

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

April Servants

Greeters

4 –
11 –
18 –
25 –

Liturgist

4 – Bonnie Broge
11 – Tiffany Nieman
18 – Liz Gerber
25 – Jeff or Judy Baer

Video Tech

4 – Cathy Rich, Chloe Mader
11 – Cathy Rich, Chloe Mader
18 – Cathy Rich, Chloe Mader
25 – Cathy Rich, Chloe Mader

Dial-a-Devotion

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

Fellowship

4 –
11 –
18 –
25 –

Sunday School Teachers

Lynne Howe, Lisa
Dascher
Roberta Rogers, Cathy
Rich



April 2021 Newsletter



Pray for Healing: Jerry White (Lavone Gabel's son-in-law), Tyler and Megan Sellman & baby daughter (Bonnie and Greg Broge's daughter), Joey (Pat Phillips' grandson), Debra Smith, Don Grunder, Gretchen Kempel, Richard Weber, Ruth Wingert, Charlotte Engel (Laverne Pax's aunt), Dave Mader, Don & Kathy Boatman (friends of Elaine Williams), Vivien Rose Dascher, Irene Rainsberger and Grace Cassaday (Pastor Keri's grandmothers), Audrey Adleman (Tam Kryder's mom), Brandon Russell (friend of Lyle Rich), Jeff Smith (brother of Debbie Smith), Evelyn Herman, Gary & Aileen Schreiner, Sylvia Barr (Pat Phillips' niece), Mervin Lobdell, Ken Gritzmaker, Pat Milliken, Judy Baer, Rhys Stone (Larry & Kim Nelson's great grandson), Dennis Dunn (friend of Bruce Wuebben), Dorothy Montgomery, Arlene Kryder, Mark Mader, Bonnie Vondra (friend of Sally Buchenau), Pauline Lutz, Johanne Wingert, Eileen Snapp, MaryLou Bunker-Langy (Mervin Mader's cousin), 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, Vernon Baer, Tam Kryder, Dave (Bonnie Broge's brother-in-law)

In treatment:

Linda Farwell (friend of Ryan Stockton), Triscia Nickel, Pat Campbell (Mick Flynn's sister)

Our home-bound members and friends:

Lois Thrasher (Liberty Village/Hawthorne Inn); Pauline Lutz, Al & Dorothy 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
Gail Mayer- Alden Estates- Jefferson Rehabilitation – Jefferson, WI

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

Please provide info on 2021 high school, junior college, college, trade school or graduate school **graduates to Judy Baer**. Judy can be reached at 815-541-6358 or email: stocktonbaer2@yahoo.com

Thank you to Scott and Lisa Stich for the donation of the piano tuning of the sanctuary piano on March 2. We appreciate your generosity.



Birthdays

- 4/1 Trent Knight, Benjamin Robieson
- 4/2 Gary Buss
- 4/4 Peggy Eilders
- 4/5 Bill Bohnsack, Dennis Bussian,
Jack Setterstrom
- 4/6 Mary Campbell
- 4/8 Cooper Knoup, Dawsyn Smith, Lois Thrasher
- 4/9 Heather Smith
- 4/13 Jenica Roenneburg
- 4/14 Marcia Pax
- 4/15 Mikaela Nieman
- 4/17 Kenneth Gritzmaker
- 4/20 Dean Gerbick, Chad Martin, Stephanie Young, Sue Magiera
- 4/22 Brian Wybourn
- 4/24 Sarah Stanley, Lydia Goeke, Jamie Haas
- 4/25 Lisa Dascher
- 4/26 Brynlee Smith
- 4/27 Marshall Schubert
- 4/28 Nick Wybourn
- 4/29 Madasyn Stamm, Jordan Zimmerman, Alivia Zimmerman
- 4/30 Margory Liphart, Eileen Snap

Anniversaries

- 4/12 Lyle Jr & Dee Temperly
- 4/16 Merlyn & Betty Barker
- 4/23 Robert & Deanna Boyer
- 4/25 Brian & Marci Borchardt
- 4/25 Dwayne & Carol Robieson
- 4/26 Gary & Marcia Buss



From the Pastor's Desk

The past few weeks more and more of the congregation has been able to gather together in the sanctuary. Each week, it seems, a few more folks receive a vaccination and feel comfortable enough to return to group gatherings. Yet it is still different. One Sunday everyone had said their greetings and then settled into their seats. Because we are distanced while seated there wasn't the usual friendly chatter that happens before a service starts. Instead we had quiet until Lisa began worship with a song.

To some that quiet may have seemed uncomfortable and eerie. A reminder of all that had changed, all that was lost. To others that quiet may have seemed a calming blessing, a time to stop and breath in the stillness of sanctuary. It seems like that in our lives, we have so many times with this kind of "both and" of both pain and blessing, of things quiet and chaotic, of upheaval and comfort.

Easter is both a promise fulfilled and one still just beginning. Throughout the fifty day season, we celebrate the Resurrected Jesus who brings life into dead places. Yet, we also recognize that we wait for the promise of new life to come in fullness. Easter, like the springtime when we celebrate it, is a time of transition. A time when we see the beginnings of promise coming forth, when death slowly loosens its grip, but also a time we anticipate what is still yet to come.

May this season find you encountering our Risen Savior in all places of your life. May life spring forth out of places you thought were dead and may you be filled with the abundant life of God's love.

LENA UMC TRUSTEE MINUTES

March 8, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

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

Opening Prayer was led by Richard Holmes, with prayers for Dana and Colleen Rakowska's health problems and Keri's grandmothers.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the January 11, 2021 meeting were discussed. Pete moved to accept the minutes and Dennis seconded the motion. Motion carried. The minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS Sign for elevator's do not call 911, what number should we put on it? Two options were discussed. Quilting machine room outlets needed. Gary Buss and Kirk Polhill will address it. Lawn repair by garage is on hold until snow melts. Education wing's two furnace filters are in need of replacements. Richard ordered them. Maintenance needs of the church were inspected by Linda Korte and Linda Voreis. Some minor issues were noticed. Fellowship hall- paint peeling on the pipes and some areas of the lower walls, one cracked ceiling light cover. Downstairs bathroom missing vent cover. Education wing stained ceiling tiles, paint needed where speaker removed, paint needed on east walls and most of NE friendship Sunday school room. Small refrigerator- extension cord okay as is? Sanctuary- peeling plaster in windows. North windows- plaster peeling. 3rd floor storage area- water damage on ceiling.

NEW BUSINESS Dial-A-Devotion answering machine needs to be replaced. Organ Humidifier water jug replaced. Organ needs tuning. Richard will address. Sunday School Room Clock needs to be replaced. Permanent Endowment Committee needs someone from the trustees. Gary Myelle volunteered. Closing prayer was led by Pastor Keri. Meeting Adjourned at 7:02 p.m. Next Meeting will be Monday, May 10, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by secretary, Linda Voreis

Lena United Methodist Church - Finance Committee Minutes –March 9, 2021

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

Pastor Keri led us in prayer.

Randy made a motion to approve the January 12, 2021 meeting minutes and it was seconded by Scott. Motion carried and minutes were approved.

Kim said the church received a PPP loan of \$12,637 in February. Also, as part of the CARES act, there is a section on claiming employee retention credit which has to do with the tax 941 form and if is possible we might get about \$7000 for that. Our accountant, Jodi Diffenderfer, is working on obtaining that credit for the church.

Balance Sheet as of February 28, 2021: At the end of February, the balance in the General Fund is \$34,467.39, but would have been \$21,830.39 if we hadn't gotten the SBA loan of \$12,637 in February. The designated fund balance is \$22,256.62.

P&L Reviews- January Profit & Loss comments: In January, income was \$8,535. Budgeted income was \$14,239. In the 6511 account, it was budgeted to pay the choir director in January, but it was not paid until February. The net income for January was only \$1936.54 short.

February Profit & Loss: February income from envelope giving was \$8,640 which was lower than expected, but the SBA loan was received in February which brought our total income in February to \$21,382. The office supplies account was higher than budgeted due to the amount of the copier maintenance bill being more than budgeted. Trustee expenses in February totaled \$14,320.60. Because of SBA loan our net income in February was \$7,061.40.

February 28, 2021 Year to Date Profit & Loss: Net income was \$5,124.86

Kim reported the audit was done on January 18, 2021. The main findings were making sure that account signers information is updated at the bank and that the supporting documentation is in place. It is of utmost importance that each committee or group at the church turns in copies of meeting minutes to the church for filing as these minutes are needed for audit each year. For small groups, a note in the checkbook register description documenting approval, date and number of members in group in attendance is necessary for audit. Chris will remind groups from time to time to make sure everyone is in compliance.

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm. Next meeting: May 11, 2021 @ 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Chris Bartelt, Financial Secretary

Lena United Methodist Church – Ad Council Meeting Minutes –

March 9, 2021

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

Other attendees: Larry Nelson by Zoom.

Joys and concerns: thankful for COVID vaccine; Zak is still looking for a job.

The minutes from the January 12 meeting were approved as printed.

Committee Reports: Membership – Jeff and Judy will donate an “add-on” to the speaker that is used for meetings. Judy said there is a list of approximately 90 parishioners we still need to contact. There are some problems with out of date phone numbers and addresses. Stich’s, Kryder’s, Holmes’ have contacted folks on their lists and said they will help in contacting more people. We haven’t gotten any response to the request for graduate info yet. Chris will put a request weekly in the announcements and again in the next newsletter. We will recognize graduates on Mother’s Day which is May 9 (1 week before graduation). Judy said we did not recognize 50-year members last fall due to COVID and we will do it in the Fall of 2021.

Trustees – Richard reported the Trustees met last night. We need to hang a sign in the church elevator of numbers to call for help. Do not call 911 for help. It was suggested to put the Lena Police non-emergency number 369-2234, the church number 369-5291 and Pastor Keri’s number 815-324-2746 on the sign. Richard will ask Chris to make a sign. Linda Korte and Linda Voreis did a walk through of the church and made a list of some repairs and painting that need attention. Kim said there is about \$3000 in the designated church maintenance account that can be used for this. The organ humidifier needed a new jug. It has been replaced. Levson Company will tune the organ when the weather gets warmer and they are in the area. Richard will give Levson Lisa Stich’s number to contact when they will be here. The Adult Sunday School room needs a new clock. Sally Buchenau will pick up a clock.

SPRC – nothing to report.

Lay Leader’s Report - 5 clergy and lay leaders will be discussing how to get the church back together. Annual conference is July 16 and 17 by Zoom. Scott Stich and Sally Buchenau are our reps for annual conference. Technically, Scott attends as a District Lay Leader, so we could “send” one more person if anyone is interested in attending.

Finance – Finance reports were covered at the Finance Meeting earlier tonight. Important to note: we applied for and received a PPP loan on 2/3/21. The amount is \$12,637. The 2020 Lena UMC Audit was held on January 18, 2021. In regard to the Audit: It is imperative that all groups have account signer information up to date and all groups having bank accounts give minutes to the church secretary for filing in the church office and keep a record of documented, approved expenditures throughout the year so this information is available for the annual audit. For small groups, a note in the checkbook register description documenting approval, date and number of members in group in attendance is necessary for audit.

Education – The book study, “White Fragility” has been meeting weekly on Sunday mornings after worship. Seven to eight people have been attending. The Edler/Kryder Bible Study has been meeting monthly in Fellowship Hall with attendance of 8-12 people. The Men’s Bible Study that previously met at Flynn’s on Saturday once a month is meeting at the church now. Six people attended. Adult Sunday School can be started up again. And we will contact folks about starting kids’ Sunday School.

Missions: No report. Missions committee has not reconvened.

Worship – The Worship committee will be having a meeting on March 11 to discuss Holy Week and Easter. Pastors Keri and Miho will be doing Good Friday services at 3 pm and 6 pm. If the weather is nice, it will be outside otherwise it will be held in the sanctuary. There probably won’t be a Maundy Thursday service, if there is a Good Friday Service. There might be 2 services on Easter – one outside (possibly at Lena Burial Park) and the other will be at 9 am in the sanctuary. More info will be coming on Spring flowering plants to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. It was brought up that we purchase communion cups that are filled and sealed, but in discussion it was determined these are too difficult to open. There was some discussion as to whether we could put pew cushions, hymnals and Bibles back in the church. It was felt that maybe everyone doesn’t know that we

can have up to 50 people in the sanctuary and 50 people in Fellowship Hall for worship on Sunday mornings. The Council asked Chris to send a Call-em-all out to all members.

Pastor's report: - Pastor Keri reported that there will be a meeting with the consultant from the Early Adopters program on March 11 at 6:30 pm. Scott Stich, Liz Gerber, Roberta Rogers, and Lynne Howe will attend also. This program is in the assessment stage.

Other business: Richard asked if we were going to observe Compassion Sunday on April 25, as the Lena UMC men's group sponsors a child and the men's group funds are getting low. Kim said there is money in the missions account that can be used for this.

Eleanor Holmes has been working with the chair yoga instructor from Stockton about starting up classes again at the church.

The Dial-a-Devotion answering machine was not working and a new one was purchased for \$49.99. The dial-a-devotion is working again as of today, March 9.

The Council decided that 50% of the Easter offering will go the UMCOR and 50% will go to the Le-Win Ministerial Benevolent fund. Pastor Jeff made the motion that was seconded by Scott. Motion passed.

Cathy mentioned that the prayer shawl ministry would like to close their bank account. Kim said they should write a check to Lena UMC that will get deposited in "Other Income" and a budget item will be set up for this ministry. The approximate amount in the Prayer Shawl account is \$234. Cathy will reach out to other members of this ministry to get their approval to do this.

The current Mustard Seed collection is being taken for Freeport Area Church Cooperative. The next Mustard Seed collection will be taken for the Lena UMC Men's group.

Randy asked members of the Council to be thinking about ideas on proposals for the Global Methodist Church at its General Conference 2022.

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm with a prayer by Pastor Keri.

The next meeting will be May 11, 2021 @ 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Bartelt, Secretary

Worship Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2021

Those present: Pastor Keri Rainsberger, Sally Buchenau, Lisa Stich, Richard Holmes and Cathy Rich.

Christmas season:

Tim Anderson and Lisa Stich played piano and organ duet for the vigil, it was beautiful, thank you!

Not a lot came for the Vigil, but those that did enjoyed it and related it was worth coming to.

The wind played havoc with the Luminaries, so it was decided to make them heavier with little gravel rocks next year and use two candles per bag.

The Advent series was well received, felt more like a worship service for many.

The virtual choir was beautiful but we're hoping for a LIVE choir next year.

Palm Sunday:

Chris will get the Palms to hand out on Palm Sunday. Up to 50 people can worship in the Sanctuary now.

Maundy Thursday:

This is traditionally a "hands on" service but with Covid we are not able to do the usual things we do. Last year Pastor Keri had a take home service and will maybe do it again. She would also do a FB Communion service at 7 pm. Chris will do a Call-em-All to let people know the options.

Good Friday:

We will combine with Good Shepherd for two services, one at 3 PM and an evening service at 6 PM. Weather permitting they will be held in the Lena UMC parking lot. Dean has been asked to try to play the Carolon and also toll 33 bells at the end of the service in memory of Christ's 33 years on earth. People will be asked to bring their own chairs. Richard will get help to place the cross outside and Sally will decorate it appropriately for Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Lisa and Scott will drape the outdoor sign again.

Easter Sunday:

Keri will have a traditional inside service at 9am and weather permitting, have an outdoor service at the Lena burial park at 7am.

Plants for Easter:

Sally will send a letter to everyone, asking them to bring a Spring potted plant of their choice to adorn the Sanctuary for Easter. Plants should be to the church on Saturday, no later than 3pm and the Worship team will gather at 4pm to arrange the plants.

Compassion Sunday is April 25. There will be information on how to sponsor a child available.

Our next meeting will be May 4th, 2021 at 9:30 AM.

Cathy Rich

April 2021 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7 pm – Maundy Thursday – Facebook Communion service	2 3pm and 6 pm – Good Friday services (outside at Lena UMC, bring lawn chair – inside if raining)	3
4 7am – Service at Lena Burial Park with Good Shepherd church 9 AM Worship in person and on line through Facebook Happy Easter!	5 5:30 - 7:30 pm – Girl Scouts	6 1 pm Quilters	7	8	9	10
11 9 AM Worship In person & on line through Facebook 10 am – Book Study 6pm Edler/Kryder Bible Study at the Church	12	13 1 pm Quilters	14	15	16 Newsletter Deadline	17
18 9 AM Worship In person & on line through Facebook 10 am – Book study	19 5:30 -7:30 pm – Girl Scouts	20 1 pm Quilters	21	22	23	24
25 9 AM Worship In person & on line through Facebook 10 am – Book Study	26 7 pm – Stagecoach Quilters	27 1 pm Quilters	28	29	30	

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

April 2021

16th - Newsletter Deadline
5th, 19th - 6pm - Girl Scouts
26th - 7 pm - Stagecoach Quilters

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 Cell 614-524-9197
369-5291 Church e-mail: umclena@gmail.com
369-4411
Sunday 9 A.M. Children's worship 9 A. M. 2nd & 4th Sundays
10:30 A.M.