

From Pastor Moira's Desk... Summertime

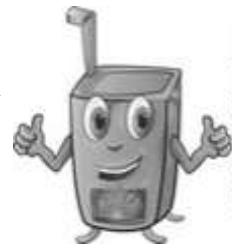
In the summer of 2020 we were all a little anxious. Would our planned celebrations be able to happen and if they did, what would they look like? Would we be able to go on vacation? Would we be able to go anywhere other than the grocery store? Would mask wearing and social distancing last forever? How would the social upheaval that was just starting change us, and what was going to happen with the elections? We were just starting to come back to in-person worship with loads of changes and precautions for the health & safety of our congregations. Plus we were already worrying about the events scheduled for the fall, and how covid would affect everything. Fast forward to the summer of 2021 and it turns out we're all still a little anxious. It's different this time. Almost 50% of Wisconsin residents are vaccinated, and the advice from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is that if you're vaccinated, you can go without a mask. But we've become so accustomed to them, and because we haven't reached the 70% community immunity goal it still feels a little overwhelming to be out and about with our faces naked. There might be, if the people who are reaching out to me as their pastor are any indication, more anxiety in this part of life with covid, in the coming out of it, than there was last year. At least then, folks say, we knew what we were supposed to do, what would keep us and our communities healthy, but now it's all just ... well, confusing.

So what do we do? How do we cope with this season in the life of the world, in our own lives? How do we manage the anxiety, confusion, worry, uncertainty and more so that it doesn't consume us? I wonder if the answer doesn't lie in the fact that it's SUMMERTIME? Remember being a kid and counting the days, hours, or minutes until school summer vacation started? Remember the glorious promise of the long summer days that lay ahead, the sound of a baseball making contact with a bat and the ball soaring high over the fences, the smell of hot dogs and burgers on the grill, the dreams of sitting around a fire with your family and friends, of swimming in the pool (or the lake or the river), of lying out on the grass and counting stars or fireflies? We don't all have the opportunity for three glorious months of unstructured time, but there is, even for the busiest and most scheduled among us, time for some summertime, some sabbath rest and renewal this summer. We need to keep being careful about huge gatherings, but we can step slowly back out into some of our pre-pandemic activities (depending on our own health needs and concerns, and our comfort levels). We can sit out on the porch with some lemonade and watch a lazy afternoon go by. We can pick strawberries and enjoy their amazing sweetness with a little ice cream, and maybe sit out and count the stars again. We can celebrate the beauty of the place where we live, the creation entrusted to our care, and breathe deeply in the warming of the earth, the sprouting of the fields, the sunshine on our backs reminding us that after all we have been through we are still here, still together, strong and faithful, committed to God and to one another. I pray that this summertime will bring us all hope, love, and renewal for our souls.

Peace and grace, Pastor Moira

Furnace Fund

Time marches on and the “new” addition is now nearly 20 years old which means so are the boilers that heat the offices, classrooms, bathrooms & gathering room. The furnaces are still working, but it is becoming more difficult to find replacement parts. We are keeping an eye on things and planning for the future replacement of the furnaces, so we have established a furnace fund.



If you have discretionary income or would like to make a memorial gift you can help increase the fund so that when we need to replace the furnaces we are prepared.

Please make checks to the church and put “Furnace Fund” in the memo.

If you have questions, please talk with any member of the Council.



News From The Church Garden

We had a wonderful first work day on Saturday May 8th.

The old plantings and shrubs were removed (and goodness did they have some amazing spines), and the trees trimmed back. The stones were removed and saved for the future. Trimming and

weeding was also started on the L-shaped beds by the parking at the west entrance. The memorial stones were removed and are now sitting by the side of the building. Amazingly, after sixteen years, only four memorial plaques had come off their stones. Those have been cleaned and it looks like we will have to replace two that are damaged. Since then, the stones have been washed to help them look new, and the stepping stones from the parking lot are in the process of being lifted up and re-leveled. Our next steps include planting! We are in the process of receiving some donated hostas, lilies, and other plants to put in the garden as well as some new plants that will be given in Michelle Arnold’s memory. The memorial plaques will also all be cleaned and given a clear coating to protect them. Eventually we also want to put new stone on the portion of the garden where the benches will be, and at some point we would like to put new edging around the garden, but that and intense work on the L-beds may be a project for 2022.

Next work day ~ Saturday June 12th starting about 8:30am

Women's Guild Minutes

The Women's Guild met on Wednesday May 5, 2021 at 1:30pm with 10 members present.

Our devotional leader was Roberta Lorenz. She shared Memorial Day pictures of many beautiful cemeteries from France, England, Italy, Belgium, Luxemburg, and the Netherlands where US soldiers are buried. They are all very well maintained with God's guidance and love. It takes many loving hearts and hands to keep the memory of these soldiers alive. She shared stories about how God is present in many lives and how we all have talents and should be strong in using them. Together we can work on many valuable ideas.

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 \$7363.43 in the general fund and \$497.98 in the memorial fund. Donna stated that the bill for palms for Palm Sunday has been paid. The rummage sale was discussed. We are in need of new signs. A motion was made to order 3 signs for \$179.07. The motion passed. Posters are being prepared for advertising. Plans are in order to set up tables after church on Sunday June 6th. Donna volunteered to get cash for the rummage sale. A sign-up sheet with days and hours for workers will be available.

It was voted not to have the ice cream social this year, but the Fall Feast is in the plans with carry out and maybe dine-in. Watch for more information. We are glad to hear that Marian Goodwin is home recuperating. Lots of planting ideas are in the works for the prayer garden. There is still some work to do on the bricking, tuckpointing, and flashing for the steeple area.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer in Unison. The offering was taken and we sang the doxology. We were then served a delicious lime jello cake by hostel Jan Rohloff.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday June 2, 2021 at 1:30pm with Audrey Blake on devotions and Roberta Lorenz as host. Come and join us. God bless all.

Audrey Hooyman-Blake, guild secretary

Church Council "Preliminary" Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2021

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 Todd St. John and seconded by Dallas Waterstradt 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 Video and In Person Worship Services, 1 Funeral, and Confirmation
- Attended church meetings

Committee Reports

- **Membership:** Nothing to report at this time.
- **Christian Ed:** Discussed Family Christian Home Day (Mother's Day), End of Sunday School, Black Creek Days Parade, and Rally Sunday. The next meeting is Tuesday, August 3 at 6:30 pm.
- **Worship:** Nothing to report at this time.
- **Music:** Nothing to report at this time.
- **House:** Nothing to report at this time.
- **Stewardship:** We are collecting in May for Strengthen the Church and we will be collecting socks and underwear for June.

Old Business:

- We are looking for 2 members to join the Church Council starting in 2022. We are looking for 1-2 people to join the Cemetery committee.
- The new leak is part of the quote from the steeple project so once they get time and a truck fixed, they will be looking into fixing the leak.

Council minutes continue - - ->

- There is a crack in the plexiglass in the stained glass window in the south tower to the west. Bees and wasps are coming in, this is being looked into.

New Business:

- Duane Zuleger is requesting for an additional \$20 per mowing for the cemetery from the church account and \$20 from the cemetery account. Request was approved.
- The cemetery committee is having a company come in and do a ground penetrating radar to have an updated plot map created. The estimated cost is \$3900.00.

Prayers and Thank You's:

Thank you to those that helped with the Prayer Garden and the Cemetery. Your time and help is appreciated! Prayers to the St. John's UCC, Appleton and Peace Church in Shawano.

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

Next Council Meeting will be June 8, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.



Year of Giving ~ Socks & Underwear

Kids grow, and they grow fast. Almost overnight they'll change sizes and it's sometimes difficult to keep up. Imagine being a parent who can't afford to provide new socks and underwear for their children. Imagine being a child who doesn't have those items we take for granted. And grown ups need help with these clothing essentials too. The biggest need at the Black Creek Salvation Army is for socks & underwear for youth, particularly for boys. Let's see if we can fill the shelves to bursting with new socks & underwear for kids & adults in need so that everyone has the opportunity to wear their own holes in their socks! You can also look for the donation envelopes at the front of church (make checks payable to the church with "socks & undies" in the memo line).



Scripture Readings

italics indicate readings for worship

Sunday June 6, 2021

Communion

Celebration of Music Sunday

Psalm 100

Colossians 3.12-17

Sunday June 13, 2021

Ezekiel 17.22-24

Psalm 92

2 Corinthians 5.6-21

Mark 4.26-34

Sunday June 20, 2021

Father's Day

1 Samuel 17.32-49

Psalm 9

2 Corinthians 6.1-13

Mark 4.35-41

Sunday June 27, 2021

2 Samuel 1.17-27

Psalm 30

2 Corinthians 8.7-15

Mark 5.21-43

Sunday July 4, 2021

Communion

NO worship at Cecil

Ezekiel 2.1-7

Psalm 123

2 Corinthians 12.1-10

Mark 6.1-13

Black Creek Fireman's Picnic

Saturday June 5th

Come & Join us on the float, or having a nice stroll alongside to toss candy to the spectators. Join us as we coordinate the games for kids after the parade.

Come & support our community!

Want to help with the float?

Talk with Sue Biese

Want to help with the games?

Talk with Pastor Moira or Robin Schmidt

Rummage Sale News



Our rummage sale is back!

Thursday - Saturday

June 17, 18, 19 & 24, 25, 26

After worship on Sunday June 6th we will arrange tables and bring up items from the storage (yellow) room. Then the work begins to unpack & price everything. There will be lots of work days & we will need help during the sale as well. Please talk with Steve Hanson if you can help with pricing & set up and with Roberta Lorenz if you are available to help during the sale!

Parish Celebrations

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

June Birthdays

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

2nd ...	Tammy Zuleger
3rd ...	Wayne Schmidt
5th ...	Carol Schmidt
8th ...	David Hooyman
13th ...	Trevor Rasmussen
	Devin Schmidt
14th ...	Gary Vander Linden
16th ...	Marion Jones
18th ...	Jan Boman
19th ...	Cheryl Pingel
	Ryan Pingel
20th ...	Taycie Schmidt
21st ...	Connie Rohloff
22nd ...	Paul Sassman
23rd ...	Heather Lison
	Tyler Biese
24th ...	Karen Arnold
26th ...	Eugene Blake
28th ...	Judy Samson
30th ...	Cheryl Duhm
	David Holz

June Anniversaries

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

June 4, 1976

Stephen & Barbara Sassman

June 7, 1996

Steven & Cheryl Pingel

June 8, 1968

Donald & Ann Peotter

June 9, 1990

David & Mary Tesch

June 21, 1974

Gregory & Barbara Volkman

June 21, 1986

David & Brenda Holz

June 21, 2003

Timothy & Connie Shannon

June 22, 2012

Marc & Kristin Roesler

June 28, 1975

Michael & Carla Holz

June 28, 2008

Steve & Lindsay Seefeldt

June 30, 1979

Kurt & Debbie Boettcher

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

April 2021

	04/04/2021	04/11/2021	04/18/2021	04/25/2021		Direct Deposit	Total
Checking deposit	4477.00	3462.00	730.00	2356.00		300.00	11325.00
Member Giving Towards Budget							
General Fund	4174.00	3282.00	645.00	2011.00		150.00	10262.00
Total Member Contributions	4174.00	3282.00	645.00	2011.00		150.00	10262.00
Other Income (in & out funds and income for designated purposes)							
Building Fund		110.00				150.00	260.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	20.00						20.00
Haiti Allies		70.00	85.00	345.00			500.00
Easter Breakfast	283.00						283.00
Total Other Income	303.00	180.00	85.00	345.00		150.00	1063.00
Total Checking Deposit	4477.00	3462.00	730.00	2356.00		300.00	11325.00

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

April 2021

Building Fund	Deposits	\$260.00
	Interest	\$4.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00
 Memorial Fund	 Deposits	 \$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00
 Organ Fund	 Deposits	 \$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00
 General Fund	 Deposits	 \$11,065.00
	Disbursements	(\$9,300.33)

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 or Treasurer Dallas Waterstradt

Totals	Beginning Balance	\$205,266.93
	Deposits	\$11,325.00
	Interest	\$4.00
	Disbursements	(\$9,300.33)
	Ending Balance	\$207,295.60

General Fund	\$19,877.90
Building Fund	\$20,432.23
Memorial Fund	\$16,381.47**
Organ Fund	\$4,997.00
Parsonage Fund	<u>\$145,607.00</u>
TOTAL	\$207,295.60

YTD Membership Giving*	\$34,066.75
YTD Expenses*	(\$34,980.56)
Net Amount*	(\$913.81)

* excludes contributions and disbursements for special offerings

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

Reader & Greeter Schedule

If you are not able to make it on your assigned day, please let Connie Wheeler & Pastor Moira know. Greeters also help serve communion.

Sunday June 6, 2021 ~ Communion

Reader Randy Miller
Greeters Gary Vander Linden
Bonnie Vander Linden

Sunday July 25, 2021

Reader Jim Rucci
Greeters Steve Hanson
Jim Rucci

Sunday June 13, 2021

Reader Robin Schmidt
Greeters Barry Zuleger
Steve Hanson

Sunday August 1, 2021 ~ Communion

Reader Randy Miller
Greeters Randy Miller
Keith Kruse
Steve Schomisch
Pat Schomisch

Sunday June 20, 2021

Reader Bob Menning
Greeters Bob Menning
Carla Menning

Sunday August 8, 2021

Reader Tanner St. John
Greeters Todd St. John
Tanner St. John

Sunday June 27, 2021

Reader Randy Miller
Greeters Kelly Stevens
Dallas Waterstradt

Sunday August 15, 2021

Reader Jan Rohloff
Greeters Jan Rohloff
Trevor Rohloff

Sunday July 4, 2021 ~ Communion

Reader Vi Brown-Luebke
Greeters Vi Brown-Luebke
Kelly Stevens
Mike Dickinson
Sally Dickinson

Sunday August 22, 2021

Reader Vi Brown-Luebke
Greeters Gary Vander Linden
Bonnie Vander Linden

Sunday July 11, 2021

Reader Robin Schmidt
Greeters Robin Schmidt
Carol Schmidt

Sunday August 29, 2021

Reader Bob Menning
Greeters Bob Menning
Carla Menning

Sunday July 18, 2021

Reader Roberta Lorenz
Greeters Eugene Blake
Audrey Hooyman-Blake

Sunday September 5, 2021 ~ Communion

Reader Robin Schmidt
Greeters Mike & Connie Rohloff
Dallas & Lisa Waterstradt

June 2021

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

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays

10am - 5pm

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 1:30pm BC Women's Guild meeting	3	4	5 Black Creek Fire & EMS Parade & Picnic
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						
6 TriJo SCRIP order BC Rummage sale set-up after worship	7	8 9am ALC Food Pantry board 6:30pm BC Council	9 9am T New Hope Circle	10 5:30pm T Council	11	12 8:30am BC Garden Work Day
13	14	15	16 5-7pm ALC Food Pantry distribution	17 9am C Closet work day	18	19 9-11am ALC Food Pantry distribution
Black Creek Rummage Sale 8am to 5pm						
20 <i>Father's Day</i>	21	22 Noon-3pm C Closet distribution	23	24	25	26
Black Creek Rummage Sale 8am to 5pm						
27	28	29	30	<i>July 1</i>	<i>July 2</i>	<i>July 3</i> <i>Tomorrow... worship at Trinity & Black Creek at the usual times, but NO worship at Cecil</i>

June
2021

"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
Website www.stjuccbc.com
Facebook: St. John's UCC Black Creek
YouTube: search for Moira Finley

Pastor Moira Finley
Phone 715-851-3080
Email pastormoira73@gmail.com

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



Covid-19 Procedures for Worship & Gatherings

- ♥ **Face Coverings** ~ masks or face shields are requested (for everyone over age 5) who is not fully vaccinated;
- ♥ **Distancing** ~ keep social distance as best as possible;
- ♥ **Singing** - wear your mask while you sing;
- ♥ **Offering** - there are plates at the sanctuary doors;
- ♥ **Respect** ~ respect others in our community by wearing a face covering and keeping distance when talking with folks you don't live with

Mandatory 10 Digit Dialing

Due to changes implemented by the Federal Communications Commission, ten digit dialing (area code + phone number) becomes mandatory on October 24th, but they are encouraging you to start getting used to the change now. It's also important to check that anything you have that auto dials like medical monitors, alarm systems, and internet connections are converted to ten digit dialing. Long distance calls from land line phones continue to be 1 + area code + phone number and emergency services continue as before.