

November 2017

Volume 41 Issue 10

CONGRUITY CONNECTION



Cliff's Notes

What comes to your mind when you think about the month of November? Is it the anticipation of gathering with family and friends for your annual Thanksgiving feast? Is it the crispness that fills the air, donning our favorite sweaters? Maybe it is the memories of past Thanksgivings or you find yourself singing some of the Thanksgiving hymns. This is a wonderful time of the year, isn't it?

Psalm 107 begins like this: "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever." Most often November is equated with Thanksgiving, but the Psalmist reminds us that thanksgiving needs to be a yearlong/lifelong expression of our gratitude to God for all that God has done for us and continues to do for us. I want to express my thanks and appreciation for the beautiful gifts that were given to me for Pastor Appreciation Month. Thank you!

As we prepare for our Thanksgiving celebration, I would remind you of a couple things that are taking place on November 19th. The first is the Deacons' Harvest Home. Throughout November we will be collecting non-perishable foods that will be given to local families. There will be a table in the front of the sanctuary for all of the items that will be given. If you know of a family, please give their name to one of the Deacons. May we share with others some of the bounty that God has given us.

November 19th at 7PM will be the New Alexandria Community Thanksgiving Service at St. James Roman Catholic Church. We will gather as a community to offer thanks to God. The offering at this service will be given to No Walls Ministries for their Food Bank and a collection of canned goods/non-perishable food will be collected.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours in Christ,
Cliff



WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NOVEMBER

Liturgists

- 11/5 Scott McInay
 11/12 Ronda Weinell
 11/19 Sarabeth Stopansky
 11/26 John Blank



Those scheduled to serve Communion on November 26th are:

Sarabeth Stopansky Dave Foresman
 Tim D'Aurora Debbie Perino Sue Derek

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 November are as follows:

- 11/5 Avonmore ~ Larry Armstrong, Stated Supply
 11/12 Delmont ~ Caroline Vickery, Pastor
 11/19 Lower Burrell, Grace Community ~ Ken Foust, Pastor
 11/26 Lower Burrell, Puckey ~ Kirk Orr, Pastor



WORSHIP

ATTENDANCE

Worship	Sunday School		
	Adult	Youth	Total
9/24 46	6	23	29
10/1 52	7	24	31
10/8 53	4	18	22
10/15 54	11	23	34

THANK YOU

We would like to send a shout out to all of Congruity ~

Thank you for making Amy's 90th birthday special and for all the remembrances.

Thank you for giving her a place to worship with people she loves and admires.

Jenny



To my Church Family at Congruity

I would like to sincerely thank you all for the prayers and cards during my recent surgery and recovery. Things are progressing well through rehab and I hope to be fully recovered in a few more weeks.

Thank you all again ~ Sincerely, Steve Derek

BIRTHDAYS

11/9 Tammy Kulik	11/24 Wes Kirkpatrick
11/11 Brandy Sellinger	Delbert Thompson
11/14 Mike Marchelletta	11/25 Jon Hamilton
11/18 Erik Eidemiller	Vivian Schweppe
Erin Kaufman	11/26 Vince Kemerer
11/20 Ron Kaufman	Sarabeth Stopansky
11/21 Katrina Kaufman	Virgil Walters
11/22 Tyler Johnston	11/29 Bob Kaufman
11/23 Jen Hufford	
Deana Karstaedt	



ANNIVERSARIES

11/1/2014 Matthew & Megan Schweppe	11/20/1965 Chuck & Mary Lou Heasley
11/7/1976 Bill & Cindy Karstaedt	11/30/1962 George & Sue Kepple



Thank You, LORD!

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The New Alexandria Ministerial Association annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on November 19th at St. James Church. The Service will begin at 7PM. The Offering at this service will be given to the Food Bank at No Walls Ministries. There will also be a collection of canned goods and non-perishable items.

WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION

PHYLLIS FRYE

*Thank
you*

A big thank you to all who helped make our turkey dinner a huge success. We made a profit of \$2,900.00, thanks to all the donations. It was heartwarming to see everyone pitch in and work together to make this a success. You are all much appreciated. The profit will be used to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ in the best way we can.



MISSION

PHYLLIS FRYE

There will be a Mission Team meeting on Sunday, November 12th, 3pm at Phyllis Frye's house. The meeting is for anyone who has been on a trip or wants to go on one. We will be spending some time memorializing Larry Watkins, a team member who passed away, with pictures and stories. We will also be talking about a future trip. Please contact Phyllis at 724-468-3740. Pray about it. This may be your year to go with the team.

Bon ton coupon books for Bonton Community Days Sale November 8-11th are now available for \$5 with proceeds going to Rise Against Hunger. Please see Phyllis Frye.

MISSION INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP

TIM D'AURORA



As we head into the last 2 months of the year, I am pleased to report that we are in the most healthy financial position we have been in for several years. Hopefully, we can finish the year with a positive balance. We do still have some work to do to meet our First Fruits pledge. On another positive note, we exceeded our \$375 goal for the Peace & Global Witness Offering by collecting \$420 so far. 25% of this will be used locally by the Blackburn Center.

On Saturday, November 18th, we will be holding our second Spaghetti Dinner of the year. There are several ways that you can be instrumental in making this dinner a success. You can donate items to help defray the cost of making the spaghetti (donation list in the Greeting Room). You can donate to the basket raffle portion of the dinner by donating a finished basket or by donating items we can include in other baskets. This has been an important part of making the dinners a success. You can come and help on the day of the dinner. Since the dinner starts at 4:00, we can use help after 2:00 through 6:30, especially help with clean-up. A big way to help is to come and enjoy the dinner and bring friends and family with you. The more people we serve, the more money we are able to raise.

ITEMS FROM SESSION

SARABETH STOPANSKY



The Session met on October 16, 2017 and reports the following:

Cliff made 28 visits and attended several church functions and Presbytery functions including the September Presbytery Meeting at Pine Springs.

Sarabeth Stopansky was the Elder Delegate and reported that Pine Springs has reached the goal of \$1,800,000 that had been set for the Capitol Campaign. Rev Ed Gray was approved as the pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Murrysville. Rev Foster will take part in the Installation and be Rev. Gray's mentor for the next 6 months. A presentation was given by Madam Achol Kur Kier a Deacon in the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church.

Session approved the following items:

A vacation day for Rev. Foster on October 23, 2017.

The Baptism of Penelope Kaufman, daughter of James and Angie Kaufman, on November 12, 2017.

The 2018 Terms of call that were recommended to congregations were given to the MIS Committee.

Rev. Foster gave copies of the Session Manual and the By Laws of Congruity Presbyterian Church to all members of the Session.

Rev. Foster passed out a list of members that are to be sent a post card/ letter concerning the status of their membership. The Book of Order requires congregations to review the rolls of active members on a regular basis.

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





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
June/July	\$ 14,880.05	\$ 19,283.35	\$ 3,087.48	\$ (3,293.90)
August	\$ 10,866.78	\$ 6,770.09	\$ 7,184.17	\$ 802.79
September	\$ 9,412.47	\$ 8,264.24	\$ 8,332.40	\$ 1,951.02
Year to Date	\$ 79,098.34	\$ 77,147.32		

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
June/July	\$ -		\$ 25,367.98
August	\$ 150.00		\$ 25,517.98
September	\$ 2,551.00	\$ 1,085.16	\$ 26,983.82
Year to Date	\$ 5,401.00	\$ 1,085.16	\$ 26,983.82

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
September	\$ 350.00	\$ 583.33	\$ (50.01)

*Includes Per Capita

	Previous	This Month	To Date
<u>*Per Capita to Date</u>	\$ 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
June/July	\$ 320.55	\$ 882.50	\$ 1,408.17
August	\$ 245.00		\$ 1,653.17
September	\$ 215.00	\$ 882.50	\$ 985.67
Year to Date	\$ 5,875.55	\$ 6,914.88	\$ 985.67

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	09/24/17	\$2,030.03
January	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 736.47	10/01/17	\$1,707.03
February	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 736.47	10/08/17	\$1,164.00
March	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 736.47	10/15/17	\$1,060.12
April	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 736.47	10/22/17	\$1,496.03
May	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 736.47		
June/July	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 756.47		
August	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 756.47		
September	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 756.47		
Year to Date	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 756.47		

Special Offerings

	Previous	This Mnth	To Date
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ 160.00	\$ -	\$ 160.00
Cents-Ability	\$ 133.62	\$ 8.00	\$ 141.62
Sudan Abundance Grant	\$ 35.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 95.00

	Pledge		
	Previous	This Mnth	To Date
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 1,171.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 171.00
Pentecost	\$ 470.75	\$ 400.00	\$ 70.75
Peace & Global Witness	\$ 120.00	\$ 375.00	\$ (255.00)
Christmas Joy	\$ -	\$ 450.00	\$ (450.00)
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$ 75.00	\$ 396.00	\$ 471.00

Congruity Presbyterian Church
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New Alexandria PA 15670

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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NEW ALEXANDRIA PA 15670



We're on Facebook & the web!
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	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	Sue Derek	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