



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church

October 2026

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 64 Number 10

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 Use of Money

"No one can serve two masters."

– Matthew 6:24 (NIV)

I recently had the chance to visit the historic Lovely Lane United Methodist Church in Baltimore, Maryland. This is the Mother Church of American Methodism. The denomination, the Methodist Episcopal Church (and later, The United Methodist Church), began at the Christmas Conference at Lovely Lane Chapel in 1784. The building I visited is the fifth Lovely Lane site since that historical moment. The current building was constructed in the 1880's.

Now one of the highlights of my time at Lovely Lane was the visit in the basement of the church building. The basement included a number of historical items connected to John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, and the early Methodist movement. I was quickly reminded of the life of John Wesley and the simple and faithful way in which he lived in the Eighteenth Century. Many of the items displayed hinted at the frugal way he approached ministry.

One of the sermons people remember from John Wesley was his message, "The Use of Money." In the sermon, Wesley said a person should, "Gain all you can. Save all you can. Give all you can." Wesley's message was that money is a neutral gift from God that should be managed through these three simple rules. And just to make sure Wesley words made an impact, he practiced what he preached. As his income increased over the years, partly from revenue that came from book sales, he lived on the smaller amount. That was an incredible display of discipline and love for neighbor.

This month we will have an opportunity to reflect on Wesley's message during our Stewardship Campaign entitled, "Companions on the Journey." During worship services on October 18 and 25 we will speak about the ways the church budget helps us do the ministry we are called to do. Because of the faithful giving from each of you, we have a budget that allows us to engage in the ministry needed. I invite you to be in prayer this month as you consider your giving level for the year to come! Peace and blessings, Pastor Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) - October 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 6:30 pm Lovely Lane History Night (Fellowship Hall)	2	3
4 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir 9:30 am Sunday School - Adult and Pre-k to 8th gr. 10:30 Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 Children's Sunday School Pre-K-5th gr. 12:00 pm Congolese 2:00 Charge Conf. at St. Marks	5 9:45 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	6 6:00 pm Companions in Christ (Fireside Room)	7 9:30 am Book Study Via Zoom 12:00 pm Women's Book Study 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kid's Club 6:00 pm Book Study (Library) 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:15 pm Bells	8 1:00 pm Auction Basket Workshop (Fireside)	9	10
11 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir 9:30 am Sunday School - Adult and Pre-k to 8th gr. 10:30 Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 Children's Sunday School Pre-K-5th gr. 12:00 pm Congolese	12 10:00 am Happy Endings Book Club (Fireside Room) 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	13 6:00 pm Companions in Christ (Fireside Room)	14 9:30 am Book Study Via Zoom 12:00 pm Women's Book Study 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Bass Farms Outing —Youth and Kids Club 6:00 pm Book Study (Library) 6:00 pm Basket Assembly (FH) 7:15 pm Bells	15 4:00 pm Green Square Meals Downtown 5:45 Trustees (Library) 6:00 pm Health & Wholeness (FH) 6:00 pm Finance (FS) 7:00 pm Ad Council (Library)	16	17
18 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir 9:30 am Sunday School - Adult and Pre-k to 8th gr. 10:30 Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 Children's Sunday School Pre-K-5th gr. 12:00 pm Congolese	19 9:45 am Prayer Shawl (Fireside) 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	20 6:00 pm <i>Companions in Christ (Fireside Room)</i>	21 9:30 am Book Study Via Zoom 12:00 pm Women's Book Study 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kid's Club 6:00 pm Book Study (Library) 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:15 pm Bells	22 12:00 pm Friendly Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 6:30 pm Missions (Library)	23	24 8:30 am Men's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
25 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Choir 9:30 am Sunday School - Adult and Pre-k to 8th gr. 10:30 Worship In-person/livestream 10:45 Children's Sunday School Pre-K-5th gr. 12:00 pm Congolese 3:00pm Youth Co-Op	26 6:30 pm Scouting America #766 (Fellowship Hall)	27 6:00 pm <i>Companions in Christ (Fireside Room)</i>	28 9:30 am Book Study Via Zoom 12:00 pm Women's Book Study 5:15 pm Family Meal 6:00 pm Kid's Club 6:00 pm Book Study (Library) 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:15 pm Bells	29	30	31 1:00 - 2:30 pm Trunk or Treat 

Companions on the Journey

Our stewardship focus for this fall is “Companions on the Journey.” We will lift this theme during services on **October 18 and 25**. “Estimate of Giving Cards” for 2027, will be mailed to church homes and will also be available in the narthex. These cards will be collected on **October 25th**. Thank you for your generous and faithful giving!

WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

- October 4** **World Communion Sunday**
Rev. Ron Carlson, IAUMC Treasurer, will preach, "Living Abundantly"
Scripture: John 6:1-13
In-person service at **8:30 am**, in-person & livestream service at **10:30 am**
- October 11** **Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**
Pastor Scott will preach, "Choosing to be Chosen,"
Scripture: Matthew 22:1-14
In-person service at **8:30 am**, in-person & livestream service at **10:30 am**
- October 18** **Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost**
Pastor Alecia will preach, "Companions on the Journey, Part 1"
Scripture: Esther 4:14 & Ephesians 2:8-10
In-person service at **8:30 am**, in-person & livestream service at **10:30 am**
- October 25** **Stewardship Sunday**
Pastor Scott will preach, "Companions on the Journey," Part 2
Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30
In-person service at **8:30 am**, in-person & livestream service at **10:30 am**

Pastor Scott's Study Groups

The Wednesday morning study groups meet on Zoom at 9:30 am. The evening group gathers in the library at 6:00 pm.

The study book we are currently looking at is *Jesus Is Lord: Living in the Lordship of Christ*. The author is Bishop Tom Berlin. We studied his book, *Courage: Jesus and the Call to Brave Faith*, last spring. The study books are available in the church office. All are welcome!

Men's Breakfast



Please join us on **Saturday, October 24, 2026 at 8:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall at Lovely Lane. Chris Lindell is the speaker and will share about a recent trip to Japan. Coffee and light breakfast will be served. All are welcome!

United Women in Faith are planning a Church Auction fundraiser/potluck on **Sunday, November 15**. Do you have something you could donate or services you could offer?



United
Women
in Faith

Basket building workshops: **Thursday, October 8, at 1:00 pm** and **Wednesday, October 14, at 6:00 pm**
Bring the items for your basket to a workshop to learn how to put it together including making a bow.
All proceeds will be donated to HACAP to support families in of food assistance through the holidays.

Baskets need to be turned in to the church by **Sunday, November 1**.

Contact Deb Streff with questions, (319) 721-8864.

If you enjoy the coffee hour at Lovely Lane, please consider helping setup the coffee service on Sunday mornings. We need help on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. You need to arrive about 7:30 am to have the coffee, etc. ready by 8:15 am. This is a great ministry especially with the return of the Sunday School Classes at 9:30 am and fellowship at that time. Please contact Judy McDowell at jmcdow51@aol.com.



Happy Endings Book Club

The book we will be reading for **Monday, October 12** is *Storybook Ending*, by Moira MacDonald. A charming story about friendship, community, and the magic that happens in bookstores—when an anonymous note left in a book finds the wrong recipient. We meet at 10:00 AM in Fireside. If you have any questions, please contact Judy McDowell, at (319) 560-2960. Hope to see you there.



GREEN SQUARE MEALS

Six volunteers are needed each month to help with Green Square Meals! The next date is **Thursday, October 15**, with a **3:55 pm** expected arrival time. Please contact Dan Moore by phone at: (715) 432-1983 or by email at: banjobubbabad@yahoo.com if you are able to help serve.

Thank you to those who have helped serve these meals!

Health & Wholeness RETREAT 2026

November 7, 2026
Registration 8:30am - 9:00am
Program 9:00am - 1:00pm

Join us as we hear from local leaders regarding
The Worries That Keep Us Up At Night

Breakfast and Lunch will be provided
If you require childcare please register by October 31, 2026

Lovely Lane United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall
2424 42nd St. NE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402

Register Here
Scholarships available



† **Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation**

*The Academy offers five days to rest into God, listen deeply, and recover holy rhythms with companions on the journey. The time together runs from **October 18-23** at Wesley Woods Camp & Retreat Center in Indianola. Participants will gather for a monastic-patterned retreat of worship, teaching, silence, and community practices.*

More information is on the conference website, www.iaumc.org. The Rev. Rose Blank is one of the leaders too. You can also reach her for further information, rose.blank3@gmail.com.



2026 Caregivers Tea "Turning Pages"

Volunteers (Back row from the left, Jane Schildroth, Marti Sparrow, Sherry Minor, Carol Wishnowski, Penny Sailer, Alecia Hilmer.)

(Front row from left, Karon Niebuhr, and Linda Keefe.)

Caregivers/Care Receivers

A fun and compassionate group of people at Lovely Lane are looking for a few more volunteers. The Care Givers/ Receivers Ministry (formerly known as the Shepherdess Ministry) is seeking the following:

- One person for planning and administrative assistance. This would include planning meetings every other month, sending emails and helping with general correspondence for the group as well as other needed tasks.
- Three to four individuals who can correspond monthly with our Care Receivers. We would like to have both men and women for this role. This could be a phone call, a letter or card, and most important face-to-face contact at least once a month.
- One to two individuals to deliver flower arrangements two times a year. Our group will assemble fresh flower arrangements. We need assistance delivering those to our Care Receivers.

Please contact Karon Niebuhr at (319) 360-6523 or karon.niebuhr@gmail.com.



YOUTH
CO-OP



HALLOWEEN Party

OCTOBER 25TH
3:00 -5:00 PM

St. Paul's UMC
1340 3rd Ave SE
Cedar Rapids



Get ready for an evening of Halloween fun with the Youth Co-Op! Come dressed in your favorite costume and join us for games, food, and plenty of treats.

We'll play a few round of "Sardines" throughout the church, enjoy some food and candy, and make homemade caramel apples. We may even head outside for s'mores and toasted marshmallows.

Come ready to have some fun, get a little competitive, and celebrate Halloween together with friends from across the Youth Co-Op.



MOTHER CHURCH OF AMERICAN METHODISM	
	DATE OCTOBER 1, 2026 TIME 6:30 PM SPEAKER SCOTT MEADOR
Pastor Scott Meador will share history of the "Mother Church of American Methodism" located in Baltimore along with pictures from his recent trip there. Learn about the history of the Lovely Lane United Methodist Church, where the name came from, the various stages of the church progress etc. All are welcome!	
LOVELY LANE UMC 2424 - 42ND ST NE-CEDAR RAPIDS, IA	



Youth Outing to Bass Farms

Wednesday, October 14, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm

This event will be free, please register here:

<https://forms.gle/MvBMoh5heQrgSFok7>

Enjoy mini-golf, a jumping pad, farm frenzy slide, a corn maze, and more! To help keep everyone safe and having fun, we ask that kids 12 and under bring a parent or guardian to stay and enjoy the evening. Please contact Kim Moore with questions at: kimm@lovelylane.org

3rd Grade Bible Distribution

If you have a 3rd grade student, please join us for Bible presentation on **Sunday, October 18, at the 10:30 am service**. If you are newer to the church and your 3rd or 4th grade child has not received a Bible previously, please contact Annie Walker, the Director of Family Ministries or Alecia Hilmer, Associate pastor. We would love to give him/her one! If your family usually attends the 8:30, we can easily make a presentation at that time. Please let us know. We love seeing the children reading the scriptures! - Alecia Hilmer



JOYS

- *Congratulations to Andrew and Emily Pollard on the birth of Natalie Anne
- *Marla Gonzalez's son setting wedding date for next year
- *Morgan Stumpf with a nice start in his teaching career
- *Ongoing special offering for the Eagle Scout project
- *Youth Co-Op with nomination for Bishop's Inspire Awards
- *Joni Roscovius with wonderful family celebrations
- *Pastor Alecia returning from vacation
- *Fun times following favorite football teams
- *Brandon and Leslie Neugebauer welcome baby boy, Nelson
- *Youth Co-Op with nomination for Bishop's Inspire Awards
- *Joni Roscovius with wonderful family celebrations
- *Pastor Alecia returning from vacation
- *Successful surgery for Pat Mahoney's father
- *Chris Johnson celebrating his stepfather's retirement
- *Appreciation to Mary Odegaard, Erv Mussman and others for playing the piano in worship
- *Mike Nesslage appreciating prayers following shoulder surgery
- *Tammy Martin's mother, Esther, thankful for prayers following her accident
- *Kim Moore experiencing a nice women's retreat
- *Greenhouse Leadership events at the church, helping congregations dream
- *Invitation to "Especially for You" participants to share experiences in worship on 10/4

The Greenhouse Leadership Development Events will continue to meet at Lovely Lane coming up. The next sessions are set for **November 11 and 12**. Greenhouse is a ministry of the Iowa Annual Conference and the Illinois Great Rivers Conference that helps congregations dream together and plan for new ministries. Please keep this important ministry in your prayers. Church members who are participating are Pastors Scott and Alecia, Kevin Crist, Matt Mulnik, and Jane Schildroth.

CONCERNS

- *Prayers and special offering for countries of Tibet and Nepal
- *Darla Hauser's co-worker's son in college band passing because of heat
- *Phil Martin remembering 9/11 and colleague who died
- *Memorial service for Marlene Adams at church on September 11 at 1:30
- *Remembering 9/11 on the 25th anniversary
- *Sympathy to the Adams family following memorial service for Mardell Adams
- *Josh Mills' uncle, Gary, following a vehicle accident
- *Carol Strong and family after the passing of husband, Steve
- *Remembering 9/11 on the 25th anniversary
- *Sympathy to the Adams family following memorial service for Mardell Adams
- *Josh Mills' uncle, Gary, following a vehicle accident
- *Sympathy to the family of Melissa Blair following her passing
- *Dave Keefe's cousin in critical condition at U of I
- *Families impacted by the unfortunate drownings at Lake MacBride
- *Local student injured during the Kennedy Homecoming Parade
- *Friend of Teri Summers whose son died unexpectedly
- *Family of Linda Carollo's friend, Julie, who passed recently
- *Rick and Cathy Homard's daughter and family after passing of their daughter's father-in-law
- *Stephanie French's mother following a fall
- *Kathy Stepleton with heart procedure coming up
- *Rory and Karon Niebuhr's daughter's father-in-law with medical testing

Remembering with love:

Marjorie Deal 2017
Gwen Bray 2019
Mary Ann Stewart 2025



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 8/31/26	\$70,685
Cash inflow - YTD	\$447,852
Budget need/month	\$58,973
Cash outflow - month of 8/31/26	\$50,597
Cash outflow - YTD	\$422,878
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
Children's Choir Accompanist

Dr. Scott Meador
Dr. Alecia Hilmer
Eric Wylie
Marcie Stumpf
Nancy Patrick
Charlie Kucera
Linda Bayliss
Olivia Schneider
Adam Sines

Children & Youth

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

Annie Walker
Kim Moore
Brooke Johnson
Hailey Ryan
Carly Giddings
Dawn DuPont

Office & Facilities

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

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