

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.



November 2024



This is the month that I turn 60. For many of you, 60 is in your rearview mirror, but I have been contemplating this milestone in my life for a while now as it approaches. In fact, it was last year that I read a book that helped me to think seriously about my life in its current state and about how the future may take shape. The book has an odd title, and I have told some of you about it already. The book is Hagitude: Reimagining the Second Half of Life, and it is written by Sharon Blackie. Here is a question Blackie asks in that book:

“What would it mean, instead of being an elderly woman, to be an elder woman? Because to be an elder implies something rather different—it implies authority: “a leader” or “senior figure” in a tribe or other group, says Lexico. According to Merriam-Webster, a person “having authority by virtue of age and experience.” The Cambridge Dictionary tells us it’s “an older person, especially one with a respected position in society.” So how do women transition from becoming elderly to becoming elder?”

I have been blessed in my days—especially my days as your pastor—to have had the mentoring of many incredible Elder Women. I have learned from many of **you who are reading this** what it means to be a woman who uses the authority that she has to make her life, and the lives of others, meaningful and beautiful. This has been one of the wondrous and unexpected gifts of ministering here. To me: to be an “elderly woman” is to be one who might fear what others will think or say if she speaks her mind and shares her insights. To be an “elder woman”, though is to know that there are others who are waiting for you to speak your mind and to share your insights...because your mind has been enriched by paying careful attention to your life and your insights have come to fruition from years of walking with and watching over others.

November is also the month in the life of the church universal in which we celebrate the saints. All Saints Day is November 1st. I am surrounded by my own personal female cloud of witness: my mom, my grandmas, my great-aunts, and my seminary professors Marilyn and Peggy. In addition to these “elder stateswomen” in my cloud of witnesses, I remember my dear friend Kathryn as well. Kathryn would have turned 55 on the 8th of this month but died too soon at the age of 50. She was an “Elder stateswoman” in personality if not in actual age...and I miss her still, but feel her wisdom teaching me.

Who are the women who make up your personal cloud of witnesses? Celebrate them this month.

Somers Community UCC

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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





| November Birthdays     |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 7                      | Brent Christenson     |
| 8                      | Terra Newhouse        |
| 18                     | Stephanie Christenson |
| 20                     | Pastor Kathy Gloff    |
| 29                     | Gloria Chubriilo      |
| 29                     | Julie Rossi           |
| 30                     | Carol Bishop          |
| November Anniversaries |                       |
| 14                     | Bryan & Chynna Chung  |

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

| Sunday |               |
|--------|---------------|
|        | Altar Flowers |
| Nov 3  | Swartz Family |
| Nov 10 | NONE          |
| Nov 17 | NONE          |
| Nov 24 | NONE          |



This year, the clocks fall back an hour on **Sunday, November 3rd**. It is also a great time to change the batteries in all your smoke alarms.

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.

| Scripture Readings                                          |                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Nov 3</b><br><i>Communion</i><br><i>Turn Clocks Back</i> | Ruth 1: 1-18<br>Psalm 146<br>Hebrews 9:11-14<br>Mark 12: 28 -34             |
| <b>Nov 10</b><br><i>Stewardship Sunday</i>                  | Ruth 3: 1-5; 4: 13-17<br>Psalm 127<br>Hebrews 9: 24-28<br>Mark 12: 38-44    |
| <b>Nov 17</b><br><i>Heritage Sunday</i>                     | 1 Samuel 1: 4-20<br>Psalm 16<br>Hebrews 10: 11-14, 19-25<br>Mark 13: 1-8    |
| <b>Nov 24</b>                                               | 2 Samuel 23: 1-7<br>Psalm 132: 1-12<br>Revelation 1: 4b-8<br>John 18: 33-37 |

Remember Your Offerings

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

### Holiday Shopping

Here is one way our church can benefit from your holiday giving:

♦ **Buy Scrip** - The church has a variety of scrip available for different vendors. On the cart in the Narthex is a sheet that lists companies that scrip cards are available from. **If you do want Scrip Cards for Christmas gifts, please get your order to Dennis Curnes by Sunday, December 8th.** Any questions see Dennis or call him at 262-914-4523.

**2025 COMMITTEE BUDGETS** are due to Dennis Curnes by **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH.**



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

Our last book club gathering for 2024 will take place on

**November 2nd** in the Memorial

Lounge. We will meet at **9:30 am** to discuss the book **“A Christmas Memory”** by **Richard Paul Evans**. Bonnie Curnes will lead the discussion and Judy Desotell will furnish the pastry. Also, on this day we will be choosing 6 book selections for 2025, so bring some suggestions with you. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex so PLEASE sign up if you will/ will not be attending. Coffee will be provided. Any questions contact Bonnie Curnes at 262-654-1612.



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 even some senior citizens at our food pantry. \$\$\$ money donations are always welcome, and yes, 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



**Christmas Poinsettias** will be available to beautify our sanctuary at Christmas time this year. The sign up sheet will be available in November with the cost, size, and color. If you have any questions, contact Char Laba.



185 Years of Serving God!  
Come celebrate our Heritage and History on  
**Sunday, November 17th.**



The Men’s Breakfast group will be meeting on **Saturday, November 16th** 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.



Planning ahead for the month of **December**, we will be collecting for our annual Giving Tree. Please bring in **mittens, gloves, hats, earmuffs, scarves, socks, underwear, undershirts, and sweatshirts for women, men, and children in all sizes** to place on the tree in the back of the sanctuary of our church. Articles will be donated to a local mission group.



### **Shalom Center Update**

On Sunday, September 29th, our church served approximately 47 people at the Shalom Center Soup Kitchen. Martha Swartz made the soup. Pastor Kathy, Lisa Hirsch, Char Laba, Jennifer Swartz, Sue Fitzgerald, and Martha Swartz helped to serve the meal. We also furnished a garden salad, fruit salad, and cookies. Thank you to all.

Our next date to serve is **Sunday, December 29th**. Hope you will join us.



# November



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