

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## for the week of Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>

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### **Prayer Concerns:**

\*Pray for Brad & Ann Jacobs whose daughter Emmalee, ISU freshman, was found dead in the street near campus Monday morning. Brad teaches at Linn Mar and Ann at Center Point-Urbana.

\*Kathleen Potter-Stepleton – death of her niece

\*Hanna, Drew, & Auliver Wood – Hanna's father, Steve, passed away last night after a long battle with cancer. Drew is Becky & Mike Wood's son and member here at LLUMC.

\*Pastor Paul's mother, Betty Jo – hospitalized w/pneumonia

### **Joys:**

\*Wonderful Children's Christmas Program in 9:15 worship last Sunday, with 212 in attendance! A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who worked so hard to make it a success!!

(It can now be viewed on the Lovely Lane website: click on <http://www.lovelylane.org/see-the-video-of-the-llumc-childrens-christmas-program/>.)

\*Our confirmation class collected approximately \$185 in products that were given to WayPoint

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**BLUE ZONE SAYS: Get happy hips.** Stand 2 steps away from a chair without wheels. Place one foot on the seat and push your hips forward. This will lengthen and loosen the hip flexors especially if you've been sitting for awhile. These muscles help keep you stable when walking or climbing stairs.

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### **Christmas Eve Services @ Lovely Lane UMC: "Behold! The Joy"**



5:00 PM - Family Worship; special music provided by Lovely Lane youth

7:00 PM - Traditional Worship with Choir & Candlelight

9:00 PM - Traditional Worship with Communion & Candlelight

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**UPPER ROOM** Daily Devotionals for the months of January and February have arrived and are available on the table right outside of the church office. A donation of 50¢ is suggested per copy.

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**END-OF-YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS:** In order to be credited for tax purposes in 2015, contributions must be received at the church or post-marked on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you for your support of the many missions and ministries of Lovely Lane UMC!

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**REMINDER FOR COMMITTEES:** 2015 committees that normally meet monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month did **NOT** meet in December (*MERRY CHRISTMAS!*). 2016

committees, however, **WILL** meet beginning in January (*HAPPY NEW YEAR!!*). Thanks to all who have served and/or will serve LL in this very important way!

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**ADVENT OFFERINGS:** If you haven't made your Advent Offering yet, there is still time. Pick 1 of this year's 4 alternatives (or have your donation split evenly between the 4 if you mark the Advent Offering card accordingly):

**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 was 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 Pre-schools and Before and After School program.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR ADVENT OFFERING DONATIONS!!

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### **CHRISTMAS CHRISTIAN QUOTES:**

Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love. – Hamilton Wright Mabie

This is my wish for you: peace of mind, prosperity through the year, happiness that multiplies, health for you and yours, fun around every corner, energy to chase your dream, joy to fill your holidays!

- D.M. Dellinger

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## THIS WEEK AT LOVELY LANE

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### **Ministry Opportunities**

Events in Bold Face = everyone \* = childcare

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#### **SUNDAY — Dec. 20** *Fourth Sunday in Advent*

- 8:00 AM **Worship\*** – Sanctuary  
9:00 AM **Fellowship\*** – Fellowship Hall  
9:00 AM Chancel Choir – Choir Room  
9:15 AM **Worship\*** – Sanctuary  
9:15 AM **Adult Sunday School\***  
9:15 AM **Children's Sunday School\***  
10:30 AM **Worship\*** – Sanctuary  
10:45 AM **Children's Sunday School** – F'ship Hall

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#### **MONDAY — Dec. 21**

- 9:00 AM ESL (English as a Second Language) – Library

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#### **TUESDAY — Dec. 22**

(NO Women's Study)

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#### **WEDNESDAY — Dec. 23**

(NO Women's Study & NO Wed. evening activities)

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#### **THURSDAY — Dec. 24** *Christmas Eve*

- 5:00 PM **Family-oriented Worship Service\*** – Sanctuary  
7:00 PM **Traditional Candlelight Service\* with Choir** – Sanctuary  
9:00 PM **Traditional Candlelight Service with Communion** – Sanctuary

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#### **FRIDAY — Dec. 25** **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!**

(*church & office closed*)

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#### **SATURDAY — Dec. 26**

- 11 AM–6 PM Jesse/Schneider Family Christmas Gathering – Fellowship Hall & Kitchen

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#### **SUNDAY — Dec. 27** *First Sunday After Christmas*

- 8:00 AM **Worship (Hymn Sing)\*** – Sanctuary  
9:00 AM **Fellowship\*** – Fellowship Hall  
(NO Choir Practice)  
9:15 AM **Worship (Hymn Sing)\*** – Sanctuary  
9:15 AM **Adult Sunday School\*** (Myrna's class NOT meeting)  
9:15 AM **Children's Sunday School\*** – Drama Room (downstairs)  
10:30 AM **Worship (Hymn Sing)\*** – Sanctuary  
10:45 AM **Children's Sunday School** – Library  
12 noon Nixon Family Christmas Gathering – F'ship Hall & Kitchen  
(NO Senior High Youth Group in evening)

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Dec. 20, 2015

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### **Serving at Worship...**

#### **Preacher**

All services.....Pastor Gayle Wilcox

#### **Liturgist**

All services.....Pastor Paul Wilcox

#### **Lectors**

8:00.....Myrna Loehrlein  
9:15.....Marci Wittles  
10:30.....Kim Jacobson

#### **Greeters**

8:00.....Curtis & Maggie Thomas  
9:15.....Deb & Randy Noecker  
10:30.....Don & Wanda Whitford

#### **Ushers**

8:00.....Joel & Marilyn Goodman  
9:15.....Deb & Randy Noecker  
10:30...John & Nancy Hinkel, Don & Wanda Whitford

#### **Acolytes**

8:00.....Ryan Stumpf  
9:15.....(*Ushers*)  
10:30.....Kaitlyn Haines & Levi Heskje

#### **Staff**

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

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**Presence at worship:** Sunday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>

51 (8:00), 212 (9:15) & 115 (10:30), Total = 378