

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

June 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.



Being Present

One of the greatest gifts we can offer another person is “presence.” When we are present, we offer time and attention. We focus on the feelings and needs of someone else. Author and spiritual leader, Parker Palmer, writes about the need to be present. He writes that we need to be non-invasive and non-evasive. Non-invasive behavior does not look to fix or judge. Non-evasive behavior does not leave the other when the going gets tough.

A colleague of mine talks about presence by using “minimalist” language. He lifts up the importance of removing clutter like excessive technology and a pursuit of the latest and greatest in material possessions. For him, a minimalist life helps us see what is most important. And for him, relationships are what life is all about. We need to be there for others physically, as well as mentally and emotionally.

Jesus was constantly present with others. In Luke 19:1-10, Jesus enters Jericho and sees Zacchaeus, a wealthy, despised, tax collector, in a tree. Jesus surprises everyone by telling him to come down. Jesus wants to stay with him. In Luke 24:13-35, Jesus approaches two travelers on the Road to Emmaus. These travelers are sad and downtrodden. Jesus has died and they don't see much hope in the world. Jesus eventually joins them on the journey, but they don't know it's Jesus. Jesus gives his undivided attention to these travelers.

Inspired by our Lord, might we seek to be present with others. It's a little bit harder in this pandemic time, but we can still offer a sense of presence. Allow me to offer a few thoughts.

One, when you are with someone who is hurting, avoid the temptation to offer a quick fix. It's possible the other party doesn't want us to solve the problem. They just want us to be there.

Two, if possible, summarize what you hear and feel from the other party. This helps the other person understand their situation better. Helping someone see what they can't see is a further gift you can give.

Might we give ourselves to others and see the difference we can make!

Blessings to you! Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) — June 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 <i>10 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study</i>	4	5	6
7 <i>10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)</i>	8	9	10 <i>10 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study</i>	11	12	13
14 <i>10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)</i>	15	16 <i>10:30 am—5 pm JFON Office Hours 5:30—8 pm JFON Clinic</i>	17 <i>10 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study</i>	18	19	20
21 Father's Day <i>10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)</i>	22	23	24 <i>10 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study</i>	25	26	27
28 <i>10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)</i>	29	30	CCM = Care Center Ministry CWM = Children's Weekday Ministries JFON = Justice For Our Neighbors ILF = International Ladies Fellowship	UMW = United Methodist Women WOF = Women Of Faith WWW = Wednesday Women & The Word		

CARD SHOWER FOR GENE KADLEC

Gene Kadlec is turning 90 on June 21st, and we'd like to "shower" him with birthday cards. The Kadlec children and grandchildren are coming to CR on June 16th or 17th.

ADDRESS:

3905 Willowbend Road NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52411

A THANK YOU

With two broken wrists and uncompleted cataract surgery, the cards, prayers, and calls kept me from depression. The healing hand of the Lord is helping me thru this. Many thanks. *Dorothy Speight*

SUNDAY ONLINE WORSHIP IN JUNE

June 7: **1st Sunday After Pentecost**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20 / Sermon: “The Great Reminder”

June 14: **2nd Sunday After Pentecost**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Genesis 18:1-15 / Sermon: “Laughing Out Loud”

June 21: **Father’s Day**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Genesis 21:8-21 / Sermon: “Son of Promise”

June 28: **4th Sunday After Pentecost**—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Romans 6:12-23 / Sermon: “Freedom to Serve”

Summer Sunday Worship

Worship services will remain online throughout the months of June, July, and August. We are following guidance from Bishop Laurie Haller and the Linn County Public Health Dept. as we seek to be safe and well. Join us on our YouTube Channel on Sundays at 10:30 am!

Wednesday Study Groups via Zoom

The Wednesday Study Groups with Pastor Scott are finishing the Book of James. A new group will start this month—stay tuned for more information. Groups meet at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR STARTING IN JULY

Plans are being formulated to welcome the Rev. Kristina Roth-Klinck as our new Associate Pastor, starting July 1st. She will serve part-time at Lovely Lane and part-time at Matthew 25. In this COVID-19 time, we are hoping to find creative and appropriate ways to welcome Kristina and her husband, Ryan.

Here’s a little bit about Kristina and Ryan, since it was some months back that we introduced them to you. The following is what Kristina shared with us in our January 2020 newsletter.

Kristina was raised in Iowa as a pastor’s kid. (Her father is a pastor in the Iowa Conference.) She graduated in 2014 from Simpson College with a degree in Elementary Education. While at Simpson, she was a worship intern, led the praise band, and later became President of Religious Life Community. While serving in that role, she was on the presidential and chaplain search committees at Simpson. After graduation, she taught 3rd grade for 3 years in the Fairfield Community School District. She and her sister shared an apartment in Mount Pleasant, IA, attending Mount Pleasant FUMC. There she started and led the praise band and was the Lay Leader. It was at that church that she answered her call into ministry and began the candidacy process in the UMC.

In the Fall of 2017, Kristina began her studies at Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, TX, where she met Ryan. While in Dallas, she had lived in one of the intentional living communities under The Missional Wisdom Foundation. She and her housemates did ministry with their homeless neighbors, opening up their home for a community meal every Weds. night. She recently finished her last year of seminary, while on staff at White Rock UMC and Missional Wisdom Foundation. (The church and the foundation explore and experiment with alternative forms of Christian community.) Kristina was on leadership at their missional campus which launched a dinner church in October of 2018.

Ryan graduated from Perkins in May 2018, and recently worked for Missional Wisdom Foundation and Neighboring Movement. He trains churches in asset-based community development, is a certified spiritual director, and is on staff for a spiritual direction training program.

Ryan and Kristina got married in Dallas on January 18, and recently purchased a home in Cedar Rapids. They enjoy hiking, reading, being creative, playing music, and cooking up gluten-free treats. They have been continually in prayer for Lovely Lane and for their transition into ministry with us.

April Financial Totals

Cash inflow—mo. of April	\$ 60,745
Cash inflow—YTD	\$200,503
Budget need/month	\$ 46,202
Cash outflow—mo. of April	\$ 30,906
Cash outflow—YTD	\$167,359
Unpaid apportionments	-\$ 6,884*
<i>(*We're 1 payment ahead.)</i>	

H.O.P.E.

- H = Hold on to your faith
- O = Open yourself to new possibilities
- P = Pray constantly
- E = Expect good things

UMCOR IS FIGHTING COVID-19 WITH FOOD

UMCOR is receiving urgent requests from ministry partners throughout the U.S. and around the world. **Sadly, an overwhelming number of these requests are to meet the need for food.** Partners who operate or directly support food pantries are asking for help as the global fight against COVID-19 is inflating the price of food, especially in places where food insecurity was already a major public health issue - even here in the U.S.

1 in 5 children are “food insecure” in the U.S., according to an April 2020 survey by the Brookings Institution.

Our partners abroad are struggling with food insecurity as well. Soaring food prices are compounding regional shortages of food in communities that were already vulnerable.

100% of your gift to the UMCOR COVID-19 Fund will be used to meet the basic needs of people who are hoping for your response. **Please give, today.**

UMCOR

458 Ponce de Leon Ave, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Need Help? donationhelp@umcmission.org

Have questions: 800.862.4246

To give by check, please send checks payable to Advance GCFA to:

Global Ministries | UMCOR
GPO

P.O. BOX 9068

NEW YORK, NY 10087-9068

LOVING OTHERS WITH **COMPASSION**
AND **CARE** COVID-19 RESPONSE



YOUTH MINISTRY

We want to thank Amy Perry for leading our youth groups the last year. Amy did wonderful work; however, her commitment for the year has come to an end. Again, thank you, Amy, for your super work!

Beginning in July, our new associate pastor, Kristina Roth-Klinck, will oversee the middle school youth group. We have a good lead on a person to lead the senior high group, but we're open to others who are interested. Please contact Pastor Scott or Scott Hauser, SPPRC Chair, at 393-6674 if you're interested.

HELP FILL THE TRUCK FOR MIDWEST MISSIONS

We will “Fill the Truck” for [Midwest Missions](#) in June 2020—just a little different this year. **Drop off dates and locations TBA.** For info., contact Pastor Catie Newman (Disaster.response@iaumc.org or 712-899-4067).

The ongoing mission outreach at Midwest Missions continues and is busier than ever! In addition to Hygiene Kits, Student Desks and Sewing Machines (both pedal and electric), Midwest Missions requests:

- Flannel, “PLU” (waterproof) and Cotton Fabric
- Walkers, Canes, Wheelchairs and Crutches
- Cloth Masks (any style)
- New or Used (clean) Blankets
- Plastic or Wood Small School Chairs (children’s sizes)

Health-full Minute - being nutritionally smart by Kae Tritle, RN Wellness Coordinator

As we continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, we have emotionally moved through various phases; denial, panic, crisis, and now a sense of long-term coping. We are beginning to realize that this situation is going to continue for a while. The word “marathon” is being used for the next phase of the Covid-19 response.

As we have experienced the impact of COVID-19 upon our daily lives, an area that is part of our emotional response is what we put into our bodies—what we eat, drink, and consume. Eating is a very complex issue; influenced by our family and ethnic traditions, personal preferences, cost, habit, and lately, availability. Food has many meanings in our society, including symbolic and emotional ones. It is rarely just the fuel needed to sustain ourselves.

Often our response to emotional situations is to comfort ourselves with food. Eating comfort foods is not bad, but too much too often is not healthy in the long run. Awareness is key. Look at what you are eating, when and for what reason. Ask yourself if you are truly hungry or if you are filling another need. Then make a decision. It is OK to continue with the comfort food, you are fulfilling a need. But reflect on healthier food choices for the future.

Remember that food is a gift from God meant to be used wisely and appropriately for our good health. Some nutritional tips include:

- After coming home from the grocery store; wash and package your fruits and vegetables ready to eat bags or containers. Place in the fridge at eye level.
- Eat a fruit, veggie, or small amount of protein (peanut butter, cheese wedge, hummus, or nuts) for a snack instead of a sugary one. Use a variety of textures and flavors. Berries are sweet, carrots are crunchy.
- Review your portion sizes, use a luncheon plate instead of a dinner plate.
- When eating snacks, place the “serving size” (from the package label) in a small container. Put the bag away.
- Allow yourself your favorite treat 1-3 times per week. Remember to watch your portion size.
- Track your nutritional choices with a free app. I use MyfitnessPal; it lists the nutritional content of foods and will incorporate my physical activity in my calorie counts. It has over 1 billion foods in its database.
- Increase your water intake; you need six to eight 8 oz. glasses per day.
- Reflect on your eating habits. What do you reach for when stressed? What could you do differently? Be intentional.
- Try a new fruit or veggie every couple of weeks. You might be surprised by the taste and texture.
- Try new cooking and/or serving methods for your tried and true veggies and fruits.
- Avoid the use of caffeine, sugar, and other substances to cope with stress and emotions. Use other methods than food to cope with the stresses of life such as a walk or a physical activity, talk with a friend, journal, listen or dance to music, meditate, or pray.

“Stuck Like a Dope with a Thing Called Hope” by Bishop Laurie Haller

I've been thinking lately about hope, which seems to be in short supply at the moment. Where is hope in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, as infection rates continue to rise in some areas of our state, country, and world, unemployment rates are at historic highs, and the necessity of quarantining has canceled so many significant events and isolated us from others?

I have been especially grieving over the fact that high school and college graduations are not able to take place in person this year. Particularly inspiring is the story of a Texas principal who decided that if his high school seniors were not able to gather for graduation, he would go to them. Virdie Montgomery and his wife put on their masks and proceeded to drive 800 miles over 12 days to visit almost every one of the 612 seniors. He couldn't stay long at each home, but spoke words of hope and encouragement, gave each a card and candy, and took a selfie....

I have always been an optimistic person, clinging to hope as one of God's most enduring promises. Many years ago, I gave a speech at my high school graduation. It was called *Living in Hope*.... Here are a few things that I felt were important to share with my fellow students and their families in 1972 (please forgive my lack of inclusive language in the era this was written):

“Are you living in hope? Are you looking to the future with anticipation or dread? Are you able to endure the trials of the present because of a confidence in the future, or are you so weighed down by life's difficult problems that mean nothing anymore?”

“Hope is naturally directed toward God, for God is the ultimate source of hope. Only through faith and trust in God can we look to the future with confidence and anticipation. Hope can give us security in times of loneliness and faith in times of despair. Hope can free us from the life that binds us and lead us into a new kind of freedom, a freedom in which we know that the future is in God's hands.”

“But what do we, graduates, who are the future of the world, have to hope for? The future looks very dim when we talk about the senselessness of Vietnam, the tensions in the Middle East, the growing arsenal of nuclear arms, the pollution of our environment, the overwhelming number of college graduates out of work, or such issues as poverty, ignorance, dissension, and prejudice.”

Decades later, we're still lamenting the same problems.... Protesting injustice and oppression wherever they present themselves is part of our baptismal and membership vows as United Methodists and is the responsibility of every Christian as we work together to bring in God's reign of shalom.

Near the end of my speech, I quoted from Martin Luther King Jr.'s “I Have a Dream” speech. *“I don't know what will happen to me.... We've got some difficult days ahead, but it doesn't matter to me now.... I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up the mountain. And I've looked over, and I've seen the Promised Land. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.”*

How could I have ever imagined the truth of this paragraph? I was just 17 years old. *“We all have great hopes for the future, but that doesn't mean we can ignore the present. Everyone must do whatever he can to make hope for the future a reality so that all people can live in happiness and peace.”*

I graduated from high school just 4 years after King's death and still remember the pit in my stomach when I heard the news that day. Several years later, when working on my speech, I realized that Martin Luther King Jr.'s words apply to me as well you. Like Mr. King, I don't know what will happen to me after tonight. I know that my life will not be all happiness and that I will have to endure much, but I am still able to look beyond today toward a joyous future. I am not afraid because *“I'm stuck like a dope, with a thing called hope.”*

Concerns & Celebrations

PRAYER CONCERNS:

- *Sympathy to the family & friends of the Rev. Joan Erbe, UMC pastor (& Sharon Vavra's friend)
- *Patty Logsdon's sister's best friend has passed
- ***CORRECTION:** The name of Terrie Seibert's mother who passed was Arris (not Mary)
- *Elsie Mae Hall recovering after a hospital stay due to a stroke
- *Dawn Nylin recovering from health concerns at Hiawatha Care Center
- *Jan Peterson with health concerns
- *Barb Olive with health concerns
- *Brian Turner recovering from a wrist injury
- *Lincoln Oliver with an ear procedure on June 1
- *Greg & Susan Blum's nephew with possible COVID-19 concerns
- *Bert Tribuno's and Wilma Parson's niece, Tammy, with health concerns
- *Barb Vancura's sister moving to Colorado
- *Ron Nelson's friend, Jim, with health concerns
- *Marci Wittles' son-in-law's grandmother, Jean, with COVID-19
- *Andy & Mary Vorwerk's son-in-law's father with a heart attack
- *Julie Schmickley's friend, Scott, in ICU in Des Moines
- *Margaret Nelson's friend, Sandy, doing better but still needs prayers
- *Maggie Thomas's friend, Carol's son, Jacob, following a car accident
- *Charlie Kucera's friend, Kevin Nelson, & his wife, Deena, who is battling cancer
- *Ron and Margaret Nelson's friend, Jim
- *Patty Logsdon's friend, Angie's father, with lung cancer
- *Pam Nixon's home community, Lime Springs/Chester, with COVID-19 outbreak
- *Pastor Mike Jackson, from Edgewood, & his wife with health concerns
- *CWM transition from Lovely Lane to St. Ludmila Church for the summer
- *Reopening the state of Iowa with community spread concerns
- *Native American tribes fighting for their lands
- *Remembering those who faithfully served our country
- *Family and friends of George Floyd following his death in Minneapolis

PRAYER CONCERNS cont'd.

- *Unrest in our country following the death of George Floyd
- *Common work we need to do to address matters of race & class & white privilege
- JOYS**
- *Penny Boenish, Linn County Educator of the Year award winner
- *Dorothy Speight thanks everyone for cards & prayers after breaking both wrists & having cataract surgery
- *Thanks to Amy Perry for leading our church youth groups this past year
- *John & June Sackett celebrate their 67th wedding anniversary
- *Jack & Cheryl Murphy celebrate grandson, Heath, graduating from college
- *Scott & Terrie Seibert celebrate new great niece, Juliana Maria
- *Dale & Karen Beatty celebrate new grandson, Lawson James Beatty
- *Ron & Margaret Nelson celebrate grandson's 12th birthday
- *Andy & Mary Vorwerk's daughter, Rachel Lauf, with good health news
- *Maggie Thomas's mother is out of the hospital & resting at home
- *Marci Wittles' sister, Lela, has seen cancer tumor shrink
- *Lu Serbousek's friend, Patsy, is home after COVID-19 complications; AND Lu's friend, Marcia, with successful surgery
- *Confirmation Class completing classwork
- *Lifting up & celebrating our high school & college graduates
- *Celebrating mothers & all women of faith
- *Meaningful Memorial Day celebrations
- *Livestream worship opportunities
- *Meaningful Memorial Day celebrations
- *St. Ludmila Church is hosting the CWM summer program this year
- *Healthcare workers on the front lines during the pandemic
- *Warm summer weather is here

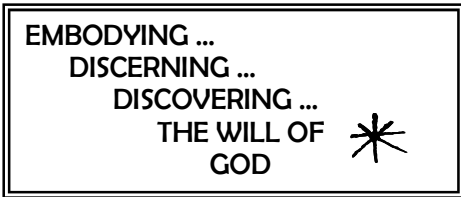
*Remembering with love:
James Larison.....2017*



Lovely Lane
United Methodist Church

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2424 42nd Street NE
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

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& Paige Gerjets
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