



Congruity Connections

CLIFF'S NOTES

I hope that you are all doing well as we enter into the sixth month of the Covid-19 pandemic and all the things that we have been dealing with: social distancing, hand washing, wearing masks and etc. The other day I was thinking about all that we have been doing the last several months "to flatten the curve" and dealing with all of the emotions that we have been experiencing on this roller-coaster ride.

I recently came across a story that I would like to share with you. The story goes like this: One Sunday morning at a small southern church, the new minister called on one of the older leaders of the church to lead in the opening prayer. The leader stood up, bowed his head and said, "Lord, I hate buttermilk." The minister opened one eye and wondered where this was going. The leader continued, "Lord, I ain't too crazy about plain flour. But when you mix 'em all together and bake 'em in a hot oven, I just love biscuits." "Lord help us to realize when life gets hard, when things come up that we don't like, whenever we don't understand what You are doing, that we need to wait and see what You are making. After you get through mixing and baking, it'll probably be something even better than biscuits. Amen"

As we continue to move through these unprecedented days, may we be mindful of those wonderful words of Paul at the end of Romans 8: "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." May we anticipate the wonderful "biscuits" that God is preparing for us as we move into the future.

On September 13, 2020 we will be returning to our 11 AM worship. We will be gathering around the Lord's Table to celebrate Communion on the 13th. We will not be having Sunday School classes at the present time so that we can continue to practice social distancing at the church.

Yours in Christ, *Cliff*



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SPECIAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

- Join us for in-person worship on Sunday
- Some Church events have been temporarily postponed and will resume at the earliest and safest time.

WEEKLY WORSHIP
MEDITATIONS

September 6

Romans 13:8-14

September 13

Matthew 18:21-35

September 20

Exodus 16:2-15

September 27

Phillipians 2:1-13

For a printed copy,
please call the church
office at

724-668-7740

SEPARATED BY SPACE + UNITED IN PRAYER

Please Pray for the following Redstone District 1 Pastors and congregations.

Sept 6	Avonmore First	Carol Vickery, Temporary Supply
Sept 13	Delmont	Cliff Foster, Moderator
Sept 20	Lower Burrell, Grace Community	Ken Foust, Pastor
Sept 27	Redstone Member -	Susan Blank

*Finding God * Growing in Faith * Discovering Purpose * Making a Difference*

WEEKLY WORSHIP
SERVICES FOR
SEPTEMBER

Over the course of
our time of social dis-
tancing, a short me-
diation with Cliff has
been uploaded to the
Congruity Facebook
page each Sunday
morning.

CHRISTIAN ED

Sunday School has been suspended until further notice, so try
out this word search, compliments of biblepuzzles.org.uk

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| ADAM | HELPER |
| ANIMALS | HUSBAND |
| BONES | KEEPER |
| BREATHED | LIFE |
| CREATED | LIVING |
| DUST | MAN |
| EDEN | NOSTRILS |
| EVE | PLANTED |
| FLESH | RIBS |
| GARDEN | SLEEP |
| GROUND | TREES |



SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS



Date	Anniversaries
9/3/1983	Keith & Rose Ann Orr
9/13/1969	Tom & Karen Dudek
9/13/1986	Jim & Michelle Kepple
9/16/2006	Glenn & Helen Hawkey
9/25/1999	Dan & Adrian Frye

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Date	Person
9/1	Nathan Foresman Matthew Schweppe
9/2	Jim Blank
9/6	Cody Kaufman Courtney Kaufman
9/7	Jimmy Carnathan Julia Carnathan
9/9	Myrah Jan Hawkey
9/10	Bob Schweppe Jr.
9/11	Allison Hufford
9/13	Bill Hufford
9/18	Colton Cramer
9/19	Yvonne McIlnay
9/20	Dave Foresman
9/21	Mary Ann Kaufman Joshua Wilhelm
9/22	Harold Kaufman
9/25	John Blank Abigail MacDonald
9/26	Joan Wilhelm
9/30	LaRue Gray Sydney Swatchick

IN SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the MacDonald and Davis families as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Sharren's death. She is Matt MacDonald's mother and niece of Tom Davis' and Carrie Minemyer's.

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

May time
help the hurt
just as *Memories*
fill the
Heart

ELDERS

Matt Cunningham

Tim D'Aurora

Evelyn Foresman

Kathy Hamilton

Vince Kemerer

Nancy Lauffer

Terry Selembo

Sarabeth Stopansky

DEACONS

Dorothy Brant

Tom Davis

Sue Derek

Dave Foresman

Kathy Kepple Fink

Phyllis Frye

Lana Munsell

Janet Rugh

Shirley Stoltz

ITEMS FROM SESSION/DEACONS

BY SARABETH STOPANSKY

The Session met Monday, August 17, 2020 and reports the following:

Marsha Stallings, the Committee on Ministry Liaison to Congruity attended the meeting and brought greetings from the Presbytery. Marsha also read the 2019 Minutes and reviewed the Church Register and found them in order.

Rev. Foster reported: May Presbytery Meeting was held by Zoom due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Rev. Laura Blank, Rev. Sue Blank, Elder Bobbie Jo Huebner and Elder Josh Scully were commissioned and will be attending GA virtually. Rev. Brian Kilbert was installed as the new Pastor at Puckety in Lower Burrell. Pine Springs made the hard decision to cancel camp for the summer.

Rev. Foster reported that he had officiated at 2 funerals: Red Goodnights on 5/29/2020, and Dorothy Martz on 6/19/2020. He also officiated at a Memorial Service for Janet Henry on 7/25/2020.

The Property Committee reported that the elevator is finally repaired. The AC unit in Fellowship Hall was also repaired. The new Sound system was installed in the Sanctuary. The work on the pavilion is coming along.

There will be no Sunday School until further notice

The door to Fellowship Hall will be locked unless the hall is in use. **The exception being Sunday morning, the door will be unlocked for folks that need to use the elevator. The door will be locked once Worship starts.**

Session Approved the following items:

- Rev. Foster's vacation request for October 11-18, 2020.
- Rev Foster's request to officiate at the Kepple/Fink wedding on September 26, 2020
- Elected Kathy Hamilton to be Elder Delegate to the September 22, 2020 Presbytery Meeting.
- The cleaning of the carpet in Fellowship Hall, the kitchenette and upstairs hallway. This work will be scheduled in the next couple weeks.
- The Women's Association's request to hold a Take-Out Turkey Dinner on October 10th. The women provided a plan that includes implementing several safety precautions. All dinners will be takeout with pre paid tickets there will be a takeout station in the parking, no one but workers will be in the church.

The Start time of Worship will be moved back to 11:00 AM starting September 13th. There will be Communion using individually pre-packaged elements as a safety precaution.

MISSION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

Ten members of the **Redstone Mission Team** “stepped out in faith” and travelled to Mercer, Pa to **Root International**, a faith-based collection point for a wide variety of donations to be sent to West Virginia, El Paso, Texas (to supply missions in Texas, Mexico, and the Navajo Nation), Ghana and locally. The main purpose was a paint job that needed to be done. Dave and John went to great heights to do that while the rest of us stayed grounded and packed clothing, backpacks, and household goods. Root supplied us with a light breakfast and lunch and also gave us a tour of their facilities. Root’s property was once the site of a hospital complex. Those going from Congruity were Dave Foresman, John and Carole Johnson, Sue Derek, Ced Stopansky and Phyllis Frye. Others were Lynn Ticherich, Duffy Greba and Glenn and Patti Hart. The Redstone Mission Team plans on taking another load of donations in September.

We are still collecting donations of linens (bedding, towels), winter outerwear (coats, gloves, hats, heavy hoodies, flannel jackets, scarves) for men, women and children until Sunday, Sept 13. We will also be taking any excess school supplies left after our Sunday School kids’ bags are filled. These will be taken to Root international in September.

Thank you all for the generous outpouring of school supply donations. We were able to fill 16 bags for our Sunday school kids and still have some left to send to Root International

Congruity will NOT be participating in the Operation Christmas Child program this year. If you would like to build a shoebox or make a donation, you may go onto the Operation Christmas Child website www.samaritanspurse.org to find out more and where to drop it off locally. for ways to participate – there are many ways to give.

WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

The Women’s Association has decided to postpone their rummage sale until spring 2021, if it is safe to do so.

TAKE-OUT TURKEY DINNER

The Women’s Association is doing a TAKE-OUT ONLY - TURKEY DINNER on Saturday, October 10, 2020. We are limited to 200 dinners and tickets will be \$10 per dinner. Dinner tickets must be by PREPAID RESERVATION only, NO EXCEPTIONS. Turkey Dinner Pick-up time will be 3-6pm.

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE BY SEPT 30.

For Turkey Dinner RESERVATIONS, contact Debbie Perino at 724-396-5777 or call the church office at 724-668-7740. No donations of food are requested but any monetary donations to help with expenses for the dinner would be appreciated. Dinner will include turkey, stuffing, potatoes, corn, gravy, coleslaw, cranberries, bread and dessert. In compliance to Covid-19 precautions, all food will be cooked at the church, meals packed individually and delivered to your car. Volunteers are needed to help with food preparation all week, and for delivery ‘runners’ on Saturday. A schedule of work days will be in October’s newsletter.

OFFERING TOTALS

June 28, 2020

\$1,665.00

July 5, 2020

\$1,815.00

July 12 2020

\$1,675.00

July 19, 2020

\$1,492.00

July 26, 2020

\$640.00

ONLINE GIVING
QR CODE



TREASURER'S REPORT BY JOHN BLANK

General Fund

	NET Receipts	NET Expenses	Actual Balance	To Date Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 9,980.77	
January	\$ 6,808.84	\$ 8,808.87	\$ 7,980.74	\$ (2,000.03)
February	\$ 6,148.73	\$ 10,682.57	\$ 3,446.90	\$ (6,533.87)
March	\$ 8,305.00	\$ 8,378.69	\$ 3,373.21	\$ (6,607.56)
April	\$ 12,239.08	\$ 8,151.41	\$ 7,460.88	\$ (2,519.89)
PPP Loan ***	\$ 15,500.00	\$ -	\$ 22,960.88	\$ 12,980.11
May	\$ 6,984.71	\$ 6,922.59	\$ 23,023.00	\$ 13,042.23
June	\$ 8,421.40	\$ 7,318.93	\$ 24,125.47	\$ 14,144.70
July	\$ 6,468.69	\$ 6,449.75	\$ 24,144.41	\$ 14,163.64
Year to Date	\$ 70,876.45	\$ 56,712.81	\$ 24,144.41	\$ 14,163.64
Due on PPP Loan			\$ (15,500.00)	\$ (15,500.00)
*** Paycheck Protection Program Loan			\$ 8,644.41	\$ (1,336.36)

Memorial Fund

	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 32,196.96
January	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32,196.96
February	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32,196.96
March		\$ 6,500.00	\$ 25,696.96
April	\$ 325.00	\$ -	\$ 26,021.96
May	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,490.00	\$ 24,731.96
June	\$ 2,735.00	\$ 5,681.00	\$ 21,785.96
July	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,490.00	\$ 21,045.96
Year to Date	\$ 4,010.00	\$ 15,161.00	\$ 21,045.96

First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January*	\$ 1,160.00	\$ 541.74	\$ 618.26
February*	\$ 710.00	\$ 541.66	\$ 786.60
March*	\$ 875.00	\$ 541.66	\$ 1,119.94
April*	\$ 897.50	\$ 541.66	\$ 1,475.78
May*	\$ 182.50	\$ 541.66	\$ 1,116.62
June*	\$ 512.50	\$ 541.66	\$ 1,087.46
July	\$ 160.00	\$ 541.66	\$ 705.80

*Includes Per Capita

	Previous	This Month	To Date
*Per Capita to Date	\$ 2,932.50	\$ -	\$ 2,932.50

Special Offerings

	Previous	This Month	To Date
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ 247.00	\$ -	\$ 247.00
Cents-Ability	\$ 79.40	\$ 38.00	\$ 117.40

	Received	GOAL	Balance
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 384.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (616.00)
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$ 6.00	\$ -	\$ 6.00

Included in General Fund			
<u>Building Maintenance</u>			
	NET	NET	TO DATE
	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
-			
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ -
January	\$ 170.00	\$ -	\$ 170.00
February	\$ 160.00	\$ -	\$ 330.00
March	\$ 165.00	\$ -	\$ 495.00
April	\$ 125.00	\$ 645.00	\$ (25.00)
May	\$ 40.00		\$ 15.00
June	\$ 240.00		\$ 255.00
July	\$ 135.00		\$ 390.00
Year to Date	\$ 1,035.00	\$ 645.00	\$ 390.00
<u>Local Mission</u>			
	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 2,492.97
January	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,492.97
February	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,492.97
March	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,492.97
April	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,492.97
May	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,492.97
June	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,492.97
July	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,492.97
Year to Date	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,492.97

ATTENDANCE	
June 7, 2020:	31
June 14, 2020:	24
June 21, 2020:	25
June 28, 2020:	31
July 5, 2020:	20
July 12, 2020:	43
July 19, 2020:	26
July 26, 2020:	28

MISSION INTERPRETATION + STEWARDSHIP BY TIM D'AURORA

Once again we want to thank everyone who has helped maintain our financial position. When we resumed in person worship, we weren't sure what response we would get. While our attendance has only been between 20 and 30 people, the giving has remained fairly strong. If you exclude the PPP Loan we received, our to-date balance for the end of July would be -\$1,337.00. While that might not sound positive, if you compare it to last year's year to-date total at the end of July of -\$6494.69, we are in a much better financial position for the year. And due to our higher return of per capita money, we are still showing a positive First Fruits balance. **Please continue your strong support!**

One area where we are severely lacking is with our **Special Offerings**. We were in the middle of our One Great Hour of Sharing collection when we stopped in person worship, and only received \$384.00 of our \$1,000.00 goal. Then we missed the Pentecost offering where our goal was \$400.00 and will soon begin our Peace and Global Witness collection. Our goal for this year is \$375.00. You can still support each of these worthy causes by making a donation and marking it for which Special Offering you want to designate it to. We have a strong history of supporting these Special Offerings and I hope this year won't be an exception.

If you have been past the church recently, you probably noticed the progress on the **Pavilion**. We want to remind everyone that we are soliciting additional funds to finish paying for this project. This should be a great resource for our Church for many years. We will be providing information in the future for those that want to provide picnic tables in memory of someone or for other memorial opportunities.

**CONGRUITY
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: Cliff Foster

CLERK OF SESSION:
Sarabeth Stopanksy

ASST. CLERK: Tim D'Aurora

DEACON MODERATOR:
Dave Foresman

TREASURER: John Blank

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:
Michelle Kepple

CHURCH SECRETARY:
Debbie Perino

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Vicki Wal-
ters

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
Kathy Hamilton

WEBMASTER: John Blank

CONGRUITY CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

Newsletter items should be emailed to
congruitynewsletter@gmail.com

CHURCH DIRECTORY BEING UPDATED

We are working on updating the **Church Directory**. Any new changes in addresses or phone numbers/emails can be directed to Debbie in the office. UNSURE? You can view a copy at the office window.

Cliff is in the office most mornings.

**Congruity
Presbyterian Church**
136 Fenneltown Road
New Alexandria PA 15670

Address Service Requested

Phone: 724-668-7740
Website :
congruitychurch.org



**Please Join us for
Worship 11:00 am**

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