

# CONGRUITY CONNECTION



## CLIFF'S NOTES

What comes to your mind when you think of October? The beginning of fall, the cool crisp nights, unfurling a quilt to put on your bed, watching the leaves turn color, breaking out your favorite sweaters and corduroys and I'm sure we could add many other things to that list. There is World Communion Sunday (October 5th) when we join our sisters and brothers around the world in sharing the Lord's Supper, there is the Peacemaking Offering which will be received to provide ministries and mission promoting peace and well-being, there will be our annual bonfire/Harvest Party, the fall Turkey Dinner. And now for the second season in a row there will be Pirate Baseball in October or as it is being now referred to as Buctober.

As I have gotten older, I have come to enjoy the fall season especially with the majestic beauty of God's hand at work all around us as the leaves and the landscape shed their leaves preparing for the winter months. It seems to me that the air is filled with excitement—an excitement generated by sports teams, or enjoying a freshly picked apple or a glass of cold cider, or sitting around a fire with family and friends.

When I was in seminary, one of my professors Dr. Douglas Hare often used Psalm 8 in prayers for being class and over the years since this Psalm has been very meaningful to me, especially in the fall. The Psalm opens and closes with these words: "O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" It is my hope and prayer that through the fall season that together we might discover the majesty of God.

Yours in Christ,  
*Cliff*



## WORSHIP LEADERS FOR OCTOBER

### Liturgists

If you would like to serve as a liturgist please see Cliff.

10/5 Sue Blank  
10/12 Dorothy Martz  
10/19 John Blank  
10/26 Phyllis Frye

If you are interested in becoming an acolyte please see Dave or Pam Foresman

Those scheduled to serve Communion on October 5th are:

Sue Blank      Jim Kepple      Carol Hohman      Evelyn  
Foresman      Sarabeth Stopansky

## SYMPATHY



We extend our sympathy to the following family:

-to the Watt family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Bob's dad 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 October are as follows:

- 10/5 Murrysville, First ✝ Chuck MacPherson, Pastor  
Chris Dericks, Associate Pastor
- 10/12 Murrysville, Newlonsburg ✝ Curtis Paul, Pastor  
Marnie Silbert, Associate Pastor
- 10/19 Murrysville, Union ✝ Derek Campbell, Pastor
- 10/26 New Alexandria, Community ✝ Kathy Shirey, Pastor



### THANK YOU

Phyllis Frye would like to thank everyone for their support concerning her sister, Alice's death. It was very much appreciated.

### HUNGER WALK

Hunger Walk Debbie, Jay (riding), Dave Foresman and Phyllis walked.. In the picture is Jay, Dave and Rhea, Bob Burkholder and Robbie.



All five churches participated in the New Alexandria Ministerium's Hunger Walk. We had 32 walkers and brought in \$3400. 75% of this goes to Stop Hunger Now and the other 25% goes to the No Walls Food Bank. This took us over the top of our \$10,000 goal for SHN. Thank you all for your support of these very worthy causes.

## OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS



10/2 Tom Davis  
Ken Martz  
10/4 Jacob Gartner  
10/5 Jessica Piovesan  
10/9 Doyle Martz  
10/10 Will Hamilton  
10/11 Darrell D'Aurora  
10/12 Christopher Schrecengost  
10/13 Dylan McDonald  
10/16 Ronda Weinell  
10/18 Scott McIlhny

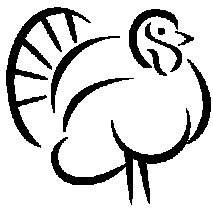
## BIRTHDAYS

10/19 Laura Blank  
10/20 Jennifer Rose MacDonald  
10/21 Kelly Karstaedt  
Kristie Roemer  
10/22 Vinton Hoffman  
10/25 Tylor McDonald  
10/28 Dorothy Martz  
10/29 Sally Ott  
10/30 Jennifer MacDonald  
10/31 Daniel Frye



## ANNIVERSARIES

10/12/1991 Bill and Lisa Heasley	10/17/1992 Tim & Caroline D'Aurora
10/13/2012 Frank and Jessica Tarpay	10/17/1998 Dan & Elaine Kaufman
10/14/1995 Dave & Pam Foresman	10/18/2003 Shawn & Vivian Schweppe
10/15/1964 Tony & Debbie Perino	10/20/2007 Ryan & Rebecca Boggs
10/16/1962 Dan & Marlene Kifer	10/28/2006 Becky & Larry Swatchick



TURKEY DINNER Saturday October 11, 4-7p.m. Adults \$9, Children 6-12 \$4, Children under 6 free. Reservations required and can be made by contacting the church at 724-668-7740 or Janet Rugh at 724- 668 -7652.

## Newsletter

Please submit anything you would like in the newsletter or on the church calendar to [congruitynewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:congruitynewsletter@yahoo.com) or put it in the newsletter folder at the church. Also, if you would like to add a Birthday/Anniversary or there is a mistake with a date listed, please let me know so I can correct it.

Thank you ~ Yvonne

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

PAM FORESMAN



Ahhh the days of Fall! We can use all of our five senses to enjoy this magnificent season and we can also use them when we celebrate one of our favorite things here at Congruity, and that would be our annual Harvest Festival!! Our sense of smell for the wonderful snacks everyone brings and for the bonfire where we can roast hot dogs and marshmallows. Our sense of taste for when we eat all those delicious snacks. Our sense of hearing for the giggles of kids and the young at heart as they participate in the games that we play. Our sense of touch for the warmth of the bonfire in the chilly October night air. And lastly our sense of sight for the smiling faces and the festive decorations sure to put you in the mood for the evening of fun and fellowship.

Now for the details ... Harvest Festival will be on Saturday, October 25, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

What should you bring? A covered dish snack that you would like to share (we'll provide the hot dogs and marshmallows for the bonfire) and a lawn chair for sitting (and chatting) around the bonfire.

Costumes are optional...but Smiles and Laughter are required!

Bring all your friends and family, let's show them how much fun we have at our Harvest Festival, always a great time had by everyone!! We'd love to see a BIG turnout this year!



## MISSION

PHYLLIS FRYE



Hands on Mission has been busy making 40 tote bags for the school supplies to be sent to Church World Service. The Community youth group packed about 60 bags of school supplies, donated by the churches in the Ministerium. Bags were also donated by other churches. Hands-on also wishes to thank Katie and Danny Frye Jr. for doing all the heavy lifting in moving the sewing machines downstairs and taking a cabinet upstairs and also switching the table in the back Sunday School room.





## PW FALL GATHERING

PHYLLIS FRYE

PW Fall Gathering will be held at Middle Presbyterian Church, Mount Pleasant, Pa on Saturday October 25 at 9 a.m. The focus will be on challenging diversity in Westmoreland County (presented by YWCA) and also educating school students about bullying and domestic and sexual violence (presented by Blackburn Center). The mission project will be items for the Children's Home in Somerset County. Reservations must be in to Susan Blank by Friday October 18. Items for the children's home are: arts and crafts supplies (markers, construction paper, etc. yarn, paint by numbers, scrapbooking supplies) back to school supplies, fleece material (may be scraps) puzzles, games (indoor or outdoor) sweatshirts, sweatpants, t-shirts, socks-all adult sizes (SML), beach towels, Walmart gift cards (marked with amount). There will be a box in the greeting room for these items. Please have them there by Sunday October 19.

## WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

PHYLLIS FRYE



STOP HUNGER NOW meal packaging event, Community United Presbyterian Church, Saturday October 18, 9a.m.-2p.m. You have helped us meet our goal of \$10,000 to bring this project to the New Alexandria area, now come and participate in this event. Sign up for at least an hour. There is a sign-up sheet at Congruity or call Judy Koontz (724-668-2843). This is one of the projects the kids did at youth triennium and made quite an effect on them. With your help, we can pack 10.000 meals in five hours. For more info, click on to STOP HUNGER NOW on your computer. There are t-shirts for a \$10 donation, so please mark your shirt size when you sign up.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD We will be participating in the Operation Christmas Child program again this year, filling shoe boxes for children in underdeveloped countries or whose country has experienced catastrophic events. Each box could contain hygiene products, school supplies, toys, clothing (hats, gloves, scarves, underwear, etc) and should be marked with the sex and age group (2-4,5-9,10-14 years old). A \$7 donation should be included in your box to pay for shipping. Brochures are in the back of the church. Please have your box at the church by November 9, to be delivered to the OCC collection point the week of November 17.

## MISSION INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

TIM D'AURORA

After last month's "The sky is falling" submission, we received a tremendous boost in giving the first week in September. We are currently averaging \$1428 in donations to the general fund each week. That week, we received \$10,459 which included a very large individual donation. While this doesn't put us in a positive position for the year, it certainly improves our finances tremendously and we thank everyone for their increased support.

We would also like to thank everyone who participated in our recent hoagie sale. We sold 190 hoagies and it looks like we will generate over \$500 profit for our First Fruits Offering. Great Job!!

**Stewardship.** What do you think of when you see that word? Many of us think immediately of money. We recall that time in our congregation's life when we are asked to make a financial commitment for the coming year. At some level, however, we need to be aware that stewardship is more than money. Stewardship is how we live out our calling as followers of Christ. Stewardship is what we do after we say that we believe. This year, the MIS Committee has decided not to do any traditional stewardship campaign. We are still going to send out an estimate of giving card for you to return but we want to concentrate on increasing stewardship awareness throughout the coming year. We feel that this will have a more positive long-term effect on our finances.

We are excited about a couple of events coming up in November. On Saturday, November 8, we will have the talents of Bill Anderson who will generously volunteer his services as our auctioneer for our almost annual benefit auction. We are looking for donations for this auction. We will gladly accept new and gently used items as well as any gift certificates or donations you can procure from businesses you patronize. If you need a donation acknowledgment letter, they will be available on the table in the greeting room. If you need help getting your items to the church, please contact Tim at 724-668-8319. Join us and invite your friends and neighbors for a fun evening where food will be served and you will be sure to get some great bargains. And as Bill will be sure to say, "It's for the Church".

Make plans to attend our semi-annual spaghetti dinner on November 15. We will be asking for donations for the dinner and for our basket auction that will also be going on during the dinner. Volunteers will be appreciated anytime after 3 pm. Join us to support the general fund of the church and have a great meal at the same time. Flyers will be available in the Greeting Room for you to post anywhere in our area.



## ITEMS FROM SESSION

JOHN BLANK

Session met on September 15, 2014 and reports the following:

- 1) Tim D'Aurora led us in devotions reading from Proverbs 3: 5-6
- 2) Approved the Clerk's, Treasurer's, and Moderator's Reports
- 3) The clerk noted that there are several new letters and posters on the bulletin board.
- 4) Noted that Carol Hohman will serve as elder delegate at the September presbytery meeting.
- 5) The Christian Ed Committee reported that the Rally Day was successful
- 6) There are plans underway for a Christmas program
- 7) Reminder: the Fall Bonfire is scheduled for 10/25/14
- 8) Congregational Life reported that the Walk for Hunger went well
- 9) MIS is planning a Stewardship Awareness Program for all of 2015
- 10) Set 11/8/14 for the auction and moved the Spaghetti Dinner to 11/15/14
- 11) MIS will be sending out Per Capita Letters at the end of the year.
- 12) The Nominating Committee is working on a list of nominations for officers to be elected at the December Congregational meeting. If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer you should contact the chair of the Nominating Committee, Jim Kepple.
- 13) The clerk updated session on child protection clearances and noted the training that will be used by the New Alexandria Community Youth group adults.
- 14) Session voted to **NOT** accept responsibility for the Fenneltown Cemetery.
- 15) Noted that the District I Community of Redstone meeting will be held on 10/7/14 at the Community United Presbyterian Church.
- 16) Set December 7, 2014 for a Congregational Meeting following or at the end of worship to elect officers, approve the pastor's terms of call, to elect a nominating committee, and to receive the budget.
- 17) Approved hosting the New Alexandria Community Choir on 12/7/14 at 7 PM
- 18) Agreed to read and study Chapters G 5-6 of the Book of Order for the September session meeting.
- 19) Noted that the next regular session meeting is moved to 10/20/2014.

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**

	<b>NET Receipts</b>	<b>NET Expenses</b>	<b>Actual Balance</b>	<b>To Date Balance</b>
<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)
August	\$ 7,255.17	\$ 8,192.92	\$ 932.90	\$ (13,507.63)

**First Fruits**

	<b>Received</b>	<b>Pledged</b>	<b>Balance</b>
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)
August	\$ 532.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (1,255.00)

	<b>Previous</b>	<b>This Month</b>	<b>To Date</b>
<b>Souper Bowl of Caring</b>	\$ 110.00	\$ -	\$ 110.00
<b>Cents-Ability</b>	\$ 136.80	\$ 8.00	\$ 144.80
<b>Change for the Future</b>	\$ 100.79	\$ -	\$ 100.79

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

**Included in General Fund Balance**

Memorial Fund (Excel WKS) **\$19,732.88**

	<b>From 2013</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Elevator Fund	\$ 175.00	\$ (175.00)	\$ -
Local Mission	\$ 1,739.50	\$ 700.00	\$ <b>2,439.50</b>
Building Maintenance	\$ (289.56)	\$ 2,045.00	\$ <b>1,755.44</b>

Congruity Presbyterian Church  
136 Fenneltown Road  
New Alexandria PA 15670



We're on the web!  
[congruitychurch.org](http://congruitychurch.org)

**NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION**  
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**NEW ALEXANDRIA PA 15670**

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	Sunday School			Offering
			Adult	Youth	Total	
	8/17	31				\$1,234.00
	8/24	50				\$2,285.00
	8/31	28				\$671.00
	9/7	49	12	16	28	\$3,459.61
	9/14	47	12	18	26	\$1,763.00



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](mailto:congruitynewsletter@yahoo.com)