

THE TOWER MONTHLY

LOVELY LANE | BALTIMORE CITY STATION

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 6

February 2020



Lovely Lane United Methodist Church

MOTHER CHURCH OF
AMERICAN METHODISM



2200 Saint Paul Street
Baltimore MD 21218-5805

Worship 11:00 AM

Office Hours
Monday — Friday
9 AM — 2 PM

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410-889-1512

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PASTOR EMERITA

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SEXTON

Ivan Reyes

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Lena Leone



A TRIBUTE TO DOLORES SHAW



When Dolores Shaw came to Lovely Lane in 1947, to begin her 4+ decades as our Church Secretary, I was a little girl. It didn't take long for me to be in awe of her, a feeling that remained as our age difference seemed to shrink, we became good friends, and I felt we were contemporaries. Her role as Church Secretary seemed quite glamorous to me and led me to aspire to a similar career. Dolores served as secretary and so much more. She glowed with friendliness, personality, a sense of humor, and an amazing capacity to fill every aspect of responsibility required at the Mother Church of American Methodism. Many would refer to her as the "Mother of American Methodism." (I don't think bachelor, Francis Asbury, would mind.)

She knew the church families and could recall addresses and phone numbers of members long gone, even in recent years. Lovely Lane was filled with activity in those early years. She could balance the activities, whether a dinner with the Mayor in attendance, a needy person ringing the doorbell for assistance, the teen-agers dancing in Lovely Lane Hall, or giving priority to counting the offering on Monday morning. Her gifts and energy were a vital part of the creation and dedication of the museum in 1955, the Bicentennial United Methodist General Conference held in Baltimore in 1984, and the major restoration of the building in the 1980's.

There is no question that she excelled as Tour Guide. For most of her years working at the church, she played the organ and directed the choir at another church on Sundays. Every other day of the week, she was ready to instantly conduct a tour, whether on the calendar or for someone coming to the front door. There were visitors and groups from all over the country and the world. She could mesmerize the youngsters in the confirmation classes and get them interested in Methodist history. Her grand finale was climbing to the organ loft and bringing the organ to life, more often than not, with "O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing." She could recite the love letter Dr. Thomas Coke left on the breakfast table for his invalid wife. She always commented that the letter would make you forget all about breakfast. (The letter is in the museum.)

Dolores was proud of her Cuban heritage which may have given her a heart that could relate to the members of our church family as they experienced the joys and sorrows of life. She lived her whole life in the house on Arabia Avenue, first with her grandparents and parents. When she and Wilton married, he packed his suitcase and relocated from his home around the corner. Their son, Bobby, grew up there. Wilton and Bobby were the joys of her life and I know there is a wonderful reunion in heaven. Wilton and Bobby were a vital part of Lovely Lane's life, as Dolores continued to be even after her retirement.

When I visited her on Arabia Avenue, she was always a gracious hostess who loved to have me share the piano bench with her as she played "Cuban Love Song," Duke Ellington's "Come Sunday" (UMH#728,) and other favorite hymns and love songs. She would proudly produce the menu from a famous restaurant in New York City, which Irving Berlin had signed for her.

A good friend, Pat Hulsey Mayers, who was the wife of the late Rev. Dr. Judson Hulsey, Associate Minister at Lovely Lane in the early 1960's, described her as a strong presence in the church and a friend for life, once you met her. I think that says it all for those of us who loved her and felt her love.

Eleanor Packard

From the Pastor's Desk..

Dear Friends in Christ,

As the pastor of Lovely Lane UMC a cradle Methodist, ordained for 40 years, I recognize our Tower Newsletter goes out to over three hundred families, many of which I do not have the opportunity to be in worship or study with. You have missed our conversations concerning the issues before the United Methodist Church, including the study entitled Who Are We that we are participating in right now. This is perhaps your only connection to what is going on in the greater United Methodist Church. Many have read or heard the national news headlines about the Methodist Church splitting up. In reality, nothing will happen until General Conference meets in May of 2020. In the meantime, I wanted to lift up a few paragraphs from our Bishop, LaTrelle Easterling who was a member of the Mediation Team.

As the Baltimore-Washington Conference, I invite us to read the entire Protocol and the accompanying documents with an open mind. Read it without imputing onto its authors any ill-intent or ignoble motive. Read it with the aftermath of the Special Session of General Conference in mind. Read it with the pain and harm that has been caused by our inability to live within contextual and theological freedom. Read it with an eye toward an opportunity to pour ourselves into mission and ministry without fear of LGBTQIA+ charges, trials, or exclusion.

As a result of The Protocol and my belief in the possibilities it holds, I will not be processing any charges pursuant to the new paragraphs of the Book of Discipline, which went into effect on January 1, 2020. There was unanimous consent among the mediation team, including the traditionalist voices at the table, that new rounds of charges and trials would not be helpful at this juncture. Rather, all such charges will be held in abeyance until after the General Conference.

It seems providential to me that the churches of the BWC are in the midst of the conference-wide study, "Who Are We: A Journey From Head to Heart," which was designed to help us reflect upon our theological and scriptural grounding, our Wesleyan heritage, and our life together as the BWC. This study positions us perfectly to determine whether we want to remain within the post-separation United Methodist Church with the restrictive language about homosexuality removed, or go with the post-separation expression of Methodism that will retain those restrictions. Are we a conference grounded in

liberation and inclusion, or restrictive practices? I pray that we see ourselves as the former. I believe our 236 years of bold mission and ministry, and our Christ-centered inclusion of all people, indicate that we are. . . .

On the one hand, the cry from the members of The United Methodist Church has been to stop the pain, end the trials, and create an inclusive church where everyone is welcome. But it has become clear that many people in our church are not able to work faithfully and fruitfully alongside those with whom they disagree. An amicable separation is our best viable option. That is what the members of the mediation team attempted to create with The Protocol. . . . The Protocol now stands as the best work, and the best hope, of people across the broad theological spectrum of The United Methodist Church.

As we move toward the General Conference session in May, where The Protocol will be considered as legislation, I call all the people of the Baltimore-Washington Conference into a time of prayer and fasting. In the midst of these very logistical and strategic measures to ensure the future of the Church, we must never lose sight of the fact that we are first and foremost a spiritual people, called to be salt and light in an imperfect world.

As the Mother Church of American Methodism, Lovely Lane UMC is very hopeful that this document will be approved, that the harm will stop and we will be able to move forward together with different expressions of theology grounded in the ministry and mission of the Methodist Church. Please join us in prayer as we live into the future that God is preparing for us for an inclusive church.

**Grace and Peace,
Rev. Debbie Scott**



16 Member Mediation Team that produced the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation

Restoration & National Fund Project Giving

Church leaders extend their gratitude for the ongoing contributions received towards our 2:1 matching requirement of the \$250,000 capital grant award from the National Fund for Sacred Places (NFSP). As of January 15, we have passed the first NFSP milestone: we have raised **\$125,000** towards that matching goal.

We have received funds from the following donors since we published the January 2020 Tower edition:

Baltimore Folk Music Society members

Betty Clopton

The Carol J. Cooper Legacy Fund

Catherine Fenselau Cotter

Andrew Clarke Fenselau

Thomas Stewart Fenselau

Marlene Henderson

The Miller/Sears Fund

Roger & Monika Munn

IRA of Jackalyn Noller - In Honor of LL21CC members

Eleanor Packard

Michael Rouse

E. Anne & Robert Seeger

St. Andrew's United Methodist Thrift Shop

Rev. Jim and Laura Veatch

Patricia and Robert Welch - In Honor of Dorothy Krug

The Lovely Lane 21st Century Committee (LL21CC) is ramping up donor cultivation efforts and development of project scope documents in order to hire design and construction professionals to begin work on our beautiful building. We anticipate necessary funds and permits to be committed by Fall 2020 to begin Phase 1 of this important restoration and rehabilitation work that will open our doors to even more shared use with groups from our local community.

For more information about how you can help us realize the goals of the NFSP project to restore and rehabilitate our beautiful building, please email lovelylanecenter@gmail.com or call the church at 410-889-1512.



Australia on fire from space

FEBRUARY 2, 9, 16 & 23 STUDY

Who Are We Study after worship

FEBRUARY 7-9 ROCK

Rev. Scott will be a staff member and presenter at our annual conference youth event ROCK in Ocean City, MD.

FEBRUARY 8 WORK DAY

Church Work Day will be held on the 2nd Saturday, February 8th. Remember, many hands make light work!

FEBRUARY 15 WEDDING

February 15th at 11:00am Dallas and Tammy, recent new members to Lovely Lane UMC, will be married in the sanctuary. All members of the congregation are welcome to be there.

FEBRUARY 16 MEETING

12:15pm Church Council Meeting

FEBRUARY 26 ASH WEDNESDAY

Lent Begins with the Ash Wednesday Service at 6:30pm

FEBRUARY 27-29 CONVOCATION

Rev. Scott will attend the National Reconciling Ministries Convocation in Nashville, TN in preparation for the May General Conference.



Dolores Shaw's Nativity Set



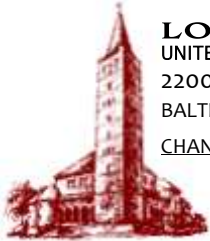
Santa visits LL UMC Staff



February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Hour 12 PM Public Tour 1 PM Memorial Service	27 10:30 AM BLS Alumni Social 3 PM BLS Basketball Practice 6 PM Baltimore Tai Chi	28 3 PM BLS Basketball Practice	29 8 PM BFMS Dance	30 3 PM BLS Basketball Practice 6 PM Grace Abounds Youth Dance Ministry	31	1 8 AM Martial Arts Class 10 AM Che Yoga 5 PM Baltimore Free Farm Fancy Dinner
2 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Hour 12 PM Public Tour 12:30 PM Who Are We Study	3 3 PM BLS Basketball Practice 6 PM Baltimore Tai Chi	4 3 PM BLS Basketball Practice 6 PM 21st Century Task Force Meeting	5 8 PM BFMS Dance	6 3 PM BLS Basketball Practice 6 PM Grace Abounds Youth Dance Ministry	7 2 PM BLS High School Winter Social	8 8 AM Martial Arts Class 9 AM Church Work Day 10 AM Che Yoga
9 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Hour 12 PM Public Tour 12:30 PM Who Are We Study	10 6 PM Baltimore Tai Chi	11	12 8 PM BFMS Dance	13 6 PM Grace Abounds Youth Dance Ministry	14 6 PM Towson Graduate Ensemble Practice 6 PM Unity Fellowship Masquerade Ball	15 8 AM Martial Arts Class 10 AM Che Yoga 11 AM Wedding
16 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Hour 12 PM Public Tour 12:15 PM Who Are We Study 12:30 PM Church Council Meeting	17 6 PM Baltimore Tai Chi 6 PM Towson Graduate Ensemble Practice	18 6 PM Towson Graduate Ensemble Practice	19 Newsletter Items Due 10 AM BLS Black History & Women's History Month Share Day 2 PM UMC Church Planting Group Tour 8 PM BFMS Dance	20 6 PM Grace Abounds Youth Dance Ministry 6 PM Towson Graduate Ensemble Practice	21 6 PM Towson Graduate Ensemble Practice	22 8 AM Martial Arts Class 10 AM Che Yoga
23 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Hour 12 PM Public Tour 2 PM Towson Graduate Ensemble Practice 12:15 PM Who Are We Study	24 6 PM Baltimore Tai Chi 6 PM Towson Graduate Ensemble Practice	25 6 PM Towson Graduate Ensemble Practice	26 Newsletter Mailed 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service 8 PM BFMS Dance	27 6 PM Grace Abounds Youth Dance Ministry 6 PM Towson Graduate Ensemble Practice	28 2 PM BLS Middle School Dance	29 8 AM Martial Arts Class 10 AM Che Yoga

OUR MISSION: To celebrate the vision of God’s Good News in Jesus Christ in liturgy, learning, and life, through the revitalization of our congregation, the restoration of our building, and the strengthening of our traditions, while recognizing our unique presence and mission in Baltimore City.



LOVELY LANE
 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 2200 ST. PAUL STREET
 BALTIMORE, MD 21218-5805
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Non-profit
 Organization
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TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
THANK YOU FOR PROMPT DELIVERY!

FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23
Altar Flowers	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
Tower Lighting	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
Greeters	Dennis & Angie Ferguson	Susanna Maddox & Mike Rouse	Susan Preston & Craig Smith	Jackie Noller & Betsy Fisk
Liturgists	Jackie Noller	Marisa Olszewski	Kristie Weimar	Brent Orr
Tour Guides	Linda Webb	Eleanor Packard	Lee Enos	Sarah Scribner
Fellowship Hour Hosts	Carrie Harnick	Mike Rouse & Susanna Maddox	Brent Orr & Kristie Weimar	Cathy Dryden