

From Pastor Moira's Desk...

These are interesting days. There are probably a lot of other words we could use to describe them ~ confusing, joyful, frustrating, inspiring, infuriating, breath-taking, challenging ~ but let's go with interesting to hopefully sum up all those other things we're thinking and feeling about this season in our lives and in the life of the world. We've got war and climate change, as well as graduations, weddings, and babies being born. We've got covid, and now monkey pox, and inflation, as well as a LOT political and social upheaval, as well as bonfires, vacations, and time with family and friends. Just about everyone I talk to, maybe everyone I know, is feeling overwhelmed ~ with the hard and the good things ~ and a lot of folks are feeling unsure about this time in their lives, and in the life of the world, feeling like everything seems completely broken, maybe even beyond repair.

I have to confess, even as a committed and card carrying certified optimist, some days it's a lot of work to hold on to hope, to trust in a future I can't see (and some days can't even imagine), to remember that there is so much more goodness, so many more people working for good, in this world. But then I take a breath, and drink some water, and try to remember that part of our job as Jesus' disciples, as people who trust in a God that defied the powers of violence and death in an empty tomb, is to be creators of the world we want to live in, the world God has promised to us, for us, and for all creation.

That's when this quote from Chinese-American novelist Maxine Hong Kingston comes to me: **In a time of destruction, create something: a poem, a parade, a community, a school, a vow, a moral principle; one peaceful moment."** from *"The Fifth Book Of Peace"*

Thankfully, it's not entirely up to us to remake the world, that is ultimately God's responsibility. But it is up to us to do our part. We can give in to the division, the fear, the hatred, and so much more, OR we can choose to be creators, people who spend our days looking for good and if we can't find it, being the good. It's not naïve to be optimistic, and to believe in hope. Indeed, it might be one of the hardest things we will ever do ~ to look at the world in all its fragile, broken, beautiful mess, and to stand in the middle of the rubble of our lives and the life of the world and confess that it can be rebuilt, restored, made into more and more of the kingdom of God's promise.

As summer continues, I hope you will join me in some faith-filled creation, drawing on the love of God, and the support of our communities, to make in whatever way we can, little by little, the world we want to live in, and the one we want to leave for those who will come after us. Together, with God and each other, we can be (and already are) an unstoppable force for goodness and hope, for kindness and compassion, for a new and healthier world for all.

In peace and grace, Pastor Moira

Church Council "Preliminary" Meeting Minutes June 14, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Pat Schomisch with Trevor Rohloff, Todd St. John, Lizzie Tesch, 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 Trevor Rohloff 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 in person and virtual Worship Services and a funeral
- Attended church meetings, administrative meetings, and group meetings
- Will be on vacation July 15-29 with Randy leading service on July 17th and 24th.

Committee Reports

Membership: Nothing to report at this time.

Christian Ed: Fleece blankets are being donated to the Shiocton school nurse, the Black Creek fire/rescue, and the Seymour fire/rescue departments. Next meeting will be Tuesday, August 2 at 7:00 pm.

Music / Worship: Met May 15 after worship to discuss the job description for the musician position. Jan Boman will be retiring July 31, 2022.

House/Building Grounds: Gary is waiting on quotes for plastering. Duane wants to cut the lawn less with the gas prices.

Stewardship: July we will be collecting for the Fire Department and August we will be collecting school supplies.

Cemetery: The burial for Ruth Hanson will be June 16.

Endowment: Nothing to report at this time.

Women's Guild: They met on May 4th, they discussed the rummage sale. They set the date for the Fall Feast for October 2nd. They are looking into purchasing white plastic tables and getting rid of the heavy wood tables.

Old Business:

- The garden project committee will be getting together in the next several weeks.
- Waiting on supplies for the window.
- There was a Congregational Meeting on May 22 with the bylaw revisions and garden project approved.

New Business:

- The new committees were set up in the updated bylaws.
- Jan Boman retirement effective July 31, 2022.

Prayers and Thank You's:

Sally Dickinson family (passing of her mom) and Hanson family (passing of Ruth)

A motion was made by Dallas Waterstradt and seconded by Lizzie Tesch to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Next Council Meeting will be Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at 6:30 pm.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

July Year of Giving ~ Fives For Firefighters

Our volunteer fire & rescue workers do so much to help keep us and our community safe & healthy. From medical emergencies, to fires, to cleaning up storm damage and helping with so many other challenges in life, they're here for us, just at the other end of the phone when we need them the most. This is your chance to give back, to help support their work, and provide a little financial cushion so they can update and replace their equipment and provide necessary training. *Look for the \$5s for Firefighters envelopes!*

August Year of Giving ~ School Supplies

The lists are here, the long lists of things kids need to bring to school. It used to be a box of crayons, a few pencils, and a stack of paper, but no more. Children and their families have to bring everything from pencils to tissues to Ziploc bags for their classrooms, and with changing technology children are increasingly asked to bring headphones, flash drives, and more as well. That gets to be expensive, particularly for families that are already struggling. All month we will collect basic school supplies, and cash donations towards additional supplies, that will be provided to our local schools, as well as distributed through organizations like our local Salvation Army to families in our area in need.

Suggested items include: pens, pencils (mechanical & regular), spiral notebooks (wide & college ruled), notebook paper (wide & college ruled), binders, highlighters, dry erase markers, binders, folders, glue, glue sticks, colored pencils & crayons.

Parish Celebrations

If your special day is incorrect, please let Pastor Moira know.

July Birthdays

1st ... Barbara Volkman
Chad Lison
2nd ... Roberta Lorenz
3rd ... Skylar Stucki
10th ... Susan Jochman
11th ... Elly Menning
12th ... Wyatt Lison
13th ... Emma Holz
14th ... Cole Marcks
15th ... Jason Kruse
Lizzie Tesch
16th ... Kheenan Halvorson
Willow Marcks
18th ... Ashley Lison
Samantha Rasmussen
22nd ... Anders Waterstradt
23rd ... Tori Erickson
26th ... Ethan Biese
27th ... Gary Helein
28th ... Pat Schomisch

July Anniversaries

July 5th

Stanley & Susan Jochman

July 6th

Don & Diane Henning

July 22nd

Eugene Blake & Audrey Hooyman-Blake

August Birthdays

2nd ... Jeff Rohloff
Makenna Scott
5th ... Randy Vande Corput
Mark Hooyman
12th ... Steve Schomisch
Kurt Boettcher
Bryce Vander Linden
17th ... Caylix Wernet
Marshall Halvorson
18th ... Amanda Shepard
21st ... Carla Holz
Johnathan Tesch
25th ... Karen Zuleger
Karleigh Hooyman
29th ... Marian Zuleger
30th ... Dallas Waterstradt
Raymond Menning
31st ... Morgan Werner

August Anniversaries

August 2nd

Michael & Barb Flaherty
Cody & Khennan Halvorson

August 9th

Julie Hein & Mark Suda

August 15th

Bob & Carla Menning
Jeff & Cindy Rohloff

August 19th

Mike & Connie Rohloff

August 22nd

Gary & Carla Lathrop

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 July 3, 2022 ~ Communion

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

Sunday July 10

Reader Robin Schmidt
Greeters Robin Schmidt & Carol Schmidt

Sunday July 17

Reader Autumn Schmidt
Greeters Eugene & Audrey Blake

Sunday July 24

Reader Jim Rucci
Greeters Jim Rucci & Steve Hanson

Sunday July 31

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

Sunday August 7 ~ Communion

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

Sunday August 14

Reader Jan Rohloff
Greeters Jan Rohloff & Trevor Rohloff

Sunday August 21

Reader Vi Brown-Luebke
Greeters Gary & Bonnie Vander Linden

Sunday August 28

Reader Bob Menning
Greeters Bob & Carla Menning

Sunday September 4 ~ Communion

Reader Autumn Schmidt
Greeters Mark Hooyman
Kelcie Hooyman
Dallas & Lisa Waterstradt

Sunday September 11 ~ Rally Day

Reader Connie Wheeler
Greeters Connie Wheeler
Hollie Wheeler

Sunday September 18

Reader Roberta Lorenz
Greeters Mike & Connie Rohloff

Sunday September 25

Reader Sue Biese
Greeters Joe & Sue Biese

Special Offering For Ukraine

As the war continues, we will continue receiving contributions to help refugees & others affected
by the violence. Look for the envelopes with the Ukrainian flag.
Please make checks out to church and put "Ukraine Aid" in the memo line.

St. John's United Church of Christ Financial Secretary's Report ~ MAY 2022

	5/1/2022	5/8/2022	5/15/2022	5/22/2022	5/29/2022	Direct Deposit	Total
Checking deposit	1,891.00	3,243.50	1,078.00	2,726.00	1,345.50	300.00	10,584.00

Member Giving Towards Budget

	5/1/2022	5/8/2022	5/15/2022	5/22/2022	5/29/2022	Direct Deposit	Total
General Fund	1,704.00	3,213.50	853.00	2,726.00	1,239.50	300.00	10,036.00
Total Member Contributions	1,704.00	3,213.50	853.00	2,726.00	1,239.50	300.00	10,036.00

Other Income (in & out funds and income for designated purposes)

	5/1/2022	5/8/2022	5/15/2022	5/22/2022	5/29/2022	Direct Deposit	Total
Building Fund	20.00		75.00		20.00		115.00
Endowment Fund	20.00				10.00		30.00
Ukraine Aid	46.00	30.00					76.00
Break The Silence	25.00		150.00				175.00
Plastering Project	76.00				76.00		152.00
Total Other Income	187.00	30.00	225.00	0.00	106.00	0.00	548.00

Total Checking Deposit	1,811.00	3,243.50	1,078.00	2,726.00	1,345.50	300.00	10,584.00
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We appreciate your continuing to send contributions by mail as you are able:
St. John's UCC PO Box 264 Black Creek, WI 54106
 If you have questions, please be in touch with Lizzie Tesch or Dallas Waterstradt

St. John's United Church of Christ Treasurer's Report ~ MAY 2022

Building Fund	Beginning Balance	\$19,423.27
	Deposits	\$115.00
	Interest	\$0.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Ending Balance	\$19,538.27
Memorial Fund	Beginning Balance	\$9,685.47
	Deposits	\$0.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Ending Balance	\$9,685.47
	Organ Fund	Beginning Balance
Deposits		\$0.00
<u>Disbursements</u>		<u>\$0.00</u>
Ending Balance		\$4,455.00
General Fund		Beginning Balance
	Interest	\$0.53
	Deposits	\$10,317.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$7,534.65)</u>
	Ending Balance	\$28,962.43
Boiler/Furnace Fund	Beginning Balance	\$1,800.00
	Deposits	\$0.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Ending Balance	\$1,800.00
	Stained Glass Fund	Beginning Balance
Deposits		\$0.00
<u>Disbursements</u>		<u>\$0.00</u>
Ending Balance		\$35,000.00
Plastering Fund		Beginning Balance
	Deposits	\$152.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Ending Balance	\$2,404.00
	Totals	Beginning Balance
Deposits		\$10,584.00
Interest		\$0.53
<u>Disbursements</u>		<u>(\$7,534.65)</u>
Ending Balance		\$101,845.17

YTD Membership Giving	\$48,438.50
YTD Expenses	(\$41,855.76)
Net Amount*	\$6,582.74
* excludes contributions and disbursements for special offerings	

Women's Guild Minutes

The Women's Guild met on June 1, 2022 at 1:30pm with eleven members present. Our devotional leader was Audrey Hooyman-Blake. She led us in a prayer and shared information about the month of June—the sixth month with thirty days; a month of marriages and weddings. Several members were married in June and birthdays were shared. The flower is rose and the birthstone is pearl, and Father's Day is the 12th. She shared stories of "Love Yourself", "He Knows Your Name", "We Are Greater Than Before" and a book called "Little Audrey" given to her by her daughter Connie. Lots of memories were shared and we closed with prayer.

The offering was taken and the business meeting was called to order by President Roberta Lorenz.

- The secretary and treasurer's report were read and approved with \$10,103 in the General Fund and \$497.98 in the Memorial Fund.
- The nursery renovation is well in progress.
- There is no Ice Cream social this year.
- The Fall Feast is planned for Sunday October 2, 2022. More details to follow.
- The Rummage sale items are well under way and in abundance. Please sign up for a few hours of help on the volunteer list & come and shop.
- Lots of members wore red on Pentecost.
- We thank Wes and Angie Biese for the donation of the beautiful electric piano.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer in unison and were served a delicious dessert by Roberta Lorenz as hostess.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday July 6, 2022 with Donna Stucki with devotions and Audrey Hooyman-Blake as hostess.

Audrey Hooyman-Blake, secretary

July 2022

How to reach Pastor Moira: phone 715-851-3080
email pastormoira73@gmail.com

Pastor's In The Office
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays
Please call/text to make sure

Sunday Schedule: Trinity ~ 8:45am Worship
Black Creek ~ 10:15 am Worship
Cecil ~ 7pm (through September 4th)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Key to locations: BC = St. John's Black Creek T = Trinity C = St. John's Cecil ALC = Ascension Lutheran </div>					1	2
					Black Creek Rummage Sale Bonus Bag Sale Weekend	
3 <i>Communion</i> Tri Jo SCRIP	4 Have a safe & enjoyable Independence Day	5 6pm BC Rohloff Baptism	6 1:30pm BC Women's Guild	7	8	9
10 C Consistory after worship	11	12 9am ALC Pantry Board 6:30pm BC Council	13	14 5:30pm T Council	15	16
					Pastor on Vacation (through 7/29)	
17	18	19	20 5-7pm ALC Pantry	21 9am C Closet work day	22	23 9-11am ALC Pantry
Pastor on Vacation (through 7/29)						
24 Celebration of Music Sunday	25	26 Noon—3pm C Closet	27	28	29	30
Pastor on Vacation (through 7/29)						
31		Pastor Moira's Vacation Information Sunday 7/17 ~ Randy Miller leads worship & preaches Sunday 7/24 ~ Celebration of Music Sunday Randy Miller (920-213-1852) is available for emergencies.				

August 2022

Pastor's In The Office

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays

Please call/text to make sure

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Sunday Schedule: Trinity ~ 8:45am Worship
Black Creek ~ 10:15 am Worship
Cecil ~ 7pm (through September 4th)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 7pm BC Christian Education	3 1:30pm BC Women's Guild planning meeting	4	5	6 <i>Hiroshima Day of Remembrance</i>
7 Communion Tri-Jo SCRIP	8	9 9am ALC Pantry Board 2pm T Circle 6:30pm BC Council	10	11 5:30pm T Council	12	13
14 BC Werner Baptism C Consistory after worship	15	16	17 5-7pm ALC Pantry	18 9am C Closet work day	19	20 9-11am ALC Pantry
21	22	23 Noon—3pm C Closet	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	September 1	September 2	September 3 <i>Tomorrow... Cecil returns to 7pm worship</i>

Scripture Readings

Sunday July 3, 2022

Communion

Galatians 6.7-10

Luke 10.1-11

Sermon ~ Together

Sunday July 10, 2022

Colossians 1.1-14

Luke 10.25-37

Sermon ~ At The Inn

Sunday July 17, 2022

Colossians 1.15-20

Luke 11.1-13

Sermon ~ from Randy Miller

Sunday July 24, 2022

Exodus 15.20-21

Psalm 100

Colossians 3.15-17

Sermon ~ Celebration of Music

Sunday July 31, 2022

Psalm 107.1-9

Luke 12.13-21

Sermon ~ Treasures

Sunday August 7, 2022

Communion

Psalm 33

Luke 12.32-40

Sermon ~ Expecting The Unexpected

Sunday August 14, 2022

Isaiah 58.1-14

Hebrews 11.39-12.2

Sermon ~ Rebuilding The Ruins

Sunday August 21, 2022

Psalm 103

Luke 13.10-17

Sermon ~ Missing The Point

Sunday August 28, 2022

Proverbs 2.1-11

Luke 14.7-14

Sermon ~ God's Table

Sunday September 4, 2022

Communion

Labor Day Weekend

Deuteronomy 30.15-20

Psalm 1

Sermon ~ Choices

Sunday September 11, 2022

Rally Day

1 Timothy 1.12-17

Luke 15.1-10

Sunday September 18, 2022

Psalm 113

Luke 16.1-13

Sermon ~ That's Confusing

**July &
August
2022**

"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.stjucbc.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



News From The Church Garden...

We are scheduling a meeting for the beginning of August.



Please be in touch with Pastor Moira if you're interested in being included in the project!

DON'T THROW ME AWAY AFTER JULY!

This is a TWO MONTH newsletter with what you need to know for JULY & AUGUST!

US Mass Shootings

293

January 1, 2022
to
June 27, 2022

*According to the
Gun Violence Archive*