

**October 2017**

Volume 41 Issue 9

# CONGRUITY CONNECTION



## Cliff's Notes

As I have gotten older, the month of October has become one of my favorite months of the year. The leaves begin to turn various colors, there is crispness in the air, and having to wear a favorite sweater. The Steelers and the Penguin seasons are going and the Pirates season is coming to a close. There is a feeling of excitement filling the fall air.

Over the years of my ministry, I have come to enjoy celebrating World Communion Sunday, which is on October 1<sup>st</sup>. I enjoy thinking about joining our sisters and brothers gathering around the Lord's Table to share the Sacrament of Communion. World Communion Sunday is also the day when we receive the Peace and Global Witness Offering (which used to be called the Peacemaking Offering), our congregation retains 25% of what we receive, which will be donated to the Blackburn Center for their work.

Sunday, October 8th will be the Annual Walk for Hunger and Christian Unity Picnic at Keystone State Park. Registration begins at 1PM and the Walk starts at 1:30PM. The Walk will be followed by a Picnic—everyone is asked to bring a covered dish of salads, desserts, fruit, veggies, snacks, dips, etc. Hot dogs, plates and utensils will be provided. There are forms in the Greeting Room if you would like to solicit sponsors. This event is sponsored by the New Alexandria Ministerial Association and the donations will benefit: New Alex Emergency Food Bank, Westmoreland County Food Bank, Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now). All are welcome!

Yours in Christ,  
*Cliff*



## WORSHIP LEADERS FOR OCTOBER

2

### Liturgists

10/1 Rhea Summit  
10/8 David Foresman  
10/15 Caroline D'Aurora  
10/22 Tim D'Aurora  
10/29 Evelyn Foresman



Those scheduled to serve Communion on October 1st are:

Scott McIlhenny Carol Miller Tom Davis  
Terry Selembo Evelyn Foresman

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

## SEPARATED BY SPACE UNITED IN PRAYER

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

10/1 New Alexandria, Congruity ~ Cliff Foster, Pastor  
10/8 New Kensington ~ Wendy Keys, Pastor  
10/15 Vandergrift ~ Neal Galley, Pastor  
10/22 Apollo, Poke Run ~ Pete Goetschius, Pastor  
10/29 Redstone Presbytery ~ Rod Murray, Honorably Retired



### WORSHIP

### ATTENDANCE

	Worship	Sunday School		
		Adult	Youth	Total
9/3	36			
9/10	59	8	21	29
9/17	56	8	22	30



### SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the Martz family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Ron's death. May God's presence give you comfort and strength

## THANK YOU

Thank you to our church family and friends for all the prayers, cards, emotional support and love shown to us at the passing of Ron. We will forever be grateful for all of you.

Dorothy & all of the Martz Family



## BIRTHDAYS

10/2 Tom Davis	10/16 Ronda Weinell
Ken Martz	10/18 Scott McIlnay
10/4 Jacob Gartner	10/19 Laura Blank
10/5 Jessica Tarpay	10/21 Kelly Karstaedt
10/10 Will Hamilton	Kristie Roemer
10/11 Darrell D' Aurora	10/22 Vinton Hoffman
Clayton Kirkpatrick	10/25 Tylor McDonald
10/12 Christopher Schrecengost	10/28 Dorothy Martz
10/13 Dylan McDonald	



## ANNIVERSARIES

10/12/1991 Bill & Lisa Heasley	10/17/1992 Tim & Caroline D' Aurora
10/13/2012 Frank & Jessica Tarpay	10/18/2003 Shawn & Vivian Schweppe
10/14/1995 Dave & Pam Foresman	10/20/2007 Ryan & Rebecca Boggs
	10/28/2006 Larry & Becky Swatchick



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**PAM FORESMAN**



What do apple cider, colored falling leaves, bonfires, fun games, Halloween music, yummy snacks, cooler nights, and pumpkin spice flavoring all have in common? Well, they all occur in the Fall and we usually find them all at Congruity's Harvest Festival!! I don't know about you, but it's one of my favorite activities that we do at Congruity!

\* If you enjoy sitting around a bonfire chatting and roasting hot dogs and marshmallows then you'd love the Harvest Festival!

\* If you like sampling different snacks made by our church members, then this is the activity for you!

\* And if you love taking part in games or watching your children participating in games, the Harvest Festival is the place to be!

Oh by now you must be wondering when we are having this awesome festival and what you can bring to it--

The Harvest Festival is on October 28, 2017 at 6:00 pm. Please bring a favorite snack to share and a lawn chair for sitting by the bonfire. Costumes are optional but smiles are required! See you there!!



## **WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION**

**PHYLLIS FRYE**

Because often there is a lot of business to attend to, or there is an extra long book discussion, the Women's Association has decided to change the meeting time from 2pm to 12pm. It will still be on the third Thursday of the month. Hands-on will meet the first Thursday of the month at 12pm, and, if more time is needed, we will set another day.

The FALL TURKEY DINNER (in it's 72<sup>nd</sup> year + or -) will be on Saturday October 14th, 2017, from 4pm-7pm. Adults \$10. Children 6-10 \$5, children under 6 free. PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS by calling the church (724 668-7740) or Janet Rugh (724-668-7652). Due to our declining numbers, and a problem having enough help, we have had to make some changes. Although most of the tables are set up in Fellowship Hall, on Sunday, October 8th after church we will still need some tables set up in the back rooms. Turkeys will be ready for pick-up by 10am Tuesday. Thursday volunteers from ARC will be coming to set the tables. There will not be a potato peeling party on Friday evening, but that time will be spent getting the kitchen ready for Saturday etc. This will ease the burden on those of us who spend Saturday from 7am to end of clean-up, wondering if enough help is going to show up to get all the jobs done. We will need help all day Saturday; kitchen help by 1pm and waitresses and waiters by 3:30pm, WE MUST HAVE ENOUGH WAIT STAFF IF WE ARE TO CONTINUE THESE DINNERS! And it would be a blessing, that if you aren't able to help at dinner time, if you would please come at 7pm to help with clean-up. Please bare with us, support us and pray for us. This dinner is very important in helping our church as we try to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ .

## **MISSION & RISE AGAIST HUGER**

**PHYLLIS FRYE**



Mantle House Mission will be holding their semi-annual Stuffed Pork Chop Dinner and Homemade Desserts fundraiser on Saturday November 4th, 4-7pm at the Turkeytown Fire Hall (Huntingdon Place). Tickets are \$20. The meal is catered by Gary's Chuckhouse, There will be music all through the dinner and also a silent auction. See Phyllis Frye for tickets by October 22nd.

We will be collecting Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes until Sunday November 5th. There will be brochures in the greeting room that will give instructions about what to put in them and how to pack them. Please include \$9 in the box to cover shipping costs and other expenses. Recipients are also offered a discipleship program called

The Greatest Journey, a 12 week program teaching about Jesus.

PW in Redstone is collecting gently used shoes to raise money for Rise Against Hunger (formally Stop Hunger Now). There is a box in the greeting room. No flip-flops, Crocs or work boots will be accepted. Proceeds will go towards the meal packaging program in October 2018.

BonTon Community Days coupon books are back. The sale dates are Wednesday 8-Saturday November 11, Cost is \$5 which goes to the non-profit group selling them. Proceeds go to the Rise Against Hunger campaign to raise enough money for a meal packaging event next October. See Phyllis Frye for booklets.

The PW Fall Gathering will be at Community Presbyterian Church on Saturday October 21st. The topic will be presented by the Redstone Addiction Network with Sue Bash. Registration is \$10, payable to PW in Redstone and sent to Sue Blank by October 13th. The mission project will be contributed to Rise Against Hunger.

## ITEMS FROM SESSION

SARABETH STOPASNSKY



The Session met on September 18, 2017 and reports the following:

Cliff made 35 visits and conducted the funeral of Ron Martz.. There was no Communion this month. The next Communion will be Sunday, October 1st.

Cliff gave an update on his 2017 goals.

Session approved the following items:

Elected Sarabeth Stopansky to be the Elder delegate to the September 23, 2017 Presbytery Meeting and Carol Miller as Elder Delegate to the November Presbytery Meeting.

Approved the Deacon's request to hold Harvest Home food collection on Sunday, November 19th, and Hanging of the Greens on Saturday December 2nd.

Approved the Worship Committee's request to purchase new choir robes. The robes and stoles will cost \$75.45 each and the choir will purchase 15 robes. Members of the congregation will be given an opportunity to donate towards the purchase price. If the total amount is not raised by donations the remainder of the funds will be taken from the Memorial fund.

Approved the Christian Education's Committee's request to have a Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 28th.

If you would like to see the minutes of any session meeting please see Rev. Foster or Sarabeth Stopansky



## MISSION INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP

TIM D'AURORA

I'd like to start with a great big thank you to everyone who helped with the Hoagie Sale. We sold 210 hoagies and made a profit of \$667.00 that goes to the general fund. We did a much better job selling and had a nice turnout to help assemble them. Great job everyone.

We will be working on next year's budget so if anyone has any line items that need to be changed, please let us know by October 9<sup>th</sup>.

We are getting new choir robes so we are starting a Choir Robe Fund. The robes will be just over \$75 each and we are ordering some extra (so we are ready when you join the choir). Our total expense will be around \$1075. If you would like to give to this worthy cause, you can designate it on your check or you can use the pew envelopes and mark them Choir Robe Fund. Everything we raise this way will be less we have to spend. We look forward to your participation.



# TREASURER'S REPORT

JOHN BLANK

## General Fund

	NET Receipts	NET Expenses	Actual Balance	To Date Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 6,381.38	
January	\$ 7,698.28	\$ 9,215.93	\$ 4,863.73	\$ (1,517.65)
February	\$ 6,835.17	\$ 8,154.61	\$ 3,544.29	\$ (2,837.09)
March	\$ 9,651.38	\$ 8,032.31	\$ 5,163.36	\$ (1,218.02)
April	\$ 14,817.92	\$ 8,608.74	\$ 11,372.54	\$ 4,991.16
May	\$ 4,936.29	\$ 8,818.05	\$ 7,490.78	\$ 1,109.40
<b>June/July</b>	\$ 14,880.05	\$ 19,283.35	\$ 3,087.48	\$ (3,293.90)
August	\$ 10,866.78	\$ 6,770.09	\$ 7,184.17	\$ 802.79
Year to Date	\$ 69,685.87	\$ 68,883.08		

## Memorial Fund

	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 22,667.98
January	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 23,667.98
February	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 23,867.98
March	\$ 1,110.00	\$ -	\$ 24,977.98
April	\$ 390.00	\$ -	\$ 25,367.98
May	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,367.98
<b>June/July</b>	\$ -		\$ 25,367.98
August	\$ 150.00		\$ 25,517.98
Year to Date	\$ 2,850.00	\$ -	\$ 25,517.98

## First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January*	\$ 1,364.00	\$ 583.37	\$ 780.63
February*	\$ 965.00	\$ 583.33	\$ 1,162.30
March*	\$ 575.00	\$ 583.33	\$ 1,153.97
April*	\$ 396.00	\$ 583.33	\$ 966.64
May	\$ 365.00	\$ 583.33	\$ 748.31
June/July	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,166.66	\$ 281.65
August	\$ 485.00	\$ 583.33	\$ 183.32

\*Includes Per Capita

	Previous	This Mnth	To Date
<b>*Per Capita to Date</b>	\$ 1,686.00	\$ -	\$ 1,686.00

# TREASURER'S REPORT

JOHN BLANK



## Building Maintenance

	NET Receipts	NET Expenses	Actual Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 2,025.00
January	\$ 230.00	\$ 2,199.44	\$ 55.56
February	\$ 4,250.00	\$ -	\$ 4,305.56
March	\$ 215.00	\$ 451.00	\$ 4,069.56
April	\$ 235.00		\$ 4,304.56
May	\$ 165.00	\$ 2,499.44	\$ 1,970.12
<b>June/July</b>	\$ 320.55	\$ 882.50	\$ 1,408.17
August	\$ 245.00		\$ 1,653.17
Year to Date	\$ 5,660.55	\$ 6,032.38	\$ 1,653.17

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

## Local Mission

	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 736.47
January	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 736.47
February	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 736.47
March	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 736.47
April	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 736.47
May	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 736.47
<b>June/July</b>	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 756.47
August	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 756.47
Year to Date	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 756.47

08/27/17 \$ 1,165.63  
09/03/17 \$ 988.03  
09/10/17 \$ 2,406.53  
09/17/17 \$ 1,929.93

## Special Offerings

	Previous	This Mnth	To Date
<b>Souper Bowl of Caring</b>	\$ 160.00	\$ -	\$ 160.00
<b>Cents-Ability</b>	\$ 125.62	\$ 8.00	\$ 133.62
<b>Sudan Abundance Grant</b>	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 35.00

	Pledge		
<b>One Great Hour of Sharing</b>	\$ 1,171.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 171.00
<b>Pentecost</b>	\$ 470.75	\$ 400.00	\$ 70.75
<b>Presbyterian Disaster Assistance</b>	\$ 75.00	\$ -	\$ 75.00



Congruity Presbyterian Church  
136 Fenneltown Road  
New Alexandria PA 15670

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



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



**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**

Pastor	Cliff Foster
Clerk of Session	Sarabeth Stopansky
Asst. Clerk	Tim D'Aurora
Deacon Moderator	Sue Derek
Treasurer	John Blank
Financial Secretary	Michelle Kepple
Church Secretary	Dorothy Martz
Music Director	Vicki Walters
Newsletter Editor	Yvonne McIlhay
Webmaster	John Blank

#### **E L D E R S**

Tim D'Aurora  
Dave Foresman  
Kathy Hamilton  
Carol Hohman  
Scott McIlhay  
Carol Miller  
Terry Selembo  
Sarabeth Stopansky  
Linda Youngbauer

#### **D E A C O N S**

Tom Davis  
Sue Derek  
Evelyn Foresman  
Kathy Kepple Fink  
Phyllis Frye  
Nancy Lauffer  
Lana Munsell  
Debbie Perino  
Janet Rugh



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)