

ANNOUNCEMENTS for the wk. of March 26

Prayer Concerns:

- *Julie Meyer & family - death of her grandfather; pray also for healing between family members
- *Dave Keefe's sister Patti - suffered an aneurysm; Linda Keefe's sister has a broken femur
- *Pat Brand - hospitalized
- *Carol Wishnowski - recovering from foot surgery on 3/22

Joys:

- *Those who attended Game Night on 3/18 had a great time, and there's another Game Night scheduled for 4/22!
 - *A dozen participants celebrated "graduation" from Financial Peace University last Sunday, 3/19
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REMEMBER to update changes in contact info. on the STUB!

EASTER EGG CANDY NEEDED! Please bring your donations of small individually-wrapped candies (and/or treasures or coins) to LL by Sunday, April 9th, (look for the donations basket in the narthex) for our Saturday, April 15th, Easter Egg Hunt!

MORTGAGE MOMENTUM -- LET'S PAY IT OFF IN 2017! Recall that before starting to pay down the mortgage loan, we first raised \$120,000 to replace the roof. Since then, gifts to the **Blessed to be a Blessing** campaign have been put toward the mortgage. Starting mortgage balance, June '16: \$280,554.82; as of March 2017: \$152,046.48. *That's a reduction of 46% -- nearly half -- in only 9 months!*

CHALLENGE: There are 9 mos. left to this year. Can we pay off the mortgage by Dec. 31, '17? Let's do it, Lovely Lane! We're Blessed to be a Blessing!

TAI CHI UPDATE: We've learned that a Tai Chi daytime class is available at Kenwood Park UMC on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-1:45 PM. The Kenwood Park ladies have invited LL folk interested in trying Tai Chi /Qi Gong to join their group and meet some new friends! Kenwood Park UMC is @ 175 34th Street NE, behind the Starlight Restaurant. Please call the Kenwood Park UMC office @ 365-6933 or contact Linda Keefe @ 743-0591 if you're interested. An evening Tai Chi class is still being planned for Lovely Lane; stay tuned for more information.

BLUE ZONE SAYS – Take half a minute to jump using a real or imaginary jump rope. Aside from making you feel like a kid again, jumping is a great workout. A 30 second break from your desk can increase your heart rate. This sends more blood to the brain, feeding it more oxygen and nutrients, which in turn can make you feel more alert and focused.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SEDER MEAL: On Thursday, April 13th, at 7 PM we will serve a simple version of the Jewish Seder Meal, a replication of the Passover Meal Jesus would have celebrated with his disciples the night he was arrested and taken to be crucified. This meal is the foundation for our Christian sacrament of Holy Communion. It won't be a full meal but 'tastes' with a Seder plate and liturgy. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall with low lighting and cloth tablecloths. Each guest is invited to bring a pillow to use ON THEIR CHAIR as part of the evening's symbolism. We'll enjoy the Haggadah or Telling of the Story and taste maror (bitter herbs symbolizing slavery in Egypt), charoset (symbolizing mortar used in brick making), karpas (parsley dipped in

salt water symbolizing tears), zeroa (chicken/beet symbolizing Paschal lamb), and beitzah (hard-boiled egg symbolizing festival sacrifices). We will pray, sing, taste, drink grape juice and remember that night of nights. Children have a special part in this meal and nursery will be provided for toddlers and babies. Sign up on the STUB to reserve a seat!

Lovely Lane Lenten Offering Recipients for 2017

Books Without Borders obtains and stores new and used books for packaging and shipping to war torn and emerging nations in the process of rebuilding. The current focus is on countries in Africa where English is the official language. The goal is to foster learning and knowledge, empowering the residents of these areas. Momodu Kamara is the Founder and President of Books Without Borders.

JFON (Justice For Our Neighbors) is a ministry of hospitality provided by the Iowa Annual Conference of the UMC. It provides legal services, advocates to bring change in immigration laws and public policy, and strives to educate immigrant communities to better understand their rights and the complex immigration process. *Lovely Lane hosts JFON the 3rd Tuesday of the month, with an Iowa JFON immigration attorney and volunteers meeting with clients during the day and the evening.*

Four Oaks offers a variety of services to help troubled children and families be successful. Focus areas are Behavioral Health, Education, Child Welfare, and Juvenile Justice. Their philosophy is to empower children and families to achieve stability, self-sufficiency, and permanency.

Families Helping Families focuses on improving the lives of foster children in Iowa. On average, foster children and youth move 7 times before the age of 18, usually abruptly leaving their home with few personal belongings. Families Helping Families strives to make these transitions more bearable. Presently, there are nearly 1,000 children in foster care in CR alone.

A bulk mailing went out recently with a Lenten letter, return envelope, and card listing these giving opportunities. Extra Lenten Offering cards are located in the pew racks. Be sure to write your name on the card and indicate how you'd like your donation split between the four choices. Thank you!

9:15 WORSHIP VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NEEDED:

Isn't it nice to be welcomed into the church building before worship and to receive a bulletin from a friendly face as you enter the worship space? Aren't you proud when our very own members come forward to read the scripture and serve communion? These ministries are synchronized by a coordinator and helpers who invite, contact, and schedule folks to assist with worship. We are in need of a new team coordinator for our 9:15 service – someone who has a passion for this kind of ministry, enjoys working with others, and can devote a few blocks of time during the year to this work. Please sign up on the STUB if you are interested and want to find out more. Don't delay! We need you!!

A HOSPICE OF MERCY MEMORIAL SERVICE is on Tues., April 11th, at 7 PM, in the Hallagan Education Ctr., Mercy Medical Center. They will be remembering those who died between Sept. 1, 2016 and Feb. 28, 2017 (a service is held twice a year). This candlelight service is open to all families and friends and will feature special music, prayer, and a brief message. Fellowship and refreshments will follow the service.

THIS WEEK AT LOVELY LANE

Ministry Opportunities

Events in Bold Face = everyone * = childcare

SUNDAY — March 26 *4th Sunday in Lent / Camping Sunday*

- 8:00 AM **Traditional Worship*** – Sanctuary
9:00 AM **Chancel Choir** – Choir Room
9:15 AM **Traditional Worship*** – Sanctuary
9:15 AM **Adult Sunday School**
9:15 AM **Children's Sunday School**
10:30 AM **Traditional Worship*** – Sanctuary
10:45 AM **Children's Sunday School**
6:00 PM Senior High Youth Group – Kitchen,
Fellowship Hall & Youth Room

MONDAY — March 27

- 9:00 AM Prayer Shawl Group – Study
6:30 PM Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY — March 28

- 9:30 AM UMW Bible Study – Fireside
6:45 PM Women's Study – Library

WEDNESDAY — March 29

- 9:30 AM Care Center Ministry (offsite)
12 noon Women's Study – Library
4:50 PM Youth Bells – Sanctuary
5:30 PM Family Meal – Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
6:00 PM Kid's Club – Fellowship Hall, et al.
6:00 PM Middle School Youth Group – Youth Rm. /
Confirmation - Library
6:00 PM Adult Explo – Fireside
6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group – Study

THURSDAY — March 30

- 5:30 PM Yoga – Youth Room
6:45 PM Handbells – Sanctuary

FRIDAY — March 31

SATURDAY — April 1

SUNDAY — April 2 *5th Sunday in Lent / Communion*

- 8:00 AM **Traditional Worship*** – Sanctuary
9:00 AM **Chancel Choir** – Choir Room
9:15 AM **Guitar Service*** – Sanctuary
9:15 AM **Adult Sunday School**
9:15 AM **Children's Sunday School**
10:30 AM **Blended Worship*** – Sanctuary
10:45 AM **Children's Sunday School**
6:00 PM Senior High Youth Group – Kitchen,
Fellowship Hall & Youth Room

March 26, 2017

Serving at Worship...

Greeters

- 8:00.....Curtis & Maggie Thomas
9:15.....Scott & Terrie Seibert
10:30.....Karon & Rory Niebuhr

Ushers

- 8:00.....Joel & Marilyn Goodman
9:15.....Scott & Terrie Seibert
10:30.....Bill & Gloria Jahnel, Rick & Renae Fischer

Acolytes

- 8:00.....(Ushers)
9:15.....Alex & Abby Hume
10:30.....Reece & Addison Fischer

Lectors

- 8:00.....Myrna Loehrlein
9:15.....Justin Gehrts
10:30.....Judy McDowell

Liturgist

- All services.....Pastor Paul Wilcox

Preacher

- All services.....Pastor Gayle Wilcox

Staff

- Lead Pastor.....Paul Wilcox
Associate Pastor.....Gayle Wilcox
Office Manager.....Sue Moss
Director Children's Weekday Min....Carolyn Barnes
Youth Director.....Paul Wilcox
Kids' 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 Team.....Shelbie Wood, Tara Weber,
& Paige Gerjets
Wedding Coordinator.....Becky Wood
Custodians.....Rex, Rhonda, & Jessica Heasty
Audio / Visual Coordinator.....Eric Wylie
Webmaster.....Shelly Turner
Treasurer.....Marcie Stumpf

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Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc

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Presence at worship – Sun., March 19th:
46 @ 8:00; 69 @ 9:15; 106 @ 10:30 = 221 Total