



Congruity Connections

CLIFF'S NOTES

I would like to begin this month's article by expressing my heart-felt thanks and appreciation that you showed to me during my recent quarantine with my positive Covid 19 test. I was fortunate that my symptoms were mild. I want to thank you for reaching out to me with your thoughts and prayers, cards and calls they meant a lot to me. We are indeed living in an unprecedented time of this global pandemic.

Each day we hear the sometimes staggering reports of the number of people being diagnosed with the Corona virus as well as the number of those who have lost their lives to this virus. All of us are trying to curb the spread as we patiently wait for a vaccine and living into the new reality of our lives in the era of Covid 19, however this new reality is understood. We have been wearing masks, frequently washing our hands, maintaining social distance and learning to adapt the way we do things.

The Session at its November meeting after much discussion decided that we will not be having our Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship service this year. This is the most attended service of the year and we could not come up with a way to proceed to ensure the safety of everyone. As we have been posting a weekly meditation during the global pandemic, there will a service on Facebook for Christmas Eve. I would also ask that you continue to support the ongoing ministry and mission of our congregation with your prayers and your financial gifts.

In the Prologue of John's Gospel we read these wonderful words: "What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1: 3-5). I would like to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year and together we can face the future because of the light of Christ's love shining on us.

Yours in Christ, *Cliff*



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SPECIAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

- Join us for in-person worship on Sunday
- Following safety recommendations, **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** has been canceled this year.

WEEKLY WORSHIP MEDITATIONS

December 6

Isaiah 40: 1-11

December 13

John 1: 6-8, 19-28

December 20

Luke 1: 26-38

December 27

Luke 2: 22-40

For a print copy, 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.

Dec 6	Apollo, Poke Run	Pete Goetschius, Pastor
Dec 13	Avonmore, First	Caroline Vickery, Temporary Supply
Dec 20	Delmont	Tony Catullo, Interim
Dec 27	Redstone Presby- tery	Chuck MacPherson, Redstone Presbytery, Honorably Retired

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

WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES FOR DE- CEMBER

Over the course of
our time of social dis-
tancing, a short med-
itation with Pastor
Cliff has been up-
loaded to the Con-
gruity Facebook page
each Sunday morn-
ing.

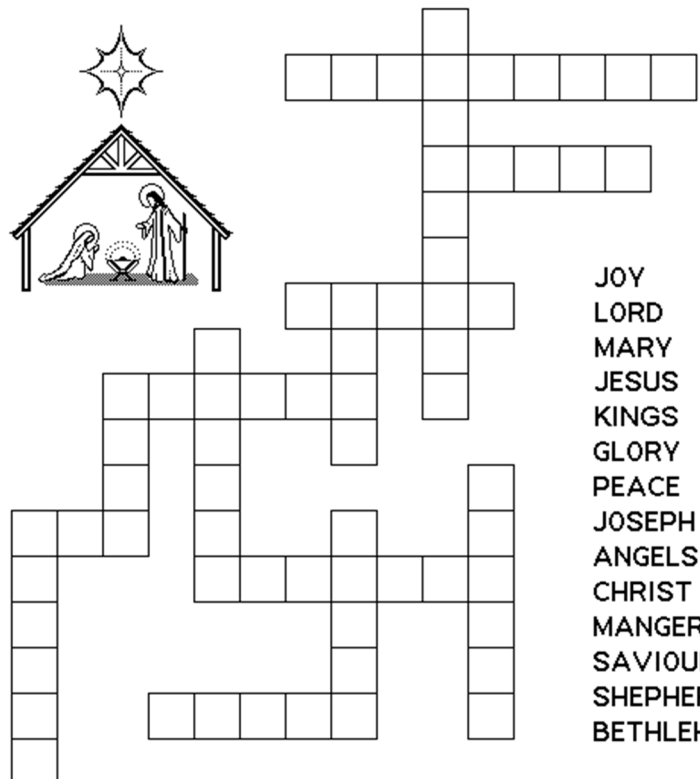
CHRISTIAN ED

Christmas Crossword

Make all the words fit into this crossword.
Each word is only used once.



Sunday
School
has been
suspend-
ed until
further
notice, so
try out
this
Christ-
mas
word
puzzle.



JOY
LORD
MARY
JESUS
KINGS
GLORY
PEACE
JOSEPH
ANGELS
CHRIST
MANGER
SAVIOUR
SHEPHERDS
BETHLEHEM

DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS



Date	Anniversaries
12/23/1957	Harold & Meryle Kaufman

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Date	Person
12/4	Kathy Hamilton
12/6	Caroline D'Aurora
12/7	Sue Aaron
12/10	Bob McDonald
12/12	Greg Kaufman
12/15	Jay Perino
12/17	John Aaron
12/18	Owen Eidemiller Marty Kuzmkowski
12/20	Terri Hoffman
12/22	Kerstin Stellato
12/23	Fred Sehring
12/25	JESUS
12/27	Joe Stopansky
12/28	Alex Kuzmkowski
12/31	Michael Jobe Jill Hogue

A CHILD IS BORN!

JESUS ^{is}
The REASON
FOR the
SEASON



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

BY SARABETH STOPANSKY

The session met on November 23rd and reports the following. Cliff reported that he and his family are feeling well after their Covid 19 quarantine. He thanked everyone for their texts, calls and prayers.

Session approved the Baptism of Ayla Christine Heasley on December 27th. Ayla is the daughter of Austin Heasley and Lauren Mullin and the granddaughter of Bill and Lisa Heasley.

Approved the budget for 2021 with the exception of pastor's terms of call.

Moved to recommend the MIS Committee's suggested terms of call to the congregation to vote on at the December 6th Congregational Meeting.

Approved the slate of officers to be presented to the Congregation at the December 6th Meeting.

Elected Sarabeth Stopansky as Clerk of Session for 2021. Elected Tim D 'Aurora as assisted Clerk.

Elected Caroline D 'Aurora's as assistant treasurer for 2021.

After much discussion the session made the difficult decision to not have an in person Christmas Eve Worship Service this year due to the rising cases of Covid -19 in our community. There will be an online service.

There is still room on the flower charts for altar flowers for Dec. Cost is \$40. Call the church office if interested.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

The Women's Association has decided to cancel their Christmas party this year. Everyone will keep the same secret sister until next summer when, hopefully, a safer get-together can happen.

MISSION INTERPRETATION + STEWARDSHIP BY TIM D'AURORA

For many months this year, I have been thanking everyone for their tremendous response in these incredibly trying times. We have been able to maintain a pretty strong financial position even though I was very concerned about our ability to do so. You all proved me wrong. Unfortunately, that strong position has been compromised. The last 2 months have seen a significant increase in expenditures while receipts have declined. Excluding our paycheck protection program money, we would now have a -8,175.04 year-to-date balance deficit. This is very concerning. In normal years (I know, this is 2020), November and December are 2 of our strongest months financially. Unfortunately, this year, that will probably not be the case. With having to cancel 2 in-person worship services in November, and canceling the Christmas Eve Service (which is one of our highest attended services), we are looking at a major financial shortfall. First Fruits has also been hit hard. It now has a -126.68 year-to-date balance. So I'm back to saying "The sky is falling" again. We need your help. Prayerfully consider your gifts and if you are able to do so, please give a little extra. Think of it as your Christmas gift to the Church. An extra \$10, \$25, \$50, or \$100 would go a long way in helping out this year.

I also want to remind everyone that we will be collecting our **Christmas Joy Offering**. This year we set a goal of \$400.00. With the strange circumstances this year, we have missed our goals on our other special offerings. Let's end the year on a high note and meet this one.

On a positive note, I want to thank everyone who helped with our Hoagie Sale. This time we changed it up a little and made the hoagies on Friday and then sold extra hoagies to the public at 2 locations. Thanks to First Commonwealth Bank in New Alexandria for giving us permission to sell there. This proved to be a successful strategy. Not only did we sell over 100 hoagies ourselves (Dave & Pam Foresman were our big sellers), but we sold well over 100 on Saturday. I strongly believe that with this combined approach, with a little more notice and some better planning, we can easily sell 300 hoagies. This allowed us to make a profit of over \$700.00. Many thanks to everyone who bought and sold hoagies and to those that came Friday to help assemble them. It is only successful when many participate. Great job!!



OFFERING TOTALS

Oct 4, 2020

\$995.00

Oct 11, 2020

\$565.00

Oct 18, 2020

\$1,215.00

Oct 25, 2020

\$1,460.00

ONLINE GIVING
QR CODE



TREASURER'S REPORT BY JOHN BLANK

General Fund

	NET Receipts	NET Expenses	Actual Balance	YR 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
August	\$ 7,430.96	\$ 7,572.39	\$ 24,002.98	\$ 14,022.21
September	\$ 5,333.60	\$ 7,625.08	\$ 21,711.50	\$ 11,730.73
October	\$ 6,081.94	\$ 10,487.71	\$ 17,305.73	\$ 7,324.96
Year to Date	\$ 89,722.95	\$ 82,397.99	\$ 17,305.73	\$ 7,324.96
Due on PPP Loan			\$ (15,500.00)	\$ (15,500.00)
*** Paycheck Protection Program Loan			\$ 1,805.73	\$ (8,175.04)

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
August	\$ 120.00	\$ 16,260.00	\$ 4,905.96
September	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,905.96
October	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,905.96
Year to Date	\$ 4,130.00	\$ 31,421.00	\$ 4,905.96

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
August*	\$ 402.50	\$ 541.66	\$ 566.64
September	\$ 240.00	\$ 541.66	\$ 264.98
October	\$ 150.00	\$ 541.66	\$ (126.68)

*Includes Per Capita

	Previous	This Mnth	To Date
*Per Capita to Date	\$ 2,975.00	\$ -	\$ 2,975.00

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	\$ 225.00		\$ 240.00
July	\$ 135.00		\$ 375.00
August	\$ 280.00		\$ 655.00
September	\$ 5,140.00	\$ 5,999.32	\$ (204.32)
October	\$ 145.00	\$ -	\$ (59.32)
Year to Date	\$ 6,585.00	\$ 6,644.32	\$ (59.32)

Local Mission

	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
August	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,492.97
September	\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 2,342.97
October	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,342.97
Year to Date	\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 2,342.97

Special Offerings

	Previous	This Month	To Date
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ 247.00	\$ -	\$ 247.00
Cents-Ability	\$ 133.40	\$ 8.00	\$ 141.40
	Received	GOAL	Balance
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 384.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (616.00)
Peacemaking ***	\$ 365.00	\$ 375.00	\$ (10.00)
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$ 81.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 191.00

**40% to Blackburn Center

***25% Welcome Home Shelter

ATTENDANCE

October 4, 2020:

22

October 11, 2020:

25

October 18, 2020:

24

October 25, 2020:

25



GOOD WITH NUMBERS?

Congruity is looking for someone who loves numbers and is willing to learn the **Treasurer** duties from John Blank. If you would like to learn more about how you can serve the church this way, please send an email to congruitynewsletter@gmail.com or talk to anyone on Session before the end of the year.

**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 Walters

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.

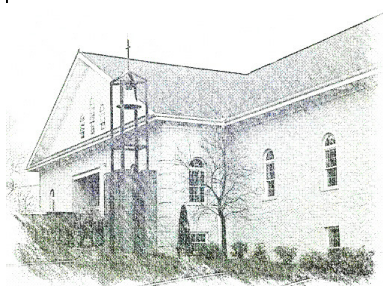
Cliff is in the office most mornings.

**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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