



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](https://www.facebook.com/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.

Worship Services at 10 a.m. in-person fully
masked regardless of vaccination status.

Live streaming on
Facebook & YouTube Sunday's at 10:00 a.m.

YorkvilleUCC.Org website after 12 p.m.

Our Staff

Minister

Building Manager

Christian Education Director

Administrative Assistant

Chancel Choir Director

Children's Choir Director

Organist

Pianist

Childcare Attendants

Custodians

Sexton

Timothy C. Rhodes

Mary Ellen Anderson

Barbara Thurlby

Liz Cronshaw

Doug Trumble

Sondra Shatters

Tina Andersen

Lori Runkle

Halle Jones

Rhonda Ladson

Dakota Shatters

Tim & Laurie Strong

Phillip Bethke

Our Shepherds

Chairperson

Vice Chairperson

Recording Secretary

Operations: Personnel

Operations: Bldg & 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

Wendy Walker

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

2021

NOVEMBER



Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,

Psalm 50:14a



TIM's TALES

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 and hope it will bless your thanksgiving.

Please feel free to use it at your table and share it with your family and friends to use at their tables.

God of us all, we enter this Thanksgiving feast grateful for the abundance in our lives. We are surrounded by beauty and bounty and give you thanks for the planet we call home. Humbly we pray that all people may live in liberty and unity.

May this gathering be filled with peace, harmony, and kindness, and may you bless our table with comfort and laughter. Today we feel in our hearts those who are absent from this table and ask that you care for them until we may be reunited.

With grateful hearts, we pray that your peace and protection will bless us throughout this holiday season. Amen.



"Hanging of the Greens" tradition will be held this year! We will share the "Hanging of the Greens" story during worship on the first Sunday of Advent, November 28th and then finish decorating for the holiday following worship. If you enjoy decorating a tree, hanging garland or wreaths and are available to help, please join in this time of fellowship! A light luncheon will be served following decorating the church!



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, wrapping paper, and tape too!

Please bring your unwrapped items to the church by December 15th! It is not necessary to tag the gifts. A table will be set up and available to start receiving your gifts by November 26th!

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



From the Desk of the Chair

As Thanksgiving and the holiday season approach, so does the annual stewardship campaign. Stewardship is fulfilling the duty of taking care of something. In this case, it is taking care of the financial wellbeing of our church. Now more than ever we need all hands-on deck to support our church.

When we finish our Thanksgiving meal, none of us would push ourselves away from the table, place our napkin on our plate, stand up and walk out. We would clear our place, maybe even wash our plate or scrape it off and put it in the dishwasher. Maybe we would offer to take someone else's plate for them. Almost all of us would at least bring a dish to pass to such a feast.

Why do we do these things? It's simple... To help out. To do our part. To make someone happy or to relieve someone's burden. To leave things better than we found them. We recognize that it takes a lot of effort to plan, purchase, prepare, present and put straight a gathering and meal such as this, so we help. If I don't help, then who do I think should do it? If not me, then who?

It would certainly be easier for me to not do these things. I would have more free time if I didn't volunteer for stuff. I would have more money if I didn't give to charities. I would get more sleep if I didn't write newsletter articles. If I don't do it, then who do I think should do it?

I cannot image life without our church. When I do try to imagine it, there is a big empty hole where church used to be that I can't imagine being filled back up with anything but the very thing that I hypothetically cast out. It's not just about what would be missing from my life without church. Who do I want the church to be there for? Look around or do a mental roll call. Don't you want the church there for them? Or, maybe you will find yourself in a time of need where your church family will swell with support like they have done for so many others for so long and very recently. If you don't rise to the call, then who should?

I urge everyone to update their financial pledge to the church. You should have received pledge cards in the mail or you can get them at church. This is an important planning tool for the church. It has become exceedingly important for us to understand the financial capacity of the church to continue to do the work that it does. Increasing your pledge is crucial to the ongoing success of your church. Be generous. If you don't, then who should?

Peace,
Aaron Shatters
SLT Chairperson

Remember that the best way to give is by signing up for the "E-Giving Automatic Giving Plan". This is the "set it and forget it" donation option and now is the perfect time to update your routine. More information can be found by clicking the "[E-GIVING](http://yorkvilleucc.org/)" button at <http://yorkvilleucc.org/>. Please give this option strong consideration as this could be the best option for both you and the church.

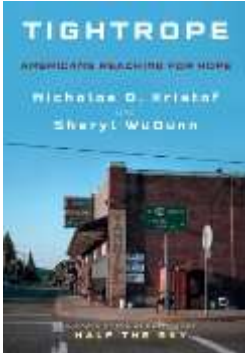
Missions Ministry

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 10-23-21 we have received \$775.00. The Mission Ministry thanks everyone who supported this offering.

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.

Adult Education

Book Discussion Group focus: The Crisis in Working-Class America



The next Book Discussion Group meeting will be Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. We will be discussing *Tightrope, Americans Reaching for Hope* by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. From the book jacket: “The authors of the acclaimed no. 1 best seller *Half the Sky* now issue an urgent call to address the crisis in working-class America, offering solutions to mend a half century of malign neglect.”

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School will meet every other week. We are currently working our way through *The Spirituality of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*. If you plan to attend, email me so I can get the class materials for you to read over before class.

- November 14, 9:00 a.m.--**The Cost of Discipleship**. Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s “struggle to be a faithful disciple challenges each of us to examine closely what Christ is asking us to be and do.

For Advent, we will pause our Bonhoeffer study and have some Christmas themed classes!

- December 5, 9:00 a.m.--The Thoughtful Christian, Faithful living in a complex world:
Reclaiming Christmas: Seeking an Alternative. How can people of faith celebrate Christmas in a way that will bring more joy, peace, and connection to the message of Christ?
- December 19, 9:00 a.m.--The Thoughtful Christian, Faithful living in a complex world:
Film Discussion: **It’s a Wonderful Life**.

Native-American Heritage Month

Friday, November 26th is Native American Heritage Day. This year on the day after Thanksgiving spend some time learning about the holiday:

[Celebrating Native Americans Today and Everyday: Resources for Native American Heritage Month](#)

[NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY - Day After Thanksgiving](#)

Contact Aimee List, ajlsan1@hotmail.com for more information.

Stewardship Ministry

November will be our yearly Pledge-Givings Campaign entitled “Rooted In Love” (Psalm 1:3a), with dedication on Sunday, November 14th. The Stewardship Ministry really wants to impress upon the congregation the dire need of increasing our pledges to offset the deficit that our church is facing. Letters have been sent in the mail.

If you do not receive one, please call the church at (630) 553-7308 for a letter to be mailed.



Building and Grounds
Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. – 1 p.m.

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

Moving into the season of Thanksgiving brings wonderful smells of food baking in the kitchen. Speaking of kitchens, Joy Circle is looking to purchase a new refrigerator. At this time, we are uncertain when this will happen with the delays of availability due to Covid. Right now, we can put a few things in the Youth Room refrigerator.

The building and grounds men keep busy doing weekly projects. Adjusting the clocks for the time change, replacing light bulbs, and other general maintenance projects that pop up. Fortunately, no more leaks in the building! The men are truly relieved not to be chasing leaks after every rainstorm.

At our staff meeting we discovered that several members need to update their emergency contact information sheet that is kept in the office. In time of an emergency, we need to respond quickly. I discovered that I needed to update my information. Use the form in this newsletter or pick one up at the church, but please take the time to update your information.

You are welcome to join the building and grounds team. This active group meets weekly on Tuesdays at 9:00 am. They review on going projects and then perform various maintenance repairs.

You can always check the Google calendar on our website, www.yorkvilleucc.org to view times and dates of various activities.

Mary Ellen Anderson, Building Manger

Welcoming and Outreach

Greetings Church Family and Friends – It Seems Official, Fall is Here!



More importantly we are walking down the biblical calendar to one of my favorite times of year – Thanksgiving – Or I like to call it “giving thanks” and showing gratitude for all the blessings God has bestowed upon us, even the more challenging ones. As a church, this is always a busy time of year as our various ministries prepare to bring the holidays to those less fortunate in our community. If anyone has been considering getting more involved, this is a great time of year to get to know our ministries. From Operation Santa thru our Women’s Club, to the AID Tree run by Missions, Joy Circle fund raising or the Building and Grounds crew putting up our holiday decorations, there are no shortage of fun things to get active in. This is the feel-good kind of stuff Jesus has always demonstrated to us, to be a joyful, charitable giver. When you give, you receive that much more in return – that feeling is what good stuff is made of.

Prayerfully consider sharing your time and talent with your church family.

Happy Thanksgiving to All – Give Thanks

*Thank
you!*

A special thank you to Christina Keith for filling in for me at the church, a week in August and September. It was wonderful to have some time away and blessed to be back. Thank you again for cleaning and caring for our beautiful church building!

Sincerely,

Laurie Strong



A Stephen Minister can lift you up!

If you or someone you know is burdened or hurting, a trained Stephen Minister can listen, encourage and care in a **confidential** one-to-one manner.

Contact the church office, Pastor Tim, Carrie DeFuss or Lou Ann Hoffman

THE A.I.D. CHRISTMAS TREE **Association for Individual Development**

Y.C.C. for many years has supported the Association for Individual Development at Christmas time through our A.I.D. Christmas Tree. The Christmas Tree will be set-up in the Narthex starting Sunday, November 14, 2021 with gift tags designating needed gifts. If you are unable to purchase a gift, but would like to contribute, a monetary gift can be given to the Missions Ministry (contact Gere Ryerson or June Davis) and a gift will be purchased for you. When we have so much and others do not, let us be delighted in giving, thankful for being blessed and share with others. The final collection day will be on Sunday, December 5, 2021.



We want to say a BIG Thank You to the congregation for helping to collect a Welcome to America Pack for a new refugee family!

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR



MINISTRY

YCUCC EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION FORM

Please PRINT the following information:

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

In the event of an emergency, I the undersigned, authorize any member/staff of the Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ to notify the following person:

1st Contact Name: _____

Best Contact Number: _____

Ok to leave message / voicemail: _____ Yes _____ No

2nd Contact Name: _____

Best Contact Number: _____

Ok to leave message / voicemail: _____ Yes _____ No

I understand and agree that the church and/or its staff will have no obligation or liability to notify such persons in case of emergency.

Date

Signature

11/2021 mea



YCUCC FALL FEST 2021

By Barb Thurlby, Christian Education Director

Fall Fest 2021 was the perfect way for YCUCC families to kick off the fall season. The weather cooperated and families enjoyed many fall activities. Over forty children attended the event with family and friends. Children enjoyed hayrides, games, face painting, food and visits with our local police and fire departments.

This family friendly event was a big hit and definitely an event to look forward to next year! Thank you to the amazing volunteers that made the event so successful, Ben and Regina Moe, Lori and Gavin Redmon, Rhonda and Jerry Ladson, Bob Thurlby, Talisha Alston, Deb and Aidan Mendell, Gere Ryerson, Kathy Farren, Molly Davis, Luke DeFuss, McKenzie Strausberger, Kelly Fischer, Pastor Tim Rhodes.





***MORE
FALL FEST
PICTURES!***





Thanksgiving Potluck

Yorkville Congregational Church

11:00 a.m. - Sunday, November 21, 2021

**Eat, drink, and give thanks with friends, family, and loved ones.
Please join us for our annual Thanksgiving potluck dinner.**

**Sign-up at church to bring food for everyone. Please note that
we will be serving food to ensure everyone's safe participation.
Immediately after church service on Sunday, November 21, we will
move to Fellowship Hall for our celebration meal.**

**Be sure to sign-up on the Thanksgiving potluck sign-up sheet
on the church bulletin board.**



MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
Quarterly Report for Pastoral Care Ministry

Quarter: 3 Year 2021
 Report for dates: 07/01/21 through 09/30/21

| Worship Attendance | Adults | Children | Special Service | Weekly Total | Monthly Total |
|----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 07/04/2021 | 60 | 3 | | 63 | |
| 07/11/2021 | 67 | 3 | | 70 | |
| 07/18/2021 | 46 | 1 | | 47 | |
| 07/25/2021 | 68 | 2 | | 70 | |
| Total for July | | | | | 250 |
| 08/01/2021 | 63 | 2 | | 65 | |
| 08/08/2021 | 43 | | | 43 | |
| 08/15/2021 | 62 | 2 | | 64 | |
| 08/22/2021 | 97 | 23 | | 120 | |
| 08/29/2021 | 59 | 4 | | 63 | |
| Total for August | | | | | 355 |
| 09/05/2021 | 72 | 14 | | 86 | |
| 09/12/2021 | 79 | 17 | | 96 | |
| 09/19/2021 | 73 | 25 | | 98 | |
| 09/26/2021 | 78 | 15 | | 93 | |
| Total for September | | | | | 373 |
| Quarterly Total | | | | | 978 |

Additions: (0)

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

Losses: (3)

1. Death

7/11/2021-Earnest LeRoy (Dusty) Rhodes
 8/27/2021-Douglas Scott Pierce, 9/15/2021-Paul E. Staples

2. Transfers

Baptisms: (4)

1. Child 0-12

7/04/2021-Caleb Daniel Pansera
 8/22/2021-Malia Jaimisen Skinner
 8/22/2021-Charlie Nash Skinner
 9/05/2021-Lillian Grace Seibel

2. Adult 13 and over

Weddings: (0)

Funerals: (3)

Interment (1)

7/24/2021-Earnest LeRoy (Dusty) Rhodes
 9/01/2021-John Palmer Patterson
 9/04/2021-Douglas Scott Pierce, 9/22/2021-Paul E. Staples

Respectfully Submitted: Goldie Behrens and Diane Dillow

WE THANK THE MANY THAT
HELP RECYCLE ALUMINUM
CANS AND DONATE THEM
TO THE CHURCH!



WE HAVE INSTALLED A
GARBAGE CAN NEXT TO
THE SIDE DOOR OF THE
GARAGE FOR CONVENIENT
DROP OFF ANYTIME!



Exciting news! YCUCC is now participating
in Amazon Smile!

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.

*Thank
you!*

Reminder!

Starbucks gift cards available in
\$5.00 and \$10.00 amounts!

See bar b



Nursery is Open!

***Vaccinated
& Masked Caregivers***

Air Purification Installed

November Birthdays

| | | | |
|-------------------|----|---------------------|----|
| Krista Wilson | 03 | Christopher Johnson | 19 |
| Caden Langston | 05 | Terry Keith | 19 |
| Nick Skinner | 05 | Lynne White | 19 |
| Joann Morr | 06 | Barry Kimes | 21 |
| Julia Runkle | 06 | Tess Tsusaki | 21 |
| Jennifer Keith | 07 | Christopher Johnson | 21 |
| Trent Hufstetler | 07 | Ken Wayne | 21 |
| Ilana Grube | 07 | Andrea Prochaska | 22 |
| John Pratt | 08 | Donna Davidson | 23 |
| Amanda Seibel | 08 | Ron Anderson | 24 |
| Audrey Fitzgerald | 10 | Deb Bezroukoff | 27 |
| Jonathan Lamp | 12 | Grant Guenzler | 28 |
| Laurie Houle | 14 | Jim Davis | 29 |
| Linda Melhouse | 15 | Wayne Norr | 29 |
| Courtney Cole | 16 | Keri Phillipp | 29 |
| Gabe Keith | 16 | | |

November Anniversaries

| | | |
|-------|-------------------------|----------|
| 11/08 | Fred & Marie Wayne | 69 years |
| 11/09 | Kris & Eva Schoenfelder | 25 years |
| 11/10 | Jake & Kylie Brewick | 3 years |
| 11/11 | Steve & Julie Gawne | 26 years |

Altar Guild

Andy & Pam Hamblin

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17 and Ps 127

1 Kings 17:8-16 and Ps 146

Heb 9:24-28

Mk 12:38-44

Risk and Restoration

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

1 Sam 1:4-20 and 1 Sam 2:1-10

Daniel 12:1-3 and Ps 16

Heb 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

Praise the Holy One

Reign of Christ

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN or WHITE

2 Sam 23:1-7 and Ps 132:1-12, (13-18)

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 and Ps 93

Rev 1:4b-8

Jn 18:33-37

A Wise Reign

First Sunday of Advent (Year C)

VIOLET or BLUE

Jer 33:14-16

Ps 25:1-10

1 Thess 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

Sign of Things to Come



Welcome

To our church family

Justin & Jean Heffernan, Bob Kranz,
Shawn & Lindsay Martinez, Deb Mendell,
Sandy Ramirez, John & Kathy Reeder,
Abby Stevens, Scott Stevens

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.

| Date | Acolytes | Liturgists |
|----------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 11/7/21 | McKenzie Strausberger | Fred Gaebler |
| 11/14/21 | Owen Shatters | Fred Gaebler |
| 11/21/21 | DJ Melhouse | Pam Campos |
| 11/28/21 | Chris Andrus | Pam Campos |



Those Grieving:

The Clack Family, The Ron Anderson Family

Those in Cancer Treatment:

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Andrea Andres | Pat Dietz | Coulson Taylor |
| Mary Ellen Anderson | Randy Ladson | Pearl Undesser |
| Mary Ellen Bushnell | Pat Rogers | |

Health Concerns:

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Bill Andersen | Mary Freeman | Tyler Mall | Dale Prochaska |
| Myrah Baldwin | David Hembree | Mazie Marshall | Vaclavik Family |
| Jackie (Phil) | Inukai Family | Jean Martin | Finley Walker |
| Lynn Belcher | Justine Jahp | Joan McEachern | Fred Wayne |
| Chris Brisbin | Rick Kolowski | Linda Melhouse | Marie Wayne |
| Earl Bushnell | Billy Ladson | Jill Mickelson | Lynne White |
| Rosey Clark | Diana Lee | Joanne O'Brien | |
| Joe Duran | Kim Leszczynski | Michael Obenauer | |
| Gail Fisher | Nora Lewis | Teddy Polashek | |

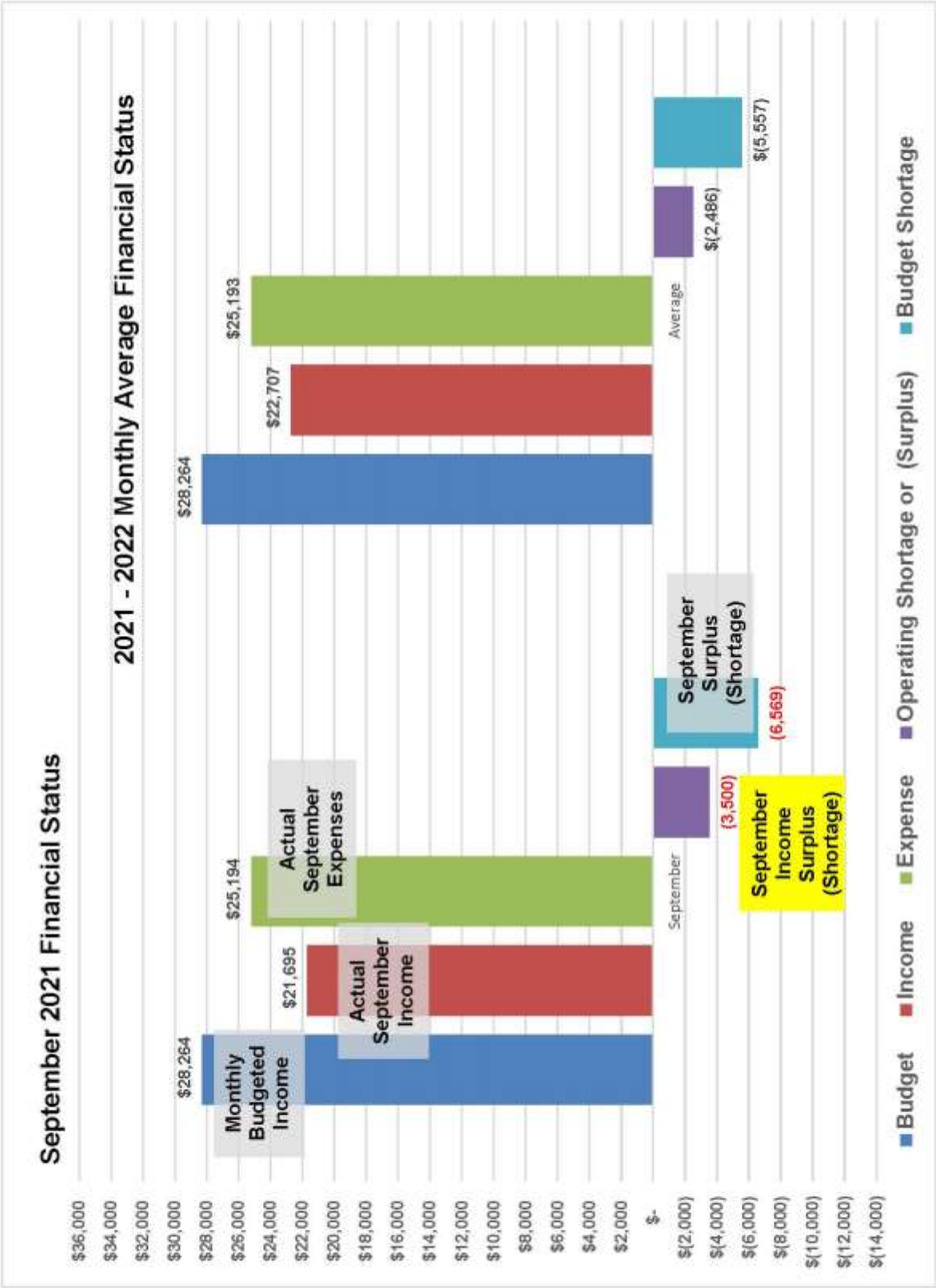
General Concerns:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Brian Homerding | Michelle Terri |
| Ruth Prince | |

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

Homebound/Assisted Living:

Andrea Prochaska



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, 2021

