

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

September 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

“In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord
sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up...
And I said: Woe is me! For I am lost...” - Isaiah 6:1,5

I know just how Isaiah felt! In the year President Nixon resigned, I saw the Lord in the vast openness of the Colorado sky. My family and I were vacationing in the Rocky Mountains. Somewhere along the way, we became bent on conquering a triangular peak, some 14,000 feet high, called Mt. Meeker. So my father, my little brother, and I took off one morning to plant our flag of triumph on the mountain's top. But when the moment finally came, as I pulled myself up onto that last ridge and the incredible vastness of the sky above and mountain below seemed to swallow me up, it was I, not the mountain that was conquered. I clung to that ridge in silent terror; my only words were mumbled through chattering teeth: “Oh God...”

Almost all of us have had a moment in our lives when the awesome (no kidding, *awesome*) majesty of God has broken through our imagined importance and power, leaving us humbled and thankful just to be alive.

Don't ever forget those splendid, terrifying moments. In fact, if you can spend even 2 minutes each morning reliving those humbling moments, I guarantee you that all the little things that crowd in on your life in early Fall will no longer trouble you the way they did. The day by day hassles and concerns will no longer get to you if, like Isaiah, you keep a firm grasp on the “Big Picture” and who Mr. Big really is!!

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Paul

Calendar of Events — September 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			CCM = Care Center Ministry MHSG = Mental Health Support Group		1	2
3 Communion Sunday (9:30 am Worship)	4 Labor Day - church & office closed	5 6:45 pm Tuesday Night Bible Study	6 9:30 am CCM (offsite) 12 noon Wed. Women & the Word 5:30 pm Confirmation Orientation	7 11 am Directory Team mtg. (NO Yoga) 6:45 pm AcabeLLa	8	9 9 am-1:30 pm International Ladies Fellowship
10 Rally Sunday (Return to 8, 9:15 & 10:30 am Worship Services) 9 am Choir 6 pm Sr. High Youth	11 10:00 am Happy Endings 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm "Get Organized" Seminar 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm CE mtg.	12 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:30 pm MHSG 6:45 pm Tuesday Night Bible Study	13 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	14 7 am Leadership Breakfast (offsite) 1 pm UMW mtg. 5:30 pm Yoga 6:30 pm Missions 6:45 pm AcabeLLa	15 12 noon Friendly Fellowship	16 8:30 am Men's Breakfast
17 Special Offering for ODIM Guatemala 9 am Choir 11:30 am Stewardship meeting 6 pm Sr. High Youth	18 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	19 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 10:30 am-5 pm JFON Office Hours 5-8 pm JFON Clinic 6:45 pm Tuesday Night Bible Study	20 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	21 10 am Academy for Spiritual Formation mtg. 5:30 pm Yoga 6:15 pm AcabeLLa Meeting Night: 6:45 pm Trustees 7 pm Committees 7:50 pm Ad Council	22	23
24 9 am Choir 9:15 & 11:45 am New Members Class 6 pm Sr. High Youth	25 9 am Prayer Shawl 2-9 pm Set up for Pictorial Directory photo shoots 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	26 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 2-9 pm Pictures taken for Pictorial Directory 5:30 pm Library Tm. 6:45 pm Tuesday Night Bible Study	27 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 Confirmation 6 pm MS Youth 6 pm Adult Explo	28 2-9 pm Pictures taken for Pictorial Directory 5:30 pm Yoga 6:45 pm AcabeLLa	29 2-9 pm Pictures taken for Pictorial Directory	30 10 am-5 pm Pictures taken for Pictorial Directory

GET ORGANIZED SEMINAR

We will be holding a *Get Organized* Seminar run by Becky Esker here at Lovely Lane on Monday, September 11th, at 6:30 PM in the Library. This event is sponsored by the Health & Wholeness Committee. Please mark the date on your calendars **now** and be thinking about which friend or friends you want to bring! If you'll need the nursery, please let the church office know (393-6674)!

Lovely Lane Worship, et al.



Worship in September

Sept. 3rd: **Communion Sunday**—9:30 AM
 All-Together Summer Service
 Scripture: Daniel 6:1-16
 Sermon: "Sunday School Stories: In the Lion's Den"

Sept. 10th: **Rally Sunday (start of Sunday School)**—return to 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Services
 Scripture: 1 Samuel 17:11
 Sermon: "Sunday School Stories: David & Goliath"

Sept. 17th: **15th Sunday after Pentecost / Special Offering for ODIM Guatemala**—8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Services
 Scripture: Judges 16:4-9, 15-17
 Sermon: "Sunday School Stories: Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow"

Sept. 24th: **16th Sunday after Pentecost**—8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Services
 Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:1-20
 Sermon: "Sunday School Stories: Hannah's Bargain"

Our September sermon series will be taking an adult look at some of those great old stories you learned in Sunday School!

PLEASE JOIN US!!

Presence: Worship Attendance			
<u>8/6</u>	<u>8/13</u>	<u>8/20</u>	<u>8/27</u>
204	176	154	226

SEPT. 17TH SPECIAL OFFERING

We are taking a special offering on Sunday, September 17th, for ODIM Guatemala (the Organization for the Development of the Indigenous Maya). Several years ago, Lovely Laners participated in a mission trip to an area of Guatemala on the remote western shore of Lake Atitlan. The indigenous Maya there suffer from the lack of the basic human rights of healthcare, education, and dignity.

ODIM Guatemala's goal is to offer comprehensive and competent care for their communities. They seek access to healthcare and education now and in the future for these remote communities.

Our special offering will help continue to fund the important activities of this humanitarian organization. Please give generously!!

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT



The Women's Fall Retreat for 2017 will be on Sunday, Oct. 15th, from 2 PM to 7 PM with dinner at 5:30 at the Prairiewoods Retreat Center. This year's theme will be **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 approximate cost will be \$35 to \$40 per person (stay tuned for further details). So, plan to come and **Fill Your Cup!** *Sponsored by Health & Wholeness*

United Methodist Women News

LOVELY LANE UMW'S MEETING THURSDAY, SEPT. 14 at 1 PM in Library & Fellowship Hall

Imagine life without clean fresh water. Clean water is not be taken for granted in our future. United Methodist Women are concerned about water conservation and sustainability.

Lovely Lane's UMW meeting on Sept. 14th at 1 PM will be a presentation by Tony Nemers, Linn Co. Conservation; he will present a program on Water Conservation in Linn County. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND COME JOIN US!**

UMW BIBLE STUDY

Lovely Lane's UMW Bible Study will **resume meeting Tuesday mornings from 9:30–11:15 AM in Fireside, beginning Tuesday, Sept. 12th**. We invite you to join with us for fellowship and study as we resume our study of the Gospel of Luke. Since we have decided to **LUG OUR MUGS AND FILL THEM AT HOME, COME PREPARED WITH YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE IN HAND!!!**

EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT UMW'S ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY, SEPT. 23 AT CLINTON FIRST UM CHURCH 621 SOUTH 3RD STREET, CLINTON, IOWA

Registration/Coffee is 9-9:30 AM and the theme is *WE ARE CALLED*. The Keynote presentation will be presented by Lynn Calvert, Conference UMW President; Betty Kiboko, Conference UMW Mission Coordinator for Membership, Nurture and Outlook; Marcia Young, Conference UMW Liaison to Legacy Fund and Mary Fredericksen, Conference UMW Mission for Education and Interpretation. You will want to hear this interesting and relevant message: *Called to Act with Justice*.

UMW Annual Meetings are a joyful celebration of the missions and ministries of UMW. There'll be music, including by the Clintones and CFUMC Praise Band; a Basket Auction; Election and Installation of Officers; Love Gifts; Breakout Sessions including *The Many Uses of the Prayer Calendar*, *Seeing What Other UMW Units are Doing*; and a presentation by Sarah Paulos from the Interfaith Power and Light on *Climate Justice*.

You are invited to bring: dish soap, laundry soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, socks, and toilet paper. These items will be distributed to the YWCA and SOS (Share Our Sandwiches) in Clinton. For more information about joining us to attend this annual meeting in Clinton, call Cheryl Murphy (377-6205).

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP

Friendly Fellowship will have our first luncheon potluck of the year—an Indoor Picnic—on Friday, Sept. 15th, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. We ask that you bring simple picnic food! The program will be folks sharing *What I Did This Summer*, Co-host and hostess will be Verlis and Nancy Miller. If you have questions, call Nancy Miller at 393-6340.

HAPPY ENDINGS

Happy Endings, the book discussion group, will meet on Monday, Sept. 11th, at 10:00 AM in the church library. The book to read for September is *The Chilbury Ladies Choir* by Jennifer Ryan. The October book to read is *The Address* by Fiona Davis and the November read is *Carolina's Twins* by Ronald Balsom. We will plan to have lunch out in December so will not read a book that month.

Join us for good discussion and fellowship! Please call Nancy Miller at 393-6340 with any questions.



Our weekly class of gentle meditative exercises is continuing, but beginning on Sept. 11th the time changes to 5:30 PM with Sue Moss (& friends!) serving as the facilitator(s). Generally, we will meet for 45 mins. to an hour either in the Narthex or in Fireside. Please consider joining us!!

HAVE A GOOD LAUGH TODAY

When things get stressful, remember to smile and see the humor in life. Research shows that laughter can boost our immune system, ease pain, relax your body, and reduce stress. *Sometimes you must choose whether to laugh or cry!*

ADULT EXPLO

Adult Explo begins on Wednesday, Sept. 13th, at 6 PM with a 5-week study of the major motion picture, *The Shack*. This blockbuster movie has powerful and surprising depictions of God, the Trinity, heaven and how God works in the world to heal devastating grief. No books are necessary; just bring your Bible and rent the movie if you get a chance. We meet in Fireside; Pastor Paul and Joel Goodman will be leading the study. Join us!!

Our Ministry Teams at Work

Missions

- ◆ September Special Offering: ODIM Guatemala
- ◆ Kennedy HS needs: 1 dozen backpacks & 1 dozen calculators
- ◆ CROP Walk in October: Cindy Linder is Chair
- ◆ Picking a November Special Offering

Christian Education

- ◆ Sunday School starts back up on 9/10 (last Sunday is 5/20/18)
- ◆ Children's Christmas Program will be on 12/17 @ the 9:15 service
- ◆ 2018 Vacation Bible School is tentatively set for 7/8/18-7/13/18

Trustees

- ◆ Landscaping on south side of church
- ◆ Tearing out bushes on 9/23

Hospitality

- ◆ Helping with Sunday Brunch on 8/27
- ◆ Helping with Coffee Set-up on 8/20
- ◆ New Member Luncheon on 9/24

Health & Wholeness

- ◆ "Get Organized" Seminar by Becky Esker on 9/11
- ◆ Retreat planning for event @ Prairiewoods on 10/15
- ◆ Climate Justice—co-sponsor with St. Paul's UMC on 11/11

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S SAT., SEPT. 30, 9:30 AM



Contributions for this year's Walk to End Alzheimer's will be taken by Jayne Woodson at all 3 worship services on Sunday, Sept. 10th.

Come and join our team!!

CHILDREN & YOUTH ACTIVITIES

RALLY SUNDAY is on Sept. 10th! See you all in Sunday School!



J.A.M. (Jesus And Me) Lovely Lane UMC Wednesday Night Kid's Club Starts Wednesday, Sept. 13th

Children preschool—5th grade are invited to Kid's Club on Wed. evenings. Children will learn about God's love for them, the Bible, and have fun experiences with friends!

Our fall Kid's Club program starts on Wed., Sept. 13th. Each Wednesday, we'll start off with supper at 5:30 PM (suggested \$2 donation, if possible). At 5:55, we'll share joys, concerns and announcements; then, the children will go to their age level groups from 6:10-7:15 PM. There will be special music time every week for each class.

This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to come and be part of Kid's Club, too!

Age Levels Groups: 3 - 4 year olds, Kindergarten - 1st grade, 2nd - 3rd grade, & 4th-5th grade.

Contact Julie Meyer (juliem@lovelylane.org; 393-6674) for more info. Reg. forms available @ church.

Senior High Youth Group will have its first meeting of the new school year on Sunday night, Sept. 10th, at 6 PM. Dinner is at 6:00; the program is from 6:30-7:30 PM.

Middle School Youth will resume on Wed., Sept. 13th, at 6:00 PM in the Youth Room. As usual, come at 5:30 for dinner, and then stay for the program from 6:00 to 7:15 PM.

WAYS TO GIVE

Most of us only think about giving to the church in very limited ways: on Sunday or to special projects—like missions or capital campaigns. However, there are numerous ways to give that have enormous tax advantages and can benefit your church for years to come. The following list includes some of those ways. If you're interested in exploring any of these, please call Bob Dagit (LL Finance Chair, 319-363-1016). We also have experts at the Iowa United Methodist Foundation who can help you.

*Bequest: Designate an organization as beneficiary of your asset by will, trust or beneficiary designation form.

*IRA Rollover: Congress has enacted a permanent IRA charitable rollover. As a result, you can make an IRA rollover gift this year and beyond.

*Beneficiary Designation Gifts: Designate a charitable organization as a beneficiary of a retirement, investment or bank account or your life insurance policy.

*Charitable Gift Annuity: Transfer your cash or appreciated property to an organization in exchange for our promise to pay you fixed payments (with rates based on your age) for the rest of your life.

*Charitable Remainder Trust: Transfer your cash or appreciated property to fund a charitable remainder trust. The trust sells your property tax free and provides you with fixed income for life or a term of years.

*Charitable Lead Trust: Fund a trust that makes gifts to us for a number of years. Your family receives the trust remainder at substantial tax savings.

*Sale & Unitrust: Give a portion of your property to us to fund a charitable remainder trust; when the property sells you receive cash and income for life.

*Bargain Sale: A charity purchases your property for less than fair market value. You receive cash and a charitable deduction for the difference between the market value and purchase price.

*Give It Twice Trust: Provide your children with a stream of income while making a gift to charity.

*Life Estate Reserved: Give your property to an organization but retain the right to use it during your life.

Concerns & Celebrations

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

Prayer concerns:

- *Amber Mulnik & family – on the death of her mom, Dawn
- *Sue Moss & family – sudden death of her father, Herb Eckert; his service was 8/25 @ St. Paul's UMC
- *Jan Peterson – at home, recovering from pace-maker surgery
- *Jim McKibben, a new LL attender – home from the hospital recovering from a slight stroke
- *Jean Fitz – in rehabilitation after suffering a stroke
- *Pam Nixon – ongoing health issues
- *Kevin Wittles – recovering from another back surgery
- *Betty Widmer – difficulties adjusting to her new home in SC (is in memory care)
- *Dave Whitford, son of Don & Wanda – home after being hospitalized with pneumonia
- *Pastors Paul's & Gayle's daughter Emily – for her health to stabilize after birth of Ellie
- *Virginia Weiland's sister, Gayle Snow - hospitalized in Mason City with a severe kidney infection
- *Those affected by Hurricane Harvey
- *Charlottesville, Virginia community & our entire country as we grapple with the issue of racism

Joys:

- *Isabel Drew is in remission!!!
- *Pam Morris - biopsy after breast cancer surgery showed NO cancer spread! She thanks all for your prayers!
- ***A BIG THANK YOU** to the following persons who preached, made music, did tech, unlocked & locked the building, or led worship while Pastors Paul & Gayle were in Washington! You rock the Rock: *Tim Preston, Frank Camp, John Schultz, Cathy Weber, Barb Geissinger, Sue Moss, Eric Wylie, & Dennis Ramsey!* **Thanks, too,** to our Shepherdesses, especially Nancy Miller, who made needed visits/calls while the pastors were away!
- *After a nice payment in July toward the mortgage (>3/4 of which was from capital campaign funds), the new mortgage balance became \$117,339.24.
- *Our M.S. youth had a great time @ Pictured Rocks – it was a good mixture of work, fun & fellowship!
- *Beginning of school year—pray for our teachers & students
- **Rally Sunday* (start of Sunday School) is on 9/10!
- *Class of new confirmands & mentors

Thank You Notes

MESSAGE SENT THRU OUR WEBSITE: Hello, my name is Bruce. I came to the United States in 1975 after the fall of Saigon. My mother, sister and myself were resettled in Cedar Rapids as refugees shortly after we came to the states. I was going through a photo album that I have kept for a very long time when I came across a letter from then Pastor Donald F. Maple. There were also pictures of myself and six other students enrolled in the Lovely Lane Preschool. The reason mostly for this email is because I personally wanted to say thank you to the teachers, staff, church and everyone involved in giving me and my family a new start during that time in life. I am still trying to research my roots since coming to the United States and plan on someday going back to Cedar Rapids to see where it all started out. I am proud to say that I have given my life to Jesus, and my family and I have served the Lord for over 30 years. I felt in my heart that I needed to say thank you to your church even though it was a long time ago. Thank you for planting that Seed!

Thank you to my Lovely Lane Church family for all of their thoughts, prayers, cards, and memorial gifts after my dad's passing. I am humbled by your outpouring of love and concern and want you to know that it all has helped and continues to help carry me thru this difficult time. *Sue Moss*

Thank you for partnering with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Thru your gift, you are helping to provide humanitarian relief when war, conflict, or natural disaster disrupt life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own. Your gift of \$2,792 was received on 7/21/17 for Advance #901670; 100% of your contribution will go to Supporting UMCOR's response to disasters in the United States.

July Financial Totals

Cash inflow—mo. of July	\$ 51,657
Cash inflow—YTD	\$301,247
Budget need/month	\$ 46,308
Cash outflow—mo. of July	\$ 50,001
Cash outflow—YTD	\$315,075
Unpaid bills	\$ 0



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 2424 42nd Street NE
 Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship:
 (Last Summer Worship time of 9:30 is on 9/3)
 8:00 AM Traditional
 9:15 AM Guitar service on 1st & 3rd Sundays; Traditional on 2nd & 4th
 10:30 AM Traditional 2nd & 4th Sundays; Blended* 1st & 3rd; Choir all Sundays
 *Blended = a mix of traditional & contemporary



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.....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

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