

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

April 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.



Holy Week and Easter at Lovely Lane

We find ourselves in the midst of some unusual times. Our country and world have been greatly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in ways we never could have imagined. We are keeping everyone in our thoughts and prayers. If we can be helpful in any way, please let us know. Many individuals have stepped forward and expressed their willingness to assist others as needed.

Throughout this difficulty, we continue to find “silver linings.” It has been terrific to worship with each of you through our Live Stream worship services. Through our online presence we are able to increase the numbers of individuals we reach. We are also utilizing Zoom technology to have meetings and begin new study groups. None of this replaces the joy of being face to face, but we are grateful for the resources we have to do ministry at this time.

Worship at Lovely Lane will look a bit different as Holy Week approaches. We will have online worship services on Palm Sunday and Easter. We will have an online presence on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday too. **Please see the schedule below.**

Finally, I think about the closing words of Matthew's Gospel found in Matthew 28:20. Here, the evangelist writes, “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (NIV) These words serve as a reminder that we are never alone. It is hard to see sometimes, but our Lord is with us every step of the way. As we move forward in the days and months to come, might these words comfort us!

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Scott

Palm Sunday, April 5

Online Worship, 10:30 am

Maundy Thursday, April 9

Online *Living Last Supper* Presentation from 2019, 7:00 pm

Good Friday, April 10

Online Message from Pastor Scott, 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 12

Online Worship, 10:30 am

Calendar of Events (subject to change) — April 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	1 All church events cancelled 10 am, 2 & 7 pm— Online Bible Study	2 All church events cancelled	3 All church events cancelled	4
5 Palm Sunday 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)	6 All church events cancelled	7 All church events cancelled	8 All church events cancelled 10 am, 2 & 7 pm— Online Bible Study	9 Maundy Thursday 7 pm—"Living Last Supper" from 2019, online only	10 Good Friday 7 pm—Online message from Pastor Scott	11
12 EASTER Sunday 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)	13 All church events cancelled	14 All church events cancelled	15 All church events cancelled 10 am, 2 & 7 pm— Online Bible Study	16 All church events cancelled	17 All church events cancelled	18 9 am—12 noon BLOOD DRIVE @ LOVELY LANE
19 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)	20 All church events cancelled	21 All church events cancelled	22 All church events cancelled 10 am, 2 & 7 pm— Online Bible Study	23 All church events cancelled	24 All church events cancelled	25
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AN ONLINE BIBLE STUDY ON "EPHESIANS" lead by Pastor Scott is being held on Wednesdays. You can join in at 10 AM, 2 PM, or 7 PM. Please choose the time that works best for you. Meeting information to access the study will be E-mailed each week to participants. Please let Pastor Scott know if you are interested by E-mailing him at scottm@lovelyane.org. Thanks!!

NOT CANCELLED:

Church Online
Quiet Time with God
Praying for the Sick
Checking on a Friend
Helping Others
Being the Church

SUNDAY ONLINE WORSHIP IN APRIL

April 5: **Palm Sunday**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Matthew 21:1-11 / Sermon: "More to Come"

April 12: **EASTER Sunday**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: John 20:1-18 / Sermon: "Out of the Tomb"

April 19: **2nd Sunday of Easter**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: John 20:19-31 / Sermon: "Believing is Seeing"

April 26: **3rd Sunday of Easter**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Luke 24:13-35 / Sermon: "Journey to Emmaus"

Palms and Thorns

Dr. Fred Craddock, a well-known biblical scholar from Emory University, once told of a time he received a letter from Washington D.C. to speak at a prayer breakfast in Seoul, South Korea. He was the guest of General Stillwell, head of the Eighth Army and over 50,000 soldiers stationed there.

The morning he was in Seoul, he worshiped with those in the military. As the service came to an end, the General asked Dr. Craddock to pray for them, but there was a catch. The General said, "Please don't pray for power, we have the power. We can bring destruction. What we need you to pray for is restraint." The mark of a civilized society is not power, but restraint. The same is true of a society embracing the Christian faith. The mark is power, restrained by love.

We all have some power and we can choose how to use the gifts we are blessed with. Hopefully, as Dr. Craddock learned, we will focus on power, restrained by love. The ultimate example of this comes to us from Jesus Christ during Holy Week.

As Jesus comes into Jerusalem on the very first Palm Sunday, he is the mighty King, the powerful Son of God. He is the most powerful person in the world. Yet, according to Luke 19:28-36, he comes into town riding on a colt. He comes into the city in a most humble way. This humility would continue throughout the final week of his life. He would wash the feet of the disciples on Holy Thursday in the Upper Room. He would allow himself to be arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. He doesn't hold back as the Jewish authorities bring him to Pontius Pilate.

Looking at the cross, he has power that might enable him get away. He is God in human form. He could make the huge leap. Even those closest to him expect him to release himself. Some of the individuals at the base of the cross say, "If you are the king, then make the leap. Show us who you are!" People wonder what our Lord is going to do. And then he does it. He dies. He is different than any other king who lived. He shows us power, restrained by love in a most surprising way.

Lent and Holy Week are times to ponder big questions. As we reflect on Jesus coming into town on a colt and finishing his week on a cross, let us think about how he chose to exercise his power. Might our Lord's actions influence the decisions we make in the ways we live and love!

May God richly bless you! Scott

February Financial Totals

Cash inflow—mo. of Feb.	\$ 41,046
Cash inflow—YTD	\$ 99,760
Budget need/month	\$ 46,202
Cash outflow—mo. of Feb.	\$ 48,274
Cash outflow—YTD	\$106,158
Unpaid apportionments	-\$ 20,652*

(*We're 3 payments ahead, pre-COVID-19.)

Presence: Worship Attendance

<u>3/1</u>	<u>3/8</u>	<u>3/15</u>	<u>3/22</u>	<u>3/29</u>
247	235	n/a	n/a	n/a

Remembering with love:

- Henry Hall.....2015*
- Gary Davis.....2016*
- Don Stevens.....2016*
- Scott Ernst.....2018*
- Richard Rainville....2019*

Did you know that Lovely Lane’s website has recorded sermons (& some musical selections) dating back to February of 2014! This is a good time to check it out @ www.lovelylane.org!!!

PALM SUNDAY: “Hosanna in the Highest”

by Bishop Laurie Haller

Grace to you and peace on this Palm Sunday. Lament is a common word that we are using in these days to describe our coronavirus world. Lament in the Bible has always been a deep expression of grief and sorrow for someone who has died or for something that is gone. In the midst of the deadly effects of the virus and our attempts to stop its spread, we lament all that we have lost in our global family and cry out to God for help. At the same time, it is important that we have the freedom in worship to name and lament our distress over such things.

As we enter Holy Week, one of the most poignant times of lamentation took place when Jesus was led away to the cross. Luke writes, “As they led Jesus away, they grabbed Simon, a man from Cyrene, who was coming in from the countryside. They put the cross on his back and made him carry it behind Jesus. A huge crowd of people followed Jesus, including women, who were mourning and wailing for him. Jesus turned to the women and said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, don’t cry for me. Rather, cry for yourselves and your children.’”

In the midst of our lamentation for our world and its people, we claim the promises of God in the third chapter of the Old Testament book of Lamentations (22-23), “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”

Our beloved hymn, “Great is Thy Faithfulness” was written by Thomas Chisholm, who was ordained as a Methodist minister in 1903 but served only one appointment. Out of the 1,200 poems that Chisholm wrote during this lifetime, this is the hymn that has been a favorite of United Methodists for decades. In fact, I sang it last Sunday as I was livestreaming a worship service at home.

As we enter Holy Week in the year 2020, you and I travel together with Jesus from the anointing at Bethany to Jerusalem, to the temple, to the Mount of Olives, to the Upper Room, to the Garden of Gethsemane, to the high priest’s house, to Pilate, to Herod, to Golgotha, to the cross, to the tomb, and to the resurrection. At the same time as we will not be physically together as the body of Christ, may we remember and claim the good news of the gospel, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen!” He has risen indeed! Thanks be to God!

*Great is Thy faithfulness; O God my Father
 There is no shadow of turning with Thee
 Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not
 As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be
 Great is Thy faithfulness; Great is Thy faithfulness
 Morning by morning new mercies I see
 And all I have needed Thy hand hath provided
 Great is Thy faithfulness; Lord unto me.
 Amen.*



**Lovely Lane United Methodist
Church Blood Drive**

Saturday, April 18th

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

***There is a national shortage of blood due to the Coronavirus
Pandemic and the need for healthy donors is VERY high. If you are
healthy and able, your donation is needed!***

**Please make an appointment with Sue Moss at
suem@lovelylane.org or Lisa Taylor at
lisataylor52402@gmail.com to avoid large walk-in groups.
You may also sign up online at www.bloodcenter.org**

www.bloodcenter.org

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank You (LLUMC congregation) for your generous gift of \$2,246.25 to Family Promise of Linn County. Your gift will go directly to support the families we serve as we walk alongside them on their paths out of homelessness. Each year, over 900 children in our community experience homelessness. It is our mission to give parents the support they need to overcome their present situations as they work toward safe and stable housing for their families. This is only possible through our network of host and support congregations, volunteers and individuals like you. Someday we hope that our vision of a community in which every family has a home, a livelihood, and the chance to build a better future will become a reality. Until that day, we are eternally grateful for your support to ensure children have a safe place to sleep at night. Thank you.

Thank You For Your Gift! We received your organization's contribution of \$4,306.25 to Women at the Well UMC. We are humbled by the generous support of organizations like yours who give to keep this ministry going. We are a mission congregation. The women inside the prison will never be able to fund the costs of this ministry. With less than 25% of our annual budget being supported by various grants, many of which are diminishing during these difficult economic times, we depend on organizations like yours to make this ministry possible. Thank you so very much!

Thank You for Your Service to Your Community: "Unprecedented, overwhelming, catastrophic" are words which seem inadequate, and have been used to describe the current pandemic. We know behind these words are people. People with unmet food, financial, and housing needs. People with anxiety, addictions, and mental health needs. People in need of comfort for the grief of lost loved ones. We know that churches fill the gaps in their communities to the best of their abilities. Again, thank you for serving your community. *Your Church Windows Family*

HACAP VOLUNTEER NEEDED AS DELIVERY DRIVER

In response to the recent developments of COVID-19, the HACAP Food Reservoir is working to have more prepackaged boxes of food readily available for partner agencies to prevent the spread of germs. **Because of this, we are looking for a volunteer with a pick-up truck who can help us transport food boxes for Tip-ton High School on Monday, 4/6. We are looking at transporting 50 boxes, one trip.** Volunteer must have a valid driver's license and proof of insurance. [Those interested can E-mail cackman@hacap.org to set up a time.](mailto:cackman@hacap.org)

Thank you all in advance for your attention – stay safe and healthy out there!

Chris Ackman, Volunteer & Communications Manager, Hawkeye Area Community Action Program

COMMUNITY TUESDAY TABLE—YOU'RE INVITED!

As the University of Iowa has moved online, so has the Wesley Center. We are finding ways to seek justice, encounter community, and linger in Divine truths without gathering in shared space - usually a hallmark of our approach to common life. We have found that Zoom allows us to gather - even with friends who are far away - and we are pleased to open the next Tuesday Table to friends beyond the students who meet weekly.

Rev. Anna Blaedel extends this invitation:

Join us for an evening of spiritual nourishment. All are welcome to join in contemplative spiritual practice, creative communion, poetry, prayer, and a chance to "be" and breathe, together.

Please have a bite of something sacramental available to you, for our shared communion—bread, or chocolate, or fruit; a sip of something, too—tea, or water, or whatever, something nourishing, and pleasurable, that connects you with Holiness.

Topic: Community Tuesday Table

Time: Apr 7, 2020 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/675795249>; Meeting ID: 675 795 249

Dial by your location: Meeting ID: 675 795 249; find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/acmOScuXaG>

Concerns & Celebrations

PRAYER CONCERNS:

- *Death of Karmen Shedenhelm; her 3/17 service was at Cedar Memorial with Pastor Scott officiating
- *Sympathy to Joe Helle on his cousin's passing
- *Sympathy to Brandon & Leslie Neugebauer whose niece died of meningitis
- *Carla Jesse lifts up Pam & David who are grieving
- *Craig & Pam Nixon's friend, Linda, following loss of her husband
- *Heather Hingtgen's friend's nephew passed after taken off of life support
- *Deaths of Williamsburg UMC's pastor & gentleman in Walford
- *Mary Smith receiving hospice care due to a brain tumor
- *Becky Wood recovering from neck surgery
- *Donna Houts recovering from surgery
- *Alisa Oliver, Barb Olive, & Frank Camp all recovering after hospital stays
- *Jaired Lyons recovering from illness
- *Patty Logsdon w/family legal dispute & needs a job
- *Shirley Mickelson's dr., Nancy, after breast cancer surgery 3/23
- *Dave Keefe's mom, Edna, & his stepdad, Jerry
- *Sharon Kouba's sister, Jeannie; Maggie Thomas's sister, Peggy
- *Liz Briggman's daughters, Laura & Julie, with health & job concerns
- *Terrie Seibert's mother fell
- *Marcy Wittles' sister, Keelee, following heart attack
- *Judy McDowell's aunt, Helen, following a stroke
- *John Schultz's uncle with health concerns
- *Suzanne Boyle's grandson & Rita Stewart's nephew, Jared
- *Jessica Hinke's cousin's wife, Julie, w/colon cancer
- *Tod & Lu Serbousek's frd., Tim, following a stroke
- *Ron & Margaret Nelson's friend, Jim, with cancer
- *Becky Helle lifts up family members w/house fire
- *Westergrens lift up school teacher, Amy
- *Barb Geissinger's friend, Holly, caring for family
- *Rose Blank's friend, Mark, from Academy for Spiritual Development
- *Patty Logsdon's cousin, Christy, had a heart attack
- *JR Grawe's father hospitalized in California
- *Jim Moss, Sue's husband, w/fractured rib & bruised lung due to a fall
- *Judy Chihak's brother-in-law, Kevin, hospitalized at St. Luke's
- *Craig Breem, friend of Don & Becky Esker, in ICU in IL

CONCERNS *continued*

- *Small child, Lillie, with return of cancer
- *Individuals infected with, and all persons impacted by, COVID-19
- *Health care workers on the front lines; communities & families impacted by the coronavirus; government officials to make wise decisions
- *Staff & residents at Heritage Specialty Care Ctr.
- *Families impacted by storms in the Oelwein area
- *Folks recovering from tornadoes in Tennessee

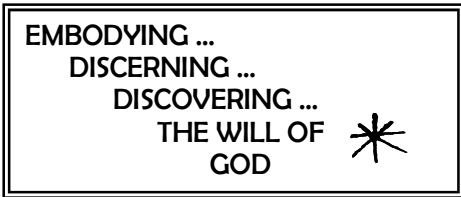
JOYS:

- *Congratulations to Matt Mulnik, Collins' engineer of the year
- *Olivia Schneider selected to participate in Simpson Youth Academy
- *Carissa Serbousek engaged to Christopher Prevenas
- *Happy 60th anniversary to Phil & Shirley Martin
- *Isabel Drew celebrated her 10th birthday; Maddie Hinke celebrated her 2nd
- *All birthdays and anniversaries for March
- *Barb Geissinger had a wonderful trip to Portugal
- *Marcy Wittles with an out-of-state visit to see her daughter
- *High school youth celebrating successes in their activities
- *Church members wearing their new Lovely Lane t-shirts
- *Confirmation class did great job leading Ash Weds. service
- *Mission offering taken for Tanager's LGBTQ Youth Center
- *Good progress with the church building renovations project
- *Confirmation Class helping at the Catherine McAuley Ctr.
- *Partnership with Matthew 25 Ministry Hub
- *Pastor Scott leading online Bible study
- *Positive response to the 2020 Census
- *LL Shepherds & all stepping up to help others during these difficult times
- *Those making masks to assist medical community (incl. Prayer Shawlers)
- *Many people quietly making a difference
- *Folks assembling medical masks & shields
- *Eric Engelmann & teams assembling needed medical supplies
- *Medical workers on the front lines—THEY ARE OUR HEROES!!!



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Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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.....Dawn DuPont
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
Wedding Coordinator.....Becky Wood
Custodians.....Rex, Rhonda & Jessica Heasty
Audio/Visual Coordinator.....Eric Wylie
Treasurer.....Marcie Stumpf
Finance Secretary.....Vicki Cangemi
Webmaster.....Shelly Turner

