

Guild Calendar

March 4, 2026 at 1:30pm

Garden theme project
Snacks ~ Vi B-L

April 8, 2026 at 1:30pm

Get ready for the rummage sale
Snacks ~ Roberta L.

Saturday April 25, 2026

Black Creek Village Wide Rummage
Sale ~ in the east entrance (and
hopefully outside), limited clothes and
furnishings, includes bake sale

Wednesday May 6, 2026 at 1:30pm

Program ~ Planning the coming year's
thank you projects (for our fire fighters
& EMTs)
Snacks ~ Judy

**Next Wisconsin Election
Tuesday April 7th**

**Check your voter registration &
ballot information with your village
or town clerk or at myvote.wi.gov**

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

What goes up when
rain comes down?

An umbrella.

What kind of bow can't be tied?

A rain-bow.

What do you call a bear caught in a
spring shower?

A drizzly bear.

What do math teachers eat for
dinner on March 14th?

Chicken Pot π (pi)

Which flowers grow on faces?

Tu-lips

Why is the letter A like a flower?

Because a B comes after it.

Stock The Pantry Shelves

"When I was hungry, you fed me." Matthew 25.35

March Focus: Toilet Paper

We know how important it is!

Go ahead and buy the big packs ...

we divide them up into smaller packs before distributing.

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



Readers & Greeters Schedule

There are a few blanks ... if you're interested in filling in, talk with Pastor Moira

Sunday March 1 ~ Lent 2, Communion

Reader Bob Menning
Greeters Bob & Carla Menning
Keith Kruse
Gary Vander Linden

Sunday March 8 ~ Lent 3

Reader TBA
Greeters Keith Kruse & TBA

Sunday March 15 ~ Lent 4, kids sing

Reader Audrina Bohn
Greeters Mark Hooyman
Lisa Waterstradt

Sunday March 22 ~ Lent 5

Reader Isaac Schmidt
Greeters Joe & Sue Biese

Sunday March 29 ~ Palm Sunday

155th Anniversary ~ special music with "The Band" for worship
Reader Ehtan Bohn
Greeters Ryan & Stephanie Julius

Sunday April 5 ~ Easter

Communion & Choir

Reader Bob Menning
Greeters Bob & Carla Menning
Steve Hanson & Keith Kruse
_____ & _____
_____ & _____

Sunday April 12 ~ kids sing

Reader Emma Holz
Greeters Steve & Pat Schomisch

Sunday April 19 ~ Break The Silence

Sunday

Reader Pastor Moira

Sunday April 26 ~ Confirmation

155th Anniversary ~
celebrating Christian Education
Reader Ethan Bohn
Greeters Nate Seefeldt
Lane Witterholt
Keira Neff
Carson Schmidt

Sunday May 3 ~ Communion

Reader Isaac Schmidt
Greeters Mike & Connie Rohloff
Trevor & Sarah Rohloff

Sunday May 10 ~ Christian Family Home kids sing

Reader Emma Holz
Greeters Mark Hooyman
Lisa Waterstradt

Sunday May 17 ~ Celebration Sunday SPACE theme

Reader Nate Seefeldt
Greeters Steve & Lindsay Seefeldt

St. John's UCC Black Creek Council Meeting Minutes ~ February 10, 2026

- Present were Trevor Rohloff, Lisa Waterstradt, Connie Rohloff, Brian Holz, Sue Biese, and Pastor Moira Finley
- The meeting was called to order by Trevor and Pastor Moira gave a prayer
- Council Organization
 - The council received a letter from Sally Dickinson resigning her position on the council as she and Mike will be changing churches; motion to receive the letter by Brian, second by Lisa, motion passed;
 - Election of officers ~ there was discussion and the following officers were elected from the Council with a motion by Connie and second by Brian and the motion passing: President ~ Sue Biese, Vice-President ~ Trevor Rohloff, Treasurer ~ Lisa Waterstradt; Lizzie Tesch will remain financial secretary as an ex-officio position (not attending council meetings)
 - New council member needed ~ there was discussion and Sue will reach out to possible candidates (update – Lindsay Seefeldt has agreed to serve)
- Minutes of the January 2026 meeting were reviewed; motion to approve by Lisa, second by Brian, motion passed;
- The January 2026 financial secretary & treasurer reports were reviewed including the new chart to track special giving & disbursements; motion to approve by Brian, second by Sue, motion passed;
- Pastor Moira reviewed her report including the congregational meetings, confirmation classes, and looking ahead to Lent & Easter;
- Membership ~ received two new members (Barb & Mike Gregorious) and looking towards a new picture directory with the anniversary celebrations;
- Christian Education & Youth Group ~ met on February 5th and updated plans for confirmation (April 26) and celebration of the Christian family home (5/20)
- Worship & Music ~ discussion of the Wednesday Lenten series;
- Building & Grounds
 - Routine elevator service & heating system service have been done;
 - Sanctuary furnishings were moved – following conversation at the annual meeting, the pulpit was replaced and the altar was moved downstairs and the one that coordinates with the pulpit and lectern were brought upstairs; the blue paraments will need to be altered and we will talk with the Guild about this;
 - Sanctuary light – Brian replaced wiring for the back (east) light and replaced upper bulbs;
 - West door (north) needs to be repaired; quote attached for work by Packerland Glass, not to exceed \$300; motion to accept by Connie, second by Lisa, motion passed;

- Thermostats ~ Trevor is investigating updating all the church thermostats and will have a proposal for the council in the near future;
- Plastering ~ reviewing two quotes, the Council voted to accept the proposal from Bryce Plastering for \$5,400 plus the cost of scaffolding; motion by Sue, second by Connie, motion passed;
- Rear (west) sanctuary ceiling fan needs to be investigated as the bearings are worn out;
- East entrance sign ~ needs a few traces of bricks repaired; Trevor is working on it;
- Lawn Mowing – need to coordinate power to the shed;
- Fire alarm panel at west entrance ~ does not serve any purpose (per the state inspector), will disable and work towards removal;
- Cemetery, Endowment, Garden Project, SCRIP, and Parish Relations had nothing to report
- Stewardship ~ Pastor Moira provided a handout for online giving and is working on a video;
- Guild ~ met March 4th for another Good Shepherd thank you project;
- Memorial Projects List ~ the Council is keeping a list of projects & dreams;
 - tree replacement & west parking lot landscaping (above ground planters) ~ Spring
 - narthex bathroom ~ painting has begun and Joe Biese did considerable work in re-wiring the ceiling for a new light/fan;
 - AED (external defibrillators) ~ Sarah Rohloff is working on this;
- Continuing Business ~ Church Banking ~ Pastor Moira and Lisa will work on getting the online access to the phone/internet billing organized
- Continuing Business ~ 155th Anniversary Project ~ updated on the calendar of events; next meeting is Thursday February 26 at 6:30pm;
- Continuing Business – Wisconsin Conference Leadership Forward; three year goal of \$3,000; need to tell the stories of why this is important and consider the proceeds of the 2026 Fall Festival to go towards this goal;
- Continuing Business ~ Congregational Meeting follow-up; see above for discussion about the moving of the sanctuary furnishings;
- New Business ~ Easter Breakfast; the council reviewed notes from the 2025 breakfast and decided to have scrambled eggs (no ham), pancakes & sausages; sign up sheets will be made and available by the beginning of March;
- Prayers and thanks were shared;
- Motion to adjourn the meeting by Connie, second by Sue, motion passed
- The meeting ended with the Lord's prayer.
- Next meeting: March 10th (Tuesday) at 6:30pm
- Respectfully submitted, Pastor Moira Finley

St. John's United Church of Christ Financial Secretary's Report ~ JANUARY 2026

GIVING BREAKDOWN

	1/4/2026	1/11/2026	1/18/2026	1/25/2026		DIRECT DEPOSIT	TOTAL
Checking deposit	1,814.00	2,674.00	2,971.00	821.00		300.00	8,580.00
Online Giving	173.00	500.00					673.00
MEMBERSHIP GIVING							
General Fund	1,867.00	3,074.00	1,171.00	821.00		300.00	7,233.00
Operating Funds							
Building Fund		75.00					75.00
Endowment		25.00					25.00
Total Operating Funds	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	100.00
Special Funds							
Food Pantry	70.00						70.00
Menstrual & Hygiene	50.00						50.00
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS	120.00	0.00	0.00	76.00		0.00	120.00
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP GIVING							
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP GIVING	1,987.00	3,174.00	1,171.00	821.00		300.00	7,453.00
Other Income							
Marian Zuleger Memorial			1,800.00				1,800.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	0.00	0.00	1,800.00	0.00		0.00	1,800.00
TOTAL GIVING							
TOTAL GIVING	1,987.00	3,174.00	2,971.00	821.00		300.00	9,253.00

SCRIP NEWS ... Plan Your Budget

Remember that SCRIP is a wonderful way to plan your regular budgeted purchases like gas, groceries & even entertainment. We can get you movie & restaurant cards plus so much more. **And it's a wonderful way to plan for gift giving and travel too.**

Questions? Talk with Pat or Brandi Schomisch

St. John's United Church of Christ Treasurer's Report ~ JANURARY 2026

Building Fund	Beginning Balance	\$16,736.27
	Deposits	\$75.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	(\$0.00)
	Ending Balance	\$16,811.27

Memorial Fund	Beginning Balance	\$6,150.84
	Deposits	\$1,800.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	(\$0.00)
	Ending Balance	\$7,950.84

Organ Fund	Beginning Balance	\$4,455.00
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no deposits or disbursements

General Fund	Beginning Balance	\$28,744.29
	Interest	\$0.28
	Deposits	\$7,378.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	(\$12,706.00)
	Ending Balance	\$23,416.57

Youth Group	Beginning Balance	\$942.22
	Deposits	\$0.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	(\$161.42)
	Ending Balance	\$780.80

Plastering Fund	Beginning Balance	\$12,531.72
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no deposits or disbursements

Sunday School	Beginning Balance	\$380.13
	Deposits	\$0.00
	<u>Disbursements</u>	(\$75.27)
	Ending Balance	\$304.86

Gardening Project	Beginning Balance	\$3,784.08
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no deposits or disbursements

**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	\$7,333.00
YTD Expenses	(\$10,730.72)
Net Amount*	(\$3,397.72)

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

FUND TOTALS	
Beginning Balance	\$73,724.55
Deposits	\$9,253.00
Interest	\$0.28
<u>Disbursements</u>	(\$12,842.69)
Ending Balance	\$70,035.14

From Pastor Moira's Desk...

March, and Lent are here. Somehow we've zipped through two months of this year while also packing so much into just two months both personally, in our country, and around the world. The end of my February was consumed with watching the winter Olympics from Italy, celebrating the incredible ability of all kinds of athletes, but also the resolve of the human spirit evident in skiers from Haiti and Mexico, folks winning the first ever winter medals for their countries, stories of comebacks and more. And the Olympics are always a reminder for me of what we can be when we decide to compete on hockey fields instead of battlefields, when we compete with bobsleds not bombs, when we look across the imaginary borders we created to the common humanity we all share. It's not perfect, of course, but it's a step in the right direction, a reminder for me of who can be.

As I said on Ash Wednesday, I'm wondering if we shouldn't spend this Lenten season fasting from hopelessness and trying to feast on hope. Real hope, grounded in our faith in Emmanuel, God always with us, in the promise of Jesus' life and ministry, and in the miracle we'll celebrate at Easter, that not even death could end God's love for us ~ that kind of hope is not naïve, and it's surely not easy. We have to look at the world in all of its perfect imperfection, in all the places where there are struggles and conflicts, in all the places in ruins (the war in Ukraine now in its 5th year and Gaza still suffering) and look, really look for the good, the hope, the courage, the strength, the creativity, and more that is building community, helping people find connection and know they aren't alone.

That hope is everywhere, but we have to train ourselves to see it, to look for it, and if we can't find it, to be that hope in the world. We see it where people reach out, offering simple gestures of connection, holding doors open, offering rides, pausing and letting someone go ahead of them. We see it in bigger things like helping out at the pantry or clothes closet, donating time and resources, shoveling the neighbor's yard, sitting with someone while they wait for news, cooking a meal for someone you know is struggling, reaching out to make sure folks know you're thinking of them. And we see it in bigger gestures of communities coming together, of groups like World Central Kitchen feeding folks in need everywhere around the world, and interfaith gatherings for peace and justice that celebrate our differences while honoring all we have in common. That kind of hope is something we, and our world, desperately need. I pray we might all commit ourselves to seeing and being that hope, to letting the good news of God's incredible love made real to us in Jesus sink way down deep into our bones, into the very fabric of who we are, that we might change the place we live, the time we have been given, this place, and this moment, change it for the good that God's kingdom might come.

In hope, peace, and grace, Pastor Moira

Easter Flowers For The Sanctuary

Help us beautify the sanctuary and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus by providing flowers and dedicate them in honor or memory of someone, or in celebration of something wonderful in your life. Kailhofer's in Seymour will deliver, but you should call early for best selection.

Dedications are due to Pastor Moira by Sunday March 29th. Please have flowers or plants to church by Friday April 3rd.



Easter Egg Coloring Contest (not real eggs)

Try out your artistic skills by picking up an egg to color and win fabulous prizes. There are age categories & anonymous voting on the best eggs. If you'd like to receive a blank egg by email, be in touch with Pastor. **Return completed drawings to Pastor Moira by Wednesday March 25th. Prizes will be awarded at Easter Breakfast.**



Lent, Holy Week & Easter Opportunities

Wednesday Lenten Worship ~ through March 25th

Join us for fellowship, food, discussion & prayer about our life of faith.

We'll be upstairs in the Gathering Room & Sanctuary.

5:00pm ~ sandwiches, cheese, sausage & desserts

6-6:45pm ~ discussion & prayer

7pm ~ choir practice

Palm & Passion Sunday ~ March 29th

Worship at all three parish churches at the usual time as we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem & the last week of his earthly life. Special music at Black Creek with "The Band" for our 155th Anniversary year

Maundy Thursday ~ April 2nd

Remembering the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples ~ Black Creek at 7pm

Holy Friday ~ April 3rd

Remembering Jesus' arrest, trial & crucifixion ~ Cecil at 6pm

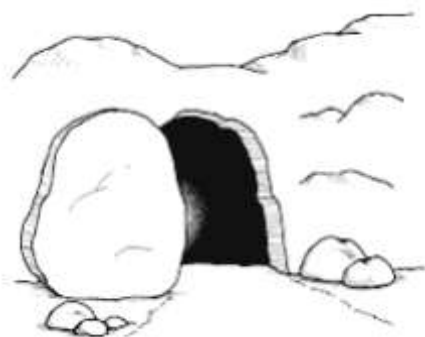
Easter Sunday ~ April 5th

Celebrating the good news of the resurrection

Worship with communion

Breakfast sign-ups will be available soon!

Tri-Jo AT Trinity ~ Worship at 8:30am with breakfast after
Black Creek ~ Breakfast at 8:30am and worship at 10:15am



Save the dates for our 155th Anniversary events...



We need your help with pictures...

Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings & Other Church Events!

Sunday March 29th ~ Gospel & Bluegrass Band for Palm Sunday

Join us with The Band (Cheryl & Keith Barneson) for worship and music

Sunday April 26th ~ Growing In Faith

Celebrating baptism, confirmation & our Christian education with this year's Confirmation students

Sunday May 31st ~ Honoring Our Ancestors

Remembering our Founding Families & tending to our church cemetery

Sunday June 28th ~ United In Love

Celebrating weddings and renewal of vows

Sunday July 26th ~ Building Blocks of the Past, Present & Future

Looking back at our historical buildings, remodeling, and more

Sunday August 30th ~ 155th Anniversary Celebration Worship

Join us for worship and a semi-catered* fellowship meal

*(*we'll order chicken and some fixings, and pies, but we'll need other things too!)*

This isn't Labor Day weekend ... we checked, promise!

155th Anniversary Planning Committee

Sue Biese, David Tesch, Jan Rohloff, Steve Hanson, Pastor Moira

Online Giving

An easy guide to the church's online giving is now available. We'd be happy to send it to you by email, or walk you through the process. If you'd like to investigate this simple way to make your contributions to church, particularly when you won't be able to attend in person, both Pastor Moira & our financial secretary Lizzie Tesch would be happy to help. If you'd like to explore for yourself, visit the online giving website at <https://stjbcucc.breezechms.com/give/online>

Parish Celebrations ~ for all three churches

If your special day is incorrect let Pastor Moira know.

March Birthdays

1st ...	Betty Pues	17th ...	Saxton Werner
	Eileen Potasnik	18th ...	Tom Wegner
3rd ...	Kody Holz	20th ...	Elliott Peeters
	Tim Arnold	21st ...	Kristopher Shepard
5th ...	Kelly LaValley		Wyatt Samson
10th ...	Haydan Schmidt	22nd ...	Barb Gregorius
11th ...	Rick Piechocki	23rd ...	Brent Boettcher
12th ...	Jim Shulze	25th ...	Corbin Rohloff
	Vi Brown-Luebke		Darwin Ethington
13th ..	Alexis Reif	27th ...	Averie Werner
	Ember Waterstradt		Ryan Schomisch, Sr.
	Jack Holz	28th ...	Deb Peeters
15th ...	Sammi Bohn		Mike Gregorius
16th ...	Mason Demerath	30th ...	Donna Stucki
	Bob Mening		Wes Biese
	John Wheeler		

March Anniversaries

14th ...	Gary & Bonnie Vander Linden
25th ...	Randall & Kris Vande Corput
30th ...	Paul & Taycie Schmidt

March 2026

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Communion</i> <i>SCRIP Order</i> Second Sunday of Lent	2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Wednesday Lenten Worship at Black Creek 5pm Food 6pm Prayer & Conversation 7pm Choir </div>	3	4 1:30pm BC Guild Wednesday Lent Worship (see box)	5	6	7 Daylight Savings Time Ends ... SPRING FORWARD
8 BC Choir sings	9 4:30pm BC Confirmation	10 6:30pm BC Council	11 2pm T Circle Wednesday Lent Worship (see box)	12 5:30pm T Council	13	14
15 BC Youth Group BC Kids sing	16	17	18 Wednesday Lent Worship (see box) 4pm A Pantry	19 9am C Closet work day	20	21 9am A Pantry
22	23 4:30pm BC Confirmation	24 Noon-3pm C Closet	25 Wednesday Lent Worship (see box)	26	27 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Key to locations: BC = St. John's Black Creek T = Trinity C = St. John's Cecil A = Ascension Lutheran </div>	28
29 Palm & Passion Sunday Special Music at BC Easter flower dedications due	30	31	April 1 6:30pm BC Choir	April 2 Maundy Thursday Worship Black Creek 7pm	April 3 Holy Friday Worship Cecil 6pm	April 4 Tomorrow EASTER SUNDAY

March
2026

"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



155th Anniversary ~ Special Music Sunday March 29th

Join us for Palm Sunday worship with special music provided by gospel & bluegrass group The Band (Cheryl & Keith Barneson). They will play a bit before worship (starting around 10am) and share music & hymns during the service as well. Light refreshments in the gathering room after worship.

And start looking through those shoe boxes and albums for pictures of baptisms, confirmations, weddings, and other events from the life of the church. We'd also welcome baptismal, confirmation, and marriage certificates, and other things like worship bulletins too. We're working on a timeline, and an anniversary memory book and we need whatever you'd be happy to share with us (pictures and other things will be copied, scanned, and returned to you).

Anniversary Committee: Sue Biese, David Tesch, Jan Rohloff, Steve Hanson



Black Creek One Day Village Wide Rummage Sale ~ Saturday April 25th
In the east entrance (and hopefully outside). Because of the small space we are having very limited clothing, no electronics (including lamps), and no junk! We will also be having a bake-sale and will need help with set-up, working the sale, and clean-up