

April 2019

Volume 43 Issue 4

CONGRUITY CONNECTION



Cliff's Notes

A few weeks ago on one of those cold mornings, I was sitting in the car with Kyla waiting for her school bus to come... as I saw the bus winding its way towards the bus stop, I started singing "It's the most wonderful time of the day... when the school bus comes to pick you up." To which Kyla said (as only a Kindergartener could, "Big Guy that's not how that song goes, it is: 'It's the most wonderful time of the year'." I tried to convince her that I was just being silly but I don't think she bought it.

Over the last few weeks, I have found myself thinking about those words, words that we often associate with the Christmas season, but they are words that are just as appropriate and fitting for the Easter Season as well. The Good News of the empty tomb declares to us that because of our faith that this is indeed "the most wonderful time of the year". The life, death and resurrection of Christ remind us that we are loved so much by God that Christ was the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Throughout the month of April, we will be surrounded by the sights, sounds and smells of the renewal of life after the winter months. Like me, perhaps you will find yourself singing or humming the words "this is the most wonderful time of the year" in the next several weeks.

The remaining schedule of the Community Lenten Services is: April 3 at No Walls with Wayne Duffield preaching; April 10 at UMC Dan Schall concert; April 19 Good Friday Tenebrae Service at CUP. We will celebrate Palm Sunday on April 14; Maundy Thursday Communion Service on April 18; and we will gather for worship at 8AM on Easter Morning, followed by breakfast at 9AM, Sunday School at 9:45AM and Easter Worship at 11AM. Throughout these next several weeks, may we experience God's love engulfing us and reminding us of all that God has done for us in Jesus Christ. Together may this be "the most wonderful time of the year"!

Yours in Christ,
Cliff

Worship Leaders For April

| | | |
|------|--------------------|--|
| 4/7 | Evelyn Foresman | If you would like to serve as a liturgist please see Cliff. |
| 4/14 | Tim D'Aurora | |
| 4/21 | Sarabeth Stopansky | Those scheduled to served communion on April 18th are: |
| 4/28 | Doug Stine | Carol Miller, Perry Miller, Evelyn Foresman, Nancy Lauffer and Dave 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:

- 4/7 New Kensington, United—Wendy Keys, Pastor
- 4/14 Apollo, Poke Run—Pete Goetschius, Pastor
- 4/21 Avonmore—Larry Armstrong, Stated Supply
- 4/28 Redstone Presbytery—Ross Bash, Member-at-Large



Worship Attendance

| Worship | | Sunday School | | |
|---------|----|---------------|-------|-------|
| | | Youth | Adult | Total |
| 2/24 | 64 | 8 | 22 | 30 |
| 3/3 | 54 | 11 | 25 | 36 |
| 3/10 | 51 | 2 | 21 | 23 |
| 3/17 | 54 | 8 | 23 | 31 |

**Happy
Easter**



Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the Dunn/Kalp family on the death of Henry's grandfather, James Kalp Sr. May God's presence give you comfort and strength in your time of loss.

HE IS RISEN
alleluia

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 |
| 4/16 | Lisa Heasley | | |



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 |

Community Lenten & Easter Services

| | | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| April 3 | 7PM | No Walls | Wayne Duffield Preaching |
| April 10 | 7PM | UMC | Dan Schall Concert |
| April 18 | 7:30PM | Maundy Thursday | at Congruity |
| April 19 | 7PM | CUP | Good Friday Tenebrae Service |
| April 21 | 8AM | Easter Morning Service | at Congruity |
| April 21 | 9AM | Continental Breakfast | at Congruity |
| April 21 | 11AM | Easter Worship | at Congruity |





Church Membership

If anyone is interested in wanting to become a member of Congruity Presbyterian Church, please speak to Cliff about membership.

For children 12 years old and older, there will be a Confirmation Class beginning on May 5th during the Sunday School time. The class will run throughout the month of May and The Confirmation Class will be received membership of Pentecost Sunday, June 12th. If you are interested in being part of the Confirmation Class, please speak to Cliff.

Christian Education

Pam Foresman



Well even though we didn't have a very bad Winter, it still seemed to go on for a long time so it's wonderful to finally be at the beginning of Spring! And with the start of Spring we can look forward to Easter!

We hope you all plan to join us Easter Sunday (April 21st) morning. Our early service is at 8:00 am which will be followed by our delicious Continental breakfast at 9:00 am. Sunday School classes are at the usual time of 9:45 am followed by our regular Easter worship service at 11:00 am. Please invite your family and friends and help us celebrate the wonder of the Resurrection! Hallelujah!



Mission
Phyllis Frye

A great big THANK YOU from the Redstone Mission Team to all who supported the Pancake Dinner in any way. You made a profit of around \$1550 for the team. We served a little over 200 people. Thanks for all the donations, the help from the congregation, Dom's music, --it all helped to make a successful event. The money is used to help defray expenses for travel, food, and registration (the fee for WV is \$250-- \$150 going to the host church and \$100 to WVMAC). We also use it to buy materials for the worksite that are needed. THANK YOU

Women's Association

Phyllis Frye



RUMMAGE SALE: Saturday, April 6, 9am-2pm Lunch and Bake Sale. Please bring your rummage to the church from Monday April 1--Friday noon. Baked goods need to be there before 9am Saturday. Help is needed all week so come in anytime and pitch in and give us a hand. Lunch provided for workers Monday - Friday BONUS: Tuesday will include Lunch-bunch Bible study at noon, lunch provided. The rummage Sale is a project of the Women's Association to raise money to continue their mission to spread the love of Jesus Christ both here and around the world.

Mission Interpretation & Stewardship Committee

Tim D'Aurora



"We are surrounded by God's benefits. The best use of these benefits is an increasing expression of gratitude." John Calvin

If you remember, this year we want to focus on generosity instead of constantly asking for more donations all the time. When we think of how generous God has been with His gifts, we should try to reflect this in our own generosity.

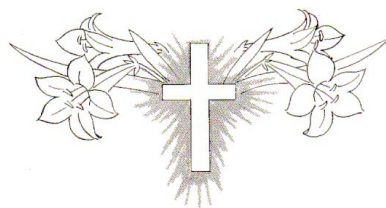
On Saturday, April 27th, we will be having our first Spaghetti Dinner. It will be from 4:00 to 6:30 and will include spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread and dessert. Please help pass the word by picking up a flyer or 2 from the table in the Greeting room to post where you work or where you shop. We will be asking for donations and that list will be in the Greeting room and we need help the day of the dinner, especially during cleanup. We will continue with the basket raffle during the dinner and hope you can help by donating either completed baskets or even items we can include in other baskets. This has become a very important part of the success of these dinners. They will continue to be successful only with everyone's cooperation. Between receiving donations, having help with the dinner and with the cleanup, and inviting friends and family, working together, we can make this the most successful dinner yet.

Just a reminder, our per capita amount is \$42.50 per person. This amount goes to First Fruits and helps us meet our obligations to our Presbytery, the Synod, the General Assembly and the Mission Programs that we support. Please mark per capita on your check or envelope.

Our current special offering is the One Great Hour of Sharing. Our goal this year is \$1000.00 and you can track our progress by seeing how many chicks are being hatched on the display table in the Greeting room. For every \$10.00 received, we will hatch another chick. Hopefully, by Easter, we will have a table full of chicks and a basket full of empty eggs.

Please refer to the Financial report in this newsletter. It will show that we are significantly behind our budget after only 2 months. Notice I didn't do any begging for more donations.

Finally, if there is anyone who would be willing to be on the Mission, Interpretation, and Stewardship Committee, we could use your help. We don't even meet every month, but we need more than the 3 people currently on the committee to properly serve our church. Just contact Tim D'Aurora or Rev. Cliff Foster if this is of interest to you.



Treasurer's Report by John Blank

General Fund

| | NET Receipts | NET Expenses | Actual Balance | Year To Date Balance |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i> | | | \$ 12,214.89 | |
| January | \$ 6,097.39 | \$ 8,738.55 | \$ 9,573.73 | \$ (2,641.16) |
| February | \$ 4,022.93 | \$ 10,022.70 | \$ 3,573.96 | \$ (8,640.93) |
| Year to Date | \$ 10,120.32 | \$ 18,761.25 | \$ 3,573.96 | \$ (8,640.93) |

Memorial Fund

| | Receipts | Expenses | Balance |
|---|----------|----------|--------------|
| <i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i> | | | \$ 28,617.89 |
| January | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 28,617.89 |
| February | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 28,617.89 |
| Year to Date | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 28,617.89 |

First Fruits

| | Received | Pledged | Balance |
|----------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| January* | \$ 880.00 | \$ 541.66 | \$ 338.34 |
| February* | \$ 555.00 | \$ 541.66 | \$ 351.68 |
| *Includes Per Capita | | | |
| | Previous | This Month | To Date |
| <u>*Per Capita to Date</u> | \$ 595.00 | \$ 340.00 | \$ 935.00 |

(INCLUDED IN GENERAL FUND)

Building Maintenance

| - | NET Receipts | NET Expenses | Actual Balance |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i> | | | \$ 2,186.86 |
| January | \$ 195.00 | | \$ 2,381.86 |
| February | \$ 130.00 | \$ 2,610.00 | \$ (98.14) |
| Year to Date | \$ 325.00 | \$ 2,610.00 | #REF! |

Local Mission

| | Receipts | Expenses | Balance |
|---|----------|----------|-------------|
| <i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i> | | | \$ 1,187.97 |
| January | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,187.97 |
| February | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,187.97 |
| Year to Date | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,187.97 |

Special Offerings

| | Previous | This Month | To Date |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Souper Bowl of Caring | \$ 211.00 | \$ - | \$ 211.00 |
| Cents-Ability | \$ 10.31 | \$ 8.00 | \$ 18.31 |

Online Giving
QR Code



| | | |
|------------------------|------|---------|
| <i>Offering Totals</i> | 2/24 | \$1,603 |
| | 3/3 | \$1,749 |
| | 3/10 | \$1,139 |
| | 3/17 | \$1,177 |



Items From Session

Sarabeth Stopansky

The session did not hold a regular meeting in March. They did have a joint meeting with the Deacons which is a requirement in the Book of Order. During that meeting we discussed ways to make Communion by Intinction go smoother. We also discussed updating the Session and Deacon manuals. The next regular Session meeting will be April 15th.

Easter

On this day, loving gracious God,
 we once again sing Alleluia.
 We praise You and bless You
 for raising Jesus up from the dead
 and we praise and bless You
 for all the times You have raised us
 up through Your grace.
 In this Easter season and always,
 when we are weak and unable
 to make good decisions;
 when we are stubborn
 and refuse to forgive others;
 when we are afraid or discouraged
 and forget that You strengthen us;
 When we are too selfish or too weary
 to follow Jesus as we should;
 raise us up, loving God, raise us up.
 Thank you for giving us
 new life in Jesus
 and for His presence among us
 this Eastertime and always.

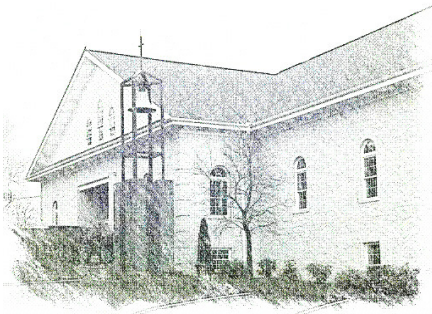


Amen

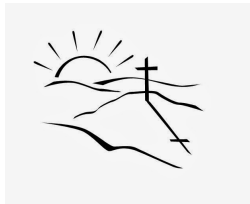


Congruity Presbyterian Church
136 Fenneltown Road
New Alexandria PA 15670

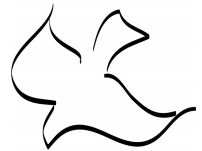
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NEW ALEXANDRIA PA 15670



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



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



Church Staff and Officers

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 McIlnay |
| Webmaster | John Blank |

Elders

| |
|--------------------|
| Tim D'Aurora |
| Evelyn Foresman |
| Kathy Hamilton |
| Carol Hohman |
| Vince Kemerer |
| Carol Miller |
| Perry Miller |
| Terry Selembo |
| Sarabeth Stopansky |

Deacons

| |
|-------------------|
| Tom Davis |
| Sue Derek |
| Dave Foresman |
| Kathy Kepple Fink |
| Phyllis Frye |
| Nancy Lauffer |
| Lana Munsell |
| Janet Rugh |
| Shirley Stoltz |



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