

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Effective Saturday August 1, 2020 Governor Evers has issued a mandatory mask order (aligning ourselves with 31 other states) and following the advice of the CDC and covid-19 task force.

Masks are required for everyone over 5 years of age (and recommended from ages 2-5) whenever people are indoors with people who are not members of their own family.

There are a few exceptions for medical conditions, and if doing things like leading worship or teaching and 6 feet of distance can be maintained (masks must still be worn when not speaking ... meaning I'll wear my mask when we listen to music and scripture and such).

Yes, this includes churches. So yes, to be in worship with us on Sunday August 2nd you **MUST** wear a mask.

This will apply to worship, all meetings, all ministries (food pantry & clothes closet), and all activities (weddings, funerals, fundraisers, etc.) until further notice.

You can read the full text of the order here (copies are also available at church):

<https://evers.wi.gov/Documents/COVID19/EmO01-FaceCoverings.pdf>

From Pastor Moira's Desk... Semper reformanda est...

It's all changing. Everything is different. Nothing is like it was before. Are we ever going to get back to normal? Chances are, sometime since mid-March you've said something like this. You've wondered about and struggled with all the changes in our lives since we started living with covid-19. What we once did without thinking ~ reaching out to offer a hug, or shake someone's hand, or sing happy birthday, or share a meal with someone ~ we hesitate, make sure we know where our masks and sanitizer are. With covid, and the movement for long-lasting social change, and political upheaval everything seems like it's been turned upside down and inside out, and we are living together into a mysterious unknown future. I know it can all be overwhelming. It certainly is for me. I pause in the middle of it all sometimes, standing in my kitchen looking for a mask, wondering exactly what I'm supposed to do next, how to be a pastor and a person in these days when everything I know, everything I'm trained for, seems to have flown out the window. But a few weeks ago, while doing the endless work of weeding my gardens, I remembered some important words from the Protestant Reformation ... *semper reformanda est, the church is always reforming*. Change is part of our make up as Christians, and particularly as Protestants. We are and have always been called to be people who adapt and change to meet the needs of the world we are living in. From the beginning, Jesus asked his followers to look at the needs of the world, to the people around them, and respond from the deepest roots of our faith, from the grace of God, the love of self and neighbor, and our knowledge of how deeply we are connected to each other. I don't know if the world we are living in is changing more, or faster than they have before. Technology may be making that true because it brings the change into our living rooms, and our pockets, much faster and more immediately than before. But what I do know is that we CAN handle this change and whatever the future might bring. I said at the beginning of the pandemic that we were going to draw deep on our faith and rural roots, on our connections to God and one another, to meet this challenge. And so far we have done that with grace and courage, and I know we will do the same going forward. We will adapt and change, not on a whim, but by trusting in the God who created us, by knowing that Jesus walks with us through this, and every challenge of our lives. We will draw on our reformed heritage, knowing that the church has met the challenges of its day for generations, holding fast to the truth that God's love is for everyone, absolutely everyone. And we will rely on each other, on our relationships and dependence, to be equal to all these days require of us. It won't be easy. There will be more challenges, and we will frequently feel like we don't know what we're doing, like things are changing faster than we can adapt. But when that happens we will take a few deep breaths, make some tea (or coffee, or eat a cookie or something). Then we will pray, and reach out to each other, and know that in all things we rest in the love of God that will never, ever, ever leave us. **In peace and grace, Pastor Moira**

Women's Guild Report

The Women's Guild met on Wednesday July 1, 2020 at 1:30pm with 9 members present. Our devotional leader was Audrey Hooyman Blake for Donna Stucki who was ill. Get well soon. She had the program planned out in detail. She asked "when you look at the American flag what do you see?" The stars are a symbol of heaven. Red is hardness & bloodshed; blue is vigilance & justice; white is purity & innocence. The stripes are light coming from the sun. She shared the "meaning of a flag draped coffin". We should all be proud of our country and those who serve. The 21 gun salute stands for the sum of numbers in 1776. The flag is folded 13 times: 1 = symbol of life; 2 = belief in eternal life; 3 = honor of remembrance; 4 = represents the weaker nature; 5 = tribute to country; 6 = where people and hearts lie; 7 = tribute to armed forces; 8 = tribute to the one who entered into the shadow of death; 9 = tribute to womanhood; 10 = tribute to the father who gave his son or daughter for the defense of our country; 11 = represents the lower portion of the seal of King David; 12 = represents the emblem of eternity, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; 13 = when it is completely folded the stars are up. In God we trust as a cocked hat may God protect us always as one nation under God with liberty, justice for all. Two readings of a "daughter missing her Marine dad" and "why go to church?" Thank God for our physical and spiritual nourishment. The word BIBLE means Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth. Closed with a prayer.

Before the meeting a thank you was shared by Denis & Bernice Shepard for the new vacuum and janitor cart for supplies.

The Business Meeting was called to order by President Roberta Lorenz. The secretary & treasurer's reports were read and approved with a balance of \$8810.72 in the General Fund and \$487.90 in the Memorial Fund. After some discussion on the Rummage Sale, a motion was made and seconded to cancel the sale for this year because of the virus. Motion carried. There was discussion on the Fall Feast—October 4, 2020 from 11:30am to 2pm. It is tabled until more details on take out style. More details to follow. The offering was taken and we closed with the Lord's Prayer in unison. We sang the Doxology and were served ice cream bars by Donna Stucki and Audrey Blake. **Our next meeting will be on August 5, 2020 at 1:30pm as a planning meeting.** Come and join us.

Guild secretary, Audrey Hooyman-Blake

A reminder ... continuing worship changes because of covid-19

As we continue with in-person worship, we have made changes to our time together for our collective health and safety. Please talk with Pastor Moira if you have questions:

- ♥ **MASKS ARE REQUIRED (per the Governor's order beginning 8/1/2020)**
- ♥ social distancing (6' apart from folks you haven't been with during the pandemic)
- ♥ interior doors will remain open whenever possible;
- ♥ hand sanitizer available at every entrance to each of our sanctuaries;
- ♥ no passing of the peace as we've done it before
- ♥ a shorter service;
- ♥ no congregational singing – at least for a while, some folks need to sing so if that's you, please put your mask on and sing quietly;
- ♥ communion will be changed to limit physical contact;
- ♥ the offering will be collected in plates at each door rather than passing the plates;
- ♥ no fellowship time;
- ♥ contact tracing (attendance) records will be taken;
- ♥ other changes might come as we respond to this ever changing virus pandemic.

Your parish leadership ~ the Black Creek Council, Cecil Consistory, and Trinity Council, along with Pastor Moira ~ is working hard to navigate this time without putting any of us at unnecessary risk. Our online worship and print worship delivery will continue so please, if you aren't ready to be in larger groups of people, we entirely understand. If your comfort level changes from week to week, that's ok too. Let's all be gentle, kind, and compassionate with ourselves and one another as we live through these days.

Drive Thru Mobile Food Pantry

Thursdays through August 27th, 10am to noon
Fox Valley Technical College (1825 N Bluemound), Appleton

Fridays through August 28th, 10am to noon
Shawano County Fairgrounds (990 E Green Bay St), Shawano

Instructions:

- Do not exit your vehicle and follow directions of posted signs.
- **Have room in your vehicle's trunk or back seat and wait patiently while others are served**
- Quantities are limited and are given away on a first come, first served basis.
- Limit one box per vehicle, unless you are also picking up on behalf of a homebound individual.

Scripture Readings

*** scripture focus for sermon ***

August 2, 2020

Genesis 32.22-32

Psalm 17

Romans 9.1-5

*** Matthew 14.13-21 ***

August 9, 2020

*** Genesis 37.1-28 ***

Psalm 105

Romans 10.5-15

Matthew 14.22-33

August 16, 2020

Genesis 45.1-15

Psalm 133

Romans 11.25-36

*** Matthew 15.21-28 ***

August 23, 2020

*** Exodus 1.8-2.10 ***

Psalm 124

Romans 12.1-8

Matthew 16.13-20

August 30, 2020

*** Exodus 3.1-15 ***

Psalm 26

Romans 12.9-21

Matthew 16.21-18

Fall & Winter Camping Opportunities

As you know, because of the pandemic all events at our wonderful Wisconsin Conference camps have been cancelled until Labor Day, but did you know there are amazing events you can attend during the Fall & Winter...

Painting ~ watercolors & oils

Crafting & Creating

Adventuring

Quilting

Fall Colors & Cranberries

Epiphany (that's January)

A men's "hunting" weekend with cards, friends, food & fun,

but no actual hunting

Honoring transitions in our lives

All kinds of things await you at Moon Beach up north near St. Germain, Pilgrim Center near Ripon on the shores of Green Lake, and at our newest site Cedar Valley on 100 acres near West Bend.

Check out all the possibilities at:

<https://ucci.org/>

Register To Vote & Sign Up For A Mail-in Ballot

Wisconsin's primary is

Tuesday August 11th

The general election is

Tuesday November 3rd.

You can register to vote and request mail-in (absentee) ballots at:

<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>

*Church Council "Preliminary" Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2020*

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Menning with Pat Schomisch, Todd St. John, Gary VanderLinden, Dallas Waterstradt, Connie Wheeler and Pastor Moira Finley present.

The meeting was opened with a prayer from Pastor Moira Finley.

A motion was made by Gary VanderLinden and seconded by Todd St. John to accept the minutes from last month. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Connie Wheeler and seconded by Pat Schomisch to accept the Financial Secretary's and Treasurer's reports. Motion passed.

Pastors Report

- Conducted 5 in person plus video and print materials Worship Services
- Attended 2 meetings
- Conducted 1 Wedding, 1 Baptism, and 1 Funeral

Committee Reports

- Membership: No changes or updates at this time.
- Christian Ed: Meeting is set for Tuesday, August 4 at 6:30 pm.
- Worship: They met and decided that Cailey Wheeler and her accompanist would get \$600 (\$300 from our church and \$300 from the other two churches) for her recorded music songs. They will be used for virtual services and whenever needed.
- Music: They met with the Worship committee. No changes or updates at this time.
- House: Aron met with the elevator company for an inspection. The emergency phone was not going to our local 911 but is now fixed.
- Stewardship: Strengthen the Church for August; we will be collecting school supplies.

Old Business:

- The steeple repair will begin in September. They had to finish the school repairs first.

minutes continue -->

Council minutes continued from previous page...

New Business:

- Our local Fire Department said not to install any detectors ourselves for the liability. Van's would need to come in and inspect our smoke/fire detectors.
- The Cemetery committee needs to have another member on the financial account and will need to meet.

Prayers and Thank You's:

Prayers for Karen Zuleger and family, Lindsey P., and Karen Arnold family

A motion was made by Todd St. John and seconded by Gary VanderLinden to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Next Council Meeting will be Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Wheeler

Year of Giving ~ School Supplies

We don't know what it's going to look like for the coming school year. Will it be all virtual and online, in the classrooms, a combination of things? Covid-19 has required teachers to get even more creative with their work, but however school happens the kids will need supplies. This year let's think of the very basic things like crayons, pencils, pens, loose-leaf paper, spiral notebooks, and such. This will allow kids to do their work either in their classrooms, or in their homes. The supplies are out now so feel free to bring them to the tables at the front of the sanctuary. If you prefer to make a cash donation, you can put it in the offering plate (checks to the church with "School Supplies" in the memo), or in the year of giving box at the front of the church. Supplies will be provided to our local schools, as well as distributed through organizations like Community 2000 and our local Salvation Army to families in our area in need.

St. John's United Church of Christ Financial Secretary's Report June 2020

	6/7/2020	6/14/2020	6/21/2020	6/28/2020		Direct Deposit	Total
Checking deposit	2030.00	1807.00	3049.00	1817.00		300.00	9003.00
General Fund	1922.00	1757.00	2206.00	1472.00		150.00	7507.00
Building Fund	83.00		133.00			150.00	366.00
OGHS*							
NIN*							
STC*	25.00	50.00	10.00	325.00			410.00
Christmas Fund							
Fuel Fund							
Total Member Contributions	2030.00	1807.00	2349.00	1797.00		300.00	
Other Income							
Haiti Allies			700.00				700.00
Refund advertiser				20.00			20.00
Total Other	0.00	0.00	700.00	20.00		0.00	
Total Checking Deposit	2030.00	1807.00	3049.00	1817.00	0.00	300.00	
*OGHS = One Great Hour of Sharing NIN = Neighbors In Need STC = Strengthen The Church							

St. John's United Church of Christ Treasurer's Report

June 2020

Building Fund	Deposits	\$366.00
	Interest	\$8.48
	Disbursements	0.00
Memorial Fund	Deposits	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00
Organ Fund	Deposits	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00
General Fund	Deposits	\$8,637.00
	Disbursements	(\$6,691.02)

Feel free to continue sending your contributions by mail if you are more comfortable doing so. You can mail them to:

**St. John's UCC
PO Box 264
Black Creek, WI 54106**

If you have questions, please be in touch with our financial secretary, Gary VanderLinden

Totals	Beginning Balance	\$216,036.25
	Deposits	\$9,003.00
	Interest	\$8.48
	Disbursements	(\$6,691.02)
	Ending Balance	\$218,356.71

General Fund	\$14,331.42
Building Fund	\$14,971.82
Memorial Fund	\$21,099.47**
Organ Fund	\$4,997.00
Parsonage Fund	<u>\$162,957.00</u>
TOTAL	\$218,356.71

YTD Membership Giving	\$53,392.25
YTD Expenses	(\$51,908.75)
Net Amount*	\$1,483.50

* excludes contributions and disbursements for special offerings

**of which \$15,060 is designated for building projects

Reader & Greeter Schedule

We will be resuming the reader and greeter schedule in July. Greeters will NOT hand out bulletins, or shake hands, but will point out the location of bulletins, sanitizer, and offering plates, and generally help make people feel welcome. They will also help in serving communion on first Sundays of the month. If you have questions or concerns, or if you're not quite ready for this yet, that's understandable. PLEASE talk with Connie Wheeler or Pastor Moira and we can rearrange the schedule.

Sunday August 2, 2020 ~ Communion

Reader	Randy Miller
Greeter/Usher	Randy Miller
	Keith Kruse
	Steve Schomisch
	Pat Schomisch

Sunday August 9, 2020

Reader	Lisa St. John
Greeter/Usher	Todd St. John
	Lisa St. John
	Tanner St. John
	Jonathan Tesch

Sunday August 16, 2020

Reader	Jan Rohloff
Greeter/Usher	Jan Rohloff
	Trevor Rohloff
	Connie Rohloff
	Mike Rohloff

Sunday August 23, 2020

Reader	Vi Brown-Luebke
Greeter/Usher	Vi Brown-Luebke
	Darwin Ethington
	Gary VanderLinden
	Bonnie VanderLinden

Sunday August 30, 2020

Reader	Bob Menning
Greeter/Usher	Bob Menning
	Carla Menning
	Gary Lathrop
	Carla Lathrop

Sunday September 6, 2020 ~ Communion

Reader	Trudy Koon
Greeter/Usher	Trudy Koon
	Morgan VanderLinden
	Ryan Julius
	Stephanie Julius

Sunday September 13, 2020

Reader	Connie Wheeler
Greeter/Usher	Connie Wheeler
	Hollie Wheeler
	Duane Henke
	Carol Henke

Sunday September 20, 2020

Reader	Sue Biese
Greeter/Usher	Joe Biese
	Sue Biese
	Dallas Waterstradt
	Lisa Waterstradt

Sunday September 27, 2020

Reader	Robin Schmidt
Greeter/Usher	Keegan Hooyman
	Rachel Hooyman
	Mark Hooyman
	Kelcie Hooyman

August 2020

How to reach Pastor Moira: phone 715-851-3080
 email pastormoira73@gmail.com
Sunday Schedule: 8:45 am Trinity Worship
10:15 am Black Creek Worship
7:00 pm Cecil Worship

Pastor's Office Hours
 All are welcome at Black Creek
 Most usually:
 Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10am - 5pm
 Please call/text to make sure
 or to make an appointment.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Communion SCRIP Order day	3	4 6:30pm BC Christian Ed Meeting	5 1:30pm BC Women's Guild	6	7 Hamilton wedding C	8
9	10	11 <i>Election Day</i> 9am ALC Pantry board 6:30pm BC Council	12 9am T New Hope Circle	13 Key to locations: BC = St. John's U.C.C. Black Creek T = Trinity U.C.C. outside Nichols C = St. John's U.C.C. Cecil ALC = Ascension Lutheran Church Navarino		
16	17	18	19 5-7pm ALC Pantry distribution	20 9am C Closet work day 7pm C Joint Tri-Jo Council	21	22 9-11am ALC Pantry distribution
23	24	25 Noon-3pm C Closet distribution	26	27	28	29 Black Creek Family Daze Parade at 11am Games after
30	31	<i>September 1</i>	<i>September 2</i> 1:30pm BC Women's Guild	<i>September 3</i>	<i>September 4</i>	<i>September 5</i> Tomorrow... Communion SCRIP Order

August Birthdays

We give thanks, Gracious God, for those you have brought into our lives and we celebrate their birthdays with joy and thanksgiving.

2nd ... Jeffrey Rohloff
Makenna Scott
5th ... Randall VandeCorput
Mark Hooyman
11th ... Jake Peters
Brady Volkman
12th ... Steve Schomisch
Kurt Boettcher
Bryce VanderLinden
13th ... Riley Riehl
17th ... Caylix Wernet
Marshall Halvorson
18th ... Amanda Shepard
21st ... Carla Holz
Jonathan Tesch
25th ... Karen Zuleger
Karleigh Hooyman
27th ... Torrence Wendt
29th ... Marian Zuleger
30th ... Dallas Waterstradt
Raymond Menning
31st ... Morgan VanderLinden

*If your special day is incorrect, or is not listed,
please let Pastor Moira know.*

August Anniversaries

We give thanks for those whose love we celebrate as they remember their vows in the covenant of marriage.

August 2, 1980
Michael & Barb Flaherty
August 2, 2008
Cody & Kheenan Halvorson
August 8, 2008
Sheila & Scott Neff
August 9, 1996
Julie Hein & Mark Suda
August 10, 2013
Cody & Tina Parker
August 15, 1987
Bob & Carla Menning
Jeffrey & Cindy Rohloff
August 18, 2007
Adam & Jade Rihm
August 19, 1995
Michael & Connie Rohloff
August 21, 2010
Shannon & Nicole Volkman
August 22, 1970
Gary & Carla Lathrop

“The purpose of this congregation is to be a faith community promoting the kingdom of God through worship, teaching, and action ... get ready!”

St. John's United Church of Christ
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Office email stjcreek@gmail.com
Website www.stjuccbc.com
Worship & Newsletter Archive:
www.t2sjwi.wordpress.com

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Wisconsin Conference UCC
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United Church of Christ
www.ucc.org



August 2020 Newsletter

