

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

## October Servants

### Greeters

4 –  
11 –  
18 –  
25 –

### Liturgist

4 – Sally Buchenau  
11 – Scott Stich  
18 – Roberta Rogers  
25 – Bonnie Broge

### Video Tech

4 – Cathy Rich  
11 – Cathy Rich  
18 – Cathy Rich  
25 – Cathy Rich

### Dial-a-Devotion

4 – Janet Lobdell  
11 – Norma Klipping  
18 – Eleanor Holmes  
25 – Pat Phillips

### Fellowship

4 –  
11 –  
18 –  
25 –

Sunday School Teachers  
Lynne Howe, Lisa Dascher  
Roberta Rogers, Cathy Rich



# Lena United Methodist Church

*Rooted in Christ, Growing Towards God, Producing the  
Fruit of the Holy Spirit, Spreading Seeds for the Future.*

## October 2020 Newsletter



**Pray for Healing:** Mervin Lobdell, Verla Lobdell, Ken Gritzmaker, Lavone Gabel, Vivien Rose Dascher, Les & Diane Brown (Pete Brown's brother and sister-in-law), Pookie Schubert, Maury Howe, Pat Milliken, Ryan Wuebben (Bruce Wuebben's son), Marcia Pax, Joyce Knight, Marcia Lobdell, Judy Baer, Rhys Stone (Larry & Kim Nelson's great grandson), Dennis Dunn (friend of Bruce Wuebben), Dean Obert, Dorothy Montgomery, Arlene Kryder, Jodee Offerman (Renee Buisker's friend), Mark Mader, Bonnie Vondra (friend of Sally Buchenau), Pauline Lutz, Johanne Wingert, Larry Buchenau, Eileen Snapp, MaryLou Bunker-Langy (Mervin Mader's cousin), Judy Buchenau, Howard Rowe (friend of Jeff and Judy Baer), Michael Reimers (Merv Mader's grandson), Kris Sanders (Barb Feiner's daughter), Sharon Schwartz, Deloris Siemens, Lisa Prindle (friend of Janice Myelle), 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, John Gorz (Sue Bussian's brother)

### **In treatment:**

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

### **Our home-bound members and friends:**

Ben & Gail Mayer – Liberty Village, Lois Thrasher (Liberty Village/Hawthorne Inn); Pauline Lutz, 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

Tithes and offerings can be mailed to LUMC at P.O. Box 336, Lena, IL 61048.

At the Ad Council meeting in September we discussed creating a list of names of people who have some free time and would be willing to drive fellow parishioners to appointments or for errands. If you would like to place your name on this list, please call the church office - 815-369-5291. Thank you.

# Happy Birthday

10/2 Katelynn Phillips  
10/3 Bowman Wybourn  
10/4 Marsha Tessendorf  
10/5 Tammy Wybourn  
10/6 Nancy Seuring  
10/7 Cindy Drye  
10/7 Merton Holland  
10/8 Elmer Hybarger  
10/10 Jennifer Edler  
10/11 Randy Buisker  
10/11 Karlyn Kempel  
10/11 Jack Rausch  
10/12 Mary Hudson  
10/15 Diane Burke, David Finkenbinder, Jackson Lampard  
10/16 Bob Buss, Beth Haughan  
10/17 Tyler Bussian  
10/19 Allie Brown, Pam Meier  
10/21 Connie Kempel, Pauline Schubert  
10/22 Larry Buchenau, Rodney Lenz  
10/23 Joanne Gruendler, Vera Kempel  
10/24 Katie White, Joelle White  
10/25 Olga Benson, Laura Setterstrom  
10/26 Shannon McFadden  
10/27 James Burke, Maryanne Gritzmaker  
10/28 Jeff Stamm  
10/29 Deanna Boyer  
10/30 Renee Buisker  
10/31 Duane Eilders



10/2 Marshall & Pauline Schubert  
10/3 Mick & Kris Flynn  
10/4 Thomas & Lynn White  
10/6 Kent & Nancy Seuring  
10/6 Curt & Kelsey Goeke  
10/6 Kenneth & Sharon Koch  
10/18 Greg & Bonnie Broge  
10/22 Maurice & Lynne Howe  
10/23 Jr. & Lisa Dascher  
10/25 Michael & Margory Liphart

## Stationary Bike – Free

Available for anyone in need that has had or is going to have a knee or hip replacement or if needed for exercise. Colleen Rakowska (815) 275-2303

Stephenson County has been placed under increased restrictions with the increase of COVID cases in our region. These restrictions include keeping in-person gatherings under 25 people. Our in-person worship gatherings have been just over this number. At this point, we will continue to offer in-person worship, however, please understand we may need to get creative with how we will do this, including the possibility of dividing the congregation into two separate spaces (by broadcasting our live streamed service to the second space). We may also need to pause in-person worship if conditions become worse. While we are under these restrictions we ask that those who are able to worship through our live-streamed service do so in order to reserve space at the church building for those who do not have this option. As with everything during this pandemic, we will adjust as restrictions change, but the constant will be that we will continue to worship the one who is God, even in these uncertain times and we will continue to join as God's church in this world.

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### **From the Pastor's Desk**

I often think and pray in hymns. That has made the safety restrictions for not singing in groups very hard. Yet, even if I cannot sing them in a group, the hymns either played by Lisa or just singing themselves in my head, provide me comfort, courage, compassion, and understanding.

One of the hymns that has been singing itself in my head frequently lately is Natalie Sleeth's beautiful "Hymn of Promise" (UM hymnal #707).

"In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, and apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see."

Autumn is a beautiful time of year, but often I overlook its beauty in dreaded anticipation of my least favorite season that follows. It is often hard to slow down and enjoy the process of change. Rather than rushing to imagine the barren seemingly lifeless trees, I have to remind myself to enjoy watching their lush summer green pull back revealing beautiful brilliant colors. Then take time to marvel at how the tree withdraws for a time to save strength for seasons to come.

It is hard to stay and enjoy the transition periods, especially when that transition is so clearly leading to a time of pulling back, rest, and life hidden under harsh snow. Know that we are not in this alone. We are promised that in those times when we are unable to speak for ourselves, hope for ourselves, see spring for ourselves, the Holy Spirit within us will do so for us. May we feel the stirring of the Spirit's promise even as we see the turning toward the many winters in our world right now.

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**As you may know**, in-person visits at most hospitals and nursing homes have been severely curtailed, limiting in-person pastoral care options. Some are slowly beginning to ease these restrictions. For example, Monroe Clinic and FHN recently announced that they will allow pastors to visit but the patient/family must request this. If you need pastoral care, know that most hospitals have on-site chaplains that can meet with you. Pastor Keri is also available by phone. If you are at home and just want to chat or have a prayer, Keri can also come to your driveway/lawn!

## LENA UMC TRUSTEE MINUTES

September 14, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Members** present were Gary Buss, Dennis Bussian, Richard Holmes, Jeff Stamm and Linda Voreis. Also present was Pastor Keri. Absent members were Gary Black, Pete Brown, Gary Myelle, and Nick Wybourn.

**Opening Prayer** led by Richard Holmes, with prayers for the wildfires and Richard's aunt and uncle.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes from the July 13, 2020 meeting were discussed. One correction was made to change the number of dividers given to Cedarville United Methodist Church from 2 dividers to 4 dividers. Jeff Stamm moved to accept the corrected minutes and Dennis Bussian seconded the motion. Motion carried. The minutes were approved.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Women's Restroom Light** still needs to be fixed by Gary Buss.

**Ceiling Fan At Parsonage** was installed.

**Elevator Shut Off Control** still needs to be moved by Gary Buss.

**Hole in the Church Eves** has been closed up.

**Ford Motor Company Recall** was done on the church bus at Manley Ford in Belvidere.

**Tuck Pointing** by Dana Keefer, on the front of the main part of the church, has a bid for approximately \$4,000. The lift rent is \$125/day for approximately 5 days. \$625.00. Gary Buss motioned to proceed with the tuck pointing, Jeff Stamm seconded the motion. Motion carried. Richard will present it to the Finance Committee tomorrow.

### NEW BUSINESS

**H&S Landscaping's** bid for snow removal at the parsonage is \$25 per snowfall over 2" and the sidewalk at church is \$45/hr. Gary Buss Motioned to accept the bid, Dennis Bussian seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Jim Katzenberger** will continue to plow the church parking lot at no charge.

**Copy Machine** maintenance contract was reviewed with Cassidy from the Impact Company from Rockford. Richard will look into a possible price reduction.

**Yoga** at the church will start up again September 16, 2020. It was requested to have the people sanitize their chairs after use.

**Closing prayer** with Pastor Keri

**Meeting Adjourned** at 7:25 p.m.

**Next Meeting** will be Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:30 pm

Submitted by secretary, Linda Voreis

## ***Lena United Methodist Church - Finance Committee Minutes –September 15, 2020***

Finance Chair, Kim Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Attendees by Zoom: Larry Nelson, Jeff and Judy Baer, Scott Stich. Attendees in person: Kim Nelson, Richard Holmes, Randy Kryder, Cathy Rich, Pastor Keri and Chris Bartelt.

Pastor Keri led us in prayer.

Randy made a motion to approve the July 14, 2020 meeting minutes and it was seconded by Richard. Motion carried and minutes were approved.

**Balance Sheet as of August 31, 2020:** At the end of August, the balance in the General Fund is \$29,103.70. The designated fund balance is \$19,724.45.

**P&L Reviews-July Profit & Loss comments:** July income from envelope giving was around \$9000. In July, the quarterly insurance through the conference, \$2,406.75, was due. Electric bill was a little higher due to July being a hot month and also dehumidifiers were in use. July net income was negative \$2,524.72.

**August Profit & Loss:** August income from envelope giving was around \$9000. Expenses are in line when compared to budget. Income was a little short. That's why net income was a little short at minus \$1,750.30.

**January through August Year to Date Profit & Loss:** Pastor Professional Expense account is under budget, No Youth Director so no money coming out of that salary account. Trustee accounts are under budget. Total expenses are lower than budget, but income is lower also.

### **Other business:**

Trustees Chairman, Richard Holmes, said tuck pointing at the front of the church needs to be done this Fall. (Richard said the Conference sent out an appraiser last winter to set a value on replacement of the church building and it was valued at \$3.5 million.) We need to take care of our building. Dana Keefer could do tuck pointing. His bid was \$4,625 which includes rental of a lift for 5 days for \$625. This is not a budgeted item this year. Where will the funds come from? There was some discussion and it was noted there is \$1894.90 designated in the UMW Savings from the Rummage Sale which was designated to be used for church maintenance, and there is undesignated interest money from NUDD CDs in the amount of \$4224.04. Larry made a motion that was seconded by Randy to use \$1894 from the Rummage sale money and money from the NUDD CD interest to pay for the tuck pointing this fall. All voted in favor and motion was approved.

Richard also said some tuck pointing on the back of the church will need to be done next year. The amount of next year's tuck pointing should be less than \$4000.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm. Next meeting: November 10, 2020 @ 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Chris Bartelt, Financial Secretary

***Lena United Methodist Church – Ad Council Meeting Minutes –***

***September 15, 2020***

Randy Kryder, Ad Council chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Attendees by Zoom: Jeff and Judy Baer, Scott Stich. Attendees in person: Richard Holmes, Randy Kryder, Kim Nelson, Cathy Rich, Pastor Keri and Chris Bartelt.

Other attendees: Larry Nelson by Zoom.

Special prayer requests were for the family of Maurice Holmes (Richard's uncle) who passed away on September 14. For Judy Baer -- she is having her 3<sup>rd</sup> epidural in a series of three on Thursday.

The minutes from the July 14, 2020 meeting were accepted as presented.

**Committee Reports: Membership** – Alan Myelle did not complete his college coursework due to not being able to get an internship because of the pandemic, so his Bible will be presented to him when he completes it.

**Trustees** – Richard reported that the hole in the church eaves has been closed up, the Ford Motor Company recall on the church bus has been completed at Manley Ford in Belvidere. H&S Landscaping will do snow removal at the parsonage and church sidewalks again this year. Jim Katzenberger will continue to provide snow plowing of the church parking lot. The copy machine maintenance contract was reviewed by Richard and Chris on a phone call with Impact Account rep, Cassidy Parker on Sept. 1. No changes will be made at this time as the machine is working well. Yoga at the church will start up again September 16, 2020 with 5 attendees. It will be held on Wednesdays. The tuck pointing in the front of the church will be done this Fall by Dana Keefer for \$4625. Funding for this project will be as follows: \$1894.90 from the UMW Savings (money from last year's rummage sale which was designated for church maintenance) and interest money from NUDD CDs (there is \$4224.04 available at the present time).

Kim mentioned the Lena UMC sign at the south end of Lena along Highway 73 needs to be fixed as there are weeds and brush growing around it. The sign at the east end of Lena has a bush near it that needs to be trimmed. Richard said he will take care of these signs.

**SPRC** – Pastor Keri reported that there was a SPRC meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup>, but only Tammy, Kim, Scott and herself were in attendance. They decided that the staff reviews will be done in November, and that nothing will be done at this time to find a new youth director (the position is on hold at this time).

**Finance** – Finance reports were covered at the Finance Meeting earlier tonight. Kim will be working on the budget in October in preparation for the Church Conference on November 8. She will need input from the different committees.

**Education** – We are looking at a way for “take home Sunday School” or on-line children's lessons for the young children. There will be 2 opportunities for adult learning... -- Philippiian Bible study (after church) for 4 weeks beginning on September 20. The other opportunity is a book study on “White Fragility” by Robin DiAngelo. The conference has a priority of addressing racism.

Cathy & Roberta should be thinking about getting the freshman girl parishioners together for some education, and ways to involve their parents too.

Janice is not attending in person due to the pandemic.

After School Program has not reconvened. The Cooking portion won't be starting during the pandemic, but it's possible the Art portion could resume.

**Missions:** No report. Missions committee has not reconvened.

**Worship** – Sally was unable to attend tonight's meeting. The Worship team hasn't had a meeting. Pastor Keri said services will be focused on Philippiians. Chloe Mader has joined the A/V team. Pastor Keri said she has discussed the possibility of an outdoor hymn sing with Lisa Stich, but she is not sure if there is interest in this and if it is do-able.

**Pastor's report:**

Church Conferences will be by Zoom this year. Lena UMC's is scheduled for Sunday, November 8 at 10:30 am. The SPRC will meet with DS Fabiola for 30 minutes prior the start of the Conference. Committees will need to get budget info to Kim. Pastor Keri will get nomination committee together soon. Annual Conference this year is on-line. General conference has been delayed. Pastor Keri said she's signed up for a week-long seminar on Conflict Management from October 5 through 9. Then two weeks later she has a vacation scheduled from October 19<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> to visit her Mom in Washington state. Pastor Jeff has agreed to be the pastoral contact while she is on vacation.

**Other comments:**

Outreach - We discussed creating a list of parishioners who are willing to give rides to appointments for fellow parishioners. From time to time the need arises for this. Chris will put a notice in the newsletter and bulletin.

The meeting closed at 8:15 pm with a prayer by Pastor Keri.

The next meeting will be November 10, 2020 @ 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Bartelt, Secretary

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**ARE YOU HUNGRY?**  
If you don't have enough to eat, Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Pantry can help.

Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Pantry distributes nutritious food in high-need areas.  
Food is free to low-income neighbors in need.  
Please bring bags or boxes in which to package your food.

➔ Food is distributed on a first-come, first served basis, while supplies last.

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK**  
Feeding Our Hungry Neighbors

For additional food resources, visit [www.SolveHungerToday.org/GetHelp](http://www.SolveHungerToday.org/GetHelp)

Sponsored By:



**Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2020**

**Time: 4pm-5:30pm**

**Location: Lena-Winslow Food Pantry Parking Lot**

**Address: 130 1/2 Main, Lena, IL 61048**

**This will be a Drive Thru Pickup**



**Pearl City UMC**   
**Drive-Inn Social**

**October 23rd**  
**5:00-7:00 pm**

Menu:  
**BBQ**  
**or**  
**Hot Dog**  
**Chips**  
**Ice Cream**  
**\$5.00**



**Pearl City**  
United Methodist Church  
411 S. Main Street - P.O. Box 236  
Pearl City, IL 61062

*\*Pre-Orders would be appreciated by October 21st by calling the church at 443-2177 and leaving a message with your name. Drive-Inn's are welcome.*





# October 2020 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
<p>4 9 AM Worship in person and on line through Facebook + Communion</p> <p>World Communion Sunday</p>	<p>5 6-7:30 pm – Girl Scouts</p>	<p>6 1 pm Quilters</p>	<p>7 9 am – Chair Yoga</p>	8	9	10
<p>11 9 AM Worship In person &amp; on line through Facebook</p> <p>6pm Edler/Kryder Bible Study hosted by Edlers at the Church</p>	12	<p>13 1 pm Quilters</p> <p>4-5:30 pm – Mobile Food Pantry at Le- Win Food Pantry Parking lot</p>	<p>14 9 am – Chair Yoga</p>	15	<p>16 Newsletter Deadline</p>	17
<p>18 9 AM Worship In person &amp; on line through Facebook</p>	<p>19 Pastor Keri – Vacation</p> <p>6-7:30 pm – Girl Scouts</p>	<p>20 Pastor Keri – Vacation</p> <p>1 pm Quilters</p>	<p>21 Pastor Keri - Vacation</p>	<p>22 Pastor Keri - Vacation</p>	<p>23 Pastor Keri - Vacation</p>	<p>24 Pastor Keri - Vacation</p>
<p>25 Pastor Keri - Vacation 9 AM Worship-</p>	<p>26 Pastor Keri - Vacation</p> <p>7 pm – Stagecoach Quilters</p>	<p>27 1 pm Quilters</p>	28	29	30	31





Lena United Methodist Church  
118 W. Mason Street  
P.O. Box 336  
Lena, IL. 61048  
**Website: [lenaumc.org](http://lenaumc.org)**

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

**October 2020**

13<sup>th</sup> – 4-5:30 pm – Mobile Food Pantry at Pantry Parking Lot  
16<sup>th</sup> - Newsletter Deadline  
5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> – 6pm – Girl Scouts  
26<sup>th</sup> – 7 pm - Stagecoach Quilters

Or Current Resident

[ ]  
[ ]  
[ Place label here ]

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

Home 815-324-2746 Cell 614-524-9197  
369-5291 Church e-mail: [umclena@gmail.com](mailto:umclena@gmail.com)  
369-4411  
Sunday 9 A.M. Children's worship 9 A. M. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
10:30 A.M.