



Lena United Methodist Church

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

June 2021 Newsletter

Pastor Keri Rainsberger

815-369-5291 or
Cell 614-542-9197

June Servants

Vocalists

6 – Scott Stich
13 – Roberta Rogers
20 – Bonnie Broge
27 – Scott Stich

Liturgist

6 – Tiffany Nieman
13 – Liz Gerber
20 – Judy Baer
27 – Rose Black

Video Tech

6 – Cathy Rich, Chloe Mader
13 – Cathy Rich, Chloe Mader
20 – Cathy Rich, Chloe Mader
27 – Cathy Rich, Chloe Mader

Dial-a-Devotion

6 – Pat Phillips
13 – Janet Lobdell
20 – Norma Klipping
27 – Eleanor Holmes

Fellowship

6–
13–
20–
27–

Sunday School Teachers

Lynne Howe ,Lisa Dascher (K-5th grade)
Roberta Rogers, Cathy Rich (Youth)
Sally Buchenau (Adult)



Larry Nelson Photo

Pray for Healing: Bert & Jessica Beverage (friends of Kirsten Hollister), Helen Edler, Jackie Edler, Vivien Rose Dascher, Rhys Stone (Larry & Kim Nelson's great grandson), Judy Baer, Mila Jean Rakowska (great-granddaughter of Colleen Rakowska), Eileen Snapp, Jerry White (Lavone Gabel's son-in-law), Debra Smith, Gretchen Kempel, Richard Weber, Ruth Wingert, Charlotte Engel (Laverne Pax's aunt), Dave Mader, Don & Kathy Boatman (friends of Elaine Williams), Irene Rainsberger and Grace Cassaday (Pastor Keri's grandmothers), Audrey Adleman (Tam Kryder's mom), Jeff Smith (brother of Debbie Smith), Evelyn Herman, Gary & Aileen Schreiner, Sylvia Barr (Pat Phillips' niece), Mervin Lobdell, Ken Gritzmaker, Pat Milliken, Dennis Dunn (friend of Bruce Wuebben), Dorothy Montgomery, Arlene Kryder, Mark Mader, Pauline Lutz, Johanne Wingert, 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:

Ruth Wingert; Lois Thrasher (Liberty Village); Pauline Lutz, Al & Dorothy Owens, & Carol Fluegel, Helen Edler (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



June Birthdays

- 6/2 Jax Korte
- 6/5 Murry Lobdell
- 6/6 Kendra Setterstrom, Scott Heitkam
- 6/7 Kara Thomasson
- 6/8 Michael Liphart
- 6/8 Dan Todd
- 6/10 Sharon Schwartz
- 6/12 Casey Roenneburg
- 6/15 Nancy Price
- 6/17 Drew Rogers, Eric Korte, Brendyn Smith
- 6/18 Sylvia Vehmeier
- 6/19 Curt Goeke
- 6/20 Meagan Mader
- 6/21 Betty Daws
- 6/23 Payton Scace, Gretchen Heitkam
- 6/24 Jr. Dascher
- 6/25 Gary Schwartz
- 6/26 Kade Lobdell, Susan Bussian, Steve Rothschadl, Mick Flynn
- 6/27 Harold Meeker, Logan Thomas
- 6/28 Rory Schulz
- 6/29 Dot Spielmann, Joanne Snyder
- 6/30 Bob Boyer

June Anniversaries

- 6/2 Stephen & Jenica Roenneburg
- 6/7 Larry & Kim Nelson
- 6/7 Laverne & Marcia Pax
- 6/9 Doug & Lori Robieson
- 6/14 Dick & Kara Thomasson
- 6/15 Pete & Allie Brown
- 6/16 Darin & Tammy Wybourn
- 6/24 Doug & Connie Kempel
- 6/25 Jack & Sara Rausch
- 6/28 Matt & Kathy Phillips
- 6/30 Doug & Darlene Pauley
- 6/30 Gary & Aileen Schreiner

UMW Update: The Lena United Methodist Church UMW met May 1st at the church. It was so good to be back together that we decided we would meet the first Saturday of each month from now on. Our next meeting is June 5th in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Your offerings can be mailed to our P O Box 336, Lena, IL.

This summer you are invited to gather for a different type of study! The study's focus will be anti-racism, but you get to pick the resource you work with (suggestions available). We will gather regularly as a group (in person and zoom) to share with each other what we learn from our respective resources. We will also keep in touch with each other with email updates. If you would like to be a part of the study group, please contact Pastor Keri.

From the Pastor's Desk....



On January 1st, 1863 the Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln went into effect. Declaring freedom in words, however, did not bring freedom to pass. Black Americans continued to be deprived of their humanity and freedom. June 19th, Juneteenth, is a day that acknowledges that reality. It took until June 19, 1965 for the word of freedom to the enslaved folks in Galveston, Texas. The centuries delayed word was met with a celebration of Jubilee. The day of celebration has since spread beyond Texas to be celebrated in many communities across the nation. While it is a day to celebrate freedom, it is also a reminder that in so many ways full freedom is still yet to arrive.

I did not learn about Juneteenth from my public school education. It was not until I was an adult that its story of longing and delayed freedom finally was taught to me. It has since become an important day of recognition for me. This may seem strange since I am a white woman. However, black history is our history too. It is a reminder to me of how much work still needs to be done to bring true freedom, and stirs me to listen, to try and make change, and to live the word of freedom.

Beyond moving me as a historical reminder, or a present call to action, it has also become a personal word. For the story our African-American siblings tell, while unique in its horror, also rings of human struggles that transcends the bounds of race. When I heard of the delayed word of liberation, I thought of my own struggle with violence from my past that kept me chained down long after the violence had supposedly ceased. I was technically free, yet I was still bound. My Juneteenth came many years later when I finally came to a place of healing, could finally feel myself lifted up and let loose.

In this season after Pentecost, we are reminded that we have the Holy Spirit, our word of liberation, within us. That word frees us from everything that binds us. We are set free so that we can rise up and go to action, bringing the word of freedom to all we encounter. Let us listen to the stories of those who are bound, let us not shy from their cries for deliverance, and let us do the hard work of living into true freedom for all.

This month we will also have a special treat as we hear reflections from Randy Kryder (June 13) and Scott Stich (June 20)! God is truly doing great things in their lives and I am sure that their words will help us hear God's word of freedom and live into it!



Lena United Methodist Church offers its warmest congratulations to the following graduates:

1. Marissa Buss, daughter of Steve and Lindsay Buss and granddaughter of Gary and Marcia Buss. Marissa is graduating from Carthage College with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work. In the fall she will attend Aurora University to pursue her Masters in Social Work.
2. Tavor Buss, son of Ryan and Holly Buss and grandson of Gary and Marcia Buss. Tavor is graduating from Le-Win High School. He will attend Highland Community College and then transfer to Southern Illinois University to pursue a degree in architecture.
3. (Rebecca) Becca Edler daughter of Tom and Tammy Edler completed her Associate Degree in General Studies in December, 2020 at Highland Community College. She is now attending North Central College working towards completion of her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. She is on track to finish in the Spring of 2023.
4. Cole Gerber, son of Shane and Liz Gerber and grandson of Jeff and Judy Baer. Cole is graduating from Le-Win High School. He will be attending college but has not yet finalized his decision.
5. Kayleigh Gerber, daughter of Shane and Liz Gerber and granddaughter of Jeff and Judy Baer. Kayleigh is graduating from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Relations and Policy. She will be attending law school at the University of Illinois.
6. Jack Setterstrom, son of Brian and Laura Setterstrom and grandson of Wayne and Olga Benson. Jack is graduating from Le-Win High School. He will be attending college at the University of Wisconsin at Platteville to study Agricultural Business.
7. Grace Baldino, daughter of Richard and Mary Kay Baldino and granddaughter of Jeff and Judy Baer. Grace is graduating from Prospect High School. She plans to attend Harper College, a community college in Palatine for the first two years.
8. Carter Burke, son of Terry and Sherry Burke and grandson of Carol Borchardt. Carter is graduating from Le-Win High School. In the fall he will attend the University of Iowa.
9. Owen Kempel, son of Jason and Jennifer Kempel, grandson of Brad and Diane Kempel and great-grandson of Al and Dorothy Owens. Owen is graduating from Le-Win High School. Owen will be enlisting in the United States Marine Corps.
10. Sidney Weegens, Daughter of Jeff & Michelle Weegens and great-granddaughter of Darryl & Faye Wybourn. Sidney is graduating from Le-Win High School. She will be attending Drake University in the fall majoring in biochemistry and molecular biology.

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 Carillon 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

LENA UMC TRUSTEE MINUTES
May 10, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

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

Opening Prayer was led by Richard Holmes.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the March 8, 2021 meeting were discussed. Added to the minutes was that in April 2021, the trustees approved the purchase of a new dehumidifier for the fellowship hall for \$249.00. Pete moved to accept the minutes and Linda K. seconded the motion. Motion carried. The minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Sign for the elevator was made and installed.

Electrical work in the quilting machine room still needs to be completed. Gary Buss and Kirk Polhill are working on the problem.

Lawn repair by the garage has been leveled off, tilled and seeded by Richard. **Church maintenance** needs were discussed. The issue that was decided to be addressed was the plaster and peeling paint. Richard will call Pfile about the plaster. Pete will talk with H&S about the exterior water issues that are probably the cause of the moisture problem.

Dial-a Devotion answering machine has been replaced.

Organ and sanctuary piano have been tuned.

Sunday school room's clock still needs to be replaced. Sally B. will take care of it. **Furnace filters** for the education wing furnace still need to be located and purchased. Doug Robinson and Richard will keep searching.

NEW BUSINESS

Tuckpointing on the back of the church should be done later when funds are available. **Realgy Gas** is our current supplier. The gas bill went from \$700 in January to \$3,000 in February. Richard repeatedly called Realgy to inquire about the increase. He also searched old church records to find out when the switch to Realgy was made. Richard will again attempt to contact Realgy about the increase and switching back to Nicor Gas.

Finance and Ad Board Meetings will be attended by Pete because Richard will not be able to attend on 5/11/21 because of a surgical procedure.

Closing prayer was led by Pastor Keri.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Next Meeting will be July 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by secretary Linda Voreis

Lena United Methodist Church - Finance Committee Minutes –May 11, 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: Kim Nelson, Pete Brown representing Trustees, Scott Stich, Randy Kryder, Cathy Rich, Steve Rothschadl, Chris Bartelt and Pastor Keri.

Steve made a motion to approve the March 9, 2021 meeting minutes and it was seconded by Randy. Motion carried and minutes were approved.

Kim reviewed the balance sheet, March and April P&Ls and April YTD P&L. Highlights follow:

Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2021: At the end of April, the balance in the General Fund is \$30,843.23, but would have been \$18,206.23 if we hadn't gotten the SBA loan of \$12,637 in February. The designated fund balance is \$23,494.65. Comments on balance sheet: Easter collection at end of April is \$2,489 and this has not been paid out yet. We are still receiving an occasional Easter envelope. There is \$1.80 in special gifts for a service charge at the bank. This will come out of the report next month. There is still money in the church maintenance account and boiler fund account. We did use some money from the boiler fund account to pay a bill for a check-over of the boiler system.

P&L Reviews- March Profit & Loss comments: We had a good income month in March. There were 5 Sundays in March. Income was \$15,150. Budgeted income was \$11,392. In the 6511 and 6515 account, for the Pianist and Choir director, a time card was turned in at the end of March, and was paid in early April, so that expense does not show up on the March P&L, but does show up in April. In the Trustees account, the church gas bill is \$2400 over budget due to the fact that the supplier, Realgy, had extensive charges from the extreme weather in Texas in the winter and increased all of its customers charges. We have paid the bill, but the Trustees committee is working on switching gas suppliers to eliminate the contract with Realgy and go back to Nicor. Even with the large charge for the church gas bill, we still had a net income in March of \$2200.92.

April Profit & Loss: April income from envelope giving was \$8,882.13 versus budgeted amount of \$11,392. As noted in previous months, the office supplies account spending is higher than budgeted due to the amount of the copier maintenance bill being more than budgeted. And as noted in March, the SPRC accounts for Pianist and Choir Director have both March and April charges in April. The church gas bill in April is back in line at \$401.25 versus a budgeted amount of \$460. Net income was -\$6,023.25.

April 30, 2021 Year to Date Profit & Loss: Net income was \$1,302.53. Comments: Income for January through April was 53,949.13 which includes the PPP loan of \$12,637. Gas bill for this period was over budget due to the Realgy charge.

Kim said Jodi has submitted the information required to get a credit for the church on the 941 tax form, but we haven't heard anything yet. Also, Kim has completed the application for the PPP loan forgiveness for the amount of \$12,637. Signed paperwork was submitted last week. We are waiting on a response on that.

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm. Next meeting: July 13, 2021 @ 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Chris Bartelt, Financial Secretary

***Lena United Methodist Church – Ad Council Meeting Minutes –
May 11, 2021***

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

Joys and concerns: Prayers for Judy Baer as she has a 2 hour audiologist appointment on Wednesday and MRIs within the next few weeks. Also, Donnie Fox suddenly became ill on Monday and was transferred to UW. Jason Clevenger- Rockford, friend of the Baer's, has COVID and is on a ventilator. Kim's cousin, Nancy, is in the hospital in ICU and is septic.

The minutes from the March 9 meeting were approved with one correction ("Zak" is spelled Zach). Cathy made the motion to approve the corrected minutes and Kim seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Committee Reports: Membership – Jeff and Judy reported they still have a lot of people to call. Three Graduates were in church on Sunday to receive their gifts. List of grads will be in June newsletter.

Trustees – Pete attended the meeting representing the Trustees. He said Trustees met on Monday night and discussed the church's gas contract with Realgly and changing back to Nicor. They also discussed the peeling plaster issue in Fellowship Hall and some plastering by some windows. They are gathering data by contacting Pfile from Dakota and H&S for exploratory work outside the church. There were no decisions made at the Trustees meeting Monday night.

SPRC – SPRC had their first quarterly meeting to lay out plans for the year. The next meeting will be May 19 and will be Pastor Keri's ministerial review.

Lay Leader's Report - Scott reported there is some on-line training happening at the conference for Lay Leaders. There have been some cluster meetings with lay leaders from other churches to discuss church life during/after the pandemic.

Finance – Finance reports were covered at the Finance Meeting earlier tonight. Our accountant has submitted the information to get a credit on the 941 tax form, but we have not had a response yet. The PPP loan forgiveness application has been completed, signed and mailed to State Bank of Davis. We have not heard back yet.

Education – We have a large group of pre-K, K and 1st graders that we'd like to begin working with. Lynne will work with Lisa on getting a "newsletter" out to the children.

The book study on "White Fragility" has two chapters left. The group is looking for ways to move forward and continue meeting when the book study ends.

Missions: No report. Missions committee has not reconvened.

Worship – No report

Pastor's report: - Pastor Keri reported that there will be a meeting with the consultant from the Early Adopters program on Tuesday, May 25 at 7 pm. This will be an overview by the coach and include survey results and decide next step, if any. Phase 1 has been an exploratory phase of 2-3 meetings and the survey. Is next step capacity building? Hopefully the coach will give a recommendation. Ad Council members should attend the May 25 meeting to decide if we are going to proceed to the next Phase of the program.

A brief discussion followed on: Are we ready for the creative possibilities or how do we increase what we have now.

Annual conference is July 16 and 17 on-line (Zoom).

The meeting closed at 8:10 pm with a prayer by Randy. The next meeting will be July 13, 2021 @ 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Bartelt, Secretary

June 2021 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 1 pm Quilters	2	3	4	5 9:30 am - UMW
6 9 AM Worship In Person & On -line through Facebook + Communion 11:30-5pm - Fellowship Hall reserved by Vera Kempel	7	8 1 pm Quilters	9	10	11	12
13 9 AM Worship In Person & On -line through Facebook 6 pm –Edler/ Kryder Bible Study at the Church	14	15 1 pm Quilters	16	17	18 Newsletter Deadline	19 <i>7:00 am Men's Bible Study Fellowship Hall</i>
20 9 AM Worship In Person & On -line through Facebook Happy Father's Day! 11:00-5:00 Fellowship Hall reserved by Tammy Edler	21	22 1 pm Quilters	23	24	25	26
27 9 AM Worship In Person & On -line through Facebook	28 7 pm Stagecoach Quilters	29 1 pm Quilters	30			

Lena United Methodist Church
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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

June 2021

5th – 9:30 am - UMW
6th, 13th, 20th, 27th - 9 am Worship in person and On Line through Facebook
13th – 6 pm – Edler/Kryder Bible Study – Fellowship Hall
18th - Newsletter Deadline
19th – Men’s Bible Study
28th - 7 pm – Stagecoach Quilters

Or Current Resident

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[Place label here]
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Pastor Keri Rainsberger
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Dial-A-Devotion
Worship hours:
Sunday School

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369-5291 Church e-mail: umclena@gmail.com
369-4411
Sunday 9 A.M.
10:30 A.M.