

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.



October 2023



Somers Community UCC
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Barbara Sherman

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Church Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday
9:00pm - 3:00 pm



I am writing this page the night before my 40th high school class reunion. It has been ten years since I attended a reunion. At the time of my 30th class reunion—summer of 2013—I was with Julia and Mike Mirsberger, and Joe and Nancy Matthews in South Dakota doing work with the Lakota people, helping them to prepare for the winter that was to come.

At the time of my 35th class reunion, I did not attend. I found out about the reunion after it took place. Since I don't "do" Facebook and I don't receive a newspaper from my hometown (they don't have a newspaper anymore, actually) I missed the notification that the reunion was coming up. My friend, Sue, asked me later why I had not gone to the class reunion. I told her that I had not known when it was going to be.

So, this time, for our 40th high school class reunion, Sue sent me a letter way back in July. She had seen the announcement on Facebook. Sue checks in on Facebook from time to time, because she has adult children and young grandchildren to catch up with. Sue printed a paper copy of the Facebook announcement and included a personal note. "Hi Kathy, I hope all is well with you! Just wanted to let you know about the class reunion. I am planning on going. Hope to see you there! Love, Sue."

I did attend my 25th class reunion. I had married Howie three years before that, and he—being a supportive husband and a good sport—went to the reunion with me. He had not gone to any of his high school class reunions, he didn't see the point of it because he had not kept in touch with anyone from his high school years.


This is the first reunion that I will be attending since his death last year. Ironically, our class reunion is being held at one of the funeral homes in Waupun. Several years ago, the funeral home added a dining/meeting room to their building so that they could host luncheons after funeral services. Most churches do not host funeral luncheons any longer, so some funeral homes have made it a part of their services.

Since the new room was added, I have been to three funeral luncheons in it—my father (in 2018), my aunt (just one week after Dad), and my mother (last December). Each of those luncheons were bittersweet, for despite the grief, it was good to see friends and relatives I hadn't seen for so long, and it was good to share memories. I hope some of my classmates will remember me, and that I will remember them. At least we will have good cake, I am springing for the O and H Danish Layer Cake. May all the reunions and remembrances of your life remind you of love and laughter, and may you always have good cake!



October Birthdays	
1	Jeff Rossi
5	Karen McKenzie
23	Peggy Gallo
27	Jennifer Rossi
October Anniversaries	
10	Brent & Stephanie Christenson
24	Dino & Christine Sturino
26	Donald & Patti Stolfi

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



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

Scripture Readings	
October 1 <i>Communion</i>	Exodus 17: 1-7 Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
October 8	Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46
October 15	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14
October 22	Exodus 33: 12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22:15-22
October 29	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22:34-46



Sunday		
	Liturgist	Altar Flowers
October 1	NONE	Swartz Family
October 8	NONE	Phyllis Borger
October 15	NONE	NONE
October 22	NONE	NONE
October 29	NONE	NONE



There are five Sundays in the month of October, which means we will be serving the evening meal at the Shalom Center on **Sunday, October 29th**. If you have never participated in this mission opportunity, why not give it a try? Talk to someone who has and find out what's involved. Those who have served find it a meaningful experience. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex during the month.



We are always in need of **KID'S CEREAL** for the Food Pantry. If you are unable to shop and you would like to make a donation you can do so by putting it in the offering plate on Sunday mornings or mail a check to the church and mark on it **FOOD PANTRY**. During the past few months, we have been having more families come in asking for help.

THANK YOU

Bonnie Curnes, Project Manager

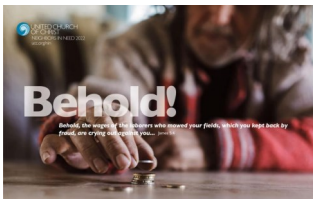


The Men's Breakfast group will be meeting on **Saturday, October 21st** at **8:30 am**. They will gather at the **Phoenix Restaurant, 12440 75th St, Kenosha** located west of I94 on the north side of Hwy 50 at the West Frontage Road intersection.



Breakfast & Books (B & B)

On **November 4th** it will be our last gathering in 2023 for B & B (Breakfast & Books). We will meet at the church at **9:30 am** to discuss the book "**A Prayer for Owen Meany**" by **John Irving**. Pastor Kathy will lead the discussion and Shirley Mandernack will furnish the pastry. Coffee will be provided. Also, on this day we will be choosing the selections of books for 2024, so bring some suggestions with you. If you have any questions, contact Bonnie Curnes at 262-654-1612.



NEIGHBORS IN NEED

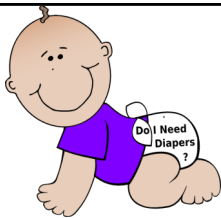
The **Neighbors in Need Offering (NIN)** is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ (UCC) that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy, efforts, and direct service projects through grants. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

We will be collect the NIN offering on **Sunday, October 1st** as part of World Communion Sunday observance.



During the summer months, Dick & Pat Swartz, Martha

Swartz, and Char Laba spent time in taking care of the church property with weeding, spraying weed killer, and trimming bushes/trees. It is greatly appreciated by the Property Committee. Also thank you to Doug Coleman for picking up and hauling away branches and twigs.



On September 13, 2016, our church started the **Diaper Ministry Program** and this year we will begin 7 years of helping families who are

struggling in this economy. Cost of diapers have increased almost double since we began this program. Over the years we have helped 218 families, 325 kids, and given away over 58,000 diapers. If you would like to help with the Diaper Ministry, make your check payable to **Somers United Church of Christ** and mark on it "**Diaper Ministry**". Your support over time with both of these programs has been greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Curnes at 262-654-1612.



Stewardship
a way of life

Just a reminder that our annual Stewardship Sunday will be here soon. Please take a little time to reflect on how you are able to best share your particular gifts in 2024.



School Supplies Update

Members of the Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who donated school supplies these past few weeks. The items were taken to the Boys & Girls Club, and they were very grateful to receive them.

Here is what was collected:

- Backpacks—34
- Back bags —2
- Back to School Kit —1
- Packages of Construction Paper —2
- Spiral notebooks—17
- Folders — 61
- Loose leaf paper — 9 packages
- Erasers—1 package of 6
- Colored pencils — 6 packages of 12
- Glue Bottles —4
- Glue sticks—8
- Crayons — 14 packages of 24
- Pencils — 11 packages
- Highlighters—4
- Washable markers—2
- Rulers — 9
- Dry Erase Markers —3
- Pens—2 packs of Ball point pens
- Pencil Pouches — 3




October



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Neighbors in Need 10:00 AM Worship	2	2:00 pm—5:00 pm Diaper Ministry	4	5	6	7
8 10:00 AM Worship	9	2:00 pm—5:00 pm Diaper Ministry	11	12	13	14
15 10:00 AM Worship	16	2:00 pm—5:00 pm Diaper Ministry	18	19	20	8:30 am Men's Breakfast at Phoenix Restaurant
22 10:00 AM Worship	23	2:00 pm—5:00 pm Diaper Ministry	25	26	27	28
29 10:00 AM Worship Shalom Center	30	2:00 pm—5:00 pm Diaper Ministry			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Dates and times are subject to change, call the church or check the website for updates. </div>	