



Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ

409 Center Parkway
Yorkville, IL 60560
Phone: 630/553-7308
E-Mail: adminasst@yorkvilleucc.org
Web Page: www.yorkvilleucc.org
FB: @yorkvilleucc

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Worship & Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.

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 Assistant</u>	Liz Cronshaw
<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>	Trevor Farbisz
	Halle Jones
	Dana Malinowski
	Mariela Olvera
	Brett Rhodes
<u>Custodians</u>	Tim & Laurie Strong
<u>Sextons</u>	Steve Redmon
	Mike Obenauer

Our Shepherds

<u>Chairperson</u>	Sandy deRidder
<u>Vice Chairperson</u>	Aaron Shatters
<u>Recording Secretary</u>	Sue Kimes
<u>Operations: Personnel</u>	Kathy Farren
<u>Operations: Bldg & Grds</u>	Tony Houle
<u>Operations: Finance</u>	Tim Andrus
<u>Information Services</u>	Diane Stablein
<u>Christian Education: Adult</u>	
<u>Christian Education: Youth</u>	Sarah Pottinger
<u>Worship: Serving</u>	Lori Redmon
<u>Worship: Preparation</u>	Pam Hamblin
<u>Church Family: Caring</u>	Mary Ann Doetschman
<u>Church Family: Fellowship</u>	Jeff Kline/Laurie Houle
<u>Service: Missions</u>	June Davis
<u>Outreach/Welcoming</u>	Gere' Ryerson

The Happenings



PATIENCE
IS NOT THE
ABILITY TO WAIT
BUT HOW YOU
ACT WHILE YOU'RE
WAITING

—JOYCE MEYER



During my devotional time this past week, I was reading in the book of Psalms again, and landed upon Psalm 67. Here is a part of the Psalm:

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you... (Ps. 67 - NRSV)

As I sat and reflected upon the words of the Psalm, it hit me that it's in God's character to bless all of God's children. Each day our material and spiritual needs are fulfilled in and through this God of love, who longs for a relationship with each of us. And the blessings of God are far more intentional than simply making you or I feel carefree, peaceful, sheltered, and prosperous. Because ultimately God doesn't intend for God's blessings to end with you or with me. God desires for blessings to flow out from us to others as part of God's plan for humankind.

The line that says, "That your way may be known on earth" is one of the key reasons God gives God's blessings to us humans. Sure, God blesses us so that we might serve others, but God also blesses us so, as the psalmist states, we might make God and God's way "known on earth."

God gives us gifts so that we can reveal God's love and power to others. When we act with goodness, mercy, justice, and love we reveal to others the true nature of God. This knowledge should fill us with an overwhelming sense of significance. Significance, not importance. "Significance" has to do with "being meaningful", whereas "importance" has to do with having a "high opinion of oneself". Knowing that God gives us gifts to use to reveal God's true nature is what gives meaning to our lives. But being overwhelmed with our own importance makes "me" or "you" the focus, rather than God. God's blessings are not given for personal enjoyment but to enable one to make a difference in the world by furthering the knowledge of God and the growth of God's Kingdom in the world.

Blessings flow from God, but the blessings should never stop with us. Every one of us has a responsibility to share what we have been given for the benefit of others, for the purposes of God. God loves us so we can love others. God comforts us so we can comfort others. God extends mercy so we can show mercy. You are blessed to be a blessing.

The blessings received from God can move anyone to a place of grace. Grace is the foundation of all of life's blessings. When we receive God's blessings and live out of the knowledge that God has blessed us, our words, our actions, our very lives become glowing examples of God's grace. And that means that our testimonies, our faith stories, are not really about us, but about God and God's goodness to us.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Mark

LIVING FAITH
BRINGING HOPE
SHOWING LOVE

We are now months into our world living with COVID-19. It's really unimaginable that we are still living with this horrific disease when we should be totally enjoying the promise of warm weather, days of sunshine and life filled with ballgames, picnics, fishing, boating and all the other activities we engage in during the summer months. My heart breaks when I think about the graduating classes of 2020 and all that they have had to give up. It also breaks for all our essential workers and first responders who must be totally exhausted doing their jobs while knowing they may be the next to contract this virus. But I cling to my **faith** in God knowing that he has never left our side throughout this pandemic. Along with this faith, I know that there is **hope** for a bright future and that we will feel the embrace of his **love** always and forever.

Time moves forward and so do our lives. It's so hard to believe that June is just around the corner. I love the smell of the flowers and the sounds of summer such as birds chirping at the feeders and lawn mowers as they cut across the grass. Even the sounds of nourishing rain brings me great joy. Just as time and our individual lives go on so does the life of our church. Our Sunday services, even though they are viewed via streaming services, continue to replenish our spiritual needs. Thanks to your feedback, we have now enhanced our worship service by adding vocal music, not only from Tina, but also from various church choir members. Our leadership board continues to meet monthly in order to plan for the future. Our Building and Grounds team continue to work on the church building doing things such as painting, replacing items and sprucing up the grounds including our gorgeous Labyrinth. I'm sure you are as anxious to return to our beautiful sanctuary and to see one another as I am. We are also in the process of developing plans for a safe reopening of our worship service. Once those plans are fully developed, we will make sure you are aware of the guidelines for being together once again.

Pastor Mark, now working in a part-time capacity, is still leading our church services and caring for those in need of spiritual love and guidance and for this, we are so grateful. This allows the Interim Pastor search team to find the right person to lead us until a settled pastor has been found. This team once again is actively working with the Fox Valley Association to hire this person.

Communication is always a key element in maintaining a healthy environment. We are working on keeping everyone informed of current and future plans, but I encourage each of you to contact me or any of our church leaders with your questions and any thoughts you have about our church life.

I know that we don't have the power to fix our current life's circumstances but each of us CAN RELY on God to be there every day for us.

May you be safe, stay well and may your days be filled with the



Sandy deRidder - SLT Chairperson



Our Giving Tree

Even though you are not able to physically remove a tag from our Giving Tree, you can still pluck a tag virtually. We are in need of some new windows in the 2-3 year old classroom and in the Alpha room. The costs of the new windows in total is \$600. Can you take one of the six \$100 tags and mail it into the church? Your donation will make a huge difference so we do not have to take money directly from our budget. If you can make a donation, please make sure that you include a note that the money is to be designated to be used towards the cost of the new windows. We will let you know when we have reached our goal of \$600.

Thank you in advance for your generosity,

Sandy deRidder
SLT Chairperson

THANK YOU YCC SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

By Barb Thurlby, CE Director

Our Sunday School program has ended for the summer. Normally we would be in our Summer Kids Church program, well if not for a pandemic! Regardless, please join me in thanking our outstanding Sunday School teaching team, Childcare team, and the members of our Christian Education team.

Sunday School teachers: Rhonda Ladson, Kelly Ellam, Mary Ellen Anderson, Jenna Anderson, Christine Keith, Amy Strausberger, Kathy Farren, Gavin Redmon, Sarah Pottinger and Deanna Bazan.

Childcare team: Halle Jones, Dana Malinowski, Brett Rhodes, Trevor Farbisz and Mariela Olvera.

CE team: Sarah Pottinger (Shepherd), Kristine Arch, Sondra Shatters, Deanna Bazan, Kathy Farren, Rhonda Ladson, Mary Ellen Anderson, Christine Keith, Amy Strausberger, and Gavin Redmon.

Thank you!

Thank you for your commitment and service to the children of Yorkville Congregational Church!

Thank you!

Building and Grounds

Mary Ellen Anderson: 630-674-4345

Office Hours Tuesday – Thursday 8:00 am – 2:30 pm

Bldmgr@yorkvilleucc.org



Summer outside work continues. Donations provided via the “Giving Tree” allowed us to mulch the gardens and around the trees.

We have three serious flat roof areas where we continue to take in water after heavy rains. Art Prochaska is continuing as our project manager while we address these concerns. We are waiting for a proposal for structural repairs to be done at the north end of our building and masonry work to be done to the stone wing walls by the main entrances. Gutters may need to be added to the stone wall sections to prevent continued damage. Our team of men found several flat roof leaks in the classrooms ceiling and are trying to correct the problem to extend the life of the flat roof for a few more years.

The spring rains have forced us to postpone the painting of the west side of the church until later this summer.

We have donation tags on “The Giving Tree” for window replacement in the two / three-year-old classroom and one in the Alpha youth room. There are six tags each for \$100 to help with the cost of the windows. Our men will install and finish-off the windows. There are additional tags on the tree for gift cards from Menards. Your support is greatly appreciated.

We plan to continue investigating plans for a new electronic corner sign later this summer that would give the time, weather, and scroll church messages to community as they pass by our church. We are also gathering information and proposals for correcting areas of concern with our main parking lot. We hope that this project can be addressed over a period of four years to help us financially.

We are still collecting aluminum cans for recycling. We would appreciate your contribution. Drop off your cans by the garage. The cash from recycling will be used by Building & Grounds for expenses.

DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL THAT WAS
SCHEDULED FOR THE WEEK OF
JULY 12, 2020 HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

Thank you.

Missions Ministry

A new total for our 5 for 5 offering “One Great Hour of Sharing” - OGHS has come to \$299.00. The Missions Ministry sends out a big “Thank You” to all who helped make this happen.

Another 5 for 5 offering “Strengthen the Church” collection date was May 31st on Pentecost Sunday. If you did not get to send it in, you still can. It’s not too late to give. Write a check made out to YCUCC designating it for 5 for 5 offering “Strengthen the Church”. Then mail it or drop it off in the black mailbox at our church entrance.

Outreach and Welcoming

Faith IS NOT KNOWING
WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS,
BUT KNOWING
who holds the future.

Greetings My Church Family,

As always, I trust this note finds you in good spirits, staying home and staying safe.

While I work from home these last few month's I cannot help like most of us wonder when we can all gather again as a Church family, end the social distancing and be back to moving freely about as we once enjoyed. This is one of many things we all long for as being social is a natural part of our being, it is important we connect with God and others on a regular basis, like food, we all need our spiritual nutrition.

While there are many ways to stay connected to God our creator, I am finding that prayer, meditation and reaching out via phone has helped me to stay connected.

When I look around at the people on the front lines, I am forever grateful for their sacrifice to ensure our needs are being met.

During the month of April our Church reached out to members of our congregation to say hello, check if anyone had any special needs or prayer requests. Those we were able to speak to were very happy for the call and the opportunity to chat.

I also spoke to some of the new member of our congregation, they are doing well. They are however disappointed as the stay at home order is keeping them physically from their new place of worship.

We assure our entire congregation the Best of Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ is yet to come.

Until then, let us stay in faith, stay in touch and remember that God holds our future, not our circumstances of today.

I will be in touch,

Peace and Blessings as your go about your day!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DURING A PANDEMIC

By Barb Thurlby, CE Director

I admit I have never experienced a pandemic, well, before now. What a strange and unusual time we are living in! When this all started, I imagined that it would span a few weeks and life would go on as we know it; that was certainly not the case.

During this time, we have continued to minister to the children of our church. Weekly e-learning lessons have been sent to each family. The teachings of our church have remained. Personal notes of encouragement have been sent to those little ones that cannot understand why things are different. Personal calls to church members are being made to encourage those that we are separated from. Weekly contact and collaboration with other churches has been encouraging during this unusual time. We continue to serve, though it looks different we step out in faith and continue to speak the word and love of God.

This pandemic experience might give us pause to reflect on our lives and those in it. As I reflect on this time I am filled with gratitude. I am grateful for a church with leadership that is committed to the safety and well-being of all our church members. I am grateful for the time to reflect and appreciate the loved ones, friends, and church family that I miss. It is just like our God to grab our attention in a different way. Yet, we must see that a caring God has given us so much to be thankful for. I have seen families reconnect and draw close to one another. I have seen people that were working themselves to exhaustion have to slowdown and learn to work in a new and different way. I have seen people step up to help those in need during a challenging time. I have seen the selflessness of essential workers dedicated to serving others. I have learned to look and notice the simple beauty of nature.

The scriptures have been a special blessing to me during this time. Deuteronomy 31:6 explains, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." I hope you too, have found comfort in our God and his Word. Be blessed.

Worship Serving Updates

A small group of church leaders has begun meeting to discuss what worship will look like when we are able to start meeting again. We've agreed we'll follow all CDC guidelines and are discussing what modifications to the service will be necessary. For instance, we will not pass the offering plates, boxes will be available at each main aisle to drop-off offering envelopes. Further details will be rolled out via email and Facebook as we work through the details of being able to gather together again.

We are continuing to post our Sunday services online via Facebook, the church website, and on our YouTube channel. Below are the links to each one. Each week a link to the Order of Worship is provided to facilitate following along and at home participation.

We hope you are enjoying the Facebook Live hymn sings and will continue these periodically until we can meet together again for worship.

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pg/yorkvilleucc/videos/?ref=page_internal

Website: <http://yorkvilleucc.org/media/>

YouTube.com: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=yorkville+congregational+united+church+of+christ

I'm looking forward to being able to join with you again in worship!

Lori Redmon

YORKVILLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CELEBRATES 2020 GRADUATES

By Barb Thurlby, CE Director

During these strange and unusual times, it is important to celebrate the joys and victories. We would like to recognize and celebrate our graduates from Yorkville Congregational Church.



Hallie Jones, Yorkville High School 2020

Hallie is a 2020 Yorkville High School graduate. She will attend the University of Kansas majoring in Elementary Education. She is the granddaughter of Sue and Barry Kimes, the niece of Jeff and Kathy Farren and Diane and Jeff Dillow. Halle has served in our children's ministry for three years. We wish her much success.

Brett Rhodes, Yorkville High School 2020

Brett is a 2020 Yorkville High School graduate. You will see Brett around; he is on track to become a full-time Fireman in the Yorkville area. Brett is the son of Abby and Dusty Rhodes and the grandson of Tom and Sandy Lindblom. Good luck Brett!



Bradley Andrus, Oswego High School 2020

Brad is a 2020 Oswego High School graduate. He will attend the University of Wisconsin-Plattville majoring in Mechanical Engineering. Brad is the son of Tracy and Tim Andrus. Good luck Bradley!

Dana Malinowski, Yorkville High School 2020

Dana is a 2020 Yorkville High School graduate. Dana has enlisted in the United States Navy and will deploy in June. Dana has served in our nursery ministry for three years. Best of luck Dana!





Trevor Farbisz, Batavia High School graduate 2020

Trevor is a 2020 Batavia High School graduate. Trevor will attend Illinois State University majoring in Business. He is the nephew of Barb Thurlby and has served in our children's ministry program for two years. Best of luck Trevor!

Wendy Myers Walker, Loyola University graduate 2020

Wendy recently graduated from Loyola University with a master's degree in Educational Psychology. She will be pursuing her doctorate degree. Wendy is the wife of Nathan Walker and the daughter of Deborah Myers. Congratulations Wendy!



Eric Redmon, Lewis University graduate 2020

Eric graduated from Lewis University with a double major in math and computer science. He will attend Marquette University in the fall to begin his doctoral program in math studies. He is the son of Lori and Gavin Redmon. Best of luck Eric!



E-Giving is Easy!

Now is the time to sign up.

Our congregation has pulled together to do some amazing things in the past several months. I am still amazed with how we raised enough funding for a roof replacement and a replacement projector on such short order.

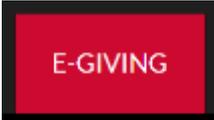
As always, the church tries to be a good steward of the funding it receives from the congregation. Building and grounds is continually finding ways to get things done right while not sacrificing quality. Leadership and staff “shop around” for reducing utilities cost and service agreement costs. We have recently moved to a digital option for receiving newsletters and it has saved the church about \$130 per month.

While we are always looking to find opportunities to reduce cost, we also need a healthy income. Understandably, our income has suffered during this pandemic. However, we have giving options that I would like you to consider. The finance ministry has recently added an “Online Donation” option to our website for donating to the church through “Continue to Give”. This is an excellent option, but does incur a cost to the church.

I would specifically like to urge the congregation to sign up for the “E-Giving Automatic Giving Plan” that is also available from our website. This is the “set it and forget it” option. This is the option that I use because it is automatic and all of the money goes to the church. No more checks, no more reminders. More information can be found on our website, <http://yorkvilleucc.org/>. Click the “**E-GIVING**” button from our website and you will find the sign-up sheet. Please give this option strong consideration as this could be the best option for both you and the church.

Peace,

Aaron Shatters

A red rectangular button with the text "E-GIVING" in white capital letters.

Stewardship Thought...

“In the power of God’s love is Christ we are all brothers & sisters. So, in spite of all the confusion, temptations, cruel barriers of the world, we can with great hope manifest this unity in love.”

John 17:9-23



Announcement of the YCUCC Annual Meeting

In this new world of COVID-19, we are no longer strangers to dealing with life in many different ways. We had hoped that we could worship again in our sanctuary in the month of June as well as hold our Annual Meeting together, but that is unlikely based on the current health guidelines. However, we do need to continue with certain aspects of church life such as approving the new fiscal budget for 2020 – 2021 and the new slate of Shepherds.

The leadership discussed and developed a plan on how to conduct this important meeting in the existing environment. The plan is as follows:

- The proposed budget and the slate of Shepherds (approved by SLT on May 14) will be sent to all members via email and/or postal mail by May 29. The meeting minutes from the May 19, 2019 meeting will also be included.
- A meeting via “Zoom” will be held on June 14 at 1:00 p.m. for a Question and Answer session regarding the budget, slate of Shepherds and meeting minutes. (Details about how to join this meeting will be sent later via email and/or postal mail). Revisions will be made to the documents if required based on input during this meeting.
- An electronic or mail ballot will be sent to all church members following the “Zoom” meeting along with the proposed documents.
- The ballots will be counted and the results will be sent out via email and/or postal mail. Results will need to be returned prior to June 29th.

It is very important that you return your vote because we do need a quorum of at least 50% of our average attendance in order to have approval to implement the budget and seat the incoming shepherds.

Thank you in advance for your flexibility and adaptability in order to move forward in the coming year.

Sandy deRidder
SLT Chairperson

June Birthdays

Ben Moe	03	Megghun Redmon	20
Lauren Betzwisser	05	Vinnie Tunk	20
Erik Mallon	05	Amanda Matlock	21
Rebecca Morello	05	Coral Clevenger	22
Zachary Gette	06	Justine Jahp	22
Lee Kinkade	06	Rick Matuna	22
Matthew Olvera	06	Alison Strandell	24
Douglas Clevenger	07	Richard Skogsberg	26
Paige Sartori	07	Alexia Grube	27
David Strandell	12	Harv Knell	27
Mary Ann Doetschman	13	Deanna Bazan	28
Ashley Grube	13	Pat Dietz	28
Shawn Corwin	14	Makayla Duran	28
June Davis	14	Debbie Weaver	28
		Patricia Norr	29



Trinity Sunday

WHITE or GREEN

Gen 1:1-2:4a

Psalm 8

2 Cor 13:11-13

Matt 28:16-20

This is Good

Second Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

Gen 18:1-15, (21:1-7) and

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 or

Ex 19:2-8a and Psalm 100

Rom 5:1-8

Matt 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

Sarah Laughed

Third Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

Gen 21:8-21 and

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 or

Jer 20:7-13 and

Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18

Rom 6:1b-11

Matt 10:24-39

Daring Discipleship

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

Gen 22:1-14 and Psalm 13 or

Jer 28:5-9 and Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

Rom 6:12-23

Matt 10:40-42

Holy Welcome

June Anniversaries

6/7	Doug & Jo Pierce	45 years
6/10	Gere' & Cissy Ryerson	19 years
6/12	Wayne & Patricia Norr	49 years
6/15	Fred & Gail Gaebler	50 years
6/16	Arthur & Barbara Zillgitt	20+ years
6/20	Robbie & Allison Strandell	5 years

Altar Guild

June, 2020

Jill Mickelson & Joanne Vitek

July, 2020

Joe & Tracy Duran

Date	Greeters	Liturgists	Guardians
6/7	TBD	TBD	Andy Hamblin
6/14	TBD	TBD	Jeff Kline
6/21	TBD	TBD	Lee Kinkade
6/28	TBD	TBD	Brian Bazan

Stephen Ministry

A Steady Reminder of God's Presence

The **Heart** of a Stephen Minister

H=Humble

E=Eager to Care

A=Always Listening

R=Relationship with Jesus

T=Transformed



Contact LouAnn Hoffman of Carrie DeFuss for more information.



Those Grieving:

The McIntyre Family, The Inukai Family, The Fischer Family, The Vitek Family

Those in Cancer Treatment:

Andrea Andres	Sue Monahan	Kylie Brewick's sister-in-law's mom - leukemia
Tommy Marcum	Pat Rogers	
Michelle Meyers	Pearl Undesser	

Health Concerns:

Bill Andersen	Joe Duran	Bob Johnston	Debbie Potempa
Michelle Atwood	Gail Fisher	Diana Lee	Andrea Prochaska
Myrah Baldwin	Mary Freeman	Mazie Marshall	Dale Prochaska
Lynn Belcher	David Hembree	Wendy Meyers	Larry Rezash
McKenzie Brewick	Karen Hess	Joanne O'Brien	Walter Scott
Earl Bushnell	Carlene Hudgins	Doug Pierce	Bob Stout
Jim Dirst	Cliff Jahp	Macayla Poch	

General Concerns:

Brian Homerding	Fred & Marie Wayne	The people who work on the front lines of the virus - doctors, nurses, healthcare workers, nursing home workers, first responders.
Ruth Prince		
Michelle Terri		
Justine Jahp		

Homebound/Assisted Living:

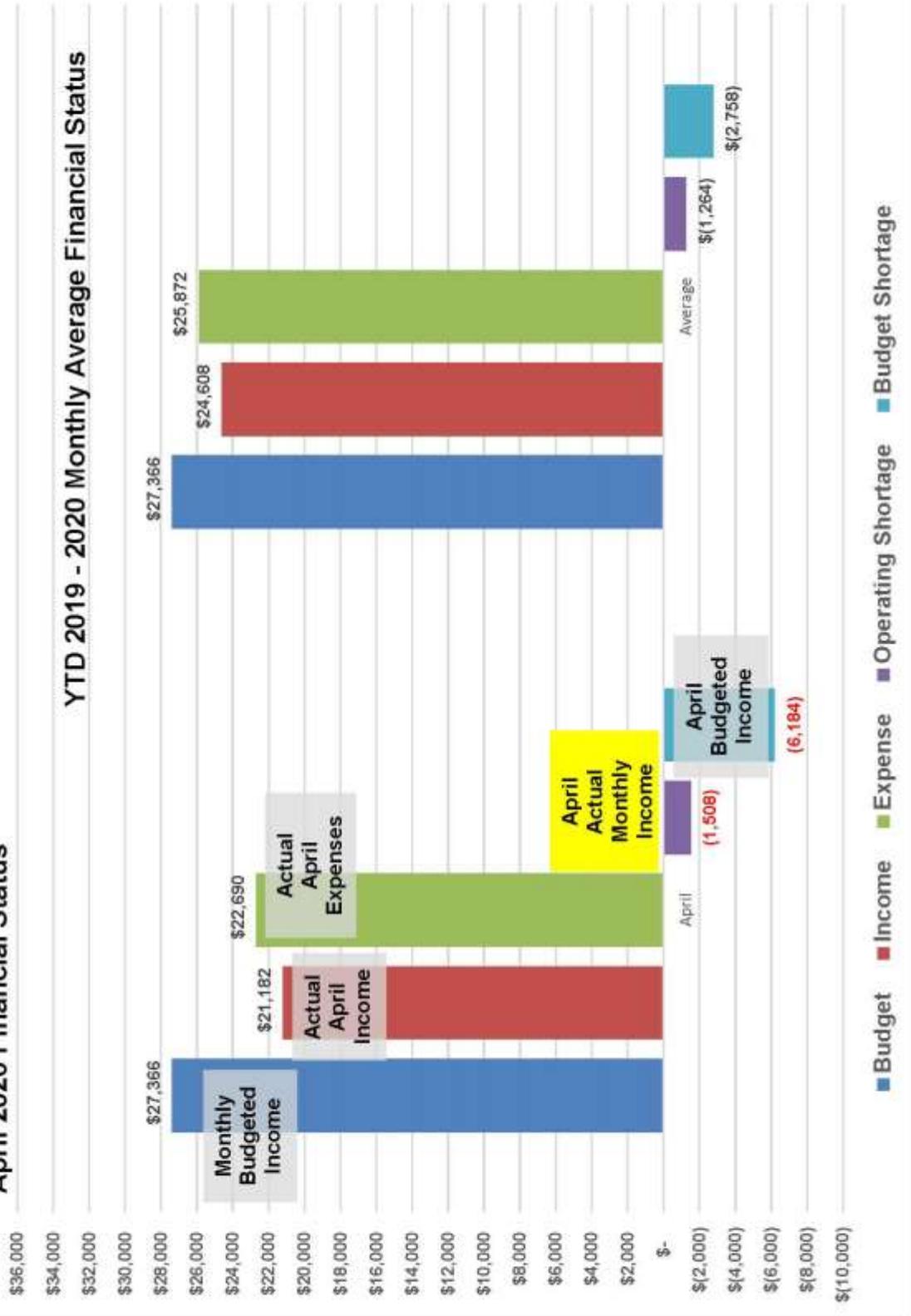
Jim Follmer	Dorothy Sanderson
Andrea Prochaska	



Staff Sgt. Ryan Strong, son of Tim & Laurie Strong

April 2020 Financial Status

YTD 2019 - 2020 Monthly Average Financial Status



Our Mission Statement

*To live as Jesus lived: Love without Judgement, Welcome without Exception,
Serve with Compassion, Teach by Example.*

Our Vision Statement

God's community of unconditional love, made real for everyone, everywhere.

Open & Affirming Covenant

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.

Watch our church services on the internet!!

Facebook: [Click here](#) OR

1. Go to our YCUCC Facebook page.
2. Click on the videos tab on the left side of the home page.
3. Scroll down to select the appropriate sermon date.
4. Click the arrow to view the sermon video.

Website: [Click here](#) OR

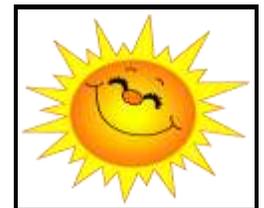
1. Go to our YorkvilleUCC.org home page.
2. Click on the Worship/ Media Tab.
3. Scroll down to select the appropriate sermon date.
4. Click the arrow to view the sermon video.

YouTube.com: [Click here](#) OR

1. Go to the search bar.
2. Type in "Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ".
3. Click on the channel.
4. Select the appropriate sermon date.
5. Click the arrow to view the sermon video.

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United Church of Christ**

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June, 2020

