

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

February 2015

Vision Statement

We are here to reflect God's glory in our congregation, in our world, and in our hearts. Forgiven by Christ, we forgive. Accepted by God, we accept. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we equip, enable and inspire God's household to servant leadership.



A NOTE FROM HOME

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
a gentle Father and the God of all consolation,
who comforts us in all our sorrows,
the consolation that we have received from God ourselves.”

- 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Several years ago I was invited to an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting to help celebrate a church member's 25th year of sobriety. It was just a regular meeting, but I was so impressed with the openness of the sharing and the deep needs that were expressed and cared for in that small group. They all knew why they were there and their mutual struggle linked them together with a commitment that made them available to help each other any time of day or night.

Their strength came from admitting their weakness, their need, and their struggle. The church can learn a lesson from A.A. Too often, church is the last place we'd go if we don't "have it all together." Heaven forbid, if we cry at church or allow others to see our pain, and so we leave, unhealed. Henri Nouwen writes:

Why do we keep hiding our deepest feelings from each other? We suffer much, but we also have great gifts of healing for each other. The mystery is that by hiding our pain we also hide our ability to heal.

As Lent begins, I hope it will be a time for all of us to discover the strength and power we have to offer one another as wounded healers in Christ.

*In God's Service,
Pastor Paul*

Calendar of Events— February 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			CCM = Care Center Ministry ESL = English as a Second Language MHSG = Mental Health Support Grp.			
1 Communion Sunday 9 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School 10:45 am Sunday School 5:15 pm Sr. High Youth Grp. (@ Ben Oliver's)	2 9 am ESL 12:30 pm CWM Preschl. Staff mtg. 6:15 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm Education	3 9:30 UMW Bible Study 11:35 am Kennedy Lunch 6:45 pm Women's Study Group	4 9:30 am CCM (offsite) Noon Women's Study Group 5:00 pm Kids Bell Choir 5:30 pm Family meal 6 pm Kids Club 6 pm M.S. Yth. Grp. 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Adult Explo	5 5:30 pm SOS Bible Study 6:30pm Handbells 7 pm Parish Development District mtg.	6 9 am ESL	7 9 am—12:30 pm International Ladies Fellowship
8 9 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School 10:45 am Sunday School 6 pm Sr. High Youth Group	9 9 am ESL 10 am Happy Endings 12:30 pm CWM Preschl. Staff mtg. 5:45 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Children's Council	10 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 11:35 am Kennedy Lunch 4 pm Shepherds 6:30 pm MHSG 6:45 pm Women's Study Group	11 Noon Women's Study Group 5:00 pm Kids Bell Choir 5:30 pm Family meal 6 pm Kids Club 6 pm M.S. Yth. Grp. 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm Adult Explo 7:30 pm SPPRC	12 7 am Leadership Breakfast (@ Panera's) 1 pm UMW meeting 5:30 pm SOS Bible Study 6:30pm Handbells	13 9 am ESL	14 Happy Valentine's Day 6-8 pm Sledding Party
15 Transfiguration Sunday 9 am Heart Healthy Brunch 9 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School 10:45 am Sunday School 6 pm Sr. High Youth Group	16 9 am ESL 12:30 pm CWM Preschl. Staff mtg. 7 pm CWM Board mtg.	17 9:30 UMW Bible Study 10:00 am—5 pm JFON Office Hours 11:35 am Kennedy Lunch 5 pm JFON Clinic 6:45 pm Women's Study Group	18 Ash Wednesday 9:30 am CCM (offsite) Noon Women's Study Group 5:30 pm Pancake Supper 6:30 pm Ash Wed. Worship Service	19 5:30 pm SOS Bible Study 6:15pm Handbells 6:45 pm Missions 6:45 pm Trustees 7:00 pm Committees 7:50 pm Ad Council	20 9 am ESL 12 noon Friendly Fellowship	21
22 1st Sunday in Lent 9 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School 10:45 am Sunday School 6 pm Sr. High Youth Group	23 9 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 9 am ESL 12:30 pm CWM Preschl. Staff mtg. 6 pm Library Team 6:45 pm Boy Scouts	24 9:30 UMW Bible Study 11:35 am Kennedy Lunch 6:45 pm Women's Study Group	25 Noon Women's Study Group 5:00 pm Kids Bell Choir 5:30 pm Family meal 6 pm Kids Club 6 pm M.S. Yth. Grp. 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm Prayer Shawl	26 5:30 pm SOS Bible Study 6:30pm Handbells	27 9 am ESL	28 6 am-Midnt. "Raise the Roof" Show Choir overflow parking from Kennedy

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING

Faith community nursing (also called parish nursing) is a recognized specialty practice that combines professional nursing and health ministry. Faith community nursing emphasizes health and healing within a faith community. Mercy Medical Center will offer the Foundations of Faith Community Nursing on March 24, 26 & 28 and April 7, 9 & 11. This course provides the basic foundation for the nurse interested in practicing in the faith community. To register or if you have questions, call Melissa Cullum, Mercy's Community Benefit & Mission Outreach Ministries Manager (319-221-8568).

Lovely Lane Worship, et al.

Worship in February

Feb. 1: *Holy Communion*—8, 9:15 & 10:30 am services

Scripture: Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

Sermon: "The Gospel of Paul in 1 minute"

Feb. 8: *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*—8, 9:15 & 10:30 am services

Scripture: Mark 1:29-39

Sermon: "A Day in the Life of Jesus"

Feb. 15: *Transfiguration Sunday*—8, 9:15 & 10:30 am services

Scripture: Mark 9:2-9

Sermon: "Seeing for Real"

Feb. 18: *Ash Wednesday*—**LENT BEGINS**

5:30 pm: Pancake Supper; 6:30 pm: Youth-led Worship

Scripture: Matthew 6:5-13

Sermon: "Teach Us to Pray" by the Confirmation Class

Feb. 22: *1st Sunday in Lent*—8, 9:15 & 10:30 am services

Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon: "Dealing with Temptation"

LENTEN OFFERINGS

Matthew 25 Ministry Hub is a local nonprofit in CR that exists to strengthen core neighborhoods on CR's west side. It partners with others to work in 3 program areas: Neighborhood Building, Youth Empowerment, and Cultivate Hope.

Willis Dady Emergency Shelter in CR provides services to both prevent homelessness for those at risk of becoming homeless and rehouse those who currently find themselves homeless.

Henderson Settlement, Red Bird Mission is comprised of 1,600 acres in Frakes, Kentucky, offering various services to the local community including a food pantry, transitional housing, youth ministries, child and senior daycare, fellowship lunch, and more. Our youth will attend a work camp there this summer.

ODIM Guatemala operates 2 medical clinics, a dental clinic, programs to fight infant malnutrition and diabetes, health education seminars, as well as student scholarship and learning reinforcement programs in the communities of San Pablo and San Juan on Lake Atitlan. ODIM ("O-deem" in Spanish) welcomes medical, dental and construction teams from other countries and invests in the lives of 44 local staff who make a difference in the community year-round. 8 Lovely Laners will be working through ODIM in Guatemala 3/13-23!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UMW MEETING

We will meet on **Thur., Feb. 12th, at 1 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be putting together special treats to take to some special people in our congregation. Please bring 2-3 dozen cookies for some homebound Lovely Lane members. Even if you don't bake cookies, come and help us decorate cards and plates. We also need volunteers to make the deliveries; this is more fun if a couple of volunteers go together. Cindy Sale will be our coordinator and Marilyn Goodman our hostess as we sample a few cookies before heading out for deliveries.

As we were not able to meet in January due to the inclement weather, we will be taking a collection for our **annual Prayer & Self-denial offering**. This year's offering will go to support programs for active and retired missionary personnel services and needs. Our UMW's responsibility includes the Brooks-Howell Retirement Home & health care facility. **So, please bring a generous donation with you.**

UMW TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The group resumed meeting on Tue., Jan. 13th (9:30-11:15 AM), starting a study of the book of Daniel which has been described as symbolic, visionary, prophetic literature with its historical narrative and apocalyptic material. Please join us for fellowship and study. Call Cheryl Murphy (377-6205) with questions. **PLEASE LUG YOUR MUG FOR COFFEE TIME!**

FEBRUARY YOUTH NEWS

Senior High Youth Group

Meets on Sunday evenings from 6—7:30 PM. Youth have supper together and then spend the rest of the evening exploring the Bible and journeying together in their faith.

On Sunday, Feb. 1st, the youth will be making subs for Super Bowl Sunday in order to raise money for summer mission trips. We will have sign-up at YG to make subs that day: 8-9:45 AM and 9:45—11:30 AM.

Also on Feb. 1st, we will have a youth Super Bowl party at Ben Oliver's home. Youth are invited to bring a snack to share with the group. The game starts at 5:30 PM so come by 5:15 PM if you want to see the kick-off. Youth are invited to bring a friend. Even if you don't like football, come for the commercials and fun social time!

Middle School Youth Group

Meets on Wednesdays starting with supper at 5:30 PM and youth group from 6—7:15 PM. Youth explore biblical teachings thru games, service, and other activities. About once a month the middle school youth prepare and serve the Wed. night family meal as part of their service.

Middle School youth will help lead the worship service on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18th.

Wednesday Kid's Club: "Journey through the Bible"

Meets on Wednesdays starting with supper at 5:30 PM (freewill offering accepted) and then programming at 6:00 PM. On Wed., Feb. 18th, families are invited to come for a pancake supper and then stay for Ash Wednesday worship. The children will be singing as part of the worship service.

Youth activities

ATTN All Youth 8th-12th Grade: 2015 Senior High Youth Mission Trip to Henderson Settlement , June 13-20

We will travel to Henderson Settlement, 16773 Highway 190, Frakes, KY, to do home repair in one of the poorest counties in the country. All current 8th graders and 9th—12th graders are eligible for this trip. The cost is \$230 per person PLUS materials for the build sites, working on homes, and travel expenses. Lodging and meals are included. We will arrive Sunday afternoon and leave on Saturday morning. Workdays are Mon. thru Fri. With travel, the cost will be about \$400. Go to the following website for more information on our destination: <http://www.hendersonsettlement.com/workcamp.php>.

SUBS FOR SERVICE ON FEB. 1ST!

It's almost Super Bowl party time, and the youth would like to do the cooking! In June, 2015 our senior high youth will be going to the Henderson Settlement in Kentucky to do home repair in the poverty-stricken area of the Appalachian Mountains (see article above). Your order will help off-set the costs of building supplies and transportation costs. Place your order by Wed., Jan. 28th. Cost: \$4.00 per 6 inch sub.



What's Up with Confirmation?

The 2014-2015 Confirmation Class is half way through their studies and here are some of our highlights so far:

September & October 2014

*We met our Buddy Bert (Bible, Experience, Reason, Tradition) and the Wesley Brothers, John & Charles

*We walked for CROP and prayer walked the Labyrinth @ Prairiewoods

November & December 2014

*We worshipped at Agudas Achim Synagogue in Coralville and met Rabbi Jeff

*We learned about: God, the Bible, Loving our Neighbors, Stuff that separates us from God (aka sin), The Lord's Prayer, Psalm 23, *and* The Apostle's Creed (BIG stuff!)

*We had a Christmas party @ Pastor Gayle's house

*We had a Baby Shower for Jesus and brought gifts for Waypoint that totaled \$500!

January 2015

*We are getting to know more about: 1) Our Helper (Holy Spirit); 2) How to make friends with God; and 3) What the Bible tells us *and doesn't tell us* about Heaven and Hell

*We had "A Night at the Church" lock-in, held a Trial of Humanity, and had some pretty holy moments

*We worshipped at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church where they rock-n-roll for Jesus!

AND...we are meeting with our mentors and growing our souls. Keep praying for us. We have a long way to go but we are learning and growing in our Christian faith and getting a better idea about what it means to Walk the Walk and not just Talk the Talk when it comes to being a follower of Christ.

Save the Date!

Confirmation is May 3rd @ 10:30 Worship

We hope you can join the celebration!!

Blue Zone Sunday

On Sunday, February 15th, we are celebrating **Blue Zone Sunday**. The Health & Wholeness Committee will be available to help people fill out a pledge card to *Live Longer and Better*. We need 60 people to fill out a pledge card to become a **Blue Zone Institution**. We have completed all of the requirements except for the pledge cards. The committee will also have an assortment of Heart Healthy, Blue Zone recommended snacks available in the Fellowship Hall between 9:00 and 10:30 AM. We look forward to seeing lots of you on the morning of the 15th.

If you have any questions, please call Nancy Miller at 393-6340.

Small Group News, et al.

HAPPY ENDINGS

Happy Endings, book discussion group, will meet on Monday, Feb. 9th, at 10 AM in the church library. The book we will read and discuss will be *The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion* by Fannie Flagg; Cheryl Murphy will lead the discussion. The book to read for March is *The Fall of Marigolds* by Susan Meisser. For April, the book is *The Things We Do For Love*, by Kristin Hannah. Come join us for good discussion and fellowship.

If you have questions, call Nancy Miller at 393-6340.

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP

FF will meet on Friday, Feb. 20th, at noon for the potluck lunch. The program will be Pastors Paul and Gayle doing a music presentation. Don and Sharon Kouba will be our host and hostess.

We hope to have a nice crowd after missing two months. Come join us for good food and special program!

If you have questions, please call Nancy Miller at 393-6340.

Presence: Worship Attendance

1/4	1/11	1/18	1/25
167	223	212	171

December financial totals

Cash inflow, Dec. 2014: \$64,673
 Cash outflow (paid bills), Dec. 2014: \$60,212
 Cash inflow, Jan.–Dec. 2014: \$560,972
 Cash outflow (paid bills), Jan.–Dec. 2014: \$559,094
 Unpaid bills, Jan.–Dec. 2014: \$0

Our Ministry Teams at Work

Christian Education

- ◆ Easter Egg candy/treasures/coins needed by March 2nd for Easter Egg Hunt on April 4th (place in the basket in the Narthex)
- ◆ Dates to remember: Easter Egg Hunt on April 4th; Palm Sunday on March 29th—Children's presentation @ 9:15 service
- ◆ Need VBS Planning Comm. volunteers
- ◆ Need additional CE members

Ad Council

- ◆ Balanced our budget for 2014
- ◆ Exploring possible capitol campaign

Trustees

- ◆ Need to fix the small things
- ◆ Walk around the church next month
- ◆ Invite new custodians to meet our committee to enhance communication

Hospitality

- ◆ Did some planning & got to know new members

Health & Wholeness

- ◆ Planning a Blue Zone Sunday—Feb. 15th, 9-10:30 AM
- ◆ Planning a Women's Retreat outing to the Amana theatre for the *Church Basement Ladies: The Last Potluck Supper*

Children's Council

- ◆ Sledding party (date TBD by weather)
- ◆ YMCA night—Feb. 14th
- ◆ Easter Celebration
- ◆ Need additional committee members with some fresh ideas

Remembering with love...

Aldene Emerson.....2010
Linda Showman.....2011
Harry Hograbe.....2013
JR Munnik.....2014
Janet Peterson.....2014

Concerns & Celebrations

Thank you for your prayers, presence, gifts & service!

Prayer concerns:

- *Rae Keegan & family – on Darwin's death; his funeral was at LL on 1/16
- *The family of Donna Knutson – on her death; her funeral was at LL on 1/17
- *Stephanie Phillips, her mother Marge Deal & family on the death of Stephanie's brother (& Marge's son)
- *Dawn & Paul Nylin's son-in-law Gary Lovik, married to their dtr. Sue – passed away
- *Dick Rainville – on his sister's passing
- *Frank Camp – death of his uncle, Louis
- *Kim Jacobson's uncle passed away
- *Chuck Patton (Kennedy Lunch helper from St. Paul's UMC) – passed away
- *Brenda Borden – recovering from a stroke
- *Julie Wall's nephew, Joe – undergoing treatments for acute leukemia
- *Lisa Pakkebieer's brother Steve – in ICU struggling with pneumonia, other health issues
- *Linda Finck – recovering from surgery
- *Don Sparrow – recovering from surgery
- *Ramona Gerard – foot injury
- *Mariah Schuster – baby coming too soon
- *Pat Lesmeister – recovering from surgery
- *Marcie Baugh & Jayne Woodson – had foot surgery
- *Anne Stucker – recovering from eye surgery
- *Nancy Hinkel's father – respiratory issues
- *Those burdened by illness &/or sorrow
- *Those affected by the violence in Paris
- *Those who work outside in severe winter weather

Celebrations:

- *Matthew Burrier led a spirited service 12/28
- *Pastor Paul taught a preaching course for School for Lay Ministry at Cornell
- *Al Adam's mother, Beulah, celebrated her 105th birthday on 1/5 (born in 1910!)
- *Great turnout for both of the Women's Study Groups (Wed. noon and Tue. evening)
- *Wed. evening kids/youth activities are back on track after being off for holidays, etc.
- *Brian & Jenny Schear and 3 daughters welcome baby Matthew Brian born on 1/17
- *Great Christian Unity Sunday service on 1/18, with guest preacher Rev. Mike Metz (of Kenwood Park UMC)

Thank You Notes

Thank you so much for contributing 290 pounds of food to the Linn Community Food Bank during the 4th quarter of 2014. This brings your total giving for the year to 940 pounds of food and \$2,471.41! We could not operate our food bank without generous support from area churches.

Thank you for your support of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Through your gift (\$2,009.08), you are helping to provide assistance for survivors of human trafficking, funding for health and development projects that alleviate hunger and poverty, holistic community-based health programs, and access to clean water and sanitation. This is just a sampling of the good works that gifts like yours make possible. Thank you for giving so generously.

LOVELY LANE'S TOTAL 2014 MISSION ENGAGEMENT HOURS

Our 2014 Mission Engagement totaled 7,000 hands-on ministry hours!! Congratulations, Lovely Lane, on an AWESOME year of giving your time both inside and outside the church!! As a matter of interest, outreach accounted for 63% of our hours while membership care accounted for 37% of the hours.

We are making a SIGNIFICANT contribution to our community by giving two-thirds of our hands-on ministry time OUTSIDE our church walls. One in three of our members recorded mission engagement hours (which was short of our goal of 3 out of 4 members). Nonetheless, EVERYONE should feel very good about the ministry our church is doing!!!

A BIG THANK YOU to all of you who recorded hours for this one-year project! 7,000 hours ... WOW!!!!!!!



Lovely Lane

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Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 am Traditional
9:15 am Traditional
10:30 am Traditional with Choir (Blended* on 2nd & 4th Sundays)

**Blended = a mix of traditional & contemporary*

EMBODYING ...
DISCERNING ...
DISCOVERING ...
THE WILL OF GOD



Find out more about us:

Website: www.lovelylane.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc
Phone: 319-393-6674

Lovely Lane Staff

Lead Pastor.....Paul Wilcox
Associate Pastor.....Gayle Wilcox
Office Manager.....Sue Moss
Director Children's Weekday Min.....Carolyn Barnes
Youth Director.....Jenny Seylar
Christian Educator..... Barb Geissinger
Director of Music.....Matthew Burrier
Organist.....Dennis Ramsey
Children's Choirs.....Carla Jesse
Director of Handbells.....Gayle Wilcox
Nursery.....Shelbie Wood, McKenna Woods
& Tara Weber
Wedding Coordinator.....Becky Wood
Custodians.....Rex, Rhonda & Jessica Heasty
Audio/Visual Coordinator.....Eric Wylie
Treasurer.....Marcie Stumpf
Webmaster.....Shelly Turner

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