

## Online Giving...

You can now give to the church online, with a credit/debit card or by electronic check. If you'd like help, have questions, or need more specific instructions, Pastor Moira & Lizzie Tesch are more than happy to help.

<https://stjbcucc.breezechms.com/give/online>

## Dartball Players Needed

Join the Black Creek men's Dartball Team.

They play Monday evenings at home & at area churches.

If you're interested, talk with Barry Zuleger or Gary Vander Linden  
Season begins October 20th

## October Focus Of Giving

### Neighbors In Need (NIN)

NIN is a special offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion across the United States. One third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM), supporting our native churches and pastors across the denomination. The remaining two-thirds of your NIN offerings supports grants awarded to churches working in their communities to address systems of injustice and oppression including food and clothing ministries, refugee & immigrant advocacy and support, and facility redesign and re-use. Look for the special envelopes.

## It's Important To Laugh (or groan)...

Where do you learn to make banana splits? *At sundae school*

What do you get when you drop a pumpkin? *Squash*

What has ears, but can't hear? *A cornfield*

What do skeleton dogs eat? *Milk bones.*

What do demons eat? *Deviled eggs.*

## US Mass Shootings in 2025

1/1 - 9/26: 318

*According to the Gun Violence Archive*

## Stock The Pantry Shelves

"When I was hungry, you fed me."

Matthew 25.35

### October Focus Items

### CANNED FRUIT & JUICE

Help our families with nutritious canned fruits

(applesauce, peaches, mandarin oranges, fruit cocktail, etc.) and shelf-stable juices.

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



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

Fall is here. Leaves are changing, fields are being worked up for their winter rest, the skies are filled with migrating birds, and our tables are filled with pumpkins and apples. Or sort of. While all of that is happening, we've also had several days of very above average temperatures, and my rhubarb plant is leafing out again, confused by what season we're actually having, offering to provide me with fresh stalks to enjoy in October! My rhubarb plant is, I think, a pretty good symbol for how a lot of us are feeling ~ confused. This year is one of those where every day seems to have a week's worth of things to cope with, the weeks feel like they last for months, and the months all have enough in them for a full year. We're only nine of twelve months through this year, the cold coming, and the months that are often filled with the joy and challenges of family gatherings and end of year worries and celebrations are still ahead of us. So what do we do? How do we find even a little sliver of peace in the middle of the chaos? Maybe...

**Slow down.** Everyone seems to be in a hurry to get everywhere. We apologize when we can't do things as quickly as we once did, when we walk slower than we used to, when our brains and bodies need a different pace. We don't have to do that. We really can take our time. The world will spin without our pushing it. The breaking news will still be news in five or ten minutes. We can call back the person who called us instead of racing to pick up the phone, tripping over the cat, and knocking our heads on the doorframe. Leave a few minutes earlier for work, set the cruise control, pause between bites of food, take five breaths before you go into the doctor's office or wherever you're going. Let your spirit catch up with your body.

**Pray.** Find some time every day to spend with God, with all that's on your heart and mind, the joys and the struggles, the dreams and the worries, the excitement and the fears. It doesn't have to be long, it doesn't have to take a particular form, or use specific words. It's just you being open and honest with God about your life. I promise you, God really does want to hear it all, wants you to trust not that God will magic it all away, but will carry it all with you, will be with you whatever life brings.

**Practice Gratitude.** I know, Thanksgiving isn't until next month, but for Jesus' disciples, gratitude isn't a single day in November, it's a way of life. Every day there's something to be grateful for. Yes, sometimes what we're grateful for is that the day is over, that we don't have to ever live through that particular time span again, but if we can train ourselves to be grateful in the hard times for the small kindness and mercies, then our hearts really do change and it becomes even easier to see the big joys. Gratitude becomes part of who we are, part of how we exist in the world, and that kind of gratitude is contagious in the best of ways.

May we know the strength and love of our parish, our communities of faith, and the incredible goodness of God that will surely see us through.

*In hope, peace, and love, Pastor Moira*



Funds from the bazaar  
will go to community projects  
& help with church maintenance.

County Highway F,  
between Nichols & Leeman  
Church Phone (920) 525-2132

**Crafts, gifts, granny's attic,  
bucket and basket raffles  
& our amazing bake sale!**

**Hot Chicken Sandwiches &  
Our Famous Chicken Soup!**

Dine-in (inside) or To-Go

Everyone is welcome &  
our church is accessible!

**St. John's UCC**

# Fall Festival

**Sunday October 5th, 2025**  
**Outdoor worship 10:15am**  
**Fun, Food & Festivities**  
**11:30am to 1:30pm**

Blessed Brats,  
Holy Hamburgers  
& Heavenly Hot Dogs,  
Sun Drop Slushies,  
Bake Sale & MORE!



## PLUS FREE

Cotton Candy, Popcorn, Bouncy House,  
Games, Face Painting & Bingo!

Covered outdoor dining & to-go too!

*Meet your neighbors & make new friends!*



St. John's United Church of Christ  
Corner of Burdick & Clark  
101 S Clark Street, Black Creek

# Trinity U.C.C. Fall Bazaar



**Saturday October 11, 2025**  
**9:00am to 12:30pm**

## Readers & Greeters Schedule

The full October to December calendar is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Room  
If you need to make a change, please find a substitute & let Pastor Moira know.

### Sunday October 5 ~ Fall Festival

*Worship outside at 10:15am*

Reader Vi Brown-Luebke  
Greeters Vi Brown-Luebke  
Mark Hooyman

### Sunday October 12 ~ Communion

Reader Nate Seefeldt  
Greeters Barry Zuleger  
Gary Vander Linden  
Keith Kruse & Robin Schmidt

### Sunday October 19

Reader Sally Dickinson  
Greeters Mike & Sally Dickinson

### Sunday October 26

Reader Robin Schmidt  
Greeters Duane & Carol Henke

### Sunday November 2 ~ Communion

#### All Saints Sunday

Reader Jan Rohloff  
Greeters Mike & Connie Rohloff  
Trevor & Sarah Rohloff

### Sunday November 9

Reader Sue Biese  
Greeters Joe & Sue Biese

### Sunday November 16

Reader Lindsay Seefeldt  
Greeters Steve & Lindsay Seefeldt

### Sunday November 23

Reader Isaac Schmidt  
Greeters Ryan & Stephanie Julius

### Sunday November 30 ~ Advent 1

Reader Vi Brown-Luebke  
Greeters Vi Brown-Luebke  
Jan Rohloff

### Sunday December 7 ~ Communion; Advent 2

Reader Ethan Bohn  
Greeters Steve Hanson  
Sally Dickinson  
Sue Biese  
Bonnie Vander Linden

### Sunday December 14 ~ Program Sunday

Greeters Kelly Stevens  
Lisa Waterstradt

### Sunday December 21 ~ Advent 4

Reader Audrina Bohn  
Greeters Steve & Pat Schomisch

### Wednesday December 24

#### Christmas Eve ~ Communion

Reader Bob Menning  
Greeters Bob & Carla Menning  
Keith Kruse  
Barry Zuleger  
*we are looking for four more  
communion servers for  
Christmas Eve*

# Guild News

At our planning meeting in August we crafted our schedule for projects, meetings & outings for 2025-2026. A full Guild book will be available soon,  
**but for the moment, here's the calendar of events.**

Gatherings are Wednesdays at 1:30pm unless otherwise noted.

The person bringing snacks is also in charge of a gathering prayer.

## October 1, 2025

Get ready for Fall Festival booth

Snacks ~ Jan R.

## April 8, 2026

Get ready for the rummage sale

Snacks ~ Roberta L.

## November 5, 2025

Program with the Pastor about gratitude

Snacks ~ Pastor

## May 6, 2026

Service Project Planning

Snacks ~ Judy S.

## SUNDAY December 14, 2025

All Church Christmas Potluck & Program after worship

## June 3, 2026

Pizza & Ice Cream Outing

Meet AT CHURCH at 1pm

## January 7, 2026

Popcorn snowman project

Snacks ~ Sally D.

## July 1, 2026

Service Project Work Day

Snacks ~ Pastor

## February 2026 ~ No meeting

## August 5, 2026

Planning Meeting

Snacks ~ Donna S.

## March 4, 2026

Garden theme project

Snacks ~ Vi B-L

## **Garden of Eatin News ...**

We've had a wonderful year of growing things for the Black Creek Food Pantry and we're getting ready to let the beds sleep for the winter. We're dreaming about next year ~ some bulbs we'll plant yet this fall for beauty next year, and thinking about broccoli, and maybe more carrots. We're also working on a border to keep the mulch in check, and thinking about planting things to attract pollinators. There's still plenty of good weather to stop by the garden and have a nice sit, a few minutes to breathe in God's creation and love.



# Parish Celebrations ~ Now for all THREE churches

*If your special day is incorrect let Pastor Moira know.*

## October Birthdays

2nd ...	Kyle Rosenberg	12th ...	Megan Favour
	Cecelia Rohloff		Racheal Hutchcraft
3rd ...	Pat Leeman	13th ...	Joshua Holz
	Brandi Schomisch	14th ...	Stu Scheel
	Duane Zuleger	15th ...	Jennifer Sassman
4th ...	Kathy Hoppe	17th ...	Barry Zuleger
	Jenny Mitchell	20th ...	Ashlee Neubert
	Angie Biese		Connor Conradt
	Memphis Bohn	21st ...	Ariel Quint
5th ...	Gary Shepard		Timothy Veldt
	Isaac Schmidt	23rd ...	Kerris Samson
6th ...	Verla Pingel	27th ...	Barb Schinke
7th ...	Jordy Seefeldt		Arcadia Holz
8th ...	Bob Thiel	28th ...	Cody VanGheem
9th ...	Barbara Timm		Bradley Demerath
	Cathie Hansen		Barb Sassman
10th ...	Jennie Hutchcraft	29th ...	Sue Schneider
11th ...	Bea Leeman	30th ...	Dallas Rihm
		31st ...	Gloria Knapp

## October Anniversaries

1st ...	Don & Karen Diemel	17th ...	Morgan & Lucas Werner
	Michelle & Arnie Grobe	19th ...	Ashley & Troy Conradt
	Brian & Katye Holz		Dale & Marilyn Gregorious
5th ...	Megan & Paul Favour		Keegan & Rachel Hooyman
12th ...	Bryce & Caittlyn Vander Linden	27th ...	Brent & Stephany Boettcher
14th ...	William & Sue Shneider	28th ...	Debby & Greg Carpenter
	Travis & Ariel Quint		

## **All Saints Sunday**

**November 2nd**

Join us as we remember those we love who have gone on to life everlasting. Submit names to Pastor Moira in writing (text, email, note) by Sunday October 26th for them to be included in our remembrances.

## **Church Christmas Decorating Tuesday November 25**

Food, fun, fellowship & so much decorating of the sanctuary & the rest of the church for the Advent and Christmas season. There will be food, cookies to decorate, and things for people of all ages, interests & abilities. Starting at 5pm.



## **All Church Work Camp**

**Friday October 17 through Sunday October 19**

Join us as we help one of our UCC outdoor ministry sites, Daycholah Center near Green Lake, with fall clean-up and winterizing projects. There are things for folks of ALL ages and ALL abilities, and it's a wonderful time to share together in fellowship with folks from church. Talk to Gary Vander Linden ASAP if you're interested.



## **Church Christmas Program ~ Sunday December 14**



Pastor Moira is almost finished with the script for this year's program. Once again we'll be recording in advance so everyone from our parish churches can participate & enjoy the program. More information coming very soon.

## **All Church Christmas Party & Potluck Sunday December 14th**

It's our Christmas program Sunday upstairs in worship so just come on down after and enjoy even more food, fellowship & fun. (The Packers don't play until 3pm)



## St. John's UCC Black Creek Council Meeting Minutes ~ September 9, 2025

- Present were Sally Dickinson, Lisa Waterstradt, Connie Rohloff, Sue Biese, Trevor Rohloff, Brian Holz, and Pastor Moira Finley;
- The meeting was called to order by Sally and Pastor Moira gave a prayer
- Minutes of the August 2025 meeting were reviewed; motion to approve by Trevor, second by Sue, motion passed;
- The August 2025 financial secretary & treasurer's reports were reviewed; motion to approve by Sue, second by Trevor, motion passed;
- Pastor Moira reviewed her report including planning for the fall festival, the beginning of confirmation classes, and upcoming events for Advent & Christmas;
- Membership ~ a new directory is being worked on, considering a picture directory in future to coincide with the history project;
- Christian Education & Youth Group ~ met Wednesday August 20<sup>th</sup> to plan for the beginning of the year and upcoming events, next meeting Thursday November 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm
- Worship & Music ~ need to consider next year's Lenten series
- Building & Grounds
  - Box Elder Bugs – Denis Shepard will spray when weather allows;
  - Clock ~ keeping good time, one part still to be replaced;
  - Plastering – Trevor reported on a proposal from Badger Ladder & Scaffolding that would provide scaffolding, but we would need another plastering contractor & for painting as well; Trevor will talk with Gary Vander Linden & others about how to move forward;
  - Banner Stand – Mark Shepard from Trinity will be making new banner stands for the store room;
  - Lawn Mowing – talked about how it went with volunteers this season and that is what we'll try again next year, would be good to recruit a couple more folks to help; also want to store the weed trimmer and leaf blower in the shed;
  - Trailer in Shed – sold to Mark Shepard from Trinity for \$250;
- Cemetery ~ nothing to report
- Endowment ~ nothing to report;
- Stewardship ~ Pastor Moira and Sally will work on a letter;
- Guild ~ meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup> to work on thank you gifts for Good Shepherd employees and on October 1<sup>st</sup> to get their Haiti Peace Cycle items ready for Fall Festival;
- Garden Project ~ harvest has been abundant this year and nears its end; purchased bulbs to plant this fall;
- SCRIP ~ need to help folks understand SCRIP can be used for regular expenses;



- Parish Relations ~ need to schedule a meeting before budget time (November)
- Memorial Projects List ~ the Council is keeping a list of projects & dreams;
  - west parking lot relandscaping will be cleaned out by 10/5 and we will wait to plant new until spring;
  - narthex bathroom ~ Pastor Moira provided a proposal for the remodel with an estimated cost of \$943.38 not including plumbing or electrical incidentals; motion to approve by Brian, second by Connie, motion passed; we will purchase Menard's checks from Trinity for the project;
  - AED (external defibrillators) ~ Sarah Rohloff continues to work on this;
- Continuing Business ~ Church Banking ~ we have one direct deposit to address that currently goes to the BMO account and two more bills to move over to the credit union;
- Continuing Business ~ 155<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project ~ a committee has been established of Jan Rohloff, David Tesch, Steve Hanson, Sue Biese, and Pastor Moira; they will have a first meeting in October to plan events;
- Continuing Business ~ Fall Festival; arrangements were discussed and we are moving along well with plans for the day – pray for good weather;
- Continuing Business – Wisconsin Conference Leadership Forward; three year goal of \$3,000
- Prayers and thanks were shared;
- Motion to adjourn the meeting by Lisa, second by Sue, motion passed
- The meeting ended with the Lord's prayer.

Next meetings:

October 7 at 6:30pm

November 11 ~ Three Church Leadership Dinner at TRINITY (snacks 6pm, dinner 6:30pm)

Respectfully submitted, Pastor Moira Finley

## **SCRIP NEWS ... Gift giving season is almost here!**

Let us help you make your holiday shopping easier!

SCRIP is a great way to get gift cards for everyone on your list.

**We've got something for everyone on your list ~ restaurants,**  
stores, and even online retailers, all delivered right to you!

Remember SCRIP is a great way to plan your budget—for  
groceries, gas, and other regular expenses.

Talk with Pat or Brani Schomisch

**St. John's United Church of Christ Financial Secretary's Report ~ AUGUST 2025**

**GIVING BREAKDOWN**

	8/3/2025	8/10/2025	8/17/2025	8/24/2025	8/31/2025	DIRECT DEPOSIT	TOTAL
Checking deposit	1,859.00	325.00	544.00	3,824.85	559.00	300.00	7,411.85
Online Giving	673.00		445.25				1,118.25
<b>MEMBERSHIP GIVING</b>							
General Fund	2,346.00	325.00	959.25	2,730.00	559.00	300.00	7,219.25
<b>Operating Funds</b>							
Building Fund	10.00						10.00
Endowment							0.00
<b>Total Operating Funds</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>10.00</b>
<b>Special Funds</b>							
Food Pantry	50.00		10.00				60.00
Plastering Project				76.00			76.00
School Supplies				10.00			10.00
UCCI	126.00		20.00				146.00
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS</b>	<b>176.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>30.00</b>	<b>86.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>292.00</b>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP GIVING</b>	<b>2,532.00</b>	<b>325.00</b>	<b>989.25</b>	<b>2,815.00</b>	<b>559.00</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>7,521.25</b>
<b>Other Income</b>							
Sunday School— Fundraising Funds				900.00			900.00
Sunday School—Balance Transfer				108.85			108.85
<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME</b>				<b>1,008.85</b>			<b>1,008.85</b>
<b>TOTAL GIVING</b>	<b>2,532.00</b>	<b>325.00</b>	<b>989.25</b>	<b>3,824.85</b>	<b>559.00</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>8,530.10</b>

# St. John's United Church of Christ Treasurer's Report ~ AUGUST 2025

<b>Building Fund</b>	Beginning Balance	\$17,504.27
	Deposits	\$10.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$0.00)</u>
	Ending Balance	\$17,514.27

<b>Memorial Fund</b>	Beginning Balance	\$6,844.73
<i>no deposits or disbursements</i>		

<b>Organ Fund</b>	Beginning Balance	\$4,455.00
<i>no deposits or disbursements</i>		

<b>General Fund</b>	Beginning Balance	\$30,277.27
	Interest	\$0.33
	Deposits	\$7,435.25
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$7,560.46)</u>
	Ending Balance	\$30,152.39

<b>Youth Group</b>	Beginning Balance	\$1,222.00
<i>no deposits or disbursements</i>		

<b>Plastering Fund</b>	Beginning Balance	\$7,227.72
	Deposits	\$76.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$0.00)</u>
	Ending Balance	\$7,379.72

<b>Sunday School</b>	Beginning Balance	0.00
	Deposits	\$1,008.85
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$0.00)</u>
	Ending Balance	\$1,008.85

<b>Gardening Project</b>	Beginning Balance	\$4,558.29
<i>no deposits or disbursements</i>		

**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**

<b>YTD Membership Giving</b>	<b>\$56,783.21</b>
<b>YTD Expenses</b>	<b>(\$57,300.45)</b>
<b>Net Amount*</b>	<b>(\$517.24)</b>

**\* excludes contributions and  
disbursements for special offerings**

<b>FUND TOTALS</b>	
Beginning Balance	\$72,165.28
Deposits	\$8,530.10
Interest	\$0.33
<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>(\$7,560.46)</u>
Ending Balance	\$73,135.25

# October 2025

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

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

**Sunday Schedule:** Trinity ~ Worship 8:45am  
Black Creek ~ Sunday School 9am & Worship 10:15am  
Cecil ~ Worship 4pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <b>Key to locations:</b>  BC = St. John's Black Creek  T = Trinity  C = St. John's Cecil  ALC = Ascension Lutheran </div>			<b>1</b> 1:30pm BC Guild  6:30pm BC Choir	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  10am BC Fall Festival Set Up (through the day)
<b>5</b>  <b>Black Creek Fall Festival</b> Worship 10:15 Festival 11:30-1:30pm <i>No worship at other churches</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10am ALC Pantry board  6:30pm BC Council	<b>8</b> 5pm T Bazaar Prep  6:30pm BC Choir	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7:30am T Soup cooking & bazaar prep (through the day)	<b>11</b>  <b>Trinity Fall Bazaar</b> 9am to 12:30pm
<b>12</b> <i>Communion</i>	<b>13</b> 4:30pm BC Confirmation	<b>14</b> 6:30pm BC Anniversary Committee	<b>15</b> 4-6pm ALC Pantry  6:30pm BC Choir	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9-11am ALC Pantry
					<b>Work Camp at Daycholah</b>	
<b>19</b> <div>Work Camp</div>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9am C Closet work day	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  Wedding at Trinity
<b>BC Turkey Auction ... through 11/16 ... online &amp; in-person</b>						
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 4:30pm BC Confirmation	<b>28</b> Noon-3pm C Closet	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>November 1 Tomorrow... All Saints</b>  <i>Daylight Savings ENDS</i>
<b>BC Turkey Auction - - -&gt; through 11/16</b>						

October  
2025

"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 stjccreek@gmail.com  
Website [www.stjucbc.com](http://www.stjucbc.com)  
Facebook: St. John's UCC Black Creek  
YouTube: search for Moira Finley

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

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



## Youth Group Turkey Fundraiser October 19 through November 16

Help us raise at least \$1500 to purchase turkeys for the Black Creek Food Pantry (Salvation Army) Thanksgiving meal! All the money raised goes to turkeys which stay local, helping families in our area enjoy the abundance of a Thanksgiving feast.

Soon we will have many fabulous items in the Gathering Room **& as in years past, you'll be able to view & bid online.**

Information for the online auction site will be in bulletins & weekly emails soon!

All bids will be updated on Sunday afternoons and bidding in both forms closes at 10am on Sunday November 16th.

Monetary donations are also more than welcome.

Look for the Turkey Fund envelopes or simply send a check to church

**with "Turkey Fund" in the memo line.**

Questions? Talk with Sue Biese or Pastor Moira

