



Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ

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Office Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Staff

<u>Minister</u>	Rev. Elizabeth Hartung
<u>Christian Ed. Director</u>	Robin Campos
<u>Administrative Assistant</u>	Alex Houle
<u>Chancel Choir Director</u>	Doug Trumble
<u>Children's Choir Director</u>	Sondra Shatters
<u>Organist</u>	Tina Andersen
<u>Pianist</u>	Lori Runkle
<u>Childcare Attendants</u>	Abby Goniwicha Dakota Shatters Hailey Shatters
<u>Custodians</u>	Tim & Laurie Strong
<u>Sexton</u>	Louise DeFuss

Shepherds

<u>Chairperson</u>	Carrie DeFuss
<u>Vice Chairperson</u>	LeaAnn Skogsberg
<u>Recording Secretary</u>	Aaron Shatters
<u>Operations: Personnel</u>	Pam Campos
<u>Operations: Bldg. & Grds</u>	Tony Houle
<u>Operations: Finance</u>	Tim Andrus
<u>Information Services</u>	Diane Stablein
<u>Christian Education: Adult</u>	Aimee List
<u>Christian Education: Youth</u>	Sue Kimes
<u>Worship: Serving</u>	Deanna Bazan
<u>Worship: Preparation</u>	Kathy Wickens
<u>Church Family: Caring</u>	Salli Walden
<u>Church Family: Fellowship</u>	Laurie Houle
<u>Service: Missions</u>	June Davis
<u>Outreach/Welcoming</u>	Kathy Farren

Worship & Sunday School: 10:00 am
Voyagers: 9:00 am

The Happenings

July

2024



*I have come
into the world
as a light, so
that no one
who believes in
me should stay
in darkness.*

John 12:46



Pastor's Porch

Dear Church Family,

July is a whole month of shared ministry and growth experiences for us. "Lions, and Tigers and Bears, Oh My!" Dorothy exclaims as she travels the yellow brick road. In July, I will find myself chanting, the 4th, VBS and Seminary, Oh My!

July 4th week at YCUCC is an essential outreach as we host a park celebration party and march in the parade. We will grow together by sowing God's love together.

From July 7th to 11th, our church will be enveloped in laughter and the joy of experiencing God's great big love. Vacation Bible School is a time when we see the world through the eyes of our children, a truly heartwarming experience. July 15 - 19, I begin my first class at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA, during my study leave.

Why Am I Going Back to School? (Good Question!)

As I continue my journey down the yellow brick road of ministry, I feel a strong calling to deepen my understanding and skills to better serve our community. My passion for God's goodness and overcoming the hate we see in our world drives me to seek out opportunities that will help me challenge and change the systems that maintain this hate around me. Pursuing a Doctorate of Ministry (a doctoral program designed for working pastors) seemed the logical next step for my professional development.

So, I began investigating different programs and found Columbia Theological Seminary, located in Decatur, GA, the best fit. Columbia is the perfect place for this next step in my journey. Their commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion, along with their focus on leading with love and resilience, fits the areas where I see growth opportunities for us. I will engage our congregation as I work the next four years on achieving a DMin (Doctorate of Ministry).

Full-Time Ministry and Part Time School

Will I still be able to make pastoral visits? Yes! Those are some of my most cherished moments in ministry. I will continue to make regular visits and respond to emergencies as they arise. (If you would like a visit or home communion or know of a need, please contact me or the Care Team.)

Are you still available to meet? Yes! I will continually be able to meet and be in the office Sunday through Thursday. Appointments are always welcome!

What about all those meetings? Yep! Of course, if I take a vacation or am on study leave, I will not be able to attend. I will respond to action items, etc., that come from the meeting and send a report prior to the meeting.

And Worship? Yes, the courses will foster and develop liturgies and sermons you will like and will not like.

Engaged Sermon Series

July 7: Engaged Living: Responsibility

Scripture: Ezekiel 2:1-5, VBS Verse Psalm 56:3 **Key Verse:** "Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them." (Ezekiel 2:5). Just as Ezekiel was tasked with delivering God's message to a rebellious people, we too are called to speak truth and uphold our responsibilities, even when met with resistance. This message will be illustrated through parallels with "The Lion King," where the journey of accepting responsibility is a central theme.

July 14: Engaged Living: The Mystery of God's Plan

Scripture: Ephesians 1:3-14 **Key Verse:** "With all wisdom and insight, he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he outlined in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth." (Ephesians 1:9-10) Ephesians speaks of the fullness of time and the gathering of all things in Christ. We'll reflect on how this divine mystery unfolds in our lives, drawing inspiration from the classic story "Snows of Kilimanjaro," which explores themes of purpose and destiny.

July 21: Engaged Living: Belonging to God's House / Hymn Sing

Scripture: Ephesians 2:11-22 **Key Verse:** "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone." (Ephesians 2:19-20) Join us for this fun time and hear about my travels to GA and returning to school as a student!

Pastor's Porch cont'd

July 28: Engaged Living: Experiencing God

Scripture: Ephesians 3:14-21 **Key Verse:** "Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine." (Ephesians 3:20) Ephesians speaks of a God who can do far more than we can ask or imagine. We'll reflect on this divine potential and how we can witness God's work within us. This theme will be illustrated with references to "The Greatest Showman," a story of imagination, ambition, and the extraordinary potential within each of us.

Peace in God's Love,
Pastor Elizabeth



From the Desk of the Chair

"I slept and I dreamed that life is all joy. I woke and I saw that life is all service. I served and I saw that service is joy."

I first found this quote by Kahlil Gibran in our worship bulletin years ago, and it spoke to me then. I cut it out and posted it where I would see it often, and it has become a mantra for me in my daily living. Service is not new to me because I grew up in a home where that seemed to be our foundation. My parents were always offering their services (and ours as kids) to people and causes all around us. It simply became a way of life that I have continued into my adult life. Therefore, it brings me joy to serve with so many others at YCUCC.

I anticipate great things as we welcome Carrie DeFuss as our SLT Chairperson. Carrie and her family have been steadfast in this congregation for the past 12 years serving in many roles. She has a strong grasp on the caring ministries, a passion of hers. She sings in the choir, and she has been a part of SLT for the last two years gaining understanding of church business. She and Louise serve as our church sextons as well, and their children are entrenched in our youth programs. We also welcome LeaAnn Skogsberg as our new Vice Chairperson. LeaAnn is a long time UCC person and has called this congregation home for 24 years. She is well-vested in our vision and mission and has served in many roles here between Sunday School, Visioning Team, VBS, Choir, Missions, and even a mission trip to Bridger.

Your leadership team is a strong group who continues to listen to the voices of our congregation, and I ask that you continue to talk to our shepherds so they can lead in the way we are called to go. It has been my honor to serve as your SLT Chairperson and to work alongside so many other strong and committed leaders. This congregation is a wonderful place to call home, and I am grateful to be a part of it.

Yours in Service,
Deanna Bazan
Outgoing Chairperson, SLT



What's happening in Building and Grounds?

By Alex Houle, Admin Assistant

During the month of June, the building and grounds crew made new decisions on our direction. We have received approval to contract with J&E Exteriors to replace the siding on the west side gables with vinyl. We have also decided to contract with R&G Asphalt to repair, sealcoat, and paint the parking lot. Mason Hughes will be installing a brick patio (twelve-foot square brick patio on the west side of the church) for his Eagle Scout project. We are building new support structures for the Vacation Bible School backdrop. We are planning to paint the south wall of the church as well as the garage on July 13th at 8am (volunteer sign up sheet posted by on the bulletin board in the Narthex). Please feel free to show up with a paintbrush and scraper/wire brush. We are always doing lots of maintenance to keep everything working well. We have some minor issues to be addressed with the roof and AC units that will be completed this month as well.

Building and Grounds continues to meet every Tuesday at 9:00 am. All are welcome to join us!

MISSIONS MINISTRY NEWS JULY 2024

The 5 for 5 offering "Strengthen the Church" (STC) collected on May 19th came in at a total of \$520.00.

Missions Ministry thanks all who contributed.



Please continue to bring in egg cartons and plastic bags.
The Kendall County Community Food Pantry Thanks You.

YCUCC will be providing lunch at Daybreak homeless shelter again on Friday, July 19.

The menu will be sloppy joes on buns, green beans, applesauce, chips and dessert. The green beans and chips have already been donated.

We will need five 3-pound batches of sloppy joe, a total of 104 hamburger buns, four large jars of unsweetened applesauce, and three desserts.

The guests at Daybreak are always very appreciative of the good, homemade food and our crew is the only one that makes sloppy joes for them. They also enjoy being able to have a choice of chips and dessert.

If you can help provide any of these items, please call or email Kathy Farren, 630-803-0514, ednpub@earthlink.net.

Many thanks to those who provided the lunch in May, Lori Redmon, Jill Mickelson, Mary McCracken, Anne Engelhardt, Nancy Kolowski, Gail Gaebler, Tim Andrus, Pam Campos, and Diane Dillow.



Updating Our Sound System by Lori Redmon, Worship Serving Shepherd

Did you hear we are updating our sound system?!?!?! These updates will be made over time in 3 phases. Phase 1 will be coming the end of July!

If you'd like to give toward this effort, there are several ways. You can take a tag off the Giving Tree in the Narthex, you can select "Sound System Updates" in the "Designated To" drop down on Continue to Give when making an online donation or you can put a donation in an envelope and write sound system updates on it and leave it in the offering plate on Sunday or give to the office. Any amount is greatly appreciated!!!!

Caregivers of the Care Team will strive to be:

Just as near as the phone
Eager to be helpful
Sympathetic of your pain
Understanding to your needs
Sensitive to your feelings

Caregivers will strive to show:

Compassion and confidentiality at all times
Helpfulness in allowing you to resolve your own situations
Sharing of our time and love by listening and caring
Trust in God to sustain and guide us through it all.



Join our combined UCC co-ed, just for fun adult bowling league.
Every other Sunday beginning September 8th thru April 6th @ 2:30 p.m.
Location: Parkside Lanes
34W185 Montgomery Rd. Aurora IL 60504



If interested, please email pamela.campos@comcast.net or text (630)235-8139 by August 18th



On Saturday June 1, the Green Team ventured out to Genoa for a visit to the Peterson Farm, the family farm of Deanna Bazan. The group explored the collection of historic artifacts, engaged in a brief presentation of the history of this Centennial farm, enjoyed a picnic lunch, and then took a trip down into the field to visit a restored wetland area. Thanks to Nayna and Bill Peterson for hosting this event. In spite of the rain, we had a great time!

If experiences like this interest you, please consider yourself invited and welcome to get involved with the Green Team. This group will be hosting a Celebration in the Park on July 4, and a progressive dinner on August 24. Contact Deanna Bazan (bdbazan@comcast.net) for more information.

Got plans for the Fourth of July? YCUCC does! And there's still time for you to be part of them.

Outreach Ministry and the Green Team are planning a float in Yorkville's July 4 parade. Come walk with us!

If you're not a walker, you can be a candy donator. A lot of people watch this parade and it takes a lot of candy to cover the entire route. Just leave the candy in the tub in the Narthex.

On the evening of the Fourth, we will invite our Countryside Center neighbors to view the fireworks from our parking lot and introduce them to the Countryside Pavilion Park. There will be games and cool snacks, too. Of course, you're welcome too!



Stewardship Thought for June 2024

Ephesians 4: 1-16



Unity in the Body of Christ

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, 'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.' (When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and from and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.



J.O.Y. Circle Schedule



> 2024 J.O.Y. Circle Meetings | Noon, Fellowship Hall | 3rd Tuesday

- ✓ June & July | No Meetings
- ✓ August 20th
- ✓ September 17th
- ✓ October 15th | No Meeting due to the R&B Sale the following week
- ✓ November 19th | Determine 2024 Fall R&B Sale proceed disbursements
- ✓ December | No Meeting due to the Christmas Luncheon

> 2024 Fall Rummage & Bake Sale Week

- ✓ October 20th - 26th | Sale, October 25th & 26th

> Christmas Luncheon

- ✓ Early December | TBD

Peg Trumble | J.O.Y. Circle Chair



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024!

JULY 7-11TH 5:00-7:30 PM

\$20 PER STUDENT (AGES 3-12)

REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

[MYVBS.ORG/YCUCC](https://myvbs.org/ycucc)

Adult Education

As the adult education coordinator, I aim to provide opportunities for adults to explore their faith, feed their souls, and reach out and seek understanding of others.



Summer Movie Series

This summer I'm excited to hold a movie discussion series! Let's watch a movie on our own then come together for a lively, insightful discussion. Our July Movie will be *Origin*. It was written and directed by Ava DuVernay and is based on the author Isabella Wildkerson's life and experiences as she writes the book *Caste: The Origin of Our Discontents*. We read and discussed *Caste* a few years ago. *Origin* is available to watch on Hulu and Disney+ and rent for \$3.99 on Amazon Prime Video.

Tuesday, July 16 at 7:00 p.m.
Conference room.

The August movie will be *Rustin*! For more information: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rustin_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rustin_(film))
To watch the Trailer on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IBqMhZ3NBg>

The Spiritual Development Group (SDG) and Pastor's Bible Studies are on Summer Hiatus.

Aimee List ajlsan1@hotmail.com



Summer Youth Group!
All Incoming 6th-12th Graders
Every Wednesday Starting July 17th
6:00-7:30 pm



Friday
July 19th

6:30 pm

Tickets: \$12/person
Limited Preferred
Parking: \$10/car

See Robin Campos
to purchase tickets.



Those Grieving:

Those in Cancer Treatment:

Pat Dietz Dean Lohrbach
 Tom Lindblom Terri Patterson
 Sandy Lindblom Pearl Undesser



Health Concerns:

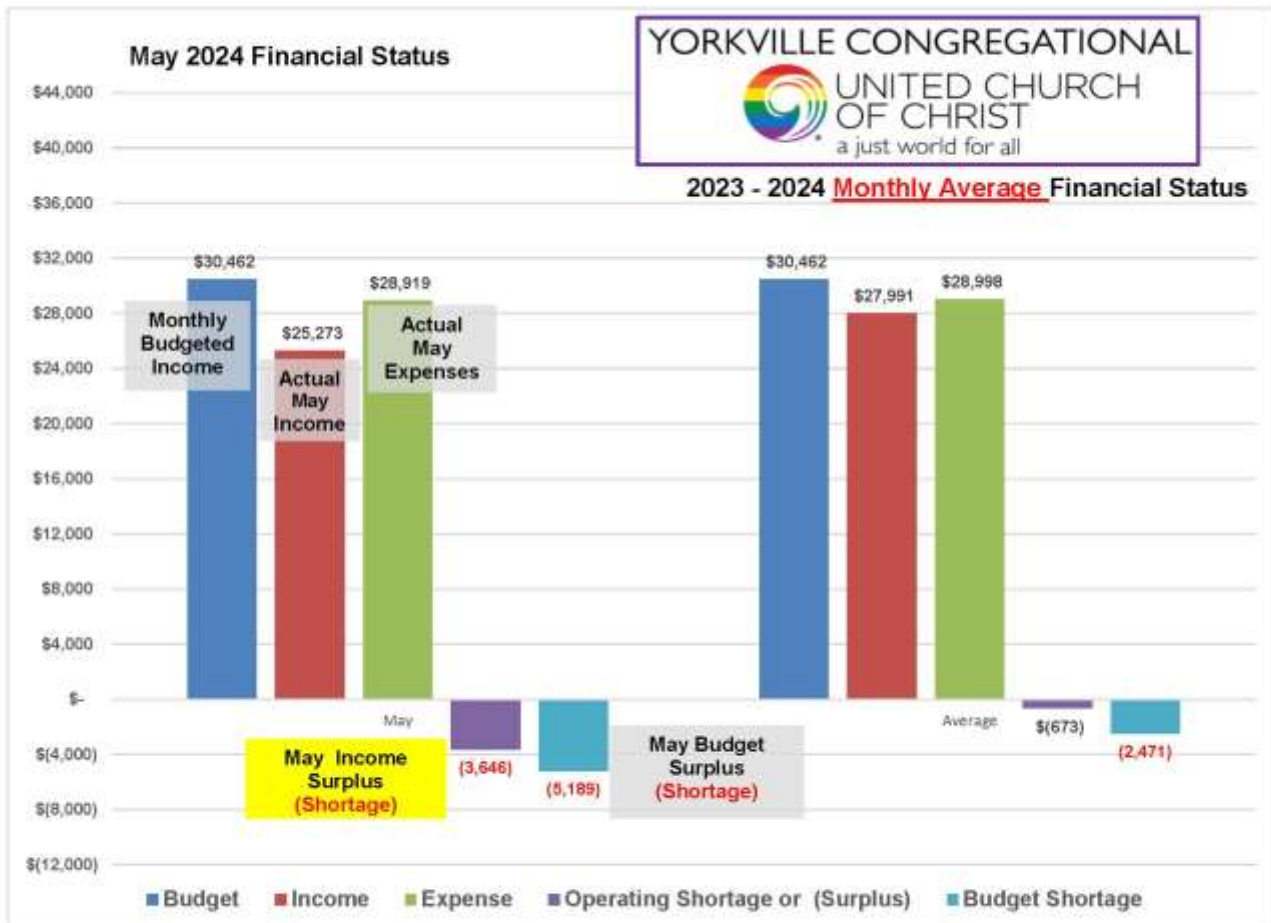
Deb Bezroukoff
 LouAnn Hoffman
 Gayle Jacobs
 Wyatt Jones
 Jonathan Lamp
 Finley Walker
 Mike Wickens

General Concerns:

Prochaska Family

Homebound/Assisted Living:

Myrah Baldwin, Earl Bushnell, Delores Cruise, Pat Dietz, Dave Encinas, Gayle Jacobs, Ruth Prince, and Fred Wayne



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00 pm Outreach	2 9:00 am B&G MTG 10:30 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm FROG	3 No Youth Group	4 Independence Day Church Office Closed	5	6
7 10:00 am Worship 11:00 Coffee Fellowship	8	9 9:00 am B&G MTG 10:00 am Pastoral Care 10:30 am Staff Meeting	10 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Pastoral Care Conf. Rm No Youth Group	11	12	13 8:00 am "Bring Your Own Brush" Painting the Building
		Vacation Bible School (VBS) 5:00-7:30 pm				
14 10:00 am Worship 11:00 Coffee Fellowship	15 6:30 pm Green Team	16 9:00 am B&G MTG 10:30 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm FROG	17 6-7:30pm Youth Group	18 6:00 pm Finance 7:00 pm SLT	19 Daybreak 6:00pm Kane County Cougars Game	20
21 10:00 am Worship 11:00 Coffee Fellowship 11:15 am Care Team	22 10:00 am Sound Equip. Installation	23 9:00 am B&G MTG 10:30 am Staff Meeting	24 6-7:30pm Youth Group	25 TBD Calendar Meeting NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DUE DATE	26	27
28 Summer Hymn Sing 8:30 am New Technology Rundown 10:00 am Worship 11:00 Coffee Fellowship	29	30 9:00 am B&G MTG 10:30 am Staff Meeting	31 9:00 am Newsletter Mailing 6-7:30pm Youth Group			

July Birthdays

Paul Mulligan	01	Scott Myers	25
Dan Brain	02	Monica Sartori	25
Corey Clevenger	05	Brecken Tsusaki	27
Trevor List	05	Keith Frisk	28
Jean Heffernan	06	Chris Andrus	29
Brynn Martinez	06	Abby Stevens	29
Brenda Melhouse	07	Dawn Ginger	31
Nathan White	07	Rachel Rebsom	31
Ashley Beane	09		
Mack Skinner	10		
Hannah Pierce	11		
Annabelle Reeder	13		
Oliver Downs	14		
Dee Wheaton	16		
Jillian Runkle	17		
Bob Fisher	19		
Jacob Kolowski	21		
Nan Miller	21		
Andrea Ciccolini	22		
Rosey Clark	22		
JoAnne Matlock	22		
Donna Gallo	23		
Ryan Strong	23		
Pat Ruzicka	24		

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN
Ezekial 2:1-5

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN
Ephesians 1:3-14

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN
Ephesians 2:11-22

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN
Ephesians 3:14-21

Staff Verse of the Month:

"For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." - Ephesians 2:10

July Anniversaries

07/01 Mark Gregory & Michelle Prentice-Leslie	24 Years
07/02 Ryan & Rachel Rebsom	13 Years
07/09 Tom & Sandy Lindblom	58 Years
07/09 Whitney Trumble & Matthew Parrilli	8 Years
07/12 Brian & Deanna Bazan	27 Years
07/14 Bob & Gail Fisher	67 Years
07/14 Jon & Lori Runkle	40 Years
07/20 Randy & Amy Ems	43 Years
07/20 Paul & Dawn Mulligan	38 Years
07/21 Alex & Mia Skinner	6 Years
07/26 Alex & Jamie McLeod	16 Years



Date	Acolytes	Liturgists	Sermon Titles
7/07/2024	On Break	TBD	Engaged Living: Responsibility
7/14/2024	On Break	TBD	Engaged Living: The Mystery of God's Plan
7/21/2024	On Break	TBD	Engaged Living: Belonging to God's House / Hymn Sing
7/28/2024	On Break	TBD	Engaged Living: Experiencing God

Our Mission Statement

*To live as Jesus lived: Love without Judgement, Welcome without Exception,
Serve with Compassion, Teach by Example.*

Our Vision Statement

God's community of unconditional love, made real for everyone, everywhere.

Open & Affirming Covenant

YCUCC is an open and affirming congregation that seeks to meet each child of God—persons from the full diversity of creation including gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical and intellectual ability, age, race, nationality, economic and social status, faith background, marital standing and family structure—where they are on life's journey as together we seek to transform all our lives through Christ's Gospel.

Watch our church services on the internet!!

Facebook: [Click here](#) OR

1. Go to our YCUCC Facebook page.
2. Click on the videos tab on the left side of the home page.
3. Scroll down to select the appropriate sermon date.
4. Click the arrow to view the sermon video.

Website: [Click here](#) OR

1. Go to our YorkvilleUCC.org home page.
2. Click on the Worship/ Media Tab.
3. Scroll down to select the appropriate sermon date.
4. Click the arrow to view the sermon video.

YouTube.com: [Click here](#) OR

1. Go to the search bar.
2. Type in "Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ".
3. Click on the channel.
4. Select the appropriate sermon date.
5. Click the arrow to view the sermon video.

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