

## Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ

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

#### Staff

Minister
Christian Ed. Director
Administrative Assistant
Chancel Choir Director
Children's Choir Director
Organist
Pianist
Childcare Attendants

Robin Campos Alex Houle Doug Trumble Sondra Shatters Tina Andersen Lori Runkle Abby Goniwicha Dakota Shatters Hailey Shatters Tim & Laurie Strong Louise DeFuss

Rev. Elizabeth Hartung

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

#### **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

Carrie DeFuss
LeaAnn Skogsberg
Aaron Shatters
Pam Campos
Tony Houle
Tim Andrus
Diane Stablein
Aimee List
Sue Kimes
Deanna Bazan
Kathy Wickens
Salli Walden
Laurie Houle
June Davis
Kathy Farren

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

# The Happenings

# September

2024

So let's not get tired of doing what is good.

At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

**GALATIANS 6:9** 





#### Pastor's Porch

Dear Church Family,

I look forward to the start of the program year and the excitement of witnessing the church family reconnect after a busy summer. The church calendar will be full of fellowship and educational opportunities for all ages. The more we engage our faith, the more we can learn and grow together.

I want to share the course I took this past summer with you. It was a class on Gender and Sexuality, and for the final project, I prepared two forums to be

shared with our church family and community. After much prayer, the Spirit brought me this project idea because I witnessed many questions about our inclusive faith and the importance of our neighbor's understanding that we are a church focused on loving, serving, and caring. Much of this occurs in two social media platforms that inquire about inclusive, welcoming churches affirming gender and sexuality differences. I will present my work on October 7th and 17th. Here is an excerpt from my paper,

#### "The Upside-Down Church: Affirming Gender and Sexuality in the Church

Purpose: To provide two forums for Kendall County, IL, that work to give an understanding of an inclusive community in Christ focusing on Sex and Gender. The forums below will be marketed to the community of Yorkville and Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ to foster awareness and understanding of affirming theologies regarding gender and sexuality.

Outcome: Two empowering forums will be held, one titled "Brick by Brick: Unearthing the Foundation of Inclusive Justice-Minded Communities" and the second titled "Upside Down Bible: Texts that Empower all of God's Creation." Participants will foster an understanding of historical constructions of gender and sexuality. Queer Theology, and the Biblical inclusion of all people in "Unity through Diversity."

#### **Upcoming Sermon Series: Beyond Limits**

"Beyond Limits" explores how faith, compassion, and intentional action can push us beyond our perceived boundaries, enabling us to embrace and live out the radical inclusivity, generosity, and transformative love taught in Scripture. Each sermon in the series focuses on a specific aspect of this journey—whether it's welcoming the marginalized, sustaining the weary, or acting out faith in the face of reluctance—showing how stepping beyond limits leads to a deeper, more expansive understanding of God's call to discipleship and community.

#### September 8

Sermon Title: Beyond Limits: Faith Surpassing Reluctance

Scripture: Mark 7:24-37

Focus Verse: Mark 7:24 - "From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice."

**Illustration**: The Pursuit of Happyness

Join us as we explore the story of Jesus' journey to the region of Tyre, where he sought solitude but was nonetheless noticed. How do we, like Jesus, surpass reluctance in our faith journeys?

#### September 15

**Sermon Title:** Beyond Limits: Sustaining the Weary - Pastoral Care Sunday

Scripture: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Focus Verse: Isaiah 50:4 - "The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens-- wakens my ear to listen as those who are

taught."

**Illustration:** Helpers of the Weary

This special Pastoral Care Sunday will center on the theme of sustaining those who are weary. How can we, as a community, offer support and encouragement to those in need?

#### September 22

**Sermon Title:** Beyond Limits: Welcoming the Least

Scripture: Mark 9:30-37

Focus Verse: Mark 9:37 - "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and

whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.

Illustration: The Grapes of Wrath

This special Pastoral Care Sunday will center on the theme of sustaining those who are weary. How can we, as a community, offer support and encouragement to those in need?

September 22

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Scripture: Mark 9:30-37

Focus Verse: Mark 9:37 - "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and

whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

Illustration: The Grapes of Wrath

As we delve into Jesus' teaching on welcoming the least among us, we'll reflect on what it means to embrace those often overlooked in our society truly.

September 29

Guest Preacher: Rev. Michael Obenauer

We are blessed to have Michael preach this Sunday. Please join us for a meaningful message from a cherished member of our community.

Peace in God's Love, Pastor Elizabeth



## **Monthly Medical Minute**

- 1 in 5 American adults will have a diagnosable mental health condition in a year
- 50% of Americans will meet the criteria to be diagnosed with a mental health condition in their lifetime
- ½ of those will develop that condition by the age of 14

#### **Optimize Your Mental Health**

- Journaling and creative expression; Practice mindfulness
- Challenge negative thinking; Find meaning in everything you do

# Did you know?

- 48 thousand people died by suicide in 2021. It was the 11<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death in 10-14 y/olds and 3<sup>rd</sup> leading in 15-24 y/olds.
- LGBTQIA2S+ youth are 4x more likely to attempt than peers because of mistreatment and stigmatization.



Common triggers: <u>Bullying.</u> Financial burdens, Emotional stressors, Weight gain, Grief, rejection, Sense of worthlessness, Mental illness

*Protective factors*: Community, Housing, Family togetherness, Access to Healthcare, School Safety, Overall Resilience, Financial Security

Talk. Listen. Be available. Take action. Text "TALK" to 741741 (Crisis Text Line)

As your Care Team leader, I am also available to listen should you need some time about these sensitively important topics.

Blessings, Carrie DeFuss SLT Chairperson





## What's happening in Building and Grounds?

By Alex Houle, Admin Assistant

During the month of August, Building & Grounds has been keeping things in order. With the bigger projects out of the way (for now anyway) the team has been able to focus on the little things. Outside we've been picking weeds and mulching trees. We could also use your help during our fall cleanup day on Saturday, October 19th from 9am-12pm. Inside we've been setting up for events, moving and organizing storage to improve efficiency, fixing a toilet and a sink drain, and keeping all our cabinets nice and tight.

#### Science of the month:

Did you know that we have a pin oak tree out front that has been struggling this year? Don't worry; B&G is on the case!

We learned that plants not only use nitrogen fixing bacteria to create chlorophyll and thus allow for photosynthesis to feed the circle of life on earth, but they also use fungal mycelium (tiny tubes) to exchange water and nutrients with one another. Approximately 90% of land-based plants are connected through this mycorrhizal network. But I digress. The Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts recommended lowering the pH of the soil with the addition of mulch to help the natural flora recover in order to balance the soil microecosystem.

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







J.O.Y. Circle Meeting

12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 17, 2024 in YCUCC's Fellowship Hall



Agenda



Finalize plans for the 2024 Fall Rummage & Bake Sale

(Scheduled for October 25th & 26th)

We welcome new members, so please come join us!

#### 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)

# **Summer Collection**

All items for our collection are due Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you all for your support.

# **International Tasting Honoring Our Refugee Neighbors**

Please join members of Love Your Neighbor Ministry for an 'International Tasting' to celebrate World Refugee Sunday, as well as World Communion Sunday on Sunday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall.

Immediately following the morning worship service, we invite you to stay and enjoy foods and beverages from the regions/countries of origin of our refugee neighbors.

This tasting will be in the format as Soup Sundays.
You are not required to bring a dish to participate and enjoy the food; however, if you are adventurous and want to try a recipe,
we will have recipes available in the Narthex beginning September 8<sup>th</sup>
for you to explore and/or bring one that you know!

Sign up to attend the event on the bulletin board outside the entrance to Fellowship Hall.

If you are willing to prepare a dish to pass for the tasting,
please include the title of your food selection and its country/region.

We look forward to your attendance at the International Tasting Celebration scheduled for Sunday, October 6, 2024 in Fellowship Hall immediately following the morning worship service.

LYN Ministry

# **Stewardship Thought for September 2024**

The one who sows sparingly, will reap sparingly! The one who sows bountifully, will reap bountifully! (2 Cor 9:6)

Letters for Our Stewardship Pledge-Giving's Campaign will go out in mid-October.



# Help provide lunch for the homeless Sept. 20!

It will be our church's turn to provide lunch at Daybreak Homeless Shelter on Friday, Sept. 20.

After the PADS program had to close during COVID, some PADS volunteers decided to continue helping the homeless living at Daybreak. Currently Cross Lutheran Church and YCUCC alternate months providing the food for one meal a month.



Since the menu is so popular with Daybreak guests, we will again be serving sloppy joe on buns, coleslaw, applesauce, potato chips and dessert.

If you would be willing to make 3 pounds of sloppy joe or a dessert for 18 to 24 people, let Kathy Farren (<a href="mailto:ednpub@earthlink.net">ednpub@earthlink.net</a>) know. Not a cook or baker? You could donate buns, coleslaw or the applesauce. We have a standing donation of the needed potato chips.

Daybreak is a cooling shelter this summer so the lunch crowd can be substantial. All of your help and donations are appreciated.

In July, the Daybreak meal was provided by Jill Mickelson, Sandy Lindblom, Lori Redmon, Gail and Fred Gaebler, Sandy DeRidder, Peg Trumble, Anne Engelhardt, Salli Walden, Mary McCracken and Tim Andrus.

In August, we were happy to have Duane Walden join the usual serving crew.



# Learn more about groups at YCUCC at YORKVILLE CONGREGATIONAL Ministry Fair!

Ever thought about joining the church choir? Wondering just what the LYN group does? Or the Altar Guild? Or Building

and Grounds Ministry? Want to get more involved in YCUCC but you're not sure how? Then you need to put the Sept. 29 Ministry Fair on your calendar!

Every ministry and organization at Yorkville Congregational United Church of Christ has been invited to have a table with information about their group in Fellowship Hall after worship that Sunday. They would all welcome more members, more help and fresh ideas.

You will be able to ask questions, talk to the folks involved and learn more about what they do and how you might fit in.

Every time you visit a table, you will get a ticket that is a chance to win a gift card. Winning tickets will be drawn throughout the event. In addition to information and prizes, you can enjoy a hot dog lunch. It all starts right after worship on Sunday, Sept. 29. You won't want to miss it!

#### Does your group need a table at the Ministry Fair?

If your ministry or group would like a table at the Ministry Fair, just email <a href="mailto:adminasst@yorkvilleucc.org">adminasst@yorkvilleucc.org</a> by Wednesday, Sept. 25. That will ensure that enough tables are set up in the Narthex.

All we ask is that each group provide a \$10 gift card for a prize. You can decorate or set up the table as you wish with information, photos or even treats! There will be time on Saturday, Sept. 28 to set up the displays.

Someone will need to be at the table during the Ministry Fair to talk to people and to distribute tickets for the prize drawings.

Do Out

Do you need –

A sunshine call?

A coffee clutch?

Positive time with a friend?

A good listener?

Care Team is confidentially here for you.

Questions? See Pastor Elizabeth, Carrie DeFuss or Salli Walden

# **MISSIONS MINISTRY NEWS SEPTEMBER 2024**

Our first Soup Sunday will be September 22nd after Worship. Sign-up to bring soup on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Kendall County Community
FOOD PANTRY

a just world for all

Proceeds supporting the Kendall County Community Food Pantry.

Mark your calendars for Soup Sundays on October 13, and November 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Staff Verse of the Month

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 (NRSVue)







# YCUCC'S 2024 FALL RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26<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 October 21st or 22nd Building & Grounds pickup, or text a picture of your donation for pre-approval!

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

#### **Furniture Donation Guidelines**

<u>Furniture accepted</u>: living room (sofas up to 8' in length), bedroom, dining room, office, and outdoor furniture

#### **Electronics Accepted**

Speakers; 'Working' Flat Screen TVs up to 48" with plug & USB port (TV donations are ONLY accepted on Sunday, October 20th from 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

#### Items we 'Cannot' Accepted as Donations

Oversized entertainment centers; Construction debris; Large appliances; Electronics: Tube TV and/or flat screen larger than 48", computers, monitors, printers, typewriters, land/cell phones, fax equipment; Infant/Child car and/or booster seats; All mattresses, box springs, cribs

# J.O.Y. Circle requests 'your' help to ensure a successful 2024 Fall R&B Sale!

Volunteer Sign-up Sheets will be displayed beginning Sept. 29th at the YCUCC Ministry Fair 2024

Set-up: Sunday, October 20, 2024 - immediately following the worship service

#### Extra help requested 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, October 24<sup>th</sup>
- Friday and Saturday Sale Days, October 25th & 26th

Tear-down: 12:00 p.m. - @ 2:00 p.m., Saturday, October 26th

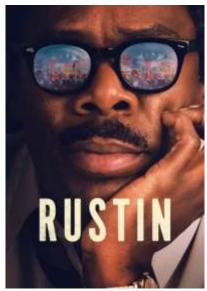
# Thank you for your continued support of YCUCC's R & B Sales! SPONSORED BY J.O.Y. CIRCLE

Peg Trumble - J.O.Y. Circle/Rummage Sale Chair piltrumble@comcast.net 630-768-5924 (C)

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

# **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**

Our final movie discussion this summer will be *Rustin*.

Tuesday, August 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Conference room.

"The film tells the story of the gay civil rights activist Bayard Rustin. Rustin encourages Martin Luther King Jr. to lead a protest in Los Angeles ahead of the 1960 Democratic National Convention." (Wikipedia)

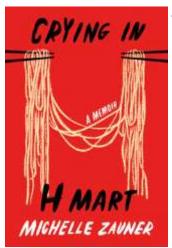
For more information: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rustin\_(film">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rustin\_(film</a>) To watch the Trailer on YouTube: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lBqMhZ3NBg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lBqMhZ3NBg</a>

# **Spiritual Development Group (SDG)**

The SDG will begin meeting on September 17 at 7:00 p.m. on Google Meets.

We will begin studying the Listen Up! Genesis 37-47 bible study. God's word is alive. God always has something new to say to us. That's why the purpose of the LISTEN UP! Bible Study series is not simply learning information about the Bible; it is hearing God speak. There is a difference. To join us, send an email to Diane Stablein at infoshep@yorkville-ucc.org.

# **Book Discussion**



A memoir by Michelle Zauner about growing up Korean American, losing her mother, and forging her own identity.

#### Save the Date!

November 7 at 7:00 p.m.

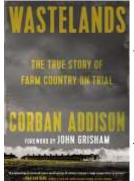
Aimee List ajlsan1@hotmail.com Adult Education Shepherd



#### **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.

#### **Book Recommendation**



Wastelands: The True Story of Farm Country On Trial by Corban Addison.

This book opens your eyes to the reality of industrial hog farming and how it impacts the people who live near these farms. It reads like a John Grisham novel, but it is all true!

Beautifully written, impeccably researched, and told with the air of suspense that few writers can handle, Wastelands is a story I wish I had written. --From the Foreword by John Grisham

## Pastor's Bible Study

"Voices of Change: Faith in Action with Corinthians and Isaiah"

Wednesdays at 5 pm Sept 11. 18, Oct 2, 9, 16, 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, Dec 4, 11, 18

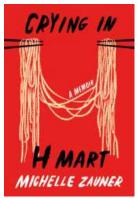
**Voices of Change:** Faith in Action with Corinthians and Isaiah" invites participants to engage with the powerful teachings of these biblical books. This study is a journey of personal growth and transformation as we explore how Isaiah and Corinthians address justice, love, and leadership, guiding us to apply these principles daily. Discover how ancient wisdom can drive meaningful change and inspire action in today's world.

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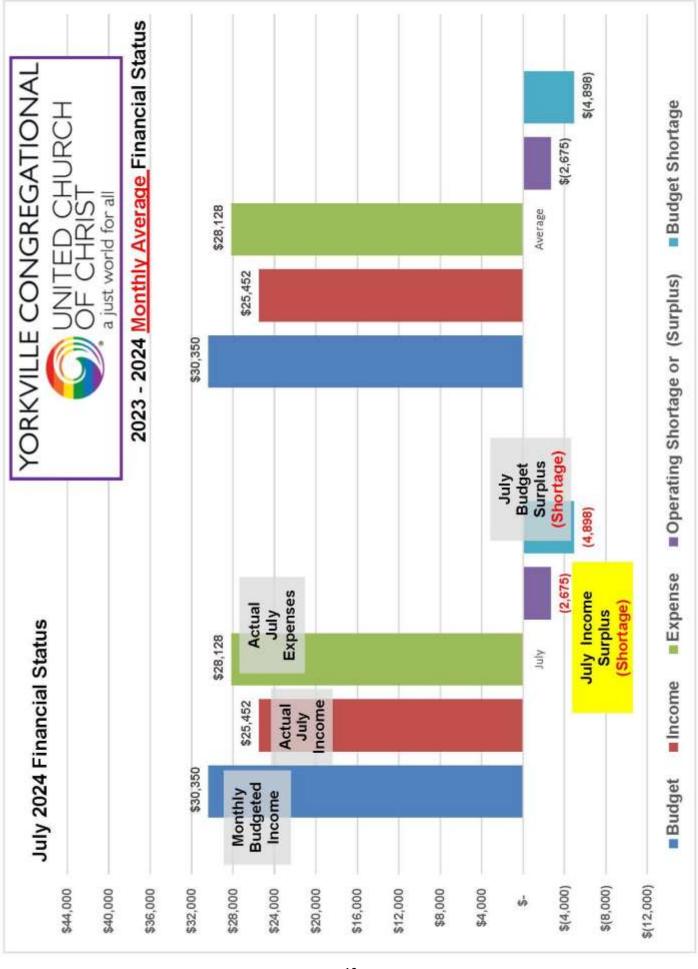


A memoir by Michelle Zauner about growing up Korean American, losing her mother, and forging her own identity.

#### SAVE THE DATE!

November 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Aimee List ajlsan1@hotmail.com



## **Those Grieving:**

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

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



#### **Health Concerns:**

roukoff Finley Walker

Prochaska Family Mendell Family

**General Concerns:** 

Deb Bezroukoff Rick Falato LouAnn Hoffman Gayle Jacobs Wyatt Jones Jonathan Lamp Doug Trumble

# Homebound/Assisted Living:

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



September Birthdays					
Carrie DeFuss Clayton Elleby Rick Falato Joe Runkle Marilyn Vogus Marge Hembree Jasper Parrilli-Trumble Leah Secrest Ruth Prince Dan Gette Adam Kolowski Kristine Arch Finley Walker Tracy Andrus	02 02 02 02 02 03 03 04 05 06 06 07 07	Katie Niesen Amber Anderson Maddy Gawne Bill Drew Caleb Pansera Mae Herron Cecil Hembree Betty Naden Lori Runkle Lauren Ciccolini Christopher Erickson Ellie Gentile Jami Green Jeff Dillow	17 18 18 19 19 20 21 21 21 22 22 22 22 22 23		
Jim Kokes Aidan Donahue Judy Iverson Gulianna Goldman Dawn Mulligan Brett Rhodes Fred Anderson Julie Kline Elise Phillipp Sandy Ramirez	09 13 13 14 14 14 15 16 16	Jon Runkle Mike Mallon Tyler Wilson Jenna Anderson Pat Stewart Rev. Mark Gregory	23 25 25 27 28 29		

# Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost GREEN

Song of Songs 2:8-13

# **Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost** GREEN

Mark 7:24-37

# **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost** GREEN

Isaiah 50:4-9a

# Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN Mark 9:30-37

# Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GREEN

Mark 9:38-50

September Anniversaries				
9/04 Frank & Phyllis Yabsley 9/04 Aimee & Troy List 9/05 Cecil & Marge Hembree 9/17 Scott & Amy Corwin 9/19 Fred & Connie Dickson 9/20 Allan & Beth Goss 9/22 Ben & Regina Moe 9/22 Alex & Kaitlin Mulligan 9/23 Joe & Diane Stablein	42 Years 25 Years 42 Years 41 Years 60 Years 44 Years 23 Years 6 Years 7 Years			



Date	Acolytes	Liturgists	Sermon Titles
9/01/2024	On Break	Carrie DeFuss	Engaged Living: Divine Union Pulpit Supply: Rev. Jeffery Phillips
9/08/2024	Isabelle Shatters	June Davis	Beyond Limits: Faith Surpassing Reluctance
9/15/2024	Evan Griffin	June Davis	Beyond Limits: Sustaining the Weary - Pastoral Care Sunday
9/22/2024	Avery Ramirez	TBD	Beyond Limits: Welcoming the Least
9/29/2024	Jacob DeFuss	June Davis	Pulpit Supply: Rev. Michael Obenauer

#### **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.
- 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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