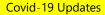


# Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ

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.



Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - Noon

By Reservation Only Worship Services 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Live Streaming on Facebook @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School packets provided at Worship & E-Learning sent weekly.

#### **Our Staff**

Minister
Building Manager
Christian Education Director
Administrative Assistant
Chancel Choir Director
Children's Choir Director
Organist
Pianist
Childcare Attendants

Custodians Sextons Interim to Come
Mary Ellen Anderson
Barbara Thurlby
Liz Cronshaw
Doug Trumble
Sondra Shatters
Tina Andersen
Lori Runkle
Mariela Olvera
Brett Rhodes
Tim & Laurie Strong
Steve Redmon
Mike Obenauer

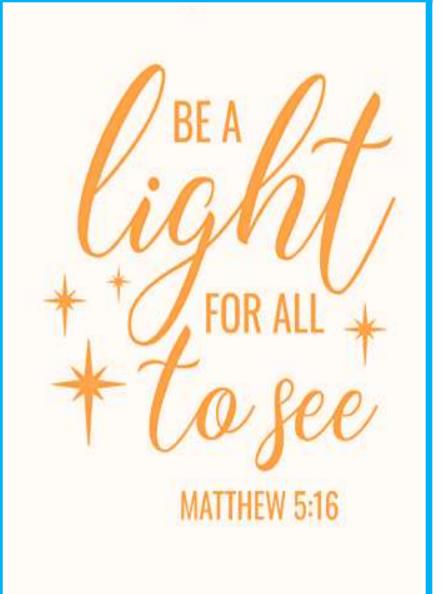
#### **Our Shepherds**

Chairperson
Vice Chairperson
Recording Secretary
Operations: Personnel
Operations: Bldg & Grds
Operations: Bidg & Grds
Operations: Finance
Information Services
Christian Education: Adult
Christian Education: Youth
Worship: Serving
Worship: Preparation
Church Family: Caring
Church Family: Fellowship
Service: Missions
Outreach/Welcoming

Aaron Shatters
Deanna Bazan
Sue Kimes
Kathy Farren
Tony Houle
Tim Andrus
Diane Stablein
Aimee List
Stacy Skinner
Lori Redmon
Pam Hamblin
Mary Ann Doetschman
Jeff Kline/Laurie Houle
June Davis
Gere' Ryerson

# The Happenings







# Thank you all!

I know I said that last month was my last Musing, and it was, because this is really not a Musing, but a BIG THANK YOU! Thank you for the amazing send-off you all gave me on Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. It was heartwarming, and heart-wrenching, all at the same time. I am so grateful for the huge turnout of church family, the "drive-by" farewell you all gave me, the gift from the choir (beautiful work Doug!), all the wonderful and very touching cards, and the very generous retirement gift! You are truly a loving and giving bunch, and Michelle and I will miss you all, IMMENSELY!

Now, I know this is a downer, but as a leave, I have to remind you all that while I would love to see you all again really soon, my ordination vows make that just about impossible. Now that I am no longer your pastor, I cannot have contact with you for a period of a year. There is some wisdom behind that "rule". It allows for all of you to form a relationship with the interim pastor, Tim Rhodes, as well as the permanent pastor who will come after Pastor Tim. As the "Service of Release" says, you have released me from being your pastor, and I have released you from turning to me as your pastor.

This does not mean you can't say "hi" if you see me at Target or Jewel – UCC "rules" are never that rigid. But I can't be your pastor, teacher, mentor, counselor, etc., anymore – that's now Pastor Tim's roll. If you see me around town, we can talk about the Hawks, the Bears, the election, the weather, but not about the church! Okay? Thanks!

Both Pastor Michelle and I know Pastor Tim, and I want you to know that he will love you, support you, encourage you, and be there for you in times of need, just as I was. And you can trust him as much as you grew to trust me.

So, thank you for your love and your partnership in ministry. And "God be with you till we meet again."

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Mark

#### Stewardship Thought...

#### Christian Growth

Spiritual growth results from trusting Jesus Christ. "The righteous man shall live by faith" (Galatians 3:11). A life of faith will enable you to trust God increasingly with every detail of your life, and to practice the following:

Go to God in prayer daily (John 15:7).

Read God's Word daily (Acts 17:11); begin with the Gospel of John.

Obey God moment by moment (John 14:21).

Witness for Christ by your life and words (Matthew 4:19; John 15:8).

Trust God for every detail of your life (1 Peter 5:7).

Holy Spirit-allow Him to control and empower your daily life & witness (Gal 5:16-17; Acts 1:8).



#### From the Desk of the Chair

This is my first newsletter article as the chairperson of the Shepherd Leadership Team and what a team it is! I am very excited to welcome the following new members that will give us a renewed energy:

- Stacy Skinner Christian Education: Children & Youth
- Aimee List Christian Education: Adult
- Deanna Bazan Vice Chairperson

I also want to thank two other team members for staying on for another term:

- Pam Hamblin Worship: Preparation
- Diane Stablein Information Services

We simply cannot function without good leaders and we benefit greatly when experienced leaders continue to serve.

Speaking of leadership, I want to acknowledge the work that Sandy deRidder did while serving as our chairperson for the last 2 years. She had her fair share of crises to manage. The city backed up our sewer, our boiler leaked, our roof, Pastor Marks retirement, covid-19, etc... the hits just kept coming, but she left us in pretty good shape. Thank you, Sandy!

As I'm writing this, the phrase "elephant in the room" keeps popping into my head. When I try to pinpoint what the elephant is, so that I can address it, I find that the room is actually filled with elephants! I think that I will stick with the biggest elephant in the room, Pastor Mark. All of the others can wait.

Pastor Mark has been a friend and confidant to many of us. Through his hundreds of sermons, one-on-one conversations, soup Sunday's, picnics, choir practices, spaghetti dinners, funerals, weddings, and even meetings, he has helped shape the identity of our church. Pastor Mark has imbued his relationship with God into our church and through that we can remain connected. As a raspberry bush sends out runners, so goes Pastor Mark. Going somewhere else, yes, but not leaving this place. Our roots are still the same and both places still have fruit. When he has his "mountaintop experiences", we will be there not only because he is thinking of us, but because we are thinking of him.

Farewell Pastor Mark. You will be missed, but we know where to find you.

Peace, Aaron Shatters

In Memory of John Schaefer, please forward cards to:

Connie Schaefer 4432 Cayo Grande Drive Sarasota, Florida 34233



Stephen Ministry has welcomed 6 new Stephen Ministers to our team. In spite of the delays and changes in training, Leslie Inukai, Ken Olvera, Art Prochaska, Gere Ryerson, Lea Ann Skogsberg and Amy Strausberger completed the required 50 hours of prayerful training and were commissioned during worship on July 12. Along with previously trained Stephen Ministers Anne Engelhardt, Fred Gaebler, Gail Gaebler, Doug Clevenger, and leaders Lou Ann Hoffman and Carrie DeFuss, they have pledged to use the skills learned to support, encourage and comfort people in their needs. The congregation has pledged to open their hearts to this ministry as they care for brothers and sisters in Christ.













#### E-Giving is Easy!

Now is the time to sign up.



This is your monthly reminder to sign up for the "E-Giving Automatic Giving Plan" that is available from our website. This is the "set it and forget it" donation option. Nine out of ten dentists recommend this option. More information can be found on our website, <a href="http://yorkvilleucc.org/">http://yorkvilleucc.org/</a>. 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

**Building and Grounds** 

Office Hours: Monday 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday 8:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Mary Ellen Anderson 630-674-4345 Bldmgr@yorkvilleucc.org



Exciting times as we move forward into August even with the covid virus restriction. Our team of men meet every Tuesday to go over plans and then work on maintenance projects. We have contracts for some structural repairs, a small area of the flat roof replaced, and stonework repaired and cleaned by our main entrance.

We are also working together as a committee investigating a new electronic message corner sign. We will be making a recommendation to the SLT board and then begin a fundraiser to cover the cost of the sign. We want to be visible to the community and entice them to look at our sign while driving by offering time and temperature in between our messages. The messages can be updated as needed promoting upcoming events, current worship hours and other church events. Our men will be updating the electrical wiring at the corner before a new sign can be installed. Our sign now is old, faded and difficult to read and no longer lights up in the evenings.

From the Giving Tree donations tickets, we were able to order two new windows from Home Depot to be installed later this fall: one in the two/three-year-old Sunday school classroom and the other in the Alpha youth room. We have also received a Menards gift card which the men will use to purchase maintenance supplies like furnace filters.

When we get a break from this heat, outside garden weeding and bush trimming will be done during a Saturday morning. Watch for information and come join us!



Yorkville Congregational UCC is registered for Rural King's "Church Week" taking place August 2, 2020 through August 15, 2020. Rural King, in Plano on Rt. 34, will donate 10% of each valid Rural King receipt's total after sales tax to the registered organization chosen by the customer. Receipts must be dated between August 2, 2020 and August 15, 2020 to qualify. All receipts must be uploaded to <a href="http://www.ruralking.com/churchweek">http://www.ruralking.com/churchweek</a> by September 1, 2020.







# YCUCC's 2020 Fall Rummage & Bake Sale scheduled for September 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> has been canceled!

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# 2021 Spring Rummage & Bake Sale April 23 & 24, 2021.

COVID-19 has taken its toll on everyone - everywhere! Graduations, parades, spring, summer and fall festivals, along with theater venues across the country, have canceled activities.

Even the 2020 Sandwich Fair has been canceled!!

We are not free of COVID-19! We do not want to put any of our workers/volunteers/customers at risk. We spend many, many hours shuffling and sifting through bags of donated items that we have no idea of their origin. It would also be highly unlikely we could maintain CDC's social distancing guidelines of 6', enforce the wearing of masks by all workers and patrons at all times, plus keep a limit of 50 people at a time to physically be in the building - and that total includes all workers.

If you are willing to save items you planned to donate for either the 2020 Spring and/or Fall Rummage Sales, and you have space in your home to store them, we would greatly appreciate it!

YCUCC is not accepting donations at this time!

J.O.Y. Circle will be happy to receive your "Treasures" the week of the scheduled spring sale.

#### Reminder: Items 'NOT' Accepted for Donation:

Electronics (TVs, computers, printers, typewriters, land/cell phones, fax equipment), infant/child car and/or booster seats, any size mattress, cribs

Thank you for your continued support of our church family and community!

Peg Trumble
J.O.Y. Circle Chair / R&B Sale Chair

#### Missions Ministry

Our final total for the 5 for 5 offering "Strengthen the Church" is \$320.00. Strengthen the Church, Our Church's Wider Mission Special Support, goes to the Still Speaking Ministry of the United Church of Christ, leadership for new and renewing churches, programs for youth and young adults, and leadership development.

The Missions Ministry thanks all who made this happen!

Missions Ministry budgeted line items sent in July:

Mutual Ground (Women's) - \$250.00 and Pilgrim Park/Tower Hill Repairs - \$200.00 (Church Camp of UCC)

### **Outreach & Welcoming**

#### Reach Out and Welcome, Welcome and Reach Out



We live in a time that begs many questions about our government, society, various groups, people that come from all walks of life.

These people are parents, teacher, leaders, strangers. You, me, the circle of people who make up our beautiful Mother Earth.

While we may not know each other or understand other cultures, we all have one thing in common.

WE ALL COME FROM THE SAME LOVING FATHER WHO CREATED US.

That is not fact, but fiction.

God our Father has asked us to Love One Another as He so Loved US, ALL of US!

It is important as a Christian community that we take the lead as Jesus did and take every opportunity to lead by example, love as His example.

We are experiencing some unchartered territory these days for certain.

Yet if we can always remember what our Father has taught us, to go out and Love One Another,

I assure you; your days will be light and filled with His Joy.

Peace and Love Always



Stephen Ministers strive to
"Bear one another's burdens and thus fulfill the law of Christ"
Galatians 6:2

If you or someone you know is burdened or hurting, a trained Stephen Minister can listen, encourage and care in a <a href="mailto:confidential">confidential</a> one-to-one manner.

Contact Carrie DeFuss or Lou Ann Hoffman

# Pastor Mark's Farewell Service

Set up Saturday Night for the outdoor worship service tomorrow.



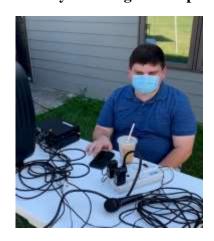




Set up several tents and staged 140 chairs.



 $Sunday\ Morning\ Worship-Service\ of\ Separation$ 









#### More Sunday Morning Worship - Service of Separation...























And then it was all over.



lf

we get to reopen Sunday School in September, as the preschool teacher I want

you to know that we have been thinking and planning ways to make sure our kids stay healthy and strong. The building and grounds men have installed hand sanitizing station in all the classrooms. We have deep cleaned the toys and equipment.

The preschool room is large enough to handle our class size. Most of our activities are done in stations spreading the kids out in the room. Some safety changes that I have made for the preschool kids include lanyards for each child to wear to attach his/her mask to if they take it off. Then when it is time to put their mask back on, it is right there for them to grab.





If parents check to see that their children are healthy, take their temperature before coming to church, we will do our part to keep them safe during the time we are together in the classroom.

We have hula hoops for the kids to sit in as their "safety zone". If they need to take their mask off for a few minutes, they can sit in a hoop. They will also be sitting in hula hoops designating their safety space when we watch a video with their mask off.

We will go into fellowship hall and sit at several tables to have our prepackaged snack. This area will be set up ahead of time, so they know exactly where to go.

We hope you will share any concerns you have, and we welcome any suggestions you would like to share with us to make our classroom safe and ready for your kids.

We have attempted to keep in touch with our kids during this restricted time apart with weekly E-learning activities and videos. We have activity packs ready for the children each week to help entertain them while sitting with their family for worship.

I am immensely proud of our church leadership in setting up excellent safety protocol for our soft reopening in July and now into late summer. I know they will be on top of things for this fall. Hope you feel safe enough to come to worship as a family.

Mary Ellen Anderson



Dear Members and Staff of Yorkville Congregational UCC,

The interim pastor search team is excited to announce that we have selected and hired an interim pastor to start on *Sunday, September 13th\**. We are confident that we have chosen a great leader for our church who will help us navigate our path through the interim process while, at the same time, maintain the strong footing that we find ourselves on as a congregation. We welcome Tim Rhodes.



Tim Rhodes started adult life as a Ringling Brother Circus clown. A graduate of Elmhurst University and Eden Theological Seminary, Tim was the founding pastor of Hope United Church of Christ in Naperville, Illinois and was President and CEO of Lifelink, an international social services ministry of the United Church of Christ. Congregational United Church of Christ, Yorkville is Tim's third interim ministry. Tim and his spouse, Cheryl, have two adult daughters and an active one-year old dog. Tim has also served on numerous non-profit and for-profit boards of directors and is currently a Trustee of Chicago Theological Seminary.

I would like to give many thanks to the search team that worked to select Tim as interim pastor. Deanna Bazan, Sandy deRidder, Tim Andrus, Kathy Farren and Aaron Shatters all worked efficiently through these weird times to come to confident and unanimous agreement.

Finally, I would like to thank our Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Kimberly Wood, of the Fox Valley Association of the Illinois UCC Conference. She lent us guidance, set expectations, and provided us with an excellent list of candidates to consider.

While we all love and respect Pastor Mark and the years of service he has graced upon our church, it is in no way disrespectful to feel a sense of excitement about our future as a congregation. In fact, we are blessed to have such a strong church to be excited for!

Welcome Tim Rhodes!

Peace,

Aaron Shatters Chairperson - YCUCC

<sup>\*</sup>Please note change of start date.

| August Birthdays                                                                                               |                                        |                                                                                             |                                        |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Ethan Strong Jake Brewick Scott Hart Goldie Behrens John Schulz Chelsea Skinner Lincoln Skinner                | 02<br>03<br>03<br>05<br>06<br>06       | Art Prochaska Hannah Bazan Cayla Pottinger Kathy Farren Regina Moe Alex Skinner Morgan List | 14<br>14<br>15<br>17<br>17<br>18       |  |  |  |
| Penelope Skinner<br>Scott Corwin<br>Jeff Farren<br>Becky Wright<br>Abby Rhodes<br>Gerry Inukai<br>Jan Essex    | 06<br>07<br>07<br>07<br>07<br>07<br>07 |                                                                                             | 19<br>19<br>19<br>19<br>20<br>21<br>24 |  |  |  |
| Brad Andrus Benjamin Erickson Charlotte Shatters Peg Trumble Lou Ann Hoffman Bill Anderson Mary Ellen Bushnell | 09<br>10<br>10<br>10<br>12<br>12<br>13 | Mary Lee Swickert Rachel Hart Pam Campos Diane Stablein Luke Schoenfielder Doug Matlock     | 26<br>27<br>28<br>28<br>28<br>28<br>31 |  |  |  |

| August Anniversaries |                         |          |  |  |  |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------|--|--|--|
| 8/01                 | Kevin & Lauren Vaclavik | 11 years |  |  |  |
| 8/08                 | Jerry & Anne Engelhardt | 50 years |  |  |  |
| 8/08                 | Andy & Pam Hamblin      | 29 years |  |  |  |
| 8/08                 | Tim & Monica Sartori    | 23 years |  |  |  |
| 8/09                 | Craig & Sarah Pottinger | 17 years |  |  |  |
| 8/10                 | Jim & Pat Ruzicka       | 57 years |  |  |  |
| 8/12                 | Tony & Lori Houle       | 42 years |  |  |  |
| 8/17                 | Ben & Holly Erickson    | 52 years |  |  |  |
| 8/25                 | Dan & Lori Melhouse     | 44 years |  |  |  |
| 8/26                 | Harold & Mary McCracken | 63 years |  |  |  |

#### **Altar Guild**

August, 2020 Jan Essex & Joann Morr September, 2020 Kristina Arch & Chanel Bravo



#### Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

Gen 32:22-31 and Ps 17:1-7, 15 Isa 55:1-5 and Ps 145:8-9, 14-21 Rom 9:1-5 Matt 14:13-21 Face to Face

#### **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**GREEN** 

Gen 37:1-4, 12-28 and Ps 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b I Kings 19:9-18 and Ps 85:8-13 Rom 10:5-15 Matt 14:22-33 When all Seems Lost

#### **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**GREEN** 

Gen 45:1-15 and Ps 133 Isa 56:1, 6-8 and Ps 67 Rom 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matt 15:(10-20), 21-28 Bold Moves

#### Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

Ex 1:8-2:10 and Ps 124 Isa 51:1-6 and Ps 138 Rom 12:1-8 Matt 16:13-20 Be Transformed

# **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost** GREEN

Ex 3:1-15 and Ps 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b Jer 15:15-21 and Ps 26:1-8 Rom 12:9-21 Matt 16:21-28 Spirit-Led Living

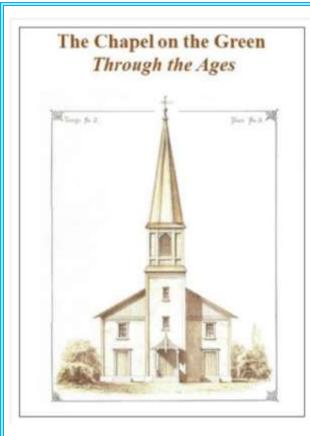
| Date | Greeters | Liturgists | Guardians |
|------|----------|------------|-----------|
| 8/2  | TBD      | TBD        | TBD       |
| 8/9  | TBD      | TBD        | TBD       |
| 8/16 | TBD      | TBD        | TBD       |
| 8/23 | TBD      | TBD        | TBD       |
| 8/30 | TBD      | TBD        | TBD       |

#### WELL DONE.....

By Barb Thurlby, CE Director

There are so many parables in the bible that I enjoy. However, one of my favorite parables is found in Matthew chapter 25, the parable of the talents. The story tells of a man that entrusts his property to his servants and how those servants respond and how the man reacts to their actions. The verse that draws me in every time is Matthew 25:21, which reads, "His master replies, Well done, good and faithful servant...." Though it is a parable I have always embraced those words. Isn't that what we should all be working toward as believers? To have God tell us 'well done' good and faithful servant?

I can attest that I have seen so many cases of servantship here at YCUCC. We are surrounded by believers that commit time and talents for the greater good of our church, and that is a blessing. As we bid farewell to certain SLT members and welcome new SLT members I am thankful for the service and commitment of those church members that have and are serving in that capacity. (On behalf of Christian Education, thank you Sarah Pottinger for working tirelessly to lead, support and encourage our Christian education program.) The commitment of being a part of SLT is not a simple one; it is a serious commitment with some sacrifice that is genuinely appreciated.



Church members may be interested in a book recently published by The Chapel on the Green. The Chapel on the Green is the name of our former church building on West Center Street.

The book is written by Chapel Executive Director Howard Manthei and Jeff Farren, a YCC member and Chapel board member.

The Chapel on the Green is full of history. The goal of the book was to tell the story of this historic site. As the oldest non-residential building in Kendall County it has been a part of many major local events, and continues to help couples make their own history. The chapel is Kendall County's oldest church building that is still in use for religious and other functions and is on the national registry of historic places.

The Yorkville Congregational Church was gracious in allowing Jeff access to the price-less volumes of history in their books of minutes and scrapbooks dating back to the beginning of the 1855 building.

The book's cover depicts the original building design chosen from a variety of options that the national Congregational Church organization published.

A variety of vintage photos and diagrams are used throughout to illustrate changes to the building over the years.

The cost of the 75-page book is \$20. It can be purchased directly from the publisher, Lulu Books, at www.lulu.com. Hint: type in "The Chapel on the Green" to locate the book. If you buy it directly from the publisher, the cost of shipping anywhere in the United States in included.

Some copies are also available by contacting Jeff at jfarren290@aol.com or any Chapel board member.



#### **Those Grieving:**

The Vitek Family, The Strong Family, The Schaefer Family, The Patterson 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   | Gail Fisher   | Diana Lee      | Andrea Prochaska |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Michelle Atwood | Mary Freeman  | Barry Leggett  | Dale Prochaska   |
| Myrah Baldwin   | David Hembree | Mazie Marshall | Larry Rezash     |
| Lynn Belcher    | Karen Hess    | Wendy Meyers   | Walter Scott     |
| Earl Bushnell   | Cliff Jahp    | Joanne O'Brien | Bob Stout        |
| Jim Dirst       | Bob Johnston  | Doug Pierce    | Marie Wayne      |
| Joe Duran       | Rhonda Ladson | Debbie Potempa | ·                |

#### **General Concerns:**

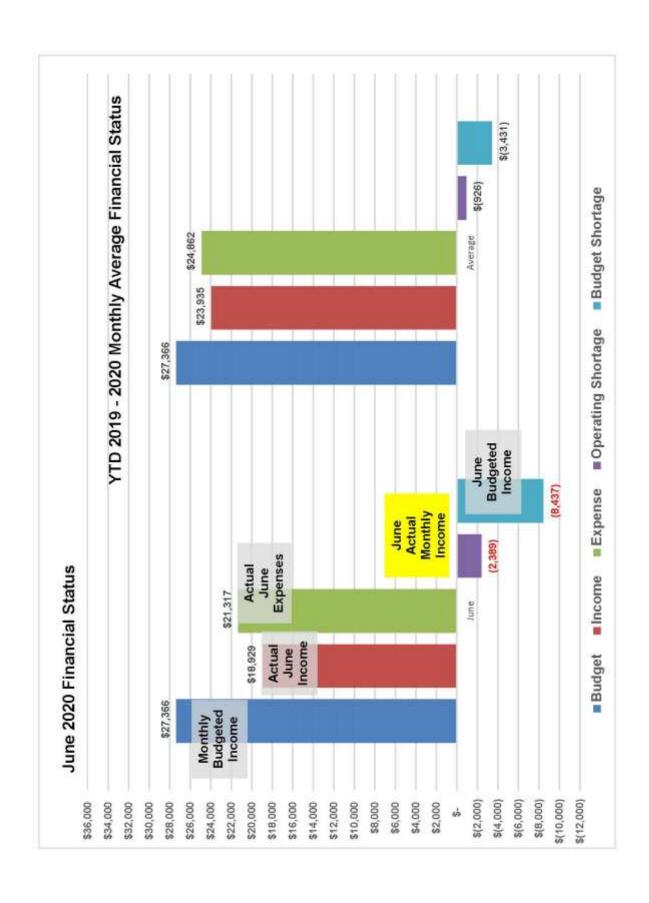
Brian Homerding
Justine Jahp
Lee Kinkade
Samuel Nedrow, US Navy

Ruth Prince
Michelle Terri
Fred Wayne

The people who work on the front lines of the virus - doctors, nurses, healthcare workers, nursing home workers, first responders.

#### Homebound/Assisted Living:

Jim Follmer Andrea Prochaska Dorothy Sanderson



#### **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.

# Yorkville Congregational Church United Church of Christ

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

August, 2020

