

April 2018

Volume 42 Issue 4

CONGRUITY CONNECTION



Cliff's Notes

As you are aware, Easter this year falls on April 1st—what is known as April's Fool Day. The other day I was curious and so I looked back in my records to see if this had ever happened before in the tenure of my ministry. I found out that in over 31 years of ministry that Easter has not been on April 1st. As I was thinking about this, it occurred to me that God has a wonderful sense of humor—after all Easter being on April Fool's Day is the greatest gotcha ever! The church leaders and government officials thought they had eliminated Jesus when he died on the cross... but the tomb is empty, Jesus is alive! This is the Good News of Easter and as the beloved song reminds us "Because He lives, all fear is gone; Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living, Just because He lives!".

We are an Easter people! Our faith enables us to face all of the challenges that life throws our way knowing that we go not alone because Christ has promised to be with always. I am always amazed with the wonder of the renewal of Springtime. Before our eyes is a dazzling display of life renewed as the plants begin to pop out of the ground, as the trees begin to bud and as nature awakes from a wintertime slumber. What a wonderful image for us as Christians because of the new life that is ours through our faith in Christ our Risen Lord!

As we celebrate Eastertide, may the new life that Christ offers us through our faith continue to grow and blossom in a dazzling display of God's handiwork in us and around us and through us. Let us remember God's wonderful April Fool's Day because the tomb is empty—Christ is alive!

Yours in Christ,
Cliff

Worship Leaders For April

Liturgists

4/1	Rhea Summit
4/8	Ced Stopansky
4/15	Evelyn Foresman
4/22	Tim D'Aurora
4/29	Dave Foresman



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:

4/1	New Alexandria, Congruity ~ Cliff Foster, Pastor
4/8	New Kensington, United ~ Wendy Keys, Pastor
4/15	Vandergrift ~ Neal Galley, Pastor
4/22	Apollo, Poke Run ~ Pete Goetschius, Pastor
4/29	Redstone Presbytery ~ Cliff Buell, Honorably Retired



Worship Attendance

Worship		Sunday School		
		Youth	Adult	Total
2/25	47	2	21	23
3/4	50	4	20	24
3/11	51	7	21	28
3/18	49	8	22	30

Sympathy



We extend our sympathy to the following families and friends of :

— Ronda Weinell as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Ronda's death.

—The Watt family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of death of Ruth Watt, Bob's Grandmother.

May God's presence give you comfort and strength in your time of loss.

Mission Phyllis Frye



The Redstone Mission Team will be commissioned at New Hope Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 8 at 10:30 with lunch and a meeting (somewhere) after. The team will be travelling to Fayetteville, NC on April 21 for a week to do reconstruction after flooding from Hurricane Matthew in 2016. There is still room available if someone still wants to go. Contact Phyllis Frye (724-468-3740) if interested.

April Celebrations

Birthdays

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



Anniversaries

Easter Services

Easter Morning Service @ 8AM
 Easter Breakfast @ 9 AM
 Easter Worship @ 11AM

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



Congregational Life

Terry Selmbo



SAVE THE DATE!!!

On Sunday, April 29th, we will be having a "Birthday Mixer" and a covered dish luncheon immediately following the church service.

What that means is you will be seated with fellow guests who share the same birthday month. After lunch you are invited to stay and enjoy the movie "The Age of Adaline".

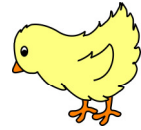
A sign up sheet will be in the greeting room for people that would like to decorate the table of their birthday month. (a modest centerpiece is all that is necessary).

So plan on joining us for lunch, some conversation with someone you don't usually get to talk to, and a movie that you don't want to miss!

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.

Mission, Interpretations, & Stewardship

Tim D'Aurora



Fasten your seat belts! Batten down the hatches! Get ready for a crazy busy April. We start with our One Great Hour of Sharing special offering. Our goal this year is \$1000.00 and we generally collect this through Easter. One way to gauge how we are doing is to view the hatched chick display in the Greeting Room. For every \$10 we receive, another chick is hatched, Help us open all 100 eggs.

Following the always entertaining Women's Association Rummage Sale on April 7, we will hold our first **Spaghetti Dinner** of the year on **Saturday April 14 from 4:00pm – 6:30pm**. As always, the success of this event depends on the level of effort and cooperation we receive. We need donations for ingredients and supplies, cakes made, items donated for us to include in our raffle baskets (or even better, already assembled baskets), help on the dinner day, and people to come and eat. There is a sign- up sheet in the Greeting Room for donations. If you have a basket or some items we can include in a basket, let Tim D'Aurora know so we can coordinate what we will have. Then encourage friends and family to join us for the dinner to make it our most successful one ever.

Now, take a breath. But make it a quick one because next we will be having our first **hoagie sale** of 2018 on Thursday April 26th. We will again be offering our 12 inch Italian or Turkey & Swiss Hoagie for \$5.00. We need the orders turned in to Tim D'Aurora at 724-668-8319 by Monday April 23. We will meet by 6:00 to assemble the hoagies and they can **begin** to be picked up at **6:30**. As always, we will bag the lettuce, tomato, and onion (if applicable) separately to maintain freshness. These are delicious hoagies and the buns are from the Brick Oven. We always receive very positive feedback when we have these sales. Ask your family, neighbors, friends, and co-workers to support us and they will thank you after the fact. Our goal is 200+ hoagies and we can only reach that with outstanding support from everyone.



Cemetery Association

Tim D'Aurora

We are accepting bids for both the mowing of the Cemetery and for the mowing of the Church grounds.

The cemetery mowing includes trimming as needed and is bid on a per mowing basis (usually 7 – 12 mowings per year). The Church grounds are to be bid on a per mowing basis and generally are done every week or every other week as needed. Please contact Tim D'Aurora at 724-668-8319 to submit your bid. Please have any bids in by April 16 at 6:00 pm.

Congruity Presbyterian Church

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Hoagie Order Form

April 26, 2018

Traditional Italian w/or w/o onions: Ham, bologna, cooked salami, provolone, American cheese, lettuce & tomato (bagged separately)

Turkey & Swiss: Turkey, Swiss cheese, lettuce & tomato

Hoagies are on delicious Brick Oven buns and are \$5.00 each

<u>Name</u>	<u>Italian w</u>	<u>Italian w/o</u>	<u>Turkey</u>	<u>Total</u>
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Orders are to be turned in to Tim D'Aurora by Monday April 23 at 724-668-8319. Let's work to make this a successful sale!

Items From Session

Sarabeth Stopasnsky



The Session did not hold a regular meeting in March They did have a joint meeting with the Deacons which is an annual requirement in the Book of Order. The Session did hold a brief meeting after the joint meeting to approve the following requests:

The Congregational Life Committee's request to hold and covered dish lunch and movie screening on April 29, 2018.

The Baptism of Wyatt Harmon son of Alica D'Aurora Harmon and Tom Harmon on April 29, 2018.

Rhea Summit's request to use the Church building to start a community Bible Study.

Mantle House Mission

Some members of our congregation have been supporting Mantle House Mission in West Newton with work days once a month. Mantle House is planning on opening a second location - a resale store in Elizabeth, PA. The Grand Opening for the resale store is April 6th and 7th. There has been quite a bit of work done on the resale store also by members of our congregation. The store will be open Fridays 10-5 pm and Saturdays 8-5 pm.

Also, on Saturday, April 21st is Mantle House Mission's Annual Spring Dinner held at the Turkeytown Volunteer Fire Hall in West Newton, PA. It is a delicious stuffed pork chop dinner with side dishes and homemade desserts. As you enjoy your dinner and a time for fellowship, there are local vocalists and musicians performing Christian music and also an awesome basket raffle.

This pork chop dinner fundraiser is from 4-7 pm and costs \$20 per person. Take out orders are also available. Please see Pam and Dave Foresman for tickets and any extra information. It's truly a great cause and a wonderful afternoon/evening of delicious food, great entertainment, and Christian fellowship. Please join us!!

Women's Association

Phyllis Frye



WANT MORE FOR YOUR DOLLAR? SHOP CONGRUITY RUMMAGE SALE: Saturday, April 7, 9am-2pm at the church. Lunch and Bake Sale available.

We need your unwanted, leftover, used but usable "stuff" (Please do NOT bring TVs) to the church anytime between Monday, April 2-Friday noon. We also need baked goods between 8 and 9am Saturday. Please bake something for us ~ Got a little extra time to spare? Come up and help us sort all this stuff out. We have lots of fun and we'll give you lunch during the week free. Sorry, Saturday you have to pay. Off on Monday for the holiday? We also need strong arms Monday around 9am to put the racks together and move tables in place. The rummage sale is sponsored by the Congruity Women's Association with the profits going to support God's mission in the world, including our own church and community. Please support us.



Treasurer's Report

John Blank



Online Giving

General Fund

	NET Receipts	NET Expenses	Actual Balance	To Date Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 7,569.77	
January	\$ 8,972.33	\$ 9,145.74	\$ 7,396.36	\$ (173.41)
February	\$ 5,912.32	\$ 9,030.81	\$ 4,277.87	\$ (3,291.90)
Year to Date	\$ 14,884.65	\$ 18,176.55	\$ 4,277.87	\$ (3,291.90)

Memorial Fund

	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 28,445.07
January	\$ 200.00		\$ 28,645.07
February	\$ -		\$ 28,645.07
Year to Date	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 28,645.07

First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January*	\$ 522.00	\$ 583.37	\$ (61.37)
February*	\$ 1,143.00	\$ 583.33	\$ 498.30

*Includes Per Capita

Offering Totals

	Previous	This Month	To Date
<u>*Per Capita to Date</u>	\$ 287.00	\$ 943.00	\$ 1,230.00

2/25/18 \$1.297

3/4/18 \$1,748

3/11/18 \$1,397

3/18/18 \$1,646

Building Maintenance

	NET Receipts	NET Expenses	Actual Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 1,866.86
January	\$ 180.00		\$ 2,046.86
February	\$ 210.00		\$ 2,256.86
Year to Date	\$ 390.00	\$ -	\$ 2,256.86

Local Mission

	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 556.47
January		\$ 200.00	\$ 356.47
February			\$ 356.47
Year to Date	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 356.47

Special Offerings

	Previous	This Month	To Date
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ -	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00
Cents-Ability	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 16.00

	Received	GOAL	Balance
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 148.25	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (851.75)

Congruity Presbyterian Church
136 Fenneltown Road
New Alexandria PA 15670

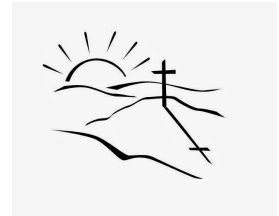
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PERMIT NO 5
NEW ALEXANDRIA PA 15670



We're on Facebook & the web!
congruitychurch.org



Sunday School at 9:45AM
Worship At 11:00AM
Please Join Us!



Church Staff and Officers

Church Staff

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

Elders

Tim D'Aurora
Kathy Hamilton
Carol Hohman
Vince Kemerer
Carol Miller
Terry Selembo
Sarabeth Stopansky
Linda Youngbauer

Deacons

Tom Davis
Dave Foresman
Kathy Kepple Fink
Phyllis Frye
Nancy Lauffer
Lana Munsell
Debbie Perino
Janet Rugh
Shirley Sholtz



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