



# Galena UMC

## Recovery & ReTurn Report

October 7, 2020 Week #17

### Galena's ReTurn Team

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

### Weekly Update ... *from Dale*

While our committee does not feel at all comfortable with full re-opening at this time, our prayer is that we can live out our missional calling, meet the needs of our congregants, and protect the health of those in our church and community at this critical time.

This pandemic has dramatically changed our lives and has turned our world upside down. We are just months into this pandemic, but the pain and anxieties around us are so real. The desire to open our church doors as soon as possible to serve those in our community is understandable.

We need to be reminded of one certainty. The COVID-19 pandemic in its present form will pass. One day we will look back on this

time and see clearly that God was with us and was working in our midst for good. Knowing this, we can turn to him today and ask him to give us the discernment, compassion, and faith to make the right decisions for our church at this time.

I wanted to share a short story that speaks about what we might be teaching our children and messages we may be sending to others during this pandemic. **Just something to think about.....**

***A young mother is finishing the lettering on a hanging that will serve as a fall decoration for the family's front door.***

***Her young daughter asks, "What does it say?"***

***Mother simply replies, "It says welcome."***

***To which the young child replied, "Shouldn't it say stay away?"***

**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.

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

CORONAVIRUS

It begins to hit closer to home as several members of our church family have tested positive for Covid19. This comes at a time when President Trump became ill with Covid19. To compound this further, flu season is nearly upon us. Can we expect a double hit of Covid19 and flu this winter? Probably so. Will there be a Covid19 vaccine by the end of the year? Possibly. If a vaccine is approved by the end of the year, when will the average person be able to be immunized? Probably not until well into next year, maybe as long as a year from now. All of this is very trying. Other than keeping the faith, what can we do? First, don't despair This too shall pass. We will get through it. In the interval, get your flu shot this month. And, not to sound too much like a broken record, wash your hands thoroughly and often throughout the day. Wear a mask when outside your own home. Maintain proper social distancing and avoid close contact with anyone for more than a minute or two and not at all if coughing, sneezing, etc. Wipe down all surfaces you touch. Don't touch your face. Lastly, do not eat in a restaurant or bar or attend any large gatherings, particularly indoors. Do all of this and you have done everything you can do to get through the next several months safely.



*Steeple  
Work  
Continues*



## Blessings ... from Pastor Catiana

As you know by now, we have decided to forego worshipping this Sunday at Rec Park. As our guidelines tighten here in Galena and fall COVID seems to be with us, we want to make sure we are helping to "Do no harm" in our community so Blessing of the Animals Worship service will be assembled and recorded for your viewing as usual. Please email, mail, or drop off (give me a call) a picture (a selfie or a short video) of you and your pet or your family & pet or just your pet. I will use your pictures creatively in Sunday's video .

If you or your family would like to record (by phone or computer) a reading for a future service, please let me know. I can easily record this for you using zoom. Coming up is All Saints Day on Sunday, November 1st. I hope to have pictures of those you would like to remember in the service. Again those can be sent to me through email or mail. I could also do a porch pick-up and return the picture following my scanning. Please call me anytime 630-935-3312 and we can have a private zoom conversation if you would like. There will be more opportunities to meet via zoom. Let me know how I can be present for 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*