



## Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ

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Office Hours: Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### **Staff**

#### Minister

Christian Ed. Director

Church Administrator

Chancel Choir Director

Children's Choir Director

Organist

Pianist

Childcare Attendants

Custodians

Sexton

Rev. Elizabeth Hartung

Barbara Thurlby

Robin Campos

Doug Trumble

Sondra Shatters

Tina Andersen

Lori Runkle

Robin Campos

Dakota Shatters

Jenna Anderson

Tim & Laurie Strong

Louise DeFuss

### **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

Deanna Bazan

Carrie DeFuss

Aaron Shatters

Pam Campos

Tony Houle

Tim Andrus

Diane Stablein

Aimee List

Stacy Skinner

Lori Redmon

Kathy Wickens

Lou Ann Hoffman

Laurie Houle

June Davis

Kathy Farren

# *The Happenings*

## March

2023



**Worship & Sunday School: 10:00 am**  
**Voyageurs: 9:00 am**



## Elizabeth's Expressions

Dear Church Family,  
I am looking forward to our Journey through Lent together. This Lent, we will Journey together to consider both our spiritual hunger and the hunger that plagues our community. Our congregation works closely with many organizations that fight hunger and support those who hunger and are housing insecure. The hungry need shelter to feed their body and their spirit. The Prophet Isaiah, asks this question in response to those wanting to get close to God and be part of God's righteousness.

**Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?**

Our journey through Lent together will take us to many places, faithfully, reflectively, and collectively to act as one Church Family fighting hunger during Lent. There are many different ways to mark a Lenten journey; sometimes, it is to give up something for Lent. I encourage you to focus on giving and fighting hunger in our community during Lent. There will be many ways for us to participate.

I look forward to our Lenten journey, fighting spiritual and physical hunger.

Peace,  
Pastor Elizabeth

**Lenten Church Read - *An Altar in this World*, by Barbra Brown Taylor.** Taylor takes us to places where she finds altars and God outside the church.

Tuesday Evening Book Study is on **March 7, 21, and 4/4**. This discussion will take place via Zoom. Please let the church office or Aimee List know if you want to participate, and we will send you the link.

Thursday Morning Book Study is on **March 2, 16, and 30** at 10:30 at YCUC.

### Hesed House

March 4th, we will also deliver sack lunches assembled by the building and grounds crew. Also, on March 4th will cook and serve lunch at Hesed house. This is open to anyone in our church family who wants to serve together. There is a sign-up in the Narthex. I hope to see you there.

**Kendall County Food Pantry Drive March 12.** We will ask you to drop off donations for the food pantry this week. More details are found in the newsletter.

**Dedication of New Bibles on March 12.** We are replacing our old Pew Bibles with the updated version of the RSV, the NRSV. The language is updated to match our current vocabulary while still sounding familiar to us. The Christian Bible is how we feed and ground our spirit. The new Bibles will match our Sunday morning scripture for those that want to read along in the pew.

**Youth Sunday, March 19.** Our church family will be led in a Spirit-filled worship by our young people. So many of our young people will be fighting Hunger this summer in Milwaukee.

**Dedication of our New Communion Ware, March 26.** Our new communion ware was commissioned by one of our members for us to use to feed our Spirit. We are excited to see it.



A place that Welcomes, cares, and Serves all!

Artwork by Owen Shatters



## From the Desk of the Chair

March 7, 2021 was big day at YCUCC. It was our first time back to in-person worship service during the pandemic. There were two services offered with no more than 50 people in the building at one time, and seating was by reservation only. Access was restricted to the sanctuary, and everyone was masked. There were no choirs singing, no hymnals or Bibles in the pews, no passing of the peace or the offering plates. We sat at least 6 feet away from any other household. But we were back. Sort of.

Here we are, two years later, and we find that we are back in many more ways. Our church is active, vibrant, and growing. This past month we have been averaging about 130 people in worship each week including our online congregants. The Wednesday night Bible study group led by Pastor Elizabeth is outgrowing the conference room. Our youth are working toward their summer mission trip, the first one in quite some time. It's different than it was three years ago. And two years ago. And even last year. Different, but alive and growing.

As we find ourselves welcoming in March 2023, may we also find ourselves empowered by this community of faith to be the hands and feet of Jesus. No longer are we bound by the restrictions of the pandemic. In this freedom that we all longed for, let us reach out with one another and celebrate the fact that we can work side by side (literally) and live out our YCUCC mission:

*To live as Jesus lived: love without judgement, welcome without exception, serve with compassion, teach by example.*

Yours in Service,  
Deanna Bazan  
Chairperson, SLT



## What has Building and Grounds been up to?

Happy March! It is crazy to think that we are already into the third month of 2023. Some of you might be wondering what the building and grounds crew have been up to.

For starters, after receiving several estimates for a new boiler we have settled on a price and the contracts have been signed. We are not going to install the new boiler this cold season. Instead, we are going to purchase it now and have Artlip and Sons hold it for us until September, before next winter arrives. If you have any questions about this process please feel free to ask myself or any of the building and grounds crew.

This past week, the crew replaced one of the sprayers in the kitchen. While they were replacing the sprayer they went in and repaired some of the faucets. The faucets and sprayer needed to be repaired and replaced due to some pretty consistence dripping. The dripping can be caused by forcing the handles of the faucet down too hard. So, we are asking you to not force the handles down. When you first turn the faucet off there will be a drip, but it will stop after a couple of seconds. The more you force the handles down, the more we have to fix them.

Our current project is the fire suppression system in the kitchen. This past month, the hood and vents above the stove were cleaned. In July the wet chemical in the suppression system will be out of fire code. We are talking with a few fire protection companies to make sure we get the best price. We do not have a date for this installation, so stay tuned.

If you are interested and able, please join us on March 3rd at 1:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall as we make bagged lunch for the Hesed House. Please be on the look out for a sign up sheet for donations. As always, we continue to meet every Tuesday morning at 9:00 am, all are welcome.



## SLT MEET AND GREET: Stacy and Diane

Greetings YCUCC! My name is Stacy Skinner and I'm currently serving as the Youth & Children's Christian Education Shepard. I have had the opportunity to serve under the Christian Education Director-Barb Thurlby – she is truly the heart of Christian Education at our church. It's been an honor and a privilege serving my church along side my fellow SLT members. I'm humbled that I was giving this opportunity in June of 2020 and will finish my term in June of 2023. I have learned so many wonderful things about our church since becoming an SLT member, but what sticks out most is the love and kindness that our church leaders have!

Our family has been long time members of the church, starting with my husband's Grandparents (Al and Goldie Behrens) who were married in the church back when it was the Chapel on the Green in 1958. In 1981, my in-laws (Mike and Carla Skinner) were married in the church, and Chris and his three brothers were also both baptized and confirmed in our church. Before getting married to my husband in 2009, I was Baptized by Pastor Mark Gregory. Pastor Mark holds a special place in our hearts as he both officiated our marriage in 2009 and later Dedicated our three children in 2014.

YCUCC has been a constant faith fixture in my adult life and now in my children's lives. Chris and I feel very blessed to have our children be the 4<sup>th</sup> generation of our family in our church. As most of you know we have 9-year-old triplets (Lincoln, Penelope and Chelsea) – who keep us very busy. They are



getting ready to finish 4<sup>th</sup> grade and are involved in baseball, tumbling and recently shown interest in live theater. In addition to our children, we also have two Portuguese Water Dogs (I love this breed and could go on and on to anyone who is willing to listen). Our first dog Winnie got us through Covid lockdowns and now our newest addition Blu came to us from a recue in Arkansas just before Christmas last year. He was in rough shape when we got him and it's been a lot of work, but we are very proud to see the progress that he has made. When ever possible our family enjoys traveling; Disney has been one of our favorite spots along with anywhere we can find sand and warm water. The Skinner family are true beach bums!



Hello,  
My name is Diane Stablein, I am the Information Shepherd. I've been with YCUCC for over 10 years now and I still can't believe it. It feels like yesterday that I was looking for an inclusive church to begin my Christian faith.

So, some basics about myself. I was born in Vung Tau, Vietnam. My pregnant mother, father, and I fled Vietnam in the mid/late 70s and landed in a Malaysian refugee camp. From the stories, I've heard from my family members, my family was at the camp for about a year and a half (relatively short amount of time compared to the current average time people are in the refugee camps) before being allowed to come to the United States. Our family was settled in Forest Park, IL and fast forward many, many, many years, I moved out to Oswego. I want to convert to Christianity from Buddhism and find YCUCC.

Since joining our church, I have become very involved. I am also part of the Love Your Neighbor Ministry, Green Team, Choir, Livestreaming on Sunday mornings and the SLT. I am always open to anyone who wants to say hi and want to ask me any questions.



## 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.

## Easter Candy Needed!

The Easter Egg Hunt is coming up next month! We need candy donations to make it possible. There will be a cart in the Narthex for all donations. Thanks!



## 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!

## **Fighting hunger at Daybreak Homeless Shelter each month**

For the past two years, members of our church have been addressing hunger once a month by serving lunch on the third Friday at Daybreak Homeless Shelter in Joliet.

Brian Bazan and Sandy Lindblom (pictured) are among the faithful servers. It took all of the food in these insulated carriers in the foreground to feed lunch to Daybreak residents on Jan. 20. Nine members of our church (Sandy, Brian, Kathy Farren, Coral Clevenger, Peg Trumble, Diane Dillow, Sandy DeRidder, Anne Engelhardt, and Mary Ann Doetschman) provided and cooked the dinner of ham, potato casserole, green beans and dessert. It takes quite a bit to feed between 35 and 50 Daybreak residents every month so the list of needed food is split up so no one has to provide all of any one item. Daybreak residents really appreciate the home cooked food.

This began as a project of Kendall County PADS to do something to help the homeless when that program at local churches shut down during COVID in 2020. Since then, Kendall County PADS disbanded and the monthly Daybreak lunch became a project of Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ and Cross Lutheran Church. Members of the two churches provide the food in alternate months and members of YCUCC deliver and serve the meal.

### **Can you help provide the food for lunch March 17?**

It will be YCUCC's turn to provide lunch again on Friday, March 17. The menu will be meat loaf, macaroni and cheese, green beans and dessert. We need donations of four 3-pound meat loaves, four pans of macaroni and cheese, two large bags of frozen green beans, and three desserts. If you can help provide any of these items, call or email Kathy Farren, 630-803-0514, [ednpub@earthlink.net](mailto:ednpub@earthlink.net).



## **MARK THESE DATES!**

**Monday, April 17, 7:00 p.m.**

**“Garden Party” at YCUCC, Fellowship Hall.**

Church family and community are invited!

Presentations on various gardening topics (native plants to attract pollinators, vegetable gardens, rain barrels, and more). Spring plants to take home for your own gardens. Watch for details in March and April.

Hosted by Green Team.



**Saturday, May 13, 10:00 a.m.**

**Field Trip to explore Morton Arboretum.**

Spring blooms. ALL are invited! Watch for details.

Organized by Green Team.



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR



*Beloved, let us love one another because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God” - 1 John 4:7 (NRSV)*

Hello Church Family,

In the month of March, the Love Your Neighbor Ministry is collecting a Refugee Welcome Kit for World Relief. World Relief is a global Christian humanitarian organization whose mission is to empower the local church to serve the most vulnerable. World Relief aims to tackle the world’s greatest problems with holistic, locally-driven solutions that lead to lasting change — whether in response to disasters, extreme poverty, violence, oppression or mass displacement and immigration. World Relief’s work in the United States, specifically, focuses on helping refugees and other immigrants in vulnerable situations rebuild their lives in a new country.

Look for our table with the list of items needed. World Relief asks that all donated items are NEW. Please have all donated items by March 26<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

## THE PROBLEM - SINGLE USE PLASTICS

1,000,000,000s of items of plastic waste are choking our oceans, lakes, and rivers. It is an ugly-looking pileup on land. It harms plants, wildlife, and humans. All of this has occurred in less than 100 years! Plastics were first produced for use in the 1930's. Plastic bottles were introduced in the 1960's while grocery and garbage bags emerged in the 1980's. Roughly half of annual plastic production is destined for a single-use product.



## SOLUTIONS - FOR SINGLE USE PLASTICS

- Since ten cents of every shopping dollar is used to pay for packaging, **purchase the largest sizes you will use**. You will save money, reduce waste, and help the environment.
- Over 90% of plastic is not recycled. **Recycling** would reduce oil consumption and plastic waste.
- By using a **REUSABLE water bottle** the average person could save an average of 156 plastic bottles annually.
- By switching to **REUSABLE shopping bags**, we can eliminate that waste which amounts to about 307 bags per person a year.



HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR USE OF PLASTICS?

**Check your personal plastic footprint.** Click on this link to OMNI [Plastic Footprint Calculator](https://www.omnicalculator.com/ecology/plastic-footprint), estimate your plastic use, and make personal changes.

<https://www.omnicalculator.com/ecology/plastic-footprint>

## 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



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

### FROM JUNK >> > TO TREASURES



Dig into your overflowing closets, cabinets,  
and clean out garages & basements!

#### **ALL DONATIONS**

Must be: clean, stain-free, no holes/rips  
Basically - in GOOD condition

Please use safety pins  
to secure matching outfits

### DONATING A LARGER ITEM FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE?

Call Tony Houle directly at **815-546-1061**  
to discuss specific item/s to donate and  
schedule an April 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> Building &  
Grounds pickup, or text a picture of your  
donation for pre-approval!

*B&G pickup service offered 'ONLY'  
for our YCUCC Church Family!*

## Items 'NOT' Accepted for Donation:

Extra Large Furniture (i.e. 'Oversized' sofas/sectionals, desks, entertainment centers  
(We reserve the right to decline an item that is overly large),  
Electronics (TVs, computers, printers, typewriters, land/cell phones, fax equipment),  
infant/child car and/or booster seats, any size mattress, cribs

## J.O.Y. Circle requests 'your' help to ensure a successful 2023 Spring R&B Sale!

**Volunteer Sign-up Sheets will post April 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Narthex for the following:**

- **Set-up:** Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> immediately following the worship service
- **Extra help throughout the week of the sale from our YCUCC Church Family:**
  - Sorting/Organizing donated items (Volunteer to fit 'your' schedule)
  - Bake items, provide treats and/or help Bake Sale Chair Sandy Lindblom with Bake Sale Set-up & Preparations on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>
  - Friday and/or Saturday Sale Days, April 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>
- **Tear-down:** 12:00 p.m. - @ 2:00 p.m., Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>

**Thank you for your continued support of YCUCC's Rummage & Bake  
Sales!**

**SPONSORED BY J.O.Y. CIRCLE**

Peg Trumble - J.O.Y. Circle/Rummage Sale Chair  
[pjltrumble@comcast.net](mailto:pjltrumble@comcast.net) 630-768-5924 (C)

Sandy Lindblom - Bake Sale Chair  
[slind55378@aol.com](mailto:slind55378@aol.com) 630-553-6214 (H)



## MISSIONS MINISTRY NEWS

Soup Sunday on February 12, 2023 proceeds of \$464.00 was designated for Senior Services-Yorkville. A check has been sent for \$814.00 (which includes \$350.00 from the Mission Ministry budget line item). Unbelievable...Thank You All! Much thanks to all who helped with dishes and clean-up afterwards.

Our next Soup Sunday will be Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, with proceeds going to our Vacation Bible School in July. Look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex. We made \$464.00 with only nine soups; can you imagine with more soups what we can raise for VBS.

YCUCC has been a 5 for 5 church for almost 24 years. The "One Great Hour of Sharing" (OGHS), 5 for 5 Offering, will be taken up on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Through this offering we are planting seeds of new life, making the world a better place. A world where we all are safe, all are loved, all are fed.

During our Lenten Season with the theme title "Hunger", we will be collecting canned goods for the Kendal County Community Food Pantry the week of March 12<sup>th</sup> thru the 18<sup>th</sup>. Designated boxes are in the entry way for this collection to be delivered the 27<sup>th</sup>. Examples of canned goods needed are:

- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Tomato Soup
- Vegetable Soup
- Peaches
- Pears
- Fruit Cocktail
- Corn
- Green Beans
- Pinto Beans
- Carrots
- Mixed Vegetables
- Potatoes
- Diced or Stewed Tomatoes
- Ragu Pasta Sauce
- Tomato Sauce
- Apple Pie Filling
- Blueberry Pie Filling
- Cherry Pie Filling



## **YCUCC STUDENTS CONTINUE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS**

By Barb Thurlby, Christian Education Director

YCUCC students are working hard on fundraising activities for the upcoming mission trip in June.

The group has participated in two pancake breakfasts, encouraged the 'clear the van' envelope project, and worked the 'potato bar' on Ash Wednesday. The group will host a 'hot chocolate' bar on our Youth Sunday in March.

Way to go YCUCC students! You are well on your way to meet your fundraising goals! Thank you to the parents and church families that continue to support their efforts!



# VBS PLANS UNDERWAY

By Barb Thurlby, Christian Education Director

Believe it or not, VBS plans are underway! YCUCC Vacation Bible School will begin on Sunday, July 16, 2023 and run through Thursday, July 20, 2023. The program will begin with dinner at 5:15 p.m. and end at 7:30 p.m.

This year's theme is Hero Hotline! This Cokesbury sponsored program takes place in the Hero Hotline Headquarters. Each day superheroes of all ages will answer the call to join the Professor and veteran hero, Super Meer the Meerkat, to provide expert assistance and solutions to Hero teams everywhere.

Super heroes will explore the ultimate Hero Handbook – the Bible- to discover how all heroes can follow God's example to work together to bring peace and build one another up! It's going to be a great adventure! More details and registration to follow.



## Let's WALK together again!

Our first event of the new Walking Ministry was on **Saturday, February 11, 10 a.m. at Silver Springs State Park.** Ten of us walked to the springs where the watercress was brilliant green, a nice reminder of springtime around the corner. We continued along the Fox River path, through the woods and circled back next to Loon Lake. We finished up, tailgating and sipping on beverages of hot chocolate and/or bottled water. We enjoyed God's creation as we talked and talked together!

Our next walk will be **Saturday, March 11, 10:00 a.m. at Silver Springs State Park.** Meet at Loon Lake, at the eastern entrance (fishing entrance off of Fox Road) where there is plenty of parking.



Walking Ministry extends an open invitation to everyone in the church. The purpose of our Walking Ministry is to enjoy fellowship with each other in God's natural creation while getting in a little fresh air and exercise. No agenda, no business meeting, just a time to get to know each other and appreciate the beauty of our earth!

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

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

**"For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies. Christ, our Lord, to you we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise."**

# 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.

**March is Women's History month.** So it is the perfect time to pick up a book written by a woman about women. I found this list of books at <https://www.cnn.com/cnn-underscored/home/womens-history-month-books>. I have read 10 of the books on the list and they were amazing, so pick up one to read this month.

1. 'The Vanishing Half' by Brit Bennett
2. 'Pride and Prejudice' by Jane Austen
3. 'Hidden Figures' by Margot Lee Shetterly
4. 'Little Women' by Louisa May Alcott
5. 'My Own Words' by Ruth Bader Ginsburg
6. 'Circe' by Madeline Miller
7. 'Becoming' by Michelle Obama
8. 'The Woman Warrior' by Maxine Hong Kingston
9. 'The Year of Magical Thinking' by Joan Didion
10. 'Beloved' by Toni Morrison
11. 'The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks' by Rebecca Skloot
12. 'Marie Antoinette: The Journey' by Antonia Fraser
13. 'The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women' by Kate Moore
14. 'Queens of the Conquest: England's Medieval Queens' by Alison Weir
15. 'The Handmaid's Tale' by Margaret Atwood

## Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School continues to meet Sunday Mornings at 9:00 a.m. We will finish our study of Wisdom this month. 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.

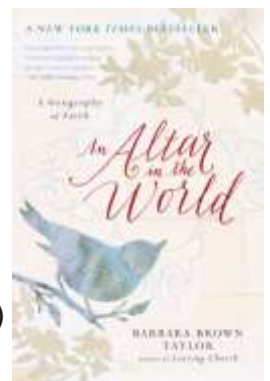
March 5--Being Reformed, Faith Seeking Understanding--Wisdom--Session 5

March 12--Being Reformed, Faith Seeking Understanding--Wisdom--Session 6

## All Church Book Read

*An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith* by Barbara Brown Taylor

"In the *New York Times* bestseller *An Altar in the World*, acclaimed author Barbara Brown Taylor continues her spiritual journey by building upon where she left off in *Leaving Church*. With the honesty of Elizabeth Gilbert (*Eat, Pray, Love*) and the spiritual depth of Anne Lamott (*Grace, Eventually*), Taylor shares how she learned to find God beyond the church walls by embracing the sacred as a natural part of everyday life. In *An Altar in the World*, Taylor shows us how to discover altars everywhere we go and in nearly everything we do as we learn to live with purpose, pay attention, slow down, and revere the world we live in." (Goodreads)



Michael Obenauer and I will be hosting an on-line discussion on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Email Aimee List, [ajlsan1@hotmail.com](mailto:ajlsan1@hotmail.com), if you are interested in joining to be sent the Zoom link.

3/7-Introduction and Chapters 1-4

3/21-Chapters 5-8

4/4-Chapters 9-12

Note: The Book Discussion Group and Spiritual Development Group will not be meeting separately this month as we will be reading and discussing the all church book read instead.





Update



Update

J.O.Y. Circle helped pack boxes of food at the Aurora, IL Feed My Starving Children location on January 17, 2023.

**Boxes Packed: 68 | Meals: 14, 688 | Kids Fed for a Year: 40 | Cost: \$3, 525.12**

Boxes, each containing 36 meals, were shipped to:

**World Help** in Nicaragua - Wednesday January 25, 2023

**Salvadoran American Humanitarian Foundation** in El Salvador - Friday January 27, 2023

Meals usually take between two weeks and six months to travel to their destination. It all depends on where in the world they go and how hard it is to get there. They cross the ocean by ship or plane and wait in line to clear customs. Then they journey by car, bike, canoe or even donkey to reach FMSC partners. Many hands carry these meals to children and families in need.

Many thanks are extended to all 16 individuals who were available to volunteer at Feed My Starving Children:

Goldie Behrens, Diane Dillow, Anne Engelhardt, Kathy Farren, Pam Hamblin, Pastor Elizabeth Hartung, LouAnn Hoffman, Sandy Lindblom, Mary McCracken, Joan McEachern, Jill Mickelson, Nancy Modery, Pat Norr, Diane Stablein, Peg Trumble, and Joanne Vitek.

**The next J.O.Y. Circle meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at noon in Fellowship Hall.**

Peg Trumble  
J.O.Y. Circle Chair

# 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.

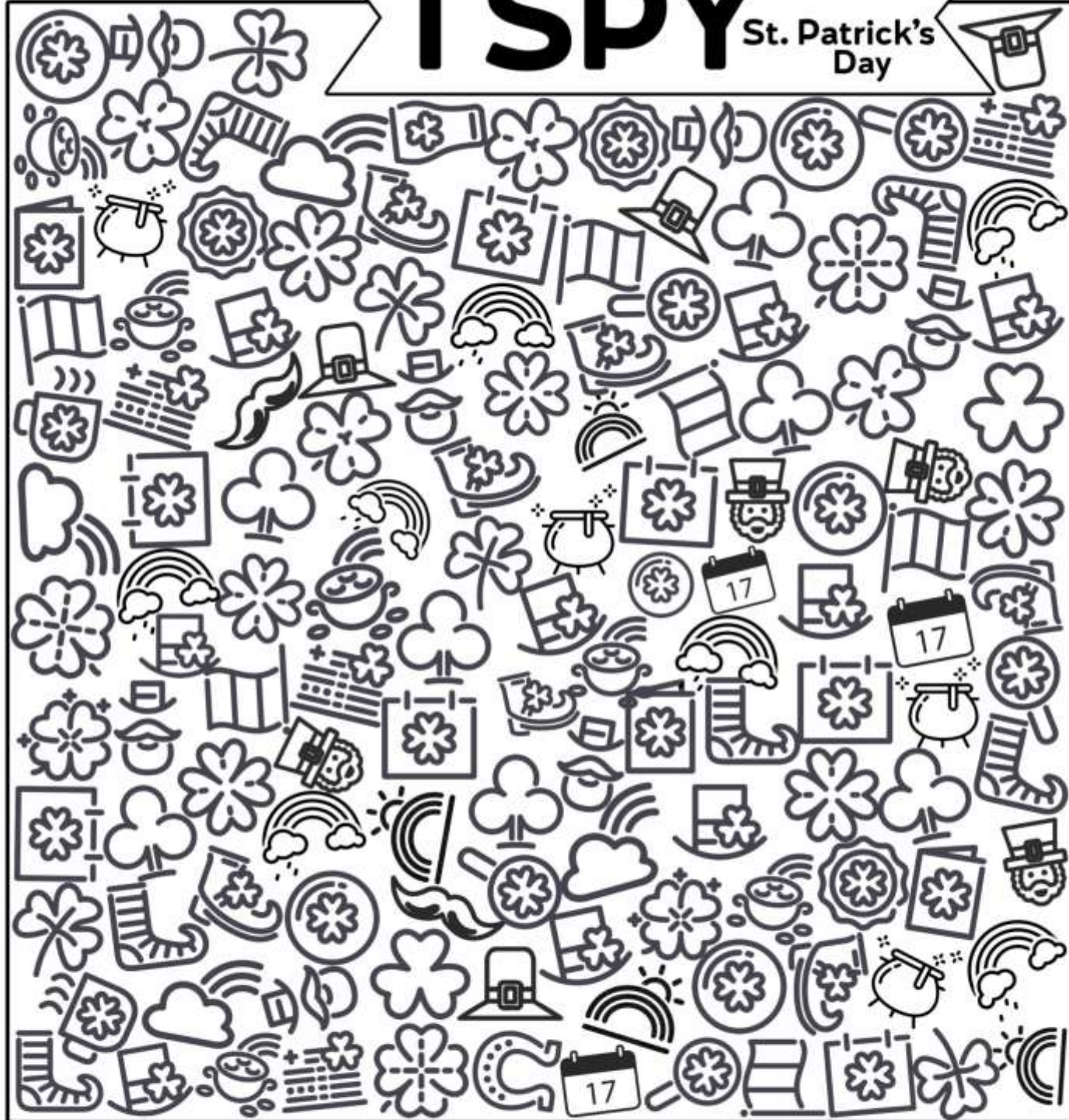


Scan the QR Code, let the office know, or visit [www.yorkvilleucc.org/media](http://www.yorkvilleucc.org/media) to make a request.

We look forward to singing with you!

# I SPY

St. Patrick's Day

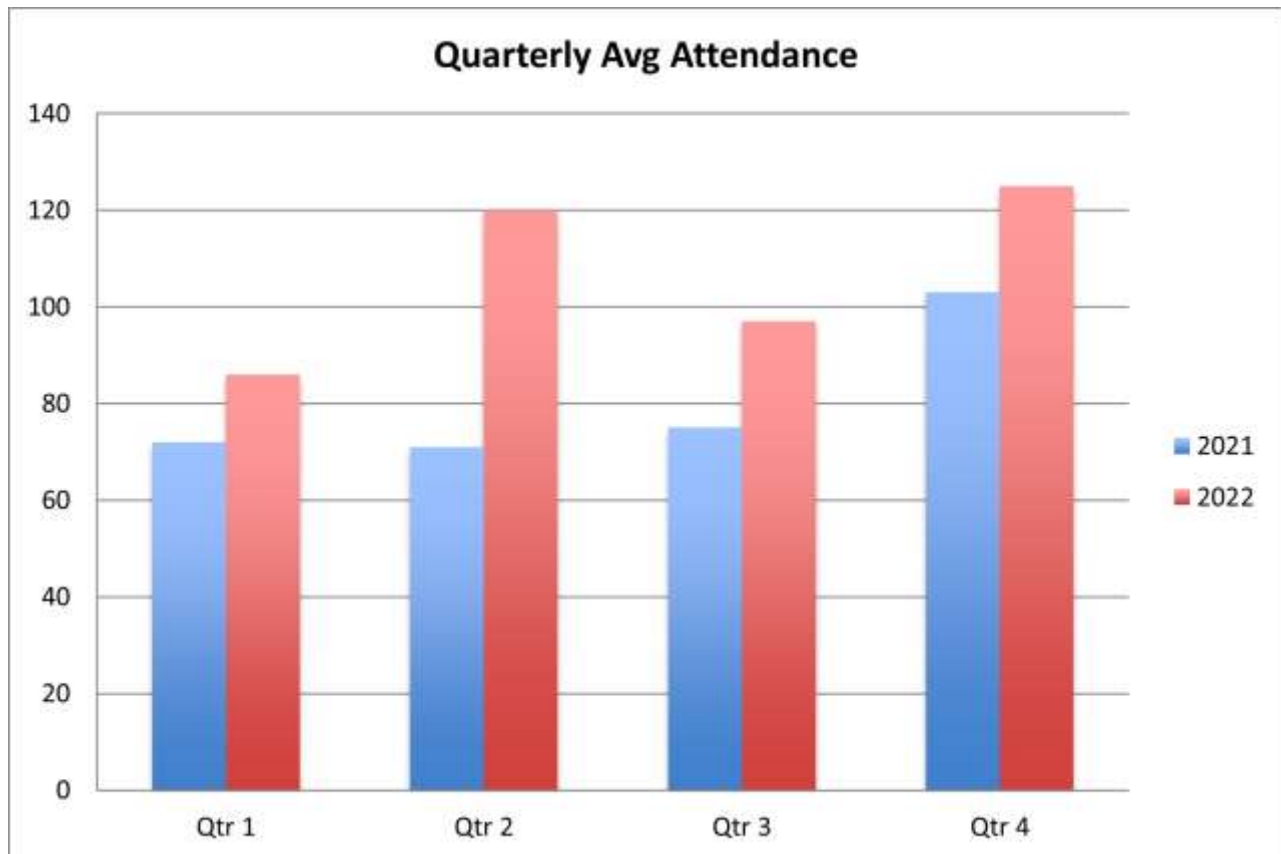


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| 3 |  | 2 |  | 4 |  | 6 |  | 2 |  | 7 |  | 3 |  | 9 |  | 6 |  | 3 |  |

## 2021-2022 Attendance Summary

2021	# of Services	Total Attendance	Avg Attendance
January			
February			
March	4	289	72
1st Qtr.	4	289	72
April	4	311	78
May	5	359	72
June	4	248	62
2nd Qtr.	13	918	71
July	4	250	63
August	5	355	71
September	4	373	93
3rd Qtr.	13	978	75
October	5	487	97
November	4	411	103
December	5	537	107
4th Qtr.	14	1,435	103
Yearly Total	44	3,620	82

2022	# of Services	Total Attendance	Avg Attendance	Rolling 12 Mo Avg Attn
January	5	340	68	
February	4	409	102	82
March	5	453	91	84
1st Qtr.	14	1,202	86	
April	4	559	140	89
May	5	589	118	93
June	4	410	103	96
2nd Qtr.	13	1,558	120	
July	4	460	115	100
August	4	336	84	101
September	4	373	93	101
3rd Qtr.	12	1,169	97	
October	5	575	115	103
November	4	476	119	104
December	4	573	143	107
4th Qtr.	13	1,624	125	
Yearly Total	52	5,553	107	





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30-12:00 pm Breathe Life Tai Chi 11:00 am Staff Meeting 5:15-6:30 Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45-7:45 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice	2 10:30 am Altar in This World Discussion	3 1:00 pm B&G makes lunches for Hased House	4 10:00 am-1:00 pm Serving lunch at Hased House
5 Communion Sunday 9:00 am Voyageurs 9:00 am Adult Education 10:00 am Worship Sunday School	6 9:00 am B&G MTG 7:00 pm Altar in this World	7 9:00 am B&G MTG 7:00 pm Altar in this World	8 9:30-12:00 pm Breathe Life Tai Chi 11:00 am Staff Meeting 5:15-6:30 Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45-7:45 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice	9 6:00 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm SLT Meeting	10 6:00 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm SLT Meeting	11 6:00 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm SLT Meeting
12 9:00 am Voyageurs 9:00 am Adult Education 10:00 am Worship Sunday School 11:00 am LYN Meeting-MTG RM Soup Sunday	13 6:30pm Green Team Mtg in Fellowship Hall	14 9:00 am B&G MTG 10:00 am Pastoral Care	15 9:30-12:00 pm Breathe Life Tai Chi 11:00 am Staff Meeting 5:15-6:30 Spaghetti Dinner 6:00pm Pastoral Care Conf. Rm 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45-7:45 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice	16 10:30 am Altar in This World Discussion	17 Daybreak Shelter	18 Daybreak Shelter
19 9:00 am Voyageurs 9:00 am Adult Education 10:00 am Worship Sunday School Youth Service Youth Hot Chocolate Bar	20 6:00 pm Outreach Mtg 7:00 pm Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting	21 9:00 am B&G MTG 7:00 pm Altar in this World	22 9:30-12:00 pm Breathe Life Tai Chi 11:00 am Staff Meeting 5:15-6:30 Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45-7:45 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice	23 10:30 am Altar in This World Discussion	24 <div>NEWSLETTER CALENDAR DUE DATE</div>	25 <div>NEWSLETTER CALENDAR DUE DATE</div>
26 9:00 am Voyageurs 9:00 am Adult Education 10:00 am Worship Sunday School OGHS 5 for 5 Missions	27 9:00 am B&G MTG	28 9:00 am B&G MTG	29 9:00 am Newsletter Mailing 9:30-12:00 pm Breathe Life Tai Chi 11:00 am Staff Meeting 5:15-6:30 Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45-7:45 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice	30 10:30 am Altar in This World Discussion	31 10:30 am Altar in This World Discussion	32 10:30 am Altar in This World Discussion



### **Those Grieving:**

The Homerding Family  
The Cruise Family  
The Strong Family

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

Terri Patterson	Coulson Taylor
Pat Dietz	Pearl Undesser

### **Health Concerns:**

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

### **General Concerns:**

Deb Mendell	Fur Babies:
Prochaska Family	Kelly Fischer - Maggie & Riley

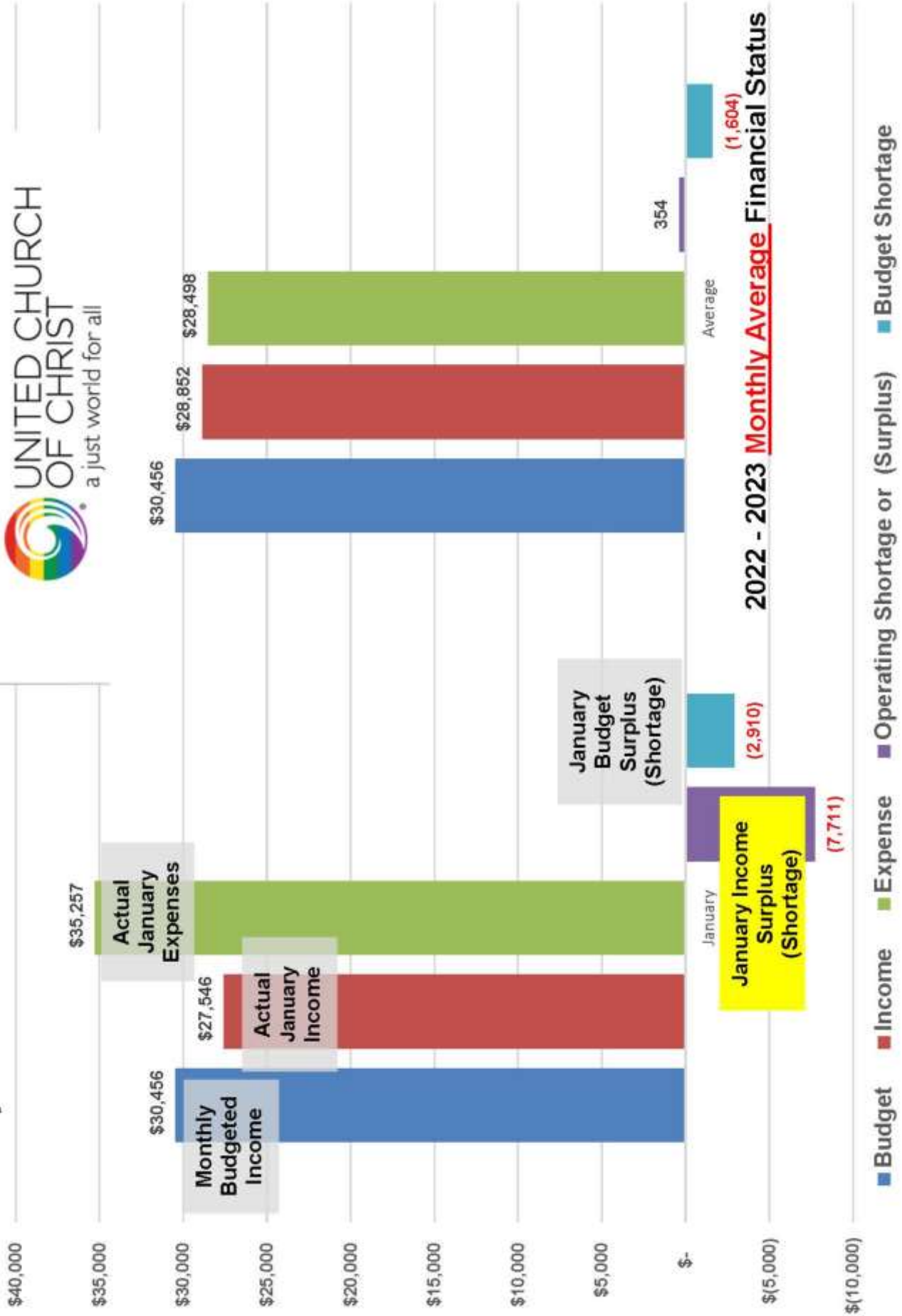
### **Homebound/Assisted Living:**

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.

# January 2022 Financial Status





**WE THANK THE MANY THAT HELP RECYCLE  
ALUMINUM CANS AND DONATE UNCRUSHED 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.*

### March Birthdays

Phyllis Yabsley	03	Jacob DeFuss	25
Scott Stevens	04	Tim Sartori	26
Avery Andersen	05	Sue Frahm	27
Matthew Bazan	06	Rhylen Rebsom	27
Chris Skinner	06	Dexter Stillmunkes	28
Fred Dickson	10	Joey Tarrant	28
Darlene Niesen	10	Ralph Goins	29
Laurie Strong	10	Greyson Tsusaki	30
Katelyn Pansera	12	Michael Obenauer	31
Harold McCracken	12		
Dale Perkins	12		
Gayle Jacobs	14		
Christine Keith	14		
Caleb Vaclavik	14		
Harper Vaclavik	14		
Charlie Skinner	16		
Deborah Myers	18		
Ray Wheaton	20		
Matthew Gette	23		
Jonah Hart	23		
Timothy Kolowski	23		
Lillian Seibel	23		
Troy List	24		
Deb Mendell	24		
Benjamin DeFuss	25		

### Second Sunday in Lent

VIOLET  
Gen 12:1-4a  
Ps121  
Rom 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17 or Matt 17:1-9

### Third Sunday in Lent

VIOLET  
Ex 17:1-7  
Ps 95  
Rom 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42

### Fourth Sunday in Lent

VIOLET  
1 Sam 16:1-13  
Ps 23  
Eph 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41  
*One Great Hour of Sharing Offering*

### Fifth Sunday in Lent

VIOLET  
Ezek 37:1-14  
Ps 130  
Rom 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

### March Anniversaries

14 Zachary & Amanda Seibel	3 Years
15 Stephen & Carole Guenzler	37 Years
31 Aaron & Sondra Shatters	15 Years

### Altar Guild

Kathy Wickens



Date	Acolytes	Liturgists	Sermon Titles
3/5/2023	DJ Melhouse	Salli Walden	The Places of Hunger: Creation
3/12/2023	Cayla Pottinger	Salli Walden	The Places of Hunger: Mud
3/19/2023	McKenzie Strausberger	Youth	Youth Service
3/26/2023	Ronan Heffernan	LeaAnn Skogsberg	Guest Pastor-TBD

### **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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Yorkville, IL 60560  
Phone: (630) 553-7308  
E-Mail: [adminasst@yorkvilleucc.org](mailto:adminasst@yorkvilleucc.org)  
Web Page: [www.yorkvilleucc.org](http://www.yorkvilleucc.org)

**March 2023**



A place that Welcomes, cares, and Serves all!