

# CONGRUITY CONNECTION



## *Cliff's Notes*

I hope that you had an enjoyable celebration of Easter! We are an Easter people and in the living of our lives we are to be like the women who went to the tomb on that first Easter morning who saw that it was empty and told everyone they encountered that Christ has risen... that Jesus was alive! I recently remembered a quote from St. Francis of Assisi which goes like this: "Preach the Gospel always, and if necessary, use words!" I have found myself thinking a lot of that quote lately as well as its cousin "Actions speak louder than words". In moments of quiet reflection I have been pondering the question in what ways am I conveying the Gospel without words.

As the springtime symphony continues to burst before our eyes, we are surrounded by signs of new life and renewed life, a wonderful metaphor of the Good News of Eastertide. I would ask you to keep in your prayers those from our church family who are on a PDA Mission Trip (April 3-9) in Bayville, NJ to help those recovering from Hurricane Sandy. In the living of our lives we can find ways to proclaim the Gospel message to those around us.

We will be having a Confirmation Class beginning on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and running through May 8<sup>th</sup> during the Sunday School time. The class is open to any young person 12 years old and above. The class will explore what it means to be a church member, the polity of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and how do we live out our faith in our daily lives. The Confirmation Class will be received into membership on Pentecost Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Yours in Christ,

*Cliff*



## WORSHIP LEADERS FOR APRIL

### Liturgists

#### E L D E R S

John Blank

Tim D'Aurora

Dave Foresman

Kathy Hamilton

Carol Hohman

Jim Kepple

Scott McInay

Terry Selembo

Linda Youngbauer



#### D E A C O N S

Sue Derek

Evelyn Foresman

Phyllis Frye

Sandy Kemerer

Nancy Lauffer

Debbie Perino

Jay Perino

Janet Rugh

Mim Schweppe

4/3

4/10

4/17

4/24

Doug Stine

Sarabeth Stopansky

Dorothy Martz

Ced 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.



## SEPARATED BY SPACE UNITED IN PRAYER

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

4/3 New Alexandria, Congruity † Cliff Foster, Pastor

4/10 New Kensington † Wendy Keys, Pastor

4/17 Vandergrift † Neal Galley, Pastor

4/24 Apollo Poke Run, Pete Goetschius, Pastor



## SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the following families. May God's presence give you comfort and strength in your time of loss:

The Dudek family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Karen's mother Betty's death.

The Aaron family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Jason's death.

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.

## APRIL CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

4/2	Ashley Bish	4/18	Steve Derek
4/6	John Ahlborn		Dan Lapcevic
	Elaine Kaufman	4/19	Christine Kuzmkowski
	Meryle Kaufman	4/20	Shirley Stoltz
4/7	Alyssia Thomas	4/23	Mimi Kaufman
4/8	William Kaufman	4/26	Sue Derek
4/9	Jill Blank	4/30	Tom Hamilton
	John Blank III		Perry Miller III
4/11	Rich Youngbauer		
4/15	Missy Martz		
4/16	Lisa Heasley		
4/17	Colton Boggs		
	Phyllis Frye		



### ANNIVERSARIES

4/7/1984	Darrell & Diane D'Aurora
4/13/2005	Michael & Kim Matvey
4/27/1969	Ron & Geri Kaufman
4/27/2002	Bob & Mimi Kaufman

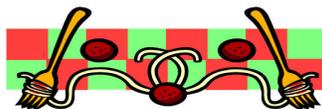


## MISSION INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP

TIM D'AURORA

Calling all hungry people!! Calling all hungry people!! It's time for the first of our semi-annual Gene Brant Memorial Spaghetti Dinners. On Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 – 6:30pm, we will be serving our delicious spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread and dessert for only \$7.00 for adults, \$4.00 for ages 6 – 12, and free for age 5 and under. This fundraiser is to benefit the general fund. We will also be holding a basket raffle during this dinner. There is a donation sheet in the Greeting Room for ingredients and supplies to help offset our costs. We are also looking for donations for our baskets for the raffle. The sooner you can get your basket donation in, the better we can combine items if we have to. As always, your help is appreciated. We need help from 2:00 on but, especially for clean up from 6:00 till we are finished. The best way for this to be a successful fundraiser, is for you to invite family and friends to come join us. With your help, we can achieve our goal of serving 200 people and raising over \$1000.00.

We want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Women's Association and their generous donation of \$3000.00. This certainly helped make February a positive month.



## DAMSEL IN DEFENSE

BECKY DAVIS



On April 16, 2016, Becky Davis will be hosting an “Empower Hour” starting at 1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall at Congruity Presbyterian Church. An “Empower Hour” is all about empowering, educating and equipping women to be able to protect themselves with non-lethal self-defense products. It’s not all for women though. There are many products designed for men and children as well. Jennifer Cline-Knabb from Damsel in Defense will be Becky’s guest Damsel Pro. Damsel Pros are independent business owners for Damsel in Defense products. They are well educated on empowering people to equip themselves with the tools they need to be safe in their home, car, work, school and society in a whole. The best part of Becky’s “Empower Hour” will be her special guest Todd Cline. Todd Cline is a veteran 10 year law enforcement officer serving both Westmoreland and Cambria Counties. He will be giving a presentation on techniques to protect yourself as well as many statistics based on his experience that will help you understand and be more educated to protect yourself and your family members.

The second best part is Becky is making lunch!!! She will be serving sandwiches and light refreshments during the presentation. For some, maybe this is the best part. Whichever sounds most appealing to you, please join Becky for this very important educational program.

You will leave the program “Educated, Empowered and Equipped” to protect yourself and your family members.

For a great overview of the history of Damsel in Defense as well as their mission statement, visit [www.damselinddefense.net](http://www.damselinddefense.net). For more information about the products available through Damsel in Defense, visit Jennifer’s website at [www.mydamselpro.net/pro10910](http://www.mydamselpro.net/pro10910).

**PLEASE RSVP TO BECKY BEFORE APRIL 13 BY CALLING (724) 610-0144 or email [ctdavis16@windstream.net](mailto:ctdavis16@windstream.net).**

MISSION

PHYLLIS FRYE



Please pray for the Redstone Mission Team, which will be going to Bayville, New Jersey from April 3-9. We thank you for all your support. There are 14 volunteers, four from Congruity.



## WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION

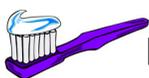
PHYLLIS FRYE

Rummage Sale, Bake sale, Lunch: Saturday April 2, 9am-2pm. You may bring your rummage anytime between Monday morning (March 28) and Friday noon. We need baked goods on Saturday, 8am.. Also we could use some strong arms to set up tables on Monday 9am. Proceeds benefit the Congruity Women's Association.

Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women will be held at Delmont Presbyterian church on April 16, 9:30-2:30. Featured speakers are Beth Zong who visited the Caribbean on the 2014 Global Exchange and Marci Elsbury of Mantle House Mission which received a \$5000 grant from the thank offering from Presbyterian Women. Reservations are \$10 which includes programming and lunch. Send to Susan Blank, 4068 Bushy Run Road Jeannette, PA 15644.



The Women's Association has decided to have another Take-out Turkey Dinner: Saturday May 7, pick-up time 3-6pm. Tickets are \$9. Reservations are a MUST and need to be made by April 28. Contact either Debbie Perino at 724-668-7561 or the church at 724-668-7740 for reservations. We will not be calling everyone for donations, but would appreciate your offering to donate any of these food items: Pies or cakes, corn, applesauce, cranberry sauce, miracle whip, milk, and butter. We will also need people to roast turkeys (turkey, bread, celery and butter provided). If you are willing to donate, there will be a sign-up sheet in the greeting room or you may contact Phyllis Frye (724-468-3740). We will be needing some help on Thursday, more on Friday and Saturday, with potato peeling on Friday at 6pm. Last year went very well, with some minor glitches, but we have had some very good suggestions and are praying this year will be even better. Please be generous both with your donations and help.



Due to the recent flooding, storms, etc, Church World Service has expressed a really great need for hygiene kits, so the Women's Association is collecting either whole kits or items for kits. Each kit contains: 1 hand towel measuring approximately 15x28 to 16x32 (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or microfiber); 1 washcloth; 1 wide tooth comb removed from package; 1 fingernail or toenail clipper removed from package; 1 bath size bar of soap in the wrapper; 1 toothbrush in the package; 10 standard size Band-Aids. All items are to fit inside a 1 gallon plastic zipper closure bag. Remove the air from the bag and seal. **DO NOT ADD ANY EXTRA ITEMS or TOOTHPASTE!** A tube of toothpaste of extended expiration date will be added to each kit prior to it's journey.



# TREASURER'S REPORT

JOHN BLANK

## General Fund

	NET Receipts	NET Expenses	Actual Balance	To Date Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 8,211.89	
January	\$ 6,686.67	\$ 8,342.32	\$ 6,556.24	\$ (1,655.65)
February	\$ 9,689.28	\$ 8,600.23	\$ 7,645.29	\$ (566.60)
Year to Date	\$ 16,375.95	\$ 16,942.55		

## First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January*	\$ 1,126.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 476.00
February*	\$ 1,359.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 1,185.00

\*Includes Per Capita

	Previous	This Month	To Date
<b>Souper Bowl of Caring</b>	\$ -	\$ 101.00	\$ 101.00
<b>Cents-Ability</b>	\$ 20.64	\$ 38.87	\$ 59.51
<b>Change for the Future</b>	\$ 8.41	\$ -	\$ 8.41
<b>Per Capita</b>	\$ 536.00	\$ 802.00	\$ 1,338.00

	Received	GOAL	Balance
<b>One Great Hour of Sharing</b>	\$ 85.00	\$ 900.00	\$ (815.00)
<b>Pentecost</b>	\$ -	\$ 375.00	\$ (375.00)
<b>Peacemaking</b>	\$ -	\$ 375.00	\$ (375.00)
<b>Christmas Joy</b>	\$ -	\$ 375.00	\$ (375.00)
<b>Presbyterian Disaster Assistance</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

## O F F E R I N G T O T A L S

### Included in General Fund Balance

Memorial Fund (Excel WKS) **\$ 21,727.98**

	From 2015	Year to Date	Balance
Elevator Fund	\$ (3,886.28)	\$ -	\$ (3,886.28)
Local Mission	\$ 2,409.47	\$ -	\$ 2,409.47
Building Maintenance	\$ 1,415.92	\$ 460.00	\$ 1,875.92

01/31/16	\$ 1,408.00
02/07/16	\$ 2,073.00
02/14/16	\$ 774.00
02/21/16	\$ 1,301.00
02/28/16	\$ 2,071.00
03/06/16	\$ 2,333.00
03/13/16	\$ 1,179.00
03/20/16	\$ 1,690.00



## ITEMS FROM SESSION

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JOHN BLANK

Session met on March 21, 2016 and reports the following:

- 1) Devotions were led by John Blank
- 2) Approved the Clerk's, Treasurer's, and Moderator's Reports
- 3) Approved the minutes of the 2/20/16 Joint Meeting of Session and Deacons and the Regular Session Meeting held the same date.
- 4) Received a report of the March meeting for Redstone Presbytery from Elder Delegate Carol Hohman and Rev. Foster.
- 5) Noted that the next meeting of Redstone Presbytery is set for 5/17/16 in Jeannette.
- 6) Approved the Women's Association's Rummage Sale for 4/2/16
- 7) Approved the Women's Association's Turkey Take Out for 5/7/16
- 8) Noted that the goal for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering is \$900 and that we will be "hatching chicks" as a way to track our progress. The OGHS offering will be received through 4/10/16
- 9) Approved a bid for mowing the cemetery and the church yard.
- 10) Approved the following fundraisers with the proceeds going to the general fund unless changed by session:
  - a. 4/9/16 Spaghetti Dinner
  - b. 5/19/16 Hoagie Sale
  - c. 9/22/16 Hoagie Sale
  - d. 11/12/16 Spaghetti Dinner
- 11) Rev. Foster presented a first quarter report on his goals.
- 12) Approved a request for the use of Fellowship Hall for a women's self-defense class on 4/16/16
- 13) Agreed to read and study Chapters G4,5 of *The Book of Order*
- 14) Completed our discussion of Chapter G-3 of *The Book of Order*
- 15) The next regular meeting of session is set for 4/18/16.

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)

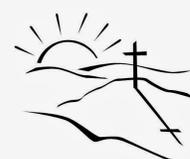
Congruity Presbyterian Church  
 136 Fenneltown Road  
 New Alexandria PA 15670

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**NEW ALEXANDRIA PA 15670**



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

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



**ATTENDANCE**

	Worship	Sunday School		
		Adult	Youth	Total
2/28	55	4	20	24
3/6	65	9	21	30
3/13	46	6	19	25
3/20	53	10	20	30

**CHURCH STAFF AND OFFICERS**

Pastor	Cliff Foster
Clerk of Session	John Blank
Deacon Moderator	Debbie Perino
Treasurer	John Blank
Financial Secretary	Michelle Kepple
Church Secretary	Dorothy Martz
Music Director	Vicki Walters
Newsletter Editor	Yvonne McInay
Webmaster	John Blank



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)