

# Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

July 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  
household  
to servant  
leadership.



## Answering a Call

Do you know anything about President James Garfield? Garfield was the 20<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. He came into office in 1881, serving only 200 days. Garfield died of infection from a gunshot wound. While his time in office was short, he made an impact.

The fascinating part of Garfield's brief Presidency is that he didn't want to become President in the first place. He didn't campaign for the office. He would have preferred to remain at home with his children. As Candice Millard writes in her book, "Destiny of the Republic," on the eve of the inauguration, he told a group of old friends, "This honor comes to me unsought. I have never had the presidential fever, not even for a day."

Garfield didn't want to take on the highest office in the land, but he embraced the responsibility for the good of the country. His gifts as a lawmaker and his capacity to bring peace to feuding parties were well documented. The country needed Garfield's talent and wisdom. Ultimately, he embraced the duty and responsibility that was in front of him.

Garfield's willingness to take on a leadership role can inspire us as children of God. What important responsibility is God calling you to embrace? Where is God calling you to serve? Are you willing to go and do what the Lord wants?

The Bible is filled with individuals who were reluctant to serve. Moses did not feel he had the appropriate gifts to lead his people (Exodus 3:11). Ananias was unsure about his call from God to help bring sight to Saul (Acts 9). Each of these biblical characters was reluctant to serve, yet in each case, they did what they were asked to do.

As you feel called to accept a leadership role and serve others, might you respond and say "yes." It's natural to be hesitant and timid and too willing to lift up excuses. Might you boldly embrace the call that comes to serve and lead in family, church, business, and community situations! You might be the only one who can offer God's love and message of forgiveness to those desperately needing to hear the Good News.

As you embrace the call too, might you know that you will have help along the way. The Holy Spirit is a constant presence that goes with you and nudges you to do those acts that are difficult and uncomfortable. You also have the support of sisters and brothers in the faith.

Might you be open to God's call in whatever form it comes! God is calling you to help bring transformation and guidance to a world that needs it!

*A Thousand Blessings! Scott*

## Calendar of Events — July 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm CE mtg. 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:30 am CCM (offsite) 1:30 pm Staff mtg.	<b>4</b> <i>Happy 4th of July (church &amp; office closed)</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <i>Communion</i> (Summer worship hours thru 9/1: One all-together service @ 9:30 AM!) <i>H.S. Youth Mission Trip 7/7-7/14</i>	<b>8</b> 10 am Happy Endings 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>9</b> 6:30 pm Mental Health Support Grp.	<b>10</b> 1:30 pm Staff brief prayer time	<b>11</b> 5:30 pm Yoga 6:30 pm Missions	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9 am–1:30 pm ILF
<b>14</b> <i>VBS Week: 7/14-7/18</i> 5:30-6 pm VBS Meal 6-8 pm VBS Program	<b>15</b> 5:30-6 pm VBS Meal 6-8 pm VBS Program	<b>16</b> 5:30-6 pm VBS Meal 6-8 pm VBS Program	<b>17</b> 1:30 pm Staff mtg. 5:30-6 pm VBS Meal 6-8 pm VBS Program	<b>18</b> 4 pm Hospitality 5:30-6 pm VBS Meal 6-8 pm VBS Program	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <i>VBS Sunday</i>	<b>22</b> 11:30 am-5:30 pm Interviews w/general contractors 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>23</b> 10:30 am-5 pm JFON Office Hrs. ( <b>NO</b> JFON Clinic in July)	<b>24</b> 11:30 am WWW Lunch (offsite) 1:30 pm Staff brief prayer time 6-7:30 pm Youth Night (offsite)	<b>25</b> 5:30 pm Yoga	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 10:30 am Summer Brunch	<b>29</b> 9 am Prayer Shawl 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9:30 am CCM (offsite) 1:30 pm Staff mtg.	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	



### HAPPY ENDINGS

Happy Endings, book discussion group, will meet on Monday, July 8th, at 10 AM in the church library. The book we'll be discussing is *The Ultimate Gift* by Jim Stovall. The August meeting will be on Monday, August 12th. Plans are indefinite yet on the program for this meeting; members will be notified when we know the time and where we will be meeting.

**THE MEN'S BREAKFAST  
GROUP IS TAKING  
THE SUMMER OFF!  
SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!**





## WORSHIP IN JULY

**July 7: Communion Sunday**—1 summer service @ 9:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 / Sermon: “A Purpose in Your Pain,” *Looking at Thorns, Part 1*

**July 14: 5th Sunday After Pentecost**—1 summer service @ 9:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Mark 2:23-3:6 / Sermon: “Embracing the Way,” *Looking at Thorns, Part 2*

**July 21: 6th Sunday After Pentecost**—1 summer service @ 9:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Acts 5:33-39 / Sermon: “How to Treat One Another”

**July 28: 7th Sunday After Pentecost**—1 summer service @ 9:30 AM / Pastor Jenny / Sermon: “The Church Has Left the Building!” / Youth will share mission trip experiences

**Please join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for a continental-style brunch!**

## Our Ministry Teams at Work

### TRUSTEES

- \*Waxing of floors set up for Aug. 19-22
- \*Progressing on first drafts of both Maintenance Schedule and Facility Safety & Readiness Audit
- \*Potholes are fixed!

### HEALTH & WHOLENESS

- \*Meal for VBS—July 14th
- \*Women’s Retreat (“Let Your Soul Shine”) — Oct. 5th, 2019

### MISSIONS / COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- \*Matthew 25 Transform Week (was 6/24-6/28—Lovely Lane was a sponsor and we had 12 volunteers)
- \*Developing t-shirt design
- \*Began shopping for school supplies for Kennedy & Pierce since we now have special offering funds

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- \*VBS (“ROAR”) is July 14-18
- \*Summer Reading—Need 2 people each week to sign up
- \*Sunday School—starts back up in the fall on Sept. 8th

## MISSION u Event to Empower Us to Be Radical Disciples of Jesus Christ

The United Methodist Women (UMW) Mission u summer and fall events are wonderful opportunities to study current issues impacting society based on recent mission study topics. Whether you are young or old, laity or clergy, a UMW member or not, a first timer or attend every year, you are invited!

**Summer Mission u (Children & youth at this event only) July 21-23, 2019, Marshalltown;** 4 PM Sunday—3:30 PM Tuesday; Registration begins at 2:30 PM on Sunday

**Fall Mission u Oct. 18-20, 2019, Marshalltown;** 4 PM Friday—3:30 PM Sunday; Registration begins at 2:30 PM on Fri.

**ALL ADULTS PARTICIPATE:** Spiritual Growth Study—*Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship*. This study explores what it means to live a life of radical discipleship today, using the Gospel of Mark as the foundation. We explore the timeless issues of poverty, gender, justice, liberation, equality, and others, using Mark as a guide. The stories of the women in Mark are a particular focus in this study and how, although often unnamed, they’re prominent among Jesus’ followers and in Mark’s recounting of the gospel story.

**YOUTH AND CHILDREN’S STUDIES:** *Who Do You Say That I Am? Meeting Jesus Through the Eyes of Mark: A Youth Study*. This study guides youth through the Gospel of Mark, helping them to define who Jesus is to them, who he says he is in scripture, and how this impacts how we live our lives. The goal of this study is to help youth explore scripture in new ways so they can develop their own faith and put it into action. This is the mark of a true disciple.

**Marked:** *A Mission Journey with Jesus in the Gospel of Mark: A Study for Children*. Children will learn that time and again Jesus demonstrates the power of God in amazing ways. Jesus appears primarily as healer, but also as a wise teacher. Mark depicts Jesus as the ruler over nature and the Gospel vividly shows the many ways Jesus confronts evil. This mission study focuses on interactive learning that allows children to use their senses.

**REGISTRATION:** Registration forms may be found online at [www.iaumc.org/missionuformerlysocm](http://www.iaumc.org/missionuformerlysocm) OR pick up a brochure on the table by the office. Scholarships are available—contact Cheryl Murphy via the church office.

Registrations are accepted up to the time of the event but appreciated ASAP. Cost includes all meals except breakfast.

### Life Between Sundays: The Joys of Writing

When I was in high school, I had a tenth grade English teacher who opened up my world to the expression found in writing. I had always been a kid who wrote plays for the neighbor kids to act. I even attempted writing a chapter book (which I still have in a box somewhere). The new awakening as a teen to the art of writing has served me well in preparing sermons and writing papers for seminary. I enjoy writing!

Writing is a way to organize my thoughts and sort out my feelings, and more than that, it's fun! I have been writing a children's book that remains in draft form, and I would like to finish it and seek publishing. I am also writing about my experiences in ministry, namely the experience of being called by God to serve as a pastor. One way to sort through the many different encounters in pastoral ministry is through journaling. I spend time journaling as a part of my daily devotion and prayer time. I also journal some of my day to day experiences. These have turned into essays that I hope one day will be in a book. Sometimes I think the book should be titled "What Do You Mean, Called?" (These are on the days when I feel inadequate in ministry.) At other times I think it should be called the "Joys of Serving." I guess that's what the ups and downs of ministry are all about. Mostly, though, I write about how I try each day do God's will... to attend to God's To-Do list and not my own. That's where a lot of inspiration comes from as I write for a faith blog, THE DENTED FENDER MINISTRY.

Writing, especially journaling, helps ground me as your pastor. I spend daily time with God in order to receive guidance to serve so that people grow closer in their relationship with Christ. As we head into year two together, I pray that God will continue to show us the wisdom and inspiration that comes through God's inspired word. - Blessings in Christ, Pastor Jenny

### Growing Through Grief and Loss Group Will NOT Meet in July



**Group moves to 3rd Tuesday of the Month.** The next gathering will be Tuesday, **Aug. 20.** Pastor Jenny leads a group for those who are experiencing loss and/or grief called "Growing Through Grief and Loss." The group is open to anyone to come whenever it feels right to attend. The group **meets monthly at 5:30 pm** in the library (note change of venue) in order to share with one another about our grief. Feel free to come as you are able. Each time the group gathers, Pastor Jenny will share tangible ways to address grief, AND the group will have time for open sharing.

Does grief permeate your days? 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? If you would like more information about the group, please contact Pastor Jenny at the church.

#### Remembering with love:

Betty Larison.....2015  
 Dick Chelikowsky.....2016  
 Sharon Mooney.....2016

#### Presence: Worship Attendance

6/2	6/9	6/16	6/23	6/30
201	161	187	227	221

#### May Financial Totals

Cash inflow—mo. of May	\$ 35,868
Cash inflow—YTD	\$220,312
Budget need/month	\$ 49,732
Cash outflow—mo. of May	\$ 39,782
Cash outflow—YTD	\$209,552
Unpaid apportionments	\$ 30,208

## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)**

**LOVELY LANE'S UNITED METHODIST WOMEN** will not meet during July and August. Looking ahead to the fall, we invite all Lovely Lane women to join us on Thursday, **Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM for "Movie, Popcorn & Chat."** The topic of the movie will be announced in August.

We would like to provide the women of Lovely Lane the opportunity to grow spiritually within a loving, caring fellowship. We welcome all women to join with us. In order to do this, we welcome your ideas and input about programs or events you would like us to sponsor; what type of circles we could form where women of shared interests, such as working women, and/or young mothers might come together in Christian Fellowship. The formats of circles may be as varied as the women participating in them. They may range from traditional to modern, from study groups to social groups, from Bible studies to other interests like cooking, quilting, or just meeting for coffee. Please help yourself to one of our 2019 program books. Please have a good summer and we look forward to seeing you this fall!

### **UMW TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

Our Tuesday AM Bible Study will not meet in July and August. Looking ahead to the fall, we will resume our weekly meetings **on Tuesday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, as we continue our study of the Book of Acts. We will continue to meet from 9:30 to 11:15 AM in Fireside.** We invite you to join with us in the fall! We now not only LUG OUR MUGS, BUT ALSO FILL THEM AT HOME; SO, PLEASE COME PREPARED WITH YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE IN HAND!

### **MISSION U—SUMMER & FALL SESSIONS**

The theme for this year's Mission U is "Continuing Our Legacy: 150 Years of Serving Women, Children and Youth." The Scripture is I Corinthians 13:13 (NIV): "And now these three things remain: Faith, Hope and Love. But the greatest of these is love." The theme song will be "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" #2241 (Faith We Sing). **SEE PASTOR JENNY'S ARTICLE ON PAGE 3 OF THIS NEWSLETTER FOR MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING: DATES; LOCATION; CLASSES BEING OFFERED FOR ADULTS, YOUTH & CHILDREN; AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION.**



### **HELP FILL THE KENNEDY PANTRY!**

Kennedy High School is working with HACAP to support students. You can help by donating nonperishable food items and toiletries to be placed in the tub(s) in our church narthex. These items will be delivered to Kennedy to help students in need. The Pantry gets used all summer long! Those using the Pantry will have to fill out a brief form in order to receive items.

*Thanks for your support!*



## SUMMER YOUTH MINISTRY

Regular youth group meetings take the summer off, but that doesn't mean we don't gather! One time per month there will be a youth night for games and fellowship.

### Monthly Gatherings for Youth Grades 6-12, 6:00-7:00 pm

July 24 Youth Group Night at Cedar Rapids Ice Arena, 6:00-7:30 pm. Parent/guardian should pick up and drop off at the Ice Arena (1100 Rockford Rd SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404).

Aug. 14 TBD

### Mission Trips/Service Work

July 7-14 Service work in Creston, IA July 7-10; Attend Youth 2019 July 11-14. For more information, contact Pastor Jenny at the church. Adults welcome too. Cost is \$519; scholarships available.

**SUMMER READING SIGN-UP:** Pick your dates to read to children (2 readers needed each Sunday during our 9:30 AM service, after children's time). There is a Sign-up sheet in the narthex. You may use your books or books from Mrs. G's basket downstairs in the double-doored room.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: "ROAR! LIFE IS WILD – GOD IS GOOD" on July 14-18**

This epic African adventure engages the whole herd. At Roar, kids explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life. VBS registration forms are available in the church narthex and on our website. Please let Mrs. G (or Barb; christianedu@lovelylane.org) know if you'd like to help in any way!

### **SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION:** To find out about **Iowa United Methodist Summer Camp**

**Programs**, go to [www.iaumc.org/camps](http://www.iaumc.org/camps). (This will be the last summer for programs offered at Pictured Rocks as a United Methodist Camp due to its sale this fall to Camp Courageous.) There are scholarships available; please talk to Mrs. G (Barb).

## THANK YOU NOTES

**THANK YOU** for hosting a beautiful breakfast and sharing your smiles with the staff of KHS. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are very much appreciated. We're grateful for neighbors like you. *Sincerely, Alison Gardner (Spanish)*

**MANY THANKS** to everyone from Lovely Lane for your thoughts and prayers while I'm recovering from the ankle replacement surgery. Your calls, cards, and gifts of food have been wonderful and much appreciated. Thanks to all the great folks at Lovely Lane.  
*Nancy Miller*

**THANK YOU** for your continued faithful giving over the summer to Lovely Lane UMC, both for our capital campaign and as part of your pledge for our general budget.

*God Loves a Cheerful Giver.  
(2 Cor. 9:7)*

## **WEDNESDAY WOMEN OF THE WORD (WWW) SUMMER LUNCHES**

During the summer months, women are invited to attend a monthly lunch, fellowship, and devotion time. The group welcomes new folks, checks in with one another, and shares in a short devotional time. This is a great opportunity to check out this group that meets Wednesdays at noon during the school year. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Pastor Jenny at the church.

July 24, 11:30 am @ Vito's on 42nd St. NE

August 28, 11:30 am (Location TBD)

## DIRECTORY UPDATES

\*Dale Beatty & Karen Schoen

2300 Meadow Ln. NE

Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

\*Christopher Blum

2034 Connecticut Ave., Apt. 50

Joplin, MO 64804

## Concerns & Celebrations

### PRAYER CONCERNS:

- \*Betty Van Fossen—health setback
- \*Kay Oloff—health matter
- \*Nancy Miller—recovering from an ankle replacement
- \*Alisa Oliver—hospitalized
- \*ReGina Culbertson—looking for a new job
- \*Judy Keele's son-in-law, Pastor Scott Kober—recovering from a heart attack
- \*Dean & Dorris Lanning's son-in-law
- \*Lyn Lewis's nephew, Jacob
- \*Vicki Cangemi's friend—cancer
- \*Al Stiers' wife Twila—health concerns
- \*Max Fitz's daughter, Denise—started chemo
- \*Pat Brand's son, Jeffery
- \*Patty Logsdon—death of her boss, Dan Rogers; neighbor has breathing issues; & niece's father-in-law—died by suicide
- \*Becky Wood's great nephew—recovering from brain surgery
- \*Jan Culbertson's nephew, Todd
- \*Vicki Cangemi's friend, Monica
- \*Those struggling with grief, anxiety, and/or depression
- \*Iowa Annual Conference decision to sell Pictured Rocks UM Camp to Camp Courageous (Fall 2019)
- \*Family from the Congo seeking asylum
- \*Changes made at the Mitchellville women's prison limiting the no. of Women At The Well volunteers & reducing programs
- \*Sympathy to Antioch Church after the death of Pastor John
- \*Communities impacted by flooding

### JOYS:

- \*Dean & Dorris Lanning—birth of a great-grandchild
- \*Rose Blank's upcoming Celtic pilgrimage
- \*Isabelle Drew—reached 1-year mark after her bone marrow transplant, got her port removed, and has resumed all activities
- \*Jaired Lyons – received his Eagle Scout award and going on a high school music trip to Florida
- \*Justin Hingtgen plays on the Center Point-Urbana soccer team that qualified for the state soccer tournament
- \*Sherry Minor—had a successful knee replacement
- \*Harry & Cindy Rupe—celebrated their 44<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- \*Carly Pulju—attended Dorian Music Camp @ Luther College
- \*Curtis & Maggie Thomas's son, Sean—applying to med. schl.
- \*Millie Corbett's niece—found her biological sister
- \*We welcome these new LLUMC members: Sue Ballentine, Cheryl Beachler, Fran Fairchild, Beth Penn & Kae Schmickley
- \*Carol Wilson's friend Jeremy – doing better with cancer
- \*5-star QRS ratings for Lovely Lane & Trinity Lane for 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row (only 68 other IA preschools & child care centers received that highest rating)
- \*During Women At The Well's Pentecost worship service, 9 women proclaimed their faith thru the sacrament of baptism, and 7 others reaffirmed their faith
- \*Father's Days celebrations & remembering dads in heaven

## 5 Day Iowa Academy for Spiritual Formation Sept. 29-Oct. 4, 2019 @ at the Shalom Center, Dubuque, IA

If you're hungering for a deeper connection to God, self, creation and others, the 5 Day Iowa Academy for Spiritual Formation may be just the place for you! The Academy, a ministry of the Upper Room, seeks to provide a transformative space for people to grow in their own spiritual journey for the sake of the world. Begun in 1983, the Academy has offered hundreds of people the experience of Christian community that nurtures the mind, body and spirit. It follows the rhythms of study, prayer, silence, worship, reflection, solitude, and times of building community with people of faith from across the ecumenical family. "Each Academy celebrates the Creator's blessing, delights in the companionship of Christ, and witnesses to the power of the Holy Spirit to transform lives, churches and the world." <https://academy.upperroom.org/about/>

This year's theme is *Creation's Invitation to Holy Ground: Weaving God's Love and Justice in Community*. Together we will explore the gift of God's creation and our connection to this gift as well as our role in caring for this resource we've been given. We will find hope as we work together for justice in caring for this holy ground. Our faculty leaders will be: Ray Buckley, Interim Director for the Center of Native American Spirituality and Christian Study; and Susan MacKenzie, Ph.D, who teaches sustainable development and environmental literature at Colby College in Maine. Ray's focus will be Mitaque Oyasín: We are all related. Susan's theme will be *Restoring Creation: A Journey of Earth and Spirit*. Go to <https://www.iaumc.org/spiritualformation/#iac> for a brochure and registration info.

