

*The
Congregational
Christian Church
of Somerset
may be just right
for You!*



Every \$1 of Support is Appreciated.

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**CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN
CHURCH OF SOMERSET, UCC**

1411 County Street, Somerset, MA 02726

(508) 672-6623

uccsomersechurch@gmail.com

CongregationalChurchSomerset.com



FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
[CongregationalChristianChurchSomerset](https://www.facebook.com/CongregationalChristianChurchSomerset)

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Cheryl Rieder
Settled Minister

Karen Rousseau
Faith Community Coordinator

Lisa Levasseur
Administrative Support

Yuri Woodcock
Musician

Richard Oliveira
Sexton

LAY LEADERSHIP 2025

Moderators - Russell James,
Toni-Jean Gadry, Carol Caetans

Clerk - Janina Asselin

Financial Assistant - Carol Caetans

Treasurer - Lisa Mathieu

Board of Deacons - Don Yarleets

Library/Historical - Nancy Possinger

Media/Broadcasting - Don Yarleets

Memorial Garden/Cemetery - Barbara Smith

Religious Education Adult - Janina Asselin

Religious Education Youth - Toni-Jean Gadry

Pastoral Relations - Russell James

Property - Richard Meyers

***Are You
Looking
for a Church
to
Call Home?***

Sunday Morning Worship Service at 10am.
Stop By. All are welcome.



*"No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here."*

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

I would like to: (check all that apply)

- ☐ Be placed on the church email list
- ☐ Be placed on the church mailing list
- ☐ Make an appointment to visit with the Pastor
- ☐ Learn about becoming a member
- ☐ Receive info about missions or programs

☐ Other: (please specify)

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

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† Are you looking for a church with
a positive perspective - one where
the Gospel is truly good news?

† Do you want to be free to grow
spiritually rather than just conform
to a prescribed practice?

† Would you like a church that combines
intelligence & enthusiasm,
love and courage, freedom and
responsibility, forgiveness and unity,
individuality and community?

Then please read on...

The Congregational Christian Church of
Somerset, UCC, strongly upholds the
worth and dignity of each individual and
seeks to serve this community and the
world through its mission outreach.

We believe that every person is a part
of the Family of God - that all of us live
by God's Grace and are cared for by
God's Love...

– MISSION –

We aim to be a loving, caring family of God,
with Christ as our head reaching out amongst
ourselves and to the larger community
to address spiritual beliefs, social needs and
moral issues, guided by the teachings of Jesus.

Historical Roots

Samuel Purinton grew up in the Swansea Friends Meeting,
a community located in the area now called Somerset. The
story is that Samuel fell in love with a woman who was not
a Quaker. When he presented his beloved to the Friends
Meeting, they did not approve of his choice. Rather than
forsake his love, he broke with the congregation.

He soon found that there were others who shared his
sentiments. A small group gathered and formed "The
Christian Band." While ministers gathered people together
in homes and offered worship, no organized church existed
in the Pottersville area at that time. Thanks to the work of
visiting clergy, particularly Mr. George Kilton of Rehoboth,
many conversations took place. Samuel Purinton had a
desk made in his home in order that he might feed the
hungry souls.

Desiring a closer, more formal bond, the Pottersville group
formed themselves into a Christian Band of Thirty (30)
members. Soon they determined it was time to formalize
with denominational affiliation and a building.

Our Church Grows

In October 1840, the Pottersville group sought pledges to
support a new building; raising \$1,200. Construction began
in November 1840 and was completed in May 1841. Much
of the work was done by shipwrights.
A close look at the church building's structure is example
similar to ship workmanship.

On May 26, 1841, a double ceremony was held dedicating
the new meeting house and formally affiliating with the
Christian denomination. By 1842, the church had a
membership of one hundred (100) people.
Eunice Purington, Samuel's daughter, created a sampler of
the church as it look originally. The Church's Historical
Committee today maintains and displays this sampler.

Denominational affiliation of the congregation changed
several times as the denominations themselves grew and
developed. In 1912, the church incorporated as the
First Christian Church of Somerset. In 1931, when the
Christian Church & Congregational churches merged, we
became the Congregational Christian Church of Somerset.

In 1957, the Congregational Christian Churches merged
with the Evangelical and Reformed Church into the new
denomination, The Church of Christ.

Some well known names that have had a large impact
through their involvement in our church and the community
are Frances & Elsie - the Hathaway Sisters and Reverend
Dr. H. Merrill Emery and his wife Constance Emery.