

# CONGRUITY CONNECTION

*Cliff's Notes*



Each year near the end of December many magazines, television shows and other media outlets devote some time to the year in review. I am always amazed at how many things I forget (or don't remember) that took place in the year that is ending. We are reminded of some of the major news stories that took place, celebrities who passed away, sports teams who won championships and etc. I am sure that each of us in our own way have looked back over 2014 and made our own reviews of all the events that unfurled during these last 12 months.

The other day I heard a quote from the late Joan Rivers who said something like "each new day is a gift from God, that's why it is called the present". I like that and I hope to remember those words each morning when I wake up throughout 2015. The writer to the Hebrews writes in 13:8 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." As we stand on the brink of a New Year, I think this is a wonderful verse to keep in mind as we journey through 2015.

The story of the year 2015 remains to be written. We will journey through the twists and turns, the ups and downs of these next 12 months. There will be challenges and celebrations, obstacles and special occasions, there will sun and rain, storms and serene days, but the Good News for us is that we travel not alone. We have the assurance that Christ is always with us through each and every step of the way. In addition, we have each other as brothers and sisters in God's great family of faith—the Church. I would like to wish each of you a very Happy New Year.

Yours in Christ,

*Cliff*



## W O R S H I P   L E A D E R S F O R   J A N U A R Y

*E L -*

Liturgists



*D E R S*

John Blank

Sue Blank

1/4

1/11

1/18

1/25

Dorothy Martz

John Blank

Ronda Weinell

Tim D'Aurora

Dave Foresman

Kathy Hamilton

Carol Hohman

Jim Kepple

Scott McIlroy

Bob Schweppe

Linda Youngbauer

Those scheduled to serve Communion on January 11th are:

Bob Schweppe   Linda Youngbauer   Dave Foresman

Sue Derek   Dorothy Brant

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  
Neighborhood 1 for our prayer support during  
the month of January are as follows:

*D E A C O N S*

Dorothy Brant

Sue Derek

Evelyn Foresman

Phyllis Frye

Nancy Lauffer

Debbie Perino

Jay Perino

Amber Sellinger

Mim Schweppe

1/4

1/11

1/18

1/25

Lower Burrell, Grace Community

✠ Ken Foust, Pastor

Lower Burrell, Puckety

✠ Kirk Orr, Pastor

Murrysville, First

✠ Chuck MacPherson, Pastor

Chris Dericks, Associate Pastor

Murrysville, Newlonsburg

✠ Curtis Paul, Pastor

Marinie Silbert, Associate Pastor



*D E A C O N S*

The annual "Taking Down of the Greens" will be  
Saturday January 10th at 10AM. All help is appreciated.

## JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

1/1	Beth Dudek	1/13	Jessica Foresman
	Matthew C MacDonald Jr		Alyssa Martz
	Kelly McCambridge	1/18	Carol Hohman
1/4	Bob Homan	1/19	Kathleen Orr
	Mike Kepple		Sara Orr
	Tony Perino	1/20	Tyler Piovesan
1/5	Kaley Foster	1/21	Ian Derek
1/6	Emily Eidemiller	1/22	Trevor Derek
1/7	Courtney Young	1/23	Keith Walters
1/8	Ced Stopansky	1/24	Dorothy Brant
	Brian Walters	1/28	Kim Matvey
1/10	Denise Eidemiller		Alenah Thomas
	Cheyenne Heasley		Jared Walters
1/11	Daniel Kaufman		



### ANNIVERSARIES

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

### THANKS YOU

*A big THANK YOU to the Congruity Congregation for the generous Christmas money gift. It is greatly appreciated!*

*Love Dorothy*

Thank you to the congregation for the generous Christmas gift. Cliff

To Everyone at Congruity: Thank you for the gift of money. Ken Moyer

We have received a very nice thank you note from Mantle House Mission for our free will donation. Watch for news next month on a work day planned for the mission.  
Phyllis



# CONGRUITY CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM





We had a wonderful group of kids participating in the sermon for Christmas with covered dish and special guest after.



## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

DAVE FORESMAN

After the holidays are over and you are just trying to get through the Winter months, why not plan to join us and go to a wonderful concert with uplifting Christian music held at Consol Energy Center in Pittsburgh on January 31st?! A group from Congruity and other neighboring churches attended last year and had an awesome time. Doors open at 5PM show starts at 6PM. The price for the concert is \$10.00 at the door and no tickets are required. It's a great deal because for that ten dollars you are seeing 10 of the newest and best Christian singers and groups. Performing at the concert will be: Newsong, Skillet, Jeremy Camp, Francesca Battistelli, Building 429, Family Force 5, For King and Country, Blanca, About a Mile, and Veridia. The speaker at the concert is Tony Nolan. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Greeting Room for anyone interested in going to this concert. If you have any questions, please talk to Dave Foresman or anyone else on the Congregational Life Committee.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

PAM FORESMAN

On December 29, 2014, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon there will be a ONE DAY MONDAY FUN DAY at the United Methodist Church in New Alexandria to give us a preview of our VBS for this upcoming Summer!! (Isn't great to have thoughts of Summer already?) Please come to this fun day and bring a friend or two. so you can meet Klymer, Cliff, Mallory, Pike, and Yeddy. There will be games, songs, and a craft all related to EVEREST VBS! We really hope to see you



### WALK FIT

SUE DEREK



Walk Fit classes have been moved to Monday evenings at 6:15PM

Come join the fun!

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.

## WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION

Page 7

PHYLLIS FRYE

Rummage Sale: I know you cleaned out your closets last summer to support Stop Hunger Now. Now we're asking you to dig a little deeper and support the Congruity Women's Association rummage sale on Saturday March 28th. Watch for more info next month..

It would be nice to see some new faces at our Women's meeting starting up again on January 15. Also, if you aren't using your "Making Me A Vessel God Can Use" workbook, please return it so someone else can use it.

## MISSION TEAM

PHYLLIS FRYE

MISSION TEAM: It's time to plan the spring mission trip for April 12-18. We will be having a meeting on Sunday, January 11, 3 p.m. at Phyllis Frye's home in Slickville to listen for God to let us know where we will be going. Also we will be making plans for the Pancake dinner to be held at Congruity on Tuesday February 17 (Fat Tuesday, Pancake day, Mardi Gras day, etc.). This is an important fundraiser for the mission team. Our team has expanded from five volunteers in the fall of 2006 to up to 20 or so from as many as 14 churches in Redstone. Pray about it. Maybe this is the time God is ready for you to join us. We have had volunteers from all walks of life. If you think you are interested in going, or just curious about what's going on, contact Phyllis Frye (724-468-3740) or Judy Koontz (724-668-2843). Please come out and support us at the Pancake Dinner.

## PAINT CLASS WITH LARUE

PAINT with LARUE: Did you ever wonder if you could paint a picture, but never dared to try? Here is a great opportunity! LaRue Gray offers that chance. On the fourth Wednesday of the month, LaRue offers free acrylic paint instructions to anyone who would like to come. You make no mistakes and she finds something beautiful in anything you do. You don't need to be good at it; just come and relax and have fun. All you need are some acrylic paints and some brushes. For more info call LaRue at 724-668-7725.

I T E M S   F R O M   S E S S I O N  
J O H N   B L A N K

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

- 1) Rev. Foster led us in devotions reading from a Dietrich Bonhoeffer devotional.
- 2) Approved the Clerk's, Treasurer's, and Moderator's Reports
- 3) The next meeting of Redstone Presbytery is set for 1/20/15
- 4) Carol Hohman will serve as our Elder Delegate to the Presbytery Meeting
- 5) The treasurer has distributed worksheets and questionnaires to the various groups to aid in compiling the report to the Office of the General Assembly (OGA)
- 6) Noted that 23 children/youth participated in the Christmas program on 12/14/14
- 7) Noted that there is a "One Day of Fun" scheduled for 12/29/14 as an introduction to the Vacation Bible School program.
- 8) Congregational Life is scheduling a trip to "Winter Jam" on 1/31/15
- 9) Congruity will be hosting the community Vacation Bible School July 20-24, 2015
- 10) Decided to put the Sara Johnston bequest into the New Covenant Building Fund Account
- 11) Noted that \$80 "profit" from the Kid's Store was submitted to the Centsability Offering
- 12) Decided to make up any short fall for our First Fruits Pledge for 2014 from the General Fund
- 13) Set devotional leaders for January, February, and March.
- 14) Decided to send \$100 to the Theological Education Fund from the Local Mission Fund
- 15) Approved Rev. Foster's vacation request for December 26, 27, 29, 30, and 31
- 16) Will hold a joint Session and Deacon Retreat on 1/10/15 from 10 AM to 2 PM
- 17) Thanked Tim D'Aurora and Gene Brant for their years of service on session
- 18) Welcomed Dave Foresman (second term) and Kathy Hamilton and Scott McInay who will begin their terms on session in January.
- 19) Set January 11<sup>th</sup> for Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons
- 20) Session will study ***This Service of Love*** (a look at stewardship by Mark Landfried based on Paul's letters to the Corinthians) during 2015.
- 21) Noted that the next regular session meeting is moved to 1/19/2015.

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

Page 9

	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)
August	\$ 7,255.17	\$ 8,192.92	\$ 932.90	\$ (13,507.63)
September	\$15,592.96	\$10,017.57	\$ 6,508.29	\$ (7,932.24)
October	\$ 5,668.37	\$ 5,909.00	\$ 6,267.66	\$ (8,172.87)
November	\$ 8,337.70	\$ 7,160.02	\$ 7,445.34	\$ (6,995.19)

### First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance	Offering General Fund
January	\$ 563.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (162.00)	
February	\$ 503.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (384.00)	
March	\$ 578.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (531.00)	11/02/14 \$1,419.00
April	\$ 653.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (603.00)	11/09/14 \$1,634.00
May	\$ 468.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (860.00)	11/16/14 \$1,549.00
June	\$ 675.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (910.00)	11/23/14 \$1,159.00
July	\$ 573.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (1,062.00)	11/30/14 \$1,173.00
August	\$ 532.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (1,255.00)	<b>Month</b>
				<b>Total \$6,934.00</b>
				<b>Month</b>
September	\$ 1,226.65	\$ 725.00	\$ (753.35)	<b>Average \$1,386.80</b>
October	\$ 568.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (910.35)	
November	\$ 798.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (837.35)	

	Previous	This Month	To Date
<b>Souper Bowl of Caring</b>	\$ 110.00	\$ -	\$ 110.00
<b>Cents-Ability</b>	\$ 246.14	\$ 18.63	\$ 264.77
<b>Change for the Future</b>	\$ 113.79	\$ 26.55	\$ 140.34

	Received	GOAL	Balance
<b>One Great Hour of Sharing</b>	\$ 984.02	\$ 900.00	\$ 84.02
<b>Pentecost</b>	\$ 401.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1.00
<b>Peacemaking</b>	\$ 545.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 145.00

### **Included in General Fund Balance**

Memorial Fund (Excel WKS) **\$20,547.98**

	From 2013	Year to Date	Balance
Elevator Fund	\$ 175.00	\$ (175.00)	\$ -
Local Mission	\$ 1,739.50	\$ 1,202.00	\$ <b>2,941.50</b>
Building Maintenance	\$ (289.56)	\$ 3,004.56	\$ <b>2,715.00</b>

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



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

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

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

## **A T T E N D A N C E**

Worship		Sunday School		
		Adult	Youth	Total
11/23	53	7	19	26
11/30	44	7	13	20
12//7	56	21	17	38
12/14	113	22	18	40
12/21	58	10	17	27

## **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  
[congruitynewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:congruitynewsletter@yahoo.com)