

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 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>Administrative Assistant</u> <u>Chancel Choir Director</u> <u>Children's Choir Director</u> <u>Pianist</u> Childcare Team

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

Rev. Elizabeth Hartung

Shepherds

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

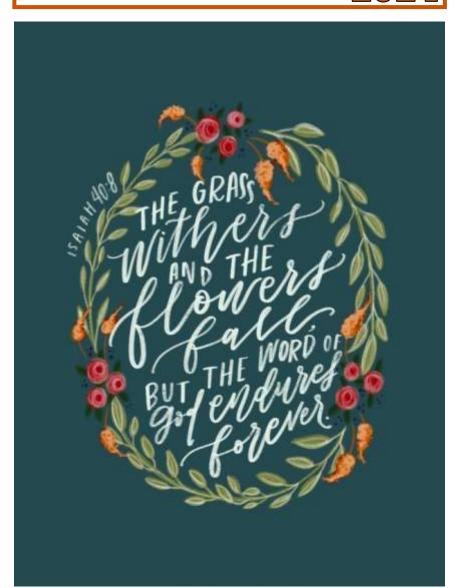
LeaAnn Skogsberg Aaron Shatters Pam Campos Tony Houle Tim Andrus Diane Stablein Aimee List Sue Kimes Deanna Bazan Kathy Wickens Salli Walden Laurie Houle June Davis Kathy Farren

Carrie DeFuss

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









Pastor's Porch

The Rummage Sale Spirit: A Reflection on Our Church Community & "Beyond Limits"

You often hear phrases at our annual rummage sale: "I don't know, what do you think?" "What about if we do this?" "This goes over here," "Do you want

something to eat?" "Take a rest," "Sit down," "Are you doing okay?" "Wow, it's like magic" and "I think so"—aren't just the words of volunteers sorting through treasures or welcoming guests. These phrases capture how we operate as a church and embody our mission of love, community, and care. And inevitably, someone will say, "We've never done it this way!" followed by laughter—a gentle reminder that change is often challenging but sometimes precisely what we need.

Our church family has always come together to offer kindness, warmth, and support, even as we adjust to new ways of doing things. With its welcoming atmosphere and open arms, this year's rummage sale spirit beautifully mirrors our current sermon series, **"Beyond Limits."** Each Sunday, we explore how God's love invites us to extend beyond our comfort zones and live out our faith in ways we may not have considered. Just as rummage sale volunteers work tirelessly to extend hospitality and welcome to every person who walks through our doors, we, too, are called to welcome all, deepen our generosity, and reach out with intention.

"Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers." (*Romans 12:13, NRSVue*)

Reflecting on this verse, we are reminded that our calling is to serve others and create a church community rooted in love. Whether through offering food, providing a place to rest, or simply being present with one another, these simple gestures reflect God's love in action. Just as we step beyond limits during the rummage sale to make everyone feel at home, we are encouraged to go beyond what is familiar or comfortable in our faith journey. Embracing new ways, even when met with the phrase, "We've never done it this way!" can lead to joyful moments, shared laughter, and a stronger, more connected community.

Let us continue to reach beyond our limits, embrace change with open hearts, and live out God's love so that everyone who encounters our church knows they have found a place to belong.

As we engage in the spirit of our rummage sale, we are reminded of how our community embodies the themes of our current sermon series, "Beyond Limits." Just as we come together to share, support, and uplift one another through small acts of kindness, the sermon series explores how God's love pushes us beyond boundaries—inviting us to love deeper, give more generously, and create a community rooted in goodness. Each Sunday, we dive into scriptures that challenge us to extend our love beyond the limits we might set for ourselves, much like the hospitality and care we show during the rummage sale. Together, we discover how these everyday acts of reaching out connect to the larger, ongoing story of God's boundless grace and faithfulness.

November 3: Beyond Limits: Love God, Love Neighbor w/ Rev. Jeffery Phillips

Scripture: Mark 12:28-34 (Focus: 12:29-31)

"The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'...The election gives us an opportunity to understand and live the heart of Jesus' message: love God, love neighbor.

November 10: Beyond Limits: Intentional Generosity

Scripture: Mark 12:38-44 (Focus: 12:38)

"As he taught, he said, 'Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces...'"

This sermon invites us to reflect on the true meaning of generosity, contrasting appearances with genuine, intentional giving. Sermon Example: Drawing from the story of Aladdin, we will examine the difference between outward displays and the heart of true generosity.

November 17: Beyond Limits: Community Goodness

Scripture: Hebrews 10:11-25 (Focus: 10:24-25)

"And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." This sermon will challenge us to build a community rooted in love and goodness. Sermon Example: Inspired by Jane Addams and the Hull House, we will explore how historical acts of social transformation can guide our efforts today.

November 24: Beyond Limits: Never Ending

Scripture: Revelation 1:4b-8

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." This sermon will invite us to reflect on God's eternal presence and faithfulness. Sermon Example: Drawing from Forrest Gump, we explore how the character's unwavering faith and perseverance, despite life's unpredictability, mirror the timeless and steadfast nature of God's love and guidance through all seasons of life.

Peace in God's Love, Pastor Elizabeth

What's happening in Building and Grounds?

BUILDING & GROUNDS By Alex Houle, Admin Assistant

During the month of October, Building & Grounds has been a huge help to the Rummage and Bake Sale. From getting all the supplies out and in place to picking up

large items at peoples homes, the Building and Grounds team is essential for the success of the Rummage and Bake Sale. We had a great turnout at our fall cleanup and the church looks much better. All the bushes got a really good trimming and we filled up 13 yard waste bags. Building and Grounds continues to meet every Tuesday at 9:00 am. All are welcome!

The Great Circle of Life

Did you know that we have identified 2.3 million different species that live on planet Earth. This is only about one quarter of the estimated species that we live with and about 15,000 new species are identified each year. We are one of the youngest species in existence and we owe our place in life to billions of years that have allowed for millions of life forms to come together as one. We are all flying through space on the same spaceship (Earth). Let's make sure we all do our best to leave it a little better than we found it.

From the Desk of the Chair



"For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed it cannot." Romans 8:6

Your SLT has been working on several updates recently. If you are one our online listeners, and have noticed a crisper, clearer tone, you would be correct! We have completed Phase 1 of three of our sound system updated. Phase two is due to begin in the upcoming weeks. This will include new microphones over the choir, new hearing assist devices and more. Look for tags on our giving tree to help donate to this important upgrade.

There is a policy and procedure book being put into hardcopy. While all of these policies (Key policy, Pastoral Care Emergency Fund, Safe Church, Constitution) can all be found electronically, we thought it would be important for them to be available in one place for quick reference as well.

The West side of the church has received a "face lift" with new vinyl siding on the three gables, and I'm sure you've all noticed the parking lot resurfacing.

October begun our Stewardship campaign, "Imagine Together." Pledges will be due on November 10 for ingathering Sunday. Please prayerfully consider what this means to you and give with a grateful heart.

Meeting minutes from Thursday's SLT meeting will be available in the office for the week following our meeting (This is on the 2nd Thursday of each month traditionally) for those interested in reviewing those minutes.

As always, do not hesitate to reach out for any other specific comments or concerns.

Blessings, Carrie DeFuss

Visioning Committee meets for the first time in the program year

The Visioning Committee implements a broad, but only minimally defined agenda. Due to conflicts in the schedule of its members, we were finally able to meet for the first time in early October and set an agenda for the next eight months. The most immediate task is our support of the Stewardship Committee to engage speakers for the 2024 Stewardship Campaign that is reaching out to the Congregation under the theme Imagine Together. Our thanks to the initial two speakers. Luke DeFuss and Aaron Shatters. They shared stories about the impact and importance of giving in an area of their lives. We will be bringing more stories of the power of giving to you before the In Gathering Sunday on November 10.



The initial program agenda for the Visioning Committee embrace opportunities to introduce new people across the area to this mission of the church. Outreach is being driven currently by Pastor Elizabeth's attendance at community events, initiatives of the Outreach ministry and can be bolstered by free marketing tools that are available--GuideStar and Great Nonprofits, two platforms that share nonprofit missions and stories with the general public. Ongoing: the Visioning Committee is developing tools and strategies for nurturing the growth and development of ministries and programs for the church. Please connect Lea Ann Skogsberg, Vice Chair, (630) 292-7617--her cell so call or text--or by email at leaann@dollarsandsense4nonprofits.com to join our work and/or share your ideas.

Nursery Items Needed!

Have your little ones grown out of their baby furniture? We are looking to updated and add a few items to the YCUCC nursery.

Items needed: -Crib Sheets -Changing Table -Infant toys (0-24 months) -Foam play mat -Disinfecting Wipes





Serving the community and fulfilling the public transportation needs of Kendall County.

Kendall Area Transit (KAT) Dial-A-Ride-Services

Phone: (630)822-6970 TTY: (800) 526-0844 or 711 Voice: (800) 526-0857 or 711

Do you need transportation to and from appointments? What about the grocery store? Maybe a ride to church on Wednesday or Sunday? The Kendall Area Transit provides affordable transportation for individuals around and in the Kendall County area.

For more information about their hours, rates, and how to reserve a spot, call 630-822-6970 or visit their website https://vacdk.com/transportation/kat-kendall-area-transit/

Information regarding the Kendall Area Transit can be found at the welcome center located in the Narthex



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

We delivered the Welcome Packs & First Aid Kits to World Relief on September 13th. We also got the opportunity to tour the office areas & the warehouse where we delivered the kits.

Sept 13 DELIVERY &

TOUR



Thanksgiving Potluck 11:00am – Sunday, November 24, 2024

Eat and give thanks with friends, family, and loved ones. Please join us for our annual Thanksgiving potluck lunch.

Sign-up at church to bring food for everyone. Immediately after church service on Sunday, November 24, we will move to Fellowship Hall for our celebration meal.

Be sure to sign-up on the Thanksgiving potluck sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board.

Contact Laurie Houle at 630-554-8586 with any questions.



Help provide lunch for the homeless Nov. 15

It will be our church's turn to provide lunch at Daybreak Homeless Shelter in Joliet on Friday, Nov. 15. Since the menu is so popular with Daybreak guests, we will again be serving sloppy joe on buns, with green beans, applesauce, potato chips and dessert.

Daybreak Shelter is now a warming shelter which has increased the number of people served at each meal.

If you would be willing to make 3 pounds of sloppy joe or a dessert for 18 to 24 people, let Kathy Farren (<u>ednpub@earthlink.net</u>) know. Not a cook or baker? You could donate buns or the applesauce. We have a standing donation of the needed potato chips and already have the green beans for November's lunch.

In September,, the Daybreak meal was provided by Jill Mickelson, Linda Melhouse, Mary McCracken, Diane Dillow, Jo Pierce, Gail and Fred Gaebler, Mary Ann Doetschman, Goldie Behrens, Kathy Farren, Lori Redmon, and Sue Kimes.

The serving crew was Salli Walden, Brian Bazan and Kathy Farren.

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.

Love Your Neighbor Ministry Thanks you for joining us in fellowship at our International Tasting Event.





2024 J.O.Y. CIRCLE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Christmas is coming and so is the 2024 J.O.Y. Circle Christmas Luncheon. We invite all the women of the Church to join us for this annual event. Lunch will be served at The Oaks Grille in Bristol, IL on Tuesday, December 3, 2024 from noon - 2:30 p.m. Entrée selections are listed below. The cost of the meal is \$29.00, which includes tax and tip. You may pay with either cash or check (made payable to YCUCC Women's Fellowship). Please return your entrée selection and money to Mary McCracken by Sunday, November 17, 2024.

Name:

Entrée Selections:

- ____ Roast Beef served with mashed potatoes, salad, & seasonal vegetables
- ____ Baked Cod served with a baked potato, salad, & seasonal vegetables
 - __ Chicken Limone served with mashed potatoes, salad, & seasonal vegetables

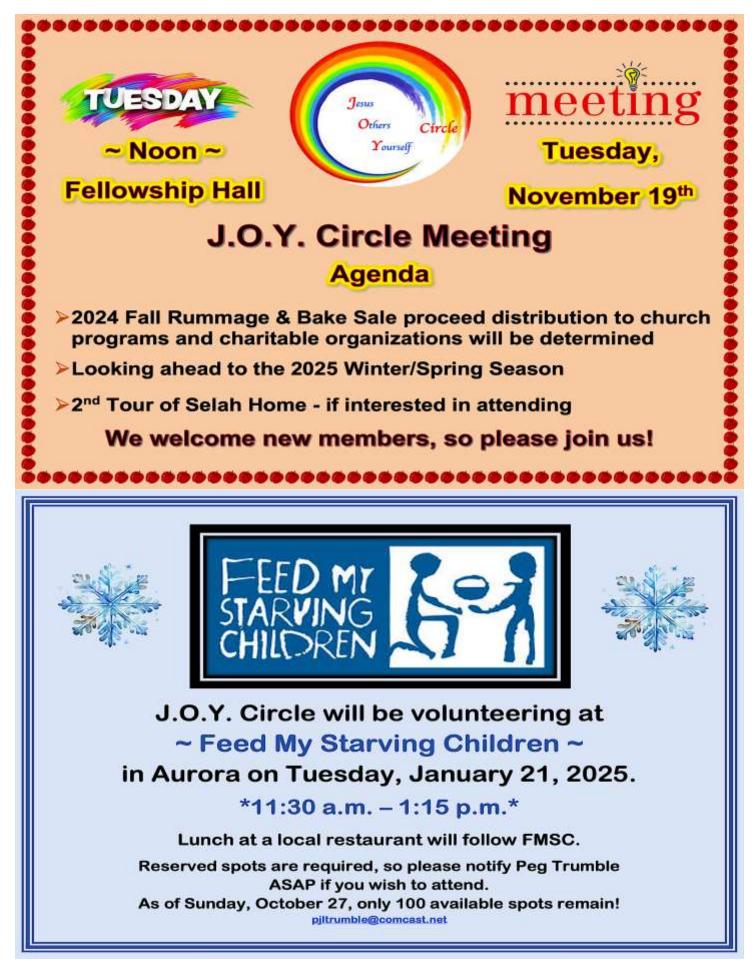
___ Pasta Prímavera

Served with your choice above will be:

Water, Tea, or Coffee | Bread & Butter | Asst. Cakes

Please contact Mary, 630-553-7051, 630-408-3724 (cell), email <u>marymac68@sbcglobal.net</u> for questions.

As a service to our community, it has been our tradition to donate fast food gift cards (McDonalds, Wendy's, Culver's, etc.) to the Yorkville Kendall County Community Food Pantry for their teenage clients. We recommend cards in \$10.00 increments, and give as many as you like to Regina Moe at the Christmas Luncheon.



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

There are new books in the Library this month!



I have read all of these books in the last several months, and they are all excellent, thoughtprovoking reads!

The Bandit Queens by Parini Shroff "A radically feel-good story about the murder of no-good husbands by a cast of unsinkable women."—The New York Times Book Review (Editors' Choice)

The Women by Kristin Hannah From the celebrated author of The Nightingale and The Four Winds comes Kristin Hannah's The Women—at once an intimate portrait of coming of age in a dangerous time and an epic tale of a nation divided.

Let Us Descent by Jesmyn Ward From "one of America's finest living writers" (San Francisco Chronicle) and "heir apparent to Toni Morrison" (LitHub)—comes a haunting masterpiece about an enslaved girl in the years before the Civil War that's destined to become a classic.

How to Saiy Babylon by Safiyoa Sinclair With echoes of Educated and Born a Crime, How to Say Babylon is the stunning story of the author's struggle to break free of her rigid Rastafarian upbringing, ruled by her father's strict patriarchal views and repressive control of her childhood, to find her own voice as a woman and poet.

Yellowface by R. F. Kaung White lies. Dark humor. Deadly consequences... Bestselling sensation Juniper Song is not who she says she is, she didn't write the book she claims she wrote, and she is most certainly not Asian American—in this chilling and hilariously cutting novel from R.F. Kuang, the #1 New York Times bestselling author of Babel.

Ways To Get Involved

Pastor's Bible Study

"Voices of Change: Faith in Action with Corinthians and Isaiah" Wednesdays at 5 pm 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.

Spiritual Development Group (SDG) November 19 at 7:00 p.m. on Google Meets.

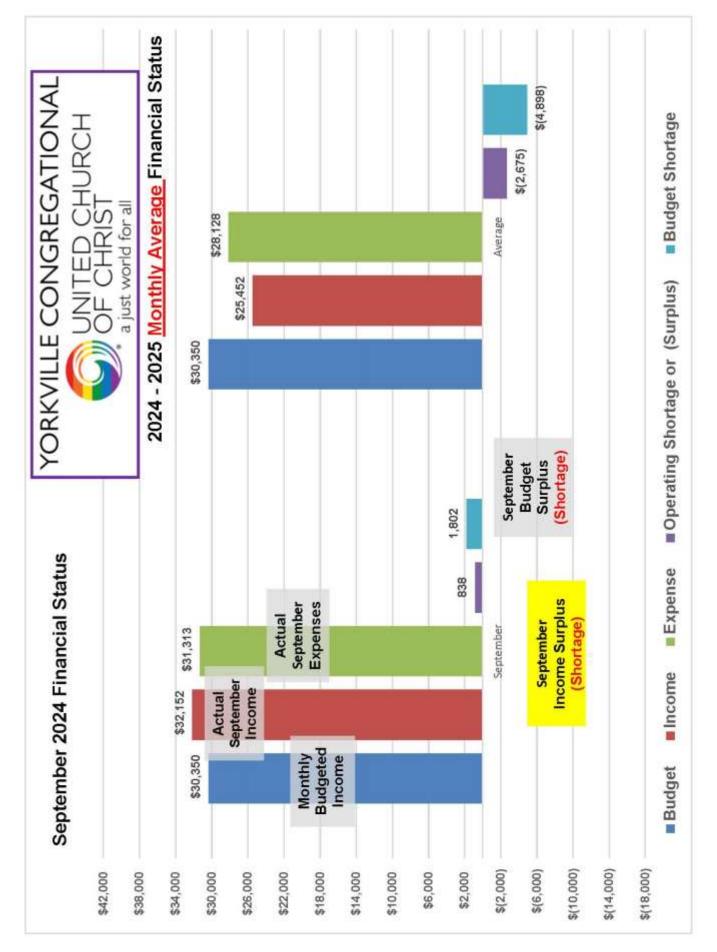
We will continue studying the Listen Up! Genesis 37-47 bible study. In this part of Genesis, we will discuss the themes of love, faithfulness, rebellion, forgiveness, and redemption in the story of Joesph. God's word is alive. God always has something new to say to us. That's why the purpose of the LISTEN UP! To join us, send an email to Diane Stablein at <u>infoshep@yorkville-ucc.org</u>.



Book Discussion-November 7 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Aimee List ajlsan1@hotmail.com



Those Grieving:

The Patterson and deRidder Families

Those in Cancer Treatment:

Pat Dietz Tom Lindblom Sandy Lindblom

LouAnn Hoffmann Pearl Undesser

Health Concerns:

Fred Anderson Deb Bezroukoff Rick Falato Gayle Jacobs Wyatt Jones Jonathan Lamp Michael Obenauer Doug Trumble Finley Walker

General Concerns:

Prochaska Family Mendell Family The Hughes Family

We send prayers to everyone affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton and those working to rebuild communities.

Homebound/Assisted Living:

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



Care team can be a new pathway for you.

A new friend; A new start; A new idea or solution; We are here for you.

Ask Pastor Elizabeth, Carrie DeFuss, Salli Walden.



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No	vembei	^r Birthdays		Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Zoey Houle Krista Wilson Nick Skinner Joann Morr Julia Runkle John Pratt Amanda Seibel Audrey Fitzgerald Jonathan Lamp Laurie Houle Linda Melhouse Courtney Skinner Gabe Keith Lynne White Terry Keith Evan Griffin Christopher Johnson Tess Tsusaki Anna Emmert Ron Anderson Deb Bezroukoff Grant Guenzler Jim Davis Wayne Norr	$\begin{array}{c} 01\\ 03\\ 05\\ 06\\ 08\\ 10\\ 12\\ 14\\ 15\\ 16\\ 19\\ 19\\ 19\\ 21\\ 23\\ 24\\ 27\\ 28\\ 29\\ 29\end{array}$	Keri Phillipp	29	Mark 12:28-34 Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost GREEN Mark 12:38-44 Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost GREEN Hebrews 10:11-25 Reign of Christ GREEN or WHITE Revelation 1:4b-8
Nove	mber A	nniversaries		
11/04 Bethany & Matt Harbour 11/11 Steve & Julie Gawne 11/19 Rev. Elizabeth Hartung & Bob McGee			7 Years 29 Years 8 Years	Bilhday

Date	Acolytes	Liturgists	Sermon Titles
11/3/2024	Jacob DeFuss	LeaAnn Skogsberg	Beyond Limits: Love God, Love Neighbor
11/10/2024	Benjamin DeFuss	Fred Gaebler	Beyond Limits: Community Goodness
11/17/2024	Gabe Keith	Fred Gaebler	Beyond Limits: Intentional Generosity
11/24/2024	Isabelle Shatters	Pam Campos	Beyond Limits

Our Mission Statement

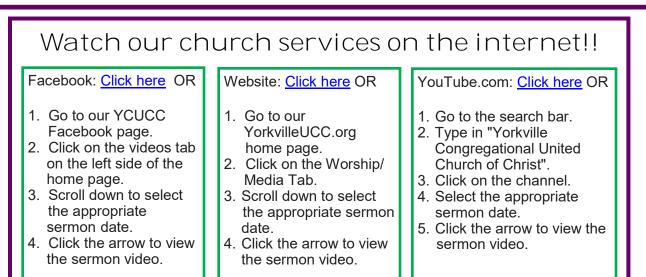
To live as Jesus lived: Love without Judgement, Welcome without Exception, Serve with Compassion, Teach by Example.

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.



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HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER. PSALM 106:1