

# Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

February 2020

## 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.



## Moving Forward as United Methodists

On January 3rd, a news release came out from the Council of Bishops that mentioned a new proposal for The United Methodist Church. The document is called "Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation." The proposal is an attempt to get around differences of opinion regarding matters of human sexuality. Like many of you, as well as Iowa Bishop, Laurie Haller, I was hoping our denomination could stay together, but this appears to be impossible. The proposal is a faithful attempt to move forward.

Some key features of the proposal are . . .

- Formation of a new Methodist Traditionalist denomination.

- Annual Conferences, by a 57% majority, could vote to join a new Methodist denomination.

- By a majority vote, local churches could choose to join a different denomination than the one their conference joins.

- \$25 million would be paid over four years to a new traditionalist denomination with no further claims to United Methodist assets.

- The Protocol requests that all judicial and administrative complaints around LGBTQ matters be suspended.

General Conference legislation for the Protocol is currently being worked on. The proposals around human sexuality will be open for amendments at the 2020 General Conference in Minneapolis, May 5-15. If the proposal is passed, Iowa United Methodists will have a special meeting this fall to vote on whether to become a new traditionalist denomination or continue to be The United Methodist Church, where all prohibitions are removed regarding the ordination of LGBTQ clergy and same gender weddings.

I feel the Protocol is a good way to move forward. With the ongoing tension and difficult conversations that have taken place over the years, I am hopeful this is a positive step. I ask that you keep our denomination, as well as our elected delegates, in your thoughts and prayers.

Through all this, I want to state once again that "Lovely Lane will remain Lovely Lane." We will continue to welcome, accept, and affirm all persons without regard to sexual orientation. We will share God's love in all we do! I remain blessed to serve as pastor of this wonderful congregation! *Scott*

*Calendar of Events — February 2020*

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				<b>1</b>
<b>2 Communion Sunday</b> 9 am Chancel Choir 4 pm <i>Living Last Supper</i> planning mtg.	<b>3</b> 2 pm Shepherds mtg. 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6:30 pm CE mtg. 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>4</b> 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:45 pm WOF	<b>5</b> 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 7:15 pm AcabeLLa	<b>6</b> 4 pm Hospitality 5:30 pm Yoga 6:30 pm Missions	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9 am–1:30 pm ILF 3:00-6 pm Congolese group
<b>9</b> 8:45-10:30 AM Heart Healthy Brunch 9 am Chancel Choir 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm H.S. Youth	<b>10</b> 10 am Happy Endings 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6 pm Adult Explo 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>11</b> 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:30 pm Mental Health Support Grp. 6:45 pm WOF	<b>12</b> 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 / Confirmation 7:15 pm AcabeLLa	<b>13</b> 7:30 am Leadership Team (@ Panera's) 1 pm UMW meeting 5:30 pm Yoga	<b>14 Valentine's Day</b>	<b>15</b> 8 am Men's Breakfast 10 am-4 pm Project Linus
<b>16</b> 9 am Chancel Choir 3–5 pm Wedding 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm H.S. Youth	<b>17</b> 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6 pm Adult Explo 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>18</b> 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 10:30 am–5 pm JFON Office Hours 5-8 pm JFON Clinic 6:45 pm WOF	<b>19</b> 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 7:15 pm AcabeLLa	<b>20</b> 5:30 pm Yoga 5:45 pm Trustees 6 pm Committees	<b>21</b> 12 noon Friendly Fellowship	<b>22</b>
<b>23 Transfiguration Sunday</b> 9 am Chancel Choir 2-5 pm Boy Scouts Eagle Court of Honor 6 pm Adult Explo 6 pm H.S. Youth	<b>24</b> 9 am Prayer Shawl 5:15 pm Tai Chi 6 pm Adult Explo 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>25</b> 9:30 am UMW Bible Study 6:45 pm WOF	<b>26 Ash Wednesday</b> 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 / Confirmation 7 pm Ash Wednesday Service	<b>27</b> 5:30 pm Yoga	<b>28</b> (time?) Wedding Rehearsal	<b>29 (It's a leap year!)</b> (time?) Wedding

**HAPPY ENDINGS**

Happy Endings, the book discussion group, will meet on February 10th, at 10 AM in the church library. The book we will read for February is *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker*, by Jennifer Chiaverinni. The book we will read for March is *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes, and the book for April is *The Day The World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander Newfoundland* by Jim Defede. Come join our group if you enjoy reading and book discussions. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Miller at 393-6340.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Men's Breakfast is on Saturday, February 15th, at 8 AM. Pastor Scott will lead a presentation on Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the church's opposition to Nazi Germany. Please join us, and bring a friend if you can!

## SUNDAY WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

Feb. 2: **Communion Sunday**—3 services @ 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Guest Preacher: Rev. Lee Schott from the Women At The Well / Scripture: Psalm 40:1-11/ Sermon: "...And I'm a Sinner"

Feb. 9: **5th Sunday after the Epiphany**—3 services @ 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Isaiah 45:17-19 & 22-23 / Sermon: "What Am I Here For?" *Questions Alexa Can't Answer, Part 1*

Feb. 16: **6th Sunday after the Epiphany**—3 services @ 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Exodus 14:15-29 / Sermon: "Why Don't Miracles Happen Anymore?" *Questions Alexa Can't Answer, Part 2*

Feb. 23: **Transfiguration Sunday**—3 services @ 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Mark 14:32-36 / Sermon: "Why Do Bad Things Happen?" *Questions Alexa Can't Answer, Part 3*

## 2020 Lenten Offering Recipients

**Tanager Place LGBTQ Youth Center** provides a safe and confidential environment for LGBTQ youth, families, and allies. Diverse programs at the center include support groups, special art offerings, mentoring program, Pride Café, community service, health initiative classes, parent workshops, financial literacy, tutoring, and career exploration.

**Matthew 25** is a local non-profit that exists to strengthen core neighborhoods on Cedar Rapids' west side. It partners with them to work in three program areas: Neighborhood Building, Youth Development and Cultivating Hope. Lovely Lane will partner with Matthew 25 again this year during Transform Week which is June 22-26.

**Mission Of Hope** is celebrating 17 years of ministry in Cedar Rapids. The Free Meal Program and Food Pantry provide hot, homemade meals or a box of staple groceries to help those needing food support for themselves and their families. MOH also provides free donated clothing and other faith and support services to those in need due to homelessness, loss of income, or recent incarceration.

**Africa University** is the first and only fully-accredited institution of higher learning established on the African continent by action of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church; it is a consequence of the growth of United Methodism in Africa. The university's goal is to foster intellectual, moral, ethical and spiritual growth in its students.

## HEART HEALTHY BRUNCH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

We're having a Heart Healthy Brunch in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>! Please join us between 8:45 and 10:30 that morning for a selection of egg casseroles, muffins, fruit, and beverages!! *Sponsored by Lovely Lane's Health & Wholeness Committee*

**ONLINE WORSHIP SERVANT SIGN-UPS ARE AVAILABLE AT SIGNUP.COM.** You can gain access through Lovely Lane's website ([www.lovelylane.org](http://www.lovelylane.org)); just click on the link. Please sign up for the date(s) that work for you – for 8:00, 9:15, and/or 10:30 AM worship. *Thank you for your willingness to serve!*

## A CAMPAIGN TO HELP SUPPORT CAMP AND CREATE SCHOLARSHIPS

is taking place, so that any child can attend a United Methodist camp in Iowa, regardless of their financial situation. The campaign's goal is to raise \$50,000; the weekly cost of one summer camper is \$700. Please contact Marci Wittles or Amber Mulnik, Lovely Lane members, for a pledge card and/or if you have any questions. Remember that at UM camps, we serve Christ through kids. *Thank you, and we truly appreciate your anticipated support!!*

**IOWA VISION DAY** is set for Saturday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 AM-3:30 PM, @ First UMC in Ankeny (206 SW Walnut St.). *Have you ever noticed how many ordinary people God used in Scripture to do extraordinary things? God IS using ordinary people today to start fresh expressions of church all around the world. Learn how in "How Ordinary People Can Pioneer a New Form of Church" by Shannon Kiser. If you'd like, you can ask Sue in the church office to forward you the informational E-mail that contains a link to download the free ebook.*

## LOVELY LANE UMC 2020 GOALS

- 1) Continue to remain a mission driven church as we continue with the building project and Capital Campaign. The updates to the church will help us in the future to remain current and inviting. However, our church is always called to be in mission to others, and we don't want to lose sight of this reality. Offerings and outreach efforts need to remain a priority.
- 2) Continue and expand our W+2 Discipleship Pathway for all church members. As we research what staffing model will work best for the future, we also want to look for ways to encourage our congregation to step up into leadership roles. Strive to reach out and expand our membership.
- 3) Continue our relationship with Kennedy High School and Pierce Elementary students and teachers. Identify "Points of Contacts" for both schools to provide a single contact for the schools to help coordinate all our efforts.
- 4) Continue to remain a welcoming church for everyone! Continue to navigate the best path for our church through the continuing changes in the General Conference.
- 5) Continue to expand communications by improving our current methods and researching new and different tools, such as electronic signs and new social media platforms.
- 6) Continue to support our Congolese worshipers and encourage sharing with our congregation.

### FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP

Friendly Fellowship will meet at noon on Feb. 21st for a luncheon potluck in the Fellowship Hall. Sharon Kouba and Nickie Waddell will be co-hostesses. Our program will be the quartet "Profound Sound" from the Harmony Hawks. This is a special presentation and should be very entertaining! If you want to come just for the program, please come at 12:30 PM.

Please reserve the date and time of March 27th at 7 PM. Instead of our noon meeting on March 20th, we're having a special evening with the Eric Englemann family who will present a program about the 'round the world trip they took last year. There'll be a place to sign up on the STUB closer to the date!

### LIVING LAST SUPPER

The Living Last Supper will take place again this spring. This is an event that brings to life Leonardo da Vinci's famous painting. See Pastor Scott if you'd like to participate.

### TAI CHI

Did you know there is a small group that meets at Lovely Lane on Monday nights at 5:15 PM for 45 mins. or so of Tai Chi? Did you know that Tai Chi can boost your balance, ease your pain, reduce your stress, strengthen your heart, and more? We currently meet in the Youth Room. Join us!

#### *Remembering with love:*

*Daniel Randall.....2019*  
*Kay Rath.....2018*  
*Eddie Anderson, Jr.....2018*  
*Karen Warner.....2015*

#### **Presence: Worship Attendance**

<u>1/5</u>	<u>1/12</u>	<u>1/19</u>	<u>1/26</u>
206	185	158	219

#### **December Financial Totals**

Cash inflow—mo. of Dec..	\$ 75,574
Cash inflow—YTD	\$555,994
Budget need/month	\$ 49,732
Cash outflow—mo. of Dec.	\$ 60,657
Cash outflow—YTD	\$533,691
<i>Unpaid Apportionments</i>	<i>\$0</i>

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

### **UMW Meeting**

We will meet on **Thursday, February 13th, at 1:00 PM, in the Fellowship Hall.** We will be putting together some great treats to take 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 them to be delivered to some homebound members of our congregation. Even if you do not bake cookies, please come and help decorate the cards and plates. We will also need volunteers to help deliver the cookies; we'll divide up the deliveries according to addresses and then one or two women will go out together to make the deliveries. Cindy Sale will be our coordinator. We do need a volunteer to act as hostess and make coffee for us as we sample some of the cookies as our refreshments before heading out to make the deliveries.

### **UMW Tuesday Morning Bible Study**

The Bible Study group resumed meeting on **Tuesday, January 7th, from 9:30-11:15 AM, in Fireside.** Weather permitting, we will continue to meet on Tuesday mornings. We are currently studying Paul's letter to the Romans. We have found that our studies have helped us 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, DO COME PREPARED WITH YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE IN HAND.** If you have any questions, please call Cheryl Murphy (377-6205).

### **Resolutions for the Bereaved** (from Mercy Hospice newsletter Jan./Feb. 2018)

#### ***I will...***

- \*stop saying "I'm fine" when it isn't true.
- \*ignore hurtful comments from well-intentioned people.
- \*start focusing on what was gained in my experience rather than what was lost.
  - \*say my loved one's name in the company of others.
  - \*laugh and not feel guilty about it.
  - \*support someone else who has had a loss.
  - \*try something I have always wanted to do.
  - \*start a new project or finish an old one.
- \*make dates to get together with family/friends.
- \*take 20 minutes per day to relax with meditation or by spending some time in the sun.
  - \*express my feelings by journaling, attending a support group, or in my own creative way.
- \*not be embarrassed when I cry at unexpected times in unexpected places.  
I will accept this as part of being human.

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## 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 5<sup>th</sup> grade are using a multi-age format as we gather for music in Room 100. The Children's Sunday School will be studying in the New Testament for the rest of the school year.

\***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, Feb. 12 & 26, @ 6 PM. The class will lead worship on Ash Wednesday.

\***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 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are located in the Fellowship Hall. The Children's Sunday School will be studying in the New Testament for the rest of the school year. Children are dismissed from the Sanctuary after the "Time for Young Disciples" and may be picked up after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

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## Adult Explo Classes - Sunday & Monday Evenings

The "Living the Questions" study continues on Sunday and Monday nights in the Library at 6:00 PM. Choose the night that works best for you.

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## 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** gather with Amy Perry in the Youth Room.

(**Confirmation Class** will gather with Pastor Scott on Wednesday, Feb. 12 & 26, 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](mailto:juliem@lovelylane.org) or 393-6674.

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## Wednesday Women & the Word (WWW)

**WWW Bible study** is using Rob Fuquay's *The God We Can Know* study series up to Ash Wednesday; then the Bible Study for Lent will be *Entering the Passion of Jesus* from Amy-Jill Levine.

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**Capital Campaign Giving Statement:** Your giving statement may contain two lines related to our building improvement efforts. If you see a line labeled, "Capital Campaign," with a negative amount (amount owed), please disregard it, as that debt reduction campaign ended early due to the congregation's generosity. Our current building effort is related to the statement line marked, "Capital Campaign Phase 3."

Please contact Financial Secretary Vicki Cangemi if you have any questions about your statement. Thank you for your continued support!

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## Concerns & Celebrations

### PRAYER CONCERNS:

- \*Sympathy to Leisa Rosche on passing of her mother
- \*Sympathy to Carla Jesse on death of her cousin, Julia
- \*Sympathy to Harry & Cindy Rupe after nephew & his wife lost their baby; Cindy Rupe is recovering from surgery
- \*Sympathy to Sharon Kouba on passing of her cousin's husband
- \*Sympathy to Marci Wittles on passing of her brother-in-law
- \*Sympathy to Mary Thies on passing of her ex-husband
- \*Kaylee Hammer recovering at home after hospitalization
- \*Marge Morris – recovering after hospitalization
- \*Darla Carter – recovering after hospitalization
- \*Bill Grabe – recovering from surgery
- \*Lyn Lewis – recovering after hospitalization
- \*Darwin Moore – recovering after a hospital stay
- \*Lou Stolba – home after being hospitalized
- \*ReGina Culbertson home after being hospitalized
- \*Leigh Anne fell & broke wrist
- \*Frank Camp's sister, Georgia, with gall bladder surgery
- \*Pam Morris's brother-in-law with health concerns
- \*Darla Reed-Tinderholt's friend's sister-in-law in Baghdad
- \*Kennedy H.S. on passing of special ed. teacher, Jeni Newland
- \*United Methodist denomination with potential church split
- \*Communities recovering from tragedies in Texas & New York
- \*Fires in Australia & their effect on humans & animals
- \*World leaders & multiple global concerns
- \*Jerusalem Rwango lifts up the community of Los Angeles
- \*Communities in Texas & New York after tragedies in worship
- \*Country of Somalia after truck bombing
- \*Folks needing shelter during the winter months
- \*Our country being divided on so many issues

### JOYS:

- \*Christmas celebrations with family & friends, and celebrating "joy" during the Christmas season
- \*Dave Smith celebrates good health news for family members
- \*Denise Carnahan thanks everyone for prayers following her father's passing
- \*Lee Stepp is doing better & going home
- \*Andy Barden's parents visiting from South Dakota
- \*Rose Blank preaching & leading worship on 1/12
- \*Thanks to Barb Mussman who is retiring after 5 years as 10:30 worship volunteer coordinator; great job, Barb!
- \*New Year's blessings & fresh opportunities
- \*Thankful for manageable winter weather
- \*Jerry Weiland doing better after hospitalization last year
- \*Rose Blank celebrates dtr. Sarah graduating & passing boards
- \*District Lay Leader, Michael Petkewec, visiting the church
- \*Mechanical work done with the church boilers (for heat!)
- \*Remembering the life & work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Ministry Teams @ Work

### AD COUNCIL

- \*New happenings: 7 meetings meetings/year & new committee chairs
- \*Review church goals
- \*Denominational news

### TRUSTEES

- \*Our Guide One insurance has been approved for 2020; added \$1 million umbrella including directors & officers liability
- \*We now have 2 new AED's installed; a training session will be scheduled

### HEALTH & WHOLENESS

- \*Sponsoring a Heart Healthy Brunch 2/9
- \*Started work on a congregational survey to gauge interest in possible H&W events

### MISSIONS/COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- \*Lenten Offering recipients were chosen
- \*Planning agenda for 2020

### THANK YOU NOTES

**Thank you so much** for all the ways you supported our family during Kaylee's illness. Your prayers, presence, and texts to check in on us are so appreciated. Thanks for all your continued prayers as she recovers. It will be a journey, but we feel confident that she will get there! *The Hammer family*

**We are so grateful** for your long-standing commitment to Iowa JFON. Over the next few months, stay tuned for updates on our process, news of upcoming events and stories of what we're working on. *(They've chosen to follow in the footsteps of JFON affiliates around the country to create their own 501(c)(3) organization. They tell us that much will stay the same, but what will change is their capacity. They're creating a new organization with allies from the American Friends Service Committee of Iowa—another well-known and respected immigrants' rights organization....)*

**Thank you so much** for contributing 130 lbs. of food to the Linn Community Food Bank during the fourth quarter of 2019. We could not operate our food bank without the generous support of donors like you.

