

January 2017

Volume 41 Issue 1

CONGRUITY CONNECTION



Cliff's Notes

One of the things that always amazes me as one year ends and a new year begins is when television shows do one of their "Year in Review" segments, which always reminds me of some of the things that I had forgotten about. As 2016 comes to an end, each of us will probably spend some time reflecting over these past 12 months, remembering the things that we were able to accomplish, remembering the times we spent with family and friends, remembering those who have passed away and are now part of the Church Triumphant. I often find myself thinking of those words from Hebrews 13 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever", especially as we review the year just concluding. The one thing that is certain for us as Christians is that in the midst of the roller coaster ride that life sometimes takes on, Christ remains the same always.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those whose terms as Elders and Deacons have come to a close: Jim Kepple, John Blank, Jay Perino, Sandy Kemerer, Mim Schweppe. Thank you for your service to our congregation. We also welcome our newly elected Elders and Deacons: Carol Hohman, Carol Miller, Sarabeth Stopansky, Lana Munsell, Nancy Lauffer, and Tom Davis. We welcome you to our mutual ministry and mission.

As we look towards the year 2017 that lays before us, none of us knows for sure what these next 12 months have in store but come what may we know that Christ who travels with us remains the same. As we traverse into the unwritten story of 2017, we go with the assurance that we do not travel alone, Christ is with us through each and every step of the way! I wish you a very joyous New Year.

Yours in Christ,
Cliff

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR JANUARY

Liturgists

1/1 Dorothy Martz
 1/8 Tim D'Aurora
 1/15 Evelyn Foresman
 1/22 Phyllis Frye
 1/29 Ronda Weinell



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.

Those serving Communion on January 8th are:

Tim D'Aurora, Dave Foresman, Carol Hohman, Evelyn Foresman & Sue Derek

SEPARATED BY SPACE UNITED IN PRAYER

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

1/1 New Alexandria, Congruity ~ Cliff Foster, Pastor
 1/8 New Kensington, United ~ Wendy Keys, Pastor
 1/15 Vandergrift ~ Neal Galley, Pastor
 1/22 Apollo, Poke Run ~ Pete Goetschius, Pastor
 1/29 Redstone Presbytery ~ Lisa Dormire, Member-at-Large



MISSION

PHYLLIS FRYE

The Redstone Mission team will meet on Sunday, January 15th at 3pm at Phyllis Frye's home. We will be planning the where and when for our spring trip and also making plans for the Pancake dinner fund raiser on February 28th. So pray about it; this may be your year to go with us.

SYMPATHY



We extend our sympathy and prayers to the Martz family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Doyle's death. May God's presence bring you comfort and strength in your time of loss.

JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

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

*Happy
Birthday!*

ANNIVERSARIES



1/26/1962
1/30/2010

Bob & Carol Hohman
Dan & Hillary Lapcevic

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

We will be ordaining and installing our newly elected Elders and Deacons on January 8, 2017.



WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION

PHYLLIS FRYE

We just finished 2016 with a wonderful Christmas party. Now we will be starting the new year and it would be nice if we could get more women out to our meetings. We meet the third Thursday of the month at 2pm for Bible study, business, devotions and fellowship. We would really like you to join us.

THANK YOU



A big thank you to the congregation for the very generous gift at this holiday season. I greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness. Merry Christmas!

Love, Dorothy

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)
March	\$ 8,486.59	\$ 8,356.32	\$ 7,775.56	\$ (436.33)
April	\$ 7,889.03	\$ 7,826.09	\$ 7,838.50	\$ (373.39)
May	\$ 7,517.18	\$ 8,704.18	\$ 6,651.50	\$ (1,560.39)
June	\$ 5,233.15	\$ 8,166.58	\$ 3,718.07	\$ (4,493.82)
July	\$ 7,245.04	\$ 9,971.48	\$ 991.63	\$ (7,220.26)
August	\$ 6,923.19	\$ 7,616.68	\$ 298.14	\$ (7,913.75)
September	\$ 7,750.26	\$ 7,136.26	\$ 912.14	\$ (7,299.75)
October	\$ 8,417.19	\$ 7,425.23	\$ 1,904.10	\$ (6,307.79)
November	\$ 10,312.71	\$ 7,713.21	\$ 4,503.60	\$ (3,708.29)
Year to Date	\$ 86,150.29	\$ 89,858.58		



First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January*	\$ 1,126.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 476.00
February*	\$ 1,359.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 1,185.00
March*	\$ 480.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 1,015.00
April*	\$ 348.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 713.00
May	\$ 430.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 493.00
June*	\$ 351.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 194.00
July	\$ 415.00	\$ 650.00	\$ (41.00)
August	\$ 440.00	\$ 650.00	\$ (251.00)
September	\$ 448.00	\$ 650.00	\$ (453.00)
October	\$ 425.00	\$ 650.00	\$ (678.00)
November	\$ 465.00	\$ 650.00	\$ (863.00)

*Includes Per Capita

WORSHIP

ATTENDANCE

	Worship	Sunday School		
		Adult	Youth	Total
11/27	95	9	15	24
12/4	41	10	14	24
12/11	63	11	16	27
12/1	43	6	12	18

	Previous	This Month	
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ 101.00	\$ -	
Cents-Ability	\$ 217.88	\$ 16.48	
Change for the Future	\$ 8.41	\$ -	\$ 8.41
Per Capita	\$ 1,492.00	\$ -	\$ 1,492.00

To Date
\$ 101.00
\$ 234.36

	Received	GOAL	
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 1,029.94	\$ 900.00	\$ 129.94
Pentecost	\$ 411.82	\$ 375.00	\$ 36.82
Peacemaking	\$ 350.00	\$ 375.00	\$ (25.00)
Christmas Joy	\$ 10.00	\$ 375.00	\$ (365.00)
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$ 492.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 482.00

Balance

Included in General Fund Balance

Memorial Fund (Excel WKS) **\$ 22,547.98**

	From 2015	Year to Date	Balance
Local Mission	\$ 2,409.47	\$ (500.00)	\$ 1,909.47
Building			
Maintenance	\$ 1,415.92	\$ 2,270.00	\$ 3,685.92

OFFERING TOTALS

11/06/16	\$ 3,134.00
11/13/16	\$ 1,016.00
11/20/16	\$ 2,311.00
11/27/16	\$ 1,056.03
12/04/16	\$ 1,433.18
12/11/16	\$ 1,022.03

ITEMS FROM SESSION

JOHN BLANK



Session met on December 19, 2016 and reports the following:

- 1) Devotions were led by John Blank reading from Philippians 2: 5-11
- 2) Welcomed new ruling elders Carol Miller and Sarabeth Stopansky.
- 3) Approved the Clerk's, Treasurer's, and Moderator's Reports
- 4) Approved the minutes of the 11/21/2016 regular session meeting and the 12/04/2016 Congregational Meeting
- 5) Noted that the next meeting of Redstone Presbytery is 1/21/17 from 1 - 4 PM at Westminster Church
- 6) Noted that we still need someone to learn how to run the projection system as a backup for John
- 7) Made the following appointments for the Class of 2017
 - a. Clerk - Sarabeth Stopansky
 - b. Asst. Clerk - Tim D'Aurora
- 8) Will recommend Rev. Foster's Terms of Call at the 12/4/16 Congregational Meeting.
- 9) Noted that the children's Christmas program went very well.
- 10) Noted that letters were sent to all church organizations concerning review of their minutes.
- 11) Noted that letters were sent to the auditing committee as a reminder to set a date for auditing financial records of all organizations
- 12) Noted that session did the fourth quarter review of Rev. Foster's goals.
- 13) Agreed to send donations to each of the three local Fire Departments.
- 14) Approved communion dates for 2017
- 15) Approved the collection of the Souper Bowl of Caring Offering to go to the Westmoreland County Food Bank.
- 16) Set January 29, 2017 for the annual congregational meeting to hear financial and activity reports.
- 17) Agreed to read and study Chapters F 1 - 3 of The Book of Order
- 18) Completed our discussion of Chapters W-7 of The Book of Order
- 19) The next regular meeting of session is set for 1/16/17

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



We're on the web!
congruitychurch.org

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NEW ALEXANDRIA PA 15670



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

CHURCH STAFF AND OFFICERS

C H U R C H	S T A F F	E L D E R S	D E A C O N S
Pastor	Cliff Foster	Tim D'Aurora	Tom Davis
Clerk of Session	Sarabeth Stopansky	Dave Foresman	Sue Derek
Asst. Clerk	Tim D'Aurora	Kathy Hamilton	Evelyn Foresman
Deacon Moderator	Debbie Perino	Carol Hohman	Kathy Kepple Fink
Treasurer	John Blank	Scott McIlnay	Phyllis Frye
Financial Secretary	Michelle Kepple	Carol Miller	Nancy Lauffer
Church Secretary	Dorothy Martz	Terry Selembo	Lana Munsell
Music Director	Vicki Walters	Sarabeth Stopansky	Debbie Perino
Newsletter Editor	Yvonne McIlnay	Linda Youngbauer	Janet Rugh
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