



The Happenings

Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ

409 Center Parkway
Yorkville, IL 60560
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E-Mail: adminasst@yorkvilleucc.org
Web Page: www.yorkvilleucc.org
Office Hours: Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Worship & Sunday School: 10:00 am

Our Staff

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <u>Minister</u> | Rev. Mark S. Gregory |
| <u>Building Manager</u> | Mary Ellen Anderson |
| <u>Christian Education Director</u> | Barbara Thurlby |
| <u>Administrative Asst.</u> | Susan Lange |
| <u>Chancel Choir Director</u> | Doug Trumble |
| <u>Children's Choir Director</u> | Sondra Shatters |
| <u>Organist</u> | Tina Andersen |
| <u>Pianist</u> | Lori Runkle |
| <u>Childcare Attendants</u> | Rachel Hart |
| | Mariela Olvera |
| | Halle Jones |
| <u>Maintenance</u> | |
| <u>Custodians</u> | Tim & Laurie Strong |
| <u>Sextons</u> | Steve Redmon |
| | Mike Obenauer |

Our Shepherds

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <u>Chairperson</u> | Kathy Farren |
| <u>Vice Chairperson</u> | Sandy deRidder |
| <u>Recording Secretary</u> | Sue Kimes |
| <u>Operations: Personnel</u> | Deb Myers |
| <u>Operations: Bldg & Grnds</u> | Andy Hamblin |
| <u>Operations: Finance</u> | Tim Andrus |
| <u>Information Services</u> | Diane Lee |
| <u>Christian Education: Adult</u> | Fred Gaebler |
| <u>Christian Education: Youth</u> | Pam Campos |
| <u>Worship: Serving</u> | Lori Redmon |
| <u>Worship: Preparation</u> | Lee Kinkade |
| <u>Church Family: Caring</u> | Lou Ann Hoffman |
| <u>Church Family: Fellowship</u> | Jeff Kline |
| <u>Service: Missions</u> | June Davis |
| <u>Outreach/Welcoming</u> | Terri Frisk |



*Remembrance Sunday -
January 14th*





It seems hard to believe it is January once again. Hard to believe it is the start of another new year – 2018! What will you do with another new year? It won't be the same as the last one, or any other for that matter. But some things will go on the same, won't they? We are creatures of habit, and creatures of routine. So while things in the world will be changing, many of us will be plodding along with our routines and our habitual behaviors – until something comes along that knocks us out of those routines and habits. Have you ever wondered why it takes something like a political change, a tragedy or a natural disaster to change our behaviors, our views, our routines? But I guess it has always been thus. When Jesus came to earth, an event we just celebrated, most people went on about their lives (Even the shepherds after they went to see the baby in Bethlehem, and told about the angels, went back to the routine of being shepherds – see Luke's account of Jesus' birth). But some had their boats swamped with fish, or their sight restored or their limbs healed, or were raised from the dead. Later still, some got knocked off their "high horses". Many had their routines, their daily habits were changed in a flash. And interestingly enough, they then went on to play important roles in changing the lives of others, and even changing the world.

So, as we start this new year, are you going to wait for something to jar you out of your routine, your daily way of living and interacting with the world? Well, a lot of folks choose to live that way. But you could decide to take a few steps out of your comfort zone, and not wait for something to knock you down, turn you around, alter your body, or take something away from you. You could decide to do something different today, this week, this year. Something that might change you, and make you want to change the lives of others.

One of the easiest things you can change is your morning routine. Get up a few minutes earlier and spend a few minutes with the One who came and changed the world. Read a few verses from the Gospels. John is a good place to start, but so is Mark. Read a devotional like the Still Speaking Devotionals the UCC emails out each day, or get a hold of the devotional book, *Jesus Calling*, written by Sarah Young (I really like this book, as it is written as if Jesus is actually talking to you). Spend a few minutes in prayer, asking Him to guide your steps, your words, and your work that day. Then listen for what He might be whispering to your heart or your head. Not a big deal. Not a lot of time. But I promise it will change you, and thus, change your life.

Now I know some of you are reading this and thinking, "Pastors are always telling us to spend more time reading the Bible and praying." Yeah, we are. But only because we know it works. We know it makes a difference in how we see others, how we interact with others, and how we see the world. And it is why you call us to be your pastors – to teach and advise you. But ultimately, the choice is always yours to make. So what are you going to do this year – the same old same old? Or something different?

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. – Philippians 2:12-13



3rd Annual Chili Cookoff & Game Day

Join us for our Chili Cookoff & Game Day!!!

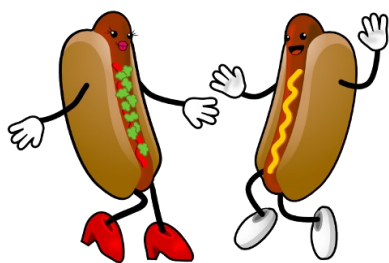
January 28 - 4:00 pm in Fellowship Hall

Break out your favorite chili recipe for a chance to win the **Chili trophy**.

Lots of games and fun for everyone - cards, bags, dominoes are just a few . . .
Deserts and sides are welcome.

Break out your best chili recipe and see if you can beat our current champion - Joe Duran.





Can you cook 8 hot dogs?

How about 8 baked potatoes?

If you can handle that, you could be a big help to our church's Alpha youth group.

They meet each Wednesday at 5:15 and dinner is part of each meeting. The youth have picked some simple foods that they all like, so menus have been set for the rest of this school year.

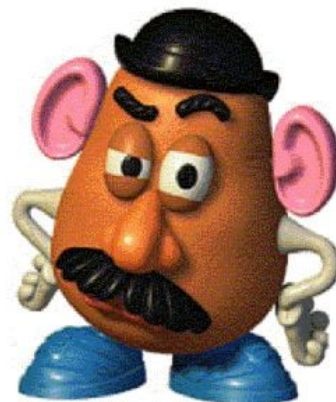
What they need are volunteers to provide and cook the dinner each week. Rhonda Ladsen had been the cook until she was sidelined by surgery.

A sign-up list will be placed in the Narthex after January 1st. Each week someone is needed to provide and cook the food for 8 people by 5:15 p.m., and then clean up when they are done, usually by 5:40.

If 20 people- or families- signed up for one week each, the rest of the school year is covered.

Won't you consider being one of the 20?

It's so exciting to see an active youth group meeting regularly again for fellowship and service. What a positive message it would send to them if our church members would volunteer to provide meals on Wednesday nights between January 10th and May 30th.





Officers from the Yorkville Police Department will present a program on church safety following our worship service on Sunday, Jan. 21st at about 11:15 a.m.

In light of the shooting at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, on Nov. 5th, we asked the police to share some steps we can take to keep our members, our children

and our visitors safe in dangerous situations.

Our church's Vision Statement says we "Welcome All" and we want that to be the case. But we also want to know the best way to react if someone with bad intentions enters the building.

We all hope our church never faces either manmade or natural disasters, but the more we are aware of possible dangers, the more we plan ahead of time, and the more safety recommendations we follow, the safer we will all be.

The program is expected to last about 45 minutes and there will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end. Child care will be provided so that all parents who want to can attend.

Please plan on being there for this important program.



Thank you to all the cookie bakers, candy makers and volunteers who helped make the 7th Annual Christmas Cookie & Candy Sale a success.

Together we raised \$1,298.75 which was donated to disaster relief.

Thank you all so much!!

Sue Kimes & Diane Dillow



Merry, Jolly....may not be how you're feeling.....have the holidays got you down?

ARE YOU.....

- + Let down by friends or family?
- + Stressed by tasks or responsibilities?
- + Saddened by past Christmas memories?

You are not alone.

A Stephen Minister can help you through a difficult time of year.

Contact Pastor Mark, Becky Jerabek or Lou Ann Hoffman



The month of January will bring another opportunity for people to donate some much needed items for a specific refugee family. The family we will be donating these items will be posted on our table in the Narthex. Please sign up to bring an item or two. The list will be located on our table in the Narthex.

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." – Mark 12:31



Congratulations to all our kids for a wonderful Christmas pageant. Thank you to Sondra Shatters and everyone involved in putting on such a great performance!!! Watch for pictures to come on our website and FB page.



We are having another book discussion in the month of March! The exact date will be announced later. The book we will be discussing is City of Thorns by Ben Rawlence. We hope to have some books for people to check out in February. Please check the table for updates.

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these." – Mark 12:31

January Birthdays

| | | | |
|----------------|----|-----------------|----|
| Cliff Jahp | 2 | Nellie Ng | 16 |
| Megan Frisk | 3 | Brodie Zenz | 18 |
| Douglas Clack | 5 | Kevin Vaclavik | 18 |
| Tom Lindblom | 5 | Joe Wayne | 19 |
| Jenna Yabsley | 6 | Pam Hamblin | 19 |
| Sandy deRidder | 8 | Luke DeFuss | 20 |
| Tyler Owens | 9 | Peg Knell | 20 |
| Nancy Kolowski | 10 | Nick Campos | 21 |
| Alex Mulligan | 11 | Noelle Fahey | 22 |
| Bryan Grube | 12 | Terence Enders | 24 |
| Sandy Lindblom | 12 | Donise Baughman | 25 |
| Tony Houle | 12 | Kelly Fischer | 29 |
| Louise DeFuss | 13 | Ethel Perkins | 30 |
| Ruth Morello | 14 | Lois Sheldon | 30 |
| Duane Walden | 15 | | |



January Anniversaries

| | | |
|----|---------------------|----------|
| 2 | Jeff & Julie Kline | 40 years |
| 25 | Scott & Leslie Hart | 21 years |



The Baptism of Christ

(First Sunday after Epiphany) *WHITE*

Gen 1:1-5

Psalm 29

Acts 19: 1-7

Mark 1:4-11

Defining Moments

Second Sunday after Epiphany

GREEN

1 Sam 3:1-10, (11-20)

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Cor 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

Known and Loved

Third Sunday after Epiphany

GREEN

Jonah 3:1-5,10

Psalm 62:5-12

1 Cor 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

Follow Me

Ecumenical Sunday

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

GREEN

Deut 18:15-20

Psalm 111

1 Cor 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

Power to Do

Health and Human Services Sunday

| Date | Greeters & Jr. Greeters | Acolytes |
|------|--|-----------------|
| 1/7 | Joan McEachern & Julie Kling with Makayla Duran & Olive Fahzy | Sadie Pottinger |
| 1/14 | Pam & Andy Hamblin with Gio Olvera & Emma Contreras | Lexi Rein |
| 1/21 | Keith & Terri Frisk with DJ Melhouse & Greyson Tsusaki | Jenna Anderson |
| 1/28 | Rick & Carol Falato with Chanel Bravo & Cayla Pottinger | Chris Andrus |



Those in Cancer Treatment:

Dan Duus
Norm Kuhman
Sandy Lindblom
Olivia Mann

Mary Ratos
Cheryl Roberts
Judy Schrand
Sandy Veselka

Debbie Vogel
Bill Wallace

Health Concerns:

Bill Andersen
Myrah Baldwin
Lynn Belcher
Michael Franciose
Bob Freeman

Joe Hudgins
Dale Keith
Holly Mann
Joanne O'Brien
Ethel Perkins

John Schneider

General Concerns:

Tina Andersen
Mary Freeman
Karsjen Family

Dale Perkins
Michelle Terri
Marie Wayne

Homebound/Assisted Living:

Bob (Doc) Coleman
Cindy Coleman
Jim Follmer

Ralph Ginger
Andrea Prochaska
Dorothy Sanderson



Capt. Alex Houle, son of Tony & Laurie Houle
Marine Cpl. Christopher Johnson, son of Chris & Eva Schoenfielder
Staff Sgt. Ryan Strong, son of Tim & Laurie Strong

Building Manager

Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday 8:30am-2:00pm

Wednesday 8:30am - 3:00pm

Mary Ellen Anderson

Cell: 630/674-4345

bldmgr@yorkvilleucc.org

As Building Manager, it is my responsibility to coordinate all church events to help insure their success. I may seem to come across as a nag wanting to know who oversees your event, what your needs are for location, timing and space etc. However, your plans also effect plans that are being planned by others. Sometimes your information needs to be shared with other groups, so we don't step on each other's toes.

Example: For "Hanging of the Greens" a lite lunch of cold cuts and sandwich supplies were brought into the kitchen to serve to the workers after all the decorating had been done. The Coffee Time people were not aware of the "Hanging of the Greens" plans for the lite lunch and therefore they put out the cold cuts and bread for the Coffee Time. This made it necessary for additional food to be purchased for the luncheon. See my point! COMMUNICATION could have stopped this frustration. Both activities were successful, but there was added stress.

Please keep me informed by simply adding my name to emails and text messages when plans are being made so I can assist by letting other know of your plans.

Church Building Projects – More Painting!

Our men will be painting the hallways in January. Paint was donated by Pam Campos' brother, who works at a Sherwin Williams store. The plan is to work during the days Tuesday – Thursday. More help is always appreciated. Call Andy Hamblin (847-624-7690) or just show up if you have the time to lend a hand. No one will be turned away.

Tamper-resistant electrical Receptacles

All outlets where children have activities have been changed to tamper resistant outlets. This includes ALL classrooms, Fellowship Hall, "Kid Zone", hallways and sanctuary.



January 2018

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| | 1 New Years Day <div>Church Closed</div> 6:30 pm PADS | 2 | 3 Noon Bible School 2:00 pm Staff 5:00 pm PPR—Jan Essex 5:30 & 6 pm Children's Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir | 4 6:00 pm Boy Scouts | 5 | 6 |
| 7 10:00 am Worship Communion ALL Sunday School Event "Winter Snow Blast"—FH 11:00 am Coffee Time | 8 6:30 pm PADS | 9 10:00 am Pastoral Care 5:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Stewardship 7:00 am Stephen Ministry | 10 Noon Bible School 2:00 pm Staff 5:15 pm Alpha 5:30 & 6 pm Children's Choir 6:00 pm Pastoral Care 6-7:15 pm Brownie Troup 162 7:00pm Adult Choir | 11 6:00 Financial Committee 7:00 pm SLT | 12 7:00 pm "Reel" People | 13 |
| 14 9:00 am Mission 10:00 am Worship Remembrance Sunday Sunday School 11:00 am Mission Soup Sunday 11:15 Confirmants & Pastor | 15 6:30 pm PADS | 16 Noon JOY Circle 5:00 pm Bible Study | 17 Noon Bible School 2:00 pm Staff 5:15 pm Alpha 5:30 & 6 pm Children's Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir | 18 | 19 | 20 9:00 am Men's Fellowship |
| 21 10:00 am Worship Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee Time 11:15 –12:15 pm Church Safety Program with Y. Police - SLT | 22 6:30 pm PADS | 23 5:00 pm Bible Study | 24 Noon Bible School 2:00 pm Staff 5:15 pm Alpha 5:30 & 6 pm Children's Choir 6-7:15 pm Brownie Troup 162 7:00 pm Adult Choir | 25 | 26 <div>Newsletter Submission Deadline</div> | 27 |
| 28 10:00 am Worship Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee Time Chili Cook-Off - Laurie Houle | 29 6:30 pm PADS | 30 10:00 am Building and Grounds Meeting 5:00 pm Bible Study | 31 9:00 am Newsletter Mailing Noon Bible School 2:00 pm Staff 5:15 pm Alpha 5:30 & 6 pm Children's Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir | | | |

Our Vision - YCUCC is an open and affirming congregation that seeks to meet each child of God—persons from the full diversity of creation including gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical and intellectual ability, age, race, nationality, economic and social status, faith background, marital standing and family structure—where they are on life's journey as together we seek to transform all our lives through Christ's Gospel.

Our Mission - To nurture the divine spark within all people so that together we can advance God's peace and justice, serve others and care for creation with open minds, generous hearts and willing hands.

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Change Service Requested

January, 2018