



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.



Covid-19 Updates

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

By Reservation Only

Worship Service - Sunday @ 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Live Streaming on Facebook & YouTube
@ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School Classes @ 10:00 a.m.

Our Staff

<u>Minister</u>	Timothy C. Rhodes
<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>	Mariela Olvera
	Brett Rhodes
<u>Custodians</u>	Tim & Laurie Strong
<u>Sextons</u>	Steve Redmon
	Mike Obenauer

Our Shepherds

<u>Chairperson</u>	Aaron Shatters
<u>Vice Chairperson</u>	Deanna Bazan
<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>	Aimee List
<u>Christian Education: Youth</u>	Stacy Skinner
<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

NOVEMBER
2020



Happy
Thanksgiving!



TIM's TALES

The 2020 Thanksgiving celebration will be different from all the others of my memory. Typically, we gather some 30 family, friends, and friends to be, for an ample feast of food, fun, and friendship. This year, to keep everyone safe, Cheryl and I will celebrate together at our own table and connect to family and friends via technology. Family gatherings are causing new spikes in Covid infections.

In 1863 Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a day of thanksgiving for the nation and asked that we pray for the nation and one another. Some find it difficult to pray at such feasts, so I humbly offer you the following prayer. I wrote it with sensitivity to our current national mood and the health crisis we face.

Please feel free to use it at your table and share it with your family and friends to use at their tables. I imagine families, separated for safety, praying together a common prayer.

God of us all, we enter this Thanksgiving feast grateful for your protection and care. We are surrounded by the beauty and bounty of life. We give you thanks for our nation and pray that we may all live in liberty and unity.

May this gathering be filled with peace, harmony, and kindness as we enjoy one another on this special occasion. This day we feel in our hearts, those who are absent from this table. We pray for their care and anticipate the time when we may all be reunited in the comfort of hugs and laughter.

We ask that your peace and protection will bless us throughout this holiday season. Amen



Do you feel you are walking a long road alone?

You are not alone. A Stephen Minister can help you face the struggles on your journey.

Contact the church office, Lou Ann Hoffman or Carrie DeFuss.



From the Desk of the Chair

The holiday season is coming. This years' holiday season brings a mixed bag of feelings. Excitement about family and the opportunities to enjoy holiday traditions. Hesitation and trepidation about family gatherings and the clash of opinions about how to handle it this year. Worry about hurting people's feelings. Sorrow about how this year just won't be the same. Longing for loved ones that won't be able to join you, or who are deciding not to join you. This is all very overwhelming. This can all be a little depressing.

For many of us, things will be different this year. Be open to doing things differently. Have faith and patience that there will be opportunity to claw back some sense of normalcy as time goes on. Trust that everyone is trying to do the best they can, given the circumstances we are in. Understand that many people are dealing with tremendous internal struggle trying to weigh all of the options and sort through all of the information and conflicting guidance. Lift their burden, don't weigh them down.

On the other hand, don't be afraid to do what you think is safe for your family and community. It is ok to be cautious. Don't let anyone shame or guilt you into acting against your own judgement. Are we overreacting? Maybe. Are we not doing enough? Maybe. Are we crazy? Probably. We have to do what we think is best and let the chips fall where they may.

Know that at the beginning and end, your church is here. The millennia old rock of our faith is constant and strong. Let your faith be the constant that doesn't just call you to action but provides you with sanctuary and a foundation on which to rest, recharge and rely. Your church is here. The story of Jesus is still the same, yesterday, today and forever. Make sure it is a part of your holiday season.

Peace,

Aaron Shatters - SLT Chairperson

Our New Flat Roof!

We are pleased and excited about the new flat roof that Advanced Roofing installed over our northeast corner of our building. This is our test area of what we hope will be the way to change the rest of the flat roof areas in the near future.



Notice all the stone has been removed. The new membrane rolls up on the side of the shingle roof to help with the continuing flow of rainwater to the new gutters and downspout.

On the east side of the building, as the flat roof is replaced we will need to extend the roof, by the two stone wing walls and the southeast corner, so that gutters and downspouts can be added in the same fashion that it was done here on the northeast corner of the building.

The finished look will look intentional and will keep us from future water damage.



E-Giving is Easy!

Now is the time to sign up.

E-GIVING

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. This option is “kid tested, mother-approved”. 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

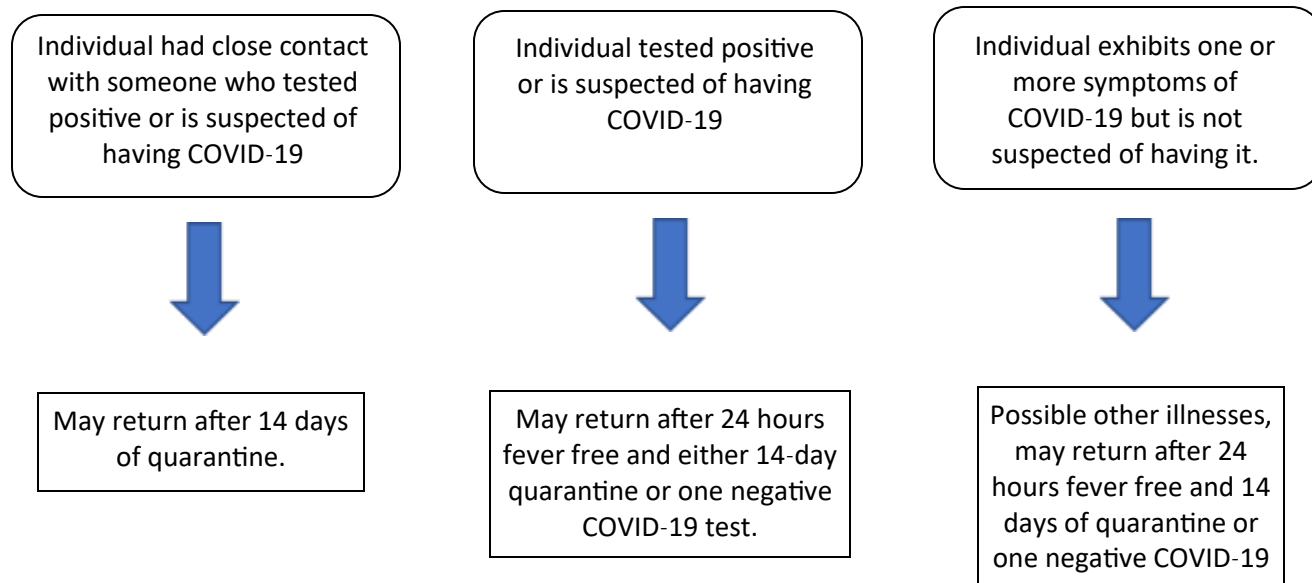
YORKVILLE CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

COVID – 19: Path to return to Church/Sunday School – September 2020

** Any individual, (adult, or child), that tests positive of COVID-19 should alert church leadership; contacts should include:*

- Board Chair Aaron Shatters
- Pastor Tim Rhodes
- Worship Shepherd Lori Redmon
- Christian Education Director Barb Thurlby

Necessary follow up will be completed.



*** Questions or concerns about processes should be address with the SLT board.

Building and Grounds
Office Hours: Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. – Noon

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



Construction repairs and replacements to our northeast corner have been completed. Advance Roofing did the following work.

- Removed the stone and replaced the deteriorated plywood sheathing
- Installed Poly ISO insulation boards to promote water flow
- Installed new TPO thermoplastic polyolefin single-ply membrane
- Installed new finished edge metal

Bill White did the interior repair in that same location replacing studs cement boards siding wood door jambs and trim, fascia lumber and studs and roof joist. Also replaced, taped, and primed the drywall. The building and grounds men will paint the interior hallway wall.

Our team of Building and Grounds men continue to meet every Tuesday and perform maintenance work after their meeting. They added mulch in front of the corner sign to help it to look better. We are continuing our investigation for other options for the corner sign. We want the community to know who we are but also to know what is happening here at YCUC. Yes, we use the web page and Facebook to communicate to the community, but we need to also trigger the curiosity of people driving by to look at our sign. The original proposed sign would give the time and temperature and most people have to check to see if their car displays matches what they are seeing on our sign. Then we can hook them with a colorful attractive message that tells them what is going on here and maybe entice them to attend or to look at our web page or Facebook to learn more about us. We know that this concept is expensive, and we also hope that there are people in our congregation that also want to support our idea of connecting with the community with a creative appealing short to the point message.

With a 30+ year old building, there are always expensive repairs and replacements. Most of our heating and cooling equipment is 30+ years old. The same is true for our carpet, parking lot, light fixtures and the list goes on and on.

We have started a window replacement program and have been changing out our casement windows to more efficient fixed windows, a few each year which will be completed in 5 more years.

We have replaced our shingle roof with a improved air flow system that should help extend the life of our shingles and now the flat roof has reached its expected life expectancy and once again we are needing financial support to replace it

We hope you have a better understanding of why we are always reaching out to our congregation for financial support. We are trying our best to educate ourselves to make smart decisions for these expensive structural improvements and replacements.



Worship Serving

Exciting news!! We are now streaming live to YouTube as well as Facebook!! Those who do not have a Facebook account but wanted to watch our Worship Service live can now watch it on YouTube. Just go to YouTube and type in the search bar Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ and the first search should be our YouTube channel. Click on it and you can watch the live video or other worship services. If you have any questions, you can ask Lori Redmon or Diane Stablein.

Streaming to Facebook and YouTube now requires that both Lori and I be at church on Sundays. We both need to monitor different laptops, one for the slides for the projector and one that is running the software that helps our church stream to both Facebook and YouTube. If you have an interest in what we do and would like to help Lori and I, we would love to have a couple of backups. Let Lori or Diane know.

If you feel you are not tech savvy but would still like to help Lori and I, we are also looking to purchase a church laptop specifically for running or streaming software and monitoring the social media accounts during live streaming. Currently we are using our personal laptop to do this. If you would like to donate money towards the purchase of the laptop that would be appreciated! We hope to have some tags on the giving tree soon.



OPERATION SANTA



The Yorkville Junior Women's Club (Operation Santa) has partnered with the Kendall County Food Pantry to collect toys for the less fortunate kids in our area. They need our help again this year.

They help children newborn to age 12 with toys and teens 13-17 with items to go into a "Teen Bag". Fast food gift cards (\$5.00) go over big with the teens. It is difficult to find toys for \$10.00 so know that you will not be locked into a \$10.00 limit. They could also use batteries and wrapping paper. Tape too!

Please bring your unwrapped items to the church by December 13th!
It is not necessary to tag the gifts.

A table will be set up and available to start receiving your gifts by November 8th!

If you are not able to shop, I will do the shopping for you! Cash donations and checks made out to YJWC are greatly appreciated!

Thank you for your support!

Regina Moe

YCC SUNDAY SCHOOL IS 'COOKING'!

By Barb Thurlby, Christian Education Director

We were so excited to begin Sunday School at Yorkville Congregational Church on Sunday, October 4, 2020! This fall's theme is 'Ingredients of a Godly Kid', which is a cooking-based theme, and our young chefs are loving it.

Each week students enter at our social distance station where they are checked for a mask, their temperature is taken, and each student gets hand sanitizer. Students in the preschool area and elementary area have been very cooperative and are happy to be back.

Once in the classrooms, students are distanced 6 feet apart and program begins. The program shares an opening, prayer, story time, video time and then a cooking session. All the food is prepackaged and safe for students to enjoy at their own stations. Each food session connects the lesson and the 'ingredient' that a Godly kid should have.

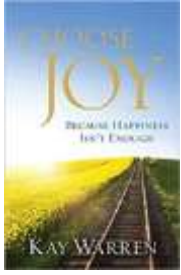
Regardless of Covid, YCC students are sharing a safe, fun and God centered Sunday morning!



"Hanging of the Greens" will be done just a little differently this year. We will share the Hanging of the Greens story during worship on the first Sunday of Advent, November 29th and then finish decorating for the holiday the next day. If you enjoy decorating a tree, hanging garland or wreaths and are available to help, plan to come on November 30th from 10:00 am – Noon. If you can, give the church office a call to let us know that you are planning on helping. We would like to have an idea how many people will be coming to help, but if you cannot call the church office, just come anyway.

No meal will be served, just the fun of decorating the church for the season. Hope you can help!

Adult Education



There will be a video-based bible study on the book *Choose Joy: Because Happiness Isn't Enough* by Kay Warren. The group will meet in the low ceiling area otherwise known as the “Kids Zone”, Wednesday, Nov 4 & 11 and Dec 2 & 9 @ 6 pm each session. We expect the sessions to last 1.5 hours or until 7:30 pm. Participant guides will be provided. For more information contact Barb or the church office if you would like to join.

Check out *The Word is Resistance* podcast. Hosted by a UCC pastor, the podcast focuses on letting our faith guide us as we fight against oppression and work for collective liberation.



THE WORD IS RESISTANCE: A PODCAST FOR THE REVOLUTION
"THE BIBLE IS NOT THE VICTORY HANDBOOK OF THE EMPIRE,
BUT THE OUTCRY AND DEEPLY HUMAN WRESTLINGS OF THE OPPRESSED."
-- REV. ANNE DUNLAP

Book Spotlight



America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America by Jim Wallis. Jim Wallis is an American Theologian known for his advocacy on peace and social justice issues. This book is not new—it was published in 2015, but sadly, just as relevant today as in 2015.



The Vanishing Half, by Brit Bennett. This is a story of identical twins' who take vastly different paths. It is a story of black identity and how our past shapes our present.

To Watch

The movie, *Just Mercy*, starring Michael B. Jordan and Jamie Foxx. We believe in the power of story,” Warner Bros. said in a statement, “Our film *Just Mercy*, based on the life work of civil rights attorney **Bryan Stevenson**, is one resource we can humbly offer to those who are interested in learning more about the systemic racism that plagues our society.” The movie is based on the book, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson.

Choose a study, reading and/or viewing this month!



Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

Each year we offer an opportunity for our members and friends to share in decorating our Sanctuary for Christmas with Poinsettia's!

The price for each Poinsettia is \$10.00

If you would like to order, please complete the information below & mail the form to 409 Center Parkway, Yorkville, IL 60560 with your check payable to YCUCC or place it in the offering bin no later than Sunday, December 6, 2020

Your Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Please indicate exactly how you would like each gift to be acknowledged.

In Memory Of _____

In Honor of _____

Love Gift _____

When would you like to pick up your Poinsettia?

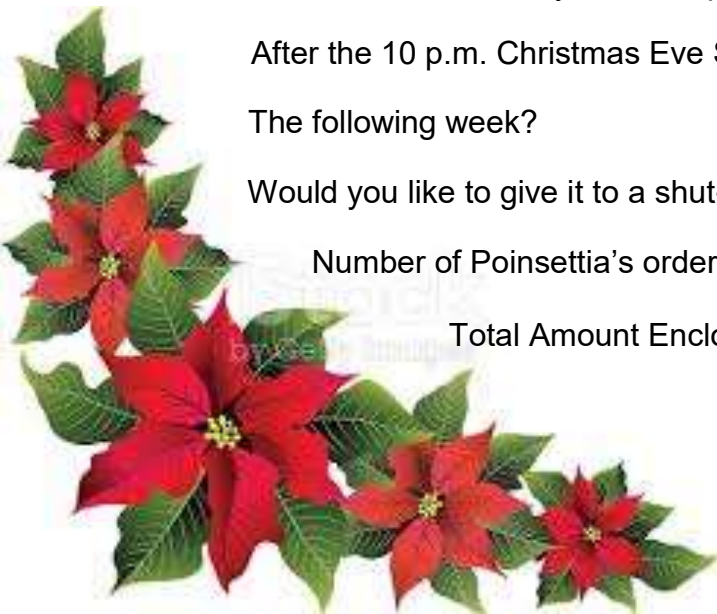
After the 10 p.m. Christmas Eve Service? ____ Yes ____ No

The following week? ____ Yes ____ No

Would you like to give it to a shut-in? ____ Yes ____ No

Number of Poinsettia's ordered _____ @ \$10.00 each.

Total Amount Enclosed _____



MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Quarterly Report for Pastoral Care Ministry

Quarter: 3 Year: 2020

Reports for dates: 07/01/20 through 09/30/20

Worship Attendance	Adults	Children	Special Services	Weekly Total	Monthly Total
07/05/2020	20/32	4/10	8:30 & 10:00 Services	66	
07/12/2020	30/34	7/6	8:30 & 10:00	77	
07/19/2020	24/43	1/6	8:30 & 10:00	74	
07/26/2020	135		Pastor Mark's Last service	135	
Totals for July					352
08/02/2020	12/27	1/4	8:30 & 10:00	44	
08/09/2020	12/26	1/7	8:30 & 10:00	46	
08/16/2020	24	1	10:00 service only	25	
08/23/2020	28	8	10:00 service only	36	
08/30/2020	38	7	10:00 service only	45	
Totals for August					196
09/06/2020	38	12	10:00 service only	50	
09/13/2020	42	6	10:00 service only Rev. Tim Rhodes	48	
09/20/2020	19/42	1/4	8:30 & 10:00	66	
09/27/2020	18/39	1/7	8:30 & 10:00	65	
Total for September					229
Quarterly Total					777

Additions: (0)

1. Confirmation
2. Confession of Faith
3. Letter of Transfer
4. Reaffirmation of Faith

Losses: (1)

1. Death - 7/20/2020— John Palmer Patterson
2. Transfer
3. Other Removals

Baptisms: (0)

1. Child 0-12
2. Adult 13 and over

Weddings: (0)

Funerals: (0)

Respectfully Submitted

Goldie Behrens & Diane Dillow



Exciting news! YCUCC is now participating in Amazon Smile. Just in time for the holiday season. This means that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchases through <https://smile.amazon.com> to YCUCC if you select "Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ" as your preferred charity.

Use the following link to select your preferred charity: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2639077>. From that point forward, qualifying purchases can be made through smile.amazon.com.

Happy Holidays! - Aaron



For the Kids



at Central DuPage Hospital

We want to continue the fleece blanket mission for the children's ward at Central DuPage Hospital. In the past we used money from the bake sale to cover the cost of the fleece material. However, this year we are putting tags on the "Giving Tree" to support this sweet tender mission. Pam and Andy Hamblin have agreed to help with this mission by ordering the material, cutting the blankets strips, and then washing and packaging them when we are ready to take them to the hospital.

We will need help tying them once they are ready. The blanket packs will be out for pick up shortly after Christmas. You can come by the church during office hours to pick up a bagged blanket. Take the blanket home to tie and then return the completed blanket back in the bag to the church during the week. We are trying our best to honor our COVID plan and not to linger in the Narthex on Sunday mornings.

Please look for a tag on the "Giving Tree" and help support this mission.

Donation can go in the offering box, church office, or mail it to the church with attention Mary Ellen.

We know that these warm cuddly fleece blankets of **HOPE**
will put a smile on the patients face
and a smile on their parents heart
Please plan to get involved with this mission!

Happy Thanksgiving One and All

Outreach & Welcoming



What a wonderful time to give thanks for all that is Good!

What a wonderful opportunity to brighten someone else's day.

Our AID Virtual Christmas Tree Will be Coming Your Way.

Take Time to Share Christmas with AID Spreading His Love and Joy.

Peace and Love Always,

November Birthdays

Krista Wilson	03	Doug Pierce	18
Caden Langston	05	Christopher Johnson	19
Nick Skinner	05	Terry Keith	19
Joann Morr	06	Lynne White	19
Julia Runkle	06	Barry Kimes	21
Jennifer Keith	07	Tess Tsusaki	21
Trent Hufstetler	07	Christopher Johnson	21
Ilana Grube	07	Andrea Prochaska	22
John Pratt	08	Donna Davidson	23
Amanda Seibel	08	Ron Anderson	24
Audrey Fitzgerald	10	Grant Guenzler	28
Jonathan Lamp	12	Jim Davis	29
Laurie Houle	14	Wayne Norr	29
Linda Melhouse	15	Keri Phillipp	29
Gabe Keith	16		

November Anniversaries

11/08	Fred & Marie Wayne	68 years
11/09	Kris & Eva Schoenfelder	24 years
11/10	Jake & Kylie Brewick	2 years
11/11	Steve & Julie Gawne	25 years
11/19	Dave & Lisa Sheble	1 year

Altar Guild

Andy & Pam Hamblin

Lighting of Advent Candles

As Advent is approaching, we are looking for families to volunteer to light the candles at one service on Sunday during Advent. Please contact Kathy Wickens at (630) 552-7138.



Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

Josh 3:7-17 and Ps 107:1-7, 33-37

Mic 3:5-12 and Ps 43

1 Thess 2:9-13

Matt 23:1-12

Partners in Service

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

Josh 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Ps 78:1-7

Wisd of Sol 6:12-16 or Amos 5:18-24 and
Wisd of Sol 6:17-20 or Ps 70

1 Thess 4:13-18

Matt 25:1-13

Tending God's Light

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

Judg 4:1-7 and Ps 123

Zeph 1:7, 12-18 and Ps 90:1-8 (9-11), 12

1 Thess 5:1-11

Matt 25:14-30

Extravagant Opportunity

Reign of Christ

GREEN or WHITE

Ezek 34:11-16, 20-24 and Ps 100

Ezek 34:11-16, 20-24 and Ps 95:1-7a

Eph 1:15-23

Matt 25:31-46

Reigning Compassion

First Sunday of Advent (Year B)

VIOLET or BLUE

Isa 64:1-9

Ps 80:1-7, 17-19

1 Cor 1:3-9

Mk 13:24-37

Where Are You, God?

Prayers Requested for former Illinois Conference Minister

Hello Colleagues,

I have been in touch with Justo Gonzalez, who has been tested positive for the Corona virus. He and his husband James are both positive. Justo has been admitted to a hospital and is in an isolated room. His lungs have developed a pneumonia and they have him on a steroid treatment. I have asked his permission to share this news with you, and he would covet your prayers. Please take a moment and lift him up in your prayers.

Shalom,

Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer
General Minister and President

CE SPONSORED FAMILY CAMPFIRE A BIG HIT

By Barb Thurlby, Christian Education Director

On Sunday, October 11, 2020 families and friends gathered at the church for a family campfire. Friends and families enjoyed fellowship along with s'mores and comfortable campfires. All activities were social distanced, and attendees enjoyed the beautiful fall weather and a chance to safety fellowship. Thank you to those that donated supplies, firewood and firepits! We look forward to hosting another campfire event!



Missions Moment...

The NIN – Neighbors In Need, 5 for 5 Offering, that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States has been collected. As of 10-22-20 we have received \$440.00. The Mission Ministry thanks those who gave.

Our next 5 for 5 offering will be in December when we give to “The Christmas Fund”. Look for more info in the December Happenings!

Stewardship Ministry

November will be our yearly Pledge-Givings Campaign entitled “Beloved, LOVE” John 4:7, with dedication on Sunday, November 8th. Letters have been sent in the mail. If you did not receive one and would like one, please call the church at (630) 553-7308 for one to be mailed.



Those Grieving:

The Brewick Family, The Clevenger Family, The Houle Family, The Stout Family, The Redmon/Walker Families, The Jahp Family

Those in Cancer Treatment:

Andrea Andres	Pat Rogers	Kylie Brewick's sister-in-law's mom - leukemia
Jim Davis	Pearl Undesser	
Sue Monahan		

Health Concerns:

Bill Andersen	Gail Fisher	Diana Lee	Dale Prochaska
Myrah Baldwin	Mary Freeman	Barry Leggett	Larry Rezash
Lynn Belcher	Donna Fuss	Mazie Marshall	Walter Scott
Earl Bushnell	David Hembree	Joanne O'Brien	Tsusaki Family
Jim Dirst	Karen Hess	Doug Pierce	Marie Wayne
Joe Duran	Bob Johnston	Debbie Potempa	Kathy Wickens

General Concerns:

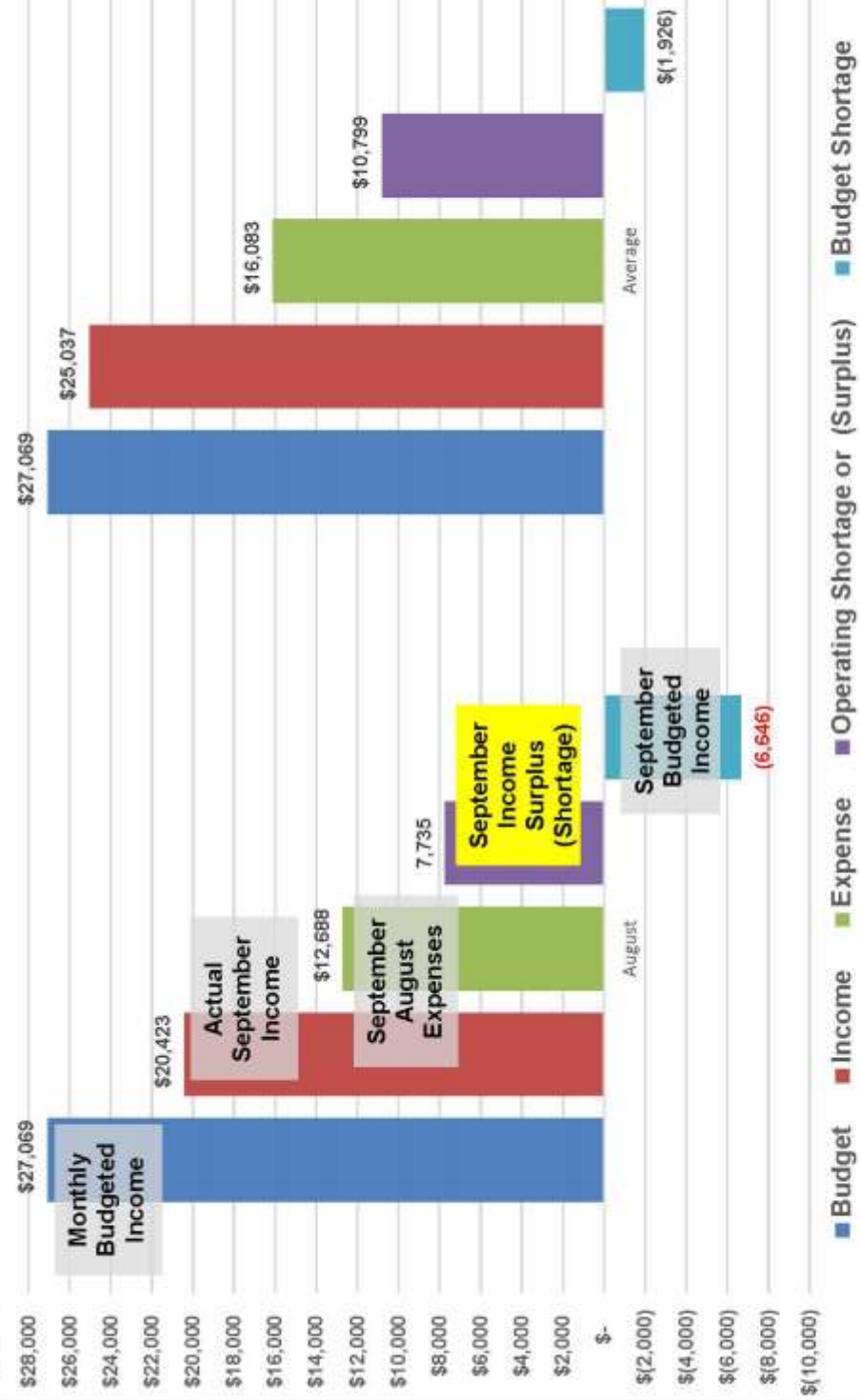
Brian Homerding	Ruth Prince	The people who work on the front lines of the virus - doctors, nurses, healthcare workers, nursing home workers, first responders.
Justine Jahp	Michelle Terri	
Lee Kinkade	Fred Wayne	
Samuel Nedrow, US Navy		

Homebound/Assisted Living:

Jim Follmer
Andrea Prochaska
Dorothy Sanderson

September 2020 Financial Status

2020 - 2021 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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November, 2020

