

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

November 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

"Doing Small Things with Great Love" - that is the motto of one of my Colleagues in Ministry and a good friend. Although we'd rather be doing "the big stuff," small things done with great love and an even greater God do not remain small for very long.

In Elmer Bendiner's book, *The Fall of Fortresses*, he described one bombing run over the German city of Kassel: "Our B-17 (*The Tondelayo*) was barraged by flack from Nazi anti-aircraft guns. That was not unusual, but on this particular occasion our gas tanks were hit. Later, as I reflected on the miracle of a twenty-millimeter shell piercing the fuel tank without touching off an explosion, our pilot, Bohn Fawkes, told me it was not quite that simple.

On the morning following the raid, Bohn had gone down to ask our crew chief for that shell as a souvenir of unbelievable luck. The crew chief told Bohn that not just one shell but eleven had been found in the gas tanks—eleven unexploded shells where only one was sufficient to blast us out of the sky. It was as if the sea had been parted for us. Even after thirty-five years, so awesome an event leaves me shaken, especially after I heard the rest of the story from Bohn.

He was told that the shells had been sent to the armorers to be de-fused. The armorers told him that Intelligence had picked them up. They could not say why at the time, but Bohn eventually sought out the answer. Apparently when the armorers opened each of those shells, they found no explosive charge. They were as clean as a whistle and just as harmless. Empty? Not all of them.

One contained a carefully rolled piece of paper. In it was a scrawl in Czech. The Intelligence people scoured our base for a man who could read Czech. Eventually, they found one to decipher the note. It set us marveling. Translated, the note read: "This is all we can do for you now."

"Let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart. So then as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."

Keep the Faith.
Pastor Paul

Calendar of Events — November 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>All Saints Sunday / Holy Communion / Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 9 am Chancel Choir 6 pm Sr. High Youth Group	2 9 am ESL 6 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm CE mtg.	3 6 am-9 pm Election Site 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:45 pm Women's Study	4 9:30 am CCM (offsite) 12 noon Women's Study 4:50 pm Youth Bells 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kid's Club 6 pm Middle School Youth Group 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm Disciple IV	5 6:45 am-4:30 pm CWM Preschool Fall Conferences 5:30 pm SOS 6:45 pm Handbells	6 6:45 am -4:30 pm CWM Preschool Fall Conferences 9 am ESL	7 9 am -1:30 pm International Ladies Fellowship
8 9 am Chancel Choir 2 pm Boy Scouts 6 pm Sr. High Youth Group (@ Ben Oliver's)	9 9 am ESL 10 am Happy Endings 6 pm Boy Scouts	10 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:00-9 pm Cooking prep. for Wed. nt. 6:30 pm MHSG 6:45 pm Women's Study	11 12 noon Women's Study 4:50 pm Youth Bells 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kid's Club 6 pm Middle School Youth Grp./Confirm. 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm Disciple IV 7:30 pm SPPRC	12 6:45 am-4:30 pm CWM Preschool Fall Conferences 7 am Leadership Brkfst (@ Panera's) 1 pm UMW meeting 5:30 pm SOS 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:45 pm Handbells	13 6:45 am-4:30 pm CWM Preschool Fall Conferences 9 am ESL 6 pm "Read & Feed"	14 8:30 am-5 pm Boy Scouts
15 <i>Church Conference Sunday</i> 9 am Chancel Choir 12 noon MEAL & CHURCH CONFERENCE 3:30 pm Boy Scouts 3:30 pm Sr. High Youth Grp.: leaf raking followed by regular activities @ 6 pm	16 9 am ESL 6 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm CWM Board Meeting	17 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6 pm Missions 6:45 pm Women's Study	18 9:30 am CCM (offsite) 12 noon Women's Study 4:50 pm Youth Bells 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kid's Club 6 pm Middle School Youth Group 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm Disciple IV	19 5:30 pm SOS 6:15 pm Handbells 6:45 pm Trustees 7:00 pm Committees 7:50 pm Ad Council	20 9 am ESL 12 noon Friendly Fellowship	21
22 <i>Thanksgiving Sunday</i> 9 am Chancel Choir 12 noon Church Decorating & Potluck 6 pm Sr. High Youth Group	23 9 am ESL 9 am Prayer Shawl 9 am-Noon CWM Preschool Thanksgiving Feast 6 pm Boy Scouts	24 9 am-Noon CWM Preschool Thanksgiving Feast 6:45 pm Women's Study	25 12 noon Women's Study NO Wed. evening Activities	26 <i>Happy Thanksgiving! (church & office closed)</i>	27 <i>(Day after Thanksgiving—church & office closed)</i>	28
29 <i>1st Sunday in Advent</i> 9 am Chancel Choir 9-11:30 am UMW Bake Sale NO Sr. High Youth Group	30 9 am-Noon CWM Preschl. Christmas Store 9 am ESL 6 pm Boy Scouts		ESL = English as a Second Language CCM = Care Center Ministry MHSG = Mental Health Support Group			

Our lovely ~~lang~~ Angel Tree will appear in mid-November with opportunities to support children and families at Taylor Elementary and Trinity Lane Preschool. There will also be opportunities to support the *Change a Child's Story* initiative. Look for details in upcoming bulletins and watch for the tree in the church narthex before Thanksgiving.

Lovely Lane Worship, et al.

Worship in November

Nov. 1st: All Saints Sunday/Holy Communion—

8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM services

Scripture: Isaiah 25:6-9

Sermon: "The Common Cup"

Nov. 8th: 24th Sunday in Kingdomtide— 8:00,

9:15 & 10:30 AM services

Scripture: John 10: 7-15

Sermon: "One Flock, One Shepherd"

Nov. 15th: Church Conference Sunday— 8:00,

9:15 & 10:30 AM services

Scripture: 1 Kings 8:1, 10-13, 27-28

Sermon: "Temple Building"

Join us after the 10:30 service for our annual Church Conference starting with a meal provided by LL

Nov. 22nd: Thanksgiving/Christ the King Sunday— 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM services

Scripture: Psalm 23

Sermon: "Thanksgiving Rant"

Come to a potluck after the 10:30 service & stay to help decorate the church for Advent & Christmas!

Nov. 29th: 1st Sunday in Advent— 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM services

Scripture: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Sermon: "Behold! The Promise"



Poinsettias for the Sanctuary

Please bring in your Christmas poinsettia for the altar any time during Advent (begins on Nov. 29th this year). You will want the perfect one to honor or remember a loved one. Be sure to write your name and name of the person to be commemorated on the poinsettia sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Presence: Worship Attendance

Oct. 4	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	Oct. 25
226	252	236	260

All Saints Sunday- Nov. 1st

On Sunday, Nov. 1st, we will honor those who have died in the Lord in the past year (since last All Saints Sunday). Please join us for this special service!

Lovely Lane Church Conference "A Piece of the Puzzle" - Nov. 15th

Rev. Jerry Oakland will lead our annual Church Conference after a noon meal on Sunday, Nov. 15th, following 10:30 worship. At the meeting, we'll celebrate how far we've come with our 2015 ministry goals and announce our new goals for 2016. As United Methodists, we're already making plans for the "Change a Child's Story" Poverty Initiative and here at Lovely Lane we are developing plans for *Building Renewal*. Come to the charge conference to learn **more** about other ministry ideas that you as a congregation have suggested that will be areas of emphasis for Lovely Lane in 2016.

Decorating the Church - Nov. 22nd

Come join us after 10:30 worship on Sunday, Nov. 22nd, as we decorate the church for Christmas! Everyone is welcome—children, youth, and adults of all ages! Sign up on the STUB in worship and plan to bring your own table service and a potluck dish to share!! Come One, Come All, and Decorate the Halls!



WE'LL HAVE OUR 1ST READ & FEED FOR 2015 on Fri., Nov. 13th, 6-8 PM. We can have 12-15 children between Kindergarten and 3rd grade participate. If you have a 4th to 6th grade student who would like to be a helper/reader, let Mrs. G know ASAP (christianedu@lovelylane.org or 393-6674).

PLANS FOR OUR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM are in the works for Dec. 13th during the 9:15 AM worship service. *The First Christmas* is based on scripture from the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. The story will be presented in pictures that will be taken in various locations during the month of November. Those pictures will be used along with songs, scripture, and narration to tell the wonderful news of Jesus' birth.

We need to know WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE IN THE PICTURES! We'll need kids to be costumed and posed as Mary, Joseph, Augustus Caesar, shepherds, angels including Gabriel, King Herod, 3 kings, and an innkeeper and his wife. Contact Mrs. G (christianedu@lovelylane.org; 393-6674) or Carla Jesse (campcarlaj@yahoo.com) ASAP if your child/ren wish to participate. All of our children's Sunday School classes will be singing during the program.

CALLING ALL YOUNG MUSICIANS!! This year we will again have a Family Friendly 5:00 PM Christmas Eve worship service! I'd like to invite any young musicians who might be interested in playing/singing for that service to contact me! You can sign up on the STUB in worship or send a message to gaylew@lovelylane.org. I look forward to hearing from you! *Pastor Gayle*

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH: Exciting things are happening in November for the h.s. youth. On Nov. 8, there will be a bonfire at Ben Oliver's home. On Nov. 15, youth will be raking leaves for folks from the church. *If you are in need of leaf rakers, contact the church office to let us know.* Due to the Thanksgiving holiday time with family, there will be NO youth group on Nov. 29, but it will resume on Dec. 6. All youth grades 9-12 are invited to attend at 6 pm on Sunday evenings.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH: The m.s. youth also have some exciting things taking place in November. On Nov. 4, they will travel with Kid's Club to the Ridgeview Assisted Living to help with the visits there. Leadership is a strong component of youth group and this will help foster those skills. On Nov. 25, there will be NO youth group as it's Thanksgiving week and there is no school for CR schools. On Dec. 2, the youth will prepare the meal for the Wed. night family meal. We hope youth in grades 6-8 will join us at 5:30 pm on Wednesday nights.

KID'S CLUB is off to a great start! It's not too late to come on Wed. evenings. Each Wednesday, families gather for supper at 5:30 pm, with the children going to Kid's Club at 6 pm. On Nov. 4, Kid's Club will travel to the Ridgeview Assisted Living to help with the visits there. There will be NO Kid's Club on Nov. 25 as it's Thanksgiving week and there's no school for CR schools.

**CWM - Lovely Lane Preschool
Trinity Lane Preschool
BASE (Before & After School Daycare)**

CHRISTMAS STORE: Lovely Lane Preschool is collecting donations for our annual Christmas Store. This favorite activity gives our preschoolers a chance to choose an item for the people in their immediate family. Gently used items for babies, toddlers, school age students, teenagers, moms and dads may be brought to Mrs. Barnes' office by Monday, Nov. 30th.

If you'd like to help kids shop and wrap (on Nov. 30, Dec. 1 & 2, 9:00-11:30 AM), please call Mrs. Barnes @ 393-8189. Thanks for helping!

Our Ministry Teams at Work

Health & Wholeness

- ◆ Books for library
- ◆ Youth programming
- ◆ New committee members
- ◆ Visit from National Blue Zone reps. on Nov. 3

Trustees

- ◆ Retaining wall project
- ◆ Discussion on continued roof problems
- ◆ Discussion on the city's 42nd St. improvement project

Hospitality

- ◆ Nov. 15th—Host meal for Church Conference
- ◆ Nov. 22nd—Host Advent potluck

Missions

- ◆ CROP Walk: LL raised \$1,200
- ◆ *Change A Child's Story*: \$1,200 raised for Johnson Elem. Steam; LL has committed to 2,500 books & 2,500 hrs. of reading for this cause. A basket will be in the narthex over the holidays to collect books; a book is suggested as a gift for each *Angel Tree* name
- ◆ Ingathering: Sunday School & Wed. night kids are collecting items and money for health kits
- ◆ Advent offering recipients: JFON, Syria/UMCOR, Mission of Hope, and *Change a Child's Story*
- ◆ *Angel Tree* recipients will be Trinity & Taylor

Demonstrating Thankfulness

Each holiday season, Lovely Lane UMC anticipates and relies on a seasonal increase in contributions. It's through the donations of every individual and family in our congregation that we are able to carry on our work now and throughout the year. If you need a convenient way to make recurring contributions or plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to check out our **electronic giving options**. As the pace of life speeds up around the holidays, you may find electronic giving a welcome way to make contributions. To set up a recurring giving schedule, go to www.lovelylane.org and locate the Online Giving button; or, complete a paper authorization form (located in the hanging wooden display case in the narthex) and return it to Jack Murphy or to the church office.

Thanks for your generosity and support!

September financial totals

Cash inflow, Sept. 2015	\$ 36,753
Budget need, Sept. 2015	\$ 46,650
Cash outflow (pd. bills), Sept. '15	\$ 44,367
<i>Unpaid bills</i>	\$ 23,202

Advent Offering Begins November 29th

Justice For Our Neighbors (JFON): JFON needs our support now more than ever. With immigration reform still stalled in Congress, 3 JFON lawyers work full-time to assist hundreds of immigrants each year navigate the tangle of legal immigration. A new lawyer has been hired this year to work solely with the large numbers of unaccompanied minors crossing the border looking for protection from gang violence. JFON hosts monthly clinics in Des Moines, Storm Lake, Ottumwa, Columbus Junction, and here at Lovely Lane. Our own Frank Camp chairs the Iowa JFON Committee.

Syria/UMCOR: During the fifth year of civil war in Syria, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is responding to basic, often-overlooked needs in Syria and Iraq as the countries face the challenge of persistent attacks by ISIS. Relief is being provided in the form of temporary housing for displaced residents plus simple supplies like space heaters, bedding, and hygiene items.

Mission of Hope: Mission of Hope is a Christ-centered ministry in Cedar Rapids serving people in need. They provide free meals 6 days a week, a food pantry, jail ministry, emergency clothing, and a 24/7 shelter for men. In addition they provide worship, Bible study, addiction support, and job search assistance. Recently they acquired a new house that they hope to renovate into a women's shelter by January 2016.

"Change A Child's Story": Reading is the key to a good education and a good education is key to a life that is productive and happy. Over the next two years, the United Methodist Church of Iowa has undertaken the goal to donate 1 million books to at-risk children and read 1 million hours to children learning to read. Monetary donations will go toward books for the Johnson Steam Academy, Pierce Elementary reading program, JFON children, and our Preschools and Before and After School program.

UMW NEWS

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN GENERAL MEETING

Our next meeting will be Nov. 12th @ 1 PM at Lovely Lane. Cindy Sale will present our short pledge service after which we will hold a planning session. We will be planning 2016 programs and special events, and putting the finishing touches on programs and events for the rest of 2015, including our annual Advent Coffee and Ornament Exchange. We should begin thinking about recruiting committees and/or volunteers to help plan for the district annual meeting which Lovely Lane will host Sept. 17, 2016. We also need volunteers to distribute books to the children of JFON clients when the clinic is at Lovely Lane, the third Tuesday of each month.

All UMW members and other interested Lovely Lane women are encouraged to join us for this planning session. We need your help! Please come with ideas and input about programs or events you'd like to have us sponsor. We'd also like to enlarge our circle of UMW friends to include working women and younger women by forming new circles. These circles may vary from traditional to non-traditional, from study groups to social action groups, or from meeting to study the Bible to shared interest groups (quilting, knitting or cooking groups, or just meeting for coffee & conversation). We'd really like to provide LL women the opportunity to grow spiritually within a loving, caring fellowship, and allow us to continue to fulfill our UMW purpose. Please come and help us make plans that will be of interest and benefit to the women of Lovely Lane!

Members are invited to bring their UMW pledges and World Thank Offerings to this meeting (our annual Pledge and Thank Offering Service) for Treasurer Cindy Sale to collect. We invite all Lovely Lane women to come share this time of fellowship with us. **REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR WORLD THANK OFFERING BOXES!**

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S BAKE SALE

Sunday, Nov. 22nd, is the date for our Fall Bake Sale between worship services. Donations of pies, cakes, cookies, breads, and candies will be greatly appreciated; please bring priced baked items to the church narthex. Sale proceeds will help support our mission projects.

This will be a good time to pick up some delicious baked goods. We hope that you will help to make this sale a success!

UMW BIBLE STUDY

After completing our study of the Minor Prophets and the Old Testament, the **Tuesday morning Bible Study** will turn our attention to the New Testament beginning with a study of the gospel of Matthew. The UMW Bible Study group meets on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:15 AM. We will continue to meet through November 17th and then take a break for Advent and Christmas before returning to our studies on Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2016. We have found that with each new study, we gain new insights and understanding of the Scriptures and that, within a loving and caring fellowship, our studies have helped us continue to grow spiritually and deepen our faith. We invite anyone who is free on Tuesday mornings to join with us for fellowship and study from 9:30 AM to 11:15 AM.

UPCOMING UMW EVENTS

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our annual Advent Coffee on Dec. 5, 2015. Our theme and aim for this year's Coffee will be *Finding Joy!* This is a delightful way to start your Advent season! Look for more information about this fun-filled event and about our annual Dinner & Ornament Exchange (date and restaurant TBA).

Concerns & Celebrations

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

Prayer concerns:

- *Death of Icyle Logan; her funeral was 10/24 at LL
- *Death of Don Kouba; his funeral was 10/27 at LL
- *Kim Jacobson – had a blood clot in her leg
- *Nancy Snyder – skin cancer surgery
- *Marge Morris – had skin cancer surgery
- *Oregon's Umpqua Comm. College gun violence

Joys:

- *Our Lovely Lane Cancer Walk Team!
- *100-year anniversary for Lake Okoboji U.M. Camp & 75-year anniversary for U.M. Communications
- *Our new youth bell choir, Zamar, had a great debut @ 10:30 worship on Oct. 4th
- *LL Sunday School is off to a great start
- *LL Confirmation & Youth Groups raised \$1,232.25 for the CROP Walk!
- *District UMW delivered 2 boxes of children's books for monthly JFON clinics held @ LL, for volunteers to read to children and to give each child a book to take home

Wed. Noon Women's Spiritual Formation Group wrote this poem collectively on 10/21/15 as they considered scripture passages on the following topics: Sky, Sun, Stars, Birth, Earth, Wind, Strangers, & Remembering. It was inspired by *Remembering in Two Voices* from Jan Richardson's book *Sacred Journeys—A Woman's Book of Daily Prayer*.

We Call to Mind

*We remember Sunset Country at the lake and similar vistas
while gazing heavenward in our own backyards.
We remember the BIG ORANGE SUN at the end of the day,
wearing a garment of color wrapped 'round her neck.
We remember the brilliant lights that the Holy One strung across
the velvet sky...like a strand of hope around our hearts.
We remember and honor the pain, the joy, the relief,
and the excitement of all birthings.
We remember the earth. She sustains us now and forever more!
We remember Betsy the freight train, that Windy Woman,
who shoves us into deliciously dangerous futures
and stirs our souls.
We remember those who come to us Unknown...but leave Known.
Their stories heard. Their bellies fed.
We recall the Sparks of Joy in our dark canyons of grief—
oh, Blessed Community.
We are thankful. We are not alone.
In remembering, we are hope-filled! We are set in motion!
Watch out world!*

HAPPY ENDINGS

Happy Endings, the book discussion group, will meet on Monday, Nov. 9th, at 10:00 AM in the church library. The book we'll discuss is *The Oregon Trail* by Rinker Buck. On Dec. 14th, we'll go to lunch at Lava, meeting there at 11:30. We will not read a book in December. Come join us for a good discussion and fellowship. Please call Nancy Miller (393-6340) with any questions.

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP

FF will meet at noon on Friday, Nov. 20th, for a potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Our program will be the LL BASE children demonstrating their Lego Robot project PLUS a short presentation by Pastor Paul on proposed changes for the narthex and sanctuary (still in the planning stage). He'll be happy to answer questions at that time. Please plan to bring a little extra food for our 9 guest children and 3 adult sponsors. The host/co-hostess will be Joel and Marilyn Goodman. Everyone is welcome to join us for a great lunch, an interesting program, and an opportunity to spend a little time with the students. Call Nancy Miller (393-6340) with any questions.

Remembering with love

Glenn Marshall2009
Lucille Rhea.....2009
Arlene Smith.....2011
Margaret Andrews...2011
Ron Rath.....2014
Russ Morris.....2014
Phyllis Plunge.....2014



Lovely Lane

United Methodist Church
November Monthly Newsletter, Vol. 53, No. 11
2424 42nd Street NE
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
Choir Director.....K. Weiler
Organist..... Dennis Ramsey
Children's Choirs.....Carla Jesse
Director of Handbells.....Gayle Wilcox
Nursery.....Shelbie Wood, Tara Weber,
Holly Hasenbank, & McKenna Woods
Wedding Coordinator.....Becky Wood
Custodians.....Rex, Rhonda & Jessica Heasty
Audio/Visual Coordinator.....Eric Wylie
Treasurer.....Marcie Stumpf
Webmaster.....Shelly Turner

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