

# Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

October 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

*"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God  
he created him; male and female he created them."*

Ever been totally knocked over by something you read? I was reading in Robert Hick's book, *The Masculine Journey*, these words: "In ancient cultures, images were personal portraits of the kings that allowed the citizens to know what their ruler looked like" (see Daniel 3:2).... It is awesome to think that God is looking to me to reveal what He is like, but that seems to be the intended meaning of the term "image of God."

What an incredible assignment! I had always thought that being made in God's image was our spiritual pedigree, but it's more than that: it's our spiritual function! It changes the way I look at my day to realize that in what I do and say **I am representing God to the world!** Do people look at us Christians and get a better idea of what God looks like? Do we love like God! Do we forgive like God? Do we hate injustice like God?

I don't know about you, but I could sure do a better job at modeling for folks what God looks like. I am grateful that at least there was one of us who did a good job: Jesus Christ. And perhaps with his help, the world will know God better because of you and me! Good luck today on your awesome assignment!

*Grace & Peace,*

*Pastor Paul*

## Calendar of Events — October 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <i>World Communion Sunday</i> 9 am Choir 6 pm Sr. High Youth	<b>2</b> 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm CE mtg.	<b>3</b> 2-9 pm Pictures taken for pictorial directory 6:45 pm Women of Faith (WOF)	<b>4</b> 9:30 am CCM (offsite) 12 noon Wed. Women & the Word 2-9 pm Pictures taken for pictorial directory 4:50 pm Zamar 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kid's Club 6 pm MS Youth 6 pm Adult Explo	<b>5</b> 5:30 pm Yoga 6:45 pm AcabeLLa	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9 am-1:30 pm International Ladies Fellowship
<b>8</b> <i>CROP Walk Sunday</i> 9 am Choir 1:30 pm CROP Walk (@ Thomas Park) 6 pm Sr. High Youth	<b>9</b> 10:00 am Happy Endings 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:30 pm MHG 6:45 pm Women of Faith (WOF)	<b>11</b> 12 noon Wed. Women & the Word 4:50 pm Zamar 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kid's Club 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm MS Youth 6 pm Adult Explo 7:30 pm SPPRC	<b>12</b> 7 am Leadership Breakfast (offsite) 5:30 pm Yoga 6 pm UMW Program 6:30 pm Missions 6:45 pm AcabeLLa	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9 am Choir 2-6:30 pm Women's Retreat (@ Prairiewoods) 6 pm Sr. High Youth	<b>16</b> 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:45 pm Women of Faith (WOF)	<b>18</b> 9:30 am CCM (offsite) 12 noon Wed. Women & the Word 4:50 pm Zamar 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kid's Club 6 pm MS Youth 6 pm Adult Explo	<b>19</b> 5:30 pm Yoga 6:15 pm AcabeLLa <b>Meeting Night:</b> 6:45 pm Trustees 7 pm Committees 7:50 pm Ad Council	<b>20</b> 12 noon Friendly Fellowship 5:15 pm Trunk 'n Treat for Mom's Club North	<b>21</b> 8:30 am Men's Breakfast
<b>22</b> 9 am Choir 6 pm Sr. High Youth	<b>23</b> 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>24</b> 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6-8:30 pm Charge Conference (@ St. Paul's UMC) 6:45 pm Women of Faith (WOF)	<b>25</b> 12 noon Wed. Women & the Word 4:50 pm Zamar 5:30 pm Family Meal 6 pm Kid's Club 6 pm Confirmation 6 pm MS Youth 6 pm Adult Explo	<b>26</b> 5:30 pm Yoga 6:45 pm AcabeLLa 7:15 pm CWM Board mtg.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <i>Pledge Sunday</i> 9 am Choir 6 pm Sr. High Youth	<b>30</b> 9 am Prayer Shawl 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>31</b> <i>Happy Halloween</i> 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:45 pm Women of Faith (WOF)		CCM = Care Center Ministry MHSG = Mental Health Support Group		

# Lovely Lane Worship, et al.



## Worship in October

**Oct. 1st: World Communion Sunday**—8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Services  
 Scripture: Philippians 2:1-11  
 Sermon: "The Common Cup and A Common Thread"

**Oct. 8th: CROP Walk Sunday**—8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Services  
 Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-6  
 Sermon: "One Baptism?"

**Oct. 15th: 19th Sunday in Kingdomtide**—8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Services  
 Scripture: I Corinthians 8:1-3  
 Sermon: "Untied Methodist Church"

**Oct. 22nd: 20th Sunday in Kingdomtide**—8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Services  
 Scripture: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15  
 Sermon: "The Gift that Brings Us Together"

**Oct. 29th: Pledge Sunday**—8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Services  
 Scripture: Matt. 25:31-40  
 Sermon: "Love in Action"

### Presence: Worship Attendance

9/3	9/10	9/17	9/24
212	274	234	256

### Remembering with love:

Stu Sparling.....2014  
 Don Kouba.....2015

## "COME FILL YOUR CUP" WOMEN'S RETREAT



The Women 's 2017 Fall Retreat is on Sunday, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, from 2 PM to 6:30 PM with dinner at 5:30 at the Prairiewoods Retreat Center. This year's theme is **Come Fill Your Cup**. Each participant will need to bring a coffee or tea mug to give away, and they'll receive one to take home. (Ideally this would be one from your own kitchen cupboard!) Our mugs will be the focus of our time of meditation and sharing. Our retreat will be led by our own Spiritual Director, Pastor Gayle Wilcox! The cost is \$35 per person, which includes dinner. So, plan to come and **Fill Your Cup!**

*Sponsored by Health & Wholeness*

## CROP Walk Sunday October 8th



### WE WALK BECAUSE THEY WALK!

The CR/Marion CROP Hunger Walk takes place Sun., Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, @ Thomas Park, Marion; the Walk is @ 1:30 (with a 1 PM registration). You can contact Cindy Linder (319-551-4708; [jlinder4@msn.com](mailto:jlinder4@msn.com)) to join a group of Lovely Lane walkers.

**If you can't walk, please make a pledge with a Middle Schooler at church!!**

## **United Methodist Women News**

### **LOVELY LANE'S UMW'S PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER**

We will meet on **Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM in the Library and Fellowship Hall**. Our program is entitled, "Movie, Popcorn, Snacks and Chat." The subject of the film "Not My Life" is a plea on behalf of millions of young people who are subjected to the cruel and evil practices of human trafficking and modern slavery.

United Methodist Women stands against the exploitation of those forced to submit to civil injustice as a result of their basic needs or position in society. As many as 30 million people internationally have fallen victim to human trafficking, and the epidemic has become the 2nd largest criminal activity behind the sale of illegal arms. As advocates for social justice, United Methodist Women will continue to work for the rights of those exploited by this cruel trade and end this all-too-prevalent form of modern-day slavery. Please join us as we learn more about this serious subject and join in the discussion of what can be done to end this horrible practice.

### **LOVELY LANE'S UMW BIBLE STUDY**

The **UMW Tuesday morning Bible study group has resumed meeting on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 AM - 11:15 AM in Fireside**. We're currently studying the Gospel of Luke. We invite anyone available on Tuesday mornings to join us for study and fellowship. Since we've decided to **LUG YOUR MUGS AND FILL THEM AT HOME, PLEASE COME PREPARED WITH YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE IN HAND!** (For more information, contact Cheryl Murphy at 377-6205.)

### **IOWA CONFERENCE UMW ANNUAL MEETING**

**Saturday, October 7, 2017**

**9:00 AM - 2:30 PM**

**Washington UMC, Washington, IA**

The theme for this year's Mission U is "We Are Called." As United Methodist Women, we feel called "to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God" (Micah 6:8), and this will be the theme presented at the IA Conference UMW Annual Meeting. Please contact Cheryl Murphy (377-6205) about this event.

### **IOWA CONFERENCE UMW'S MISSION U**

If you missed the summer session of Mission U, you missed a lot! It's time to think about attending the fall session of Mission U!! The theme this year is: "WE ARE CALLED" with scripture lesson from Micah 6:8. The theme hymn is "We Are Called" from the *Faith We Sing* hymnals, #2172. The fall session will be: **Oct. 20-22, at Iowa Valley Community College, Marshalltown, IA**. Mission U is a unique opportunity to explore important current issues impacting our society. The topics will be: Spiritual Growth: "Living as a Covenant Community"; the Social Issue: "Climate Justice"; and the 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, and EVERYONE IS WELCOME! For more information, call Cheryl Murphy (377-6205).

## HAPPY ENDINGS

Happy Endings, the book discussion group, will meet on Mon., Oct. 9th, at 10 AM in the church library. The book we are reading for October is *The Address* by Fiona Davis. The book to read in November is *Carolina's Twins* by Ronald Balsom. We won't read a book in December but instead will meet and go to lunch on Dec. 11 @ 11:30. Contact Nancy Miller (393-6349) with questions.

## FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP

FF will meet for our October luncheon potluck on Friday, Oct. 20th, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Judy McDowell will be our hostess. The program will be a special treat as we'll welcome Mark Stoffer-Hunter as our speaker. Mark is the historian from the Cedar Rapids History Museum and his presentation will be about the history of downtown Cedar Rapids. If you can't come for the potluck, feel free to come at 12:30 to enjoy Mark's always interesting talk! Call Nancy Miller (393-6340) with questions.

## Our Ministry Teams at Work

### Missions

- ♦ CROP Walk in October—all organized on this
- ♦ Trunk or Treat in October—Dana Renken is point person, may need some coverage in bulletin, etc.
- ♦ ODIM Guatemala—Special offering that was planned for Sept. has been moved to November 12th due to disaster relief offerings in September. (\*will need to repost in church bulletin)

### Hospitality

- ♦ New member luncheon—9/24/17
- ♦ Advent set-up—11/26/17
- ♦ JFON (Justice For Our Neighbors) supper—11/21/17

### Health & Wholeness

- ♦ Women's Retreat at Prairiewoods—Oct. 15th, 2:00 - 6:30 PM
- ♦ Climate Justice Workshop—co-sponsored with St. Paul's UMC, on Nov. 11th, 9:30-11:30 AM

## REAL DISCIPLESHIP SURVEY

Over the first part of October, our church has available a survey by Dr. Phil Maynard to examine the depth of discipleship at Lovely Lane. It's a quick and easy-to-use online survey that seeks to promote spiritual vitality in our district's churches. Would you please take 10 mins. out of your day to take the survey? This is a wonderful way to understand the role that worship, hospitality, service, generosity, and Jesus play in our daily lives. Your personal information will be accessible only to yourself, while Lovely Lane will benefit from a general analysis of our congregation. Here are the instructions:

- 1) Visit <http://discipleshipsurvey.com/member.html>
- 2) Enter the conference code: LOVEANDJOY
- 3) Click "Login"
- 4) Select your district: EAST CENTRAL
- 5) Select your church
- 6) Enter your name
- 7) Enter your E-mail
- 8) Enter a new personal password
- 9) Select your language
- 10) Click "Sign Up"
- 11) This will create an account for you and give you a message that your membership has been added
- 12) Click highlighted "here" to proceed to the login page





## Concerns & Celebrations

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

### **Prayer concerns:**

\*Harry Widmer & family—upon Betty's death on 9/10; a memorial service is set for 11/4 in El Paso, IL. In lieu of flowers, gifts may go to the Alzheimer's Assoc. or to Lovely Lane UMC. An online obituary is @ [www.barr-price.com/notices/Betty-widmer](http://www.barr-price.com/notices/Betty-widmer). **Cards may be sent to Harry @ 105 Bluebill Ct., Lexington, SC 29072.**

\*Family of Bill Travis—his funeral was on 9/18

\*Pastor Jenny Seylar & family—her husband, Dale, passed away unexpectedly; his service was on 9/22. Jenny was LL Youth Director for 1½ yrs. Her address is 10 Chad Court, Coralville, IA 52241.

\*Julie Meyer—recovering from foot surgery

\*Hanna Wood, Mike & Becky's dtr.-in-law—was hospitalized for extensive bleeding after tonsillectomy

\*Send Ashlenn Tanner Some Love! She's @ Orchard Place, 925 SW Porter Ave., Des Moines, IA 50315.

\*Chris Tanner—recovering from shingles

\*Virginia Weiland's sister, Gayle Snow - was hospitalized in Mason City with a severe kidney infection

\*All affected by the terrific winds & devastating flooding caused by Hurricanes Harvey & Irma

\*Curtis Thomas' father—had back surgery

\*Barb Mussman's brother-in-law, Franco—recovering from surgery for pancreatic cancer

\*We are looking for a new Financial Secretary; if you are interested, please contact Pastor Paul.

\*We're looking for a volunteer Middle School youth counselor (Wed. 6-7:15 PM during the school yr.)

### **Joys:**

\*Pam Morris—NO cancer spread; she thanks all for their prayers

\*Class of new confirmands & mentors

\*Kudos to adults who are new confirm. mentors

\*All the flood buckets sent to help with the aftermath of the hurricanes

\*Great turnout for the 9/11 *Get Organized* Seminar; a BIG THANK YOU to Becky Esker!

\*Our Fall programming is off to a great start!

\*There were 19 youth at M.S. Youth Group on 9/20!

### **Thank You Notes**

**Thank you** so much for contributing 240 lbs. of food to the Linn Community Food Bank during the second quarter of 2017. We could not operate our food bank without the generous support of our donors. You may visit our website at [www.linncommunityfoodbank.org](http://www.linncommunityfoodbank.org) for more information about us.

**Thank you** for your generous support of flood relief for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. We collected enough donations to fill 37 flood buckets: that's a value of \$2500! These buckets left for Texas on Sept. 8th. If you would like to donate more to UMCOR's hurricane relief fund, check out these links: <https://www.facebook.com/UMCOR> and <http://www.umcor.org> Pastor Paul

### **2017 Fall Pledge Drive "Bind Us Together"**

As a quilt is bound together by thousands of stitches of thread, so the Holy Spirit ***binds us together in love***. You'll soon be receiving in the mail a pledge drive letter, pledge card, return envelope, and a small swatch of cloth representing your/your family's place in our church. Then on Pledge Sunday, Oct. 29th, you'll have the opportunity to bring the swatch of cloth forward with your pledge card to complete our church quilt. Please note that the pledge card is double-sided, with an opportunity to pledge your time and talents as well as your financial gifts.

Everyone has a place in our church quilt—regardless of your financial ability to give! If you're not able to be with us on Oct. 29th, your pledges are always welcome at the church office.

You are also invited to a **Thanksgiving Brunch on Nov. 19th** to celebrate every color, every thread, every family in our church quilt!

### **August Financial Totals**

Cash inflow—mo. of Aug.	\$ 36,694
Cash inflow—YTD	\$337,940
Budget need/month	\$ 46,308
Cash outflow—mo. of Aug.	\$ 39,112
Cash outflow—YTD	\$354,187
Unpaid bills	\$ 7,052

