

Lovely Lane *network* United Methodist Church

July 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.



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On the Journey

Sir Winston Churchill took three years to get through the eighth grade because he had trouble learning English. Life was not always easy for this leader. How fascinating that many years later Oxford University invited him to give the commencement address at their graduation ceremony.

As Churchill spoke to students on this important day, with power and authority, he shouted three words. He said, "Never give up!" Several seconds passed before Churchill rose to his toes and said it again, "Never give up!" There was now a silence as Churchill reached his cane and top hat and walked off the stage. All he said were the words, "Never give up!" A short and eloquent commencement address if ever there was one.

This story brings out the importance of perseverance. The Greek word translated "perseverance" essentially means "to abide." It is sometimes seen in the New Testament as "patience."

Perseverance is seen in the wonderful account in Mark 2:1-12 in which four friends help a man who has been paralyzed for a long time. The friends take the man to a house where Jesus is speaking. They find the dwelling surrounded by a crowd of people. They need to do something. So they climb the outside stairs and dig through the sticks and mud on top of the house. They lower their friend to the feet of Jesus. Jesus says, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Our Lord then tells him to get up and walk. And he does!

This tremendous narrative brings out the power of perseverance. The four friends refuse to give up. This biblical story makes us look at our life. Where do we need to persevere?

Personally, you might be working through a health challenge, family matter, or financial obstacle. Collectively, we continue to work through this pandemic time and we struggle to address racism. We also seek equality for members of the LGBTQ community and we work to bring hope to our refugee and immigrant sisters and brothers. And this is only the beginning of matters that need attention.

Life is never easy, but the call is to keep moving forward. Surrounded by good friends and the presence of our mighty God, might we keep working to make a difference! Blessings to you! Scott

Calendar of Events (subject to change) — July 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	GCM = 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	1 10 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study	2	3	4 <i>Happy 4th of July</i>
5 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)	6	7	8 10 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study	9	10	11
12 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)	13	14	15 9:30 am CR Mom's Club business mtg. 10 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study	16	17	18
19 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)	20	21	22 10 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study	23	24	25 9 am—12 noon Currie Open House
26 10:30 am—Live-stream worship only (no in-person)	27	28 10:30 am—5 pm JFON Office Hours 5:30—8 pm JFON Clinic	29 10 am & 7 pm— Online Bible Study	30	31	

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

- ◆ A re-entry team has begun work on policies that need to be in place before we can have in-person worship services and open the building to general use. We will keep everyone updated, as we progress. A survey for in-person worship is coming soon.
- ◆ Reading to our children via Facebook is now taking place on Sundays. Immediately after the livestream worship service, a reader will be on Lovely Lane's Facebook page. The children can listen and watch the pages of the book, as we have in the past.
- ◆ This summer's VBS program (if implemented) will need to be an in-home online program, with parents helping to view and complete projects that are presented. Options are still being investigated. Parents interested in participating in a virtual home-based VBS program should email Mrs. G your thoughts at christianedu@lovelylane.org. Thanks!!

90th Birthday Card Shower for Max Fitz

Max Fitz turns 90 in July. Please help him celebrate by sending a birthday card to:

Max Fitz/The keystones
6126 Rockwell Drive Dr NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

SUNDAY ONLINE WORSHIP IN JULY

July 5: Communion Sunday—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Romans 7:15-25a / Sermon: "Moving Forward"

July 12: 6th Sunday After Pentecost—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 / Sermon: "Seasons of Life"

July 19: 7th Sunday After Pentecost—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Kristina / Scripture: Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24 / Sermon: "Through All Of It"

July 26: 8th Sunday After Pentecost—1 live-streamed service (no in-person worship) @ 10:30 AM / Pastor Scott / Scripture: Genesis 29:15-28 / Sermon: "Remaining Faithful"

Sunday Worship at Lovely Lane

Worship services will remain online thru the end of 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!

*As we look to resume in-person worship in September, we would like you to complete **A SURVEY** to give us the information we need. The survey will be coming to you soon. Thanks!*

Wednesday Study Groups via Zoom

Pastor Scott started a new Weds. Zoom Study on June 17th with a focus on the *Parables* in the Gospels. Sessions are at 10 AM and 7 PM. If you're not on the E-mailing list for these study groups, let Scott know.

From Our New Associate Pastor, Rev. Kristina Roth-Klinck



There we were, watching our dog strolling down the busy street, not seeing the car's headlights coming up behind him, the wheels in direct alignment to his little body. This is how we found our dog after thirty minutes of searching around our new neighborhood. We never imagined we would be spending our third night in Cedar Rapids in panic, looking for Barnaby who had gone astray.

My husband- Ryan- and I have a senior dog named Barnaby, who we commonly refer to as Saint Barnabas, an apostle from the book of Acts. Barnaby is a quirky little fella who doesn't like hardwood floors, only eats dog food off the floor, and is afraid of air vents. Barnaby is also getting older and has been battling cancer for the past year.

We've been enjoying our beautiful backyard that sits next to Indian Creek. We were enjoying some Blue Bunny ice cream out back (introducing my Texan husband to something other than Blue Bell!), and Barnaby wandered around the corner. After only a very short while, we followed him, and he was nowhere to be found. With open arms and tears, we collected Barnaby off of the busy street as the car had slowed down to a stop. An adventurous night to say the least, and Barnaby was oblivious to the whole thing!

That whole evening reminded me of Jesus the good Shepherd, who leaves the ninety-nine to go after the one lost sheep. With open arms, Jesus goes in search of the one lost sheep and rejoices over finding it. Jesus comes to bring abundant life.

Abundant life is what I hope to cultivate in ministry at Lovely Lane, abundant life for our church, our neighbors, our community, and our world.

Ryan and I look forward to welcoming you into our new home that we have named Saint Sallie's House, after the ecological feminist theologian, Sallie McFague, as well as introducing you to our wonderful, quirky, fuzzy little dog Barnaby.

Blessings, Kristina

May Financial Totals	
Cash inflow—mo. of May	\$ 39,794
Cash inflow—YTD	\$240,296
Budget need/month	\$ 46,202
Cash outflow—mo. of May	\$ 38,287
Cash outflow—YTD	\$205,646
Unpaid apportionments	-\$ 6,885*
<i>(*We're one payment ahead.)</i>	

Forwarding
All
Issues
To
Heaven

Children's Weekday Ministries (CWM)
A Summer of Challenges

Everyone is dealing with way too many challenges this summer. With the COVID-19 virus, much-needed church renovations, and social distancing, there is a lot—and CWM is feeling it.

Child care is a particular need in Iowa, and we at Lovely Lane are trying to help. Even without the pandemic, Iowa has been identified as a child care desert. Iowa had an estimated shortfall of 350,000 child care slots **before** the pandemic. As many as 30% of child care slots have been lost since March.

Lovely Lane's long history of offering quality care to the children of our community is a bright spot in this situation; but, it has called for persistence, patience, help from the CARES Act, and lots of commitment by our congregation. We ask for everyone's continued support in the coming months as we continue to seek ways to serve our community families, and thank you in advance for your prayers and support.

Myrna Loehrlein, Chair, CWM Board

Thank You's

Thank you to everyone for your prayers and cards following my recent surgery, hospitalization, and recovery. *Dawn Nylín*

Thank you so much for allowing Moms Club of Cedar Rapids to use the Library and other space for our business meetings and events. We appreciate it very much and are very thankful! We look forward to utilizing the space again and are grateful for what it brings to our members. Thanks again for everything! *Lindsay Hoffman, Moms Club of Cedar Rapids*

I want to thank you for believing in the mission of Matthew 25 as we all go through an unsettling time. For you to step up and give at this time says a lot about you. I think it also says a lot about your confidence in Matthew 25. You know that even in the darkness we are working. We are an organization that works hard to bring light into the darkness and new life when death and struggle are real. Food, housing, education and community building. These are the core things we do. Perhaps now, more than ever, we know how important they are, especially for the most vulnerable in our community. Thank you for being our partner on the journey ahead. *Clint Twedt-Ball, Executive Director*

A Conversation on Race - Iowa Conference, The United Methodist Church

Almost 190 people listened live on Facebook as Bishop Laurie hosted a Conversation on Race with members of our Iowa UM Conference family. This conversation is the 1st in a series intended to help all of us to see, listen and learn from our black brothers and sisters in Christ.

Rev. LaTonya Calderon, Rev. Abraham Funchess, Grace Kiboko, Rev. Dr. Michel Lundula, and Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Thompson shared their personal experiences with being black in America and the Iowa Annual Conference.

“John Wesley said, ‘the world is my parish,’ but for black folks, we’re not wanted everywhere,” said Rev. LaTonya Calderon. Her thoughts were echoed by other panelists, and Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Thompson described some of the things that have been said to her in previous parishes.

“I have had congregants say, ‘You’re our pastor? The bishop must be mad at us’ and ‘You’re our pastor? It’s because we don’t pay our apportionments,’” Thompson said. “If I had to choose one word to describe what it’s like, I’d say exhausting.”

This opportunity for listening comes after the recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd and Breonna Taylor and stirred protests against police brutality across the country and world.

“I’m so profoundly aware that what is happening now is nothing new...it’s so evident for us right now, because it’s a reflection of what has happened in the past,” Calderon said. “It’s exhausting for me that white people continue to ignore, deny, hide or simply refuse to change or be part of the change.”

“Borrowing a phrase from the Des Moines Black Lives Matter leader, ‘While I like the word listen, I much prefer the word action,’” added Thompson.

Rev. Abraham Funchess is hopeful that through the current conversation in our nation, the creation of multiracial coalitions can begin to make change.

“It’s an opportunity for all of us to come together across a lot of barriers to attack racism and other systemic ills that hurt this country and I believe that’s what Christ would want us to do,” he said. “You may be upset about the police terrorism but also let’s talk about poverty, education and other things hurting not only blacks but other ethnicities and indigenous people.”

Grace Kiboko added that these conversations are not always going to be comfortable, but we need to face that in order to move forward as a country and conference.

“You hear the phrase ‘Iowa Nice,’” she said. “We’re nice to everyone, but we avoid uncomfortable conversations and difficult topics like racism. There’s going to be times when you are uncomfortable, that you’re going to want to retreat, but don’t back away from that feeling.”

Complacency is what got us this far. It’s why the protests have been going on for nineteen days. Real change happens when you look inside your heart and ask, ‘What are the things I’m doing to make real change in my community?’”

Rev. Dr. Michel Lundula knows in his heart that the church is the best way to create that change.

“I’m hopeful that this is the beginning of many conversations that lead us into better conversations in our congregations,” he said. “The church must be a voice, and it is our responsibility to take this lesson for people to hear.”

The panelists were also asked what the conference could do to better to support them moving forward—ideas included:

- Mandatory cross-cultural training for each church, regardless of who its pastor will be.
- Mandatory implicit bias training for each clergy person and conference employee.
- Holding a conference to address minority communities in the Iowa Conference.
- Encouraging multiethnic conversations all the time, not just when there is a problem.
- Making the work of the General Commission on Religion and Race and the Iowa Commission on Religion and Race more visible.
- Inviting black voices to be heard all the time, not only when the conversation is about race.
- Creating an intentionality for all congregations in the Iowa Conference to receive persons of color.

“Make this not just a moment in time,” said Kiboko. “Make this not like Ferguson in 2014 and let it fade away. We have an opportunity to make real change.”

Upcoming information about continued conversations will be made available soon. One conversation will feature three young women speaking about intersectionality in the Iowa Annual Conference....



We've heard this on the news. We've read this in magazines. We've seen demonstrations of correct procedures. The simple act of handwashing can stop the spread of COVID-19.

Clean water, though, is not available in all communities—even in the United States. In many places around the world, hand-washing stations are the first line of defense in communities without clean water.

One of the recipients of an UMCOR COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund grant is Red Bird Mission. Red Bird Mission, located in an isolated, rural area of the Appalachian Mountains, serves Clay, Bell, and Leslie Counties in eastern Kentucky. Residents here experience chronic poverty, poor housing, and lack of jobs. Nearly 50% of children live below the federal poverty level.

The pandemic is cruelly worsening the condition of people whose very existence is already vulnerable. The grant from UMCOR to Red Bird Mission is providing food, PPE, and handwashing stations, all vital in the fight against COVID.

Every day, UMCOR is receiving urgent requests for assistance from local churches, annual conferences and not-for-profit agencies committed to alleviating the suffering for vulnerable populations.

Responding to people's needs during a crisis is why UMCOR was established 80 years ago and why its meaningful ministry continues.

UMCOR

458 Ponce de Leon Ave, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Need Help? donationhelp@umcmmission.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

Concerns & Celebrations

PRAYER CONCERNS:

- *Sympathy to the Linder family following Cindy's father's passing
- *Sympathy to Bob & Jo Dagit after Bob's older brother passed away
- *Sympathy to Anne Van Der Sloot & family after passing of her mother, Lola
- *Sympathy to Carla Jesse & family after passing of her niece, Carma
- *Dick & Marlo Jack's cousin's daughter, Mandy, died in a car accident; sympathy to the family
- *Gene and Bev Kadlec as Gene is moving to Cottage Grove Place for full time care
- *Don and Wanda Whitford as Don is hospitalized
- *Dave Keefe had outpatient surgery on 6/9, other health concerns
- *Jaired Lyons had jaw surgery on 6/11
- *Ted Camp had an eye procedure
- *Steve Strong with health concerns
- *Dale Beatty's mother, Sharon, hospitalized in Vinton
- *Anne Van Der Sloot's parents, Keith & Nola, with COVID-19
- *Les & Sherry Minor's granddtr., Jillian, with health concerns
- *Marci Wittles' brother-in-law, Scott, with cancer
- *Pam Moore's niece's son, Sam, with brain procedure
- *Amy Conyers shares news that family member, Josh, is doing better
- *Lynn Heidt's friend with COVID-19 transported to New York
- *Krista Wylie's co-worker, Corey, diagnosed with parathyroid cancer
- *Country and world with the pandemic and important social concerns
- *Race relations and important conversations following the deaths of George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, and others
- *Conversations about race & class & white privilege

! ALL FALL 2020 WALKS PLANNED BY THE CR
! EMMAUS MINISTRIES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED.
! Please continue to pray for the Spring 2021 Walks being
! held at Camp Io Di Se Ca (Men's Walks on 3/4 & 7/21;
! Women's Walk on 3/18/21). There is still a Gathering
! of the Emmaus Community planned for 8/9, 1-4 PM, at
! Marion UMC. Call Jan at 319-981-1824.

JOYS

- *CWM's administrative assistant, Dee Lubahn, has moved with family to Florida (*& will be missed*)
- *This month (July) we welcome our new Office Assistant with Children's Weekday Ministries (CWM), Kim Wilhelm; we will share a profile in next month's newsletter!
- *Lincoln Oliver had successful ear surgery at UIHC
- *Happy 90th birthday to Gene Kadlec
- *Happy 16th birthday to Rachel Wylie (& braces off)
- *Happy 45th anniversary to Harry & Cindy Rupe
- *Verlis & Nancy Miller lift up family celebrations
- *Hank Widmer worshipping with us from South Carolina; June 21 would have been Hank & Betty's 61st anniversary!
- *Jessica Hinke shared good news about teaching position at Prairie High School and daughter, Maddie, is potty-trained
- *Pastor Jenny shared that her house has sold & her parents bought a house in the city after selling their house by the river
- *Alisa Oliver's sister is cancer free following recent procedure
- *Children's Weekday Ministries Summer Program started 6/8
- *Pride Month celebrating the LGBTQ community!
- *Summer months are here!
- *Celebrating fathers on Father's Day
- *Thanks to Rev. Lee Schott for her service with Women At The Well Prison Ministry
- *Pastor Paul Wilcox has been appointed as the Transitional Conference Superintendent (part of the Circuit Ministry Development Team of the Iowa Conference of the UMC)
- *New associate pastor, Rev. Kristina Roth-Klinck, will join the church on Sunday, July 5th
- *Fourth of July weekend coming up and need to stay safe
- *Progress on the new church parking lot

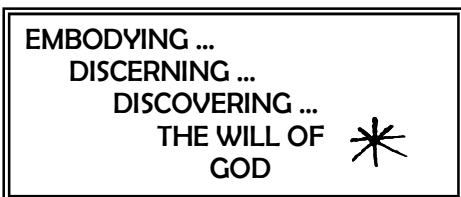
Remembering with love:
Betty Larison.....2015
Sharon Mooney.....2016
Dick Chelickowsky.....2016
Fran Fairchild.....2019



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

Lovely Lane Staff

Lead Pastor.....Dr. Scott Meador
Associate Pastor.....Rev. Kristina Roth-Klinck
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 Geissing
Choir Director.....K. Weiler
Organist.....Dennis Ramsey
Children’s Choirs.....Carla Jesse
Director of Handbells.....Charlie Kucera
Nursery.....Shelbie Wood, Tara Neveu,
& Paige Gerjts
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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