

### *From Pastor Moira's Desk...*

Fall is here, kind of. The first few days have felt much more like summer, but the turning leaves, the fields being harvested, and the abundance of apples available surely mean the seasons are changing. It's a little more than a month until the election, a few weeks after that it will be Thanksgiving (and deer season), and a month after that it will be Christmas. In this year when we are learning to live with covid-19, time has become unsettled. The days and weeks pass, but they seem to merge one into another, and as I write this I've been convinced it's Wednesday all day, even though I know quite clearly because my phone, my alarm clock, my car, and assorted calendars all assure me that it's Thursday. Learning to live with the virus and keep ourselves safe, along with the social upheaval we are living through, and the challenges of a presidential election year have all unmoored us, set us a bit adrift, not quite sure what to hold on to, and wondering how to plan and look towards the future. It's quite easy in these days to give in to despair, to fear and hatred, to isolation and selfishness, thinking only of ourselves and our families, the people we already know, who agree with us, who we think are like us. Our faith, of course, asks us to live differently. We are called to trust, to be people of hope and generosity, and to reach out to everyone with the same loving kindness and compassion that God shows towards us.

As you know, we've been working our way through the stories of Exodus in worship, walking with the people of Israel through their slavery, across the sea into freedom, and now into the long wandering they will have in the wilderness. Last week (September 20th) we heard the story of God providing the people with manna, flaky bread that appeared every morning for forty years, to sustain and nourish the people for their journey. We closed worship with the hymn "Great Is Your Faithfulness" that has the line "all I have needed your hand has provided", a reminder that God will always provide for us.

But as I said in worship, it may not (and probably will not) look like we are used to. The manna the people of Israel ate didn't look like the bread they had in Egypt. The life we are living doesn't look like the one we are used to, the one we had last year, or even six months ago. Yet, through it all, God is still providing for us, giving us what we need for this life, and who we need to walk through it with us. In these uncertain times it might be a stranger who shares their good news with you, a family member lending a hand, a friend who calls just when we need to hear someone's voice, a pain and grief shared with someone who is there for us when the rest of the world seems to have walked away, an all take out fall feast, a bizarre bazaar, a soup instead of pancakes sale, and a pastor in tie-dyed high tops cheering us on through it all. The way ahead isn't clear to any of us, and I don't know when we're going to be out of the woods in dealing with covid, or when all the isms have been eradicated and true justice achieved for all God's children, but what I do know is that through it all, God will provide for us what we need (not necessarily what we want), in often unexpected ways, and that through it all we will be together on this journey wherever it shall lead us.

*In peace and grace, Pastor Moira*

# **Black Creek Fall Feast Sunday October 4, 2020**

In the time of covid, it's all TAKE OUT!

For just \$9 every dinner includes chicken, ham, mashed potatoes (with gravy), stuffing, corn, coleslaw, cranberry sauce & dessert.

There are order forms at church, and you can also contact Pastor Moira (pastormoira73@gmail.com or 715-851-3080) to order.

*Please bring your pie or torte donations to church UNCUT by 9am on Saturday October 3rd (the church will be open on Friday from 10am to 5pm) & please have all other donations for the kitchen here by Saturday at 9am as well.*

We also need lots of help with preparations on Saturday October 3rd and to help serve our customers on Sunday October 4th (maybe Pastor Moira will even let you use her new walkie-talkies!).

Able to help? Questions? Talk with Pastor Moira or Bob Menning

# **Trinity Bizarre Bazaar Saturday October 17th**

Because of covid-19 we are making changes to our annual event to keep everyone as safe & healthy as possible.

We will have soup to go, but no food available to eat-in

We will have a bake sale (including individual pieces of pie/torte).

There will be crafts, and maybe a few gift baskets,  
but no ticketed raffle or granny's attic

Everything will be held in the fellowship hall (or outside if we can)

Able to help? Want to donate? Questions?  
Talk with Pastor Moira or Mona Ashenbrenner

### **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)**
- ♥ special music will begin during September in place of the choir, and we will slowly return to singing (quietly and with masks on)
- ♥ 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 or fellowship time;
- ♥ communion will be changed to limit physical contact;
- ♥ the offering will be collected in plates at each door rather than passing the plates;
- ♥ contact tracing (attendance) records will be taken;
- ♥ other changes might come as we respond to this ever changing virus pandemic.

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.

### ***Women's Guild Report***

The Women's Guild met on Wednesday September 2nd, 2020 at 1:30pm with 9 members present. Our Devotional Leader was Ila Mae Jens. She stated that we are on Earth to love. Let's all try to. She asked each one of us how we are all coming to handle the covid-19 virus. We had many ideas as wearing the masks, stay healthy, know we care, dealing with many changes in living, making phone calls, and keeping trust and faith. She shared readings from 1960 statements in prayer and memories and the God of hope. The Business meeting was called to order by president Roberta Lorenz. The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and approved with a balance of \$5408.70 and \$487.98 in the memorial fund. The church floor has been paid and steeple work will start soon. The Fall Feast is October 4, 2020 for carry out ordering. Vi and Ruth are sending the ads. Jan Boman volunteered to make the coleslaw. Pastor Moira will purchase the carry out containers. Desserts at church on Friday & Saturday. Work day on Saturday October 3, 2020. More details to follow. Prayers of get well wishes to Kim, Ron, Steve, Ruth, David, Donna. Closed with the Lord's Prayer in Unison. The offering was taken. Our next meeting will be Wednesday October 7th with devotions by Pastor Moira and hostess Jan Boman. We were served an assortment of cookie bars by hostess Judy Samson. The Congregational guild book is available. Please pick up a book. Come and join us. God bless us all.

*Guild secretary, Audrey Hooyman-Blake*

## Scripture Readings

*\*\* scripture focus for sermon \*\**

### October 4, 2020

Black Creek Fall Feast  
World Communion Sunday

*\*\* Exodus 20.1-21\*\**

Psalms 19

Philippians 3.4b-14

Matthew 21.33-45

### October 11, 2020

Youth Service & Turkey Fundraiser Kick Off

Exodus 32.1-14

Psalms 106.1-6, 19-23

Philippians 4.4-9

Matthew 22.1-14

### October 18, 2020

Exodus 33.12-23

Psalms 99

1 Thessalonians 1.1-10

*\*\*Matthew 22.15-22\*\**

### October 25, 2020

Deuteronomy 34.1-12

Psalms 90

1 Thessalonians 2.1-8

*\*\*Matthew 22.34-36\*\**

### November 1, 2020

All Saints Sunday

Joshua 3.7-17

Psalms 107.1-9, 33-38

1 Thessalonians 2.9-13

*\*\*Matthew 23.1-12\*\**

## St. John's Cecil Election Day ~~Potato Pancake~~ Soup To-Go

It's the time of covid  
and we want everyone to stay healthy.

Instead of potato pancakes, drive by for  
our amazing soups:

Our Famous Chicken Noodle  
Creamy Potato  
Beef Chili (with noodles)

Just \$5 per quart!

Tuesday November 3rd, 2020  
11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
or until we run out

Questions?  
Talk with Pastor Moira

## Daylight Savings Time ENDS Sunday November 1st

Set your clocks **BACK** one hour  
before bed on Halloween or you'll  
be super early to church on Sunday.

Also, this is an excellent time to  
check your smoke & carbon  
monoxide detectors.

***Church Council "Preliminary" Meeting Minutes  
September 8, 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 Pat Schomisch 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 Todd St. John to accept the Financial Secretary's and Treasurer's reports. Motion passed.

**Pastors Report**

- Conducted 3 Worship Services plus the video and print outreach
- Conducted 1 Baptism
- Attended 1 group meeting (Guild), Family Daze Parade and games
- Delivered school supplies to BC Salvation Army and Community 2000

**Committee Reports**

**Membership:** The directory will be printed with any updates, Pastor Moira will send out an email for any updates. We are holding off on the picture directory book.

**Christian Ed:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 6th at 6:30 pm.

**Worship:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 20th at 6:30 pm.

**Music:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 20th at 6:30 pm.

**House:** Nothing at this time.

**Stewardship:** For September we will be collecting Winter Gear, Clothes, and Jackets. October we will be collecting for Neighbors in Need.

**Old Business:**

- The steeple repair will be starting soon.
- The land sale has been taken care of and we received a check for \$5250.00 and that money has been put in the Building Fund.

*Council minutes continue - - ->*

*Council minutes continue - - ->*

**New Business:**

- The Prayer Garden will be updated by Wyatt Samson through an Eagle Scout project. He will be drawing up plans this fall/winter and will do the work in the spring.
- The Fall Feast will be held on Sunday, October 4th from 11:30 - 1:30 with a drive thru service. Plans are being put together and a list of items needed will be emailed out and at church

**Prayers and Thank You's:**

David Holz, Dallas Waterstradt, The Pues Family, The Felton/Biese Family, Steve Hanson, Jill and Paula (teacher friends of Connie W that have cancer), and anyone dealing with COVID-19. Thank you to the school employees for their time and effort with getting the school year started.

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

**Next Council Meeting** will be Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

## Youth Service & Turkey Fundraiser Sunday October 11th

Youth Group will be doing the Worship Service on Sunday October 11. They will be presenting the service they had originally prepared for in the spring. This will be a fun filled morning that will include the younger children of our Church Family.

October 11th will also be the kick off for the Annual Turkey Fundraiser for the Salvation Army Outagamie County Extension Office located in Black Creek.

This year instead of having a lunch we will be doing a raffle with all proceeds going to the Turkey Fund. There will be a variety of gift baskets. More information coming soon about the raffle.

**Our goal is \$1500 and all turkeys go to local families.**

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

## August 2020

	08/02/2020	08/16/2020	08/30/2020			Direct Deposit	Total
Checking deposit	5396.50	7091.67	3028.50			300.00	15816.67
General Fund	5278.50	1521.50	2550.50			150.00	9500.50
Building Fund	118.00	2.00	213.00			150.00	483.00
OGHS*							
NIN*							
STC*							
Christmas Fund							
Fuel Fund							
Total Member Contributions	5396.50	1523.50	2765.50			300.00	
<b>Other Income</b>							
School Supplies		105.00	265.00				370.00
Land sale for building fund		5250.00					5250.00
Family Daze prizes		213.17					213.17
Total Other		5568.17	265.00				
Total Checking Deposit	5396.50	7091.67	3028.50			300.00	
*OGHS = One Great Hour of Sharing NIN = Neighbors In Need STC = Strengthen The Church				NOTE: In-person worship was cancelled on 8/23/2020 due to covid-19 exposure.			

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

August 2020

<b>Building Fund</b>	Deposits	\$483.00
	Interest	\$8.77
	Disbursements	\$0.00
<b>Memorial Fund</b>	Deposits	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00
<b>Organ Fund</b>	Deposits	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00
<b>General Fund</b>	Deposits	\$15,333.67
	Disbursements	(\$9,811.35)

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

<b>Totals</b>	Beginning Balance	\$215,037.17
	Deposits	\$15,816.67
	Interest	\$8.77
	Disbursements	(\$9,811.35)
	Ending Balance	\$221,051.26

<b>General Fund</b>	\$19,050.07
<b>Building Fund</b>	\$12,947.72
<b>Memorial Fund</b>	\$21,099.47**
<b>Organ Fund</b>	\$4,997.00
<b>Parsonage Fund</b>	<u>\$162,957.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$221,051.26

<b>YTD Membership Giving</b>	\$70,676.75
<b>YTD Expenses</b>	(\$65,882.31)
<b>Net Amount*</b>	<b>\$4,794.44</b>

\* 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 October 4, 2020 ~ Communion**

#### **Fall Feast**

Reader	Roberta Lorenz
Greeters	Keith Kruse
	Mark Hooyman
	Steve Schomisch
	Pat Schomish

### **Sunday October 11, 2020**

Reader	Vi Brown-Luebke
Greeters	Vi Brown-Luebke
	Verla Pingel

### **Sunday October 18, 2020**

Reader	Devin Schmidt
Greeters	Mike Dickinson
	Sally Dickinson

### **Sunday October 25, 2020**

Reader	Bob Menning
Greeters	Bob Menning
	Carla Menning

### **Sunday November 1, 2020 ~ Communion**

#### **All Saints Sunday**

Reader	Connie Wheeler
Greeters	Connie Wheeler
	Cailey Wheeler
	Mike Rohloff
	Connie Rohloff

### **Sunday November 8, 2020**

Reader	Randy Miller
Greeters	Ryan Julius
	Stephanie Julius

## **Year of Giving ~ Winter Clothes**

It's hardly fall and we're thinking of coats, mittens, scarves, hats, snow boots, and gloves. That's because winter in Wisconsin requires a special kind of clothing, particularly if you're a child at school and want to go out to play at recess. We want to make sure that all kids get to play, at school and at home, and to enjoy being children, making snow forts or walking through the woods. During this month we'll collect winter clothes for children that will be distributed through the Cecil Community Closet, local Salvation Army, and Community 2000 to kids in our area. Some winter clothes will have already started to appear in shops, but maybe you also have some at the back of the closet, that hat you don't wear any more, the coat that's a little snug around the middle, the snow boots your child or grandchild outgrew. We will also collect funds that can be used to purchase items when more of them appear in the stores.

# October 2020

How to reach Pastor Moira: phone 715-851-3080  
email [pastormoira73@gmail.com](mailto:pastormoira73@gmail.com)

Sunday Schedule: 8:45 am Trinity Worship

9am Sunday School & 10:15 am Black Creek Worship

7:00 pm Cecil Worship

## Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 10am - 5pm

Please call/text to make sure  
or to make an appointment.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Key to locations:</b> 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				1	2	3
					Fall Feast Donation Drop Off, 9am-5pm	Fall Feast preparations, 9am
4 SCRIP World Communion  Black Creek Fall Feast 11:30-1:30pm	5	6  6:30pm BC Christian Ed	7 1:30pm BC Women's Guild  5:30pm T Circle - bazaar preparation	8	9  9am T soup making	10  <b>Trinity Bizarre Bazaar 9am to 12:30pm</b>
11  BC Youth Service  Cecil Consistory	12	13  9am ALC Pantry board  6:30pm BC Council	14	15  5:30pm T Council	16  BC Wedding rehearsal	17  BC Wedding
18	19	20  6:30pm BC Worship & Music	21  5-7pm ALC Pantry distribution	22  9am C Closet work day	23	24  9-11am ALC Pantry distribution
25	26	27  Noon-3pm C Closet distribution	28  4:30pm BC Confirmation	29	30	31 <b>FALL BACK</b> (turn clocks back 1 hour)  <b>Tomorrow...</b> <b>All Saints Sunday</b>

## October Birthdays

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

3rd ... Duane Zuleger  
Brandi Schomisch  
4th ... Angela Biese  
5th ... Autumn Schmidt  
6th ... Verla Pingel  
7th ... Jordy Seefeldt  
13th ... Joshua Holz  
17th ... Barry Zuleger  
21st ... Timothy Veldt  
Ariel Jochman  
Parker Nabbafield  
23rd ... Kerri Cournoyer  
27th ... Arcadia Holz  
28th ... Barbara Sassman  
29th ... Sue Schneider  
30th ... Pam Rucci

## October Anniversaries

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

October 1, 2011

Brian & Katye Holz

October 14, 1982

William & Sue Schneider

October 19, 1963

Dale & Marilyn Gregorious

October 20, 2018

Adrianna & Daniel Pynenberg

October 27, 2007

Brent & Stephany Boettcher

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

## Register To Vote & Request A Mail-in Ballot

The general election is Tuesday  
November 3rd.

You can register to vote and request mail-in (absentee) ballots at your town clerk's office or by going online to <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>  
The deadline to request an absentee ballot is **October 29th.**

## All Saints Sunday November 1st

A time to remember those who have gone on before us into life everlasting.  
We will particularly honor those who have passed in the last 12 months, but we are also collecting names of those who have passed at any time.  
Please submit names to Pastor Moira by Sunday October 25th.

"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**  
101 South Clark Street (PO Box 264)  
Black Creek, Wisconsin 54106

Church Phone 920-984-3845  
Office email [stjcreek@gmail.com](mailto:stjcreek@gmail.com)  
Website [www.stjuccbc.com](http://www.stjuccbc.com)  
Worship & Newsletter Archive:  
[www.t2sjwi.wordpress.com](http://www.t2sjwi.wordpress.com)

**Pastor Moira Finley**  
Phone 715-851-3080  
Email [pastormoira73@gmail.com](mailto:pastormoira73@gmail.com)

**Wisconsin Conference UCC**  
[www.wiucc.org](http://www.wiucc.org)

**United Church of Christ**  
[www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)



# October 2020 Newsletter

