



June/July 2026

THE STEEPLE

"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."

Congregational Christian Church of Somerset, UCC



1411 County Street, Somerset, MA 02726
(508) 672-6623 • uccsomeretchurch@gmail.com
www.CongregationalChurchSomerset.com
Facebook.com/CongregationalChristianChurchSomerset



Pastor Notes -----

Hello My Dear Siblings in Christ,

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. God makes me lie down in green pastures; God leads me beside still waters. God restores my soul"
(Psalm 23 verses 1 – 3).

In my past, I have been blessed to attend several different types of retreats and to lead a few myself. Each has given me spiritual grounding and wonderful memories of bonding in Christian fellowship, on a much deeper level than everyday life can give. This has left a legacy upon my heart that I believe is now time to share with all of you.

What is the purpose for going on retreat?

That you develop a deeper connection with God. For your own physical and spiritual restoration (even Jesus took time away with God). To develop better relationships with those who attend with you and to prepare you for service.

In researching places to hold said retreat, it was important to prayerfully consider what we would need, the right space, at the right cost. The Spirit has led me to what I believe is the most appropriate place for a small retreat gathering. The house sleeps up to 15 people, has a good kitchen, dining space, living room, function space for 30, several bathrooms, porch, and a beautiful view with tons of quiet nature all around. The name is Cedar Hill Retreat Center, in Duxbury, MA. No, I had not known of this place before.

Unfortunately, like so many other retreat centers, they are booked for the remainder of 2026. So, I am looking at a date in the spring or fall of 2027. The extra good news is that the Retreat Center has already contacted



PASTOR CHERYL con't

me about a possible opening this September 11-13, 2026. At the writing this article this date is not confirmed. No matter the date, the structure will be the same.

The basic structure for those staying overnight is to arrive anytime on Friday afternoon. On Friday, you will have time to settle in, go to the beach, and explore. Close by is a Dunkin', a grocery store, ice cream shop, and other miscellaneous shops. You will have a schedule to include: free time, an introductory session, time to make dinner together, eat together. Then an activity and worship to close the night. We officially begin at 5pm.

Anyone coming on Saturday only would need to please arrive by 9am. If you wish to join us for breakfast, please arrive by 8am. Saturday will include worship, session, lunch, session, break, session, and closing worship.

Maybe it has been a long time or maybe you have never been on a church retreat? So you may likely have some questions. What is a retreat? How do we do it? As we move forward the goal will be to answer those questions, so please ask. The focus for our first retreat will be on Prayer. Carpooling will be recommended.



If you are interested, please let me know. Cost will be determined by how many people attend and what we decide to eat. If we are a full house then overnight will look to be about \$50 each and Saturday only people would be about \$25 per person. We still need to look at cost of supplies and food, but these should be close to accurate. If you are interested but need financial assistance there are funds available.

Peace,

The Reverend Cheryl Rieder


with Tracy Chasse
 BEGINNER-INSTRUCTIONAL
**COUNTRY
 LINE
 DANCING**

\$7
 CASH, CHECK,
 OR VENMO

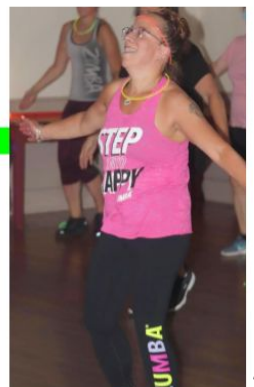
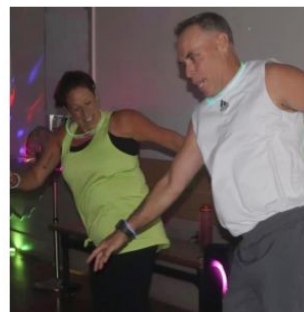
@Tracy-Chasse-1

WEDNESDAYS 6-7:30 PM
 CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 1411 COUNTY ST, SOMERSET
 FOR MORE INFORMATION
 CONTACT TRACY AT
 508 - 415 - 3638



ZUMBA®
 with Tracy + Kelly

**Congregational Christian Church
 1411 County St, Somerset
 Tuesday and Thursday
 6:00-7:00pm
 \$30/month
 To register - contact Tracy at
 508-415-3638**



THIS GROUP IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
 Stop By. First Class is FREE

Outreach & Social Action/Faith Community Program

Veterans Supper

Our supper to support Somerset Veterans was held on Friday May 22nd. Thank you to all who helped with the preparation and serving of our supper. Over \$2,000 was raised from the supper and support from local Somerset businesses and church members to buy gift cards to give to our Veterans Service Agent to disperse throughout the year.

Blanket and Tools Collections

For Mother's Day, we collected money for blankets that will provide warmth, hope and love to those facing challenging times. In June, on Fathers Day, we will be collecting for tools that will empower families to learn how to cultivate gardens to grow food to feed their families.

A list of donors will be included in our church bulletins.

Religious Education

We have our last regular scheduled class on June 14, The children will be participating in service on that day and will celebrate with a make your own ice cream sundae fellowship.

On June 7, some children will be recognized as our Church acolytes.

During the summer, parents will be contacted via text to let them know if there will be a class and this will be dependent on how many students can attend.

The children will be having a cookout at Toni-Jean's. Date to be determined (sometime in July).

Fundraising

The Christmas Bazaar is set to be November 21, 2026, 9am to 2pm.

This is the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

Social Media / Broadcasting

Greetings Congregation.

The Social Media Broadcasting Team would like to take a moment to share it's gratitude to Loren.

His dedication to stream our live worship services to our social media platform has greatly contributed to our online presence. He has gone above and beyond to ensure that our Facebook platform continues to thrive.

Thank you Loren!

Deacons

JUNE - Time to bring in your Father's Pics!

For the Month of May, we asked people to bring in a picture of their mom, without them in the picture unless they are a baby. They are posted in fellowship hall and you are invited to guess whose Mom - and now Dad - it is. It is better if the picture is they were younger.

Now it's time to do the same for June with Father's day.

Let the guessing begin!



STANDING COMMITTEE

APRIL 8, 2026 Call to order 11:17am

Meeting Attendees: Pastor Cheryl, Lisa Mathieu, Betty Marsden, Carol Caetans, John Gagliardi, Dick Meyers, Barbara Smith, Robin Church, Pam Glass, Janina Asselin

Visitors: Marilyn Meyers, Lisa Levasseur

Prayer: Pastor Cheryl

Minister:

- Tentative field trip to Boston to visit the Congregational Christian Church historical documents. Awaiting response from Fisher Bus Company
- Members have requested to plan a retreat. Information is being gathered.
- We will be hosting the Old Colony Association Meeting on 5/17/26 @ 2pm. Light refreshments will be offered. All are encouraged to attend.
- Pastor will be attending "Ties That Bind" Seminar on 4/25/26. She will be greeter.
- Prayer group continues on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:00am

Deacons:

- Bible Study on hold until May 6th . It will be on "The Sermon on the Mount" books are \$5.25 each
- New Paraments, suitable for Pentecost have been received from "Magnificant Liturgical Artwork" free of charge. A thank you will be sent to them.

Report of Committees

Property:

- Light replaced at South entrance
- AA Alarm repaired the alarm system
- Columbus Energy replaced the thermostat in classroom #2. Batteries to be changed with DST
- Upstairs door resealed
- Drain pipe retied.

Fundraising:

- Yard Sale took in \$943.00
- Turkey Dinner to be held in September
- Looking into possible entertainer

Religious Education:

- Sunday School activities continue

Faith Community & Christian Outreach:

- Loads of Love awaiting financing to begin
- Lenten Calendar to be collected

Memorial Garden & Purinton Cemetery:

- Some clean-up was done due to fallen branches. Dick Meyers will take care of larger branches
- Seasonal cleanup will begin in April.

Pastoral Relations:

- First meeting held and Karen Rousseau elected as Chair.
- Next meeting set for 6/13/26

Media Broadcasting:

- Loren Bryan continues to video in Don's absence, with Andy Church as back-up.
- Lacey continues to photograph

Library/Historical::

- Received 2 copies of "Invisible Courage"

New Business & Communications:

- Zumba requested to begin Country Line Dancing on Wednesdays from 6-7:30 pm
- Change made to donation to "Our Sister's House" of gift cards instead of cash.
- Request to move Weight Training classes to the lower level of the Church denied as unable to accommodate them in the rooms
- Thank you received from the First Baptist Church in Fall River for the donation of \$500.00 to their dinner program

Meeting Adjourned at 12:15pm. Next Meeting 5/10/26

Respectfully Submitted, Janina Asselin, Clerk

Memorial Tree Leaf Dedication

Sunday, June 7th at 11:15am.

Pastor Cheryl will dedicate

4 additions to our Memorial Tree.

Please join us as we add leaves for:

Joel McCurry

Farrell Freeborn

Joy Nowak

Shirley Denison



The Deacons Invite You to Coffee & Conversation

Mondays 9:30am

Stop by the Rise Café for a relaxed time of conversation.

900 County St, Somerset

You may enjoy a few laughs. We chat about everything!



Somerset Council on Aging offers Computer Classes

JUNE DIGITAL NAVIGATOR EVENTS

WORKSHOPS

6/5

Email App

6/12

Ebay App

6/26

Medical Information

iPhone: 9:30am | Android: 11:00am

Please sign up at the Council on Aging and bring your own device.

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY: 4pm-8pm
Somerset Public Library

TUESDAY: 10am-2pm
Somerset Council on Aging

WEDNESDAY: 12pm-4pm
Somerset Public Library

THURSDAY: 12pm-4pm
Somerset Public Library

Please call 508-646-2829x196 for 1:1s and bring your own device.



325-year-old Meeting House in Massachusetts appears on "Most Endangered Historic Places" List

By [Neal Riley](#)

Updated on: May 25, 2026 / 10:37 AM EDT / CBS Boston

The list of "[America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places](#)" for 2026 includes a centuries-old landmark in Massachusetts.

The Swansea Friends Meeting House, which is located in Somerset, is said to be the oldest surviving Quaker meeting house in the state. It was built in 1701.

"Its simple structure is rooted in the Quaker belief of 'Inner Light' and emphasizes the human right to spiritual equality and dignity," the National Trust for Historic Preservation said in a statement.

A Quaker female minister, Patrice Brayton, is credited with leading the town to become one of the first in Massachusetts to abolish slavery.

The building was turned over to the town of Somerset in 2008. The Friends of Somerset Historic Preservation replaced the roof and reconstructed part of the meeting house in 2017, but the trust says that today "the building is vacant, unused, and requires investment to once again serve public uses."

The trust is giving the meeting house \$25,000 to go toward the more than \$1 million that is needed for a full restoration.

In 2024, [Minuteman National Park and Walden Pond](#) in Concord made the list because advocates feared they could be harmed by the expansion of Hanscom Field Airport. The [Boston Harbor Islands](#) were on it in 2021, with the trust citing threats from climate change.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US!

**FIRST SATURDAY
EACH MONTH 10am-1pm**

MAY 2, JUNE 6, NO JULY, AUGUST 1, SEPTEMBER 5,
OCTOBER 3, NOVEMBER 7, DECEMBER 5, 2026

**CREATIVE
FELLOWSHIP
TIME**

ART, PUZZLES, GAMES

**13 Years at the Pulpit
Somerset Massachusetts**

*Happy
Anniversary
Pastor Cheryl!*

Congregational Christian Church of Somerset

The glass table
in front of the Memorial Tree
is being used to honor
the Veterans
in the Memorial Garden.

Thank you Carol Caetans



Everyone community wide is invited.

Pastor Cheryl Rieder will be

Blessing the Animals

Saturday, June 20th at 11:30am

1411 County St, Somerset

All animals that are friendly are welcome. Please ensure your pets are safe and secure.
Yes, you may bring their pictures instead.

**Blessing
- of the -
ANIMALS**



**God made all things and
everything that breathes
praise God's name.
- Psalm 150:6**



**Can't make it to service this week?
*We will miss you!***

**But.... you can watch and worship with us via Facebook
from your home. Here's the Link
facebook.com/CongregationalChristianChurchSomerset**

Congregational Christian Church of Somerset



**Congregational Christian
Church of Somerset**

Christian Church

Whoever you are, wherever
you are on life's journey, you
are welcome here! Join us in
loving God

Sending Birthday Blessings to

John Gagliardi	Dick Meyers
Cheryl Gagliardi	John Possinger
Dana Johnson	Roger Gadry
John Carey	Kathy Raposa
Rev. Cheryl Rieder	June Murphy



What is Trinity Sunday about to the Congregational Christians?

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after Pentecost (falling on May 31, 2026) and is the only major Christian feast day that celebrates a specific doctrine rather than a historical event. Because Congregational churches trace their roots back to the Puritans and Separatists, their celebration of Trinity Sunday emphasizes specific theological and community ideals

- The Ultimate Model of Community: Congregationalists view the Trinity not as a dry mathematical puzzle, but as a living, eternal community of mutual love and relationship. The dynamic interplay of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit provides the foundational blueprint for how a local church congregation should operate—in deep, non-hierarchical, democratic covenant with one another.
- Embracing the Mystery: True to their Reformed roots, Congregationalists do not try to rigidly explain away the Trinity with flawed physical analogies. Instead, worship resources from the United Church of Christ highlight Trinity Sunday as a time to stand in awe of the "unfathomable mystery" of a God who transcends human imagination.

Are you going to Yoga this week?



Gentle Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall with Pat Fox.

Stop in on Mondays at 9:30am.
Cost is \$5.

Contact Karen R. for info.



Dick & Marilyn Meyers
John & Nancy Possinger



Your gift of a CWS Blanket brings comfort, care and hope to someone facing a difficult moment.

Your generosity makes this possible. Every blanket you share tells a neighbor, "You're cared for."



17,317

CWS Blankets shared in 2025



~ In Memory of ~

Missy Boegler from Barbara Smith

Bea Gerrish from Toni Jean Gadry

Hazel Carr from Pam Glass

Mom Celeste from Janina Asselin

Aida Ferreira from Armanda Ferreira

Shirley Denison from Karen Rousseau

Angelina Carvalho & Natalie Caetans from Gil & Carol Caetans

Selina Silvia from Robin Church

Family Members from Marilyn Meyers

Catherine F. Waring & Venice L. McCurry from Caroline McCurry

Grandmother from Cheryl & John Gagliardi

Louise Bullock from Betty Marsden

Ginny Berwick from Nancy James

Sally James from Russell James

Ruth Pickering from John, Nancy & Angela Possinger

Betty Chung from John, Nancy & Angela Possinger

Joy Nowak from John, Nancy & Angela Possinger

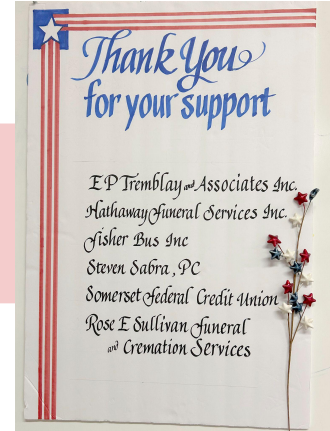
Kathy Hurley from John, Nancy & Angela Possinger

Sarah Davies from Nancy & Russell James



*How about the definition
of Clarification:
to fill in the background with so many
details that the foreground
goes underground.*

Annual Meat Pie Supper held to Support Somerset Veterans



*Thank You
for your support*

EP Tremblay and Associates Inc.
Hathaway Funeral Services Inc.
Fisher Bus Inc.
Steven Sabra, PC
Somerset Federal Credit Union
Rose E Sullivan Funeral
and Cremation Services



CWS | Tools: *A Harvest of Hope*

Tools Today. Food for Tomorrow.

Because of caring congregations, families are growing food and strengthening their communities.

121,308

people supported through CWS Tools programs

Training. Nutrition. Tools.



Together, it adds up

Small acts. Shared generosity.
A growing Harvest of Hope.

Together, CWS programs respond to food insecurity—globally and here in the United States.

Scan the code to find out more:



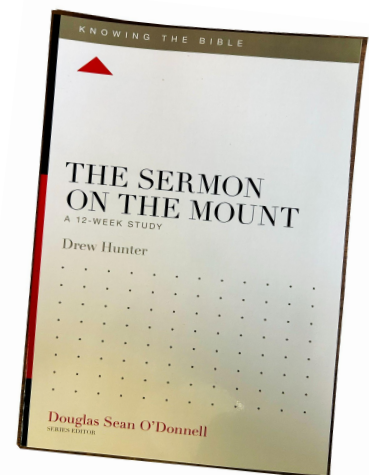
Wednesdays 1pm

– ADULT SERIES –

"The Sermon on the Mount"

All Are Welcome to attend.

WE WELCOME ALL IN THE COMMUNITY TO OUR BIBLE STUDY. NO NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH.
Please see Deacon Janina for book \$5.25





Celebrating 250 YEARS

June 27th | 3 p.m.
Slades Ferry Park

Join the Town of Somerset as we mark 250 years of freedom with a full day of music, patriotism, and family fun!

🎵 **Live Entertainment** 🎵

The Singing Trooper • Swansea Community Band • Ethan Lazaro • Cat & Jimmy • Patriotic Readings •

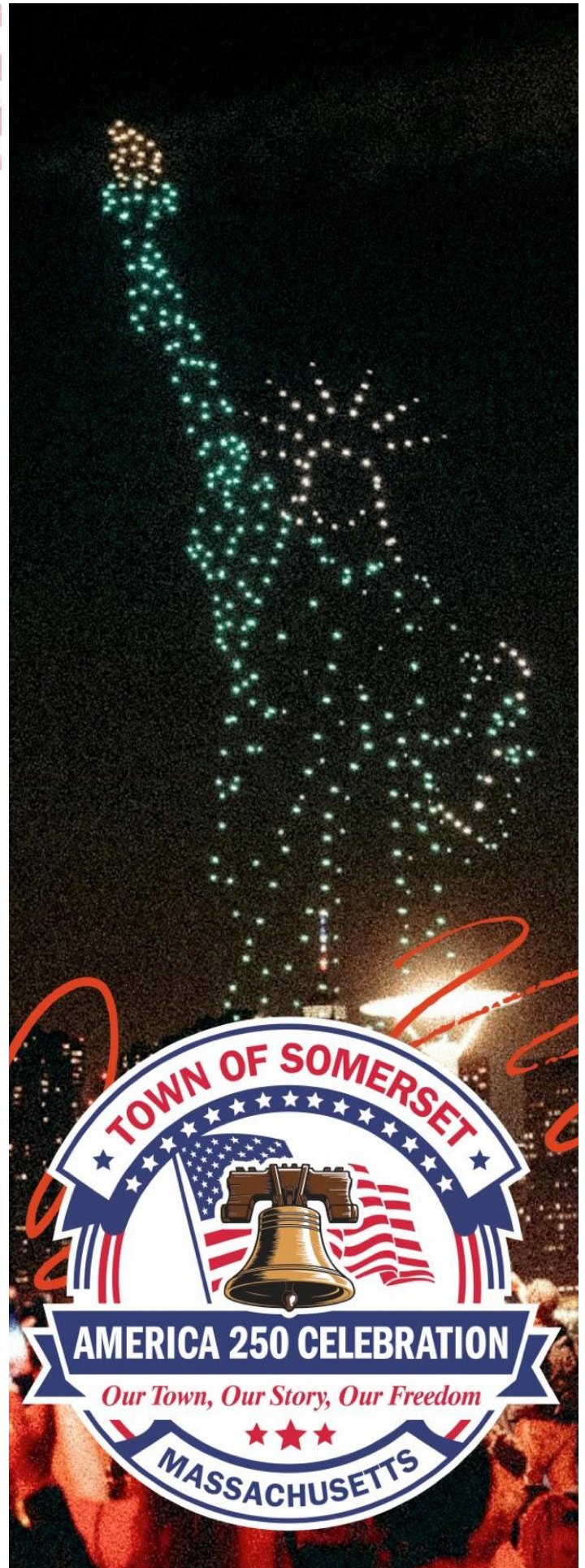
🇺🇸 **Family Fun** 🇺🇸

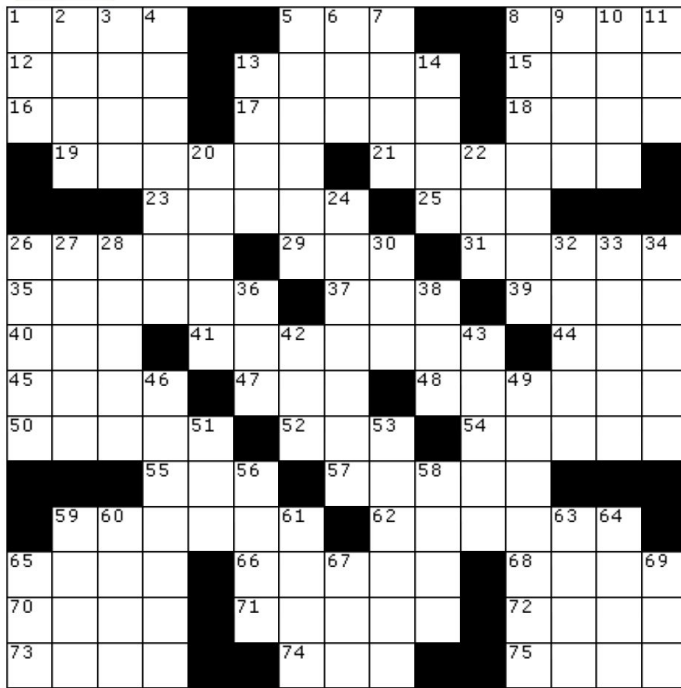
Food Trucks • Poster & Essay Contests • Kids' Activities •
• National Guard Exhibit •

Don't miss our star-spangled drone show!

Thank you to our generous community sponsors who made this landmark event possible!

*activities subject to change





ACROSS

- 1 U.S. Department of Agriculture
- 5 Stitch
- 8 First letter of the Arabic alphabet
- 12 Pencil end
- 13 Leading
- 15 Uncouth
- 16 Visionary
- 17 Vacuum tube (Brit.)
- 18 Competition at the Greek games
- 19 Tranquil
- 21 Pottery coating
- 23 Trouble
- 25 Resort hotel
- 26 Floral leaf
- 29 Marry
- 31 Name of ~ Blood disease
- 35 Blood disease
- 37 Cain fled to this land
- 39 Man's name
- 40 Undergarment

- 41 Flat railroad car (2 wds.)

- 44 Reverend (abbr.)
- 45 Spanish "crazy"
- 47 Be incorrect
- 48 OT book of prophecy
- 50 Choose
- 52 Set of parts
- 54 House parts
- 55 Samuel's mentor
- 57 Hard to pass through a needle?
- 59 Biblical church servant
- 62 Trugh
- 65 Complain
- 66 ___ of Babel
- 68 Excuse me!
- 70 Opposed
- 71 Dote
- 72 Eye liquid
- 73 Plateau
- 74 Long time
- 75 Not his

DOWN

- 1 Ship initials
- 2 Stair
- 3 Fight
- 4 First patriarch
- 5 Valley of the ___ of death
- 6 Snake like fish
- 7 Flap
- 8 Language of Jesus
- 9 Sled
- 10 Object of false worship
- 11 Swamp
- 13 Tel ___ (Israel city)
- 14 Cozy rooms
- 20 Title of Islam's head
- 22 Inclined
- 24 Focal
- 26 Type of fur
- 27 Enter
- 28 On earth ___, good will toward men
- 30 Physician
- 32 One of the Florida Keys
- 33 Had by Joseph, Joseph and magi
- 34 Rock and Roll "King"
- 36 Brew
- 38 Telegraphic signal
- 42 Noah's ___
- 43 Harder to find
- 46 General pacific islands
- 49 Famous giant killed by David
- 51 Tender loving care
- 53 Pub
- 56 Small particle
- 58 Meager
- 59 Over
- 60 Grub
- 61 Leaf bud
- 63 KJV pronoun
- 64 Time period
- 65 Mayan language
- 67 Romance
- 69 Married woman

Bible Quiz: The Trinity

1) Which is an accurate statement of the Christian doctrine of the Trinity?

- There are three true Gods: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are different aspects or persons of the one true God.
- The Son and the Holy Spirit are the servants of God the Father.
- The Son is the servant of God the Father, and the Holy Spirit is the servant of the Son.

2) True or False? The Holy Spirit and the Holy Ghost are the same.

- True
- False

3) Fill in the blank: The _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

- Power
- Wisdom
- Grace
- Love

4) Fill in the blank: Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, _____ them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (NIV)

- Baptizing
- Conquering
- Loving
- Converting

ANSWERS: 1. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are different aspects or persons of the one true God. 2. True 3. Grace 4. Baptizing

How people treat you is their Karma; how you react is yours. – Wayne Dyer

June 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to Pastor Cheryl - 13 years on June 1 -	1 9:30am Yoga 9:30am Rise Café Meet 4-8pm SECRETARY in OFFICE 5pm Wt Tr for Wmn (5)	2 10am-2pm SECRETARY in OFFICE 6-7pm Zumba	3 11am Grief Support Grp 1pm Bible Study Grp 6pm Line Dancing	4 SECRETARY in OFFICE 3-8pm 6-7pm Zumba	5	6 10am-1pm Art, Puzzles & Fellowship
10:00am Worship Communion w/Children's Bible Stories & Craft 11:15am Memorial Tree Leaf Dedication	8 9:30am Yoga 9:30am Rise Café Meet 4-8pm SECRETARY in OFFICE 5pm Wt Tr for Wmn (6)	9 10am-2pm SECRETARY in OFFICE 6-7pm Zumba	10 11am Grief Support Grp 1pm Bible Study Grp 6pm Line Dancing	11 SECRETARY in OFFICE 3-8pm 6-7pm Zumba	12	13 10am Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting
10:00am Worship Birthday Bank w/Children's Bible Stories LAST SESSION - will resume in Sept. STANDING COMMITTEE MEET	15 9:30am Yoga 9:30am Rise Café Meet 4-8pm SECRETARY in OFFICE 5pm Wt Tr for Wmn (7)	16 10am-2pm SECRETARY in OFFICE 6-7pm Zumba	17 11am Grief Support Grp 1pm Bible Study Grp 6pm Line Dancing	18 SECRETARY in OFFICE 3-8pm 6-7pm Zumba	19 JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY	20 10am Prayer Group 11:30am Blessing of the Animals
FATHER'S DAY 10:00am Worship CWS Tools Special Collection. DEACONS MEET	22 9:30am Yoga 9:30am Rise Café Meet 4-8pm SECRETARY in OFFICE 5pm Wt Tr for Wmn (8)	23 10am-2pm SECRETARY in OFFICE 6-7pm Zumba	24 11am Grief Support Grp 1pm Bible Study Grp 6pm Line Dancing	25 SECRETARY in OFFICE 3-8pm 6-7pm Zumba	26	27
10:00am Worship	29 9:30am Yoga 9:30am Rise Café Meet 4-8pm SECRETARY in OFFICE	30 10am-2pm SECRETARY in OFFICE 6-7pm Zumba				
28						

SECRETARY in OFFICE SUNDAYS 8am-10am

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF SOMERSET

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UCCSomersetChurch@gmail.com (508) 672-6623 www.CongregationalChurchSomerset.com

