

From Pastor Moira's Desk...

I've closed the windows at home and am ignoring the cats who would like me to turn the heat on. It's just a little too early, but I have found a few more fuzzy blankets, and my sweaters which I had safely stored in the guest room closet. The leaves are turning beautiful shades of red and gold, and falling into gloriously crunchy piles that are loads of fun to walk through. There are pumpkins everywhere, the apple orchard is busy, and our thoughts are turning towards the holidays ~ Halloween, Deer Hunting, Thanksgiving, and even Christmas. The days are getting shorter, the nights colder, and there's even a 2027 calendar sitting on my desk waiting for whatever is ahead.

The change of seasons in the world around us is a reminder that life is a constant source of change, but it can also be hard. Some changes are more challenging than others. We have to open our hands, and hearts to letting go of things we have always done, to new ideas and approaches, to adapting and being ready for whatever this moment holds.

I've been thinking a lot about all that as I go back and forth to Albuquerque to help my dad. He's doing better and will hopefully be going back to his apartment this coming week after his hospital stay and weeks in rehab. It's going to be a challenge as he hasn't lived on his own in more than six weeks, and many changes have been required so that he can continue to live independently (a walker, a new chair, a shower chair, no more throw rugs and more). I've been thinking about how we might learn, throughout our lives, to embrace those changes, or at least not to fight them. I don't have any clear answers yet, but I know that it all centers on trusting that Emmanuel is real, that God is here with us through all of life, and that God is already in tomorrow.

Because it's also an election year (you'd noticed already, right?), I'm thinking about our lives together, how we grow together, how we learn with and from one another, opening ourselves to all that someone else can teach us. Maybe it's growing up on Sesame Street, and Mr. Rogers, with professor parents, but I try to approach each day knowing that there's something new I can learn about the world, and the incredible people who inhabit it with me. I pray we might all be open hearted, open minded, and live with open hands, embracing the beautiful diversity of the world, and the opportunities that the changes of seasons in us and around us present.

In peace, grace, and love, Pastor Moira

Black Creek Fall Festival ~ Sunday October 18th

We'll be outdoors if we can (weather permitting).

Worship at 10:15am

Then food, fun & festivities from 11:30am to 1:30pm

Pulled pork & burgers plus drinks, bake sale,
ice cream, face painting, bingo & more!

Wondering how you can help?

Talk with Pastor Moira or look for sign-up sheets at church



Next Wisconsin Election Tuesday November 3rd, 2026

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



Stock The Pantry Shelves ~ October Focus Canned Fruit & Juice

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

One of the hardest things for us to keep on the pantry shelves are
canned fruit & shelf-stable juices that provide important nutrition
to our pantry families. Any size packs are good, including those
little packages of fruit for school lunches. Remember, it never has to
be name brand, and you can always make a monetary contribution
with "food pantry" in the memo.



St. John's UCC Black Creek Council Meeting Minutes ~ September 8, 2026

- Present were Sue Biese, Lisa Waterstradt, Connie Rohloff, Trevor Rohloff, Lindsay Seefeldt, and Pastor Moira; absent was Brian Holz
- The meeting was called to order by Sue and Pastor Moira gave a prayer
- Minutes of the August 2026 meeting were reviewed; motion to approve by Lisa, second by Trevor, motion passed;
- The August 2026 financial secretary & treasurer's reports were reviewed; motion to approve by Lindsay, second by Trevor, motion passed;
- Pastor Moira reviewed her report including the anniversary celebrations and her emergency trip to New Mexico for her father;
- Membership ~ picture directory with the anniversary celebrations is planned;
- Christian Education & Youth Group ~ working on a confirmation schedule; Sunday school begins 9/13 and candy bars are ordered;
- Worship & Music ~ new ear mic has not yet been installed;
- Building & Grounds
 - Shed door lock – door will need replacing;
 - Wiring To Shed ~ waiting on a written quote ~ on hold until 2027;
 - Gathering Room Floor ~ need a humidifier in the winter;
 - Thermostats ~ will replace the one in the choir loft this fall;
 - East entrance sign ~ waiting for repairs, Trevor will get quotes;
 - Pollinators for the north lawn ~ timeline is late summer/early fall
 - Fire alarm panel at west entrance ~ will be removed;
 - Rear (east) sanctuary fan & east sanctuary light is out again ~ need to investigate (Brian & Trevor)
 - Sanctuary windows ~ discussion of replacing the veneer around them, will investigate further;
 - Snow plowing – we will gather several quotes
- Stewardship, SCRIP, Parish Relations, Endowment, Cemetery ~ nothing to report
- Guild ~ thank you gifts to our area fire departments (Black Creek, Seymour, Shiocton & Nichols) are in process;
- Garden Project ~ Will be removing the strawberry plants that are taking over, making them available to take away;

- Memorial Projects List ~ the Council is keeping a list of projects & dreams;
 - kitchen remodeling/renovation ~ discussed a new (deeper) sink, new faucets, and replacing the ceiling tiles;
 - Changing table for the narthex bathroom was discussed;
 - Rugs for the kitchen ~ have been acquired;
- Continuing Business ~ Church Banking ~ working on moving all except the Organ Fund to Fox Communities CU;
- Continuing Business ~ 155th anniversary celebrations
 - 191 in attendance at worship, 661 ramen collected (4 x our goal); a wonderful celebration all around; there was discussion of upcoming anniversary events including things at the Fall Festival on 10/18, and remembering our veterans in November, plus the gathering of the time capsule and what to do with the timeline
- Continuing Business – Wisconsin Conference Leadership Forward; three year goal of \$3,000;
- Continuing Business ~ Congregational Meeting follow-up; will decide after the August anniversary celebration how to get congregational input on the sanctuary furnishings;
- Continuing Business ~ Fall Festival 2026 on Sunday October 18th; sign up sheets are available now, we will have to consider moving inside if the weather is cold;
- 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: Tuesday October 13th at 6:30pm
- Respectfully submitted, Pastor Moira Finley



Cecil Worship Schedule

In person worship at 4pm on the following dates:

October 4 & 25

November 1, 22 & 29

December 6 & December 13

****December 24 ~ Christmas Eve worship at 3pm**

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

AUGUST | 2026

GIVING BREAKDOWN

DATE	8/2/2026	8/9/2026	8/16/2026	8/23/2026	8/30/2026	DIRECT DEPOSIT	TOTAL
CHECKING DEPOSIT	\$1,376.00	\$1,055.00	\$2,051.00	\$1,595.00	\$15,478.00	\$300.00	\$21,855.00
ONLINE GIVING		\$673.00		\$300.00			\$973.00

MEMBERSHIP GIVING

GENERAL FUND	\$1,246.00	\$1,652.00	\$1,626.00	\$1,649.00	\$14,858.00	\$300.00	\$21,331.00
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OPERATING FUNDS

BUILDING FUND					\$150.00		\$150.00
ENDOWMENT							\$0.00
TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00

SPECIAL FUNDS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

155th Anniversary			\$100.00				\$100.00
Disaster Aid - Menasha	\$100.00		\$325.00	\$150.00	\$220.00		\$795.00
Food Pantry	\$30.00			\$10.00			\$40.00
School Supplies				\$10.00			\$10.00
Stained Glass Window		\$76.00		\$76.00			\$152.00
Sunday School					\$250.00		\$250.00
							\$0.00
							\$0.00
							\$0.00
							\$0.00
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS	\$130.00	\$76.00	\$425.00	\$246.00	\$470.00	\$0.00	\$1,347.00

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP GIVING	\$1,376.00	\$1,728.00	\$2,051.00	\$1,895.00	\$15,478.00	\$300.00	\$22,828.00
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OTHER INCOME

							\$0.00
							\$0.00
							\$0.00
							\$0.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

TOTAL GIVING	\$1,376.00	\$1,728.00	\$2,051.00	\$1,895.00	\$15,478.00	\$300.00	\$22,828.00
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Remember ...

We can help you set up on-line giving
with a check or card (debit or credit) at any time.
Please reach out to Pastor Moira or Lizze Tesch
for more information.

ST JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST TREASURER REPORT				
MONTH Of August 2026				
		Budget Related	Other Income	Total
BUILDING FUND	Beginning Balance	\$16,911.27	\$0.00	\$16,911.27
	Deposits	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$17,061.27	\$0.00	\$17,061.27
MEMORIAL FUND	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$8,194.84	\$8,194.84
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$8,194.84	\$8,194.84
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	(\$4,713.04)	\$18,974.36	\$14,261.32
	Interest	\$0.15	\$0.00	\$0.15
	Deposits	\$21,331.00	\$1,195.00	\$22,526.00
	Disbursements	(\$8,675.43)	(\$2,686.67)	(\$11,362.10)
	Ending Balance	\$7,942.68	\$17,482.69	\$25,425.37
YOUTH GROUP	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$1,423.80	\$1,423.80
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$1,423.80	\$1,423.80
STAINED GLASS FUND	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PLASTERING FUND	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$935.72	\$935.72
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$152.00	\$152.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$1,087.72	\$1,087.72
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$1,323.74	\$1,323.74
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$1,323.74	\$1,323.74
GARDEN PROJECT	Beginning Balance	\$0.00	\$3,784.08	\$3,784.08
	Deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Disbursements	\$0.00	(\$111.29)	(\$111.29)
	Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$3,672.79	\$3,672.79
TOTAL	Beginning Balance	\$12,198.23	\$39,091.54	\$51,289.77
	Deposits	\$21,481.00	\$1,347.00	\$22,828.00
	Interest	\$0.15	\$0.00	\$0.15
	Disbursements	(\$8,675.43)	(\$2,797.96)	(\$11,473.39)
	Ending Balance	\$25,003.95	\$37,640.58	\$62,644.53
	YTD Membership Giving			67,340.00
	YTD Expenses			(78,671.54)
	NET AMOUNT *			(11,331.54)
* excludes contributions and disbursements for special offerings				

Readers & Greeters Schedule

*If you aren't able to participate on your day, please find a substitute and let Pastor Moira know.
On Communion Sundays, Greeters are also communion Servers*

October 4 ~ Communion

Reader	Sue Biese
SERVERS	Sue Biese
	Steve Hanson
	Keith Kruse
	Barry Zuleger

October 11

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

October 18 ~ Fall Festival

Outdoor worship (weather permitting)
& festival; if you'd like to help with
worship, talk with Pastor

October 25

Reader	Ethan Bohn
Greeters	Carol & Duane Henke

November 1 ~ Communion

Reader	Jan Rohloff
SERVERS	Robin Schmidt
	Nate Seefeldt
	Bonnie Vander Linden
	Gary Vander Linden

November 8

Reader	Emma Holz
Greeters	Ryan & Steph Julius

November 15

Reader	Melissa Rohloff
Greeters	Steve Seefeldt
	Lindsay Seefeldt

November 22

Reader	Isaac Schmidt
Greeters	Duane & Carol Henke

November 29

Reader	Robin Schmidt
Greeters	Steve & Pat Schomisch

December 6 ~ Communion

Reader	Nate Seefeldt
SERVERS	Keith Kruse
	Barry Zuleger
	Mike Rohloff,
	Trevor Rohloff

December 13 ~ Program Sunday

Greeters	Mark Hooyman
	Connie Rohloff

December 20

Reader	Lindsay Seefeldt
Greeters	Kelly LaValley
	Lisa Waterstradt

Parish Celebrations

If your special date is incorrect, or is not listed, please talk with Pastor Moira

October Birthdays

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

October Anniversaries

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

October 2026

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

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

Black Creek (BC) ~ Sunday School 9am & Worship 10:15am

Cecil (C) ~ Worship 4pm

AL = Ascension Lutheran Navarino

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Communion SCRIP YES Cecil	5 6:30pm BC Anniversary Committee	6	7 1:30pm BC Guild 6:30pm BC Choir	8 Trinity Bazaar Preparations 9am	9 Trinity Bazaar Preparations 9am	10 Trinity Fall Bazaar 9am to 12:30pm
				Black Creek Work Camp		
11 BC Kids sing 11:30pm BC Confirmation NO Cecil	12	13 9am AL Pantry board 6:30pm BC Council	14 6:30pm BC Choir	15	16	17 Tesch Blum Wedding
18 BC Fall Festival Worship 10:15am Fun & Food 11:30am- 1:30pm	19	20	21 4-6pm AL Pantry 6:30pm BC Choir	22 9am C Closet work day	23	24 9-11am AL Pantry
25 11:30am BC Confirmation YES Cecil	26	27 12-3pm C Closet	28 6:30pm BC Choir	29	30	31 Happy Halloween Set your clocks BACK an hour tonight

Deliver To:

October 2026 Parish News
St. John's U.C.C. Cecil
Trinity U.C.C. Shiocton
St. John's U.C.C. Black Creek

St. John's United Church of Christ
324 S. Warrington Cecil, WI 54111
(715) 745-2195

St. John's United Church of Christ.
101 S. Clark St (PO Box 264)
Black Creek, WI 54106
(920) 984-3845
email: stjccreek@gmail.com

Trinity United Church of Christ
W6712 County Road F Shiocton, WI 54170
(920) 525-2132

Pastor Moira Finley
pastor & teacher
(715) 851-3080
pastormoira73@gmail.com
YouTube: search Moira Finley

Trinity Fall Bazaar ~ Saturday October 10th

9am to 12:30pm

Bakery, bakery, bakery!

Baskets & bucket raffles, crafts, gifts, holiday décor & more
Hot ham sandwiches & chicken soup plus delicious desserts

Join us for a wonderful day of food & fellowship

Work day information:

soup prep & other set up will be
Thursday October 8 & Friday October 9
beginning each day at about 9am.

If you have questions, talk with Pastor.