

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

July Servants

Greeters

5 –
12 –
19 –
26 –

Liturgist

5 –
12 –
19 –
26 –

Video Tech

5 –
12 –
19 –
26 –

Dial-a-Devotion

5 – Pat Phillips
12 – Janet Lobdell
19 – Norma Klipping
26 – Eleanor Holmes

Fellowship

5 –
12 –
19 –
26 –

Sunday School Teachers

Lynne Howe
Lisa Dascher
Roberta Rogers, Cathy Rich



July 2020 Newsletter



Photo by Larry Nelson

Pray for Healing: Dean Obert, Rhys Stone (Larry & Kim Nelson's great grandson), Dorothy Montgomery, Arlene Kryder, Jodee Offerman (Renee Buisker's friend), Mark Mader, Cindy Andry (Judy Baer's sister), Bonnie Vondra (friend of Sally Buchenau), Pauline Lutz, Johanne Wingert, Larry Buchenau, Trudi Schuler, Eileen Snapp, MaryLou Bunker-Langy (Mervin Mader's cousin), Judy Buchenau, Howard Rowe (friend of Jeff and Judy Baer), Hailey Betthausen (Bev Lindenman's great granddaughter), Michael Reimers (Merv Mader's grandson), Kris Sanders (Barb Feiner's daughter), Sharon Schwartz, Ken Gritzmaker, John Andry (Judy Baer's brother-in-law), Deloris Siemens, Richard Baldino (Jeff and Judy Baer's son-in-law), Lisa Prindle (friend of Janice Myelle), Verla Lobdell, Judy Welch, Robert Hartwig, Darryl Wybourn, Dave (Bonnie Broge's brother-in-law), Kim Pluss (Dot Spielmann's daughter), Vernon Baer, Myron Coaty, Tam Kryder, Vivien Rose Dascher, John Gorz (Sue Bussian's brother), Irene Schubert

In treatment:

Triscia Nickel, Pat Campbell (Mick Flynn's sister), Todd Miller (Myrna Seuring's nephew)

Our home-bound members and friends:

Lois Thrasher (Liberty Village/Hawthorne Inn); Lorraine Bonebright (Pearl Pavilion); Pauline Lutz, Marilyn Holmes, Al Owens, & Carol Fluegel (all at Lena Living Center); Chris Liles (Oakley Courts); Joyce Brinkmeier – Presence St. Joseph Center
Viola Sargent – Graceland Manor Assisted Living – Monroe, WI

Condolences to Opal Ritzman on the death of her sister, Joyce Pfile, of Freeport on June 13th.

Condolences to Gary & Nancy Price and family on the death of Gary's brother, Dale Price, in Minot, ND on June 14th.

July Anniversaries

- 7/6 Bruce & Lois Shelton
- 7/9 Scott & Lisa Stich
- 7/10 Ray & Leticia Boland
- 7/15 Kenneth & MaryAnne Gritzmaker
- 7/18 Robert & Sherry Sandell
- 7/28 Steven & Glenda Rothschadl



July Birthdays

- 7/1 Suzanne Daws, David Schulz
- 7/5 Tom Edler, Erin Korte
- 7/6 Wayne Werkheiser
- 7/7 Amy Buchenau, Carol Fluegel, Darryl Wybourn
- 7/8 Max Knoup
- 7/10 McKenzie Temperly
- 7/11 Charlie Short
- 7/14 Leticia Boland, Tanya Knoup
- 7/15 Gene Brister, Alison Kepner
- 7/18 Shaun Dascher, Nick Haas
- 7/20 Marilyn Holmes, Marcia Lobdell
- 7/22 Alton Owens, Marlys Scorsolini
- 7/24 Carol Buss, Rhonda Hooker
- 7/27 Betty Barker, Gary Black, Kayleigh Gerber, Xavier Sheppard
- 7/28 LaVone Gabel, Bethany Howe, Elaine Williams
- 7/29 Bonnie Broge, Gary Rich
- 7/30 David Lobdell

Congratulations to Tyler Bussian on the completion of his Ph.D. from the Mayo Clinic School of Biomedical Sciences. His degree is in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. A formal graduation ceremony will be held at a later date. Tyler's dissertation was titled "Cellular Senescence in Neurodegenerative Disease." He plans to continue working at the Mayo Clinic while finishing some ongoing work for publication. Tyler is the older of Todd and Sue Bussian's two sons. Congratulations, Dr. Tyler Bussian!

VBS Update: Mason Street VBS Family Festival - "Fruit of the Spirit" – August 1, 1-4 pm in Lena UMC parking lot. Rain date on August 8th. Families are welcome to stop by and learn about the fruit of the Spirit. Volunteers needed!

Note from Finance: Your offerings to the church can be made by sending them to Lena United Methodist Church, P O Box 336, Lena, IL 61048.

July Gathering Options Expanded!

Our local “Re-gather” Team has been meeting on Tuesday nights for several weeks to consider ways that we can safely gather together for worship, fellowship, and study. The team is monitoring health guidelines provided by federal and state health departments as well as from our Northern Illinois Conference Re-turn Team.

At the end of June our area is expected to transition into “phase 4” in these plans if all goes well. That would allow gatherings of up to 50 people if health and safety guidelines are followed. This would allow us to resume offering in-person gathering options.

Here is an outline of ways we hope to gather beginning in July:

1. We will continue to offer a Facebook live broadcast. We understand many will be unable or unwilling to gather in person at this point. We value this online community space that has been established. We have been working to upgrade our broadcast abilities to make this service even more accessible.
2. The recorded services will continue to be available through our website for those who do not access Facebook but do have Internet.
3. We will continue to send emailed and printed pastoral reflections. We understand that not all are able to access the broadcast nor will they be able to attend in person.
4. We are working to offer small in-person worship and fellowship opportunities. Some of these may happen in the parking lot, at local restaurant's outdoor patios, or in large rooms in the church building to increase safety. One possible format is to watch together the recorded service and then have a time of prayer and discussion. This small-group gathering is an option for those who long for in-person connection but are not yet able or willing to gather in large groups. These small groups may also provide space for increased depth in exploring the scriptures of the week in group discussion.
5. We plan to begin offering a large group gathering in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, beginning July 12 (if we enter phase 4 as planned). These will look different than our worship gatherings prior to COVID-19 due to increased safety measures. Masks and physical distancing will be required by all who attend. Those who are not feeling well or who have recently been exposed to COVID (within last 14 days) are requested to join our online gathering to avoid spreading illness. Group singing and recitation will be greatly limited. Worship practices such as greetings, communion, and baptisms will be altered. We will not have food for fellowship after the service. What we will have is the opportunity to gather together and share the love of Christ with each other, the space and time to praise God, and a place to refill with God's Spirit for our life's journey with Christ.
6. Pastoral in-person visits are still being discouraged, and many local hospitals and nursing homes are still discouraging visitors. This means we will continue to need to care for one another by phone and other creative methods of checking in with each other like drive-way visits. Even as some will be able to begin gathering in person, others will remain isolated so it remains important for us to continue to making contact and connecting with each other.
7. Small groups, Bible studies, and committees will be able to gather in-person based on the comfort level of the group. Recommended safety guidelines will be posted in the rooms of the church for use by groups. It is recommended that attendees wear masks and practice physical distancing when they gather in-person. Zoom will remain available for those groups who wish to meet together over the phone/Internet.

We look forward to the increased ways we will be able to gather together in the coming months! Please know, however you choose to worship, study, and fellowship in this time, God is with you there. God is with us in our homes as we worship online, God is with us in the pews as we gather together in the sanctuary, and God is with us in all the spaces in between. We are also connected as a church wherever we are. We commit to remain connected to each other, and to the work God has given us.

God be with us 'till we meet again!

Lena UMC Re-Turn Team

Tom Edler, Liz Gerber, Dean Gerbick, Stacey Knoup, Randy Kryder, Tiffany Nieman, Keri Rainsberger, Lisa Stich, and Scott Stich

Why We Won't Be Singing Soon in Worship

Greetings, Everyone! As I looked through the comments on our recent survey regarding in-person worship, I noticed some questions about singing, masks, and distance, etc. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you what I know regarding group singing and the pandemic that is affecting nearly every aspect of our lives. In recent weeks I have participated in several webinars from Practical Resources for Churches and our own Northern Illinois Conference. Additionally, I have read the report sponsored by the American Choral Directors Society and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. None of those organizations have any political affiliation, and the ACDA and NATS are in the business of encouraging singing! Therefore, I trust their findings. Here is a summary of what I have learned:

- Group singing is not safe until there is a vaccine.
- Group singing is not safe until there is a treatment that is at least 95% effective.
- The masks we currently have are not made for singing and do not make singing safe. The ones that could be, like the N95 masks, are not made for singing. The fit is not right, and the process of singing causes a build-up of CO2 in the masks that causes headaches, etc.
- The distance needed for singing is not the same as for regular social distancing. Six feet is not enough; twenty to twenty-five feet is more accurate. A choir of fifty people would safely inhabit a space the size of a football field. (A congregation of fifty who is singing would need the same amount of space.)

Even with the size of our Praise Team, imagine the size of the space needed for twenty feet between each of us! While outdoor singing may be safer, no one is willing to name a specific number of feet between singers for them to remain safe. Even though the outdoor air is good for ventilation, a breeze may carry droplets even further than they might travel indoors.

As I consider all this information, I don't believe that we can safely sing together when we resume in-person worship—at least not for a while. Even solo singing may have to be previously recorded instead of live for a period of time as well. Believe me when I say that even though I miss singing in our services, and music is very important to me, your health and safety is much more important. I strongly believe that at some point we will be together, and we will be making joyful noise.

Sincerely,
Lisa Stich

Congratulations to the following LUMC congregation's family and friends on their upcoming graduation:

High School:

Nick Haas, Oswego High School
Son of Marc and Mary Haas; Grandson of Wayne and Olga Benson

Jenna Robinson, Pearl City High School
Plans to attend Northern Illinois University to major in forensic bookkeeping
Granddaughter of Sally and the late Ron Buchenau

Kierra Lynn Schulz, Lena-Winslow High School
Plans to attend Knox College
Granddaughter of Roger and Kathie Schulz

Rawley Schulz, Stockton High School
Plans to attend Highland Community College
Grandson of Roger and Kathie Schulz

Abby Rich, Harlem High School
Daughter of Lyle and Erin Rich; Granddaughter of Gary and Cathy Rich

Izzy Osterloo, Hillcrest International School
Daughter of Zach and Mandy Osterloo; Granddaughter of Gary and Cathy Rich
Plans to attend LeTourneau in Texas

Highland Community College:

Ramsey Schulz, Associates degree in Communications
Plans to attend Loras College
Grandson of Roger and Kathie Schulz

Taylor Schulz, Associates degree in History
Plans to attend University of Wisconsin in Platteville
Granddaughter of Roger and Kathie Schulz

College:

Katie Wede
Masters Degree in Accountancy Data Analytics from Case Western Reserve University of Cleveland, Ohio
Granddaughter of Richard and Eleanor Holmes

Rachel Edler
Graduating from Minnesota State University in Mankato, Minnesota in August 2020
B.S. in Medical Laboratory Science degree
and Laboratory Science Certificate from Mercy College of Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa in August 2020
Daughter of Tom and Tammy Edler

Alan Myelle, Graduating from Hardin Simmons University, Abilene, Texas
Criminal Justice Major
Son of Gary and Janice Myelle

Kiley Schulz, Graduating from University of Wisconsin in Platteville
Majoring in theater

Charles Dean Baer, B.S. in business administration
from The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina on December 18, 2019
Son of Vernon and Lisa Baer; Grandson of Jeffrey and Judy Baer

Robert Jeffrey Baldino, B.A. in Media Studies
from North Central College
Son of Richard and Mary Kay Baldino; Grandson of Jeffrey Dean and Judy Baer

McKenzie Temperly
Graduating Summa Cum Laude from Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa
B.S. in Health Sciences Clinical and Applied
Daughter of Lyle and Dee Anne Temperly

Alyssa Ostendorf, Orangeville High School
Plans to attend Highland Community College before transferring to an undecided college
to get a degree in anesthesiology.
Granddaughter of Ken and MaryAnne Gritzmaker.

July 2020 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 9 AM Worship- On-line only	6	7 1 pm Quilters	8	9	10	11
12 9 AM Worship-	13 6:30 pm – Trustees meeting	14 1 pm Quilters 6:30 pm – Finance; 7 pm – Ad Council	15	16	17 Newsletter Deadline	18 6:45 am Men's Bible Study at Randy Kryder's barn for Social Distancing (Tentative)
19 9 AM Worship	20	21 1 pm Quilters	22	23	24	25
26 9 AM Worship	27	28 1 pm Quilters	29	30	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
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Lena, Illinois
Permit No. 17

July 2020

13th - 6:30 pm – Trustees Meeting
14th – 6:30 pm – Finance; 7 pm – Ad Council
17th - Newsletter Deadline

Or Current Resident

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[]
[Place label here]

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

Home 815-324-2746
369-5291
369-4411
Sunday 9 A.M.
10:30 A.M.

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