

AUG 15, 2021

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of Galena United Methodist Church

**Join us for 10 am Sunday  
Worship in our church  
OR livestream the  
service on our website**

Join us for 10 am Sunday Worship, now through September 5, in our church sanctuary. We will return to 10:30 am Sunday Worship on September 12.

You can also view our livestream services, at any time, on our website by clicking on the "Worship with Us" tab, on our Youtube at Galena UMC, and on our Facebook page at Galena UMC.

## Do Good COVID-19 Movement



The United Methodist Church has a long history of supporting health care efforts, from running clinics to praying for health care workers to advocating for public health measures. We are part of a long history of Christians who have done their best to combat disease, pestilence, and plague. At this moment, encouraging people to be vaccinated against COVID-19 is one of the most effective things we can do to promote public health. The goal is simple: to have all of our churches encouraging their members, friends, families, and neighbors to get vaccinated or to speak directly with their primary care physician about their vaccine questions.

## Week 4 of Quest Series: "Returning Home"



Sometimes when we have traveled away from the familiar, we return and find the familiar holds more than we had noticed before. Our eyes, now trained to wonder and appreciate, behold the place we left afresh. Our "Quest" has brought us right 'round again.

Scripture: Psalm 36: 5-9 John 15: 1-17

Synopsis: As we bring our series on travel to a close, we contemplate what it means to return home. After stretching our spirits and our love to include more of the glorious creation and its peoples, we return to a home that will never be the same to us. We have returned with "guests"—memories of new friends and new perspectives. Perhaps we also return with new convictions to be more active and loving citizens of humanity right where we reside. Jesus says "abide in me" and follows that up with the commandment to love one another. The beauty of travel as a spiritual act is, as Rick Steves says, that our prized souvenirs are the "strands of different cultures we decide to knit into our own character."

*Sojourning God, your Spirit exists everywhere, on every path, inviting us to move with curiosity and compassion toward each other. May we see that our home paths are the unfamiliar paths for someone else. With renewed compassion, open our hearts for hospitality, so that in our welcoming, we will grow together in peace, expand our chances for love, and deepen understanding right where we are. Nudge and guide us, we pray. Amen.*

# Prayers: Joys & Concerns



Prayers for peace and reconciliation within our country and within our world; prayers for an awareness of the senseless violence and gun obsession in our country and prayers that we take action through common sense gun legislation and open hearts. Prayers for healing from the sins of racism. May our awareness turn into healing action.

Please hold our people in prayer as COVID continues to shift in variance and strength. May we realize that vaccinations are critical for the health and well being of all and what we do or don't do affects the health of others. Prayers of thanks for the vaccine and for those who continue to encourage others to be vaccinated.

Hold our dear members and friends who passed away this last year and their families in prayer. Bill Hottenstein, GUMC's former neighbor, passed away. Hold his family in prayer. Richard Burlingame, a friend of many, passed away recently. Hold his family and friends in prayer; Frank Netzel, a beloved bells player, passed away. Please pray for his wife Ruth, family and friends.

Prayers for Julie's grandson, Jonah and Brooke and her great grandchildren, Jude and Lizbeth; Prayers for Roberta Turner's great grandson, new-born, Khyson Turner; Prayers for Bev DeBord's brother, Donnie Renner, who is now in hospice. Please hold Carolyn and Tom Grey in your prayers (2120 S. Monroe Street, Spokane, WA 99203). Prayers for Judy B's cousin, Karen's family. Karen passed away this week. Hold Wendy in prayer--depression.

Hold Charlene Price in prayer for healing following a fall and Marlene Niec, whose fall recently left much bruising; Continue prayers for Meg Gibs, recovering well from foot surgery; Continue prayers for Wayne Hughes' family--Karen, son Mike, grandson Justin, and great grandson Porter; Please pray for Esther Lieberman's family and friends; Esther recently passed away; Prayers for Eldon Glick,

Nancy Lewis's father, passed away. Prayers for Elisa Skeeter's family and neighbors. Charlene Price fell and has hurt her back (compression fracture) besides several black and blue marks. An overly friendly dog was involved in this catastrophe. Charlene is having pain but hopefully, with a back brace, she will soon be back in shape. Her address is 810 Shadow Bluff Drive, Galena.

Marlene Niec fell this last weekend and is bruised. Her address is 509 Meeker St., Galena. Hold Lonna and her daughter, Joni in prayer for health concerns. Continue to pray for Wayne and Mary Turner and their health issues; Betty Kabara's health; Daniel Saben, continued prayers for new treatments; Cheryl and Jim White; Eileen Henrich, Pam McKinsey's mom, and Pam's sister, Melanie.

Please hold Sarah and Carter in prayer as Sarah continues her process of healing; Pray for Sarah's brother, Bill, who has cancer. Prayers for the Brotheridge family as Michelle has passed away; Larry Cook and his family; Curtis Cook, Larry's grandson; Bev DeBord; Dave and Annie Silaggi; Lisa and Terry Prindle; Janette Bader and family (6481 N. Bowden Road, Scales Mound).

Prayers for Zambia's hunger-missionary, Betty Tsala and sons, Lanie and Shaun. Continued prayers for all detained/separated children, immigrants; victims of gun violence & all experiencing PTSD; all responders to tragedies in our country & around the world; prayers for the people of the United Methodist Church as we find a new expression of more fully living into the grace-filled ministry of our faith; and prayers for our United Methodist Church and its ministries.

Prayers for peaceful solutions to world issues that are too often addressed with violence. May the peace of Christ prevail. Prayers for the world and its leaders facing difficult decisions every day. May decisions be made with wisdom and care for the benefit of all.

Prayers for all health care workers trying to provide critical services at a dangerous time for themselves; Prayers for loved ones who have died and whose lives are now being celebrated in houses of worship.

## Covid19 Medical Advice: A New Look at Delta and Beyond *from Dennis Irwin*

We had all hoped a month ago that this thing was behind us. Sorry to tell you that it is not. The Delta variant along with Eta, Iota, Kappa, and Lambda are all out there. Delta now accounts for about 90% of new infections in the US. The vast majority of infections are in the unvaccinated. This is no surprise. But a substantial number of newly reported cases are in the fully vaccinated. What's up with that? 163,000,000 people have been fully vaccinated in the US as of July 26. Of those fully vaccinated, 6,587 people have been hospitalized and died. That is 0.004% of the fully vaccinated population. THE VACCINE WORKS JUST AS IT WAS INTENDED TO WORK! But that does not mean you are completely protected. There is a lot of Delta variant spreading out there.

If you are vaccinated, you can still be infected and if infected you become a spreader of the virus. Since you will not become sick, you do not necessarily know that you have been infected and can unknowingly spread illness. This is why mask mandates are reappearing. For those of us who are fully vaccinated wearing a mask in closed spaces and around children is important to help cut down on the spread of the virus. So, mask up when indoors with people you do not live with or whose vaccination status is uncertain.

Does that mean we have to leave the sanctuary again? No, not at this time. All of us have been fully vaccinated and pose little risk to each other. In the sanctuary we should be fine for now. But, if a truly vaccine resistant variant appears or a recombinant variant springs up, we could be in for a lot of trouble. We must be alert to what is going on around us. For now, in Galena amongst our peers, we should be pretty safe.

There is a potentially vaccine resistant variant out there right now, the Lambda variant. 80% of the cases in Peru are due to this variant. It is reported to be more contagious than Delta and may cause more serious illness. It may be resistant to the vaccines. Or it may be none of the above. 1,900 cases of Lambda variant have been reported in the US as of last week. For now, I am taking this very seriously and am following the advice I gave you a few weeks ago. I have started wearing a mask again at Walmart, the Pig, during a visit to the River Museum last weekend, etc. I am using hand sanitizer. I am washing my hands all the time. I am following the medical news.

When will this be behind us? My prediction is that we will likely be out of the woods by next summer but will not feel secure until the flu season of 2022-2023 is behind us. Write it down. We will see if I am correct. I will do my best to keep you up to date on the progression of significant variants and what it may mean for us.

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

# July-September "Change for the Better" is Mujila Falls Agricultural Research Center

During the months of July, August and September, our Change for the Better will be supporting Mujila Falls Agricultural Research Center, Zambia (#15016A), an organization that addresses hunger and poverty with sustainable agriculture and leadership training in extreme North West Zambia.

The original goals and objectives of the project were to increase protein, minerals and vitamins in the diet to reduce high infant mortality and low life expectancy of the Lunda People. It was also to help the Lunda People to increase family incomes by becoming more effective and efficient farmers. The desired long-term impact is to help to make the Lunda farmers and their families competitive in agricultural pursuits that benefit from high rainfall and abundant available land. These include milk, fruit and meat production, gardening and field crop production.

To learn more about Mujila Falls, visit <https://www.facebook.com/MujilaFallsAgCenter/>.

## Aug 18 - Mission Team 10 am-In-person & Zoom

Our next regular meeting will be held in our church fellowship hall on August 11 at 10 am, and ZOOM will also be available for those unable to attend. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87040939421>

## Aug 18-UMW Meeting

Our next regular meeting will be held in our fellowship hall on August 18 at 1 pm, and ZOOM will also be available for those unable to attend.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85390098352>

## Sharing Our Gifts

We encourage you to donate by mail, on our website [galenaumc.org](http://galenaumc.org) or on our Facebook page. A donation button is available on our website and Facebook.

"Shop and Share" any time for Galena UMC! GUMC receives a percentage of the online sales when you shop online with [iGive.com](http://iGive.com) and [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).



## Sunday, September 26

2021 Church Conference season ~ a time to evaluate the work of the church and a time to celebrate our ministries in our community, despite the difficulties and restrictions of the pandemic. Superintendent Fabiola Grand will be with us for our Galena Church Conference on Sunday, Sept. 26 at our worship time (SPRC meeting 45 minutes prior to worship). The conference plan is to have all of the church conferences in person this year, however they will reevaluate this if the CDC's COVID-19 guidance changes for our area.

15 Roberta Turner  
20 Ben Allen-Stewart  
21 Hannah Reddington  
22 Marlene Niec  
24 Abby Schafer Meade  
29 Lori McDermott Bringer  
30 Cody Clayton  
31 Mike Sciutto  
31 Jean Sandy

## iGive campaign encourages support for local churches

The #IGiveUMC campaign inspires United Methodists, and others, to honor important individuals in their lives by donating to local churches. Upcoming celebrations, such as Father’s Day, are perfect opportunities to launch the campaign in your congregation and community!

For more info, visit [resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/umcgiving](http://resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/umcgiving).

# United Churches of Galena - Extended Hours

**BEGINNING AUGUST 12, 2021 12:30PM - 6:00PM**

United Churches of Galena Food Pantry is open on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month at our new location: 219 Summit St. Galena.



**You qualify if you:**

- ✓ Have proof of residency in Jo Daviess County
- ✓ Meet the following income guidelines:

Your <b>maximum gross monthly income</b> does not exceed:								
Household size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Income	\$1986	\$2686	\$3386	\$4086	\$4786	\$5486	\$6186	\$6886

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

All are welcome! The UCG Food Pantry does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations.



## Donate to Sunshine Box

Help our HOPE Youth Group replenish the Sunshine Box, located on Gear Street in Galena.

You can help HOPE Youth Group replenish the Sunshine box by donating the following items: mouthwash, dental floss, razors, shaving cream, body wash, toothpaste, feminine products, baby wipes, body lotion, face wash, granola bars, crackers, juice boxes, canned fruit, Clorox wipes, kitchen sponges, dish detergent, garbage bags, zip lock bags, and glass cleaner.

## United Churches of Galena - Apple Tree Project 2021-22

Dear Friends and Members of Our Church,

Even though Galena is recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic, a large number of families are still struggling to provide basic school necessities. But together we can continue to meet the ongoing needs of our community's children.

Because of the pandemic, last year we asked for monetary contributions only. Through the Apple Tree Project, an amazing number of caring people helped make it possible for Galena's disadvantaged students to begin the 20-21 school year with all necessary items. And because of the success of last year's approach, we are again asking for anyone who wishes to support the project to make monetary contributions.

You can contribute to this important cause in several ways:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Place your check or cash donation in an Apple Tree envelope provided at the church
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make a contribution through our on line campaign at [www.gofundme.com](http://www.gofundme.com)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mail a check, payable to **United Churches of Galena**, to:  
*Pam McKinsey, 1721 Donegan Street, Galena, IL 61036*

We know that, everyone continues to struggle. But all donations, regardless of size, make a difference. **Together we can make sure that no child has to face the first day back to school unprepared.**

THANK YOU!

## Volunteer to help GUMC at Galena Country Fair

**Please consider helping us!** Galena United Methodist Church has been invited to raise money by volunteering at Galena Country Fair. Our potential for earning is directly related to the number of volunteer hours we work. **The deadline to sign up for a shift is on or before August 31. If you would like to sign up for a shift, please contact Pat Willy at 815-776-0897.**

## Northern Illinois Conference Redistricting

As previously communicated, the shift from six to five districts began on July 1, 2021. All churches have been assigned new identification numbers for appointments and insurance and benefits payments. The redistricting plan provides for about 71 churches per district. We divided the conference into north and south, giving each district new names! The district names are Lake North, Lake South, Prairie Central, Prairie North, and Prairie South. We will become a part of the Prairie North District.



For those serving on district committees now, we will use a similar model used for church mergers for at least a year where people who have been serving in a leadership capacity will continue with someone else who has been serving in that same leadership capacity. This will be an opportunity to develop a culture of cooperation and unity and potentially a cross-fertilization of creative approaches to ministry.

# Where do you see yourself? Call Pastor Catiana.

## Galena UMC Leadership Board, Nominations, & Teams 2021

Galena United Methodist Church Pastor: Rev. Catiana McKay

### LEADERSHIP BOARD

CHAIR	2021	Lynn Sisler
Lay Leader	2021	Sherry Marc
	2021	Dale Henze
	2022	Ginny Carrol
	2022	Dan Dittmar
	2022	Julie Eggleston
	2023	Jay Dickerson
	2023	Dennis Irwin
	2023	Joe Lieb
Pastor		Catiana McKay
Recording Secretary		Suzanne Sproule

### LAY LEADERSHIP (NOMINATIONS)

CHAIR		Pastor Catiana
LAY LEADER		Sherry Marc
Young Adult	2021	Julia Lieb
	2021	Suzanne Sproule
	2022	Kay Kroencke
	2021	Judy Behnke Biegon
	2022	Elisa Skeeter
	2022	Roberta Turner

**Some teams have been inactive during COVID. Please let Pastor or Team member know if you want to join a team or begin one.**

### MISSION TEAM

CO-CHAIR	Charlene Price
CO-CHAIR	Kay Kroencke
	Janette Bader
	Julie Eggleston
	Jorene Lieb
	Mildren Irwin
	Sherry Marc
	Elisa Skeeter

### RECONCILING MINISTRIES TEAM

Re-formation underway

### SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM

Julie Eggleston, Charlene Price, Dennis & Mildred Irwin, Elisa Skeeter, Suzanne Sproule, and Patricia Allen-Stewart

### DIGITAL MINISTRY TEAM

Julia Lieb, Denis Irwin, Pat Bull, and Pastor Catiana

### WORSHIP/CELEBRATION TEAM

CO - CHAIR	Judy Henze
CO - CHAIR	Annie Silaggi
	Julie Eggleston
	Elisa Skeeter
	Sarah Newton
	Sue Sciutto

### MEMORIAL TEAM

CHAIR	Donna Wilmarth
	Larry Cook
	Mike Sciutto
	Jerry Krohn (Trustees)
	Dale Henze
UMW Co - Presidents	Sherry Marc & Judy Behnke
Lay Servant	Julie Eggleston
Membership Secretary	Roberta Turner
Financial Secretary	Academy Advisors, LLC
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Judy Behnke Biegon (alternate- Darcy Muehleip)
Sanctuary Steward	Karen Hughes
United Churches of Galena	Mildred Irwin
Church Treasurer	Academy Advisors, LLC
Communion Steward	Lonna McDermott

### EDUCATION TEAM

CHAIR	Hillary Dickerson
	Dale Henze
	B'Ann Dittmar
	Sherry Marc

### HISTORICAL TEAM

Julie Eggleston
Marlene Niec
Jorene Lieb
Charlene Price
Darcy Muehleip
Sarah Newton (consultant)

### WORSHIP TEAM

ACCOMPANIST	Cody Clayton
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Pam McKinsey
BELL CHOIR	Meg Gibbs
CHAIR	Pastor Catiana

**REMEMBER...your Leadership Board IS:  
Administration Council  
Finance  
Trustees AND  
Staff Parish  
ROLLED INTO ONE ACCOUNTABLE BOARD**

# About GUMC

By God's grace, the Galena United Methodist Church is the Body of Christ striving to fulfill Christ's Great Command to love God and to love neighbor, and Christ's Great Commission to make disciples. Galena United Methodist Church is affiliated with the Reconciling Ministries Network. God, as known to us in Jesus Christ, welcomes all.

## OUR MISSION

Love God.  
Love Neighbor.  
Make Disciples.

We welcome ALL people of any race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, social or economic status, employment status, or life situation; including people with physical or mental illness or disability. We practice loving acceptance of each person and respectful discussion of our differences.

Our missional giving includes United Churches of Galena Food Pantry, Riverview Compassionate Care, National Child Safety Council, Rosecrance Behavioral Health, Prisoner Release, Riverbend Food Depository, Homelessness in Chicago, and UMCOR National and UMCOR International disasters from Hurricanes to Missionary Support around the world.

## Sept 14-25: Galena's Historic Church Tour

Join Galena's Historic Church Tour on Friday and Saturday, September 24 and 25, from 9 am to 4:30 pm. Rain or shine! Tickets are \$25, if bought before September 15, and \$30, if after September 15. For more information, please visit [www.galenahistory.org](http://www.galenahistory.org).

## Ministry Team and Staff

Pastor:	Rev. Catiana McKay
Ministers:	The Congregation
Accompanist:	Cody Clayton
Choir Director:	Pam McKinsey
Hand Bell Choir:	Meg Gibbs
Digital Ministry:	Julia Lieb
Technical:	Dennis Irwin
Sanctuary Steward:	Karen Hughes

## United Methodist Memberships



**ILLINOIS CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES**  
[worldmethodistconference.com](http://worldmethodistconference.com)



**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**  
[nccusa.org](http://nccusa.org)



**WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**  
[oikoumene.org](http://oikoumene.org)



**WORLD METHODIST CONFERENCE**  
[worldmethodistconference.com](http://worldmethodistconference.com)

## CONTACT FOR GUMC

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Catiana's Cell: 630-935-3312

Church Office: 815-777-0192  
[gumc0192@gmail.com](mailto:gumc0192@gmail.com)  
[galenaumc.org](http://galenaumc.org)