

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.



June 2025



Somers Community UCC

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Somers, WI 53171

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And on Facebook

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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



The 24<sup>th</sup> of June is the Feast of St. John. There were many different men named John in the New Testament of the Bible. There was John, the disciple who was one of the three disciples in the inner circle of Jesus (Peter and James, John's brother, were the other two). In the Gospel of John, John is consistently referred to as "the one whom Jesus loved". I always thought that was egotistical, but it does explain why John is lying against Jesus in Rembrandt's masterpiece "The Last Supper". It is unlikely that the author of I John, II John, and III John is the same author who wrote the Gospel of John, for the letters were written significantly later than the gospel, which was written around 100 CE. There is also John of Patmos, who wrote the last book of the New Testament—Revelation. He is not the religious figure for whom the Feast of St. John is named either.

The Feast of St. John is named for John the Baptist, and unlike other feast days for saints, the Feast of St. John is in honor of the birth of John the Baptist...not his death. (The only other saint whose birthday is honored as a feast day is Mary, the mother of Jesus.)

The 24<sup>th</sup> of June is also the Summer Solstice, which is the longest day of the entire year. After June 24<sup>th</sup>, the minutes and hours of daylight will slowly decrease until the Winter Solstice in December. At the start of the ministry of John the Baptist he said of his relationship to Jesus: "He must increase, and I must decrease..." So, nature reminds us that the light of St. John steadily decreases. Because we celebrate the birth of Jesus so promptly after the Winter Solstice, the light of Jesus is increasing steadily after his birth on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Before Christianity, Pagans celebrated the Summer Solstice by lighting bonfires. It was believed that evil spirits and witches were more active at the solstice, so bonfires were lit to scare these evil creatures away. Christian tradition continues to honor the Feast of St. John with bonfires; their bonfires are in honor of St. John the Baptist being the light that bore witness to the "One True Light" Jesus Christ.

I am hoping that it is not raining on the 24<sup>th</sup> of this month, for I intend to light a fire in the fire pit of my back yard, reminding myself to bear witness to the "One True Light" just like John the Baptist did. There may even be s'mores involved...one never knows!




| June Birthdays     |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 11                 | Cathy Rossi               |
| 12                 | Mary Rossi                |
| 13                 | Patti Stolfi              |
| 25                 | Norene Charon             |
| June Anniversaries |                           |
| 3                  | Char & Joe Laba           |
| 12                 | Richard & Patricia Swartz |


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

| Sunday |               |
|--------|---------------|
|        | Altar Flowers |
| Jun 1  | NONE          |

| Scripture Readings                                                |                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>June 1</b><br><i>Communion</i>                                 | Acts 16: 16-34<br>Psalm 97<br>Revelation 22:12-14,16-17, 20-21<br>John 17: 20-26              |
| <b>June 8</b><br><i>Pentecost</i><br><i>Strengthen the Church</i> | Acts 2: 1-21<br>Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b<br>Romans 8: 14-17<br>John 14: 8-17 (25-27)             |
| <b>June 15</b><br><i>Father's Day</i>                             | Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31<br>Psalm 8<br>Romans 5: 1-5<br>John 16: 12-15                          |
| <b>June 22</b>                                                    | 1 Kings 19: 1-4, (5-7), 8-15a<br>Psalm 42 & 43<br>Galatians 3: 23-29<br>Luke 8: 26-39         |
| <b>June 29</b><br><i>Shalom Center</i>                            | 2 Kings 2: 1-2, 6-14<br>Psalm 77: 1-2, 11-20<br>Galatians 5: 1, 13-25<br>Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20 |



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



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



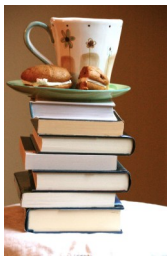
## Announcements



### Summer Worship

Worship for the summer months will continue at **10:00 am** on **Sunday, June 1st**.

The First Sunday of each month we will be in the sanctuary for communion. The rest of the month we plan to worship outdoors in the Pavilion, weather permitting. Just remember the mornings can be a bit cool, so don't forget to bring a sweater, and some bring a blanket to put on the benches to make sitting more comfortable.



### Breakfast & Books (B & B)

Breakfast & Books (B & B) will gather on **Saturday, July 26th** in the Memorial Lounge at **9:30 am**.

The book we chose is **"The Berry Pickers"** by **Amanda Peters**, and Pauline Lorenz will lead the discussion. Norene Charon will furnish the pastry, and coffee will be provided. Any questions see Bonnie Curnes (262-654-1612). Hope you will join us.



The **Men's Breakfast** group will be meeting on **Saturday, June 21st** 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.



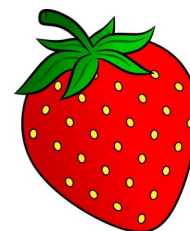
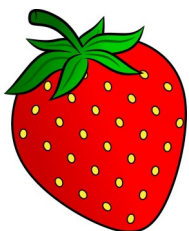
There are five Sundays in the month of June, which means we will be serving the evening meal at the Shalom Center on **Sunday, June 29th**. If you have never participated in this mission opportunity, why not give it a try? Talk to someone who has and find out what's involved. Those who have served find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



### Strengthen the Church (STC)

**Sunday, June 8th**

The Strengthen the Church (STC) offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. The 2025 theme for STC is "Great and Wide." This phase, from Psalm 104, represents the diverse and playful nature of the multitude of ministries the offering supports.



| Sun                                                                                 | Mon | Tue                                                 | Wed | Thu | Fri                                                                                                          | Sat                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1 Communion</b><br><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship                                | 2   | 3<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry  | 4   | 5   | 6<br><br><div> <b>Wisconsin UCC Annual Conference June 6th—7th at Green Lake</b> </div>                      | 7                                               |
| <b>8 Pentecost Sunday / Strengthen the Church</b><br><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship | 9   | 10<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry | 11  | 12  | 13                                                                                                           | 14                                              |
| <b>15 Father's Day</b><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship                                | 16  | 17<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry | 18  | 19  | 20<br><br><b>5:30 pm—8:00 pm</b><br>Piano Recital                                                            | 21<br><b>8:30 am</b> Men's Breakfast at Phoenix |
| <b>22</b><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship                                             | 23  | 24<br><br><b>2:00 pm—5:00 pm</b><br>Diaper Ministry | 25  | 26  | 27                                                                                                           | 28                                              |
| <b>29</b><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship<br><br><b>Shalom Center</b>                 | 30  |                                                     |     |     | <div> <b>Dates and times are subject to change, call the church or check the website for updates.</b> </div> |                                                 |