



# Galena UMC

## Recovery & ReTurn Report

August 19, 2020 Week #10

### 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

As I know you are aware, our Recovery and ReTurn committee is continuing to meet weekly. As a committee representing our entire church family, we constantly evaluate our policies and procedures to make sure they can be as safe and effective as possible. Furthermore, we certainly do not mean to fuel excessive fear about this virus. Christians are still people of faith, not of fear.

While we are people of faith, we must move forward with wisdom. Wisdom does not discount faith; wisdom intensifies faith. Embracing wisdom means we demonstrate that we are trusting God the way he has intended us to live even if it means being inconvenienced. And Lord knows, COVID-19 has inconvenienced all our lives.

As a parting thought, I felt that you might appreciate a word from humorist Erma Bombeck as she addresses worry and fear.... she says..... **"Worry is like a rocking chair: It gives you something to do but never gets you anywhere."** Until next week.....

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

Refer to FAQs for details

Check out the updated FAQ this week. There are 10 new items as well as updates of some of the old ones. For this week, all new FAQs and updates will be highlighted in yellow. Starting next week we will highlight one of the new ones each week for the Return Report. I am sure that after reading the new information you will have some additional questions about what I have explained or new questions altogether that you think the Return Team should address. Please send your questions and suggestions to me at [fdirwin01@gmail.com](mailto:fdirwin01@gmail.com). I will be sure to address them in upcoming Return Reports.



CORONAVIRUS

**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.

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

Jo Daviess County has been removed from the state's list of counties at the warning level. Fourteen counties were added to the list last week—Bureau, Cass, Clinton, Franklin, Greene, Grundy, Hancock, Jefferson, Kane, LaSalle, Moultrie, Perry, Union and Will. Jo Daviess County was added to the list of warned counties on July 31.

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) uses numerous indicators when determining if a county is experiencing stable COVID-19 activity, or if there are warning signs of increased COVID-19 risk in the county.

The indicators are:

- New cases per 100,000 people—If there are 50 new cases per 100,000 people in the county, this triggers a warning.
- Number of deaths—This metric indicates a warning when the weekly number of deaths increases more than 20 percent for two consecutive weeks.
- Weekly test positivity—This metric indicates a warning when the seven day positivity rate rises above eight percent.
- ICU availability—If there are fewer than 20 percent of intensive care units available in the region, this triggers a warning.
- Weekly emergency department visits—When the weekly percent of COVID-19-like illness emergency department visits increase by more than 20 percent for two consecutive weeks, this triggers a warning.
- Weekly hospital admissions—A warning is triggered when the weekly number of hospital admissions increases by more than 20 percent for two consecutive weeks.
- Tests performed—This metric is used to provide context and indicate if more testing is needed in the county.
- Clusters—This metric looks at COVID-19 cases associated with clusters or outbreaks and is used to understand a large increase in cases.

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

Friends, I am thankful for the wisdom we receive each week from our Recovery and ReTurn team as they assess how we can meet as safely as possible through this challenging time. As some of you know, our trustees met at Rec Park (zoom was also available) this month and we have had an occasional meeting in our Memorial Garden, always with social distancing, sanitizing and masks. We are planning to offer a small gathering with all precaution taken, at a pavilion in Rec Park on August 26<sup>th</sup> (more to come) and are exploring the possibility of a worship service, Sunday morning after labor Day at the same location. Zoom will always be offered in addition to any outdoor gathering we might have.

With God's help we will continue to live out our faith together in surprising new ways! Be assured, updates and connecting information will continue. 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

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