

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.



March 2026



Somers Community UCC

9918 - 12th Street

PO Box 183

Somers, WI 53171

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Visit us on the web at:

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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



Dear Members and Friends,

I am using this space this month to tell you about a special gathering that will take place after worship on March 15<sup>th</sup>. We will be meeting with members of **The Southern Region Support Team of the Wisconsin Conference UCC.**

There are 74 congregations of the Southern Region of the Wisconsin Conference UCC (we are one of the 74).

**The Southern Region Support Team** has a goal to meet with every congregation over the next 18 months. During a 60-75 minute visit, a representative from the Regional Support Team and a member of the Conference Board will meet with the pastor and congregation to explore:

***What is giving your congregation life and energy right now***

***Where you are experiencing challenge, uncertainty or transition***

***How your sense of mission is taking shape in your community***

***What kinds of relationships, resources, or support would strengthen your congregation's long-term sustainability***

They have asked us to consider the following questions before we meet together after worship on March 15<sup>th</sup>:

- 1. What couple of things have recently made your congregation come alive?**
- 2. What do you see as your primary mission in your community? Is there a story you would like to share that illuminates this?**
- 3. How are you as congregation and pastor caring for one another and showing support to one another?**
- 4. What would a relationship of mutual support look like between your congregation and the wider Conference?**
- 5. How are you engaged/connected with other congregations (UCC, ecumenical, interfaith) in your area?**
- 6. What type of ministry resources would most benefit your congregation that our Conference might be able to provide going forward?**
- 7. What ministry resources do you have that you would like to share with others?**

Please join us for this special meeting as we strengthen our connections with the Wisconsin Conference UCC, of which we are an active part.

Your input is important to our life together...

Thanks,

Pastor Kathy



### March Birthdays

|    |                 |
|----|-----------------|
| 9  | Susan Goldsmith |
| 11 | Thomas Rossi    |
| 21 | Barbara Dinges  |
| 21 | Jack Swartz     |
| 25 | Dennis Curnes   |

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

### Sunday

#### Altar Flowers

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| March 1  | LENT        |
| March 8  | LENT        |
| March 15 | LENT        |
| March 22 | LENT        |
| March 29 | PALM SUNDAY |

### Scripture Readings

|                                                               |                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>March 1</b><br><i>Communion</i>                            | Genesis 12: 1-4a<br>Psalm 121<br>Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17<br>John 3: 1-17              |
| <b>March 8</b><br><b>Turn Clocks Ahead</b>                    | Exodus 17: 1-7<br>Psalm 95<br>Romans 5: 1-11<br>John 4: 5-42                       |
| <b>March 15</b><br><i>One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)</i>    | 1 Samuel 16: 1-13<br>Psalm 23<br>Ephesians 5: 8-14<br>John 9: 1-41                 |
| <b>March 22</b>                                               | Ezekiel 37: 1-14<br>Psalms 130<br>Romans 8: 6-11<br>John 11: 1-45                  |
| <b>March 29</b><br><i>Palm Sunday</i><br><i>Shalom Center</i> | Isaiah 50: 4-9a<br>Psalms 31: 9-16<br>Philippians 2: 5-11<br>Matthew 26: 14- 27:66 |



**Don't forget to set your clocks ahead on Sunday, March 8th.**



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



Kent Duesing  
2851 Fitchrona Rd Apt 345  
Fitchburg WI 53719

Eugene & Eleanor Thompson  
5060 Green Bay Road # 143  
Kenosha WI 53144



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.

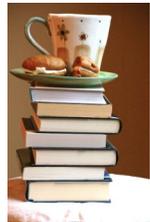


Thank you to Caryl Krellwitz for initiating the donation of paper towels and toilet paper from Uline. Words cannot express how much this donation means in helping our Diaper Ministry.  
Thanks again!

## Announcements



There are five Sundays in the month of March, which means we will be serving the evening meal at the Shalom Center on **Sunday, March 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.



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

On March 28th, B & B (Breakfast & Books) will meet at 9:30 am in the Memorial Lounge.

The book we have chosen is "**Stories from a Stranger: Every person has a story**" by **Hunter Prosper** with Pastor Kathy leading the discussion. Tami F. has offered to bring the goodies for all to enjoy, and coffee will be provided. The first of March there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to let us know if you will or will not be attending. Any questions or concerns contact Bonnie.



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



### **DIAPER MINISTRY**

Grace Lutheran Church was the other church in Kenosha who gave diapers away, but they have closed their doors and are no longer in business. There are only a few places in the Kenosha area where families can go to get diapers and food, and our church is one of them. I am putting out a plea to **anyone** who would like to donate money or purchase diapers (size 5 & 6) which is the size that we go through the most. If you can donate money please specify that it is for the diaper ministry. In the month of January, we gained 30 new families. If you have any questions, please contact me.

-Bonnie Curnes, Project Manager



### **One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday, March 15th**

**One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response and recovery networks, your contributions to OGHS put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable.



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## 2025 Moderator's Report

(This report was presented at the 2026 Annual Meeting)

Every year I write and publish a Moderator's Report in the Annual Report. This year I did not do this. This year I wanted to talk to you in person at our annual meeting. When I write this report I always tell you how much I appreciate each and every one of you for what you do for me during the year. I tell you how much I enjoy being your Moderator and I tell you how we have done during the year. Well, None of this has changed. I still want to say thank you that it has never changed, I still love what I do for this church as Moderator, and everything else. We have done pretty well in the past year for what we have to work with. The reason that I really wanted to talk to you this year is that I am not getting any younger and I need some help from you, that is, and will be very important to this church congregation.

To start with, I am not only your Moderator, but I am the Treasurer who gets to pay all the bill of the church, with access to the General Fund and the Church Checkbook. I pay 99% of the bills through the bank with just a transfer. I am also the Property Manager in charge of all our property and maintenance of all our building facilities and property maintenance. Lawn mowing, etc. I usually hire all items out except for the items that some of our members volunteer to take care of for me. Thank You. I am the Foundation Chairman. This job entails maintaining, with the help of Chase Bank some of the money that past church members have left to the Church in the Somers United Church Foundation. I will give you all the details of all the money this church has in a little bit. Since the departure of Kent Duesing, he has left me to be the Pilgrim Heritage Chairman. This is an account held in the United Church Fund in New York. This fund was set up by some members of our congregation that wanted another fund to leave their estate to and to be able to help our church in the future. I am also in charge of all the Script card sales, ordering all the scrip and getting it to the members that desire this service. I am not going anywhere, that I know of, but one never knows and I would really like to have ideas on how we can solve this problem, that I see as a problem and at the same time get me some relief. I and Bonnie have been told numerous times that if anything every happens to us that this church will cease to exist. We do not want this to be the way it is or will be. We both love what we do for you and this church body, but we need some help doing it. Thus this is the reason for my plea! What I am looking for this morning to start with is: I need an Assistant Moderator, this person will assist me when required and may need to lead some meeting which aren't that many anymore. I would like someone to step up and take over the Treasurer Job. There's a job description of this job in your Annual Report (Newsletter). If there is another job that I mentioned and you think that you can assist, please speak up and let me know. My email is [dcurnes@wi.rr.com](mailto:dcurnes@wi.rr.com) or my phone (262) 914-4523. Call or email me anytime.

Dennis A. Curnes

## There's a job in our church if anyone would like it!!!

I am looking for a person or person's to take over the job of **Church Treasurer**, from me. The job Description is:

1. Record all money deposited by the Church Financial Secretary weekly.
2. Receive and pay all bills incurred by the church, either by check, direct deposit, or bank transfer.
3. Record and scan all transactions made. (I then shred the originals, because I have a copy of what was paid.)
4. Pay the Mid-Month and End of Month Salaries in the church through ADP. (ADP is a service hired to take care of paying all salaries, taking care of all the taxes, and report all to the IRS.) All you have to do is let ADP know how much and when to pay.
5. I usually pay the bills once per week unless there're none to pay or more often if something needs to be paid as soon as possible.
6. You would work with the Resources Committee for all transfers from Designated Funds, either in or out of the fund for some payments.
7. You would work with the Moderator in areas that involved the Pastors Salary, Health Insurance, Pension or Housing Allowance.
8. You would email a report to the Church Council members at the end of each month, letting them know where we stand financially.

Believe it or not, this is a very gratifying job. I will be honest with you, there are times when it can be stressful, but the people of the congregation and the people that you will work with will help immensely.

The church provides a laptop and a scanner for you to use for the job and I will Personally train the individual that calls me to accept the job.

So, if you think that you would like to have the job and have a little bit of time to spend doing it.

Call me at: (262) 914 – 4523 or email me at: [dcurnes@wi.rr.com](mailto:dcurnes@wi.rr.com)

Thanks, Dennis



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 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

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# ANNUAL MEETING

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Somers Community United Church of Christ  
Annual Meeting  
February 1, 2026

Present: (\*not a member)

|              |              |              |            |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Stephanie C. | Gloria C.    | Norene C.    | Doug C.    |
| Bonnie C.    | Dennis C.    | Jane F.      | Barb F.    |
| Rich G.      | Pastor Kathy | Anabelle K.* | John K.*   |
| Pauline K. * | Char L.      | Evan M.      | Mary R.    |
| Barbara S.*  | Martha S.    | Patricia S.  | Richard S. |

The meeting was called to order by Dennis C., Moderator, at 11:05 AM. Pastor Kathy gave the opening prayer. Rich G. made a motion to approve the Agenda for the Annual Meeting. Stephanie C. seconded the motion and approved. Jane F. made a motion to approve the slate of officers and committee members; we still need an Assistant Moderator. Mary R. seconded the motion and approved. Gloria C. made a motion to approve February 2, 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes. Doug C. seconded the motion and approved.

**2026 Proposed Budget:** Dennis presented the 2026 budget by sections – Property, Staff, Spiritual Life and Church Office. (The Pastor and Secretary left the meeting during Staff section.) The line item of the gas under the Property Section may need to be adjusted since the recent bill was larger than in the past years. Bonnie C. made a motion to accept the 2026 budget of \$116,008.80. Rich G. seconded the motion, and it was approved.

**Moderator Report:** Dennis C. didn't publish a Moderator Report this year and wanted to thank everyone for all they did. He needs help from the members since he is the Moderator, Treasurer, Property Manager, Scrip Cards, and Foundation Chairperson. If anyone is interested in being Assistant Moderator or Treasurer, please let him know.

Since the departure of Kent Duesing as Chair of Planned Giving Committee (Pilgram Heritage Fund) we need another authorized signer. This account is invested through the United Church Fund. Doug C. made a motion to have Rich G. a signer on the Pilgrim Heritage Fund. Jane F. seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

The Somers United Church and Community Foundation, Inc. was set up through Chase Bank. The interest from this account is put in a checkbook during the year. It was approved to move interest from this account to the Designated Account. Susan G. would be added as an authorized signer on this account.

It was mentioned we had over \$28,000 in Memorials, so if you know of something to use it for let the Council know. The sanctuary lights were recently done with Memorial money from the A & H Schlitz family.

**New Business:** Currently we have large and small print bulletins available. After discussion it was approved to do only large print bulletins. We discussed whether we should extend our Summer Outdoor Services. We will have the service outside in September depending on the weather.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 AM followed by the Lord's Prayer.  
Respectively submitted,  
Barbara Sherman, Clerk



# March



| Sun                                                                                                                                   | Mon | Tue                                       | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1 Communion</b><br><b>10:00 am</b><br>Worship                                                                                      | 2   | <b>2:00 PM—5:00 PM</b><br>Diaper Ministry | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7                                                                 |
| <b>8 Turn Clocks Ahead!</b><br><br><b>10:00 AM</b><br>Worship                                                                         | 9   | <b>2:00 PM—5:00 PM</b><br>Diaper Ministry | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14                                                                |
| <b>15 One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)</b><br><b>10:00 AM</b><br>Worship<br><b>11:00 AM</b><br>Southern Regional Support Team Meeting | 16  | <b>2:00 PM—5:00 PM</b><br>Diaper Ministry | 18  | 19  | 20  | <b>21</b><br><b>8:30 am</b> Men's Breakfast at Phoenix Restaurant |
| <b>22</b><br><b>10:00 AM</b><br>Worship                                                                                               | 23  | <b>2:00 PM—5:00 PM</b><br>Diaper Ministry | 25  | 26  | 27  | <b>28</b><br><br><b>9:30 AM</b><br>Breakfast & Books              |
| <b>29 Palm Sunday</b><br><b>10:00 AM</b><br>Worship<br><br><b>Shalom Center</b>                                                       | 30  | <b>2:00 PM—5:00 PM</b><br>Diaper Ministry |     |     |     |                                                                   |

Dates and times are subject to change, call the church or check the website for updates.