



409 Center Parkway Yorkville, IL 60560 Phone: 630/553-7308 E-Mail: adminasst@yorkvilleucc.org Web Page: www.yorkvilleucc.org FB: @yorkvilleucc Instagram: @yorkvilleucc Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

#### <u>Staff</u>

<u>Minister</u> <u>Christian Ed. Director</u> <u>Church Administrator</u> <u>Chancel Choir Director</u> <u>Children's Choir Director</u> <u>Organist</u> <u>Pianist</u> <u>Childcare Attendants</u> Rev. Elizabeth Hartung Robin Campos Robin Campos Doug Trumble Sondra Shatters Tina Andersen Lori Runkle Hannah Bazan Abby Goniwicha Dakota Shatters Tim & Laurie Strong Louise DeFuss

<u>Custodians</u> <u>Sexton</u>

#### Shepherds Deanna Bazan

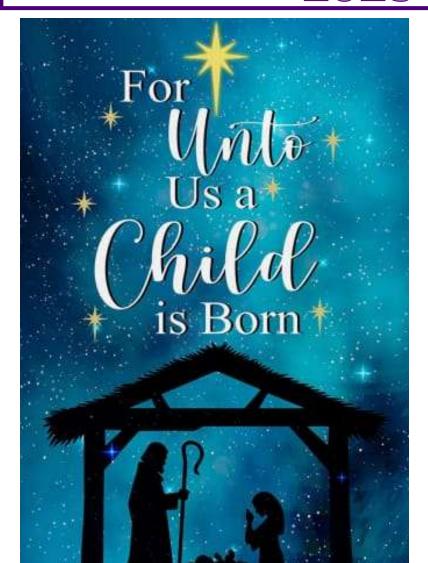
Chairperson Vice Chairperson Recording Secretary Operations: Personnel Operations: Bldg. & Grds Operations: Finance Information Services Christian Education: Adult Christian Education: Youth Worship: Serving Worship: Preparation Church Family: Caring Church Family: Fellowship Service: Missions Outreach/Welcoming

Carrie DeFuss Aaron Shatters Pam Campos Tony Houle Tim Andrus Diane Stablein Aimee List Sue Kimes Lori Redmon Kathy Wickens Lou Ann Hoffman Laurie Houle June Davis Kathy Farren

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









## Pastor's Porch

Dear Church Family,

As we gather in the warmth of fellowship and the embrace of our faith community, I am filled with joy and anticipation as we embark on the sacred season of Advent. This period of reflection and preparation holds a special place in our hearts, guiding us towards celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Advent is a time of waiting and a season of hope, love, joy, and peace. It marks the beginning of a spiritual journey, a pilgrimage of the heart, as we prepare to welcome the light of Christ into our lives once again. During the hustle and bustle of our lives, Advent beckons us to slow down, turn our gaze inward, and open our hearts to the

transformative power of God's love.

As a community, let's be beacons of hope for those in the grip of struggles. The wars in Ukraine, Palestine, and Israel weigh on our hearts. In our prayers, let our collective light of hope shine for those enduring these trials. Our actions make a difference, offering solace and reflecting the transformative power of God's love.

Individually, let's examine our hearts in the face of global challenges. *Can we cultivate more love, extending it beyond our circles to those distant and different from us? Can we bring joy to those burdened by conflict?* Advent calls us to self-reflection, guiding us toward deeper connections with God and each other.

As we witness those hurting in our community and the world, let our hearts be stirred to emulate Christ's compassion. Through prayers, kindness, and unwavering faith, we become conduits of peace, extending hope across borders. As we light Advent candles, may each flame symbolize our hope, love, joy, peace, and the light we share with a hurting world. Together, rooted in faith, let's navigate these times with grace and resilience, knowing our collective light and love can pierce the darkness.

#### "Awaken, Celebrate, Love: A Journey through Advent"

Worship in December

**December 3: "Cosmic Awakening**" Join us for a soul-stirring exploration of peace in a chaotic world, drawing inspiration from Mark 13:24-37. In the encouraging words of Jesus, **"And what I say to you, I say to all: Keep awake."** Our reflections will be complemented by insights from 'The Truman Show' and the surreal world of Salvador Dalí's "The Persistence of Memory."

**December 10: "The Pageant"** Experience the joy and wonder of the Christmas story as told by our children. Through their heartfelt performance, we'll witness the timeless tale of Jesus' birth come alive, reminding us of the simplicity and purity of the season.

**December 17: "Love Speaks"** Delve into the profound love displayed by Mary as we explore Luke 1:26-38. The angel's words, "For nothing will be impossible with God," echo through the ages. Mary's response, **"Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word,"** becomes a powerful teaching on answering God's call. Drawing inspiration from Elsa in Frozen, we'll uncover the transformative power of saying, "Here am I."

#### December 24: "Cantata"

Let the enchanting melodies of our Choir carry you through the story of Christmas. Through song and narration, we'll celebrate the birth of Christ, allowing the music to speak to our hearts and amplify the season's joy.

#### December 31: "Hymn Sing"

Join us in a reflective and celebratory Hymn Sing as we bid farewell to the year. We'll express gratitude through timeless hymns, seek guidance, and welcome the new year with hope and joy. Hymn request sheets will be available in the Narthex.

This Advent, let each Sunday be a step in your journey of faith, awakening the cosmic peace within, celebrating the pure joy of Christmas, and embracing the profound love that defines this season.

Blessings, Pastor Elizabeth



## From the Desk of the Chair

One of my favorite Christmas songs was first released in 1992, my early years as a young professional. It was a time when I was living away from home, adulting in the best way I knew how, and I was seeking. I was seeking personal identity, professional status, purpose, and clarity in life. Amy Grant released "Breath of Heaven" and the

words spoke to me. She sang, "In a world as cold as stone, must I walk this path alone? Breath of Heaven, lighten my darkness, pour over me your holiness, for you are holy." The song is about Mary as the mother of Jesus, and it resonated with me as Mary asked questions about her present and future self. Today that song reminds me of God's promise of love for each of us, meeting us wherever we are on our journey.

This child, Immanuel, is God with us, and Christmas is about kindness and love entering the world through that infant. He is the breath of heaven that abides with us not only in December but every day. Please remember that amid the holiday chaos, in whatever that looks like for you this year, God is present. Let's honor the birth of Jesus by sharing the kindness and love he came to share with us.

To hear the song in its entirety, click here: <u>https://</u> www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8\_475FKJWQ



Yours in Service, Deanna Bazan



During the month of November, Building and Grounds spent a lot of time cleaning up and taking care of regular building and grounds needs. We had our fire alarms tested and inspected, repaired minor plumbing issues (like clogged kitchen sinks), and cleaned up storage areas. Thanks to building and grounds, the children's library has two new bookshelves,

which the crew assembled and fastened to the walls.

Have you ever thought about how our church is just like one big house? In between large projects, we take care of "house maintenance" things like, HVAC repairs, changing air filters, changing lightbulbs, hanging pictures, changing clocks, fixing toilets, removing clogs in drains, moving furniture, going through boxes and bins in storage, and so many other behind the scenes projects. Just think about the projects and repairs that you do in your own home, we also do them here at YCUCC...just on a much larger scale!

Have you visited the new playground? It is such a joy to see families playing on the playground as we leave church every Sunday and on weekday afternoons. I know many of our church students are excited to use the sledding hill when it snows! The pavilion is expected to be completed by the end of November.

If you are interested in helping Building and Ground complete their projects, join us every Tuesday at 9:00 am. All are welcome!

Can't help physically? Take a Menards Gift Card tag from the giving tree! Our crew is there almost every week!



## There will be no 10 a.m. worship Sunday 12/24. Please join us at 7:00 pm for the Cantata.



YCUCC has a Care Team to reach out to people to serve them in a spiritual, friendly, *confidential* manner. The Care Team will assist—*NOT replace* Pastor Elizabeth's pastoral visits. A call or visit can be a short term connection or develop into a longer relationship.

YCUCC's lay leaders are Carrie DeFuss and Lou Ann Hoffman. If you or someone you know would like a Care Team call or visit, contact Pastor Elizabeth, Carrie or Lou Ann, or call the church office asking for one of us to reach out to you.

## Friendly People Needed to be Greeters!

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.

## **Bible Study: Towards Compassion**

Exploring Divine Intervention in Joshua and the Healing Ministry of Jesus Wednesday, November 29, December 6, 13, 20, from 5-6 pm in the meeting room. Packets available in the office

Studying the Book of Joshua provides insights into the Old Testament narrative, emphasizing themes of obedience, divine intervention, and fulfilling God's promises as the Israelites enter the promised land. In a parallel vein, the story of the paralytic in Matthew 9:1-8 from the New Testament showcases Jesus' authority in both physical and spiritual healing, challenging conventional beliefs and highlighting themes of faith, communal support, and forgiveness. Both narratives contribute to a broader understanding of God's transformative power and His engagement with humanity, resonating through different periods and contexts in the biblical story.

# **2024 Summer Mission Trip Announcement!**

After lots of research and phone calls with YouthWorks, I am happy to announce that the youth group will be going to Nashville, Tennessee in June 2024! Our high school students are very excited to travel further, and continue serving communities who need our help the most. Our students are looking forward to growing in their faith and are looking forward to growing even more as a youth group and as individuals.

Although we don't know what to expect just yet, we do know that it will be very similar to our trip to Milwaukee this passed summer. Our students can look forward to working in urban gardens, working with children, working in nursing homes, stocking shelves at food pantries and preparing and serving meals at the local homeless shelters.

Be on the lookout for our several fundraising opportunities! You might have already seen a link on Facebook to donate.

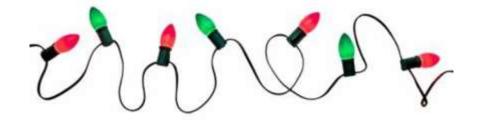


## How to dispose of old Christmas tree lights

While decorating this holiday season, you may come across some strings of old, broken, non-working tree lights. Most of us will choose not to try to repair the lights.

You may put these old, unusable light strings in a **collection bin** at church in the narthex. Bring them in **until January 15th.** 

Green Team, which is sponsoring this light collection, will be responsible for taking the lights to an organization which will recycle to keep the lights out of landfills.



CHRISTMAS COC	OKIE SALE PRE-ORDER FOR
Qty Total	
1 pound box \$10.00	
2 pound box \$18.00	
Order Total	
Name	Phone #
Cas	sh or check only.

#### You're Invited to the 2nd Annual Christmas Tea!

Please plan to join us on Saturday December 2 from 2:00 – 4:00pm in Fellowship Hall for the second annual Christmas Afternoon Tea. The program will include special music, and there will be three rounds of tea and tasty treats to enjoy with your table of friends. You may want to consider hosting a table, and that involves setting a table for 8 guests with your own table service including a centerpiece. Participants are also welcome to sign up individually to join in the fun and will be welcomed to a table. We look forward to seeing you at this event! Contact Pam Campos or Deanna Bazan (bdbazan@comcast.net) with any questions.





Lori Runkle's J.O.Y. Circle presentation on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 of 'Friendship and Faith on the Camino de Santiago' with friend Tina was both informative and inspiring. Thank you, Lori, for taking the time to prepare and share



your experiences with us. Also, thanks to Jillian Runkle for helping prepare the slide show presentation!

Peg Trumble | J.O.Y. Circle Chair



YORKVILLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 409 CENTER PARKWAY, YORKVILLE (630) 553-7308

# CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

# Saturday, December 9th 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

What is a Cookie Walk?

You will receive a cookie box and plastic gloves on entry. Select the cookies of your choice by walking around several different tables, placing the cookies of your choice in your box. When you are ready to checkout, your cookies will be weighed, and you pay the cashier by the pound.

## \$10.00 per pound \$18.00 per two pounds

To make this work - we need lots of cookies from the wonderful bakers in our congregation. If possible, please bake at least 5 dozen of the same type of cookie.

Sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex or email: ddillow1015@comcast.net or cookiegma@comcast.net

Please help us make this a great event again this year by being a baker, a buyer, a helper - or all 3!

We advertise our sale to the community, and it has been a loved event. Proceeds will be given to a local charity.

## YCUCC Hosts Illinois UCC Annual Conference

YCUCC played host to almost 200 UCC pastors, conference ministers and lay leaders Nov. 3 and 4 when the annual Illinois Conference meeting was held here. This was the first in-person conference since COVID.

Many of our members helped set up the rooms, greeted attendees, served food for snack breaks and breakfast, and then cleaned up. Our choir and Pastor Elizabeth Hartung were part of the closing worship service.

In addition to the annual business meeting, there were workshops on bias, maintaining boundaries, and mental health care.

Building and Grounds members Jeff Kline, Brian Bazan, Tony Houle, Art Prochaska, Bob McGee and Andy Hamblin helped with set up and clean up. Greeters were Michael Obenauer, Deanna Bazan, Katie Niesen, and Anne Engelhardt. Snacks and beverages were provided by Diane Dillow and Kathy Farren. Diane and Goldie Behrens organized a light breakfast on Saturday morning at the conference. Sue Kimes also provided food for the breakfast. Lots of help throughout the event was provided by Robin Campos, Bob, Deanna, Diane, Sue, Goldie, Kathy, Nancy Kolowski, and members of the Building and Grounds Ministry. Laurie Strong kept the building in great shape throughout the event.



## Help the Youth Group with their School Year Mission!

The youth group has begun a new mission project that will last them the whole school year. As a group, the students decided that they want to collect loose change and cash for the Pediatric Cancer and Blood Disorders unit at Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago.

The youth group collaborated with each other on their research about the program at Lurie Children's Hospital and are very excited to share their information with everyone. Stay tuned to hear their presentation during a kids message in November.

All loose change and cash will be collected until the school year is over in May. All monies will be counted and donated to Lurie Children's Hospital. Look for the water jug in the Narthex or in the CE Office.

Thanks for supporting our youth and their mission!

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago<sup>®</sup>

## **Adult Education**



## **Just Mercy Discussion**

Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

The YA version of the book *Just Mercy* by Brian Stevenson was recently removed from the English curriculum at Yorkville High School. Let's meet and discuss this critically acclaimed, true story of an innocent man put on death row and a lawyer's fight to free him.

\*Watch the **movie**--As far as I can tell, Just Mercy is not available for free on any streaming service. It is available to rent on various platforms for under \$5.00. It is also available on DVD from the Yorkville Public Library.

#### OR

\*Read the **book**--the YA version is what the high school was using. It is a shortened version of the original. Or read the original with more details. The audiobook and print versions are available on the Libby app (the public library's digital app). Pastor Elizabeth spoke of the book during her sermon on 11/12/23. Go back and watch that if you missed it!

## **Advent - Glow Devotional**



The Spiritual Development Group will begin reading and discussing the 2023 Pilgrim Press Advent Devotional. Advent begins on Sunday, December 3. Our first meeting to discuss the devotional will be Tuesday, December 5.

Extra copies are available for sale in the office for \$5.00 each. Put the payment in the adult education mailbox.

If you wish to join the discussion, contact Diane Stablein at "infoshep@yorkville-ucc.org." to be sent the Google Meets video link.

#### "The "O!" of Wonder

"The Stillspeaking Writers Group and contributors offer a daily devotional to guide us through the days of Advent and Christmastide, to the celebration of Epiphany. *Glow* includes: candle-lighting liturgies for home use, daily readings with scripture and prayer.

Aimee List ajlsan1@hotmail.com

## **MISSIONS MINISTRY**

The 5 for 5 offering, N.I.N. (Neighbors In Need) total came out to \$320.

## The A.I.D. TREE

Our A.I.D. Tree is up in the Narthex with tags showing monetary values. Please take a tag, giving what you can towards this project. Mark the check for A.I.D. and place it in the offering plate. December 10<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for our collection. All the recipients are appreciative of our church's generosity. A BIG THANK YOU all for caring and helping to make this happen.

## 5 for 5 THE CHRISTMAS FUND Offering For the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

One of our 5 for 5 Mission Giving's that Y.C.U.C.C. supports is "The Christmas Fund", for all the sacrifices that clergy and lay church workers have made in our congregations. This year the Christmas Fund theme is "Grace Upon Grace". Over 100 years ago the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ created the Christmas Fund for the Cross and the Emergency Fund to help support them in retirement and during times of emergency need.

The Christmas Fund provides Supplementation of Small Annuities, Supplementation of Health Premiums, Emergency Grants, and Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks for retirees and those facing unforeseen financial hardship.

Join with others of the United Church of Christ to make "the light shine in the darkness" for those who have given so much to our church.

Mark your donation 5 for 5 Christmas Fund and place in the offering plate, on-line designate 5 for 5 Christmas Fund, or mail it in designating for the 5 for 5 Christmas Fund. Please be sure to designate "5 for 5 Christmas Fund". Dedication Sunday is planned for Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Stewardship Ministry

"Because Our Church Changes Lives" (Micah 4:3-4) was our Pledge/Giving theme. Our Pledge/ Giving campaign in-gathering dedication was on Sunday, November 12th. There is no total amount at this time. Look for it in the January "The Happenings". A big thank you to Rachel, Kathy, LeaAnn, and June for your testimonies during worship in October and November. Following is a comparison of campaigns from the past few years.

Received 36 pledges in 2022 for 2023 totaling \$168,176.00 averaging \$4,568.00 Received 43 pledges in 2021 for 2022 totaling \$196,432.00 averaging \$4,568.00 Received 40 pledges in 2020 for 2021 totaling \$146,428.00 averaging \$3,661.00 Received 45 pledges in 2019 for 2020 totaling \$160,876.00 averaging \$3,575.00 Received 37 pledges in 2018 for 2019 totaling \$139,404.00 averaging \$3,767.00

You can pledge during the year by coming to the office and getting the paperwork from the office. Some of us give using the automatic-Giving Plan, where your giving is taken out of your specified bank. Changes can be made to your pledge at any time.

A sincere thank you goes out to all who pledged and supported our church.

A STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT THIS MONTH from the book of Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

## **REDUCE ENERGY USE — SAVE \$ \$**

#### How can I cut my heating and cooling costs?

• Cover drafty windows. Window coverings can reduce energy loss through the windows, which results in lower heating and cooling bills, and improves home comfort. About 30% of a home's heating energy is lost through windows. Weatherize drafty windows. Invest in curtains and blinds.

#### How can I stop air leaks on doors and windows?

• Weatherstripping, like caulking, is another simple, cost effective way to stop air leaks. You can use weatherstripping in your home to seal leaks around moving components, such as doors or operable windows. Window weatherstripping can be found at a local hardware store; you can install it yourself.

#### What is an easy way to save energy in my home?

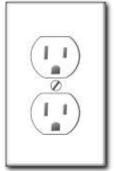
- Unplug electronics and appliances when not in use. Unplugging will save you energy, money, and can prevent electrical fires. When the power strip is left on, the devices plugged into it continue to use energy and actually increase your energy usage.
- https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/articles/energy-saver-comfort-tips-newhomeowners

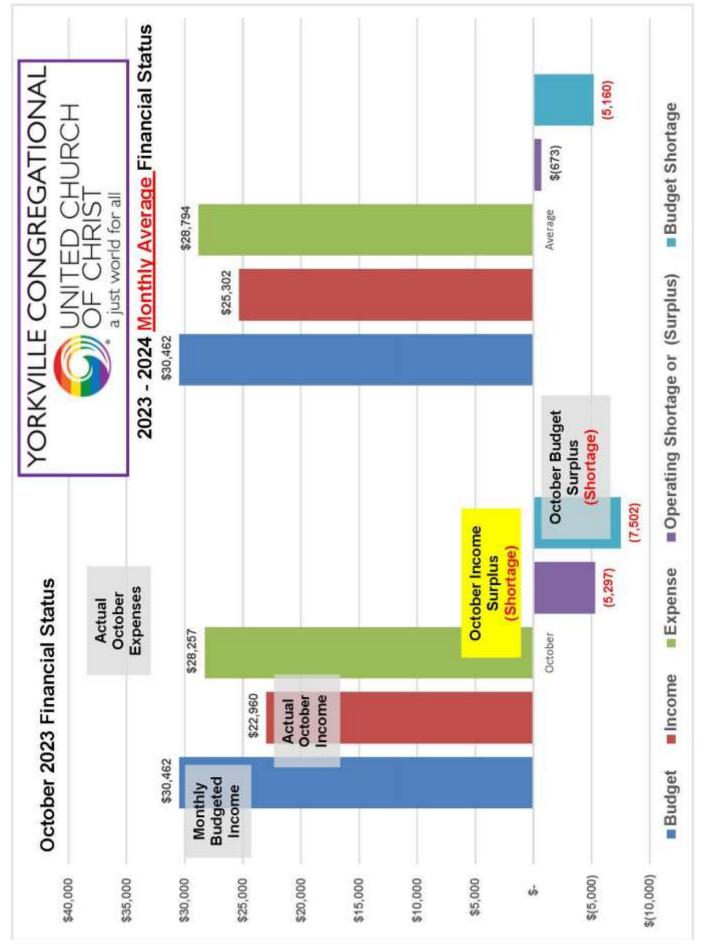
## **OTHER WAYS to SAVE**

- Rebates and discounts on energy-efficient appliances and home products
- Boost energy efficiency when you upgrade your heating/ cooling
- Shop and compare efficient appliances
- https://www.comed.com/ways-to-save/for-your-home/rebates-discounts

Environmental Vision and Planning for YCUCC 2024-2026 Monday, January 8, 2024 6:30 pm Conference Room at church YOU ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!









**Those Grieving:** 

## Those in Cancer Treatment:

Pat Dietz	Coulson Taylor
Tom Lindblom	Pearl Undesser

## **Health Concerns:**

Lynn Belcher	Dawn Ginger	
Deb Bezroukoff	Virginia Goss	
Earl Bushnell	Gayle Jacobs	
Anne Byrd	Wyatt Jones	
Rosey Clark	Lee Kinkade	
Louise DeFuss	Jonathan Lamp	
Dave Encinas	Aidan Mendell	

Deb Mendell Maureen Tully Finley Walker

## **General Concerns:**

Prochaska Family Fur Babies: Kelly Fischer - Maggie & Riley

## Homebound/Assisted Living:

Myrah Baldwin, Earl Bushnell, Delores Cruise, Pat Dietz, Dave Encinas, Gayle Jacobs, Ruth Prince, 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 for a list of programs in our area.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 2:00 pm Christmas Tea
					Youth Group Ev	Youth Group Event 5:30 pm-8:30 am
3 Communion Sunday 10:00 am Worship Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship 11:00 am Mission Trip Meeting	4 10.30 am Staff Meeting	5 9:00 am B&G MTG 12:00-3:00 pm J.O.Y. Circle Luncheon at Whitetail Golf Club 7:00 pm Spiritual Development	6 3:30-5:00 pm Homework Club 5:00 pm Bible Study 5:15-6:30 Wednesday Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Choir 7:00-8:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice	7 6.30 pm Personnel Mtg	8 Cookie Walk Set-up	9 9.00-1:00pm Cookie Walk
10 Christmas Pageant 10:00 am Worship NO Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship	11 10:30 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Green Team- Engelhardt	12 9:00 am B&G MTG 10:00 am Pastoral Care	13 3:30-5:00 pm Homework Club 5:00 pm Bible Study 5:15-6:30 Wednesday Dinner 6:00 pm Pastoral Care Conf. Rm 6:00 pm Youth Choir 7:00-8:00 pm Youth Group	14 6:00 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm SLT Meeting	15	16 3:00 pm Memorial for Mary Lee Swickert & Dave Heywood
<ul> <li>17</li> <li>10:00 am Worship</li> <li>10:00 am Coffee Fellowship</li> <li>11:00 am Coffee Fellowship</li> <li>11:15 am Care Team Mtg</li> <li>1:00 pm Confirmation Class</li> <li>Christmas Fund Collection</li> </ul>	18 10:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Outreach Mtg	19 9:00 am B&G MTG 7:00 pm Spiritual Development	20 NO Homework Club 5:00 pm Bible Study 5:15-6:30 Wednesday Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Choir 7:00-8:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice	21	22 NEWSLETTER CALENDAR DUE DATE	23 4:30 pm Private Party n FH
24 Christmas Eve 7:00 pm Worship NO Sunday School	25 Christmas Day Church Office	26 The week	27     28     29     30       No Wednesday Activities     28     29     30       The week between Christmas and New Years will have limited office hours	<sup>28</sup> d New Years will ha	29 Ve limited office	30 Antirs
<ul> <li>31 New Year's Eve</li> <li>10:00 am Worship- Hymn Sing No Sunday School</li> <li>11:00 am Coffee Fellowship</li> </ul>	Llosed 1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed					

#### December Birthdays

Marcus Schulz Bob Clack Terri Frisk Ronan Heffernan Kim Elleby Wyatt Jones Josh Kolowski Aidan Mendell Nancy Modery Giovanni Olvera Sue Kimes Linda Reingardt Amy Ems Doris Glass Melissa Olvera	01 02 03 04 05 05 09 09 09 09 10 11 11 12 12 12	Suzie Pratt Gavin Redmon Barbra Davis Anne Stout Joey Jerabek Parker Trumble Gail Gaebler Jeff Kline Ann Seagrave	12 13 17 17 22 25 30 31 31

#### **December Anniversaries**

12/15 Erik & Mike Mallon 12/18 Gerry & Leslie Inukai 12 Years 46 years

#### **First Sunday of Avent** BLUE Mark 13:24-37

**Second Sunday of Advent** BLUE Christmas Pageant

**Third Sunday of Advent** BLUE Luke 1:26-38

**Fourth Sunday of Advent** BLUE Christmas Cantata

**First Sunday after Christmas** WHITE Luke 2:22-40



Date	Acolytes	Liturgists	Sermon Titles
12/03/2023	Avery Ramirez	Coral Clevenger	Leaning and Depending
12/10/2023	Evan Griffin	None	Christmas Pageant
12/17/2023	Cayla Pottinger	John Morello	Love Speaks
12/24/2023	ON BREAK	Sandy deRidder	Christmas Cantata
12/31/2023	ON BREAK	Sandy deRidder	Hymn Sing

#### **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.



#### Yorkville Congregational Church United Church of Christ

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#### December 2023



