

From Pastor Moira's Desk... Summer. Graduations, parties, cooking out. Floating down the river, fishing, and enjoying the beauty of the world around us. Parades, vacations, time with our friends and family, fresh strawberries and all the abundance of gardens and farm stands. I'm dreaming about watching baseball (even if my Red Sox are only playing 500 ball), and a few quick trips around the state, and long walks in the cool of the early morning. And I'm looking forward to the joy (and chaos) that my new kitten, Gwendolyn, will bring to my house when she comes home in early June, and hoping she and Minerva become fast friends.

But at the same time, my heart is torn, heavy from living in this world. Destructive storms, mudslides, and flooding in the US, Papua New Guinea, Kenya, and so many other places have destroyed lives, and communities. A heat wave has a hold on Asia, and wildfires have already started in Canada again this year. And there's war, so much war in so many places. Israel bombed a tent city in Palestine. Hamas bombed Tel Aviv. The conflict in Ukraine slogs on with no signs of ending. Syria's war is more than 12 years old. Sudan, Haiti, Myanmar, knife and gun violence and brutal attacks here in the US... so many places torn by this senselessness.

We pray and work for ceasefire, for the true end to all these conflicts. The way of Jesus and the way of war are at cross purposes ~ we are called as Jesus' disciples to be peace makers and peace doers. We cannot be people of hatred towards anyone, regardless of their ethnicity, faith practices, skin color, side of a political debate, or any other categories we might be tempted to put them in. My prayer for this summer is that we might enjoy all that it offers us, while continuing to hold in our hearts, and our minds, and our spirits all the places in need of our work, and God's incredible love. We can and should do both ~ know what is happening here and around the world, while enjoying the goodness and blessings of our lives.

Go fishing, and pray for peace. Have a cookout, and check your voter registration. Go to music in the park or the ball game, and read the news about challenges facing us here and around the world. Harvest your garden or go to the farmer's market, and give to the food pantry (or volunteer!). Put on your swimsuit and splash around, and donate to the clothes closet. Hold the world in all its beauty and fragility in your heart, and your soul in these days, and always.

In peace and grace, Pastor Moira

SAVE THE DATES...

- ♥ Trinity Pie & Ice Cream Social ~ Sunday July 14; with worship at 1pm (instead of in the morning), food & fellowship at 2pm
- ♥ Black Creek Fall Festival ~ Sunday September 8
- ♥ Trinity Fall Bazaar ~ Saturday October 12
- ♥ Cecil Fall Soup Sale ~ Sunday November 10

Readers & Greeters Schedule

If you are unable to make your date, please talk with Pastor Moira & Connie Wheeler.

On communion Sunday, greeters help serve communion.

Sunday June 2, 2024 ~ Communion

Reader Audrina Bohn
Greeters Gary & Bonnie Vander Linden
Randy Miller
Lisa Waterstradt

Sunday June 9, 2024

Reader Robin Schmidt
Greeters Barry Zuleger
Steve Hanson

Sunday June 16, 2024

Reader Bob Menning
Greeters Bob & Carla Menning

Sunday June 23, 2024

Reader As Schmidt
Greeters As Schmidt & Kelly Stevens

Sunday June 30, 2024

Reader Sally Dickinson
Greeters Mike & Sally Dickinson

Sunday July 7, 2024 ~ Communion

Reader Vi Brown-Luebke
Greeters Vi Brown-Luebke
Kimberly Marcks
Kelly Stevens
Aubrey Stevens

Sunday July 14, 2024

Reader Robin Schmidt
Greeters Robin Schmidt
Carol Schmidt

Sunday July 21, 2024

Reader Ethan Bohn
Greeters Eugene & Audrey Blake

Sunday July 28, 2024

Reader Steve Seefeldt
Greeters Steve & Lindsay Seefeldt

Sunday August 4, 2024 ~ Communion

Reader Randy Miller
Greeters Randy Miller
Keith Kruse
Gary & Bonnie Vander Linden

Sunday August 11, 2024

Reader Jan Rohloff
Greeters Jan Rohloff
Trevor Rohloff

Sunday August 18, 2024

Reader Sue Biese
Greeters Joe & Sue Biese

Sunday August 25, 2024

Reader Bob Menning
Greeters Bob & Carla Menning

Sunday September 1, 2024 ~ Communion

Reader As Schmidt
Greeters Mark Hooyman
Kelcie Hooyman
Steve Hanson
Darwin Ethington

St. John's UCC Black Creek ~ Council Meeting News

The Council did not meet in May. Reports included here (financial secretary & treasurer) as well as the Pastor's Report were circulated via email. In addition, Parish Relations met on May 20th.

Next Council meetings

June 12th (Wednesday) at 6:30pm

July 10th (Wednesday) at 6:30pm (may need to reschedule)

August 7th (Wednesday) at 6:30pm

2024 Church Council Members

Sally Dickinson ~ President, 920-525-2137

Connie Rohloff ~ 920-228-0940

Trevor Rohloff ~ Vice-President, 920-228-0950

Brian Holz ~ 920-585-0078

Lizzie Tesch - financial secretary, 920-370-8692

Pastor Moira ~ 715-851-3080

Lisa Waterstradt - treasurer, 920-422-0933

Parish Relations Committee Members

Sally Dickinson ~ 920-525-2137

Lizzie Tesch ~ 920-370-8692

Bob Menning ~ 920-268-8229

Steve Hanson ~ 920-984-3986

Steve Seefeldt ~ 715-573-3509

June Focus Of Giving Strengthen The Church (STC)

A special offering of the UCC that helps our entire denomination think in new ways about how we are called to be the church in this particular time and place, helping to start, as well as renew and revitalize existing churches. This fund also helps develop the spiritual life of our youth and young adults through ministries designed to engage the next generation with the possibilities of church life and leadership.

Funds are used to help support clergy and congregations through times of transition, conflict, and change as well as nurturing new leaders, and growing the UCC.

Stock The Pantry Shelves

"When I was hungry, you fed me."

Matthew 25.35



**June Focus Item is
SPAGHETTI SAUCE
Cans, jars, packets,
whatever works!**

**Remember,
it never needs to be name brand
& you can always send a
monetary contribution as well
with "food pantry" in the memo.**

It's Almost Here ... Rummage Sale News

Thursday - Saturday June 20, 21 & 22 and June 27, 28 & 29
8am to 5pm each day

The signs are up around our communities,
complete with maps to navigate the road construction.
Road signs will go up at the end of the first full week of June.

DONATE ... LOOK for the signs on where to put things
LABEL special items if they're hard to identify
so we know what we've got.

NO LARGE FURNITURE (sofas, dressers, etc.)

and **NO TECH** electronics (TVs, computers, keyboards, etc.).

HELP with sorting ... talk to Guild members about the work schedule

SIGN-UP to work the sale ... there's a chart on the bulletin table

at the west entrance to the sanctuary ...

sign up in one hour blocks for sale days.

Women's Guild News

We met on Wednesday May 15th for rummage sale preparations, and enjoyed a delicious lunch thanks to Sally Dickinson and Pastor Moira.

Our next scheduled gathering is
Wednesday June 12th at 9am

for more rummage sale work (with lunch provided).

Guild members are asked to work on sorting, and organizing as their schedules allow before this date.

Sign-up sheets for workers during the sale
are available in the sanctuary

SCRIP News SCRIP is a wonderful way to help you with your regular expenses like gas, groceries, dining out & entertainment & you support the church with a percentage of the value of the cards you purchase (generally 2-10%). *We order on the first Sunday of the month and when we have enough other orders to offset shipping costs!* Look for the SCRIP station in the Gathering Room.

St. John's United Church of Christ Financial Secretary's Report ~ APRIL 2024

	4/7/2024	4/14/2024	4/21/2024	4/28/2024		Direct Deposit	TOTAL
Checking deposit	2,105.00	1,614.00	2,701.00	4,453.00		300.00	11,173.00
General Fund	1,700.00	1,594.00	2,576.00	4,418.00		300.00	10,588.00
Operating Funds							
Building Fund	10.00		30.00	10.00			50.00
Endowment	80.00		5.00	5.00			90.00
Total Operating Funds	90.00	0.00	35.00	15.00		0.00	140.00
Special Funds							
Break The Silence Sunday	150.00	10.00	90.00	20.00			270.00
Food Pantry	50.00	10.00					60.00
One Great Hour Of Sharing	100.00						100.00
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS	300.00	20.00	90.00	20.00		0.00	430.00
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP GIVING	2,090.00	1,614.00	2,701.00	4,453.00		300.00	11,158.00
Other Income							
United Dartball League	15.00						15.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	15.00
TOTAL CHECKING DEPOSIT	2,105.00	1,614.00	2,701.00	4,453.00		300.00	11,173.00

St. John's United Church of Christ Treasurer's Report ~ APRIL 2024

Building Fund	Beginning Balance	\$15,304.27
	Deposits	\$50.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$0.00)</u>
	Ending Balance	\$15,354.27
Memorial Fund	Beginning Balance	\$11,390.47
	Deposits	\$0.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$830.74)</u>
	Ending Balance	\$10,559.73
Organ Fund	Beginning Balance	\$4,455.00
	Deposits	\$0.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Ending Balance	\$4,455.00
General Fund	Beginning Balance	\$24,564.40
	Interest	\$0.50
	Deposits	\$11,123.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$9,199.45)</u>
	Ending Balance	\$26,488.45
Boiler/Furnace Fund	Beginning Balance	\$1,800.00
	Deposits	\$0.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Ending Balance	\$1,800.00
Plastering Fund	Beginning Balance	\$6,999.72
	Deposits	\$0.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Ending Balance	\$6,999.72
Gardening Project	Beginning Balance	\$4,728.71
	Deposits	\$0.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$316.44)</u>
	Ending Balance	\$4,412.27

**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
a member of the Council**

YTD Membership Giving	\$35,389.00
YTD Expenses	(\$36,295.81)
Net Amount*	(\$906.81)
* excludes contributions and disbursements for special offerings	

FUND TOTALS	
Beginning Balance	\$69,242.57
Deposits	\$11,173.00
Interest	\$0.50
<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$10,346.63)</u>
Ending Balance	\$70,069.44

Scripture Readings

Sunday June 2, 2024

Communion

2 Corinthians 4.5-12

Mark 2.23-3.6

Sermon ~ Life At Work

Sunday June 9, 2024

Mark 2.1-12

Sermon ~ Friends In Faith

Sunday June 16, 2024

Honoring Father's Day

Psalm 92

Mark 4.26-34

Sermon ~ Planting

Sunday June 23, 2024

2 Corinthians 6.1-10

Mark 4.35-41

Sermon ~ Now!

Sunday June 30, 2024

Mark 5.21-43

Sermon ~ Made Well

Sunday July 7, 2024

Communion

Psalm 123

Mark 6.1-13

Sermon ~ Together

Sunday July 14, 2024

Psalm 85

Ephesians 3.14-21

Sermon ~ Love

Parish Celebrations

If your special day is incorrect let Pastor Moira know.

June Birthdays

2nd ... Tammy Zuleger

5th ... Carol Schmidt

8th ... David Hooyman

9th ... McCoy Bohn

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

25th ... Eugene Blake

28th ... Judy Samson

30th ... Cheryl Duhm

David Holz

June Anniversaries

June 4th ~ Steve & Barb Sassman

June 7th ~ Steven & Cheryl Pingel

June 8th ~ Donald & Ann Peotter

June 9th ~ David & Mary Tesch

June 21st ~ Gregory & Barbara Volkman

June 21st ~ David & Brenda Holz

June 21st ~ Tim & Connie Shannon

June 27th ~ Tori & Jon Erickson

June 28th ~ Michael & Carla Holz

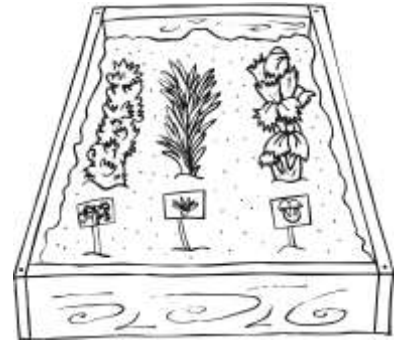
June 28th ~ Lindsay & Steve Seefeldt

June 30th ~ Kurt & Debbie Boettcher

News From The Church Garden...

The Garden of Eatin

We are all planted for our second season of providing produce to our food pantries. We're growing bush beans again (you remember how abundantly they produced last year!), but we've added pole beans, and cucumbers (which



we're going to train to grow up poles), and bell peppers. We've moved the tomato beds to the sunniest spot in the garden since they didn't produce as well as we hoped last year, and we replaced the beds they were in with more of the steel framed ones that did so well for the beans. We're trying three different kinds of tomatoes ~ champion, sweet 100s (red cherry), and yellow cherry. One set of our strawberry plants did very well over the winter so we're hopeful that we'll have at least a few berries to enjoy later this year as a sweet treat for our workers. Our fall bulb planting went wonderfully well and brought color and life to the garden in the still cold days of early spring. Now we've planted some perennials to attract pollinators and bring color and beauty through the rest of the year. We've got a cone flower (echinacea) and hyssop growing by the green house (with some annual cosmos in between just for pretty). Up at the front we've got two false sunflowers (heliopsis) and a butterfly weed. We also planted another row of real sunflowers along the west fence line and we're wondering if these will pay attention to what their seed packet said. Last year the ones we planted said they wouldn't be more than 3 feet tall and they ended up near 7 or 8 feet. And the hollyhocks we planted last year came back which is excellent. We also moved the tool shed from the side of the church building because it was too attractive & warm for the wasps, and added our fake wasps nests to hopefully deter them from setting up residence. Plus, we have a table and two chairs (in addition to our benches), nicely located in the part of the garden that is well shaded. You're invited to come out and sit a spell, absorbing some of the beauty of God's creation. We also have a plan to create a rock border near the bulb planting to help keep the mulch under control.


**Look for the watering sign-up sheet in the gathering room
and help us grow another year of bounty & abundance.**

June 2024

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

Sunday Schedule: Trinity ~ 8:45am Worship
Black Creek ~ Worship 10:15am
Cecil ~ 7pm through September 1st

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<div data-bbox="100 478 456 667" 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 Communion SCRIP order	3	4	5	6	7	8	
				Pastor at WI Conference Annual Meeting, available by phone for emergencies (through Sunday)			
9 <div data-bbox="58 1031 269 1094" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Pastor away</div> NO worship at Cecil	10	11 10am ALC Pantry board 2pm T Circle	12 9am BC Guild Rummage work day 6:30pm BC Council	13 5:30pm T Council	14	15	
16 <i>Father's Day</i>	17	18	19 <i>Juneteenth</i> 4-6pm ALC Pantry	20 9am C Closet work day	21	22 9-11am ALC Pantry	
				Black Creek Rummage Sale, 8am to 5pm			
23	24	25 Noon-3pm C Closet	26	27	28	29	
				Black Creek Rummage Sale, 8am to 5pm			
					BAG sale at Rummage	BAG sale at Rummage	
30	<i>July 1</i>	<i>July 2</i>	<i>July 3</i>	<i>July 4</i> <div data-bbox="954 1829 1133 1948" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  </div>	<i>July 5</i>	<i>July 6</i> <i>Tomorrow...</i> Communion SCRIP	

June
2024

"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



Ways To Help

We have some periodic jobs around the church that could use your help.

Instructions are available for all these tasks, and there might even be treats too!

There are sign-up sheets in the Gathering Room!

Lawn mowing ~ takes about 3 hours when the lawn is long enough to need cutting (depends on the weather); we have a zero turn machine in the shed & string trimmer (weed eater)

Clock winding ~ takes about 20 minutes each week, preferably on Sundays after worship

Garden watering ~ takes about 20 minutes each week during the height of the season, again depending on weather

Reading & greeting at worship ~ talk with Pastor Moira for more details

US Mass Shootings

1/1 - 5/29/2024

181

*According to the
Gun Violence
Archive*