

# CHURCH CHAT

It is the mission and purpose of Somers Community United Church of Christ to study and seek the will of God and to transform our understanding into action.



## March 2022



The season of Lent begins this month. I wanted to share a prayer with you based on words from Psalm 51 (the traditional Psalm for Ash Wednesday). For those of you who grew up in households with the practice of “Spring Cleaning”, may this prayer be the beginning of your path to “Spiritual Spring Cleaning” this Lent. The following prayer is written by Sister Joyce Rupp:

*Create in me a clean heart*, open and receptive, so that I may embrace the many ways you choose to visit my life.

*Create in me a clean heart*, cleared of the refuse of old battles with other and deadly opposition with myself.

*Create in me a clean heart*, purified through the daily disruptions and the life encounters that take me beyond my grasping control and ego-centeredness.

*Create in me a clean heart*, freed from the clutter of cultural enticements, so that I can enjoy the beauty of life’s simple things and relish the gifts I easily take for granted.

*Create in me a clean heart*, bathed from harsh thoughts, shame, and perfectionistic tendencies, warmly welcoming others with the embrace of nonjudgment.

*Create in me a clean heart*, brushed free of frantic busyness, so that I will have time to dwell with you in the listening space of solitude and silence.

*Create in me a clean heart*, rinsed of the residue of false messages about my identity, enabling my inner goodness and light to shine through all I am and do.

*Create in me a clean heart*, cleansed of anxiety and lack of trust, restoring in me an enduring faith in your abiding presence and unconditional love.

*Create in me a clean heart*, scrubbed of racism and prejudice, drawing me toward all of my sister and brothers.

*Create in me a clean heart*, washed with your mercy and strengthened by your love, helping me move beyond whatever keeps me from union with you.

Create a clean heart in me, God. Dust off the unmindful activity that constantly collects there. De-clutter my heart from harsh judgments and negativity.

Wash away my resistance to working through difficult relationships. Rinse off my un-loving so the beauty of my generous and kind heart can shine forth.

Remove whatever keeps me from following in your compassionate footsteps.  
Amen.

Somers Community UCC

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And on Facebook

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Pastor Kathleen Gloff

Ph: 920-418-4088

**Administrative Associate**

Barbara Sherman

**Moderator**

Dennis Curnes

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Church Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday

9:00pm - 3:00 pm



# March

| March Birthdays     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 4                   | John McKenzie          |
| 9                   | Susan Goldsmith        |
| 11                  | Thomas Rossi           |
| 21                  | Jack Swartz            |
| 21                  | Barbara Dinges         |
| 25                  | Dennis Curnes          |
| March Anniversaries |                        |
| 1                   | Lowell & Norene Charon |

*NOTE: If we are missing your birthday or anniversary, please let the church office know.*



**Remember Your Offerings**

If you would like to mail your offering:  
 Somers United Church of Christ  
 PO Box 183  
 Somers WI 53171



**Spring Forward!**

**Don't forget to set your clocks ahead on Sunday, March 13th.**

| March Readings                                      |                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>March 6</b><br><i>Communion</i>                  | Deuteronomy 26: 1-11<br>Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16<br>Romans 10: 8b-13<br>Luke 4: 1-13                    |
| <b>March 13</b><br><i>Turn Clock Ahead</i>          | Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18<br>Psalm 27<br>Philippians 3: 17- 4:1<br>Luke 13: 31-35 (9: 28-36, 37-43a) |
| <b>March 20</b>                                     | Isaiah 55: 1-9<br>Psalm 63: 1-8<br>1 Corinthians 10: 1-13<br>Luke 13: 1-9                          |
| <b>March 27</b><br><i>One Great Hour of Sharing</i> | Joshua 5: 9-12<br>Psalm 32<br>2 Corinthians 5: 16-21<br>Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32                       |



Just a reminder, if the weather gets bad and it is dangerous to travel, there's a possibility church may be cancelled. You can find cancellation information on Channels 4,6 and 12.

| Sunday          |           |               |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
|                 | Liturgist | Altar Flowers |
| <b>March 6</b>  | NONE      | LENT          |
| <b>March 13</b> | NONE      | LENT          |
| <b>March 20</b> | NONE      | LENT          |
| <b>March 27</b> | NONE      | LENT          |



## Breakfast & Books

Join us for the next B & B (Breakfast & Books) on **Saturday, March 26th** starting at **9:30 am** at the

church. Pastor Kathy will be leading the discussion about the book "**Braiding Sweetgrass**" by **Robin Wall Kimmerer**. Coffee will be provided, and Jane Fahey will furnish the pastry. A sign-up sheet in March can be found on the counter in the Narthex, please sign if you will be attending. Any questions contact Bonnie Curnes 262-654-1612.



Our Food Pantry has been busy. We are asking you, the congregation of Somers Church for your donations of **toilet paper, paper towels, and kids' cereal**. If you cannot shop nor do not want to shop just make a check payable to "**Somers United Church of Christ**" and mark on it "**Food Pantry**" and we will do the shopping for you.

THANK YOU

Bonnie Curnes, Project Manager



**One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ

involves in disaster, refugee/immigration, development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response and recovery networks, your contributions to OGHS put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable.

The theme for the 2022 One Great Hour of Sharing special offering is "Love Responds" The theme, based on 1 Corinthians 13:13 "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

**One Great Hour of Sharing offering  
Sunday, March 27th**



## Easter Flowers

We are offering you the opportunity to purchase flowers to grace our altar at church for Easter Sunday which you can take home afterwards. We are offering the following 6 varieties of flowers: **Easter lily; yellow daffodil; hyacinth either pink or blue; regal geranium purple; lavender tulip; or pink tulip**. The cost is \$ 12 per plant. We will be ordering them from Milaegers. The signup sheet will be out in the narthex beginning **Sunday, February 20th** through **Sunday, March 13th**.

# ANNUAL MEETING

Somers Community United Church of Christ  
Annual Meeting  
February 6, 2022

Present:

|                     |                       |                    |                    |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Norene Charon       | Stephanie Christenson | Bryan Chung        | Gloria Chubriilo   |
| Doug Coleman        | Bonnie Curnes         | Dennis Curnes      | Don Dinges         |
| Barbara Dinges      | Kent Duesing          | Rich Glasenapp     | Pastor Kathy Gloff |
| Char Laba           | LeRoy Johnson         | Shirley Mandernack | Karen McKenzie     |
| Deborah Radovanovic | Barbara Sherman       | Martha Swartz      |                    |

The meeting was called to order by Dennis Curnes, Moderator, at 11:10 AM. Pastor Kathy offered an opening prayer. Stephanie C. made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Doug C. and approved. Rich G. made a motion to approve the slate of officers and committee members with the addition of Doug Coleman as an Assistant to the Property Committee. It was seconded by Bryan C. and approved.

**2022 Proposed Budget:** Dennis presented the 2022 budget. Amounts spent in 2021 were also included. Kent D. made a motion to accept the 2022 budget. Don D. seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Dennis asked for suggestion about a couple items in the Designated Fund Account – July 4<sup>th</sup> Float (\$55.49) and Youth (\$1,413.90) as to where we should spend them since we don't have any youth or participate in the parade. A few suggestions were the United Church of Christ camps or area playgrounds or Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha.

**New Business:** Dennis C. reported that we will need to replace the three boilers. He is still waiting on a couple of quotes.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 AM followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Respectively submitted,  
Charlotte Laba & Barbara Sherman





| Sun                                                                                             | Mon | Tue                                              | Wed                    | Thu | Fri                                                                      | Sat                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Dates and times are subject to change, call the church or check the website for updates.</b> |     | 1<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm Diaper Ministry</b>  | <b>2 Ash Wednesday</b> | 3   | 4                                                                        | 5                                                    |
| <b>6 Communion</b><br><br><b>10:15 am</b><br>Worship                                            | 7   | 8<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm Diaper Ministry</b>  | 9                      | 10  | 11                                                                       | 12                                                   |
| <b>13 Turn Clocks Ahead</b><br><br><b>10:15 am</b><br>Worship                                   | 14  | 15<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm Diaper Ministry</b> | 16                     | 17  | 18                                                                       | 19                                                   |
| <b>20</b><br><b>10:15 am</b><br>Worship                                                         | 21  | 22<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm Diaper Ministry</b> | 23                     | 24  | 25                                                                       | <b>26</b><br><br><b>9:30 am</b><br>Breakfast & Books |
| <b>27 One Great Hour of Sharing</b><br><br><b>10:15 am</b><br>Worship                           | 28  | 29<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm Diaper Ministry</b> | 30                     | 31  | <b>Service Team #1 Co-chairs</b><br><b>Char Laba and Jennifer Swartz</b> |                                                      |