

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

September Servants

Liturgist

4 – Rose Black
11 – Bonnie Broge
18 – Tiffany Nieman
25 – Liz Gerber

Audio/Video Tech

4 – Dean, Cathy, Sharon, Chloe
11 – Dean, Cathy, Sharon, Chloe
18 – Dean, Cathy, Sharon, Chloe
25 – Dean, Cathy, Sharon, Chloe

Dial-a-Devotion

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

Fellowship

4 – Carol Buss
11 –
18 –
25 –

Sunday School Teachers

Lynne Howe, Lisa
Dascher, Cathy Rich



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

September 2022 Newsletter



Photo by Larry Nelson

Pray for Healing: Burdene Meyers, Dan Kempel, Judi (friend of Kirsten Hollister), Cherie Biehl Judy Baer, Jim Lawson (Bruce's cousin), Cole Gerber, MaryKay & Grace, Allison (Jeff Baer's niece in New Jersey), John Andry (Judy Baer's brother-in-law), Betty Leverton (Marcia Buss' mother), Tammy Wybourn, Linda Korte, Joe Wede (Richard & Eleanor's grandson), Verda Werkheiser (Eleanor's cousin), Bruce Wuebben, Aleese & Rhys Stone, Rachel Zipse, Vivien Dascher, Dennis Shultz, Rich & Nancy Plager (Nancy is Eleanor's cousin), Dean Condell (Colleen Rakowska's friend), Jeff Baer, Dana Rakowska, Lisa Wienand's family, Cindy Kerchner, Kathie Schulz, Kim Pluss (Dot Spielmann's daughter), McConnell family (Tammy Edler's sister), Norman Wybourn, Tammy Riemers, Richard Weber, Shirley Goldsmith (Pat Edler's friend), Bert & Jessica Beverage (friends of Kirsten Hollister), Jackie Edler, Debra Smith, Gretchen Kempel, Ruth Wingert, Dave Mader, Audrey Adleman (Tam Kryder's mom), Sylvia Barr (Pat Phillips' niece), 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, Stacey Biehl (daughter of Cherie Biehl).

In treatment:

Mary Brandt, 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, Carol Fluegel, Burdene Meyers – L L C

Ruth Wingert – St. Clare Friedensheim – Monroe, WI

Viola Sargent – Graceland Manor Assisted Living – Monroe, WI

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

Happy Birthday



- | | | | |
|------|---|------|--------------------------|
| 9/2 | Lyle Temperly, Jr. | 9/6 | Wayne & Olga Benson |
| 9/5 | Beulah Haeft, William Haughan | 9/11 | Darryl & Faye Wybourn |
| 9/6 | Cody Rogers | 9/13 | Bill & sherry Bohnsack |
| 9/7 | Lynn White | 9/13 | Jan & Cathy Daniels |
| 9/9 | Lisa Oellerich | 9/17 | Brad & Diane Kempel |
| 9/11 | Rebecca Edler, Kim Nelson, Kathie Schulz | 9/20 | Kyle & Trinity Zimmerman |
| 9/13 | Greg Broge, Josef Edler, Brent Taft | 9/21 | Bill & Rhonda Hooker |
| 9/14 | Austin Simmons | 9/21 | Brad & Keelee Lobdell |
| 9/15 | Eric Boyer, Mervin Mader, Ruth Wingert | 9/22 | Duane & Peggy Eilders |
| 9/16 | Sharon Hammill, Curt Oellerich, Marty Voreis | 9/27 | Adam & Karen Kryder |
| 9/19 | Carol Borchardt, Laverne Pax, Brandon Seuring | 9/30 | Nick & Dee Wybourn |
| 9/20 | Jared Kempel, Theresa Kepner | | |
| 9/21 | Seth Dascher | | |
| 9/22 | Kent Seuring | | |
| 9/23 | Peyton Heitkam | | |
| 9/25 | Mitchell Temperly, Sarah Todd | | |
| 9/26 | Brad Lobdell, Gary Price, Lori Robieson | | |
| 9/27 | David Kepner Chloe Mader, David Peight | | |
| 9/28 | Tom Smith, Conor Stanley | | |
| 9/30 | Natalie Heitkam, Elsie Lobdell | | |

The Scholarship Committee met on August 7th and decided to award a \$1000 scholarship to each of the following students: Rebecca Edler, Meagan Mader, Jack Setterstrom and Kendra Setterstrom.

Church Office Hours Update: Beginning September 1, Chris will be in the office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 am – 12 noon. Phone or email messages left on Wednesday will be answered on Thursday.

Save the date: Lena UMC Church Conference with District Superintendent Rev. Fabiola Grandon-Mayer will be on Sunday, October 30th. SPRC will meet at with DS Fabiola at 8:15 am. No Worries band will provide special music at worship. Conference will immediately follow worship service.



From the Pastor's Desk

The UMC is currently in a period of uncertainty as the denomination is in the process of splintering and possibly splitting in the future. No official action of the denomination as a whole (like a formal split agreement) can happen until General Conference meets. General Conference is made up of clergy and lay delegates from churches around the world. Normally this happens every four years, but it has been delayed multiple times and last met for a special session in 2019. It is scheduled for 2024 right now.

The presenting arguments in this splintering are centered around language in the UMC Book of Discipline which state “The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching,” prohibits the ordination of “self-avowed practicing homosexuals” and restricts clergy from presiding at weddings of same-gendered couples. This language was placed into the discipline in 1972 and has faced both the support and the resistance of United Methodists ever since. A majority of delegates at the 2019 session of General Conference reaffirmed these statements, which remain in the Book of Discipline. Resistance and protest also continues with some clergy, bishops, congregations, and Annual Conferences refusing to comply with these statements and insisting on full inclusion of LGBTQ+ siblings in the life of the church.

The divisions over human sexuality reflect a divide that goes much deeper. United Methodists are a diverse group of people. Some of the underlying divisions include disagreement over the relationship between church and the broader culture, disagreement on the way Scripture should be interpreted, and also disagreements that carry over into the church from the broader culture and politics around us. We are all trying to live as faithful Christians, but we disagree on how that actually is lived out. Lena UMC, like our denomination, is a diverse congregation. We have active members who would fall on both “sides” of this division. It is often hard to walk the middle road in a divided culture. Yet, as a congregation, that is what we have been trying to do as we have sat beside each other with all our various beliefs and ideals.

Recently the coalition group Wesley Covenant Association (a group of Methodists who can be described as traditionalist, conservative, and/or orthodox) have been working to form a new denomination reflecting more closely their values. That new denomination, the Global Methodist Church, launched in May of 2022 and is now in a time of transition until the meeting of their first conference. The Northern Illinois WCA has been active and held meetings in our area encouraging congregations to join the newly forming GMC.

Continued on next page

(From the Pastor's Desk continued)

At this time, since there is no formal split agreement, local UMC congregations remain a part of the UMC unless they take specific actions to disaffiliate. Because General Conference has been delayed, the options for a congregation to leave the UMC are the ones currently outlined in the Book of Discipline, including a special paragraph added in 2019 which allows for a modified process for those congregations disaffiliating for reasons of conscience over human sexuality. That special provision expires December 31, 2023 and churches must have completed the process by that date to be eligible to disaffiliate under this provision. It is uncertain whether future provisions like this one (or that make disaffiliation easier) will be available in the future. Any disaffiliation option available now takes time and requires multiple meetings of the congregation and votes from the local congregation and the annual conference to be finalized. In decisions like this, we need to “holy conference” where we can be together with each other and discern as clearly as we can God's way forward for us. Because UMC property is held in trust by local congregations on behalf of the annual conference, there are also legal and financial considerations if a local congregation wishes to disaffiliate and take assets with it (like the building).

A few of the UMC congregations in our area have voted to explore the option of disaffiliation and have entered a time of discernment. They remain in the UMC until that process is completed and they take a vote, at which time they may or may not choose to leave the UMC (and then possibly affiliate with the new GMC denomination). Many other congregations in our area have yet to have these conversations or have felt no need for them as they do not desire to leave the UMC.

A group within our congregation has asked us to begin these discussions as they feel our congregation should leave the United Methodist Church. Starting discussions is not an automatic vote to leave, but the beginning of a long process of discernment led by our Conference that will include listening sessions, negotiation, and a special church conference. One outcome of the process is a decision to leave the UMC, but we could also have discussions about disaffiliation and ultimately still choose to not take action and remain part of the UMC.

No matter what is happening, we must continue to remember that we are the hands and feet of Christ in our world. We continue to be a body filled with the Holy Spirit. Divisions and disagreements among us do not change that fact. God can, and very often has, worked through flawed human beings to bring about enormous good. We need to continue to do Christ's work in the Lena area even as we grapple with our own flaws and divisions. No matter what our decisions, no matter how tense things get, no matter how much we disagree with each other, it is important that we continue to live out our mission of being disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world – even if we are living that out in an unsettling time.

New Books added to the Library:

Nicholas Sparks:
The Longest Ride
The Rescue
The Best of Me
The Notebook
Dear John

Richard Evans :
Grace
The Last Promise
A Perfect Day
Finding Noel

Jeanette Oke:
Volume 1 - Love Comes Softly
 Love's Enduring Promise
Volume 2 - Love's Long Journey
 Love's Abiding Joy
Volume 3 - Love's Unending Legacy
 Love's Unfolding Dream
Volume 4 - Love Takes Wing
 Love Finds a Home
Volume 5 - When Calls the Heart
 When Comes the Spring
Volume 6 - When Breaks the Dawn
 When Hope Springs New
Volume 7 - Once Upon a Summer
 The Winds of Autumn

Jan Karon: Light from Heaven
 In This Mountain

Eben Alexander M.D. - Proof of Heaven
Angela Hunt - The Nativity Story
Marvin Besteman - My Journey to Heaven
Don Piper - 90 Minutes in Heaven
Robert Louis Stevenson - Father Damien
Richard Carlson: Don't Sweat the Small Stuff
in Love
Don't Sweat the Small Stuff...It's All Small
Stuff

Jack Canfield: Chicken Soup for the Teacher's
Soul
Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul
Chicken Soup for the Soul, Christmas Treasury

Clive Cussler - The Adventure of Vin Fiz
Danielle Steel - A Gift of Hope
Neta Jackson - Yada Yada House of Hope,
Where Did I Go?
Harlan Coben - Live Wire
Debbie Macomber - The Perfect Christmas
Linda Hall: Shadows in the Mirror
 Shadows in the Window
 Shadows on the River

Terri Reed: Chasing Shadows
 Double Threat Christmas
Robin Carol - Bayou Paradox
Sharon Dunn - Dead Ringer
Lynette Eason - A Silent Pursuit
Kathleen Tailer - Under the Marshall's
Protection
Colleen Rhoads - Shadow Bones
Jan Watson - Torrent Falls
Barbara Taylor Bradford - To Be the Best
Julia Ingram - The Messengers
Stephen King - Thinner
Pete Hamill - North River
Nancy Mitford - The Blessing
H. Peter Kriendler - "21", Memoir of a Saloon
Keeper
Charlie Shedd - Brush of an Angel's Wings
Sandra Orchard - Fatal Inheritance
Audrey Niffenegger - Her Fearful Symmetry
Katie Peretti - Oakdale Confidential: Secrets
Revealed
Diane Tyrrel - The Inn at Half Moon BAY
Carrol Cox - Seasons of Hope
Thomas Davis - The Christmas Quilt

Cook books:
Food & Wine: Reinventing the Classics
Annual Cookbook 2010



**No Worries Band will provide special music on Sunday, October 30 at the
Lena United Methodist Church 9 am Worship Service**

No Worries is a 3-member Band from the Stockton area who have joined together to share their love of **Gospel, Folk, Country and Bluegrass Music**. Terry O'Malley, Mary Berryhill, born and raised in Shannon Il, and Mary Hammer from Apple River Il.

Kid's Night Out

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 5:30-8:00PM

Lena UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 118 W. MASON ST., LENA



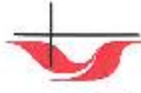
**Good-bye Summer,
Hello School Year!**



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

invite a friend, everyone is welcome!

KIDS WILL BE SUPERVISED AT ALL TIMES BY ADULTS & OLDER CHURCH YOUTH
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: EMAIL umclena@gmail.com OR CALL 815.369.5291



September 2022 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 5:30-8 pm Kids Night Out	2	3 8 am – Mens Breakfast
4 9 AM Worship in person and on line through Facebook + Communion	5 Labor Day – office closed	6 10 am - UWIF 1 pm Quilters	7	8	9	10
11 9 AM Worship In person & on line through Facebook 6pm Edler/Kryder Bible Study	12 10 am- M&M Group 1:30 pm – Stagecoach Quilters 6:30 pm - Trustees mtg	13 1 pm Quilters 6:30 pm – Finance 7 pm – Ad Council	14	15	16 Newsletter Deadline	17 7 am – Mens Bible Study
18 9 AM Worship In person & on line through Facebook	19 5:30 -7:00 pm – Girl Scouts	20 1 pm Quilters	21	22	23	24
25 9 AM Worship In person & on line through Facebook	26 10 am- M&M Group	27 1 pm Quilters	28	29	30	

This is a special message from a group of parishioners from our congregation concerned about the direction of our church moving forward as the General Conference of the UMC gets ready to convene in 2024.

To all our members and friends of the LUMC, we certainly would like to thank everyone who stayed after the service this past Sunday (Aug 28th) during a brief informational meeting with the Church Council about the newly formed Global Methodist Church denomination. The Global Methodist Church was founded on May 1, 2022 and has since separated from the UMC. It is a new Protestant denomination based on Wesleyan theology and is conservative in nature.

On September 20th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Lena American Legion Hall, Pastor Scott Field from the Global Methodist Church will give a presentation on the differences between the progressive UMC and the GMC ideals. If you are searching for more information about this newly formed denomination, this would be an excellent opportunity to do so. You may also visit their website- globalmethodist.org (<https://globalmethodist.org>)

Sincerely,

Members of your church family

HARMONY UMC

Pig Roast and Craft Show

**SEPTEMBER 17
FROM 11- 6**



HARMONY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
HAS FREE SPACES AVAILABLE FOR APPROVED CRAFTERS
AND VENDORS WHO HAVE ITEMS TO SELL. THIS WILL
TAKE PLACE DURING THE PIG ROAST BENEFIT WHICH IS
RAISING MONEY FOR THE
JOEY BEARD FAMILY .
THERE IS NO COST TO THE CRAFTERS. BRING A TENT,
YOUR LAWN CHAIRS, AND ENJOY SOME MUSIC AND
FUN.



For information please call the church office at 815-233-0057

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

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Lena, Illinois
Permit No. 17

September 2022

1st 5:30-8pm – Kids Night Out
5th – Labor Day – office closed
6th – 10 am – UWIF meeting
12th & 26th – 10 am – M&M Group
12th – 1:30 pm – Stagecoach Quilters
12th – 6:30 pm – Trustees Meeting
13th – 6:30 pm – Finance; 7 pm – Ad Council
16th - Newsletter Deadline
19th – 5:30-7 pm – Girl Scouts

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.
10:45 A.M.

Cell 614-524-9197
Church e-mail: umclena@gmail.com