

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

November 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.



Needing Fidelity

I always enjoy visiting Adler Planetarium in Chicago. Each visit reaffirms the vastness of our mighty universe. Whether it's presentations about the search for new solar systems or observations about the planets we know about, I am constantly filled with awe and wonder. Just when I think I have a handle on the dimensions of our universe, I see there is more.

A visit to the planetarium makes me think about God the Creator. God is the presence behind everything. God's handiwork is sensational and amazing. Just when I think I have our Lord figured out, I see that God is more than I can imagine.

Coming to grips with the vast dimensions of our Creator is a lifelong pursuit. Far too often, we want to know everything about God and why God works the way God does. We want heavy theological words that answer all of life's big questions. We don't want to have any doubts about our Creator's work and our Lord's presence in our life.

This is fine and wonderful, yet our Creator often asks for something different. As respected biblical scholar, Walter Brueggemann, says, "We want certitude. What God asks of us is fidelity."

Consider the words we find in Job 11:7-8: "Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than the heavens, what can you do? They are deeper than the depths of the grave, what can you know?" (NIV)

These words remind us that we cannot fully understand God through our own powers. Even with complete attention and analysis, we cannot comprehend our Creator. All of the examinations of God will ultimately fall short of the desired goal. It is a privilege and honor to simply know what we know. Certitude is not possible, but this is not asked or expected of us. All that is needed is fidelity.

I believe we need to study the scriptures and take our faith seriously. We need to have an honest desire to know more, but let us never feel we have arrived and have certitude. God simply asks for our obedience and fidelity. That is enough and it is wonderful!

A Thousand Blessings! Scott

Calendar of Events — November 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		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		1 1 pm All Saints Sunday set-up	2
3 <i>All Saints Sunday (& Day-light Savings Time ends)</i> 9 am Chancel Choir 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm H.S. Youth	4 6:45 am-5 pm CWM Preschl. Fall Conferences 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6 pm Adult Explo 6:30 pm CE mtg. 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	5 6 am-9 pm Voting site 6:45 am-5 pm CWM Preschl. Fall Conferences 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:45 pm WOF	6 6:45 am-5 pm CWM Preschl. Fall Conferences 9:30 am CCM (offsite) 12 noon WWW 1:30 pm Staff brief prayer time 4:45 pm Zamar bells 5:30 pm Family meal 6 pm Kid's Club / M.S. Youth 7:15 pm AcabeLLa	7 6:45 am-5 pm CWM Preschl. Fall Conferences 5:30 pm Yoga	8 6:45 am-5 pm CWM Preschl. Fall Conferences	9 9 am-1:30 pm ILF
10 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 9 am Chancel Choir 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm H.S. Youth	11 10 am Happy Endings 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6 pm Adult Explo 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 mtg. 4:45 pm Zamar bells 5:30 pm Family meal 6 pm Kid's Club / M.S. Youth / Confirmation 7:15 pm AcabeLLa	14 7:30 am Leadership Team (@ Panera's) 1 pm UMW mtg. 5:30 pm Yoga 6:30 pm Missions	15 12 noon Friendly Fellowship	16 8 am Men's Breakfast 10 am-2 pm Operation Christmas Child packing 10 am-4 pm Project Linus
17 9 am Chancel Choir 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm H.S. Youth	18 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6 pm Adult Explo 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	19 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:45 pm WOF 7 pm SPPRC	20 12 noon WWW 1:30 pm Staff brief prayer time 4:45 pm Zamar bells 5:30 pm Family meal 6 pm Kid's Club / M.S. Youth 7:15 pm AcabeLLa	21 4 pm Hospitality 5:30 pm Yoga 6:45 pm Trustees 7 pm Committees 7:50 pm Ad Council	22	23
24 <i>Christ the King Sunday (UMW Bake Sale between services)</i> 9 am Chancel Choir 11:30 am Potluck & decorate church for Christmas 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm H.S. Youth	25 9 am-Noon CWM Preschl. Thanksgiving Feast 9 am Prayer Shawl 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6 pm Adult Explo 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	26 9 am-Noon CWM Preschl. Thanksgiving Feast 10:30 am-5 pm JFON Office Hours 6:45 pm WOF	27 (NO WWW) 1:30 pm Staff mtg. NO Weds. evening activities!!	28 <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i> (Church & office closed)	29 (Church & office closed)	30 2 pm Betty Van Fossen funeral

HAPPY ENDINGS

Happy Endings, the book discussion group, will meet on Monday, Nov. 11, at 10 AM in the church library. The book we will be discussing is *City of Girls* by Elizabeth Gilbert. The discussion leader for November is Judy McDowell. For our December meeting, we plan to go to lunch at Zepplin's and will meet there at 11:30 AM. In January we'll read *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean.

Happy Reading, and please come join our discussion group and/or join us for lunch. Call Nancy Miller with questions (393-6340).

MEN'S BREAKFAST



The next men's breakfast gathering is on Saturday, Nov. 16, @ 8 AM. Eric Engelmann will speak about his work with Geonetric and New-Bo. Come and join us!



WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

Nov. 3: All Saints Sunday—3 services @ 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Hebrews 12:1-13 / Sermon: “Simple Acts of Love”

Nov. 10: Communion Sunday—3 services @ 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Matthew 6:25-34 / Sermon: “Turning It Over to God”, Part 1

Nov. 17: 23rd Sunday After Pentecost—3 services @ 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Psalm 121 / Sermon: “Turning It Over to God”, Part 2

Nov. 24: Christ the King Sunday—3 services @ 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Luke 23:33-43 / Sermon: “What Kind of King?”

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We are down to the final weeks of this campaign, and I want to thank you for all of your support and donations! I am 99% of the way to 100 boxes!! It's not too late, however, if you still want to give. There are a few specific items needed: spiral notebooks or composition notebooks, crayons, colored pencils, markers, pencil bags, rulers, and most importantly—toys, toys, toys for girls and boys! If you are a business owner, please consider a charitable donation.

I'm so thankful that my mission has been successful with your help. I will be accepting donations and boxes up until Nov. 15th. You can drop them off at church or you can contact me at 319-929-0016 or reginaculbertson@gmail.com.

2019 Advent Offering Recipients

Family Promise of Linn County: Teaming with the faith community, Family Promise provides a warm and welcoming place for families in need to call home while they get back on their feet and into stable housing. Host Congregations provide overnight lodging, meals, and hospitality. Volunteers provide a variety of services, including cooking and serving meals, playing with children, helping with homework, and staying overnight at the host churches.

Willis Dady Homeless Shelter: The shelter has been serving single men and families for over 30 years. Their mission is to provide shelter and prevention services to the homeless and near homeless. Their goal is to empower clients to break the cycle of homelessness and become self-sufficient. Through a successful capital campaign, they were able to dedicate an enlarged facility this past August and now are able to serve more people in need.

Pierce Backpack Ministry: One of the most important programs we have supported and continue to support is Operation Backpack. In East Central Iowa, 1 in 7 children are at risk for hunger or food insecurity. The Backpack Ministry addresses this concern by providing needy students with nutritious easy to prepare food when other food resources may not be available, specifically on weekends and during school vacations.

Women At The Well: WATW is a United Methodist congregation located within the walls of the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women, in Mitchellville, Iowa. It offers ministries designed to encourage the spiritual growth of its members, assist them when they transition back into the world outside the walls, and to better understand the hurts and hopes of those who reside within the Iowa Correctional Institute for Women. Lovely Lane has committed to becoming a Partner Organization supporting this ministry.

Look for an Advent mailing soon that will include a card with giving options and a return envelope for your use!!

Building Renovation Pre-Construction Efforts Underway



A lot of work has been happening this fall as plans move forward for our building renovations.

In September we hired Lovely Lane member Amber Mulnik as the Project Manager for church building renovations. She represents the church at weekly and daily meetings with the architects (Straka Johnson Architects) and our general contractor (Rinderknecht), and brings that information back to the Building Renovation Core Team for review, approval and direction. She also conducts research to get requested information back to the architects and general contractor, connects various resources, and meets with the Administrative Council and other church groups.

The Building Renovation Core Team (Amber Mulnik, Pastor Scott Meador, Jack Murphy, Erv Mussman, and Eric Wylie) meets twice each month to discuss and direct overall planning. Members of this team are also doing additional work to perform financial analysis, campaign and communications planning, conversations and site visits with area churches that have recently undergone renovation, and other support and planning efforts.

Recent work has included:

- The architects and general contractor meet weekly to fully understand and further develop the project scope and budget
- Sub-contractors were selected through a proposal process that included an independent scoring and ranking by the General Contractor with final review and approval from Lovely Lane
- An asbestos inspection was performed and revealed no concerns
- A thermal imaging study was done to identify air leaks, water intrusion and insulation condition; areas of concern included windows and siding
- A heating and cooling equipment review included a camera scope of air ducts and returns; images indicated solid structures with no issues
- Contractors have been on-site inspecting equipment and structures, collaborating together and asking lots of questions of us to develop cost estimates (HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing)
- Meetings with sub-contractors for audio-visual/communications needs, interior design planning, and more are coming soon
- Research is ongoing for nearby, alternate worship and gathering space for when we will be unable to use the Sanctuary or other rooms

Planning is underway for a short follow-up campaign in January to engage the approximately 50% of Lovely Lane givers who haven't yet made a pledge to the campaign, and re-engage the entire congregation in the process and plans for the renovations. Shortly thereafter, the Core Team will make a recommendation to the Administrative Council regarding the percentage of the project that can be carried out, based on financial resources available.

Watch for more information to be communicated soon. As always, thank you for your generous support of the missions, ministries and future of Lovely Lane!



Remembering with love:
Rick Taylor.....2017

Presence: Worship Attendance

<u>10/6</u>	<u>10/13</u>	<u>10/20</u>	<u>10/27</u>
204	214	225	235

September Financial Totals

Cash inflow—mo. of Sept.	\$ 46,176
Cash inflow—YTD	\$408,300
Budget need/month	\$ 49,732
Cash outflow—mo. of Sept.	\$ 46,256
Cash outflow—YTD	\$394,312
Unpaid apportionments	\$ 22,656

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

UMW MEETING IN NOVEMBER

Lovely Lane's UMW will meet on Thursday, Nov. 14th, at 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Our Treasurer, Cindy Sale, will present a short pledge service. After our pledge service, we'll hold a planning session where we'll plan 2020 programs and special UMW events. We'll also put finishing touches on plans for our Annual Advent Coffee and Ornament Exchange Dinner in December. All UMW members and all interested women of Lovely Lane are encouraged to join us for this planning session. We need your help! Please come with your ideas and input about the programs or events you'd like us to sponsor. Lovely Lane's UMW would like to provide women the opportunity to grow spiritually within a loving, caring fellowship, and allow us to continue to fulfill our UMW PURPOSE (basically to put Faith, Hope and Love into Action). Please come and help us make plans that will be of interest and benefit to the women of Lovely Lane.

As this is the time of our annual pledge service, members are invited to bring their UMW pledges and World Thank Offerings to this meeting where our Treasurer, Cindy Sale, will collect them. We invite all women of Lovely Lane to come and share this time of fellowship with us.

REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR WORLD THANK OFFERING BOXES!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S BAKE SALE

Sunday, Nov. 24th, is the date for our annual fall bake sale between worship services. Donations of breads, rolls, pies, cakes, cookies, and candies will be greatly appreciated. Please bring priced items to the church foyer/narthex. Sale proceeds will be used to help support one of our various mission projects. We appreciate your help in making this sale a success!

UMW BIBLE STUDY

The UMW Tuesday Morning Bible Study will be finishing our study of the book of Acts and then begin a look at Paul's letter to the Romans. We meet on Tuesday mornings, 9:30 to 11:15 AM generally in Fireside. We will continue to meet thru Nov. 19, and will then take a break for Advent and Christmas. We'll return to our studies on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.

We've found that with each study, we gain new insights and understanding of the Scriptures within a loving, caring, fellowship. Our studies have helped us to continue to grow spiritually and deepen our faith. We invite anyone who is available on Tuesday mornings to join with us for fellowship. We've decided to not only **LUG OUR MUGS, BUT ALSO TO FILL THEM AT HOME; SO, COME PREPARED WITH YOUR BIBLE AND YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE.**

UPCOMING UMW EVENTS

We invite you to join us for two delightful ways to celebrate the Advent Season! Mark your calendars now and plan to attend our annual *Advent Coffee* on Saturday, Dec. 7, and our annual *Dinner & Ornament Exchange* (details TBD).

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP

Friendly Fellowship will meet on Friday, Nov. 15th, for our noon potluck luncheon. The host and hostess will be Jack and Cheryl Murphy, and the program will be a presentation by Laurie Plante, RN. Laurie has worked as an oncology nurse for 20+ years. She is a cancer survivor and will be sharing her experience on a trek for cancer survivors in Nepal and Tibet. This should be a very interesting and inspiring presentation. Please come to the 12:30 program if you can't attend the lunch. Call Nancy Miller at 393-6340 with any questions.

Sunday School & Weekday Studies For All Ages

GOD IS GOOD! Learn from the Bible Stories—Find out at Children's Sunday School!

9:15 AM Sunday School—Classes for the following are available:

***Elementary** children PreK to 5th grade are using a multi-age format as we gather for music in Room 100. Spark House **Activate Faith** lessons for Science, Stories & Games, Art and Cooking are rotated each week. Stories used are rooted firmly in the Bible.

***Middle School** youth meet in the Youth Room (106) and use *Submerge* from *Deep Blue* – a Bible centered approach for preteens to be Creative, Connect with God, and Dive Deep!

***Confirmation Class** will meet on Wednesday, Nov. 13, @ 6 PM.

***High School** age youth may be Sunday School volunteer helpers!

- **Adult Class** / Faith Issues meets in the Library
- **Adult Class** / Faith Journeys meets in Room 205

10:45 AM Sunday School: Classes for children (PreK – 5th grade) are located in the Fellowship Hall using Spark House's **Activate Faith rotations**. Children are dismissed from the Sanctuary after the "Time for Young Disciples" and may be picked up after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

Children's classes are working on their Christmas program, "Star of Wonder", to be presented in 9:15 AM worship on Dec. 15th. There will be a practice on Sat., Dec. 14th, from 9:00 to 11 AM.

Adult Explo Classes - Sunday & Monday evenings

ADULT EXPLO continues to meet with Pastor Scott on Sunday and Monday nights at 6 PM. For November, the group is studying the book, *Why?* by Adam Hamilton. The book examines the big questions of life. Cost of the book is \$10.00. All are welcome!

Wednesday Night Kid's Club & more

I am Fearfully & Wonderfully made! The schedule for Lovely Lane UMC's Weds. Night Kid's Club is:

5:30 PM Family meal served

6:00 PM Kids go to their classrooms. **Middle Schoolers** will gather with Amy Perry in the Youth Room.

(**Confirmation Class** will gather with Pastor Scott on Wednesdays, Oct. 9 & 23, at 6 PM.)

6:05—6:20 PM 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th grade go to music

6:55—7:15 PM Preschool, Kindergarten and 1st grade go to music

7:15 PM Kids head home

Come and learn how we are fearfully and wonderfully made. For more information, please contact Julie Meyer at juliem@lovelylane.org or 393-6674.

Wednesday Women & the Word (WWW)

WWW Bible Study meets at 12 noon on Wednesdays in the Library. On Nov. 20th, we will begin an Advent study: "Light of the World" by Amy-Jill Levine (University Professor, Vanderbilt Divinity School). There will be NO class on Nov. 27th due to Thanksgiving the following day.

Concerns & Celebrations

PRAYER CONCERNS:

- *Sympathy to the family of Gwen Bray; celebration of life was here 10/24
- *Sympathy to Judy McDowell on the passing of her brother-in-law, BD
- *Sympathy to Carla Jesse & family on the death of her 98-year-old dad
- *Sympathy to Jim & Barb Vancura on the passing of sister-in-law, Sara
- *Sympathy to Lu Serbousek on the passing of family friend, Bobby
- *Sympathy to Lu Serbousek on the passing of 15-yr.-old family friend, Alexis
- *Sympathy to Jerry Showman on the death of his former mother-in-law
- *Sympathy to Bob & Bert Tribuno on the death of his sister
- *Sympathy to Ron & Margaret Nelson on the death of family friend, Susie
- *Sympathy to Marcie Baugh's military friends whose son-in-law has passed
- *Sue Moss's sister-in-law Cindy whose mother passed away suddenly
- *Steve Mooney's brother, Rick, receiving hospice care
- *Susan Blum's mother is now in hospice care
- *Lincoln Oliver, for continued healing after successful ear procedure
- *Donna Houts and ReGina Culbertson were hospitalized
- *Kay Oloff has health concerns
- *Dave Keefe with medical tests & upcoming procedure(s)
- *Mary Vorwerk's father with pacemaker placement
- *Cheryl Renken's son with abdominal aorta bypass
- *Kent Jackson's sister, Cindy, needs 2 types of surgery
- *Marti Bowman's son Adam as he recovers from hip replacement surgery
- *Bill & Gloria Jahnel's nephew, Chad, in rehab seeking assistance
- *Dave & Maryann Ellis's Aunt Betty, following a heart attack
- *Amy Conyers' teenage nephew, Reece, is recovering from stomach & lung issues due to vaping; pray that all youth understand the dangers of vaping
- *Barb Waterhouse-Miller's aunt is needing assistance
- *Jan Culbertson's cousin's husband recovering from a fall
- *Marci Wittles' sister, Lela, with cancer
- *Maggie Thomas's niece, Claire
- *Sue Moss's friend's daughter, Lindsay, is hospitalized & very ill
- *Lee Stepp in Arkansas, with medical testing
- *Kurdish people facing hardships in Syria

JOYS:

- *Baptism on 9/29 of Calvin Joseph Hagarty, son of Caleb & Jordan Hagarty
- *Welcome to Amber Mulnik as Project Manager for our building project
- *Men's Ensemble's singing in 9/29 worship was awesome
- *Frank Camp with healing in his foot
- *Congrats to Jared Stumpf on becoming an Eagle Scout
- *Congratulations to Jon & Maggie Hartzler on the birth of Matilda Grace!
- *Ron & Margaret Nelson w/celebration of restored historic barn
- *Happy Birthday to Byron Thompson, Don Whitford, ReGina & Jan Culbertson
- *Great turnout for the Especially for You Race Against Breast Cancer
- *Pam Morris celebrates 2 years as a survivor of breast cancer
- *Rev. Paul Akin was guest preacher on 10/20 he was LL's pastor 1985 to 1993
- *Mark & Marilyn Beebe celebrating their 49th anniversary
- *Isabel Drew is doing well & Brandon Drew was in a marathon
- *The Women's Retreat was a success; thanks to all who helped!

Ministry Teams @ Work

HOSPITALITY

- *Served snacks for New Member classes on 10/13, 10/20 & 10/27
- *Served meal for Kid's Club on 10/16
- *Plan for Advent Potluck on 11/24 (when we'll decorate church for Christmas)

THANK YOU NOTES

Pastor Appreciation Thank

You: Thank you for the meaningful cards, notes, and kind words during Pastor Appreciation Month. Each of you made me feel very special. I truly love serving as pastor at Lovely Lane and look forward to many years together. Thanks again and blessings to each of you!

Scott

LLUMC friends, It was such a joy to be able to serve as your pastor this past year. Thank you for the love and the opportunity to be in ministry with you! You will continue to be in my heart and prayers. Thank you for the Cokesbury gift card. I plan to get some books that will further my pastoral care at the hospital. Blessings always,
Pastor Jenny


Lovely Lane, thank you for graciously letting us stay at your beautiful church. This made our entire trip possible. We had a blast and couldn't have wished for a better housing partnership. Thank you and yeah, Buddy!!!
Student Impact from UNI

Sunday Worship Schedule
 Worship services @
 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM



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 2424 42nd Street NE
 Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

EMBODYING ...
 DISCERNING ...
 DISCOVERING ...
 THE WILL OF
 GOD 

Find out more about us:

Website: www.lovelylane.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/lovelylaneumc
Phone: 319-393-6674

Lovely Lane Staff

Lead Pastor.....Dr. Scott Meador
 Sr. Office Manager.....Sue Moss
 Office Manager.....Marti Bowman
 Building Project Manager.....Amber Mulnik
 Director Children’s Weekday Min.....Carolyn Barnes
 Director of Youth Ministries.....Amy Perry
 Kid’s Club Director.....Julie Meyer
 Christian Educator..... Barb Geissinger
 Choir Director.....K. Weiler
 Organist.....Dennis Ramsey
 Children’s Choirs.....Carla Jesse
 Director of Handbells.....Charlie Kucera
 Nursery.....Shelbie Wood, Tara Neveu,
 Paige Gerjets, & Claire Van Erde-Wyk
 Wedding Coordinator.....Becky Wood
 Custodians.....Rex, Rhonda & Jessica Heasty
 Audio/Visual Coordinator.....Eric Wylie
 Treasurer.....Marcie Stumpf
 Finance Secretary.....Vicki Cangemi
 Webmaster.....Shelly Turner

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