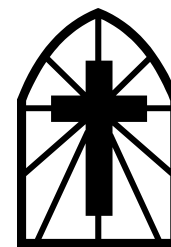


# Congruity Connection



## Cliff's Notes

### ELDERS

Laura Blank

Sue Blank

Gene Brant

Tim D'Aurora

Dave Foresman

Phyllis Frye

Janet Rugh

Bob Schweppe

Ronda Weinell

Colton Cramer Y.R.

### DEACONS

Evey Anderson

Dorothy Brant

Dotty D'Aurora

Becky Davis

Sue Derek

Carol Hohman

Scott McIlroy

Sarabeth Stopansky

Gale Wilhelm

The other night I watch a little of an ABC News show hosted by Katie Couric which was a retrospect of 2011. In a two-hour window, snippets of the past 12 months were shown. In the few minutes that I watched, I was amazed with how many of the things that took place in 2011, I had forgotten! I'm sure that each of us have spent some time over the last couple of weeks, looking back over 2011. Within our church family, we have the whole gamut of events and emotions that comprised 2011.

We are beginning 2012 and none of knows for sure what these next 12 months hold in store for us. Some of us may have spent some time coming up with resolutions for the New Year (and some of us might actually still be keeping them as you read these words). The year 2012 stands before us as a blank canvas in which the picture will be painted through the days and weeks, through the ups and downs, through the events that take place as we traverse the unknown course of the next 12 months. As we stand on the threshold of a brand new year, Hebrews 13:8 declares: "**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.**" I think this is a wonderful verse to keep in mind as we walk into the days and weeks and months of 2012. Come what may throughout 2012, we can know with certainty that Christ is right there with us through each and every step of the way. I want to wish each of you a wonderful and blessed New Year!

As we begin a new year, I want to thank those Elders—Keith Orr, Linda Sellinger; and those Deacons—Teri Hoffman, Michelle Kepple and Dave Foresman; who are completing their terms. I would also like to welcome our new Elders: Gene Brant, Tim D'Aurora and Dave Foresman; and our new Deacons: Dotty D'Aurora, Sue Derek, Sarabeth Stopansky, and Gale Wilhelm.

Yours in Christ's love,

*Cliff*

# January Celebrations

## Birthdays



- |      |  |      |  |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1/1  | Beth Dudek<br>Kelly Orr                      | 1/13 | Jessica Foresman<br>Alyssa Martz             |
| 1/4  | Bob Hohman<br>Mike Kepple<br>Tony Perino     | 1/17 | Glenn Frye                                   |
| 1/5  | Kaley Foster                                 | 1/18 | Carol Hohman                                 |
| 1/6  | Emily Eidemiller                             | 1/19 | Kathleen Orr<br>Sara Orr                     |
| 1/7  | Courtney Young                               | 1/20 | Tyler Piovesan                               |
| 1/8  | John Baron<br>Ced Stopansky<br>Brian Walters | 1/21 | Ian Derek                                    |
| 1/10 | Denise Eidemiller                            | 1/22 | Trevor Derek                                 |
| 1/11 | Daniel Kaufman                               | 1/23 | Keith Walters                                |
|      |  | 1/24 | Dorothy Brant                                |
|      |  | 1/28 | Kim Matvey<br>Jared Walters<br>Alenah Thomas |

## Anniversaries

- 1/26/1962 Bob & Carol Hohman  
1/30/2010 Dan & Hillary Lapcevic



## Congratulations

We extend our congratulations to Dan and Hillary Lapcevic on the birth of their daughter Ziva Rayn, born on November 25, 2011. Ziva was 9lb and 9oz and 22 inches long.



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.

Separated By Space United In Prayer



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

- 1/1 Vandergrift † Neil Galley, pastor
- 1/8 Apollo, Pine Run † Lanny Mellinger, pastor
- 1/15 Avonmore † Pete Goetschius, pastor
- 1/22 Avonmore †
- 1/29 Redstone Presbytery † Mark Lanfried, retired

Worship Leaders For January

Liturgists



- 1/1 Dorothy Martz
- 1/8 Ced Stopansky
- 1/15 Phyllis Frye
- 1/22 John Blank
- 1/29 Sarabeth Stopansky

Those scheduled to serve Communion on January 8th are:

Janet Rugh Bob Schweppe Tim D'Aurora Becky Davis Carol Hohman

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.



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.

A Prayer for the New Year

Come, Holy Spirit,  
Spirit of the Risen Christ,  
Be with us today and always.  
Be our Light, our Guide,  
And our Comforter.  
Be our Strength, our Courage,  
And our Sanctifier.

May this new year be a time  
Of deep spiritual growth for us,  
A time of welcoming  
Your graces and gifts,  
A time for forgiving freely  
And unconditionally,  
A time for growing  
In virtue and goodness.

Come, Holy Spirit,  
Be with us today and always.  
Amen.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**



Happy New Year

On New Years Eve we have to leave  
Another year behind.  
We wonder what the future holds  
What changes we will find.

When the bells ring out at midnight  
And a new path is there to tread,  
Go forward with hope in your heart  
And welcome the New Year ahead.

I wish for you so many things  
God's blessings from Heaven above  
To make this the happiest year,  
Filled with joy and peace and love

A New Year's Prayer  
Author Unknown

May God make your year a happy one!  
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,  
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;

Not by making your path easy,  
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships from you,  
But by taking fear from your heart;

Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,  
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;

Not by making your life always pleasant,  
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,  
and by making you anxious to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.

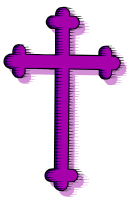
T h a n k   Y o u



Dear Congruity Friends,

It is especially wonderful to hear expressions of concern, receive cards and to know you're prayed for when one is ill and hospitalized. Until you are in that situation, you don't realize how much it means to you. So...thank you so much! You are indeed a wonderful church family.

Carol E. Miller



M i s s i o n   &   M i s s i o n   T e a m   N e w s

P h y l l i s   F r y e

There will be a mission team meeting on Sunday, January 29th at 2:30 AT CONGRUITY CHURCH to plan the trip scheduled for March 17th-24th to God knows where. If interested, pray about it, then come join us to make plans as to where we go and how we'll get there. The options are wide open.

We will also be planning the Pancake Dinner for February 21st.

We made \$500 from the sale of BonTon Community Day Coupon books.

Also, the date for the fall trip to New Windsor has changed to October 7th-9th due to the downsizing in the number of sleeping quarters at New Windsor.

H a n d s - o n - M i s s i o n

We have delivered nine bag mats, some quilts made by CUP church and some donated children's books to Uniontown City Mission.



Presbyterian Women's Association  
Phyllis Frye

The Women's Association was doubly blessed in December. First we were honored to host Ishmael Kanani and his wife, Elizabeth Koko at a community covered dish, where we heard of the problems facing the newly divided countries, North and South Sudan. It makes the world a little closer when you actually meet someone from these countries. Then, at the Women's Christmas Party, we heard the inspiring story of Betty Lou Carr's new-found cousin, Sandra Miller, tell of her search for family.

The Women's Association will be hosting the Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women on April 21st, 2012.

The mission project will be the Welcome Home Shelter, so we will be collecting items for the shelter closer to the time. There will be an updated lists of needed items in the greeting room at the church.

Congregational Life  
Phyllis Frye

Congregational Life will be sponsoring a covered dish lunch on Sunday, January 15th, after church. We will be taking a meal to the Welcome Home Shelter on Thursday, January 12th.

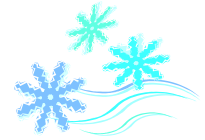


Walk Fit Program  
Sue Derek



The Walk Fit class will resume again January 7th. and every Saturday afterwards. Same time, same location.

Treasurer's Report  
Caroline D'Aurora

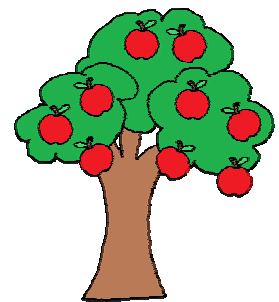


**General Fund**

	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Actual Balance</b>	<b>To Date Balance</b>
<i>Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 10,558.34	
January	\$ 7,524.95	\$ 8,749.70	\$ 9,333.59	\$ (1,224.75)
February	\$ 6,206.20	\$ 6,345.39	\$ 9,194.40	\$ (1,363.94)
March	\$ 6,723.56	\$ 9,092.51	\$ 6,825.45	\$ (3,732.89)
April	\$ 7,564.13	\$ 9,310.74	\$ 5,078.84	\$ (5,479.50)
May	\$ 8,067.18	\$ 6,739.97	\$ 6,406.05	\$ (4,152.29)
June	\$ 5,612.49	\$ 6,804.54	\$ 5,214.00	\$ (5,344.34)
July	\$ 8,633.91	\$ 6,734.07	\$ 7,113.84	\$ (3,444.50)
August	\$ 5,687.06	\$ 7,259.17	\$ 5,541.73	\$ (5,016.61)
September	\$ 6,703.59	\$ 8,573.12	\$ 3,672.20	\$ (6,886.14)
October	\$ 7,457.91	\$ 6,706.76	\$ 4,423.35	\$ (6,134.99)
November	\$ 7,111.11	\$ 7,706.53	\$ 3,827.93	\$ (6,730.41)

**First Fruits**

	<b>Received</b>	<b>Pledged</b>	<b>Balance</b>
January	\$ 768.00	\$ 666.66	\$ 101.34
February	\$ 765.00	\$ 666.66	\$ 199.68
March	\$ 679.00	\$ 666.66	\$ 212.02
April	\$ 634.00	\$ 666.66	\$ 179.36
May	\$ 709.00	\$ 666.66	\$ 221.70
June	\$ 495.00	\$ 666.66	\$ 50.04
July	\$ 725.00	\$ 666.66	\$ 108.38
August	\$ 634.00	\$ 666.66	\$ 75.72
September	\$ 506.00	\$ 666.66	\$ (84.94)
October	\$ 1,170.00	\$ 666.66	\$ 418.40
November	\$ 740.00	\$ 666.66	\$ 491.74



	<b>This Month</b>	<b>To Date</b>
<b>Cents-Ability</b>	\$ 33.77	\$ 279.58

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



Items From Session  
John Blank

Session met on December 19, 2011 and reports the following:

- 1) Tim D'Aurora led us in devotions
- 2) Rev. Foster thanked the elders from the class of 2011 (Tim D'Aurora, Keith Orr, and Linda Sellinger) for their service and welcomed the elders from the class of 2014 (Gene Brant, Dave Foresman, and Tim D'Aurora\*.)
- 3) Approved the Clerk's, Treasurer's, and Moderator's Reports
- 4) Reviewed and amended the list of Baptized Members.
- 5) Session will take action on the list of "Inactive Members" and Active Members at the January meeting.
- 6) Received the recap of the recent presbytery meeting. The next meeting of the presbytery is on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 7) Approved the "Committee Responsibilities" document noting that a few editing corrections need to be made.
- 8) Granted permission for the Deacons to hold a White Elephant Auction and covered dish dinner following worship on 2/12/2012.
- 9) Noted that the Women's Association bought 4 new roasters for the kitchen.
- 10) Noted that the TLC delivered the Angel Tree gifts.
- 11) Granted permission to hold a fellowship covered dish dinner following worship on 1/15/12.
- 12) Noted that the Property Committee completed some repairs to the two bathrooms in the manse and that the Annual Manse Inspection was held on 12/3/11.
- 13) Appointed John Blank as Church Treasurer, Class of 2012.
- 14) Set devotional leaders for the first three session meetings in 2012.
- 15) Agreed to read and study G-4; G-5; and G-6 of the Book of Order for the January session meeting.
- 16) Set January 15<sup>th</sup> for the installation of Ruling Elders and Deacons.
- 17) Set January 29<sup>th</sup> for the Annual Congregational Meeting to receive reports from the various organizations for 2011.
- 18) Received the schedule for those serving communion for 2012
- 19) Reviewed the pastor's goals for 2011 and discussed suggestions for the pastor's goals for 2012.
- 20) Discussed G-1; G-2; and G-3 of the Book of Order.

Items From Session Continued

**CALL FOR REPORTS:** All committees and organizations should prepare a report of their activities for 2011 to be presented at the January 29<sup>th</sup> congregational meeting. **WRITTEN** reports are an important way for the congregation to document what happened in the life and mission of Congruity during the past year. Please get your report to Dorothy Martz, church secretary, as soon as possible so that she can begin preparing the printed booklet for the meeting.



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)

Christian Education Committee

Pam Foresman

Need a New Year's Resolution? Come to Sunday School and Church!

**Don't regret yesterday,  
It is the perfect compass  
Guiding your journey today**



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



*We're on the web!*  
**congruitychurch.org**

**Non Profit Organization**  
**U.S. Postage Paid**  
**Permit No 5**

9:45 Sunday School and 11am Worship  
 Please Join Us!

**A t t e n d a n c e**

**Sunday School**

	Y	A	Total
11/27	6	15	21
12/4	4	17	21
12/11	3	16	19
12/18	3	13	16

**Worship**

11/27	47
12/4	45
12/12	52
12/18	48

**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
Scott McIlnay	Deacon's Moderator
John Blank	Treasurer
Michelle Kepple	Financial Secretary
Dorothy Martz	Church Secretary
Janet Henry	Music Director
Yvonne McIlnay	Newsletter Editor
John Blank	Webmaster

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

Please put newsletter items in the folder at the church or email to [ydmcilnay@yahoo.com](mailto:ydmcilnay@yahoo.com)