

From Pastor Moira's Desk... God-spotting

The tulips and daffodils are done for another year. The garden is planted at Black Creek. The trees are leafing out, and everything that makes me sneeze looks beautiful. Farmers are in the fields, the kids are (or almost are) out of school, and the nights are light much, much later. Not to mention that northbound Friday traffic is picking up, just like southbound Sunday traffic is as everyone makes their way to and from their summer refuges at camps, cabins, and lakes "up north".

A couple of Sundays back, I was leaving worship at Cecil and turned around to make sure that I had locked the door. As I did, an eagle flew by, so close that if I'd reached out, I could probably have brushed his feathers. I stood there for more than a few minutes, marveling at how close he had come, sure that I was in the presence of God in that moment, connect to God in the mystery and beauty of creation.

Those two things – summer and the near encounter with an eagle ~ got me to thinking of a project for us this summer. We'll all be doing different things in these warm, long days, but I wonder if together we might look for God, paying attention to how God is with us in these days. There's a lot of heartache in the news, and a lot of work that needs to be done to create a better world for all God's people, but there is also a lot of goodness in the world, goodness that doesn't often make the news, or get the attention, a lot of ways that God is moving in us, in our lives and communities, that I'm hoping we can pay attention to in this season.

Where did you see God –

- ♥ In the natural world, the beauty of this place where we are blessed to live?
- ♥ In the places where you vacation & spend time this summer?
- ♥ In the laughter of your family & friends?
- ♥ In the crackling camp fire, or a home run sailing over the midfield fence?
- ♥ In someone who was kind to you when you needed it most?
- ♥ In the generosity of a stranger?
- ♥ In the smile of a newborn or an elder?
- ♥ In a great song on the radio?

Let's gather up our God-spotting this summer and see if it doesn't shift our perspective about this world we're living in, giving us a renewed sense of hope, goodness, and courage for all that lies ahead.

Peace and grace, Pastor Moira

Readers & Greeters Schedule

If you need to make a change, please find a substitute & talk with Pastor Moira

Sunday June 7 ~ Communion

Reader Lindsay Seefeldt
Greeters Barry Zuleger
Gary Vander Linden

Sunday June 14

Reader TBA
Greeters Duane & Carol Henke

Sunday June 21 ~ Father's Day

Reader Robin Schmidt
Greeters Robni Schmitdt
Randy Miller

Sunday June 28

155th Anniversary ~ weddings
Reader Jan Rohloff
Greeters Ryan & Stefanie Julius

The next calendar ~ July through September ~ is in progress.

If you have dates you're not able to read or greet, or you think you might want to try it out, and would like to be added to the list, please talk with 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, 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>

Next Wisconsin Election

Tuesday August 11th

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

Stock The Pantry Shelves

June Focus ~ Pasta & Sauce

"When I was hungry you fed me. (Matthew 25.35)

You can do SO much with spaghetti (in any shape) & sauce to feed your family.

Please give generously because hunger doesn't take a summer break. Monetary contribution should have "food pantry"

in the memo line.

St. John's UCC Black Creek Council Meeting Minutes ~ May 12, 2026

- Present were Sue Biese, Lisa Waterstradt, Connie Rohloff, Trevor Rohloff, Brian Holz, and Pastor Moira; absent was Lindsay Seefeldt;
- The meeting was called to order by Sue and Pastor Moira gave a prayer
- Minutes of the April 2026 meeting were reviewed; motion to approve by Lisa, second by Trevor, motion passed;
- The April 2026 financial secretary & treasurer's reports were reviewed; motion to approve by Trevor, second by Brian, motion passed;
- Pastor Moira reviewed her report including reflections on the experience of the emergency flood shelter and helping with collection & distributing of funds and help for our community;
- Membership ~ picture directory with the anniversary celebrations is planned;
- Christian Education & Youth Group ~ confirmation was April 26, celebration of the Christian family home will be 5/20 and the last day of Sunday school will be 5/17;
- Worship & Music
 - Rev. Mark Schmitt willing to play one Sunday a month;
 - new white paraments in process;
 - considering getting another ear mic for our system
- Building & Grounds
 - Shed door lock – the regular knob isn't working well; we will investigate;
 - Gathering Room Floor ~ waiting to see what happens when the humidity increases;
 - Thermostats ~ replaced by Kyle Katch & Trevor; all programable;
 - East entrance sign ~ waiting for repairs until better weather;
 - Lawn Mowing – need to coordinate power to the shed; Pastor will make a schedule for summer mowing;
 - Motion to put pollinator garden in the lot by the parking lot (with a 2 mower wide swath edge on the parking lot side) which allows for less mowing; motion by Connie, second by Lisa, motion passed.
 - Fire alarm panel at west entrance ~ will be removed;
- Guild ~ village wide rummage sale was held and will be working on our next gratitude project for our area firefighters this fall; will be sorting through the existing banners to decide what we need to repair or replace;
- Garden Project ~ getting ready for planting in late May
- Stewardship, Cemetery, Endowment, SCRIP & Parish Relations ~ nothing to report

- Memorial Projects List ~ the Council is keeping a list of projects & dreams;
 - a memorial gift from Gloria Daelke's family was received;
 - tree replacement ~ fall 2026
 - west parking lot landscaping ~ Pastor will coordinate with Jan Rohloff for planters;
 - kitchen remodeling/renovation ~ discussed a new (deeper) sink, new faucets, and replacing the ceiling tiles
 - AED (external defibrillators) ~ received a used one from Don's in Seymour and all we would need to do is acquire a new battery, pads, cabinet & signage for accost of approximately \$539; motion to approve by Brian, second by Connie, motion passed.
- Continuing Business ~ Church Banking ~ moving all the funds (except the organ fund) to the credit union is in progress; trouble getting the WE bill set up to autopay, but are investigating;
- Continuing Business ~ 155th anniversary celebrations
 - our next celebration is at the end of May to honor our ancestors & founding families on 5/31;
 - June – we will celebrate weddings
 - July ~ we will celebrate our different buildings & remodeling;
 - August ~ the big event on August 30th with worship & a catered meal (RSVPs to be prepared)
- 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; will decide after the August anniversary celebration how to get congregational input on the sanctuary furnishings;
- Continuing Business ~ Easter Breakfast; we reviewed the day and thank everyone who helped, Mike Rohloff has further notes about specific details which we will collect before next year's planning;
- Prayers and thanks were shared;
- Motion to adjourn the meeting by Lisa, second by Connie; motion passed
- The meeting ended with the Lord's prayer.
- Next meeting: June 9th at 6:30pm
- Respectfully submitted, Pastor Moira Finley

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

APRIL | 2026

GIVING BREAKDOWN

DATE	4/5/2026	4/12/2026	4/19/2026	4/26/2026	DIRECT DEPOSIT	TOTAL
CHECKING DEPOSIT	\$6,142.00	\$564.00	\$1,001.00	\$542.00	\$300.00	\$8,549.00
ONLINE GIVING	\$673.00					\$673.00

MEMBERSHIP GIVING

GENERAL FUND	\$6,022.00	\$564.00	\$916.00	\$542.00	\$300.00	\$8,344.00
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OPERATING FUNDS

BUILDING FUND						\$0.00
ENDOWMENT						\$0.00
TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

SPECIAL FUNDS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

155th Anniversary Fund	\$20.00					\$20.00
Break the Silence Sunday	\$50.00		\$45.00			\$95.00
Food Pantry	\$50.00		\$40.00			\$90.00
OGHS	\$200.00					\$200.00
Shiocton Flood 2026			X	X		\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS	\$320.00	\$0.00	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$405.00

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP GIVING	\$6,342.00	\$564.00	\$1,001.00	\$542.00	\$300.00	\$8,749.00
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OTHER INCOME

Easter Breakfast (for 155th Anniversary Fund)	\$473.00					\$473.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$473.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$473.00

TOTAL GIVING	\$6,815.00	\$564.00	\$1,001.00	\$542.00	\$300.00	\$9,222.00
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Physical Donation Amounts for Shiocton Flood are included on the Shiocton Flood Donations spreadsheet to prevent double referencing, but totaled \$100 on 4/19/26 and \$300 on 4/26/26.

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.

ST JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST TREASURER REPORT

MONTH Of April 2026

		Budget Related	Other Income	Total
BUILDING FUND	Beginning Balance	\$16,861.27	\$0.00	\$16,861.27
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$16,861.27	\$0.00	\$16,861.27
MEMORIAL FUND	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$7,950.84	\$7,950.84
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$7,950.84	\$7,950.84
ORGAN FUND	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$4,455.00	\$4,455.00
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$4,455.00	\$4,455.00
GENERAL FUND	Beginning Balance	\$7,372.06	\$7,806.07	\$15,178.13
	Interest	\$0.21	\$0.00	\$0.21
	Deposits	\$8,344.00	\$38,508.30	\$46,852.30
	Disbursements	(\$9,139.79)	\$0.00	(\$9,139.79)
	Ending Balance	\$6,576.48	\$46,314.37	\$52,890.85
YOUTH GROUP	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$1,373.80	\$1,373.80
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$1,373.80	\$1,373.80
PLASTERING FUND	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$12,683.72	\$12,683.72
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$12,683.72	\$12,683.72
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$304.86	\$304.86
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$304.86	\$304.86
GARDEN PROJECT	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$3,784.08	\$3,784.08
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$3,784.08	\$3,784.08
TOTAL	Beginning Balance	\$24,233.33	\$38,358.37	\$62,591.70
	Deposits	\$8,344.00	\$38,508.30	\$46,852.30
	Interest	\$0.21	\$0.00	\$0.21
	Disbursements	(\$9,139.79)	\$0.00	(\$9,139.79)
	Ending Balance	\$23,437.75	\$76,866.67	\$100,304.42
	YTD Membership Giving			28,896.00
	YTD Expenses			(41,793.74)
	NET AMOUNT *			(12,897.74)

* excludes contributions and disbursements for special offerings

155th Anniversary Events



Church Timeline Now Up...

Look on the walls upstairs near the gathering room & leading to the sanctuary. Thanks to Sue Biese for all her hard work & coordinating the labor involved in getting the timeline organized.

We need your help with pictures of church events like baptisms, confirmations, weddings & more, plus your church memories.

Sunday June 28th ~ United In Love

Celebrating weddings & renewal of vows

We need your wedding pictures & if anyone has a cupcake stand we could borrow for after-worship fellowship that would be wonderful!

If any couples are interested in renewing their vows during worship, please talk with Pastor Moira by June 14th so we can plan!

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

Looking back at our historical buildings, church furnishings, remodeling & more
Ice cream & fellowship after worship (outside if the weather allows)

Sunday August 30th ~ 155th Anniversary Celebration Worship

Join us for worship and a catered fellowship meal from Romy's, but we'll need your help with PIES (RSVP information included in this newsletter)

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

155th Anniversary Planning Committee

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

Parish Celebrations (for all three churches)

If your special date is incorrect, please let Pastor Moira know

June Birthdays

2 nd	...	Tammy Zuleger		19 th	...	Cheryl Pingel
3 rd	...	Amy Ort				Ryan Pingel
5 th	...	Carol Schmidt		20 th	...	Taycie Schmidt
7 th	...	April VanGheem				Roger Pludeman
		Joelle Englebert				Charlotte Leeman
8 th	...	David Hooyman		21 st	...	Connie Rohloff
9 th	...	McCoy Bohn				Amy Zuiches
		Michelle Grobe		22 nd	...	Amanda Schmidt
12 th	...	Mike Mitchell				Paul Sassman
13 th	...	Devin Schmidt		23 rd	...	Heather Lison
		Pete Witterholt, Sr.				Tyler Biese
		Trevor Rasmussen		24 th	...	Karen Arnold
		Alan Porter				Janet Coe
14 th	...	Gary Vander Linden				Raylan Leeman
16 th	...	Marion Jones		25 th	...	Eugene Blake
		Dawn Shepard		28 th	...	Judy Samson
17 th	...	Lisa Dazell				Julie Rosenberg
18 th	...	Jan Boman		30 th	...	Cheryl Duhm
						David Holz
						Johnathan Englebert

June Anniversaries

3 rd	...	Amy & Dan Zuiches		14 th	...	Dawn & Mark Shepard
4 th	...	Steve & Barb Sassman		21 st	...	Gregory & Barb Volkman
6 th	...	Janet & Jim Coe				David & Brenda Holz
7 th	...	Jacki & Joe Englebert				Tim & Connie Shannon
		Steven & Cheryl Pingel		22 nd	...	Paula & Ron Stapel
8 th	...	Donald & Ann Peotter		24 th	...	Sara & Al Zuiches
9 th	...	Pat & Brad Leeman		27 th	...	Tori & Jon Erickson
		Mary & David Tesch		28 th	...	Michael & Carla Holz
11 th	...	Jessica & Jesse Peeters				Lindsay & Steve Seefeldt
12 th	...	Heather & Cory Demerath		30 th	...	Kurt & Debbie Boettcher

June 2026

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

Sundays: Trinity (T) ~ Worship 8:45am

Black Creek (BC) ~ Worship 10:15am

Cecil (C) ~ Worship 4pm

AL = Ascension Lutheran Navarino

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 BC Guild Ice Cream Outing <i>Meet at BP in Black Creek at 1pm</i>	4	5	6
7 <i>Communion</i> Black Creek hall reserved, 1pm	8	9 6:30pm BC Council	10 2pm T Circle	11 5:30pm T Council	12 Pastor at Daycholah Center all day for a training workshop	13
14	15	16	17 4-6pm AL Pantry	18 9am C Closet work day	19 <i>Juneteenth</i>	20 9-11am AL Pantry
Pastor Moira in Albuquerque & Arkansas						
21 <i>Father's Day</i> NO CECIL WORSHIP	22	23 Noon-3pm C Closet	24	25	26	27
Pastor Moira in Albuquerque & Arkansas						
28 Black Creek Anniversary – Weddings NO CECIL WORSHIP	29	30	July 1 1:30pm BC Guild	July 2	July 3	July 4 <i>Independence Day</i>

Deliver To:

**St. John's
United Church of Christ
Black Creek Parish News
June 2026**

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Pastor Moira Finley
pastor & teacher
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**It's Important To Laugh (or
groan)...**

Why do bees have sticky hair?
Because they use honey combs!

What do you call a train full of
bubble gum? *A chew-chew train!*

What gets wetter the more it dries?
A towel.

What do you call a pig
who knows karate? *Pork chop!*

I think I took some cat medicine by
mistake this morning.
Don't ask meow!

**RSVP For 155th Anniversary
Worship & Dinner
Sunday August 30th**

We are having a celebration worship & a meal catered from Romy's along with LOTS of delicious pies (more on that in July). **We need to get a count of folks who are planning to come ... please look for the RSVP form at church OR email Pastor with the following information:**

name, number of adults &
number of children (under 10)

Cecil Summer Worship Schedule

In person worship at 4pm only on the
following dates:

June 7 & 14, July 5 & 12 and August 9 & 16