, August 23, 1:30 pm

We will golf at the Lake MacBride Golf Course in Solon. Please contact Denny Fitz if you would like to participate, dmf.rboyz@gmail.com.
All are welcome!

EVERYONE'S AMPLE TABLE (EAT)

UPDATE

August 2 is a big day at Lovely Lane in regard to newly forming **Pop-Up Pantries!** This August we are piloting a project with the **Lovely Lane Preschool** here on-site and **Trinity Lane Preschool** at that location. For 4 weeks in August, these two Pop-Up pantries will be up and running. We will continue to take

food to the **Hiawatha Library Food Pantry** as we have all summer. We will offer produce at each of the sites, until it is gone. We are looking at taking produce to **the Green Square meal site**.

This is where you come into the picture! If you have produce to share, please bring it over the following Sundays in August: 2, 9, 16 and 23. There will be baskets in the narthex. What can you do?

Bring extra produce from your garden:

- Bring fresh eggs
- Donate toward the purchase of supplemental food. There will be a donation jar by the baskets.
- Pray for the households receiving the food.
- We need 2-4 folks to help bag up produce after church on the 4 Sundays.
- The Kennedy donation box needs staples such as peanut butter and jelly. There is a full list in the narthex.

This started in June with 20 tomato plants finding new homes in the congregation. We prayed for the households which will receive the produce. The need for food is increasing. 1 in 10 adults in Linn County has food insecurity, not county children and youth. We feed people. Please donate generously!

This is an outreach of the Missions Committee. Please contact Jane Schildroth if you have any questions.



We are planning on a brunch picnic **Saturday, August 1, at 10:00 am at Bever Park**. We'll meet at the Red Oak Pavilion. If you enter the park through the Bever Avenue entrance by the playground, it is just past the play space. Feel free to bring snacks and drinks to share and any outdoor games you like.



- On **Friday, August 21, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm**, we'll have a Centering Gathering on Embodied Practice.
- This will be at the usual location of the St. Paul's Annex (214 13th Street SE in Cedar Rapids). What gets you active and moving? Is it singing, dancing, playing music, gardening, biking, walking in the woods? How does actively using your body fit in with your spiritual or meditative practices? Come ready to discuss these questions about how mind and body can work together in a non-dualistic way.
- Bring along any musical instruments you want to share or any other tools that help you focus. We'll have some time set aside for music similar to our last Centering. And you are welcome but not required to bring snacks and drinks to share.

We hope you'll join us for one or both of these Nourished events!

COMPANIONS IN CHRIST SMALL GROUP

Join Pastor Alecia and Todd Hilmer for a newly forming small group on Tuesday nights from 6:00-7:30 PM beginning this September. Companions in Christ (CIC) is a small-group resource for spiritual formation. The group is designed to create a setting where you can respond to God's call to an ever-deepening communion and wholeness in Christ. Todd and I have led this group before and have found it life-giving and transforming for ourselves. The first session is 5 weeks. If you have questions, contact Pastor Alecia or come on **Tuesday, September 15**, and see if this is a group for you! For this group to work well, we need a minimum of 6 people.



YOUTH CO-OP

TRAMPOLINE PARK

Wednesday, August 12, 2026
6:00 - 8:00 pm

IF WE GET 25 TO ATTEND,
ADMISSION IS FREE!
BRING A FRIEND!

Jump socks \$4 or bring your own.

Please RSVP to Kim Moore at
kimm@lovelylane.org

70th ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S ORDINATION IN THE METHODIST TRADITION

During worship on July 19 we celebrated the 70th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women in the Methodist tradition. Pastors connected to Lovely Lane were lifted up. Those pastors included . . .

Rev. Rose Blank
Rev. Jackie Bradford
Rev. Alecia Hilmer
Rev. Jo Hoover
Rev. Sherrie Ilg

We also celebrated pastors who had been active in our church over the years . . . **Rev. Jill Sanders**, **Rev. Kerrin Kirkpatrick**, and the **Rev. Carol Sundberg**. Furthermore, female pastors who have served Lovely Lane are . . . **Rev. Karen Young**, **Rev. Jenny Seylar**, **Rev. Gayle Wilcox**, and **Rev. Kristina Roth-Klinck**. **Rev. Annie Walker** is a staff member and seminary student who is serving a local congregation.

Thanks and blessings to all!

Save the Date!

Saturday, August 22, 2026

8:00 - 11:00 am



Where Did the Summer Go?

A MUSICAL EVENING OF
WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP & JOYFUL PRAISE

**SATURDAY
AUGUST
22**

**STARTING AT
6:00 PM**

Join with members of our Methodist congregations for an evening of music that celebrates our shared faith, strengthens our church family, and offers a meaningful witness to our community.

AFTER THE EVENT,
join us in the Fellowship Hall for cookies, coffee, and lemonade.

LET'S COME TOGETHER
to celebrate our faith through the gift of music and fellowship!

SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Address:
3715 33rd Ave SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

Come for the music. Stay for the fellowship. Leave Encouraged.

Pastor Scott's Study Group

Study groups will start again on **Wednesday, September 9.**

The morning group will gather via Zoom at 9:30 am. The evening group will meet in the library at 6:00 pm.

All are welcome!

COME AND JOIN US FOR

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

NOAH'S ARK BOUNCY CASTLE

ICE CREAM & POPSICLES

**AUGUST 4, 2026
6PM - 7:30PM**

LOVELY LANE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2424 42ND ST
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52402

Fifth Sunday Potluck August 30 after Worship

Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. This is a great time for Fellowship as we think about Fall and upcoming events. Drinks will be provided.



JOYS

- *Summer travel and family time
- *Celebrating 70 years of women's ordination in the UMC Tradition
- *Appreciation to the women pastors connected to Lovely Lane who spoke in worship
- *Ron and Rita Stewart celebrate new granddaughter, Blair
- *Lavender Farm church event
- *Kernels Baseball game outing
- *Welcoming Pastor Paul Hennings and family for a visit
- *UMC vision to "form disciples of Jesus Christ who Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, and Lead Courageously"
- *Pierce Elementary principal, Kathleen Ziegler, spoke about special offering for schools
- *Bennett Schultz with good experience at Camp Okoboji
- *Tammy Martin's mother, Esther, living independently
- *Hymns and music in worship written by women
- *Study group on women in ministry taking place, all are welcome
- *Pastor Paul Wilcox and others on RAGBRAI
- *Successful and fun Vacation Bible School
- *Appreciation to all the VBS helpers and volunteers
- *Possible expansion of children's Sunday School this fall
- *Thank you to Morgan Stumpf for playing the piano during worship services
- *Lyn Lewis expressing joy about sharing passion for science with children
- *Judi Leberman celebrating birth of her first great grandchild, Roland
- *Appreciation for Miracle Sunday offerings and backpack/school supply offerings
- *Cedar Rapids Community Orchestra playing in worship on August 2
- *Sermon series for August focused on approaches to balance beliefs and behavior

Remembering with love:

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

CONCERNS

- *Memorial service for Fonda Carris on July 7
- *Sympathy to Paul and Cindy Sale after the passing of Cindy's mother, Pat Brand
- *Sympathy to Steve Mineck after the passing of wife, Jennie
- *Gloria Jahnel recovering from shoulder surgery
- *Maggie Thomas's sister-in-law, Janice, with health concerns
- *Curtis Thomas with an upcoming medical procedure
- *Justin Davis with hospitalization at Mercy Medical Center
- *Family members of Jim and Barb Vancura passing away following an auto accident
- *Mike Wood's mother, Janet, with medical concerns
- *Darla Reed-Tinderholt's friend, Sarah, with treatment for breast cancer
- *Kim Moore's friend, Jean, battling cancer
- *Dave Keefe's uncle, John, with health concerns
- *Wildfires and smoke in Canada and the USA
- *Sympathy to Al Adams and family following the passing of wife, Mardell
- *Dan Moore seeking healing after a fall
- *Pride Fest in Berlin, Germany experiencing tragedy
- *Pastor Alecia assisting daughter, Samantha, with a move from Alaska to Iowa
- *Difficulties with wildfires in the USA and Canada
- *National and international concerns

Happy Endings Book Club



Happy Endings Book Club will **not** meet in August. We will be reading *The Girl In The Blue Beret*, by Bobbie Ann Mason, for **September 14**. This is a haunting and profoundly moving story of an American World War II pilot shot down in Occupied Europe, and his wrenching odyssey of discovery, decades later, as he uncovers the truth about those who helped him escape in 1944.



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

Website: www.lovelylane.org

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Lovely Lane Monthly Financial Information

Cash inflow - month of 6/30/26	\$34,780
Cash inflow - YTD	\$332,079
Budget need/month	\$58,973
Cash outflow - month of 6/30/26	\$50,508
Cash outflow - YTD	\$308,977
Unpaid apportionments	\$0

LOVELY LANE UMC STAFF

Administration & Worship

Lead Pastor	Dr. Scott Meador
Associate Pastor	Dr. Alecia Hilmer
Director of Media & Technology	Eric Wylie
Pianist	Marcie Stumpf
Chancel Choir Director	Nancy Patrick
Handbell Choir Director	Charlie Kucera
Chancel Choir Accompanist	Linda Bayliss
Director of Children's Choirs	Olivia Schneider

Children & Youth

Director of Family Ministries	Annie Walker
Director of Youth Ministries	Kim Moore
Nursery Caregiver Lead	Brooke Johnson
Nursery Caregiver	Hailey Ryan
Nursery Caregiver	Carly Giddings
Director Children's Weekday Ministries (CWM)	Dawn DuPont

Office & Facilities

Office Administrator & Finance Secretary	Tammy Martin
Office Assistant	Sarah Alterbal
Treasurer	Susan Kohl
Facilities Manager	Curtis Thomas
Custodians	Rex & Rhonda Heasty
Website & Social Media	Shelly Turner
Event Coordinator & Membership Secretary	Becky Wood