

Christ Lutheran Church

February 2026

The FRIEND

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH SOMERSET, WI 54025



LETTING GO & RECEIVING GOD'S PROMISES

Join us for the Lent Wednesday
Worship series with Pastor Jeff

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS LENT SCHEDULE

5:30-6:15 pm Soup &
Sandwich Supper Served

6:30-7:00 pm Worship

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY WORSHIP TOPIC

- Feb. 18:** Letting Go of Control & Self-Reliance (Ash Wednesday)
- Feb. 25:** Letting Go of Fear
- Mar. 4:** Letting Go of Shame & Guilt
- Mar. 11:** Letting Go of Busyness
- Mar. 18:** Letting Go of False Beliefs About Yourself
- Mar. 25:** Letting Go of Trying to Save Yourself

All are welcome! Come as you are to worship.

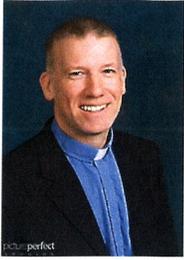
**Christ Lutheran Church
510 Germain Street, Somerset WI**

Lent is often misunderstood as a season of self-improvement, as if the goal were to try harder, be better, or finally fix what's broken inside us. But at its heart, Lent is not about what we accomplish. It is about what we release, and what God gives.

This Lent at Christ Lutheran Church, our Wednesday night worship will center on the theme "Letting Go and Receiving God's Promises." Each week, we will name something many of us cling to: control, fear, shame, busyness, false beliefs about ourselves, and even the belief that it's up to us to save ourselves. These are not signs of weak faith. They are part of being human.

But Lent does not leave us empty-handed. Each week, God will meet us with a promise to each of these things we are afraid to let go of.

This season is an invitation to breathe, to loosen our grip, and to trust again—not in our own strength, but in God's faithfulness. Whether you are weary, searching, or simply longing for a quieter place to listen, you are welcome. Come as you are, and let God do what only God can do.



Faith Reflections

by Pastor Jeff Smith

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”

Psalm 51:10

Dear friends in Christ,

February invites us into both the practical work of being church together and the deeper spiritual work of renewing our hearts and lives.

On February 8, the voting members of Christ Lutheran Church will gather for our Annual Meeting, an important moment in the life of our congregation. At this meeting, we will elect a Council President and other constitutional officers and delegates and prayerfully consider and approve the 2026 budget. These decisions are more than numbers and titles — they reflect our shared commitment to steward God’s gifts of time, talents, and finances for the sake of the Gospel wisely and to discern how we are called to live out Christ’s mission together in the year ahead. I encourage you to attend, participate, and hold our leaders and our congregation in prayer that we may make faithful innovations to bring more people to experience God’s love in this place and beyond.

February also marks the beginning of our Lenten journey toward Easter, which begins with Ash Wednesday worship on February 18. Lent is a season of honesty and hope — a time when we acknowledge our humanity, our limits, and our need for God’s grace, even as we trust in the promise of resurrection. Through worship, prayer, reflection, and acts of love, we walk with Jesus toward the cross, confident that the story does not end there.

Of course, as we begin Lent this year, many of us are acutely aware of how divided the world and our nation feels. Lines are drawn quickly. Words are spoken harshly. Fear and anger often seem louder than compassion and understanding. In the midst of this, Jesus calls us to a different way — to love our neighbors, and even our enemies, as Christ first loved us. This calling is not easy, but it is faithful. It is how the light of Christ continues to shine in dark and fractured places.

May this season invite us to listen more closely, love more deeply, and walk more humbly with God and one another. As we gather for meetings, worship, and conversation, may we remember that we belong to Christ — and to each other.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Jeff

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the Churchwide assembly the Model Constitution for Congregations was amended by assembly action. Please review these proposed amendments which were emailed with the bulletin. These changes are also available in the narthex. We will vote on these changes at the Annual Meeting on February 8th.

Lent Wednesdays Worship Theme: Letting Go and Receiving God's Promises By Pastor Jeff
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS LENT SCHEDULE-See front cover for more information.

5:30-6:15 pm Soup & Sandwich Supper Served

6:30-7:00 pm Worship

Prayer, Just Love and Craftivism. On Wednesday, February 4th from 7-8pm Central Gather Magazine will have a Zoom presentation and discussion on the topic: Prayer, Just Love and Craftivism in which we will discuss Scriptural accounts of God listening to the cries of his people and the great commandment. We will also discuss different forms of activism, including "Craftivism" that is happening among women in the UK and the U.S. Learn more and register at: <https://www.gathermagazine.org/special-events/>

Get creative with the CLC Crafters! February 12th, 13th and 14th. ALL crafters welcome! Come set up at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday and stay as long as you like. Leave your supplies and equipment in the space, and come back on Friday and Saturday at 8:00 a.m. and craft to your hearts content! There will be plenty of space to spread out...INVITE ALL YOUR CRAFTING FRIENDS!

Youth retreat on March 6th-8th to Luther Point. 6th to 12th grades and friends are welcome. Cost \$35 and money for a dinner stop on the way to camp. We will be leaving church on Friday night at 5:30 and returning to church around 2:00 pm on Sunday. This will be an opportunity to enjoy the milder winter activities that March can offer. We would be enjoying fellowship, indoor and outdoor games, bible studies, good food, and a time away from Somerset Winter Blues. Come and join us and bring a friend. Contact the church office to sign up!

Please hold these dear friends in prayer: Sue Strese, Merle Meisner, Mirandi & Dylan, Gary H., Deanna and Jonathan, Darrell Wold Sr., Bob Trealoff, Evelyn, Tammy Nick, Dean Strehlau, Marya, Stephen Peterson, Tami, Tom and June Boyer, Eric Grant, Paul H, Scott and Sue Hovet, Curt Hughes, Jeff and Carol Reed, Ronald Rixmann, Ross Swanson.

Ocky's Angel Fund

Ocky's Angel Fund was established in 2010 in memory of Harold "Ocky" Ammerman from money received in his memory. The purpose of this special fund is to provide emergency funds to Christ Lutheran members and active church participants facing a financial crisis. Funds up to \$400 may be requested by contacting the pastor, Chris in the office, or Sharon Ammerman and filling out the *Ocky's Angel Fund* form. All requests are kept in strict confidence.



Donations to this fund are always welcome.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING



February 8th 2026
11 am

- Review the past year's challenges and triumphs
- Look ahead to the coming church year
- Gather in prayer and discernment to be faithful stewards of all that God has entrusted to us

"In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths" (Proverbs 3:6).

Make a Difference in Your Community!



Fill Your Heart
Become a Volunteer at the
Somerset Community Food Pantry

- ♥ Make a difference close to home
- ☺ Meet new friends and serve together
- ☀ Help strengthen our local community
- ♻ Connect with others who care

Everyone is welcome – no experience needed!

LEARN ABOUT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Join us for a social at Christ Lutheran Church on Monday, February 23

5:30 - 7:00 PM

510 Germain St. Somerset



- * Meet current volunteers
- * Sign up to become a volunteer
- * Enjoy snacks and hear about all the good things happening at the pantry!

Come together in faith, friendship, and prayer!



Youth Retreat to Luther Point Bible Camp!

March 6th-8th

Youth retreat on March 6th-8th to Luther Point

6th to 12th grades and friends are welcome

Cost is \$35 and money for a dinner stop on the way to camp. We will be leaving church on Friday night at 5:30 pm and returning to church around 2:00 pm on Sunday. This will be an opportunity to enjoy the milder winter activities that March can offer.

We will enjoy fellowship, indoor and outdoor games, bible studies, good food, and a time away from Somerset Winter Blues.

Come join us and **bring a friend**. Contact the church office to sign up - christluthsom@somtel.net or 715-247-3341

**Christ Lutheran Church Council Minutes
12:05 pm, Dec. 21, 2025**

The Mission of Christ Lutheran Church is:
Sharing God's Love with Hearts and Hands

In attendance- Sarah Warren (via Zoom) Donnie Kern, Rachel Erickson, Sharon Ammerman, Sharon Swanson, Carol Hokenson, Ashley Cochran, Paul Nasvik, Pastor Jeff Smith, Beth Hankel, Tricia Davis

12:00 **CALL TO ORDER** – Sarah Warren

12:05 **READING OF THE MISSION STATEMENT** – All

12:10 **DWELLING IN THE WORD & OPENING PRAYER** – December Leader:
Donnie January Leader: Beth

12:15 **APPROVAL OF Nov. 30 MINUTES Rachel Erickson moved, Donnie Kern 2nd-Passed**

NEW BUSINESS

Policies and Procedures Handbooks - Donnie. Carol H will work on clarification on re-wording the Staff categories section within Section 1: Employment. Part-time employees will be 30 hours or less. Donnie motion- to approve changes as modified in Personnel Policies and Procedures as of Jan 1, 2026. Beth H. 2nd All in favor. Motion Carried. Ashley will finalize the document upon Carol's re-working of Section 1: Employment.

2026 Proposed Budget- Motion to approve the new budget with Jeff's proposal of \$18,000 of Healthcare allowance along with the additional benefits that increase with that with the understanding that we have a new contract that includes a 60 day notice of contract termination by council. Seconded by Tricia Davis. Discussion. Motion - Yays- 7 Nay- 2

Motion to approve \$40,000 of Pastor's compensation as 2026 housing allowance made by Ashley seconded by Tricia. Discussion. Motion carried.

Motion to table the budget numbers until next month. Ashley. Carried

Income Generation Potential

REPORTS:

Next Executive Meeting:

Next Council Meeting: 12:00, Sunday, Jan. 18

Reviewing the constitutional changes if needed and budget- everyone should read ahead of time.

Budget Review Meeting: Jan. 25 at Noon

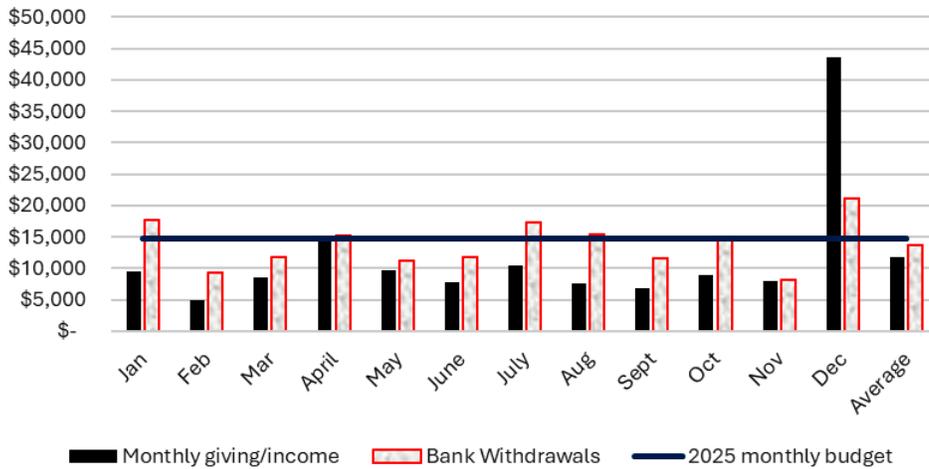
Annual Meeting-Sunday, Feb. 8

Donnie motion to adjourn. Tricia second. Motion carried.

LORD'S PRAYER & ADJOURNMENT – Pastor Jeff

Monthly Financial Report for December 2025

2025 CLC General Account Monthly Giving



Monthly Budget
\$14,689

December Deposits
\$43,656.74
(Includes \$15,000 Endowment Transfer)

December Withdrawals
\$21,189.92

February Birthdays

Viki Neuberger
Erica Smith
Colleen Rivard
Lainey Johnson
Brittany Nichols
Sean Wells
Victoria Gomez
Reggie Larson
McKell Larson

Lynsey Peterson
Ashley Cochran
Timothy Kunze
Elsie Noeldner
Sheldon Wold
Tyler Hutter
Thomas Warren
James Morud

We All Have Spiritual Gifts

CLC is blessed with many people in our congregation who are willing to share their spiritual gifts. We are grateful to these people who read, serve communion, usher, light candles, count the offering, live-stream the services, and serve on Altar Care setting up communion and changing paraments and banners. Special thanks to Doug Halberg, Roger Hughes, Rachel Erickson, Beth Hankel, and WELCA for their faithful assistance!

Month	Altar Care	Reader	Communion Assistant	Greeter	Counters
February	Ellen & Wendy Smith				
1		Sharon Swanson	Sharon Swanson	Sharon Swanson	Erv and Roger
8		Cherrie Wood	Cherrie Wood	Cherrie Wood	Joan and Sharon
15		Rachel Erickson	Tricia Davis	Tricia Davis	Roger and Joe
22		Sue Strese	Sue Strese	Sue Strese	John and Sue
March	Sharon Swanson				
1		Sharon Swanson	Sharon Swanson	Sharon Swanson	Erv & Roger
8		Donnie Kern	Donnie Kern	Donnie Kern	Sharon & Roger
15		Cherrie Wood	Cherrie Wood	Cherrie Wood	John & Sue
22		Sharon Ammerman	Sue Strese	Sharon Ammerman	Joe & Sharon
29		Berit Strom	Berit Strom	Berit Strom	John & Sue

February 2026

Connection and Community

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10 am Worship- 11 am-12 pm Education	2 9 am Quilting 7 pm Boy Scouts	3 1-3 pm Phase 10	4	5 10 am Bible Study	6	7
8 10 am Worship- NO Education 11 am Annual Meeting	9 9 am Quilting 7 pm Boy Scouts	10 1-3 pm Phase 10	11	12 10 am Bible Study 8:00 am- Midnight - CLC Crafters	13 8:00 am- Midnight - CLC Crafters	14 8:00 am- Midnight - CLC Crafters
15 10 am Worship 11 am-12 pm Education	16 9 am Quilting 7 pm Boy Scouts	17 1-3 pm Phase 10	18 Ash Wednesday 5:30-6:15 pm Soup Supper 6:30-7 pm Lent Worship Service	19 10 am Bible Study	20	21
22 10 am Worship	23 9 am Quilting 5:30-7 pm SCFP Volunteer Social 7 pm Boy Scouts (Downstairs)	24 1-3 pm Phase 10	25 5:30-6:15 pm Soup Supper 6:30-7 pm Lent Worship Service	26 10 am Bible Study	27	28

Christ Lutheran Church

PO Box 123
510 Germain Street
Somerset, Wisconsin 54025
Church Office - 715.247.3341

Sharing God's Love with Hearts and Hands

Christ Lutheran Church
SOMERSET, WISCONSIN

Contacts for CLC

Church Address: PO Box 123
510 Germain Street - Somerset, WI 54025

Church Office: 715.247.3341

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 11 am - 4 pm

Pastor Jeff Smith:
clcsomersetpastor@gmail.com

Council President: Sarah Warren

Accompanist: Beth Hankel

Cantor: Rachel Erickson

Custodian: Roger Hughes

Office Manager: Chris Dubak

Established in 1896, we are a Christ-centered faith community with the heart and mind of those living in the 21st century. Our mission is to love and serve you right where you live. Everyone is welcome here!

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 AM

Followed by coffee and fellowship

Sunday service is live-streamed on YouTube - search Christ Lutheran Somerset.

A link is posted on our Facebook page as well.

SUNDAY EDUCATION

10:00-10:45	Worship
11:00-11:30	Large Group Education (Open to ALL Ages-Kids, Youth, Adults)
11:30-Noon	Confirmation Small Group Time



E-mail: christluthsom@somtel.net



Website: <https://somersetlutheran.com>



[CLC YouTube Channel](#)



<https://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranSomerset>

