

CONGRUITY CONNECTION



CLIFF'S NOTES

I don't know about you, but to me it seemed that the summer months flew by quicker than in other years. As I sat down to write these words, I had a song stuck in my mind. The song is "See You In September". I Googled the song and discovered that it was written by Sid Wayne and Sherman Edwards and was first recorded in 1959 by the Pittsburgh Vocal group "The Tempos". It went to 23rd on the charts in 1959 and then a few years later, "The Happenings" recorded it in 1966 and it went to #3 on the charts. But what sticks most in my mind is the title, "See You In September"... and I hope that is the case, especially since the summer months have come to an end.

We are returning to our normal Sunday schedule on September 7th with our Rally Day Breakfast at 9AM, Sunday School for all ages at 9:45AM and our Worship Service at 11AM. I look forward to seeing you in September.

One of the things that will be added to our regular monthly study this September is a monthly daytime Bible Study. We will meet on Wednesday mornings at 10AM. Our first gathering will be on September 17th. Within the PC (USA), September has been the time when we hear of the programs and projects that the Peacemaking Offering supports. The latest GA voted to change the name of the Peacemaking Offering to Peace and Global Witness Offering beginning in 2015. As we enter the season of peace, our first Bible Study will focus on the biblical image of peace and peacemaking.

The pages of this newsletter contain information on the various activities, programs and happenings around the church. As the song from the 60's says "See You In September".

Yours in Christ,
Cliff



WORSHIP LEADERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Liturgists

9/7 Ronda Weinell
9/14 Ced Stopansky
9/21 Janet Rugh
9/28 Tim D'Aurora

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



SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the following families:

...the Frye family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of
Gary's death

... the Blank/Wolfe family as they walk through the valley of the
shadow of Sue's aunt Shirley's death

... the Kepple family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of
Ada's death

May God's presence give you comfort and strength in your time of loss.

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.

CHURCH OFFICERS

ELDERS

John Blank	Carol Hohman
Sue Blank	Jim Kepple
Gene Brant	Bob Schweppe
Tim D'Aurora	Linda Youngbauer
Dave Foresman	

DEACONS

Dorothy Brant	Jay Perino
Sue Derek	Mim Schweppe
Evelyn Foresman	Nancy Schweppe
Scott McIlnay	Sarabeth Stopansky
Debbie Perino	

SEPARATED BY SPACE UNITED IN PRAYER

The congregations and pastors from Neighborhood 1 for our prayer support during the months of September are as follows:

- 9/7 Avonmore ✠ Larry Armstrong, Stated Supply
- 9/14 Delmont ✠ Cliff Buell, Interim Pastor
- 9/21 Lower Burrell, Grace Community ✠ Ken Foust, Pastor
- 9/28 Lower Burrell, Puckety ✠ Kirk Orr, Pastor



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Sue Blank on passing her ordination exams!

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



Allison Elizabeth Derek married James (Jim) Patrick Sullivan on June 1.2014. Allison is the daughter of Steve & Sue Derek



Titina Ott and Timothy Adams who were married on July 4,

SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS



9/1	Nathan Foresman	9/18	Colton Cramer
	Matthew Schweppe	9/19	Yvonne McIlhny
9/2	Jim Blank	9/20	Dave Foresman
9/6	Cody Kaufman	9/21	Mary Ann Kaufman
	Courtney Kaufman		Joshua Wilhelm
9/7	Jimmy Carnathan	9/22	Harold Kaufman
	Julia Carnathan	9/25	John Blank
9/9	Myrah Jane Hawkey		Abigail MacDonald
9/10	Bob Schweppe Jr.	9/26	Joan Wilhelm
9/11	Allison Hufford	9/30	Sydney Swatchick
9/13	Bill Hufford		
9/17	Betty Morse		



ANNIVERSARIES

9/3/1983	Keith & Rose Ann Orr	9/24/1966	Ron & Dorothy Martz
9/13/1969	Tom & Karen Dudek	9/25/1999	Dan & Adrian Frye
9/13/1986	Jim & Michelle Kepple	9/26	Mark & Ann Gaertner
9/16/2006	Glenn & Helen Hawkey		



WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

PHYLLIS FRYE

TURKEY DINNER coming up October 11. You already know how much work and time the turkey dinner takes and what all is involved in making this dinner a success. You also know it takes a LOT of people to make the dinner run smoothly and have everyone served in a reasonable length of time. If you read John Blank's article in the July-August newsletter, then you know our church is having financial problems. Maybe you don't know that besides all of our mission giving, at the end of the year, the Women's Association gives a large portion of it's ending balance to the general fund. This is very important. If we don't have your commitment to help, we cannot have the dinners and due to our financial problems, we cannot afford to give them up. So, please, when you are called and asked to donate and help. make that commitment and be generous with both your donations and time.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DAVE FORESMAN

That's right! You read right, the YOUTH GROUP will return on September 7, 2014!! It is open to youth ages 12-18 (as long as they are still in high school). It will be an ecumenical COMMUNITY youth group held Sunday evenings from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm at Community Presbyterian Church in New Alexandria. The Youth Group will be under the leadership of Reverend Kathy Shirey, Dave Foresman, and Pastor Rhea Summit. So, invite all your friends and come to the NEW and IMPROVED YOUTH GROUP for some fun, games, activities, and fellowship!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

PAM FORESMAN



Well with the end of Summer upon us and Fall just around the corner, we know it must be time for RALLY DAY at Congruity!! Rally Day is on September 7th and is the start of Sunday School and Choir for the Fall season and our church service gets back to its regular time as well. Our delicious Rally Day continental breakfast starts at 9:00 am followed by Sunday School at 9:45 am and our church service at 11:00 am. Please come for breakfast and help us kick off the new season of Sunday School with some good food and a wonderful time for fellowship!!!



MISSION

PHYLLIS FRYE



Churches in New Alexandria Ministerium are collecting school supplies to be packed by the community youth group and taken to CWS in New Windsor in late September. Items needed for each bag include: 1 pair blunt scissors, spiral notebooks containing 150-200 sheets (often come in 3 packs) 12" ruler, pencil sharpener, 6 new pencils with erasers, 1 large eraser, 1 box 24 crayons. Also monetary donations are accepted to buy supplies. Tote bags are being made by women's groups in the ministerium. Please have donations in by September 21.



MISSION

PHYLLIS FRYE

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HUNGER WALK : Sunday September 14, at Keystone Park, registration at 1:30 in the afternoon. Come join together with other team members from the churches from the New Alexandria Ministerium and walk to help end hunger. There will be a sign-up sheet (of course) if you plan to walk and each person will get an envelope. Each walker is encouraged to get as many pledges of money as he can, which will go to Stop Hunger Now! It would be really neat if everyone got at least \$100. When you sign up, put your t-shirt size down because the businesses in the area are sponsoring t-shirts.

So, come and enjoy the friendship of fellow believers, and, hopefully, a beautiful day in a beautiful setting. End up with that really good feeling you have when you do something good. Can't walk that far? Then come on out and sit and enjoy the scenery while you wait for the walkers to return. See who gets back first!

STOP HUNGER NOW! Watch for sign-up sheets coming in September to pick your time to pack the meals for Stop Hunger Now! coming on Saturday October 18. We need 50-60 volunteers each hour from 9a.m.-3p.m. We are up to around \$8500 so far. So, please support the Hunger Walk on Sunday September 14 (find out who is walking and make a pledge. Proceeds go to SHN!) and plan to attend the Ham Loaf Dinner at Community U.P. Church on Saturday September 20 (for tickets, contact Judy Koontz, 724 668 2843). We are still collecting shoes until the end of September. Thanks to all of you who donated clothes and linens, we were able to fill the pod and gave 150 bags to a mission group to be recycled. The Yard Sale at Community brought in \$3400 and the Christmas in July Tea brought in over \$2000. We have had wonderful support for this project. However our piggy bank still has lots of room in it.

MANOR HOUSE : Several members of Congruity, along with members of the mission team, have spent several work-days and helped at several events at Mantle House Mission, a newer project that provides housing for homeless young people 18-24 to help them transition to responsible adulthood through the saving grace of Jesus Christ. After several years of paperwork, construction, headaches and lots of prayer, Mantle House has it's first resident. Praise God! Well done, good and faithful servants.

MISSION BURGER BASH : Thank you to all who supported and attended the Mission Burger Bash. Although the number of people were down, we managed to raise over \$400 toward our next trip to wherever God sends us. If you would like to join us next time please let Judy Koontz (724 668 2843) or Phyllis Frye (724-468-3740) know. At this time, there are still seven slots open for the trip to New Windsor, Cost is \$100, plus spending money and your share of the gasoline for the vehicle you ride in. The trip is September 28-30.

MISSION INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

TIM D'AURORA

At what point do we reach a crisis situation in the financial life of the church? I don't want to be Chicken Little running around crying "The sky is falling, the sky is falling", but we may well be approaching that situation. If you take a look at the July financial statement, you will see that we have fallen \$12,569.88 in the red for the year for the general fund. We also were \$1062.00 short of our First Fruits pledge. Often we see a drop in giving in the summer, but this is extreme. We have had a shortfall every month but April and June. Obviously, the long term answer is to put more people in church every Sunday but that is easier said than done. We certainly welcome you inviting your friends and neighbors to join us any Sunday. Our immediate problem is to increase giving so we can continue to pay our bills. No one wants to look at our options if we are unable to do that, but we may have to in the near future. We can't keep spending more than we are receiving and there aren't many areas that we can cut expenses. Please pray for the future of this church which, whether we like to face it or not, includes our financial future. Please give what you can so we may continue to do God's work.

One way you can support the financial situation of the church is to really get behind this month's hoagie sale. We will be selling hoagies to benefit First Fruits. Since we are so far behind our pledge, this is an opportunity to greatly reduce our liability and out of pocket expense. We need more involvement from you!! We greatly appreciate everyone that comes to help assemble the hoagies on Thursday evening and hope they will continue to come out and that more will join us. But even more important is our need to increase the number of hoagies we sell. If everyone can sell 2 – 4 more hoagies than last time, we can eliminate the deficit in our First Fruit account. I truly believe if we work at it, we can achieve a goal of over 300 hoagies. That would be the most we ever sold and it is achievable. The hoagies are only \$5.00, are a quality product, and make a great lunch. Try selling them at work. Hoagie orders are due in to Tim D'Aurora (724-668-8319) by Monday evening on September 15th. We will meet at 6:00 pm on Thursday the 18th to assemble them and they may begin to be picked up at 6:30 pm. We could really use more help in assembling the hoagies. We usually have fun and it is for a worthwhile cause so we hope to see you there. There is an order form available in this newsletter.

We are also working on having another auction to raise money for our Local Mission Fund. The date hasn't been set yet, but if you have things you are looking to get rid of, let us know. We can store them at the church if you don't have room for them. We would appreciate it if they were quality items with an estimated value over \$10.00. More information will follow and if you have any questions, feel free to contact Tim at the above phone number or by email at gambletd@earthlink.net.

We are going to begin working on the 2015 budget. If there are any changes from any committees, please get them to Tim by the end of the month.





ITEMS FROM SESSION

JOHN BLANK

Session met on August 11, 2014 and reports the following:

- 1) Carol Hohman led us in devotions reading from Proverbs 4: 20-27
- 2) Approved the Clerk's, Treasurer's, and Moderator's Reports
- 3) The treasurer reported that as of 8/11/14 the General Fund was \$3,698 in the red
- 4) The insurance subcommittee reported that the insurance policy for Congruity is with Goodville Mutual Casualty Company. This reflects an annual savings of approximately \$1500.
- 5) The Clerk of Session reviewed Goodville's guidelines for preventing child sexual abuse and noted that he is in the process of obtaining the remaining self-certifications from the session and the deacons.
- 6) Self-certifications for Sunday School teachers will be updated in the fall
- 7) Session noted that the next meeting of Redstone Presbytery will be on 9/16/14 and that Elder Tim D'Aurora will serve as elder delegate and that Carol Hohman will serve as alternate.
- 8) Noted that the Deacons end of summer picnic is set August 24th.
- 9) Approved the Fall Bonfire for 10/25/14, set Rally Day for 9/7/14, and approved participation in the Community Youth Group to be hosted by Community United Presbyterian Church.
- 10) The Congregational Life Committee noted that the trip to an Altoona Curve Baseball game was cancelled and that other activities are currently being planned.
- 11) Due to the current financial condition session has postponed purchasing copies of Sing the Faith.
- 12) Session participated in the quarterly review of Rev. Foster's annual goals.
- 13) Noted that devotion leaders have been scheduled for the remainder of the year.
- 14) Approved hosting the New Alexandria Ministerial Vacation Bible School next summer (June 22-26)
- 15) Decided not to sponsor an ad in the Salem Township Map/Guide
- 16) Approved participation in the New Alexandria Ministerial Hunger Walk on 9/14 with 75% of the funds raised going to Stop Hunger Now and 25% going to the food bank at No Walls Ministry.
- 17) Decided not to sponsor a T-shirt for the Hunger Walk
- 18) Noted that session has been approached concerning a request for Congruity to take over the Fenneltown Cemetery. The clerk is to get more information and report back to session at the September meeting.
- 19) Agreed to read and study Chapters G 3-4 of the Book of Order for the September session meeting.
- 20) Due to the lateness of the hour there was no discussion of the Book of Order.
- 21) Noted that the next regular session meeting is moved to 9/15/2014.

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)

TREASURER'S REPORT

JOHN BLANK

**General Fund**

	NET Receipts	NET Expenses	Actual Balance	To Date Balance
<i>Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 14,440.53	
January	\$ 6,015.73	\$ 8,560.68	\$ 11,895.58	\$ (2,544.95)
February	\$ 6,093.85	\$ 9,512.40	\$ 8,477.03	\$ (5,963.50)
March	\$ 6,447.48	\$ 8,756.68	\$ 6,167.83	\$ (8,272.70)
April	\$ 9,421.93	\$ 8,826.01	\$ 6,763.75	\$ (7,676.78)
May	\$ 6,114.77	\$ 8,978.00	\$ 3,900.52	\$ (10,540.01)
June	\$ 7,787.15	\$ 6,410.59	\$ 5,277.08	\$ (9,163.45)
July	\$ 4,862.94	\$ 8,269.37	\$ 1,870.65	\$ (12,569.88)

First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January	\$ 563.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (162.00)
February	\$ 503.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (384.00)
March	\$ 578.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (531.00)
April	\$ 653.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (603.00)
May	\$ 468.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (860.00)
June	\$ 675.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (910.00)
July	\$ 573.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (1,062.00)

	Previous	This Month	To Date
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ 110.00	\$ -	\$ 110.00
Cents-Ability	\$ 118.74	\$ 18.06	\$ 136.80
Change for the Future	\$ 100.79	\$ -	\$ 100.79

	Received	GOAL	Balance
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 984.02	\$ 900.00	\$ 84.02
Pentecost	\$ 401.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1.00

Included in General Fund Balance

Memorial Fund (Excel WKS)	\$20,182.88
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	From 2013	Year to Date	Balance
Elevator Fund	\$ 175.00	\$ (175.00)	\$ -
Local Mission	\$ 1,739.50	\$ 600.00	\$ 2,339.50
Building Maintenance	\$ (289.56)	\$ 1,770.00	\$ 1,480.44

Congruity Presbyterian Church
136 Fenneltown Road
New Alexandria PA 15670



We're on the web!
congruitychurch.org

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SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:45AM
WORSHIP AT 11:00AM
PLEASE JOIN US!

CHURCH STAFF

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

ATTENDANCE

Worship

6/22	45
6/29	29
7/6	46
7/13	33
7/20	24
7/27	38
8/3	43
8/10	39



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
congruitynewsletter@yahoo.com