

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

February 2019

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 house-
hold to servant
leadership.



The Commission on a Way Forward

"There is one body and one Spirit . . ." (Ephesians 4:4, NIV)

We need to keep the United Methodist Church in our thoughts and prayers this month! A Special Session of the General Conference of our denomination takes place on February 23-26 in St. Louis, Missouri. The session is focused on receiving and acting upon a report from the Commission on a Way Forward. The Commission has been working to do an examination and possible revision of paragraphs from *The Book of Discipline* concerning human sexuality.

The Commission met nine times over the last seventeen months. Together, the group prayed and studied the Bible. The Commission also consulted with various denominational boards and agencies within The United Methodist Church. Furthermore, they researched ways that other denominations have dealt with similar matters and conversations.

Ultimately, the Commission proposed three main plans to move our denomination forward. These plans are (from United Methodist Communications) . . .

The One Church Plan, endorsed by the Council of Bishops, would allow but not require United Methodist clergy to perform same-gender weddings where legal, and allow but not require annual conferences to ordain LGBTQ pastors.

The Connectional Conference Plan would create "three values-based connectional conferences" in the U.S., and provide for central conferences to align with one of those connectional conferences or become one of their own. These would be Progressive, Centrist, and Traditionalist in nature.

The Traditionalist Plan maintains global United Methodist teaching on human sexuality. While we welcome all persons and believe all persons are of sacred worth, the *Discipline* states that "homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching."

The ultimate plan selected might be one of the proposals mentioned above. The final plan might also be an amended version of one of the options listed. The eventual outcome is unknown. Our denomination is diverse and global. In fact, over 30% of our denomination comes from churches located on the African continent.

Regardless of the outcome, I want you to know that Lovely Lane UMC will continue to be a church that welcomes all people! Our mission to accept all persons will remain in place. Our church has so much to celebrate. We do not want this to change.

Let us lift up our denomination in prayer this month, as well as in the months and years to come! *A Thousand Blessings to each of You! Scott*

Calendar of Events — February 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 6 am-Midnt. Speech Contest parking overflow (Kennedy) 8:20 am ACT Prep. (Kennedy) 9 am-1:30 pm ILF
3 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 9 am Chancel Choir 5 pm Homework help 6-7:15 pm Adult Explo 6-7:45 pm H.S. Youth Group	4 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm CE mtg. 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	5 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:45 pm WOF 7 pm SPPRC	6 9:30 am CCM (offsite) 9:30 am Mom's Club 12 noon WWW 1:30 pm Staff mtg. 4:45 pm Zamar Handbells 5:30 pm Family Meal 6-7:15 pm Kid's Club & M.S. Youth Group/Confirmation 6 pm Adult Explo	7 5:30 pm Yoga 6:30 pm AcabeLLa 6:45 pm Trustees	8	9
10 8:45-10:30 am Heart Healthy Brunch 9 am Chancel Choir 11:45 am Stride Grp. 4 pm Living Last Supper practice 5 pm Homework help 6-7:15 pm Adult Explo 6-7:45 pm H.S. Youth Group	11 10 am Happy Endings 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	12 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:30 pm Mental Health Support Grp. 6:45 pm WOF	13 12 noon WWW 1:30 pm Staff prayer Time 4:45 pm Zamar 5:30 pm Family Meal 6-7:15 pm Kid's Club & M.S. Youth Group/Confirmation 6 pm Adult Explo	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i> 7 am Leadership Mtg. (@ Panera's) 1:00 pm UMW mtg. 5:30 pm Yoga 6:30 pm AcabeLLa	15 12 noon Friendly Fellowship	16 8:00 am Men's Breakfast 10 am-4 pm Project Linus 1:30-5 pm Women at the Well Workshops
17 9 am Chancel Choir 5 pm Homework help 6-7:15 pm Adult Explo 6-7:45 pm H.S. Youth Group	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 Hrs. 5-8 pm JFON Clinic 6:45 pm WOF 7 pm SPPRC	20 12 noon WWW 1:30 pm Staff mtg. 4:45 pm Zamar 5:30 pm Family Meal 6-7:15 pm Kid's Club & M.S. Youth Group/Confirmation 6 pm Adult Explo	21 4 pm Hospitality 5:30 pm Yoga 6:30 pm AcabeLLa 7 pm Committee Meetings 7:50 pm Ad Council	22	23 6 am-Midnt. Show Choir overflow parking (Kennedy)
24 9 am Chancel Choir 5 pm Homework help 6-7:15 pm Adult Explo 6-7:45 pm H.S. Youth Group	25 9:00 am Prayer Shawl Group 5:30 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	26 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:45 pm WOF	27 12 noon WWW 1:30 pm Staff prayer time 4:45 pm Zamar 5:30 pm Family Meal 6-7:15 pm Kid's Club & M.S. Youth Group/Confirmation 6 pm Adult Explo	28 5:30 pm Growing Through Grief & Loss Group 5:30 pm Yoga 6:15 pm AcabeLLa	CCM = Care Center Ministry CWM = Children's Weekday Ministries UMW = United Methodist Women	ILF = International Ladies Fellowship WOF = Women Of Faith WWW = Wednesday Women & The Word

MEN'S BREAKFAST

All are welcome to attend the Men's Breakfast on Saturday, February 16, 8:00 am (new time). Jason Kline, Kennedy High School Principal, will be the guest speaker.

TWO ADULT EXPLO CLASSES BEING OFFERED

Adult Explo now meets on Sun. nights and Wed. nights at 6 PM. Participants can choose which night works best for them. The current study started in January and is focused on the book *When Christians Get It Wrong* by Adam Hamilton. All are welcome! Contact Pastor Scott (393-6674 or scottm@lovelylane.org) for more info.

Lovely Lane Worship, et al.



WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

Feb. 3rd: **Communion Sunday**—3 services: 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott

Scripture: Micah 6:1-8

Sermon: "Pleasing God" *How Do You W+2? Part 3*

Feb. 10th: 3 services: 8, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Pastor Jenny

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:3-11

Sermon: "Living Out W+2" *How Do You W+2? Part 4*

Join us for a Heart Healthy Brunch, 8:45-10:30 AM!

Feb. 17th: 3 services: 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Rev. Lee Schott of the Women at the Well Prison Congregation, will preach

Feb. 24th: 3 services: 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott

Scripture: Luke 6:27-38

Sermon: "Extending Love"



HEART HEALTHY BRUNCH- SUNDAY, FEB. 10TH

Everyone is welcome (and choir members can join us briefly!) on Sunday, Feb. 10th, from 8:45 to 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall for a tasty and heart-healthy brunch! The menu includes several kinds of quiches, fresh fruit, breads/muffins, juice, milk, and coffee. Be sure to join us!! *Sponsored by Health & Wholeness*

UPCOMING IN MARCH....

Ash Wednesday Worship and Pancake Supper are on Weds., March 6th. More information to come!

"Commission on the Way Forward"

For more news on the "Commission on the Way Forward", go to <http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/commission-on-a-way-forward-5-things-you-need-to-know>.

LIFE BETWEEN SUNDAYS: SNOW DAYS

January hit the midwest with a powerful one-two punch, over and over again. Plummeting temperatures, blowing snow, and treacherous roads led to many snow days, one after another. For those who are teachers or students, it might be a time for doing a victory dance. Yet, for others, for those who don't have a steady income, who lack adequate childcare on a snow day, who rely on the meals at school to survive, or who drive older cars with many repair needs, these days can be a nightmare. Many agencies providing for those in need also shut down because they're largely run by volunteers. This further adds to the hardship of the snow day.

As the church of Jesus Christ at Lovely Lane UMC, we are called to be the Church, even on a snow day. We can live out our faith by checking in on our homebound neighbors or by removing snow for those who struggle, especially if we're the ones with a snow blower. Also, many of us are able to go online (from the warmth of our homes) and donate to agencies that help folks with their basic needs of food, shelter, and health. It's easy to wrap up in a blanket and binge watch Netflix shows, yet that only serves ourselves and not others.

The Apostle Paul stated in the letter to the Galatians, in 6:2 and 10: "*Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.... So then, let's work for the good of all whenever we have an opportunity, and especially for those in the household of faith.*" As a follower of Jesus, because of the love and grace we have received, we are called to share that love and grace with others. We can do so in tangible ways, easing the burdens of our fellow human beings. We need only seek out those opportunities and act.

I invite you to reflect on how you spent your snow days these past weeks. How might you live out your faith on such days, and every day? In our worship series, "How Do You W + 2?", we're challenging you to be in worship (W), to find a place to do study with others (+1), and to serve in the church and/or community (+2). Pastor Scott and I can help you find ways to plug in to these different ministries. If you go to www.lovelylane.org, you'll find a nearly complete listing and descriptions of the many different ministries in our church. As you seek out new ways to be in ministry, I pray that you will grow deeper in your faith and ever closer to Christ.

Blessings to You, Pastor Jenny

CHILDREN & YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Sunday School: We had great lessons in January learning about the *House on a Rock*. The game from the 1st week (a contest to see if they could build a sturdy house) was referred to all month. Their block-built houses washed away as the water took the sand out from the base; it was an eye opener. The house on the sand tumbled. The lesson learned: Be a wise person and build a foundation with God.

Our children's Sunday School lessons change to a new Bible story for Feb.—*Lost Coin & Lost Sheep*.

Feb. 17th the Sunday School groups will sing at their respective 9:15 and 10:30 worship services.

Ash Wednesday is coming soon; Christian Education will provide children and youth with materials to help them worship during the season of Lent.

Kid's Club: All Preschool-5th graders are invited to attend Kid's Club! A family meal takes place at 5:30 PM with Kid's Club starting at 6 PM. NO Kid's Club on Jan. 2nd.

Contact Mrs. G (Barb) at christianedu@lovelylane.org or 393-6674 with questions about Sunday School; contact Julie Meyer at juliem@lovelylane.org or 393-6674 with questions on Kid's Club.

Middle School Youth Group (gr. 6-8): Meets on Weds. nights, as does Confirmation Class.

Middle School Youth Group In February:

Wednesdays, by appointment, 6:00-7:15 pm—Homework Help; contact Jessica Schenk

Feb. 3, 7:30 am-11:30 am—ALL Youth make, deliver, & sell subs; meet in the Youth Rm.

Feb. 6 5:30-7:15 pm—Grades 6-7 meet in the Youth Room for mission project; 8th Grade Confirmation meet for class in Fireside

Feb. 13, 4:30-7:15 pm—ALL Youth meet in Fellowship Hall to cook, serve and clean up for the Weds. Night Family Meal

Feb. 20, 5:30-7:15 pm—Grades 6-7 meet in the Youth Room for activities; 8th Grade Confirmation meet for class in Fireside

Feb. 27, 5:30-7:15 pm—ALL Youth meet in the Youth Room, then go to the Sanctuary to prepare for the Ash Wednesday Worship service they'll be leading

March 6, 5:30-8 pm—Final Preparations for Youth Led Ash Weds. Service, Pancake Supper & Worship

Save the Date! May 5—Confirmation Sunday, 10:30 am Worship Service

High School Youth Group (gr. 9-12): Meets on Sunday nights.

High School Youth Group in February:

Sundays, 5:00-6:00 pm—Homework Help

Feb. 3, 7:30 am-11:30 am—ALL Youth will make, deliver, & sell subs; meet in the Youth Room;

NO evening Youth Group or Homework Help

Feb. 7, Thurs., 7:15 am-7:45 am—Donuts and Devotions in Fireside before school

Feb. 10, 6:00-7:45 pm—Game NIGHT! BFD-Breakfast For Dinner

Feb. 17, 6:00-7:45 pm—Mission Project-TBD; Pizza for supper, bring \$2-3

Feb. 24, 6:00-7:45 pm—Game NIGHT! Pizza for supper, bring \$2-3

Capital Campaign Commitment Sunday
—March 3rd

Blessed 
to be a Blessing
— Reflecting God's Light —

The capital campaign to prepare our building for the next 50 years of ministry is underway! Information packets were distributed the end of 2018, and the Steering Committee that will evaluate funding scenarios is forming. Over several Sundays in February, you'll hear brief updates about the importance of this major campaign.

Just as the church is working to create a discipleship pathway with Worship+2, we are also working to create a more efficient and attractive building to house our many mission teams and study groups, and to welcome new members.

Please pray about how you will be a part of this major effort, and bring your pledge card to worship on March 3rd.

Questions? Submit them at www.lbblessing.org.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UMW MEETING

We will meet on **Thursday, Feb. 14th, at 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall**. We'll be putting together yummy treats to take out to some special people in our congregation. Please bring 2-3 dozen of your favorite homemade cookies. We will combine all of our cookies and put together plates of cookies for delivery to some homebound members in our congregation. Even if you do not bake cookies, do come and help decorate the cards and plates. We will also need volunteers to help deliver the cookies; perhaps, two women can go out together to make the deliveries. Cindy Sale will be our coordinator; we need volunteers to serve as hostesses. Hostesses will mainly just have to make coffee, as we'll sample some cookies before heading out to make deliveries.

UMW TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study resumed meeting on **Tuesday, Jan. 8th, from 9:30-11:15 AM in Fireside**. Weather permitting, we will continue to meet on Tuesday mornings. We are currently finishing our study of the Gospel of John and will then begin a study of the Acts of the Apostles. We've found that our studies have helped us to gain new insights and understanding of the Scriptures, continue to grow spiritually, and deepen our faith within a loving, caring fellowship. We invite anyone who is free on Tuesday mornings to join with us for fellowship and study. **We have decided to not only LUG OUR MUGS, BUT ALSO TO FILL THEM AT HOME; SO, COME PREPARED WITH YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE IN HAND.** Call Cheryl Murphy (377-6205) with any questions.

Growing Through Grief and Loss Group



Does grief tend to permeate your life? Do many days leave you feeling blue? Have you lost a significant loved one? Have there been other losses in your life that weigh you down? Would it be helpful to gather with others who have experienced loss?

Starting Feb. 28th, Pastor Jenny will lead a group for those who are experiencing loss and/or grief called Growing Through Grief and Loss. The group will meet monthly at 5:30 PM in Fireside to share with one another about our grief. Each time the group gathers, Pastor Jenny will share tangible ways to address grief, and the group will have time for open sharing.

If you'd like more information about the group, please contact Pastor Jenny at the church.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Jess & Stephanie Wheat
(Carson; Collin)
3118 Adirondack Dr. NE, CR, IA 52402

Glenn & Kim Hammer
(Bri; Kaylee)
5900 Prairie Grass Ln., CR, IA 52411

Remembering with love:

Karen Warner.....2015

Kay Rath.....2018

Eddie Anderson, Jr...2018

Presence: Worship Attendance

<u>1/6</u>	<u>1/13</u>	<u>1/20</u>	<u>1/27</u>
246	168	218	186

Dec. Financial Totals

Cash inflow—mo. of Dec.	\$ 55,448
Cash inflow—YTD	\$528,933
Budget need/month	\$ 47,794
Cash outflow—mo. of Dec.	\$ 70,507
Cash outflow—YTD	\$561,033
Unpaid bills	\$ 0

HAPPY ENDINGS

Happy Endings, the book discussion group, will meet on Monday, Feb. 11th, at 10 AM in the church library. The book we'll discuss is *Someone Knows My Name* by Lawrence Hill; Judy McDowell will be our discussion leader. The book to read for March 11th is *Where The Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens, and the book to read for April 8th is *The Gypsy Madonna* by Santa Montefiore.

All are welcome to join us. Happy Reading!

SUMMER 2019 YOUTH MISSION TRIPS

Summer 2019 M.S. Mission Trip for Youth Grades 6-8: Matthew 25 Transform Week

When: June 24-28, 2019 What & Where: Cedar Rapids Matthew 25 Ministry Hub

Whom: Youth Grades 6-8 (current) Cost: TBD

Fundraisers: Youth will do a variety of fundraisers to off-set the costs.

For more info., go to the event website at hub25.org or contact Pastor Jenny at church.



Summer 2019 Mission Trip for Youth Grades 8-12

When: July 7-14, 2018 (leaving after church) What & Where: Do 2 days of service work in southwestern Iowa, and then attend Youth 2019 in Kansas City, MO

Whom: Youth grades 8-12 (current) Cost: \$475

Fundraisers: Youth will do a variety of fundraisers to off-set the costs.

For more information, go to the event website at: <http://youth2019.com>.

At Youth 2019, thousands gather for 4 days of discipleship, worship, Bible study, service opportunities, and life-changing fun! Expect inspiration, support, and challenges to grow authentically as a world-changing disciple of Jesus Christ. The YOUTH Event is the National Gathering for United Methodist Youth in 2019 and traces its roots all the way back to the first YOUTH event of 1988.

For more information or to sign up for this event, contact Pastor Jenny.

“Green Team” Will Reconvene to Care for Creation—March 5th

We're looking for people interested in serving on the Green Team. In the past the church has had a team of people committed to educating about and caring for the environment in the church, at home, and in the community. Green living or Creation-care is a way of living that cares for the magnificent world which we have been gifted. Those who care for creation seek ways to be stewards of all of the resources we've been gifted with.

As we head into Earth Day on April 22nd, we'd like to revive some of the Green Team's initiatives and sort out others that might be helpful. The group will meet on Tuesday, March 5th, at 6:30 pm. If you're passionate about Creation Care and looking for ways to educate the congregation, please contact Pastor Jenny at the church.

Concerns & Celebrations

Prayer concerns:

- *Cheryl & Jack Murphy and family—death of her brother
- *Sharon Kouba & family—death of her sister-in-law
- *Andy Vorwerk—death of his uncle
- *Stephanie French's friend's husband passed away
- *Dan Randall—hospitalized; will be entering hospice
- *Jerry Weiland—home after being hospitalized
- *Cindy Linder and family members with health concerns
- *Dorothy Speight—recovering from a broken ankle
- *Marge Morris—briefly hospitalized after a fall; now back in Hiawatha Care Ctr.
- *Nancy Schultz—long-lasting virus, also affecting her eyes
- *Jayne Woodson's nephew in Montana—diagnosed with pancreatic cancer
- *Donna Houts' sister, Laura—was hospitalized
- *Dave Keefe—sister, Patty, recovering from serious surgery
- *Suzanne Boyle's daughter, Shannon, moved back to IA with her husband & family due to her health issues
- *ReGina Culbertson—looking for a new job
- *Maggie Thomas's co-worker, Connie
- *Lisa Taylor's friend's son
- *Becky Helle lifts up the Schaefer family in Williamsburg
- *Those traveling on snowy/icy roads

Joys:

- *Our Adult Explo class has become so popular that we now offer it twice a week
- *Jessica Schenk is a new associate teacher @ Trinity Lane
- *Curtis & Maggie Thomas—expecting a new grandchild
- *Patty Logsdon's niece—has a new baby
- *Craig & Pam Nixon—celebrated their 35th anniversary
- *Thank you to our Lay Leaders for serving as liturgists on 1/13; Pastor Scott was teaching at Cornell College for the School of Lay Ministry
- *Jaycee Wall celebrates 3 years since her surgery
- *Nathan Wylie has a college scholarship to Augustana
- *Les Minor is celebrating his mother's 100th birthday
- *Guy & Joan Locke's daughter, Tabitha, is improving at home after serious health concerns
- *Helen Anderson celebrates that her granddaughter, Elena, is going into teaching
- *Chancel Choir celebrates Charlie & Deb Kucera joining them

Our Ministry Teams at Work

HOSPITALITY

- *Will serve meal for Weds. Kid's Club 2/20

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- *Lent materials ordered for children & youth
- *Discussed Easter Egg Hunt, 4/13, 10 am-12 Noon
- *2019 VBS will be "Roar", 7/14-18, dinner @ 5:30 pm, program @ 6-8 pm

HEALTH & WHOLENESS

- *Heart Healthy Brunch-2/10, 8:45-10:30 am
- *Ronald McDonald Meal-in March
- *Blood Drive-tentatively 4/27/19
- *Considering purchase of a portable labyrinth with memorial money

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP

Friendly Fellowship, the seniors' luncheon group, will meet Feb. 15th at noon for a potluck luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Jenny Seylar will tell about her trip to England; she travelled with a Wesleyan Heritage Tour in October. This should be an interesting and educational presentation about the history of Methodism. Come at 12:30 for the program, if you don't want lunch.

SAVE THE DATE: FF is sponsoring a bus trip to the Cinnamon Ridge Farm in Donahue, IA, on Thurs., May 16th. It will include a tour of the Robotic Dairy Barn, lunch, and visiting the farm store; one surprise visit will be made on the way home. Cost will be \$64 to \$72, depending on how many sign up to go; reservations are needed by April 15th so we can determine the cost of the trip. We'll have a sign-up on the worship STUB or call Nancy Miller at 393-6340.

