

Pastor Keri
Rainsberger
815-369-5291 or
Cell 614-542-9197

December Servants

Greeters

- 2 – Dale & Stacey Mader family
- 9 - Gary & Nancy Price
- 16 – Roger & Kathie Schulz
- 23 – Roger & Kathie Schulz
- 30– Dwayne & Carol Robieson

Liturgist

- 2 – Sally Buchenau
- 9 – Pat Edler
- 16 – Scott Stich
- 23 – Roberta Rogers
- 30 - Bonnie Broge

Video Tech

- 2 – Lisa Dascher
- 9 – Elaine Williams
- 16 – Cathy Rich
- 23 – Cathy Rich
- 30 – Cathy Rich

Dial-a-Devotion

- 2 – Janet Lobdell
- 9 – Norma Klipping
- 16 – Eleanor Holmes
- 23 – Pat Phillips
- 30 - Eleanor Holmes

Fellowship

- 2 – Stacey Mader,
Eleanor Holmes
- 9 – Sandy Bilgri
- 16 – Please volunteer
- 23 – Please volunteer
- 30 - Pat Edler, Carol Robieson

Sunday School Teachers

Lynne Howe, Lisa Dascher
Roberta Rogers, Cathy Rich

Lena United Methodist Church

December 2018 Newsletter



Pray for Healing: Dan Buchenau, Scott, Sharon and Avery Hagemann (Friends of Renee Buisker), Pauline Lutz, Tami (Williams) McClellan, Christopher Biehl, Sally Buchenau, LaVonne Jones, Robert Hartwig, Pat Phillips, Darryl Wybourn, Dave (Bonnie Broge's brother-in-law), Dorothy Owens, Todd Miller (Myrna Seuring's nephew), Beulah Klaus (requested by Norma Klipping), Kim Pluss (Dot Spielman's daughter), Debra Bettcher (Bruce Wuebben's friend), Eileen Snapp, Tammy Reimers, Loren Brown (Holly Buss' father), Scott Bonnett, Bob Hendry, Vernon Baer, Myron Coaty, Tam Kryder, Gretchen Heitkam, Myrna Seuring, Vivien Rose Dascher John Gorz (Sue Bussian's brother), Joanne Gruendler, Nevin Kryder, Arlene Kryder, Irene Schubert, Richard (Jeff & Judy Baer's grandson),

In treatment:

Pat Campbell (Mick Flynn's sister), Judy Draeving (friend of Wayne & Elaine); Bev Rakowska (Melrose Park)

Our home-bound members and friends:

"Butch" and Judy Polhill (home); Lois Thrasher (Liberty Village/Hawthorne Inn); Lorraine Bonebright, Lavonne Jones (Pearl Pavilion); Pauline Lutz, Marilyn Holmes, Al Owens, & Carol Fluegel (all at Lena Living Center)

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS /READERS

December 2 - Adult Sunday School Class

December 9 – Audio/Video Team

December 16 - Sunday School Kids

December 23 - Praise Team

December 24 - Bible Study Leaders (Richard & Eleanor Holmes,
(4:30pm Service) (Flo Chapin, Randy Kryder)



December Anniversaries

- 12/7 Tom & Tammy Edler
- 12/9 Rory & Bethany Schulz
- 12/12 Elmer & Nancy Hybarger
- 12/15 Kurt & Joanne Snyder
- 12/17 Scott & Dana Borchardt
- 12/23 Roger & Kathie Schulz
- 12/28 Brad & Heidi Edler
- 12/29 David & Sarah Staley



December Birthdays

- 12/1 Jim Klever
- 12/2 Rose Black
- 12/3 Brad Edler, Sandra Morrison, Scott Stich
- 12/4 Brad Kempel, Sarah Lampard
- 12/5 Cheryl Huggins, Nancy Hybarger
- 12/6 Sandra Bilgri, Ella Korte, Collyns Wybourn
- 12/11 Richard Thomasson
- 12/13 Marci Borchardt
- 12/16 Gary Schreiner
- 12/20 Ryder Lobdell, Everlee Lobdell, Shawn Robieson
- 12/21 Cassie Wybourn
- 12/22 Diane Kempel
- 12/28 Joyce Brinkmeier
- 12/29 Jeanne Offelein
- 12/31 Jared Borchardt, Shane Gerber

Christmas Pick-Up Choir

In Search of: folks who enjoy singing the sounds of the season but can't make another long-term commitment during the busy holiday season! We have just the thing for you—a Christmas Pick-Up Choir! Please attend just one of these rehearsals (or more if you feel you want to or need to) and join us in singing at the worship service on Sunday, December 23. We are rehearsing on Wednesday, December 5 (6:30 PM), Wednesday, December 12 (6:30 PM), and Sunday December 16 (after worship, approx. 10:30 AM). We'll be singing a medley of Christmas favorites called "Fanfare and Processional for Christmas." Rehearsals will be held in the sanctuary. See Lisa if you would like a copy of the music in advance. Please join us, and bring a friend!

The Lena Area Church Cooperative has again organized an “Angel Tree” this Christmas. Angels will be displayed and available to you on November 25th in the back of the church. Each angel represents a child or family member in need this holiday season and contains their wish list for Christmas. If you would like to sponsor a child or family member please take an angel, fill out the information card attached and return your gift (s) to the church by December 16th with the angel attached to it. Any questions can be directed to Judy Buchenau 369-4625 or Maryanne Gritzmaker 369-4827. Thank you for your generosity.

From the Pastor’s Desk.....



December 2nd begins the new church year and marks the start of Advent, a time of preparation for Christ's many comings. We resist the urge to rush headlong into Christmas. Our Sunday scripture readings will hint at the upheaval of Emmanuel, God among us, both as a tiny vulnerable baby and as a mighty earth-shaking force to be reckoned with. God among us inspires action from us. Are we ready?

This season will also have many additional opportunities to gather. On December 2nd at 3:30pm we will gather for “Untangling Christmas” a fun multi-generational time of worship and learning that will invite us to “untangle” from the stress of Christmas by focusing in on Christ. We'll pray, play, sing, learn, bake, and eat together!

We will gather twice on Christmas Eve. At 4:30pm we will gather for a traditional candlelight service of lessons and carols. We will share again the timeless story of that first Christmas morning and the ongoing waves it makes in our lives to this day. At 11pm we will gather “out in the fields” (the fellowship hall) with the shepherds and share with them the joy and surprise of hearing of Christ's birth. It will be an intimate gathering as we tell the Christmas story around the campfire.

We'll gather again on the second-to-last day of the year and every Sunday thereafter because we know the Christmas story is only the beginning!

UMW News

We had a very good Breakfast, Bake Sale and Bazaar this year. We made a little over \$3,000 profit. That's more than we've done in the past couple of years. Every area did better and there wasn't much left over. This was a job well done and everyone that participated should feel proud.

When you read this, our Cookie Walk and Chili supper will probably be over (Nov. 30th). We always enjoy seeing all the people come to that too. They ooh and ah over all the varieties of cookies we have. Our cookie bakers haven't disappointed the people with the wonderful assortment, that's for sure. This event is held by the UMW Women and the Hannah's Helper group and share in the profit. Both groups really appreciate all the cookies donated to this make this a success, for those that help get everything ready, those that help us that night and those that come to enjoy the evening. It takes the whole church working together to make these events possible.

We got a thank you letter from the Freeport Sojourn House for the \$100 we donated to them to help with their Thanksgiving meal.

We voted to give the church \$1,200 toward the tuck pointing and chimney project. If they need more money, we will vote on that at our next meeting.

Our group has decided to go to Stella's in Stockton on December 1st for brunch. We will meet in the church parking lot at 10:30 to car pool and be at Stella's by 11:00.

These past 4 years serving as the UMW president have been an experience for me. It's definitely taken me out of my comfort zone a few times, but I've survived. Lynne Howe will be stepping into this position as of Jan. 1st and I would appreciate you being as helpful to her as you all have been to me. Thank you all for being there when I needed you.

God bless everyone,
Maryanne Gritzmaker, UMW President



Calling all Cookie Bakers

The Lena Area Church Coop is supplying the cookies for the Operation Goodfellow again this year. Our church is responsible for 30 dozen cookies. Please have your cookies at the church December 6th in the Sunday School room right inside the back door. Thank You...

Grief Group - The next meeting of the Grief Group will be Wednesday, December 5 at 7pm at the church. This will be a follow-up on the recent seminar ; and the meeting is open to anyone with grief issues. For more information, please contact Pastor Jeff Baer at 815-541-6558

Lena United Methodist Church - Finance Committee Minutes November 13, 2018

Finance Chairman, Kim Nelson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Attendees: Richard Holmes, Pastor Keri, Larry Nelson, Kim Nelson, Steve Rothschadl, Cathy Rich, Jeff and Judy Baer, Scott Stich, Roberta Rogers and Chris Bartelt. Pastor Keri led us in prayer.

The Finance committee reviewed the minutes from the September 11th meeting. Roberta made a motion and it was seconded by Richard to accept the minutes as printed. Motion carried, and minutes were approved.

Old Business

The 2019 Budget was approved at Annual Church Conference on October 28. Copies of the Annual Report will be available for pick up at the back of church. Kim will make an abridged version of the budget narrative that will be included in a future bulletin.

Committee members all received a copy of the Balance Sheet as of October 31 and P&L's for September and October and a P&L for January through October, 2018. The unaudited balance in the general fund as of October 31 is \$13,353. We have \$3946.50 remaining in the boiler fund account after paying the bill for the new boiler. Kim reviewed the income and it was noted that the collection was weakest in August and it was also noted that attendance was lower in August. September and October collections were good. Nothing specific stands out in September or October. September was a 5-week month and we held expenses. Net income was \$2,553. In October we received more income than budgeted, the quarterly insurance bill was due, expenses held through and net income was \$-256.

The meeting adjourned at 7 pm Next meeting: January 8, 2019 @ 6:30 pm

Submitted by Chris Bartelt, Financial Secretary

Lena United Methodist Church – Ad Council Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2018

Roberta Rogers, acting chair person, called the meeting to order at 7 pm. Those present were: Pastor Keri, Roberta Rogers, Richard Holmes, Cathy Rich, Scott Stich, Judy and Jeff Baer, Larry and Kim Nelson, and Chris Bartelt.

Everyone had a copy of the minutes from the September 11, 2018 meeting. Larry Nelson moved to approve the minutes. Scott Stich seconded. All were in favor and motion passed.

It was decided that the 2018 Thanksgiving collection will be given as follows: ½ to LUMC Benevolent fund and ½ to UMCOR. The 2018 Christmas collection will be divided as follows: ½ to the Le-Win Area Food Pantry and ½ to Apportionments.

Committee Reports:

Trustees- Richard Holmes reported that Loescher's has been here this week working on the boiler to correct some things that were not right. He thinks they will be finished in a couple days; and we will not be charged for this additional work. The UMW paid for a new refrigerator in the kitchen. Tuck pointing has been completed for now except for some very high spots. The last time tuck pointing was done was two years ago. The chimney liner needs to be replaced in the Spring. Trustees have been working to remove

Ad Council Meeting Minutes (continued).....

the rubber pellets in the playground floor. Several loads have already been given away. The fence has been partially removed and there was some discussion on whether or not to keep the playground equipment. It was felt that we would get rid of it. The Trustees will decide at their meeting next week. Part of the playground area will be seeded down and it was suggested that we might park the bus in the spot off the alley.

SPRC – Larry made a motion that was seconded by Richard to hire Stacey Knoup as the church custodian. All were in favor.

Finance – Reports of finances for September and October were discussed during the finance meeting earlier in the evening and all Ad Council members were in attendance.

Kim Nelson is now Chairman of the Finance Committee. She was approved at the Church Conference by the Nomination slate presented. Up until that time, she had been Acting Chairman of Finance.

Membership - Judy Baer said she had been contacted regarding whether or not LUMC wants to have a float in the Lena Christmas parade. It was decided that there was not enough time to get ready this year, but maybe next year we would participate. Prayer requests: We will announce periodically about welcome cards and prayer requests and we will print some colored prayer request cards so they are more noticeable.

Worship - The Worship committee held a meeting recently called by chairman, Sally Buchenau. They are working on upcoming services. Tools of Faith was the theme in October and November and December will be the Advent story from the Lectionary. Lisa will draft an article to include in the Newsletter about the choir that will perform on December 23. December 2 is the “messy church” event called “Untangling Christmas” in conjunction with other local UMC’s

Education – Date of the Christmas Program is December 16. “One Room” Sunday School curriculum is working well. We have 2-6 attendees in the Jr High and High School Age group and 0-6 attendees in the younger group. The adult Sunday School group fills the table in the meeting room. The “Dreaming Team” will meet again to assess the success of the changes to the worship bags, the new Messy Church event and 1 room program.

Youth – Pastor Keri read Pastor Roger Bronkema’s update on youth activities and gave a copy of the report to everyone. The youth completed a service project of some yard work at the DOW House.

Pastor update: Pastor Keri reminded the group that the current Mustard Seed Campaign is for the Mt Carroll UMC for \$300 in coins. LUMC church members are invited to give additional funds with envelope giving beyond the \$300 if they choose.

The meeting closed in prayer by Pastor Keri at 8:05pm.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 8th, 2019 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Bartelt



Cookie Walk and Chili Supper

Adults - \$6.50

Children Under 10 - \$4.00

November 30, 2018

4:30 to 8:00 pm

Lena United Methodist Church

118 W Mason St

Lena IL



UNTANGLING



CHRISTMAS



DECEMBER 2nd - 3:30pm-6:00pm
Lena UMC - 118 W. Mason St.

DOES THE THOUGHT OF YOUR TO-DO LIST FOR
THE CHRISTMAS SEASON MAKE YOU WANT TO
HYPERVENTILATE?

Let us help! Join us for a night of food, fellowship and
fun activities as we remove some of your stress, so you
can take time to remember the reason for the season.

Families,
Singles,
Seniors
All are
welcome!

Bring your
Christmas
lights and get
them tested
and untangled

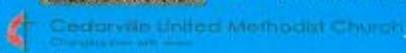
Sandwich and
Soup Supper
Afterwards

Get your
Christmas
picture
taken

Bring your
presents and
get them
wrapped



SPONSORED BY:



Warren UMC - Red Oak UMC

December 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8 am Men's Breakfast 10:30 am UMW Meet at church parking lot- car pool to Stella's for brunch at 11 am
2 9 AM Worship + Communion 10:30 am Sunday School 3:30-6 pm – Untangling Christmas	3 6-7:30 pm Girl Scouts	4 12 pm – Daytime Food n Fun Potluck 1 pm Quilters	5 6:30 pm – Choir Practice	6	7	8
9 9 AM Worship 10:30 am Sunday School	10	11 1 pm Quilters	12 6:30 pm – Choir Practice	13 6:30 pm Knitters and Knotters	14 Newsletter Deadline	15
16 9 AM Worship + Kids Sunday School Program 10:30 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Sunday School	17 6-7:30 pm – Girl Scouts	18 1 pm Quilters	19 1:30 pm Hannah's Helpers	20	21	22
23 9 AM Worship + Choir 10:30 am Sunday School	24 4:30 pm – Candlelight Service 11 pm - Christmas Eve Service (Fellowship Hall)	25 Merry Christmas!! Office closed	26	27 6 pm – Food n Fun Potluck 6:30 pm Knitters and Knotters	28	29
30 9 AM Worship 10:30 am Sunday School	31					

Lena United Methodist Church
118 W. Mason Street
P.O. Box 336
Lena, IL. 61048
Website: lenaumc.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S.POSTAGE
P A I D
Lena, Illinois
Permit No. 17

December 2018

1st - 8 am - Men's Breakfast; 10:30 am - UMW car pool to Stockton
2nd - 3:30-6 pm "Untangling Christmas"
4th - Noon - Daytime Food n Fun
13th & 27th - 6:30 pm - Knitters & Knotters
14th - Newsletter Deadline
27th - 6 pm - Food n Fun Potluck

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Pastor Keri Rainsberger
Office Telephone
Dial-A-Devotion
Worship hours:
Sunday School

Home 369-4899
369-5291
369-4411
Sunday 9 A.M.
10:30 A.M.

Cell 614-542-9197
Church e-mail umclena@gmail.com
Children's worship 9 A. M. 2nd & 4th Sundays