



# Galena UMC

## Recovery & ReTurn Report

August 26, 2020 Week #11

### Galena's ReTurn Team

Dale Henze – Chair  
Dennis Irwin  
Charlene Price  
Patricia Allen–Stewart  
Bill & Sherry Marc  
Jay & Hillary Dickerson  
Dave & Judy Biegon  
Karen Hughes  
Darcy Muehliep  
Pastor Catiana McKay

### Weekly Update ... from Dale

Our reopening committee met on our regular Monday afternoon meeting today and, as always, re-evaluated the current situation concerning reopening. As we look at our county and community covid situation, we all continue to agree that we do not feel comfortable and/or safe with recommending full reopening at this point. We will continue to re-evaluate weekly as has been the case.

I found a note about learning to play chess as an interesting comparison to “the church” during these difficult times. I’d like to share this.....

*“If you want to learn how to play chess, you should start by removing your own queen. Once you have mastered the game*

*without the most powerful piece, then put the queen back in and see how good you are! For the church, the Sunday service is our queen. Have we been relying on it too much? Now that the queen has been taken off the board it’s time to rediscover what all the other pieces can do.”*

When we gather again, will we have new skills? Will we be better? It is not that we want to forever do church without the gatherings. We want to have those things, and we need to bring those things back. But it is okay to temporarily build other parts of a healthy church. It doesn’t make the queen unimportant; it just means it’s not all about the queen.

Maybe this time of waiting is an opportunity.

### Medical Tip of the Week ...from Dennis

Refer to FAQ page 1 for more detailed answer



CORONAVIRUS

It seems logical that collecting antibody rich plasma from people who are known to have had a Covid19 infection should help people who have just gotten the infection. Has this been tried and does it work?

Using antibody rich plasma (convalescent plasma or CP) is a proven and effective way to treat certain infections. This approach is being tried for Covid19. Results are not yet in.

## **Update from the County ... *from Jay***

Looking for something healthy to do that will benefit several essential organizations? The Galena Virtual Family Fitness Weekend is for you!

Registration for the Galena Virtual Family Fitness Weekend, Sept. 12-13 is now open at [bit.ly/3kvOwmw](https://bit.ly/3kvOwmw).

Families and individuals, regardless of where they live, are encouraged to participate by walking, running, hiking, biking, kayaking, canoeing or any other physical endeavor. This is a replacement event for the Heroes for History Stair Challenge which was postponed this year due to the pandemic. Participants may also run the stairs, as well. Donors are eligible for door prizes.

This event is a fundraiser for the historical society and emergency service organizations.

**Notes ...*from Charlene* ...** I'm finding that "staying in touch" seems to be the only good thing coming out of this pandemic. The more we can hold our church family close, the better it feels, whether it's by phone calls or notes. We really are all in this together.

## **Blessings ... *from Pastor Catiana***

"Do No Harm" has been our focus these weeks and months since our sheltering began. Yes, we are committed to keeping people safe remembering those whose immune systems may be compromised in any way. With this in mind, even though the building is prepared for safe gatherings, we are not ready to meet in our enclosed spaces, but we can begin with an outdoor worship together at Rec Park. Zoom will continue to supplement all gatherings.

During September and October (while still comfortable) we will schedule some outdoor worship, study and meetings. Our Memorial Garden can comfortably seat seven, and a Rec Park pavilion is an option for a larger group. Personal lawn chairs also work well.

ZOOM gatherings, phone calls, and emails will supplement our community engagement once we do resume "being" church, the body of Christ, face-to-face. So perhaps this time gives us practice for new ways of outreach that we could not have imagined a few months ago. We will continue to expand our worship, our study, and our communication. A new web site will soon follow with a space for giving and prayer requests.

**As followers of The Way (the followers of Jesus),** we will continue to grow and learn and share all aspects of a vital community of faith living out the Gospel of Christ here in Galena and beyond. God bless you and keep you!

Remember: **Do No Harm ... Do Good ... Stay in Love with God!**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13