

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.



January 2024



Somers Community UCC

9918 - 12th Street

PO Box 183

Somers, WI 53171

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Ph: 262-859-2540

Email:

somersucc@gmail.com

Visit us on the web at:

somerschurch.org

And on Facebook

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Pastor Kathleen Gloff

Ph: 920-418-1600

Administrative
Associate

Barbara Sherman

Moderator

Dennis Curnes

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Church Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday

9:00pm - 3:00 pm



can do today.”

Most people that I know no longer make New Year’s Resolutions. I do not like to make them either. Most resolutions have to do with replacing a bad habit with a good one. It does not take all that long to realize that life isn’t as simple as substituting one thing for another. “I can get to that later” is one of the deadliest sentences for making good habits and breaking harmful habits. I guess there is some wisdom to the adage: “Never put off until tomorrow what you can do today.”

My older brother would be laughing hysterically if he were reading this. He lives that adage naturally. He takes after our dad, who had most of his work done on most days before some of the rest of us even got out of bed in the morning. Generally, when my brother and I are coordinating our schedules, he likes to do things about two hours earlier in the day than I do. I take after mom, she felt that there was always time to do something that was truly important, and if it was truly important...she would find the time, either now or later.


Having declared my own personal preference not to make New Year’s Resolutions, I need to—for the sake of complete honesty—admit that I do spend time every first or second of January pondering my intentions for the year ahead. “Aren’t resolutions and intentions the same thing?” you may be asking. I believe that they are slightly different. In the twelfth chapter of the book of Romans, the Apostle Paul proclaims these are the marks of a true Christian: ***“Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.”***

Up until this point in the Apostle Paul’s writing, I might be willing to call all of the above “resolution”. A Christian could resolve to do these things. But in the next verse, Paul reminds us that we live our lives in relationship to others. In that verse (Romans 12:18) Paul says: “If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.” Paul is right; not everything that happens depends on me alone, but I am primarily responsible for the way that I react to everything that happens. If I make up my mind and heart to be responsible for my responses...I will be much closer to living the life of a True Christian as Paul has described it. That is what I intend to do in 2024. Happy New Year!

# JANUARY

| January Birthdays     |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 5                     | Marie Christenson      |
| 16                    | Lukas Rossi            |
| 2                     | Richard Swartz         |
| 23                    | Janet Kurz             |
| 27                    | Char Laba              |
| 31                    | Jack Adams             |
| January Anniversaries |                        |
| 13                    | Richard & Barb Flocker |

*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                   |                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>January 7</b><br><i>Communion</i> | Genesis 1: 1-5<br>Psalm 29<br>Acts 19: 1-7<br>Mark 1: 4-11                                   |
| <b>January 14</b>                    | 1 Samuel 3: 1-10 (11-20)<br>Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18<br>1 Corinthians 6: 12-20<br>John 1: 43-51 |
| <b>January 21</b>                    | Jonah 3: 1-5, 10<br>Psalm 62: 5-12<br>1 Corinthians 7: 29-31<br>Mark 1: 14-20                |
| <b>January 28</b>                    | Deuteronomy 18: 15-20<br>Psalm 111<br>1 Corinthians 8: 1-13<br>Mark 1: 21-28                 |



| Sunday            |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
|                   | Altar Flowers |
| <b>January 7</b>  | NONE          |
| <b>January 14</b> | NONE          |
| <b>January 21</b> | NONE          |
| <b>January 28</b> | NONE          |

**WE'RE CLOSED Due to Weather** 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.



## ANNUAL Report

### 2023 Annual Reports

If you have any reports for the 2023 Annual Report booklet, get them to the church office by **Sunday, January 7th.**



The Men's Breakfast group will be meeting on **Saturday, January 20th at 8:30 am.** They will gather at the **Phoenix Restaurant, 12440**

**75th St, Kenosha** located west of I-94 on the north side of Hwy 50 at the West Frontage Road Intersection. Hope you will join us.



Our Food Pantry/ Diaper Ministry is in need of **KID'S CEREAL and**

**TOILET PAPER.** Since we have begun the Diaper Ministry the price of diapers has tripled in price so \$\$ donation would be appreciated so we can continue buying diapers for those families who need our help. Just make a check payable to **Somers United Church of Christ: Attn: Diaper Ministry.** No one has ever become poor by giving.

*THANK YOU*

Bonnie Curnes, Project Manager



### Breakfast & Books (B & B)

On **January 27th**, B & B (Breakfast & Books) will begin its 20th year. We will meet in the Memorial Lounge at **9:30 am** to discuss the book **"Looking for Jane"** by **Heather Marshall.** Jennifer Swartz will be leading the discussion and Debbie Radovanovic will furnish the pastry. Coffee will be provided. If you will be coming, please sign your name to the sheet that will be available on the cart in the Narthex beginning January 7th. If you have any questions, see Bonnie Curnes. **(If the weather is bad on this day, we will then meet on February 3rd.)**



This year's ANNUAL MEETING will be held after the worship service on **Sunday, February 4th.** If we have to cancel due to weather conditions, it will be held on *Sunday, February 11th.* Hope to see you there!!

### 30th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Monday, January 15, 2024 - 12-1 p.m.

Haribo Hall - Madrigano Conference Center

Gateway Technical College Kenosha Campus



Each year, Gateway hosts its annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration to remember Dr. King's legacy and honor community members who keep his spirit alive by giving back.

Join us for our 30th annual celebration on January 15, 2024. Check Gateway Technical College website for further event details.



# January



| Sun                                       | Mon                                  | Tue                                       | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                           | 1 <i>New Year's Day</i>              | 2<br><br>2:00 PM—5:00 PM Diaper Ministry  | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6                                                            |
| 7 <i>Communion</i><br>10:00 AM<br>Worship | 8                                    | 9<br><br>2:00 PM—5:00 PM Diaper Ministry  | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13                                                           |
| 14<br>10:00 AM<br>Worship                 | 15 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i> | 16<br><br>2:00 PM—5:00 PM Diaper Ministry | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20<br>8:30 am Men's<br>Breakfast at<br>Phoenix<br>Restaurant |
| 21<br>10:00 AM<br>Worship                 | 22                                   | 23<br><br>2:00 PM—5:00 PM Diaper Ministry | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27<br>9:30 AM<br>Breakfast &<br>Books                        |
| 28<br>10:00 AM<br>Worship                 | 29                                   | 30<br><br>2:00 PM—5:00 PM Diaper Ministry | 31  |     |     |                                                              |