

Congruity Connection



ELDERS

Sue Blank

Tim D'Aurora

Phyllis Frye

Keith Orr

Janet Rugh

Linda Sellinger

Bob Schweppe

Joelyn Watt

Ronda Weinell

Ryan Gallagher Y.R.

DEACONS

Evey Anderson

Dorothy Brant

Becky Davis

Jessica Foresman

Lisa Heasley

Teri Hoffman

Carol Hohman

Joseph Stopansky

Gale Wilhelm

CLIFF'S NOTES

As I sit at my desk writing this article, the snow and ice continue to melt. The warmer weather has been a wonderful change from the weather we have been experiencing. To me this time of the year provides us with a visual reminder of the Season of Lent. In a few weeks spring will begin and with it we will see the renewal of life bursting forth before our eyes. We will be excited when we see the tulips and daffodils beginning to break through the ground, when we see our first robin and begin to see blossoms budding on trees.

The Season of Lent provides us with the opportunity to spend some time reflecting on all that God has done for us in Jesus Christ. The Lenten Season reminds us of the renewal that takes place in our lives through our faith relationship with Jesus Christ. In addition to our Sunday morning schedule, there will be worship and study opportunities during the month of March. The New Alexandria Lenten Worship services will be held on Wednesday evenings at the various churches in our community. We will be having a Lenten Bible Study on Tuesday's from 7-8PM. I would encourage you to make these worship services and Bible Study part of your Lenten journey.

As the signs of springtime begin to burst forth with new life, may the Lenten Season enable us to experience a time of renewal in our lives. As we journey towards the empty tomb of Easter, may we be mindful of the depth of God's love for us shown to us in Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ's love,

Cliff

MARCH CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

3/2 Jason Orr

3/3 Janet Rugh

Anna Mae Walters

Haley Hoffman

3/4 Karen Dudek

3/7 Jacob Derek

3/8 Geri Kaufman

Debbie Marchelletta

3/9 Alicia D'Aurora

3/10 Sue Kepple

3/11 Ken Walters

Jessica D'Aurora

3/13 Nancy Walters

3/14 Janet Henry

Alison Derek

3/18 April Hawley

Dana Kaufman

3/19 Michael Kaufman

Betty Murphy

3/25 Pam Foresman

Lana Munsell

3/26 Bill Heasley

3/28 Bob Watt

3/29 Nancy Kifer

3/30 Perry Miller IV



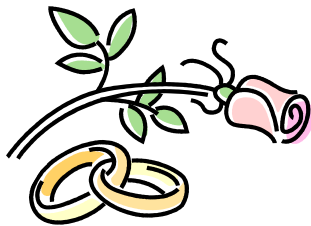
ANNIVERSARIES

3/17/1947 ~ Doyle & Myrtle Martz

3/28/1981 ~ Tom & Rosemary Orr

3/29/1981 ~ Ron & Mary Ann Kaufman

3/30/1960 ~ Gene & Dorothy Brant



CONGRATULATIONS



Dan & Hillary Lapcevic on their marriage ~

May you have a joyous life together!

Ryan & Rebecca Boggs on the birth of their daughter Rachel Carolyn
2/16/10. Rachel's Grandparents are Kip & Susie Boggs, Great
Grandparents are Chuck & Betty Lou Carr.



W O R S H I P L E A D E R S F O R M A R C H

A c o l y t e s

3/7 Dylan McDonald
 3/14 Tylor McDonald
 3/21 Jessica Foresman
 3/28 Ryan Gallagher

L i t u r g i s t s

Dorothy Martz
 John Blank
 Sarabeth Stopansky
 Joe Stopansky



If you would like to serve as a liturgist please see Cliff. If you are interested in becoming an acolyte please see Dave or Pam Foresman.

S E P A R A T E D B Y S P A C E U N I T E D I N P R A Y E R

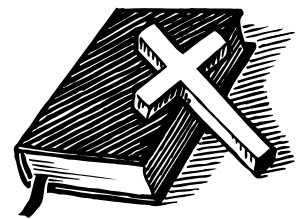
The congregations and pastors from District 1 for our prayer support during the month of March are as follows:

March 7 - New Alexandria, Community † Terry Carnahan, pastor
 March 14 - New Alexandria, Congruity † Cliff Foster, pastor
 March 21 - New Kensington † Colin Yuckman, pastor
 March 28 - Slickville † Tom Holmes, clp

Community Lenten Services

The services are at 7 PM

3/3 Congruity Terry Carnahan preaching
 3/10 UMC Debbie Brodahl preaching
 3/17 CUP Linda Landers preaching
 3/24 United in Christ Ministries Cliff Foster preaching



Holy Week Services

4/1 Maundy Thursday
 4/2 Community Good Friday Service at UMC
 4/4 8AM Easter Morning Worship led by Youth Group
 11AM Easter Worship Service



T L C



L I S A H E A S L E Y

In recent weeks, headlines have been about violence toward our fellow man, and children. This church has also been personally touched by such violence. As we wonder how such acts can be committed by people. We may not know why but we can take measures to prevent it. EDUCATION!. We will be hosting a crime awareness seminar on April 14, 2010 in fellowship hall. Sue Aaron has organized many speakers to talk to us and provide informational resources for the prevention of crime. This is an event that is for everybody, Parents, seniors and children. We are encouraging everyone to join us and invite your neighbors. We will have a list of speakers and topics in the April newsletter.



We have meals prepared. If you know of someone that is feeling under the weather or just had a baby, or any other reason and may need a prepared meal, please talk to a member of TLC or Cliff

D E A C O N S

The Deacon's CARE list is under construction. We are trying to make sure that we are ministering to everybody that needs us. We are also asking all members of the church to help us to minister to our shut ins, the lonely, ill or members that have moved away. If you can help by writing cards, visit or cook/bake, Please let Becky Davis, Evey Anderson or Lisa Heasley know how you can help.

Due to the increasing cost of flowers, we are considering alternate options. We are asking everybody that will want flowers for certain days, to please sign the flower chart by March 14, 2010. The flower chart will be removed and will no longer be able to sign up for flowers for this year. Thank you.

Easter Flowers are now on sale. We have a variety of flowers to offer, listed below. If you are interested in ordering, please send your check, made out to Congruity Deacons, to the church. The deadline is March 7, 2010. Flowers will be available on Easter morning, after worship. Thank you.

Lily-Hyacinth-Tulip -- \$9.00

Azalea----- \$14.50

Mum-----\$12.50

All plants in 6" pots



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION



World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many faiths and traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year. Please join us in celebrating this day at Congruity on March 6, 2010 at 9:30am. We will be serving a continental breakfast. Women from the churches of New Alexandria Ministeriam will be joining us.

We will be collecting the hygiene kits and baby kits until April 11, 2010.

Coming up in April.

Rummage Sale - April 10, 2010. Start cleaning out your closets.

P.W. Spring Gathering - April 17, 2010

Senior Appreciation Luncheon - April 24, 2010

T H E C H R I S T I A N E D C O M M I T T E E

We're trying something NEW and EXCITING for Sunday School!! We've decided to have a COMBINED Sunday School class for the children in the NURSERY CLASS UP TO THE 5TH GRADE. There will be lots of FUN planned activities! So, please come and join us! There will also still be a Junior/Senior High class downstairs available.

Remember if you need a ride to or from any activity at Congruity, we will be glad to arrange for someone to pick you up. Please call the office to make arrangements.



An Old Irish Blessing



May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back .
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.



TREASURER'S REPORT

CAROLINE D'AURORA

General Fund

	Receipts	Expenses	Actual Balance	To Date Balance
<i>Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 3,663.14	
January	\$ 7,225.06	\$ 8,149.87	\$ 2,738.33	\$ (924.81)

First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January	\$ 809.00	\$ 583.33	\$ 225.67

	This Month	To Date
2-Cents a Meal	\$ 7.00	\$ 7.00
Change for the Future	\$ 49.01	\$ 49.01
Disaster Assistance for Haiti		\$ 545.00

Thanks to all of the members and friends of Congruity who generously donate the time, talents, and resources that enable us to do good works.



ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Orders will be taken March 7th and 14th.

Distribution date: March 20th

10 am at CUP

God has given us a life abundant
 As we serve Him in this world below;
 Though our time on earth is surely fleeting,
 Hope of heaven makes our pathway glow. —Hess

**ITEMS FROM SESSION****JOHN BLANK**

Session met on February 22, 2010 and reports the following:

- 1) Rev. Foster led us in devotions reading from Colossians.**
- 2) Approved the Clerk's, Treasurer's, and Moderator's reports.**
- 3) Discussed the Presbytery meeting held on 1/23/10 and noted that the next meeting of Redstone Presbytery is 3/20/10.**
- 4) Approved hosting the World Day of Prayer on 3/6/10.**
- 5) Noted that the Sunday School classes may be reorganized based on attendance.**
- 6) Approved a luncheon following worship on 3/21/10.**
- 7) Set a goal for the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering at \$650.**
- 8) Noted the need to look into the wireless microphones and speakers in the Fellowship Hall**
- 9) Accepted the donation of a piano from Tim and Caroline D'Aurora.**
- 10) Approved a thank you donation to Bill and Chuck Heasley for snow removal.**
- 11) Approved Cameron Louttit as a substitute for Janet Henry on 4/18/10.**
- 12) Maundy Thursday worship will be a Seder meal.**
- 13) Each Sunday we are distributing Lenten Devotionals prepared by the Worship Committee. The theme for Lent is "Remembering our Baptism."**
- 14) Approved a Joint Meeting of Deacons and Session for 4/18/10 following worship.**
- 15) Elders are currently reviewing our mission statement. If you have input see a member of session.**
- 16) Approved the following uses of Fellowship Hall: Boy Scouts for 2/20/10; Lisa Kaufman for 5/1/10; and a Spaghetti Dinner 4/17/10.**
- 17) Approved a Lenten Bible Study for Tuesday evenings from 7-8 PM**
- 18) Approved a Hoagie Sale for 3/18/10.**
- 19) Discussed, meditated, and prayed on the question: "What are your memories of the Easter Season?"**
- 20) Visit the church website at www.congruitychurch.org**

The Mission of Congruity Presbyterian Church is to lead all persons to a biblical and theological understanding of reformed faith, to glorify God, to bear witness to Jesus Christ and to be the channel of God's saving power, so that His Kingdom may come and His Will be done in all the earth. We are the family of God. Therefore we focus on living as a loving family. Fellowship and worship will be the heart of our loving, caring church. (4/18/05)

THE MISSION INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

TIM D'AURORA

While everyone has been dealing with all the storms and the snow, the new year is progressing steadily by. As we enter March, we need to be focused on the events of the next few months. This is always an active time for Congruity. We will be having a Hoagie Sale in March, a Spaghetti Dinner in April, the One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected through Easter and the Rummage Sale and the Turkey Dinner are just around the corner. While several of these are fundraisers, they are also opportunities for fellowship with one another. Keep this in mind as we work together to do God's work.

While we missed having a church service in both January and February, we didn't really seem to suffer too much financially. Whether there has been an increase in giving in general or people made a point to make up for the missed week, our giving seems to be holding at or above last year's level. Let's keep that going.

In an effort to keep that positive balance we entered the year with, we will be holding a Hoagie Sale on March 18 to benefit the general fund. We usually have 2 of these sales a year with varying results. When we get a lot of people involved, we can easily raise over \$400.00. And we usually have fun when we get together to assemble the hoagies. There is an order form in this newsletter. We will take orders until Monday, March 15 and will meet at 6:00 pm on Thursday, March 18 to make the hoagies. Please try to aggressively sell to your friends, neighbors, coworkers, and family. And join us on Thursday to assemble the hoagies and have an evening of fun and fellowship.

We are tentatively planning a Spaghetti Dinner for Saturday, April 17th. Keep this date open to enjoy another fabulous Italian Dinner from the kitchens of the great chef Gino Brantini. More information will follow.

Every year, our One Great Hour of Sharing offering is one of our most successful collections. We seem to relate to the many good uses for this offering. Last year we collected over \$637.00 and this year we have set a goal of \$650.00. Please continue to generously support this worthwhile offering.

It's easy to let the weather be an excuse to not follow through with some of our plans or goals for the new year. We have had to cancel meetings and put off doing things because of it. But we need to keep focused on what God wants and needs us to be doing. Prayerfully consider how you can positively impact the Church and someone else's life. You will be richly rewarded.

MISSION TEAM NEWS

PHYLLIS FRYE

Wow!!! 240 people braved the weather and joined us for our Pancake Dinner. We can't express how much we appreciate all of the support we received from all of you. Thank you for all of your donations, hard work and for making the evening such a great success. \$1500.00 was raised to go toward our travel expenses.



2010

Mission Trips

Spring

March 14-20

New Orleans

Summer

August 8-14

Kopperston

West Virginia

Chicken Casserole Dinner

First Presbyterian Church of Avonmore, Indiana Ave, Avonmore PA

Sunday March 7, 2010 from 12-PM

Adults - \$7.00 and children 10 & under \$5.00

Includes: Chicken Casserole, Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Homemade Pies, Cakes & Drinks.

TICKET ONLY!!

Reservations must be made by February 28, 2010

Call 724-727-7326 or 724-668-2843

All proceeds benefit the Katrina Mission Team

Our Mission Team consisting of Ced Stopansky, Doug Stine, Steve and Sue Derek, Phyllis Frye and Lisa Heasley will be leaving for New Orleans on March 13, 2010. There will be 10 others from other churches joining us and will be staying at Olive Tree for one week. We want to thank all of you for your love, prayers and support. We are looking forward to working hard, making new friends and sharing God's love with all of those we meet.

Please keep the Mission Team in your prayers:



O God, You called Abraham Your servant out of Ur and kept him safe and sound in all his wanderings. If it is Your will, protect Your servants. Be for us a support when setting out, friendship along the way, a little shade from the sun, a mantle against cold and rain, a crutch on slippery paths, and a haven in shipwreck. Bear us up in fatigue, and defend us under attack. Under Your protection, let us fulfill the purpose for our trip and return safe and sound to our home. Amen.

**Congruity Presbyterian Church
 136 Fenneltown Road
 New Alexandria PA 15670**

**NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT NO 5
 NEW ALEXANDRIA PA 15670**



**WE'RE ON THE WEB!
 congruitychurch.org**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES START AT 9:45 AM
 WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11:00 AM PLEASE JOIN US!**

A T T E N D A N C E

Sunday School

	Youth	Adults	Total
1/24	3	18	21
1/31	5	22	27
2/7	cancelled/blizzard		
2/14	5	21	26
2/21	5	20	25

Worship

1/24	46
1/31	65
2/7	cancelled/blizzard
2/14	65
2/21	50

**C H U R C H S T A F F A N D
 O F F I C E R S**

Cliff Foster	Pastor
John Blank	Clerk of Session
Becky Davis	Deacon's Moderator
Caroline D'Aurora	Treasurer
Michelle Kepple	Financial Secretary
Dorothy Martz	Church Secretary
Janet Henry	Music Director
Yvonne McInay	Newsletter Editor
John Blank	Webmaster

**Dorothy is in Monday & Thursday mornings.
 Cliff is in the office most mornings.**