

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

December Servants

Liturgist

5 – Jeff Baer
12 - Rose Black
19 –
26 – Scott Stich

Video Tech

5 –Dean, Cathy, Sharon, Chloe
12 – Dean, Cathy, Sharon, Chloe
19 –Dean, Cathy, Sharon, Chloe
26 – Dean, Cathy, Sharon, Chloe

Dial-a-Devotion

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

Fellowship

5 – Judy Buchenau
12 – Faye Wybourn
19 – Please volunteer
26 – Please volunteer

Sunday School Teachers

Lynne Howe
Lisa Dascher
Cathy Rich



December 2021 Newsletter



Pray for Healing: Marsha Tessendorf's nephew, Jeff Baer, Kathie Schulz, Kim Pluss (Dot Spielmann's daughter), Judy Baer, Bill Hooker, McConnell family (Tammy Edler's sister), Norman Wybourn, Steve and Melody Deihl, Prayers for Bill Dorsey's family since his passing, Jerri Wilson (Bonnie Broge's mother), Tammy Riemers, Richard Weber, Shirley Goldsmith (Pat Edler's friend), Rhys Stone (Larry & Kim Nelson's great grandson), Cindy Kerchner, Sharon Hammill, Gordon Brown (Pete & Allie Brown's nephew), Bert & Jessica Beverage (friends of Kirsten Hollister), Helen Edler, Jackie Edler, Vivien Rose Dascher, Jerry White (Lavone Gabel's son-in-law), Debra Smith, Gretchen Kempel, Ruth Wingert, Charlotte Engel (Laverne Pax's aunt), Dave Mader, Irene Rainsberger and Grace Cassaday (Pastor Keri's grandmothers), Audrey Adleman (Tam Kryder's mom), Sylvia Barr (Pat Phillips' niece), Dennis Dunn (friend of Bruce Wuebben), Dorothy Montgomery, Arlene Kryder, Mark Mader, Pauline Lutz, 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, Frank Edler (Marcia Pax's father) and his wife Sharon, Bonnie Broge's dad-Jim, Darold Wubbena (brother of Darlene Pauley, Stacey Biehl (daughter of Sherrie Biehl).

In treatment:

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

Our home-bound members and friends:

Lois Thrasher (Liberty Village); Dorothy Montgomery Manor Court at Liberty Village
Pauline Lutz, Chris Liles; Al Owens, Carol Fluegel, Helen Edler (all at Lena Living Center);
Joyce Brinkmeier – Presence St. Joseph Center
Viola Sargent – Graceland Manor Assisted Living – Monroe, WI
Gail Mayer- Touchmark, Drive #M32 Appleton, WI

From the Pastor's Desk: One of my favorite things to remind people of is that Jesus loved to eat with anyone, anywhere. I think that it such an important thing to me because I love to eat with others! I was so glad when we were able to return to providing the ministry of funeral luncheons. The ability to wrap a family in loving care through a shared table is a powerful reminder that God is with them through even through the "valley of the shadow of death." This month we'll invite kids 5-10 over for our first "Kids Night Out" and share pizza together as we wrap them in the love of Christ through fun games and crafts. Their parents will hopefully feel loved too as they get the gift of time – time to perhaps get a dinner out as a couple, or have some time to relax on their own, or a time to get errands done.

For those of us who live alone, meal times can be hard – especially if we recently lost someone we shared the table with for many, many years. All of our recipes are designed for multiple people and a head of cabbage is a daunting thing when you know you will have to either eat it three meals a day for a week or throw half of it away. There are no conversations and check ins just the quiet of the table. That is why I love when I hear of friends calling each other up to go out for lunch or dinner. Maybe this advent, a time that can be especially hard for those who have lost loved ones, we look for opportunities to invite someone into our table.

This month we also continue our mustard seed challenge of collecting \$1400 worth of coins so that we can give \$200 to seven different local pantries. As I write this, we have already given a check to the Le-Win pantry and are really close to a check for Cedarville UMC's pantry. Our Thanksgiving offering also went to support the Le-Win pantry, and our Christmas offering will go to the Le-Win Ministerial Association Benevolence fund. These various offerings allow us to extend the table out to our neighbors for whom just getting food to the table isn't a sure things.

Advent is a time of anticipation of God's Reign. One traditional image of God's Reign is of a glorious banquet feast, with a table so big that everyone can sit at it, food so abundant no one will ever go hungry, and love so flowing that no one will ever be lonely. As advent closes we come to Christmas, a time when we remember that God's Reign is already birthed among us. So... "make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth, and set the table ... Love the Guest, is on the way!" ("People Look East" by Eleanor Farjeon)

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 Stanley

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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
12/17 Zoey Lopez
12/20 Ryder Lobdell, Everlee Lobdell, Shawn Robieson
12/21 Cassie Wybourn
12/22 Diane Kempel
12/28 Joyce Brinkmeier
12/31 Jared Borchardt, Shane Gerber

**LENA UMC TRUSTEE MINUTES
November 8, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.**

Members present were Gary Buss, Dennis Bussian, Richard Holmes, Linda Korte, Gary Myelle, Jeff Stamm and Linda Voreis. Also present was Pastor Keri. Absent members were Gary Black and Pete Brown.
Opening Prayer was led by Richard Holmes.
Secretary's Report: Minutes from the September 13, 2021 meeting were discussed. Gary Buss motioned to accept the minutes and Jeff seconded the motion. Motion carried. The minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Tuck pointing on the back of the church, by Dana Keefer, will wait until spring.
Church's eaves trough was fixed but a drip was noticed by Richard.
Garage downspout was installed by Josh Endress.
Electrical work in the quilting room is ongoing by Gary Buss and Kirk Polhill.
Parsonage siding repairs will be done by the end of November by Steve Bonebright.
Pfile plastering- will be at the church the first week in December. Seven places need to be prepared for plastering. Volunteer helpers are Keri, Richard, Jeff, and Linda K. Four circuits have been shut off to prepare for the work.

NEW BUSINESS

Sidewalk to the back parking lot has been repaired.
Elevator inspection is due by January 24, 2022
Snow removal of the church sidewalks & parsonage driveway will be done by H&S Landscaping. Gary Buss motioned to approve H&S Landscaping for snow removal and Gary Myelle seconded the motion. Motion approved.
Church parking lot will be plowed by Jim Katzenberger free of charge.

Jeff Stamm agreed to serve on the trustees for another term.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:18 p.m.
Next Meeting will be January 10, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
Submitted by secretary Linda Voreis

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

Finance Chair, Kim Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm and Pastor Keri led us in prayer. Attendees by Zoom: None. Attendees at the Church: Scott Stich, Kim Nelson, Larry Nelson, Richard Holmes, Roberta Rogers, Pastor Keri and Chris Bartelt.

The minutes of the September 14 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Kim reviewed the Balance Sheet, September and October P&Ls and October YTD P&L. Highlights follow:

Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2021: At the end of October, the balance in the General Fund is \$50,616.62, but would be \$12,424.06 without SBA loans and 941 tax credit. The designated fund balance is \$27,343.35. Comments on balance sheet: The scholarship checks were cashed. Therefore, the amount in the Memorials scholarship account is \$8511.89.

P&L Reviews- September Profit & Loss comments: Not a good month on income as we received \$7,343 in envelope giving against a budget of \$10,392. In the Mission account, there is a \$300 charge as we paid for 3 months' Food Pantry rent all at once. This is usually paid monthly. In the SPRC account \$0 was spent against the budget of \$250 for wages in the Ministry Staffing account as we do not have a children's ministry employee at this time. In the Trustees accounts, we paid two months' internet charges in one month as that was how the billing cycle went. The net ordinary income for September was \$-2,560.44 which is because income was down.

October Profit & Loss: In October the income from envelope giving was on target (\$14,336 received against a budget of \$14,239). In the trustees accounts, the church electric account is over budget due to the dehumidifiers running yet in October. The church insurance to the Conference was paid in October and was \$141.31 more than budgeted. Overall, for the month expenses were maintained well and the net ordinary income was \$-349.29.

October 31, 2021 Year to Date Profit & Loss: Net ordinary income year to date is \$21,101.49. Comments: Income from envelope giving for January through October was under budgeted amount by \$2,968. Expense review: in Education, money budgeted has not been spent as education is just starting up. The SPRC accounts are doing well compared to budget. In the Trustee accounts, insurance is more than budgeted and snow removal from earlier in the year was more than budgeted. Total expenses through October were under budget by \$8,543.60.

Finance Meeting Minutes (continued)

Other comments:

Kim said she emailed the 2022 budget out to the Finance and Ad Council members for approval prior to presenting the budget at church conference on October 27. She received approval from Richard Holmes, Cathy Rich, Scott Stich, Judy Buchenau, Tammy Edler, Randy Kryder, Roberta Rogers, Jeff and Judy Baer, Steve Rothschadl and Kim and Larry Nelson on the budget prior to conference.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm. Next meeting: January 11th, 2022 @ 6:30 pm.

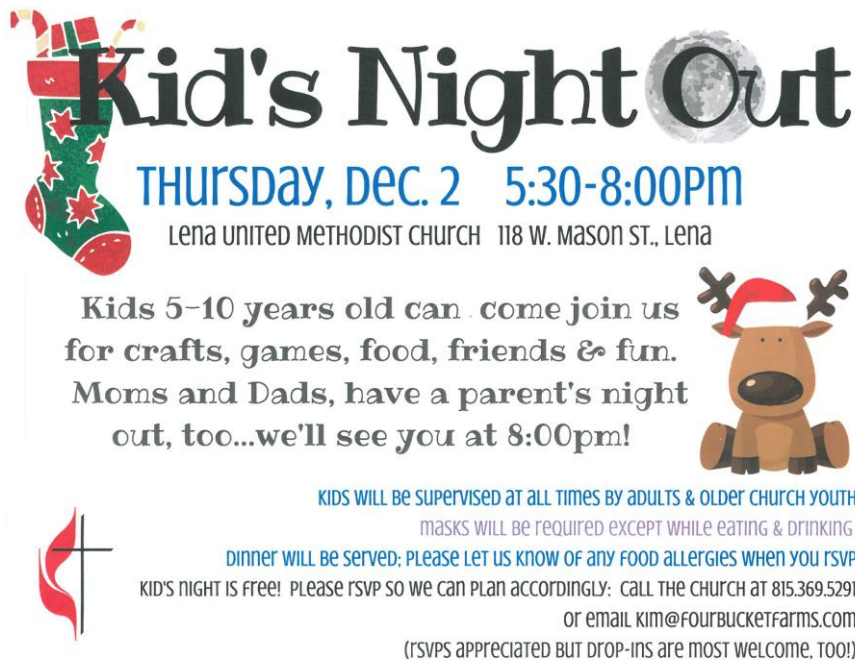
Submitted by Chris Bartelt, Financial Secretary

UMW Invitation: All women of Lena UMC are invited to attend the December 4 UMW meeting at the church. We will begin at 9:30 am with our regular monthly meeting and enjoying some fellowship with Breakfast Pizza. Then we will be decorating "Norma's tree" and Fellowship Hall. Please come and join in the fun!

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.

December 4 at 10 am. – There will be a special Church Conference at Lena UMC to approve/disapprove the Boy Scout settlement for the Northern Illinois Conference. Presiding elder will be Pastor Melissa Meyers. Ad Council and Trustees members – please plan to attend. Any church members are welcome to attend.



Kid's Night Out
THURSDAY, DEC. 2 5:30-8:00PM
Lena UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 118 W. MASON ST., Lena

Kids 5-10 years old can come join us for crafts, games, food, friends & fun. Moms and Dads, have a parent's night out, too...we'll see you at 8:00pm!

KIDS WILL BE SUPERVISED AT ALL TIMES BY ADULTS & OLDER CHURCH YOUTH
MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED EXCEPT WHILE EATING & DRINKING
DINNER WILL BE SERVED; PLEASE LET US KNOW OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES WHEN YOU RSVP
KID'S NIGHT IS FREE! PLEASE RSVP SO WE CAN PLAN ACCORDINGLY: CALL THE CHURCH AT 815.369.5291
OR EMAIL kim@fourbucketfarms.com
(RSVPS APPRECIATED BUT DROP-INS ARE MOST WELCOME, TOO!)

Lena United Methodist Church – Ad Council Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2021

Roberta Rogers, Ad Council vice-chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm. Attendees by Zoom: none. Attendees at the Church: Scott Stich, Kim Nelson, Roberta Rogers, Richard Holmes, Pastor Keri and Chris Bartelt. Other attendees: Larry Nelson.

Scott made a motion that was seconded by Richard to approve the minutes of the September 14th meeting. The minutes were approved.

Agenda Items:

The Council decided that the Mustard Seed collections over the winter months will go to local Food Pantries (Lena, Cedarville, Warren, Pearl City, Freeport, Orangeville, Dakota/Davis). The Mustard Seed currently in process will go to Lena.

The Council decided that the Thanksgiving collection will go the Le-Win Food Pantry and that the Christmas collection will go to the Lena Ministerial Benevolence fund.

The Council discussed some ideas for needed items at the church (update speaker system in Fellowship Hal, Add to Landscaping fund, little tables for sanctuary, wireless mics, puppet stage for children's programs). This list will be given to Mike Meeker as he asked for ideas for the Harold Meeker memorial.

Children's Ministry position: Pastor Keri has forwarded the job description to several organizations and individuals and posted on the church Facebook page. We haven't received any responses.

Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations): We are in need of people to serve on the different committees. It was suggested that maybe we should go to 2 people instead of 3 in each "class". Keri said the committees required by the Book of Discipline are: Finance, Lay Leadership (nominations), Ad Council, SPRC. Possibly some of the other committees could be combined, such as Membership, Outreach, and Shut in Visitation or Education and Youth sponsors.

Committee Reports: **Membership** – No report **Missions:** No report.

Trustees – Richard reported: tuckpointing at the back of the church will wait until Spring. Cost is about \$3,000. Church eaves trough and garage downspout have been fixed. Electrical work in the quilting room on 3rd floor is ongoing. Parsonage siding repairs will be done by the end of November. Pfile Plastering will work on seven places that need repair in December. The sidewalk to the back parking lot has been repaired. Elevator inspection is due by January 24, 2022. Snow removal for church sidewalks and parsonage driveway will be done by H&S. Jim Katzenberger will donate his time plowing the church parking lot. Jeff Stamm will stay on the committee for another term. Gary Buss' and Denny Bussian's term will end at the end of the year.

SPRC – The SPRC had a meeting on September 28th to review job descriptions and salaries and discuss the Children's Ministry open position. There was low turnout for the meeting, so Tammy asked for approvals through email. The SPRC also met on October 27 with DS, Rev. Fabiola Grandon-Mayer before Church Conference to approve Pastor Keri's salary for next year which is the same as this year.

Lay Leader's Report - Scott reported Laity Sunday was held on October 17.

Finance – Finance reports were covered at the Finance Meeting earlier tonight. Kim said she emailed the 2022 budget to Finance Committee and Ad Council members for approval prior to the October 27 Church Conference. She received approvals from Richard Holmes, Cathy Rich, Scott Stich, Judy Buchenau, Tammy Edler, Randy Kryder, Roberta Rogers, Jeff and Judy Baer, Steve Rothschadl, Larry and Kim Nelson.

Education – The activity now is with the younger children and the older age group is not coming. "Kids Night Out" for children age 5-10 will start on Dec 2 and will be held the first Thursday night of the month.

Worship – Worship committee met on October 6th. The committee left the Advent series decision up to Pastor Keri.

Pastors Report: Pastor Keri said she took vacation in October as planned. She visited her Grandma (who is going to be 99 in December) in Ohio. Pastor Keri reported she is still working on all her requirements for ordination of which one is a Bible study. She will have a Bible Study retreat at the church on November 20 which will focus on the Book of John. Anyone is invited. The meeting closed at 8:07 pm with a prayer by Pastor Keri. The next meeting will be January 11, 2022 @ 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Bartelt, Secretary

December 2021 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 5:30-8 pm – Kids Night Out	3 5-6:30 pm – Girl Scouts – Fellowship Hall	4 8 am – Mens Breakfast 9:30 - UMW 10:00 Special Church Conf.
5 - 9 AM Worship In person and on-line + Communion; Fellowship 9:45 – Sunday School	6	7 1 pm Quilters	8	9	10	11
12 9 AM Worship In person and on-line; Fellowship 9:45 – Sunday School 6pm – Edler/Kryder Bible Study at the church	13	14 1 pm Quilters	15	16	17 Newsletter Deadline 5-6:30 pm – Girl Scouts – Fellowship Hall	18 6:45 am Men's Bible Study at at the Church
19 9 AM Worship In person and on-line; Fellowship 9:45 – Sunday School	20	21 1 pm Quilters	22	23	24 Christmas eve services at Lena UMC: 4:30 pm and 11 pm	25 Christmas Day (Good Shepherd has a 9:30 am service)
26 9 AM Worship In person and on-line; Fellowship 9:45 – Sunday School	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

December 2021

- 4th - 8 am - Men's Breakfast
- 9:30 am - UMW Meeting
- 10 am - Special Church Conference
- 17th - Newsletter Deadline
- 24th - 4:30 pm - Christmas Eve Service
- 11 pm - Christmas Eve Service

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 614-542-9197
369-5291 Church e-mail: umclena@gmail.com
369-4411 Fax ---
Sunday 9 A.M.
9:45 A.M.