





## Elizabeth's Expressions

Dear Church Family,

"We are walking in the light of God" has been running through my head for the last few weeks. I woke up this morning wondering how long I would be singing it as I am walking, singing, dancing, and praying. Then I realized we should all internalize that we are in the light of God and we are God's light to the world.

We began our ministry journey together a little over three months ago. The Holy Spirit brought us together. We have been laughing a lot and doing God's good work together. I have been singing a lot, and it feels good to be making music again. We will have ups and downs together and work through them like the "Alleluia."

Church, after all, is a group project to further God's mission of God's great big love that is for all of God's creation. Group projects are challenging and rewarding all at the same time. They take flexibility, listening, compromising, and intentionality, and everyone is doing their part.

We are walking into Lent this month, where our congregation will work to feed the hungry and feed our hungry spirits. We are reminded of this in Matthew 5, verses 3 & 6.

**"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."**

Here are some ways we can serve and learn together as a congregation.

**Lenten Church Read** - [Altar in this World](#), by Barbara Brown Taylor. Taylor encourages us to see the sacred in the world. Michael Obenauer and Aimee List will lead an online book discussion group. There will also be a Thursday morning group as well at 10 am.

**The Building and Grounds Team** are assembling 100 sack lunches for Hesed house.

**We are serving lunch at Hesed house on March 4.** There will be a sign-up to serve at Hesed house and a chance to donate to purchase supplies.

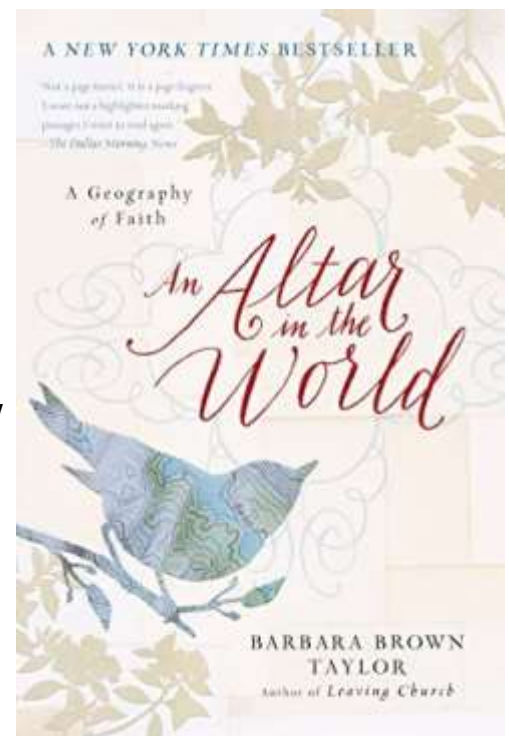
**Food pantry food drive the week of March 12.** We will ask you to drop off donations for the food pantry this week.

**On March 19th, there is a children and youth-led worship service.** On March 19, we will be able to continue supporting the work our young people will be doing in Milwaukee.

**During the week of March 26th,** we would like to assemble care packages for some of our congregants that need extra love.

Please let me know if you have any additional ideas about how we can help and feed those who hunger in mind, body, and spirit.

Peace in God's Love,  
Pastor Elizabeth





## From the Desk of the Chair

There are three things that almost always accompany Lent: Prayer, giving something up, and giving something back.

I am humbled by the way this church family gives back in the most generous and unselfish ways. We are a congregation of movers and shakers, a congregation of action and service. I am thinking about our Sunday School teachers who enter our classrooms every Sunday prepared to give of themselves to share the word of God with our youngest members. I think of the kitchen crew who comes in every Wednesday night to give back by preparing and serving spaghetti. Our JOY Circle recently volunteered at Feed My Starving Children to prepare food packs. Once a month our Day Break volunteers drive to Joliet with carloads of food to serve a meal to the homeless. Doug Clevenger gave of his time and talent to repaint our hallways, a job that took a week to complete. Many of us will give back to support the Youth Mission Trip this summer, or perhaps you will give back to support our next refugee family. We have members who give back by shoveling the sidewalks, organizing files and records, and countless other tasks, big and small.

I want to thank this community of faith for all the ways you find to give something back. Lent is our time for self-reflection as we consider our relationship with God. In giving of ourselves we draw closer to God, and I am grateful for YCUCC, a place where those opportunities are abundant.

Deanna Bazan  
Chairperson, SLT



# ASH WEDNESDAY

Join us on February 22nd at 7:00 pm for our  
Ash Wednesday Service. Childcare provided.





## What has Building and Grounds been up to?

During the month of January the building and grounds crew has accomplished several projects. The first large project they completed was taking down all of the Christmas decorations after the holiday. Throughout the last few weeks, the Christmas decorations have reorganized and put away in their home upstairs until the next Christmas season. Once those were down, the crew could focus on their next large project, prepping the hallway for painting. Did you notice how nice and clean the hallway looked? A HUGE thank you goes to Doug Clevenger who spent three days painting and freshening up the hallway. When you see him around, be sure to thank him!

While during all the excitement of Christmas decorations and painting, the boiler in the south attic started leaking. If it wasn't for our hardworking custodial staff who comes in on Saturdays, we would not have found the leak so quickly. We were able to get the boiler repaired. Unfortunately, it was a costly and bigger repair. With that being said, the building and grounds crew has put purchasing a new boiler on their radar. Three different heating and cooling companies came out to give us estimates. No decisions have been made at this time.

Two projects you can keep an eye out for are researching and installing cameras for the parking lots. As well as, building bagged lunches for the Hesed House on March 3rd at 1:00 pm. If you would like to donate to the lunches, please contact Robin Campos in the office for more information. A sign up sheet will be posted at a later time.

As always, we welcome everyone to building and grounds. We continue to meet on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 am to discuss current and future projects.

## SLT MEET AND GREET

Carrie DeFuss, Vice Chair

Hello all. My name is Carrie DeFuss. I currently serve as the SLT Vice Chairperson. My wife, Louise, and son, Luke and I joined this congregation 11 years ago when I was pregnant with our twins, Jacob and Benjamin. We were searching for a church that would be inclusive for our family, welcoming and true to our faith. The moment we walked into YCUCC, it was home. I was raised in Villa Park and am a recovering Catholic much in the way that I never knew the way a church family was intended to be until YCUCC.

Professionally, I am a Doctor of Nursing Practice. I have been in the field of Urology for well over 25 years, and it is my love and passion. I am privileged to be able to care for people every day at work, at home and also at church. Nursing is truly a work of heart, and becoming a doctor has allowed me to give a new level of care to those in need.

At home, I am blessed to have my grandmother, Louise's mom and my mom all under our roof with us. Four generations all under one roof means a lot of stories, traditions, aches and pains, complaining, laughing and loving too! God is so very good to us in so many ways.

Here at church, I have the exceptional honor of being a part of the care team and the SLT. I can put my skills into action by helping provide care when someone needs an ear to listen, a hand to hold or a prayer to be given. As part of the SLT, working alongside Deanna, I am learning the inner workings of the church. I am here to listen to any concerns or questions you may have as a part of this congregation. Thank you for allowing me to serve you.





## Prayer Chain

There's a community of warriors here to pray for your fears, joys troubles or needs. Let our warriors pray with you. Call the church office at (630) 553-7308 or text (630) 730-9377.

If you're interested in becoming a prayer warrior, please contact Carrie DeFuss at (630) 730-9377 for more information.

## STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

YCUCC received 36 pledges from our Pledge-Givings Campaign in 2022 for a total of \$168,176.00.

## STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

None of the believers said that their belongings were their own. Instead, they shared with one another everything they had... and God poured rich blessings on them all! (ACTS 4:32,33)



## Share a friendly greeting with church visitors!

*Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you.*  
~Romans 15:7

We all want our church to be known as friendly and welcoming to all. You can be a part of that friendly welcome by volunteering to be a greeter before worship on Sundays. Greeters can sign up for one week (or more) at a time- individually, as a couple, or with a friend.



New members have mentioned that they returned to YCUCC after an initial visit because of the warm welcome they received- from greeters and from church members who took time to talk with them after worship.

Greeters extend a welcome with a handshake- or elbow bump if preferred- to everyone attending. They may talk to visitors and members for a minute, open the door for those who need that help, and guide new visitors to a member of the Outreach Ministry who can help them find what they need (nursery, Sunday School classrooms, coat rack or restrooms, etc.). Your friendly smile and "Good Morning" can help our church grow if happy visitors choose to return.

Any church member can serve as a greeter. If you are interested in doing that, or just have questions about what greeters do, please join Outreach Ministry members at our table during Soup Sunday on Sunday, Feb. 12 after worship. Come and talk with us as we enjoy some homemade soup. We would love to welcome you as a greeter!

## SAVE THIS DATE:

**MONDAY, APRIL 17, 7 - 8 PM**

### **"GARDEN PARTY" AT YCUCC, Fellowship Hall**

Topics: Vegetable gardening, perennials and native plants, rain barrels for home use

If you are into gardening - a little or a lot- will you come be a part of the Green Team's *planning team*? 3 short meetings at church in February and March.

We can use your green thinking and green growing experiences.

Contact Anne Engelhardt. 630-308-5073 (text or call)



## From the Caring Ministries

Stephen Ministry leaders Carrie DeFuss and LouAnn Hoffman, have conferred with Pastor Elizabeth discussing YCUCC's existing caring ministries: Pastoral Care's card and Grief Booklet ministry, meal provisions, as well as Stephen Ministry. We feel that it is the right time for YCUCC to address our caregiving ministries and perhaps refocus or restructure how we "care" for each other in response to Christ's commandment: **"Love one another as I have loved you"**. John 15:12.

**COMING SOON...new CARE TEAM** opportunities to listen, visit, call, write cards, support, encourage in a Christ-like way.

All of us have a gift to share. Talk with Carrie or Lou Ann to find out how YOU can share a part of yourself—in a small or way, with the **CARE TEAM**. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FEBUARY 26** to join us for an information session after worship to learn more.



# PLASTIC BAGS - ARE YOU THE PROBLEM OR THE SOLUTION?

## Pollution Problems

Plastic shopping bags on land are one of the most common types of litter caused by people. Litter from plastic bags pollutes and endangers the health of land and water - creeks, rivers, lakes, and oceans on our planet.

## Plastic Facts from the Center for Biological Diversity

- \* Americans use 100 billion plastic bags a year.
- \* The average American family takes home 1,500 plastic bags each year.
- \* Plastic bags claim the lives of 100,000 marine animals every year.
- \* According to Waste Management authorities, only 1% of total plastic bags are recycled.

**Pollution Solution: TAKE ACTION!**

### #1 REDUCE: **STOP USING PLASTIC BAGS!**

Choose to use your "re-usable" shopping bags.  
Keep in your vehicle in an easy-to-see-and-grab spot.  
**CREATE AND PRACTICE NEW HABITS!**

### #2 RECYCLE:

Donate bags to YCUCC for semi-annual rummage sales.  
Donate bags to the Kendall County Food Pantry (any time).  
Put bags in recycle bins at Target, Jewel, Walmart, & Kohls.

### #3 RE-USE: Some suggestions:

- \* Line a waste basket
- \* Contain trash in the car
- \* Wrap shoes in luggage
- \* Pick up after your dog
- \* Wrap up paint brushes
- \* Contain used clothes in luggage
- \* Cover plunger head
- \* Cover car side mirrors during winter



## Friendly People Needed!

The Outreach and Welcoming Ministry is looking for volunteers to serve as greeters before worship each Sunday from 9:30 to 10 am. Many thanks to those who have been serving as greeters!

**No experience needed!**

The ideal candidate would possess the following skills:

- Smiles (highly contagious in nature)
- Willingness to introduce yourself to those around you before worship, whom you may not know
- Open Heart that can welcome all who come into our church

**SIGN UP ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE NARTHEX.**





# WE HAVE A FINALIST!

By Barb Thurlby, Christian Education Director

The United Church of Christ is a denomination that cares about progressive change. During the fall of 2022 they held an Art Contest as a platform for climate and environmental awareness.

The Climate Hope Cards Art Contest began in October and ended in November 2022. Students were encouraged to draw, color, or paint a picture that would encourage environmental awareness. A few hundred churches participated and around 900 art submissions were sent in for the contest.

Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ did not have very many students submit artwork, but a few brave, creative students sent in pictures, and one was a finalist!

Elodie Heffernan, the daughter of Jean and Justin Heffernan, and sister of Ronan, is an active 5<sup>th</sup> grader. And Elodie was a finalist! Though she was not the all-around winner, she did a great job and represented YCUCC very well.

Thank you, Elodie, for using your art talent to encourage and support earth and climate awareness!





## MISSIONS MINISTRY NEWS

The Missions Ministry budgeted line item of \$300.00 for Hesus House in Aurora was sent in December.

The 5 for 5 Mission Offering "The Christmas Fund" taken up on December 18, 2022, for a total of \$375.00, has been sent. Retired ministers and lay people truly appreciate our gifts.

Soup Sunday on January 08, 2023, proceeds of \$435.00 was designated for Wounded Warriors – Yorkville American Legion. A check has been sent for \$535.00 (which includes \$100.00 from the Mission Ministry Budget).

Lore Baker, President, and CEO of the Association for Individual Development (A.I.D.), spoke to us during worship on January 29<sup>th</sup>, thanking us for the donation of \$1,305.00 last year.

Our next Soup Sunday will be Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, with proceeds going to Senior Services – Yorkville. Look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.



### **YCUCC's 2023 Spring Rummage & Bake Sale** **Friday & Saturday - April 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>**



~~ Peg Trumble ~~  
Rummage & Bake Sale Chairperson

This event is a \*CHURCH-WIDE\* Rummage & Bake Sale!

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

Extra Large Furniture (i.e. 'Oversized' sofas/sectionals, desks, entertainment centers)  
Electronics (TVs, computers, printers, typewriters, land/cell phones, fax equipment),  
infant/child car and/or booster seats, any size mattress, cribs

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More information will appear in March's 'The Happenings Newsletter' for the 2023 Spring Rummage & Bake Sale.



## Let's take a WALK together!



A few folks at YCUCC are interested in starting a Walking Ministry, with an open invitation to anyone in the church to walk together. The purpose of our Walking Ministry will be to enjoy fellowship with each other in God's natural creation while getting in a little fresh air and exercise.

Young and old, families with children, dogs on leashes - all are welcome!

Our first walk will be **Saturday, February 11, 10 a.m. at Silver Springs State Park**. We will meet at Loon Lake, at the eastern entrance (fishing entrance off Fox Road) where

there is plenty of parking.

The Loon Lake paved path, about one mile, will be our first walk. After arriving, meet up and find a couple of walking buddies, and set your own speed and number of loops. If anyone would like to add steps beyond the Loon Lake path, come earlier or stay later if you wish. You can add the Ridge Trail through the woods, the path near the Springs, the prairie loop, or the trail along the Fox River. Take photos! It is a beautiful park in all seasons.

Following your walk, meet at the picnic table to find a cup of hot chocolate with marshmallows (or a bottle of cold water) waiting for you.

Let's give it a try, and please give your input for future walks.

Some things to think about:

- Would we like to walk again in the same park? or venture out to trails in our KC Forest Preserves, such as Hoover, Lyon-Young, Jay Woods, or Harris?
- Do the walk on Saturday morning? Sunday afternoon? in early evening as daylight increases?
- Include a soup or chili lunch at the church after the walk?
- Add a wild-flower treasure hunt in April?
- Walk and mediate on our YCYCC labyrinth as one of our walks this summer?
- Create a group photo collage?

**Please sign up**, so we can see our list of walking buddies. Talk to Anne Engelhardt if you have questions or suggestions. (We will postpone in case of severe weather.)

*"The miracle is not to walk on water. The miracle is to walk on the green earth, dwelling deeply in the present moment and feeling truly alive."* - Thich Nhat Hanh



# Adult Education

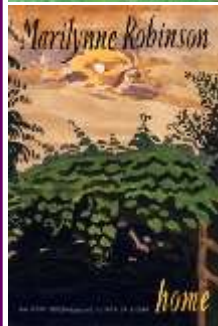
As adult education coordinator, my goal is to provide opportunities for adults to explore their faith, feed their souls, and then reach out and seek understanding of others.

## Book of the Month- Marilyn's Robinson's Gilead Series



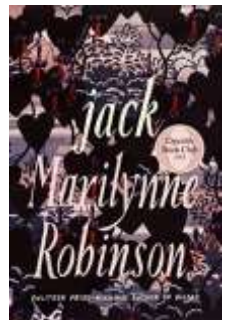
"Marilynne Robinson's Gilead series—Gilead, Home, Lila, and Jack—is an intergenerational story about faith, race, and love radiating out from the interwoven histories of two families in a small Iowa town to encompass all of American life: our ideals and beliefs, our contradictions, failings, and hopes." (Goodreads)

New to our library are Marilynne Robinson's Gilead book series. I read all four books over six months in 2021 and found them complex and thoughtful and wonderful. Stop by and check out the first book in the series--Gilead!



## Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School continues to meet Sunday Mornings at 9:00 a.m. for the month of February. Join us and we discuss Wisdom. Attendees please feel free to drop in and out as you are able. Each week, we have a short essay to read before class which we will discuss during class. I will have copies of the essays available one week in advance in the office on the counter.



February 5--Being Reformed, Faith Seeking Understanding--Wisdom--Session 3  
February 12--Being Reformed, Faith Seeking Understanding--Wisdom--Session 4  
February 19--Being Reformed, Faith Seeking Understanding--Wisdom--Session 5  
February 26--Being Reformed, Faith Seeking Understanding--Wisdom--Session 6

## Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group will be discussing *The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped A Nation* by Anna Malaika Tubbs.

We will meet on Zoom Tuesday, February 7 and Tuesday February 21 at 7:00 p.m.  
The reading schedule:

2-7--Read Introduction and Parts I, II, III, IV, and V  
2-21--Read Parts, VI, VII, VIII and the Conclusion

## Spiritual Development Group

SDG meets every other week. They are led by Pastor Michael Obenauer. The topics vary from bible studies to biblical book reads to devotional studies.

The following are the SDG's scheduled meeting dates. All meetings are on-line at 7:00 p.m.

2-7--SDG will combine with the book discussion group  
2-21--SDG will combine with the book discussion group  
2-28--Weekly Tuesday Lent all church book read discussions start

Aimee List  
Adult Education Shepherd  
ajlsan1@hotmail.com



# YCUCC YOUTH PLAN SUMMER MISSION TRIP

By Barb Thurlby, Christian Education Director

The YCUCC Youth Group are diligently working on their upcoming summer mission trip! Our hardworking students have planned and sponsored two Pancake Breakfast fundraising events. Our first breakfast earned \$522.00 and the second brought in \$480.00! Well done students! And thank you to our very generous church family for your support.



Currently, we have a large VW Bug cardboard cut out set up in the narthex. The van is covered with envelopes with various amounts. People can take an envelope and donate from \$1.00 dollar to \$100.00 dollars. All the proceeds will go toward the cost of the mission trip.

The mission group will be headed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin the second week of June. We will be working alongside a mission agency called YouthWorks. The students will serve in a variety of ways including a food pantry, clothes closet, soup kitchen, elderly services, and children's programming. The exact duties will be determined by the needs when the group arrives.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement as our young people set out to provide faith in action in Milwaukee!



## Request a Hymn!

Do you have a traditional hymn or more contemporary hymn that you've dying to sing in church? Well, request it and you just might find it in a Sunday bulletin! Don't worry about if we have it or not. We're working on updating the supplemental hymnals and would love your requests.



Scan the QR Code, let the office know, or visit [www.yorkvilleucc.org/media](http://www.yorkvilleucc.org/media) to make a request.

We look forward to singing with you!



*J.O.Y. Circle hosted an enjoyable Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday,*

*Dec. 6, 2022 at Whitetail Ridge Golf Club.*

*Thanks to organizer Mary McCracken, Pam Hamblin for the hostess gifts, and all attendees!*



**THE NEXT J.O.Y. CIRCLE MEETING WILL BE AT NOON ON TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023 IN YCUCC'S FELLOWSHIP HALL**

*Peg Trumble  
J.O.Y. Circle Chair*



*J.O.Y. Circle volunteered at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora, IL on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023.*

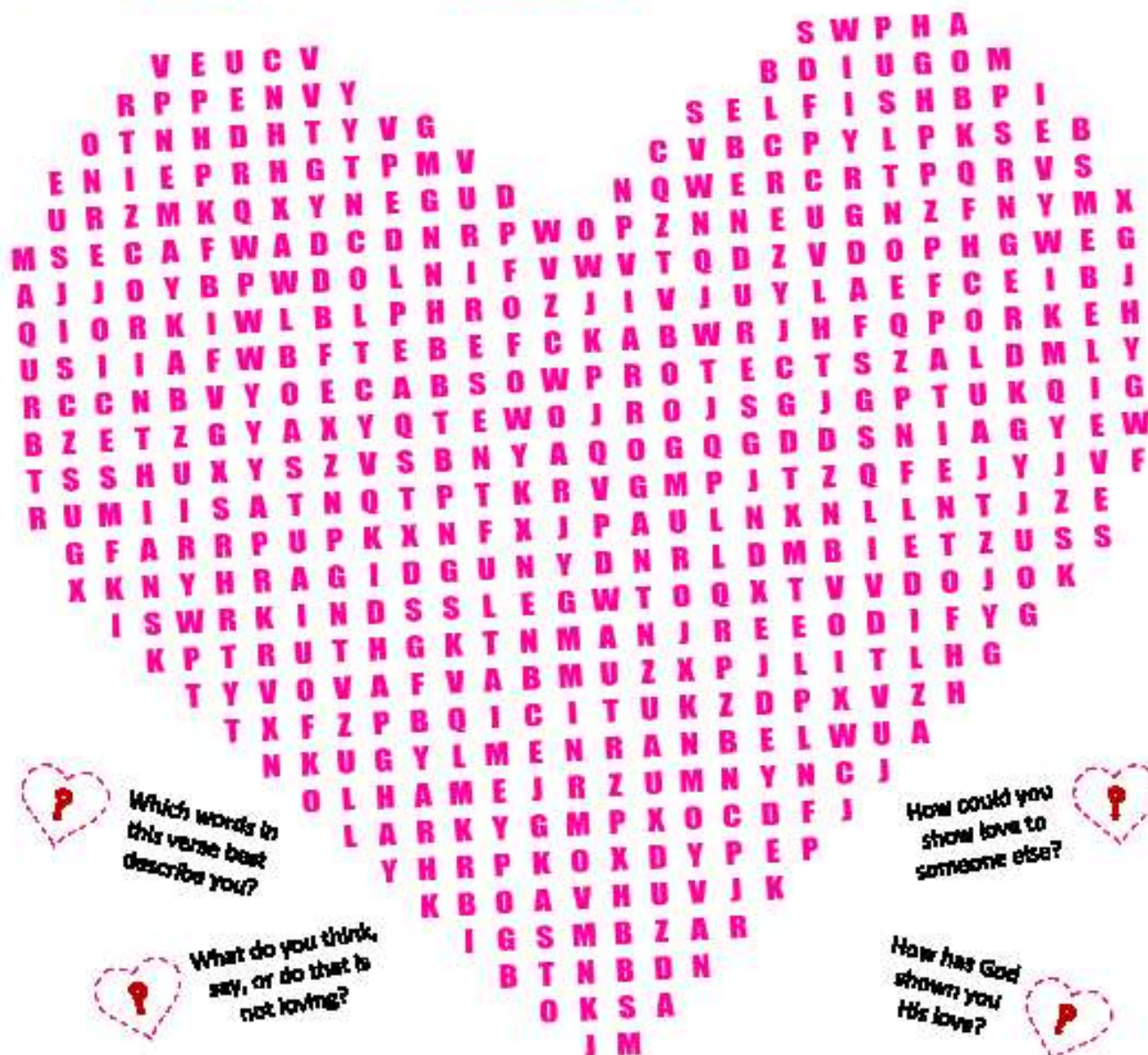


# WHAT IS LOVE

## Bible Word Search Puzzle

Can you find the underlined words from this Bible verse about what love is in the puzzle below?  
Think about what God says love is while you answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way [selfish]; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing [evil], but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things [protects], believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." ~ 1 Corinthians 13:4-7



Which words in this verse best describe you?

What do you think, say, or do that is not loving?

How could you show love to someone else?

How has God shown you His love?



# February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 11:00 am Staff Meeting <b>5:00-6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study</b> 5:15-6:30 Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:30 pm CE Mtg 6:45-7:45 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 2:00-9:00 pm Private Party-FH
<b>5</b> Communion Sunday 9:00 am Voyageurs 10:00 am Worship Sunday School	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9:00 am B&G MTG 7:00-8:30pm Adult Education Book Discussion/SDG	<b>8</b> 11:00 am Staff Meeting <b>5:00-6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study</b> 5:15-6:30 Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45-7:45 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice	<b>9</b> 6:00 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm SLT Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:00 am Voyageurs 10:00 am Worship Sunday School 11:00am Soup Sunday 11:00 am LYN Meeting Youth Hot Chocolate Bar	<b>13</b> 6:30pm Green Team Mtg in Fellowship Hall	<b>14</b> 9:00 am B&G MTG 10:00 am Pastoral Care	<b>15</b> 11:00 am Staff Meeting <b>5:00-6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study</b> 5:15-6:30 Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 pm Pastoral Care Conf. Rm 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45-7:45 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice	<b>16</b> 7:00 pm Online Book Discussion	<b>17</b> 8:00am-5:30pm Lifeline Screenings <div>NEWSLETTER CALENDAR DUE DATE</div>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9:00 am Voyageurs 10:00 am Worship Sunday School 11:30 am Church Retreat Mtg in Mtg Room	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Fat Tuesday 9:00 am B&G MTG 7:00-8:30pm Adult Education Book Discussion/SDG	<b>22</b> Ash Wednesday 9:00 am Newsletter Mailing 11:00 am Staff Meeting 5:15-6:30 Baked Potato Bar 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45-7:45 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm Adult Choir Practice	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 12:30-2:30 pm Private Recital-Sanctuary
<b>26</b> 9:00 am Adult Education 9:00 am Voyageurs 10:00 am Worship Sunday School Called to Care Meeting TBD	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:00 am B&G MTG				



### **Those Grieving:**

Kimes Family      McKeever Family  
Farren Family      Rhodes and Rodger Families  
Ladson Family

### **Those in Cancer Treatment:**

Terri Patterson      Coulson Taylor  
Pat Dietz      Pearl Undesser

### **Health Concerns:**

Lynn Belcher	Brian Homerding	Tyler Mall	Michelle Terri
Deb Bezroukoff	Diane Hupe	Mazie Marshall	Finley Walker
Anne Byrd	Wyatt Jones	Betty Naden	Lynne White
Wayne Cruise	Lee Kinkade	Joanne O'Brien	Helen Wiles
Dave Encinas	Jonathan Lamp	Connie Pierrepont	
Virginia Goss	Kim Leszczynski	Dale Prochaska	

### **General Concerns:**

Deb Mendell	Fur Babies:	The people who work on the
Prochaska Family	Kelly Fischer - Maggie & Riley	front lines of the virus -
		doctors, nurses, healthcare
		workers, nursing home
		workers, first responders.

### **Homebound/Assisted Living:**

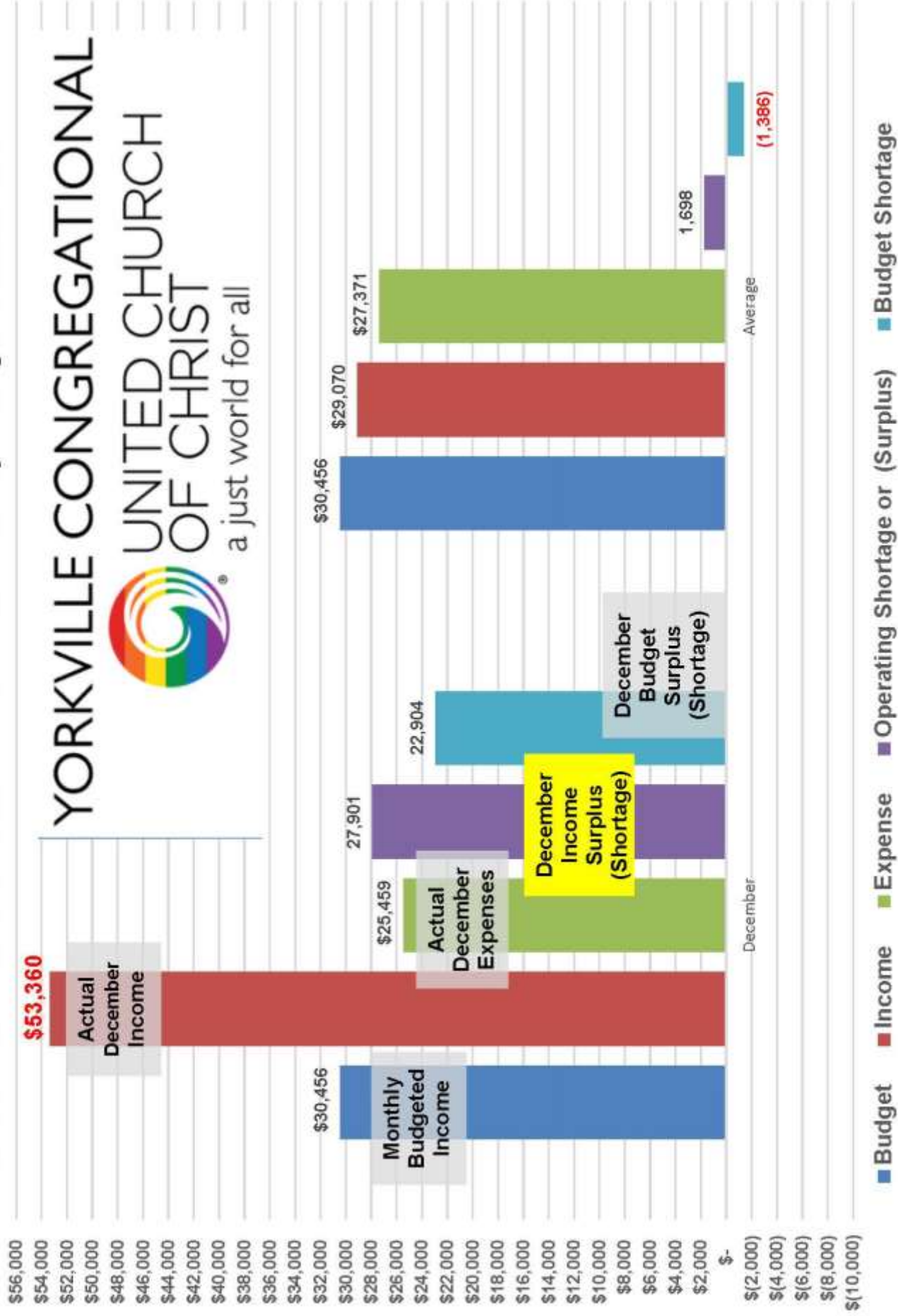
Myrah Baldwin, Earl Bushnell, Wayne & Delores Cruise, Pat Dietz, Dave Encinas  
Ruth Prince, Pat Rodgers, Fred Wayne, Virginia Goss, Lee Kinkade

### **GRIEFSHARE:**

If you or someone you know is struggling with grief, the GRIEFSHARE program might provide support. Contact [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org) for a list of programs in our area.

# December 2022 Financial Status

## 2022 - 2023 Monthly Average Financial Status





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



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



***The nursery is open!***

*Our caregivers are fully vaccinated and masked, if needed.  
The nursery is available for children 0 to 2 years old.*

## February Birthdays

Jean Anderson	01	Steve Gawne	18
Diana Lee	01	Alissa Jones	18
Ken Olvera	03	Connie Pierrepont	18
Mathew Patterson	03	Bob Anderson	19
Carol Schulz	04	Philip Gaebler	19
Carla Skinner	05	Lennox Strong	19
Fred Gaebler	06	Bert Erickson	20
Randy Ems	07	Joanna Goss	20
Lori Melhouse	07	Lindsay Martinez	20
Lauren Rhodes	07	Hadley Vaclavik	20
Maureen Tully	07	Aiden Green	21
Joe Stablein	09	Cody Hornyak	22
Leslie Inukai	10	Lindsay Graunke	22
Malia Skinner	10	Sadie Pottinger	22
Kara Yabsley	11	Kylie Brewick	23
Amy Corwin	12	Bob Thurlby	23
Alex Goldman	12	Connie Dickson	24
Kyle Mulligan	12	Myrah Baldwin	25
Renley Rebsom	12	Alex McLeod	27
Anthony Gelsomino	13	Cory Strong	27
Andy Hamblin	13	Rev. Barbara Lohrbach	28
Liam Rhodes	13	Joan McEachern	28
Keenan Trashavil	13	DJ Melhouse	28
Megan Gelsomino	15	Marcella Culberson	29
Emily Frisk	18		

## Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

GREEN

Isa 58:1-9a (9b-12)

Ps 112:1-9 (10)

1 Cor 2:1-12 (13-16)

Matt 5:13-20

*Restoring Beauty*

## Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

GREEN

Deut 30:15-20

Ps 119:1-8

1 Cor 3:1-9

Matt 5:21-37

*From the Heart*

Racial Justice Sunday

## Transfiguration Sunday

WHITE or GREEN

Ex 24:12-18

Ps 2 or Ps 99

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matt 17:1-9

*Dazzling Reign*

## Ash Wednesday

VIOLET

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isa 38:1-12

Ps 51:1-17

2 Cor 5:20b-6:10

Matt 6:1-6, 16-20

## First Sunday in Lent

VIOLET

Gen 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Ps 32

Rom 5:12-19

Matt 4:1-11

*Abundant Grace*

## February Anniversaries

07 Justin & Jean Heffernan	14 Years
10 Doug & Peg Trumble	50 Years
10 Louise & Carrie DeFuss	11 Years
15 Doug & Coral Clevenger	31 Years
21 Chris & Stacy Skinner	14 Years
26 Matt & Courtney Skinner	1 Year

## Altar Guild

Kathy Wickens



Date	Acolytes	Liturgists	Sermon Titles
2/5/2023	Molly Davis	Fred Gaebler	Light Bulbs and Candles
2/12/2023	Luke DeFuss	Fred Gaebler	Guidelines and Regulations
2/19/2023	Owen Shatters	Pam Campos	The Sun and The Clouds
2/26/2023	Aiden Mendell	Pam Campos	The Places of Hunger: Roots

### **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**

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**February 2023**

♥ happy ♥  
Valentine's  
♥ day ♥