

# 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.



April 2024



Somers Community UCC

9918 - 12th Street

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Somers, WI 53171

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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



The roofs are shining from the rain, the sparrows twitter as they fly,  
And with a windy April grace the little clouds go by.  
Yet the backyards are bare and brown with only one  
unchanging tree—

I could not be so sure of Spring save that it sings in me.

--Sara Teasdale

In February and March, I took a training course in work as a Certified Peer Specialist in the state of Wisconsin. A CPS meets with people one on one to support them as they live with the challenges of mental health and substance use and abuse. I am proud and happy to be your pastor, and I hope to be your pastor until I retire—many years from now.

For a congregation of our size, it is necessary for me to work part-time outside of the  $\frac{3}{4}$  time covenant that I have with you. After I pass my certification exam in May (hopefully!), I will begin working part-time as a CPS either for an outpatient mental health center, the county or state.


A CPS is someone in the mental health field who has lived experience. I have been treated for Clinical Depression since I was in my 30s, so I know firsthand what it is like to feel depression that goes deeper than “the blues” and to continue living a productive life despite of the depression. A CPS provides Trauma-Informed, Person-Centered support to their peer. Trauma-informed means that because I have “walked in a person’s shoes”, I have empathy for what they may be living through. Person-Centered means that I focus on the strengths of the peer with whom I am working. They are not “an addict” to me...they are a **person** living with addiction. Each of us is a whole lot more than the illnesses and diseases that we have.

The word that has stuck with me from my training course is Resilience. Resilience is that little voice inside of us that helps us to get up and get going once again after life has knocked us down. It is often easier to find your own resilience when you have talked with someone who is in touch with their resilience. Spring is a season of the year...but it is also a state of mind. When it looks like Spring all around you...but your heart still feels like Winter—listen to that timid voice singing inside of you. It is the song of your resilience!



| April Birthdays     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 8                   | Bonnie Adams          |
| 8                   | Joseph Gallo          |
| 21                  | Bonnie Curnes         |
| 23                  | Ronald Birchell Sr    |
| April Anniversaries |                       |
| 15                  | Jeff & Jennifer Rossi |


*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

| Scripture Readings                 |                                                                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>April 7</b><br><i>Communion</i> | Acts 4: 32-35<br>Psalm 133<br>1 John 1: 1-2:2<br>John 20: 19-31    |
| <b>April 14</b>                    | Acts 3: 12-19<br>Psalm 4<br>1 John 3: 1-7<br>Luke 24: 36b—48       |
| <b>April 21</b>                    | Acts 4: 5-12<br>Psalm 23<br>1 John 3: 16-24<br>John 10:11-18       |
| <b>April 28</b>                    | Acts 8: 26-40<br>Psalm 22: 25-31<br>1 John 4: 7-21<br>John 15: 1-8 |



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





Our Food Pantry/ Diaper Ministry is in need of **KID'S CEREAL, PAPER TOWELS, and TOILET PAPER.** 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



The Men's Breakfast group will be meeting on **Saturday, April 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.



Since Beth Hillel Temple is serving the meal at the Shalom Center on Easter night for our benefit, we will be serving the evening meal at the **Shalom Center** on **Tuesday, April 23rd** as they observe the first night of Passover. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex; serve with us if you haven't done so yet.



## **Breakfast & Books (B & B)**

The next time B & B (Breakfast & Books) will be getting together is **May 18th** at **9:30 am** in the Memorial Lounge. We will be discussing the book **"Once We Were Sisters: A Memoir"** by **Sheila Kohler**. Jane Fahey will lead the discussion and Jennifer Swartz will furnish the pastry. Coffee will be provided. A sign-up sheet will be on the cart in the Narthex. Any questions contact Bonnie Curnes at 262-654-1612 or email her at [bonniecurnes@wi.rr.com](mailto:bonniecurnes@wi.rr.com).



## **Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)**

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) is the name we use to describe the work we do as the United Church of Christ beyond the local church – through our Conferences, national ministries, and UCC-related institutions. OCWM is also the name we give to the financial support given by UCC members and congregations that makes this broader mission possible. In the United Church of Christ, we affirm that, although the congregation is the fundamental unit of mission, mission is not just local. We are connected to one another, across boundaries of neighborhood, class, race, and national border.



OCWM, has two parts: Basic Support and Four Special Mission Offerings. OCWM can be compared to a human hand. Basic Support is like a our thumb, crucial to the flexibility and dexterity of our hand. The four special mission offerings are like our fingers, helping us reach out. Together, OCWM Basic Support and the Four Mission Offerings allow us to reach out to impact the lives of our neighbors, near and far.

OCWM Basic Support provides funding for the work of UCC Conferences and for the work of the UCC's national ministries. Each congregation decides how much of its members' financial support it will contribute to OCWM Basic Support. Congregations send their OCWM gifts to the Conference. Each Conference then decides what percentage of those gifts to keep for the work within that particular Conference, and what percentage it will send to the national setting of the UCC. Some of the National Basic Support money is used for ministries to Conferences, local churches and members, as well as for ecumenical, prophetic and missionary ministries on behalf of the UCC. Contributions from individuals to their congregations comprise the funds from which OCWM Basic Support is given to the Conferences and national ministries.



| Sun                                                  | Mon | Tue                                                                                           | Wed | Thu | Fri                                                                                                                                                                                           | Sat                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                      | 1   | 2<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry                                            | 3   | 4   | 5                                                                                                                                                                                             | 6                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>7 Communion</b><br><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship | 8   | 9<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry                                            | 10  | 11  | 12                                                                                                                                                                                            | 13                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>14</b><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship              | 15  | 16<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry                                           | 17  | 18  | 19                                                                                                                                                                                            | 20<br><br><b>8:30 am</b> Men's<br>Breakfast at<br>Phoenix<br>Restaurant                                                               |
| <b>21</b><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship              | 22  | 23<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry<br><br>Serving at<br><b>Shalom Center</b> | 24  | 25  | 26                                                                                                                                                                                            | 27<br><br><b>9:00 am—2:30 pm</b> Southeast &<br>Southwest UCC<br>Association<br>Annual at 1st<br>Congregational<br>UCC,<br>Oconomowoc |
| <b>28</b><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship              | 29  | 30<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry                                           |     |     | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <b>Dates and times are subject to change, call the church or check the website for updates.</b> </div> |                                                                                                                                       |