

# Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

June 2017

## 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

“The Bible knows that the more powerful temptation is not atheism, but idolatry. The hazard is not that we shall cease to believe in God, but that we shall generate and construct gods because they are more comfortable and convenient for us.”

- *Walter Brueggemann*

How comfortable is your faith? When was the last time God touched your heart and moved you to do something challenging and even risky? If it's not happening, then maybe the god you're listening to is not God at all. I know that I tend to read passages in Scripture that speak of God's kindness and love, while the less “convenient” passages about God are not nearly so well-worn. Malachi speaks of God's presence as a “refiner's fire” (3:2), Isaiah calls God “a warrior” (42:13), and even Jesus speaks of God as a “hard person” who expects the most of his people (Matt. 25:24). I am reminded of the God who called Noah to do a difficult and unpopular thing, Abraham to leave home and family for a land only “promised”, and, of course, Jesus—who wished so much to save his life, but submitted his will to the uncomfortable will of God—the cross (Mark 14:36).

Is our God too comfortable and convenient? Perhaps we need to listen anew to El Shaddai—the wild God of the mountain top. The one, true God is as close as our Bibles and as near as our earnest prayers.

As summer draws near, don't neglect the “one necessary thing” (Luke 10:42) - make the time to know the Living God and through Him to become alive yourself!

*Grace & Peace,  
Pastor Paul*

## Calendar of Events — June 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1</b> 5:30 pm Yoga	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 8 or 9 am LL Lawn Fertilizing
<b>4 Pentecost Sunday/Communion</b> 8:45 am Chancel Choir 9:30 am Worship	<b>5 (CWM Summer Daycare begins)</b> 5:15 pm Tai Chi Class 6:30 pm C.E. mtg 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>6</b> 1 pm Sr. High campout—leave from church	<b>7</b> 9:30 am CCM (offsite)	<b>8</b> 7 am Leadership Brkfst (@ Panera's) 5:30 pm Yoga 6 pm UMW Potluck 6:30 pm Missions	<b>9 Annual Conference Weekend</b>	<b>10</b> 8:30 am-1 pm Graduation Party (Pape)
<b>11 Conference Sunday</b> 9:30 am Worship	<b>12</b> 10:00 am Happy Endings 5:15 pm Tai Chi Class 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>13</b> 6:30 pm MHSG	<b>14</b> 6 pm Summer Games 7:30 pm SPPRC	<b>15</b> 5:30 pm Yoga 6:45 pm Trustees 7:00 pm Committees 7:50 pm Ad Council	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18 Father's Day &amp; Special Offering for Preschool Scholarships</b> 9:30 am Worship	<b>19</b> 5:15 pm Tai Chi Class 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>20</b> 10:30 am-5 pm JFON Office Hours 5-8 pm JFON Clinic	<b>21</b> 9:30 am CCM (offsite) 6 pm Summer Games	<b>22</b> 5:30 pm Yoga	<b>23</b> 7:30 pm SH Youth depart on Colorado trip	<b>24</b> 9 am-1:30 pm International Ladies Fellowship
<b>25</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:40 am Family Hands only CPR & AED presentation 4-7 pm Jill Sanders' Celebration of Ministry & "Farewell" Party	<b>26</b> 9 am Prayer Shawl 5:15 pm Tai Chi Class 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6 pm Summer Games	<b>29</b> 5:30 pm Yoga	<b>30</b>	CCM = Care Center Ministry MHSG = Mental Health Support Group

### Lovely Lane Men's Group Starts on Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>

**Men**—save this Saturday date in July for Breakfast at Lovely Lane, 8:30-10:00 AM. We'll meet once a month for a light breakfast, devotions, plenty of laughter and a discussion topic! On Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, we will discuss memories of our Fathers.

# Lovely Lane Worship, et al.

## Worship in June

June 4th: *Pentecost Sunday / Holy Communion*—  
9:30 AM All-Together Summer Service

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21

Sermon: "How Does the Divine Happen?"

June 11th: *Conference Sunday*—9:30 AM All-  
Together Summer Service

Dramatic Presentation/Sermon by Marci Wittles  
& Cathy Weber

June 18th: *Father's Day*—9:30 AM All-Together  
Summer Service

Scripture: Ephesians 4:11-16

Sermon: "Grow Up!"

*A Special Preschool Scholarship Offering will be tak-  
en during worship on this date (see to the right)*

June 25th: *3rd Sunday after Pentecost*—9:30 AM  
All-Together Summer Service

Scripture: Genesis 32:22-32

Sermon: "What's in a Name?" - Part I

*Fourth Sunday Summer Brunch after the service,  
hosted by SPPRC, Trustees, & Education Comm.*

## PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

### SPECIAL OFFERING

#### ON FATHER'S DAY, JUNE 18TH

On Sunday, June 18th, we will receive a special offering that is near and dear to a every parent's heart: Scholarships to Preschool for 2 & 3 year olds. Every year Lovely Lane and Trinity Lane Preschools extend learning, nurture, and love to the very children who most need it and can least afford it. Let's help them touch a life!

## SUMMER BRUNCHES 2017:

### 4TH SUNDAYS

#### AFTER OUR 9:30 SERVICE

Summer Brunches will be simple continental style with rolls, coffee cakes, breads, yogurt or fresh fruit, coffee, juice, and milk. The dates and the committees/groups serving as hosts for each are as follows:

**June 25th**—SPPRC (fruit or yogurt), Trustees (juice & milk, help clean up), Education Committee (cakes, muffins, breads, etc.)

**July 23rd**—Ad Council (cakes, muffins, breads, etc.), Finance (juice & milk, help clean up), UMW (fruit or yogurt)

**August 27th**—Health & Wholeness (cakes, muffins, breads, etc.), Missions (juice & milk, help clean up), Hospitality (fruit or yogurt)

Thank you in advance to these committees/groups for providing tasty food and beverages, and for providing the hands necessary to work at each summer brunch!!

## WELCOME TO THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR LOVELY LANE FAMILY

(joined in worship on 5/7)

Our confirmands: Gabriella Christine Dupont  
Lindsay Marie Lesmeister  
Reid Curtiss Pakkebieer  
Olivia Jesse Schneider  
Grace Elizabeth Techau  
Jacey Christine Wall

Please talk to Pastor Gayle if you are interested in joining or have questions and have not indicated your interest on the STUB in worship.

## Habitat For Humanity Build on Weekday Mornings

Habitat has a number of homes they are building for the homeless here in Cedar Rapids; however, there is a shortage of workers during the weekday hours. So, a number of Lovely Lane Retirees have come to the rescue and will be working with Habitat a weekday morning each month. Contact Les Minor @ [lminor@imonmail.com](mailto:lminor@imonmail.com) if you're interested in joining this merry band and/or need more information!

## **UMW NEWS**

### **LOVELY LANE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

**On Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM**, we will meet for a salad pot luck dinner. Each person is asked to bring a salad to share and their own table service. Beverages will be provided.

We will hold a brief business meeting and then have a *Book Swap!* Here is a chance to swap some of your "book club" books and meet some new friends at the same time! Join us in the Fellowship Hall to browse the selection of books others have brought to the swap. If you carry in four books, you can pick four new titles to take home! It's a time to chat with other participants to get their opinions and recommendations!!

Cindy Sale will be our coordinator and Marilyn Goodman will be our hostess.

We invite all women of Lovely Lane to share this meal and time of fellowship with us!

### **UMW TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

The UMW Bible Study will **not** be meeting during the summer months. Beginning on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, we will resume meeting each Tuesday morning from 9:30 - 11:15 AM in Fire-side. We invite you to join with us next fall as we continue the study we began in May of the Gospel of Luke. We have decided to not only LUG OUR MUGS, BUT ALSO TO FILL THEM AT HOME; SO, COME PREPARED WITH YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE IN HAND!

### **MISSION U**

Sessions will be held this summer and fall: July 16-18 or October 20-22, 2017, at Iowa Valley Community College, Marshalltown, IA. The topics will be: Spiritual Growth—"Living as a Covenant Community"; Social Action—"Climate Justice: Call for Hope and Action"; and Geographic Study—"Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the United States." Spanish, Korean, Youth and Children's classes will be offered at Fall Mission U. Scholarships are available. For more information and registration forms, please call Cheryl Murphy (377-6205).

**Tai Chi/Qi Gong classes** continue weekly in June on Monday from 5:15 to 6:15 PM in Fire-side. No childcare has been arranged. Please call/message Linda Keefe with any questions (319-551-7783). You are invited to come and join us!

### **CPR & AED Presentation Sunday, June 25th**

Our church has an AED, but do you know where it is or how to use it? A Family Hands Only CPR and AED presentation from St. Luke's will be held on Sunday, June 25th, right after church in the Sanctuary (about 10:40 AM). Please plan to attend this short presentation so you'll be better prepared in case of an emergency!

*Sponsored by LL's Health & Wholeness Committee*

*The Community Health Free Clinic  
Invites You to an  
OPEN HOUSE  
of Their Newly Remodeled Clinic  
(947 14th Ave. SE, CR)  
Friday, June 16th,  
Noon-3:00 PM*

**Buffalo UMC  
Annual Rummage Sale  
Thurs., June 8th  
(8 am-6 pm)  
& Fri., June 9th  
(8 am-2 pm)**

*FREE Hot Dog Lunch served both days  
(donations appreciated) / Bake Sale*

Benefits from the sale will go to Trucker Don as he continues his medical journey. A Bag Sale will be held on Friday. Call 378-4258 with questions. (Buffalo UMC is located at 1000 30th St. NE, CR.)

Although Lovely Lane focused on May as officially being “**Mental Health Month**”, we hope that you will continue to educate, advocate, and support mental well-being for yourself and others all year long! You can be a part of the mental wellness solution by signing the NAMI Pledge to be Stigma Free at <https://www.nami.org/Get-Involved/Take-the-stigmafree-Pledge>. Thanks!!!

*Remembering with love:*

*Tom Hobson.....2014*

**Presence: Worship Attendance**

<u>5/7</u>	<u>5/14</u>	<u>5/21</u>	<u>5/28</u>
284	311	261	211

**Our Ministry Teams at Work**

**Health & Wholeness**

- ◆ Ronald McDonald House @ St. Luke’s Neonatal Unit—We provided evening meal on 5/17/17
- ◆ Family Hands only CPR & AED presentation 6/25 @ 10:40 AM in the Sanctuary
- ◆ Planning for a “Get Organized” program 9/11/17 and for a retreat 10/15/17

**Trustees**

- ◆ Over the summer, tear out bushes on the south side of the church
- ◆ Will be replacing exterior siding where rotting
- ◆ Planning an all-church painting day

**Hospitality**

- ◆ New Member Class—maybe in August
- ◆ Help with coffee set-up 3rd Sunday of month
- ◆ Help serve JFON meal in Nov.
- ◆ Summer Brunch Schedule—4th Sunday

**Christian Education**

- ◆ Summer Reading—begins June 4th, ends Sept. 4th
- ◆ VBS (July 16-20/Sun. noon, Mon.-Thurs. 6-8 PM) —update/schedule/decorating ideas (cityscape)
- ◆ Fall Sunday School—use Old Testament & have heroes for lessons; Rally Sunday 9/11/17



**HAPPY ENDINGS**

Happy Endings, the book discussion group, will meet on Monday, June 12th, at 10:00 AM in the church library. The book we will discuss is *Hill Billy Elegy* by JD Vance. The book for July 10th is *The Whole Town Is Talking* by Fanny Flag. We will not read a book for August; we’ll plan to go to Barnes & Noble on August 14th and also go to lunch.

Everyone is invited to join us for good conversation and fellowship!

## CHILDREN & YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- ◆ **Summer Reading:** Our theme is *Celebrate the Beauty of God's Earth*; please sign up in the narthex to read to children during the summer, starting June 4 during our 9:30 church service.
- ◆ **Summer Camp:** Please see the information available in the narthex; scholarships are available—contact Mrs. G @ christianedu@lovelylane.org or 393-6674.
- ◆ **Vacation Bible School:** Online registration is available thru our website ([www.lovelylane.org](http://www.lovelylane.org)), at [www.Eventrite.com](http://www.Eventrite.com), or you can pick up a registration form in the narthex. This year's VBS, "HERO CENTRAL—Discover Your Strength in God!", runs from Sunday, July 16th (after church), to Thursday, July 20th, starting at 6 PM (following a Family Meal at 5:30). There will soon be a sign-up sheet in the narthex for needed VBS items—your donations will be appreciated!
- ◆ **Sunday School:** Our Rally Sunday (start of Sunday School) this Fall will be on September 10th.

“**Music**” by Olivia Schneider

My heart is filled with music.  
 It almost overflows.  
 My life is on a music staff,  
 And this is what it shows:  
     Staccato and legato,  
     ritardandos too.  
 An entire symphony,  
 That plays my whole life through.  
     When somber times arise,  
     The music plays real slow.  
 Minor chords take the stage,  
 While major chords lie low.  
     When I'm feeling angry,  
     There is pounding on the keys.  
 Then the anger is extinguished,  
 Instruments, once more at ease.  
     Flutes and violins solo  
     Now I'm feeling happy!  
 Play your instrument loud and proud,  
 Come and join the party.  
 Music streams through my veins,  
     Right into my very soul.  
 I close my eyes and hear my voice.  
     Finally, now I feel I'm whole.  
 My heart is filled with music.  
     Once I start I cannot stop.  
 My heart is filled with music.  
     Right up to the very top.

### Summer Special Music

If you'd like to provide special music during our 9:30 summer worship, please sign up on the display board located in the narthex.

The music may be vocal or instrumental; performed as a solo, duet, or by a small group; and you may choose to have live or taped accompaniment (please bring your own CD). There are 2 spots available each service—the Bidding and the Offertory—so feel free to add your name, etc. to a date that may already have one person signed up.

*Thank you in advance for sharing the gift of music with your Lovely Lane family!*

## Concerns & Celebrations

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

### **Prayer concerns:**

- \*Greene & Wilcox families – death of Jeremiah Greene, the pastors' nephew, in a tragic train accident in IL; service was 5/9 in Ames
- \*Anne Heefner & family – on the suicide of her daughter's husband in Georgia; prayers for strength & courage for all
- \*Dennis Ramsey's 19-yr. old niece Madison, whom we have prayed for, passed away from cystic fibrosis
- \*Pam Nixon - treated for blood clots in both lungs
- \*Jerry Weiland - pray for rapid restoration of body, mind & spirit as he deals with debilitating side effects from a prescription med.
- \*Kaimie Akers – dealing with shingles
- \*Amber Mulnik - mother Dawn is battling cancer
- \*Heather Hingtgen's dad, Ray - serious blood clot in his leg
- \*Tom & Reva Rimmer – her 100 yr. old mother Ruth coming to stay for 6 mos.
- \*For those affected by the recent thunderstorms/high winds
- \*For our nation & its leaders in these uncertain times
- \*Victims of the bombing at a concert in Manchester, England, and for their family & friends; for all terrorist activity to cease
- \*Those affected by severe flooding, esp. in the southeast U.S., and coastal areas affected by rising sea levels

### **Joys:**

- \*Hayden Mulnik – successful surgery
- \*Jim Mason's dad had a successful emergency triple bypass on 5/2
- \*Sue Moss's husband Jim had successful skin cancer surgery
- \*Our 2017 Confirmands did an *excellent* job at 10:30 worship on 5/7; extra Creed booklets are available in the church office
- \*On Memorial Day & always, our profound gratitude goes to the men & women who have fought to keep Americans free
- \*Congratulations to Chris Butler & Jaime Lahip who were married in May!
- \*Wonderful celebration on 5/21 for our high school graduates and Lovely Lane teachers!
- \*Amount raised for our Isabel Drew fundraiser is now \$3,000+
- \*Youth Car Wash was a wonderful success!

### **Thank You Notes**

**Thank You** so much for your support of the Pierce Backpack program this year. Many students benefit from this generous program.

*Mrs. Davidson*

**Thank You** so much for contributing 111 lbs. of food to the Linn Community Food Bank during the first quarter of 2017. We could not operate our food bank without the generous support of our donors. (An article was attached to their letter from The Gazette entitled *Demand Rising at Food Pantries—Creative thinking tries to meet need for more giving in Eastern Iowa*. In the article, a LCFB board member says that he expects a jump of 5-10% this year in the no. of people being served.)

**On behalf of Families Helping Families, I would like to thank you** for your generous donation of \$2008.22. Because of you and through the generosity of local businesses, organizations, foundations, and caring individuals, we are able to provide much needed programs and services to children and youth in foster care. FHF provides clothing, backpacks, school supplies, shoes, tutoring, car safety seats, and financial support to fund extracurricular activities, and a year-round onsite School Supply Closet! Last year, FHF of Iowa touched the lives of nearly 2,000 children of the foster care community through programs and services designed to meet the needs of children and youth in Iowa's foster care system. Thank you for making this work possible!

**On behalf of the staff and board of Four Oaks, and especially the children and families whose lives are brighter because of your generosity, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you** for your recent gift of \$1973.22. Your contribution is being put to work immediately to make a difference in the life of a child. *This is fantastic & so generous!*

*Thank you for choosing Four Oaks. We were honored!*

### **April Financial Totals**

Cash inflow—mo. of April	\$ 50,596
Cash inflow—YTD	\$165,825
Budget need/month	\$ 46,308
Cash outflow—mo. of April	\$ 53,514
Cash outflow—YTD	\$184,754
<i>Unpaid bills</i>	<i>\$ 0</i>

**Summer Sunday Worship:**  
 9:30 AM Traditional 2nd & 4th Sundays;  
 Blended\* 1st & 3rd  
*\*Blended = a mix of traditional & contemporary*

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



**Find out more about us:**  
 Website: [www.lovelylane.org](http://www.lovelylane.org)  
 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc](http://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.....Paul Wilcox  
 Kid’s Club Director.....Julie Meyer  
 Christian Educator..... Barb Geissinger  
 Choir Director.....K. Weiler  
 Choir Assistant/Accompanist.....Reagan Linder  
 Organist..... Dennis Ramsey  
 Children’s Choirs.....Carla Jesse  
 Director of Handbells.....Gayle Wilcox  
 Nursery.....Shelbie Wood, Tara Weber,  
 & Paige Gerjets  
 Wedding Coordinator.....Becky Wood  
 Custodians.....Rex, Rhonda & Jessica Heasty  
 Audio/Visual Coordinator.....Eric Wylie  
 Treasurer.....Marcie Stumpf  
 Webmaster.....Shelly Turner



June Monthly Newsletter, Vol. 55, No. 6  
 2424 42nd Street NE  
 Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
 Permit No. 196