

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.



May 2025



Somers Community UCC

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Pastor Kathleen Gloff

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**Administrative
Associate**

Barbara Sherman

Moderator

Dennis Curnes

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Church Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday

9:00pm - 3:00 pm



*May the road rise to meet you.*

*May the wind be always at your back.*

*May the sun shine warm upon your face;*

*May the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,*

*may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

You have more than likely encountered this Celtic Blessing before. It is a simple yet eloquent expression of providence, protection, and productivity. The word “may” as it is used here, is classified as a modal verb. According to the Cambridge Dictionary it has several meanings: it can be used to express possibility; it can be used to ask or give permission; it can be used to introduce a wish or a hope. The word May can also be a proper noun. As a proper noun, it is the 5<sup>th</sup> month of our calendar.

During this month, let May wear two hats. Let May not only be the month in which you are currently living, but let it also be the possibilities, permissions, wishes, and hopes that surround us and make themselves known to us.

People who spend their time seeing to the mental health of themselves and others are telling us that more people are more anxious and more depressed now than ever before. They believe that there are numerous reasons for these mental health challenges. Raffael Warnock—who is both a senator and a pastor—has observed that we never really stopped to mourn all that we truly lost because of the COVID 19 Pandemic. Over 1 million Americans died of COVID 19. As Warnock rightly observed “That is a lot of empty chairs at the table...” Others are worried about their finances amid fluctuating markets and tariffs. Still others are feeling overwhelmed by personal distractions and downturns in their lives. There is plenty about which to feel anxious and depressed.

But can we allow May to be the time we may be kinder and gentler with ourselves and others? Can we allow May to be the time we may find unity and strength amid diverse attitudes and opinions? Can we allow May to be the time we may dream of a better future...not just for ourselves, but for generations after us whom we will never meet?

May you find what you are needing to find...

May you leave behind what you are needing to leave behind...

May the love of God surround you like the Spring sun and wind and rain...




| May Birthdays     |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 2                 | Doug Coleman             |
| 3                 | Lynette Ingham           |
| 8                 | Brynn Rossi              |
| 11                | Timothy Rossi            |
| 23                | Kristin Armstrong        |
| 26                | Deborah Radovanovic      |
| 27                | Joseph Laba              |
| 28                | Richard Glasenapp        |
| 29                | Martha Swartz            |
| May Anniversaries |                          |
| 4                 | Todd & Kristin Armstrong |

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

| Sunday |               |
|--------|---------------|
|        | Altar Flowers |
| May 4  | DOUG COLEMAN  |
| May 11 | NONE          |
| May 18 | NONE          |
| May 25 | MARTHA SWARTZ |





If you would like to mail your offering:

Somers United Church of Christ

PO Box 183

Somers WI 53171

| Scripture Readings                                                |                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>May 4</b><br><i>Communion</i>                                  | Acts 9: 1-6 (7-20)<br>Psalm 30<br>Revelation 5: 11-14<br>John 21: 1-19              |
| <b>May 11</b><br><i>Mother's Day</i><br><i>CWS Blanket Sunday</i> | Acts 9: 36-43<br>Psalm 23<br>Revelation 7: 9-17<br>John 10: 22-30                   |
| <b>May 18</b>                                                     | Acts 11: 1-18<br>Psalm 148<br>Revelation 21: 1-6<br>John 13: 31-35                  |
| <b>May 25</b>                                                     | Acts 16: 9-15<br>Psalm 67<br>Revelation 21: 10, 22– 22:5<br>John 14: 23-29 or 5:1-9 |



## Shalom Center Update

On Sunday, March 30th, our church served approximately 67 people (including 20 children) at the Shalom Center Soup Kitchen. Jennifer Swartz made delicious minestrone soup. The following helped serve the meal: Char Laba, Pastor Kathleen Gloff, Stephanie Christenson, Terra Newhouse, Lynn Ingham, Jennifer Swartz and Steve Liton. We provided salad, fruit, and cookies. Thank you to all. Our next date to serve is Sunday, June 29th.

## Announcements



The **Men's Breakfast** group will be meeting on **Saturday, May 17th 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.



We are always in need of **KID'S CEREAL, TOILET PAPER, and PAPER TOWELS**. In the past few months, we have seen more food being given to families and some senior citizens at our food pantry. \$\$\$ money donations are always welcome, and we will do the shopping for you. Just send or put a check in the offering plate and mark on it "**Food Pantry**". Thank you for your help.  
Bonnie Curnes, Project Manager



Do you have any **Graduates** in your family that you would like to recognize? If so, please give their names to the Church Office, and we will print their names here in the newsletter next month. Traditionally we print the names of anyone graduating from day care up through PhD!!!



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

B & B (Breakfast & Books) next gathering will take place on **Saturday, May 17th** in the Memorial Lounge at **9:30 am**.

Norene Charon will lead the discussion on the book "Mercy House" by Alena Dillon and Pastor Kathy will furnish the pastry and coffee will be provided. At the end of April a signup sheet will be provided in the Narthex for those who will be attending. Any questions see Bonnie Curnes (262-654-1612). Hope you will join us.



### **CWS (Church World Service) Blankets: Sunday, May 11th**

#### ***"Blanket the World with Love"***

In 2024, CWS provided 27,275 blankets to families impacted by hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding and other crises (including homelessness and poverty). You can show God's love and provide hope to your neighbors in need. On **May 11th (Mother's Day)**, we will be collecting funds to support Church World Services (CWS) blankets to those in need. Each blanket costs \$10, but can be a vital resource for someone needing a little support, warmth and encouragement. Share this love by providing CWS Blankets to those in need.  
*"And when we take your gifts to those in need of them, they will thank God." (2 Corinthians 9: 14)*



| Sun                                                                                                          | Mon                    | Tue                                                 | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div> <b>Dates and times are subject to change, call the church or check the website for updates.</b> </div> |                        |                                                     |     | 1   | 2   | 3                                                                                                             |
| <b>4 Communion</b><br><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship                                                         | 5                      | 6<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry  | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10                                                                                                            |
| <b>11 Mother's Day</b><br><b>CWS Blanket Sunday</b><br><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship                        | 12                     | 13<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17<br><b>8:30 am</b> Men's<br>Breakfast at<br>Phoenix<br>Restaurant<br><b>9:30 AM</b><br>Breakfast &<br>Books |
| 18<br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship                                                                             | 19                     | 20<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24                                                                                                            |
| 25<br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship                                                                             | 26 <b>Memorial Day</b> | 27<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31                                                                                                            |