



Congruity Connections

CLIFF'S NOTES

As we enter the month of February, typically our thoughts turn to the celebration of Valentine's Day. A day filled with flowers, candy, cards, and gifts as we express our love to those special people in our lives. I am sure we remember when we were in school, writing out all those Valentine's Day cards for our classmates, making a special box or bag to collect the cards given to us by our classmates.

This year on Valentine's Day, February 14th we will experience another reminder of just how much we are loved. On this Sunday we will celebrate the Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday by sharing the sacrament of Communion. As we gather at the Lord's Table to share the bread and drink the cup, we will once again be reminded of the depth of God's love for each one of us. At the Lord's Table we receive a reminder of just how much we are loved by God.

There are a couple of other things that I would like to highlight that will take place during this month. On February 7th we will participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring where funds will be received and given to the Westmoreland County Food Bank. There will be soup kettles in the Greeting Room for your donations or you could mail a donation to the church.

On February 24, we will begin our Community Lenten services (provided that the pandemic restrictions allow us to gather). You will find a schedule of the services in this newsletter.

As we wait to hear Punxsutawney Phil's prediction of when Spring will arrive, I would remind all of us that we are always engulfed within the loving embrace of God. May the love of God empower us to share the Good News of the Gospel with all those around us.

Yours in Christ,

Cliff



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SPECIAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

- Join us for in-person worship on Sundays
- Following safety recommendations, **in-person worship is limited in number.**

WEEKLY WORSHIP
MEDITATIONS

February 7

Isaiah 40: 21-31

February 14

Mark 9: 2-9

February 21

Genesis 9: 8-17

February 28

Mark 8: 31-38

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.

Feb 7	Murrysville, New- lonsburg	Curtis Paul, Pastor Travis Webster, Assoc Pastor
Feb 14	Murrysville Union	Sue Washburn, Interim
Feb 21	New Alexandria Community	Len Morgan, Commissioned Pastor
Feb 28	Redstone Presby- tery	Rod Murray, Honorably Re- tired

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

WEEKLY WORSHIP
SERVICES

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 SUBMITTED BY PAM FORESMAN

Sunday School
has been sus-
pended until
further notice.

Try out this
'Jesus Loves
Children' puz-
zle.

**Can you find
these items
hidden in the
picture?** the
word JESUS; 6
hearts; 3 girls;
3 boys



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



Date	Person
2/1	Charlotte Foresman
2/3	Dan Frye
2/4	Kathy (Blank) Todd Jeff Karstaedt
2/7	Dottie D'Aurora
2/8	Tom Dudek
2/9	Elijah Miller
2/17	Austin Heasley
2/18	Ken Sellinger, Jr.
2/20	Arlin Smith
	Kathy Schrecengost
2/21	Daniel Witt
2/22	Elise Bish Diane D'Aurora
2/25	Clay Kaufman
2/25	Brian Kaufman
2/27	Stephanie Cunningham



HAVE A HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

The Women's Association will NOT be holding their annual **Rummage Sale** in the spring. Hopefully we will be able to have one later when it is safer.

MISSION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

Redstone Mission Team will NOT be holding its **Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner**. No trips are being planned at this time and no group meetings will be held until a safer time.

IN SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to the Stine family as they walk through the valley of Harry's death. May God's presence give you comfort and support in your time of loss.

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

THANK YOU

Congruity Deacons send a special thanks to Phyllis Frye and Shirley Stolz for their wonderful job as Deacons this past term. A nice welcome back to Cedric Stopansky and a new welcome to Glenn Henry as a newly ordained Deacon!

ELDERS

Matt Cunningham

Tim D'Aurora

Evelyn Foresman

Vince Kemerer

Nancy Lauffer

Ken Martz

Scott McIlroy

Terry Selembo

Sarabeth Stopansky

DEACONS

Dorothy Brant

Tom Davis

Sue Derek

Dave Foresman

Kathy Kepple Fink

Glenn Henry

Lana Munsell

Janet Rugh

Cedric Stopansky

ITEMS FROM SESSION/DEACONS

BY SARABETH STOPANSKY/DAVE FORESMAN

The session met on Monday January 18th and reports the following:

- Session set the Goals for the **Special Offerings** for 2021. They are OGHS \$1,000, Pentecost \$400, Peace and Global Witness \$375, and Christmas Joy \$400.
- Due to the pandemic, the Deacons have decided to postpone the **White Elephant Auction** until sometime this summer.
- **Deacon Sunday** will still be February 21st.
- Voted to participate in the **Souper Bowl of Caring**, Sunday, February 7th.
- Set the date for the joint meeting of Session and Deacons for March 21st.

All **committees of the church** are looking for new members. If you have an interest in being on any committee please talk to Cliff or Sarabeth. The committees are Christian Education, Congregational Life, Mission Interpretation and Stewardship, Property, and Worship.

SIGN UP FOR SUNDAY FLOWERS

The Deacons want everyone to know that the **2021 Flower Chart** is posted in the Greeting Room. Please sign your name to the chart or call the Church office to put your name on the list. Flowers cost \$40, payable to the Congruity Deacons.



- Many thanks from the Congruity Deacons

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE LENDING LIBRARY

Remember we have started a new lending library at Congruity for members and friends of the congregation that share a passion for reading. Most of the books currently in the collection are novels: mysteries; romance; best sellers; and a few science fiction and historical books. The library is set up on the honor system, take a few books at a time, keep them as long as you like. Currently the library is in Cliff's office, but when it expands enough, it will move to a more permanent location.

If you have any books you would like to donate, please drop them off at the church office. If you have any questions call Cliff at the office, or Sarabeth Stopansky at 734-831-8112.

MISSION INTERPRETATION + STEWARDSHIP BY TIM D'AURORA

I wanted to take this opportunity to again remind everyone of their **per capita** commitment. This year it is again **\$42.50 per person** and represents the amount that is our share of Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly costs. We record and track this under First Fruits on our Financial Report. Please make this donation separately from your normal giving and mark your payment per capita.

Due to the unfortunate circumstances last year, we only met our goal on one of our **Special Offerings**. This year, we hope to reverse that. Our goals for the Special Offerings are:

One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 1,000.00
Pentecost	\$ 400.00
Peacemaking	\$ 375.00
Christmas Joy	\$ 400.00

We can only be successful with everyone's involvement. Please give to these Special Offerings.

As I was reading some background material for this submission, I was reminded that in general, church giving is declining. It was suggested that while there are many reasons for this, one may be that other worthwhile causes are better at asking for your donations. With many people receiving additional stimulus funds, there will probably be a strong push from many groups asking for your help.

Don't forget that your Church could also be helped by any additional donations, including a portion of stimulus funding! If we don't ask, shame on us.

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

February 26	UMC	Len Morgan preaching
March 3	CUP	Wayne Duffield preaching
March 10	Congruity	Sharron Waltenbaugh preaching
March 17	No Walls	Charlie Brownawell preaching
March 24	UMC	Dan Schall Concert
April 2	Congruity	Good Friday Service

Maundy Thursday April 2 and Easter Sunday April 4 services will be individual congregations.

OFFERING TOTALS

Dec 6, 2020

\$2,040.00

Dec 13, 2020 no in-person worship

Dec 20, 2020 no in-person worship

Dec 24, 2020 no in-person worship

Dec 27, 2020 no in-person worship

ONLINE GIVING
QR CODE



CONTRIBUTIONS for TAX PURPOSES

If you made any donation to Congruity using the **on-line** electronic contribution site, you can find your tax information on the site. It will NOT be listed on the information that you get from the financial secretary.

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
November	\$ 11,422.38	\$ 9,370.97	\$ 19,357.14	\$ 9,376.37
December	\$ 11,685.00	\$ 8,187.62	\$ 22,854.52	\$ 12,873.75
Year to Date	\$ 112,830.33	\$ 99,956.58	\$ 22,854.52	\$ 12,873.75
Due on PPP Loan			\$ -	\$ -
*** Paycheck Protection Program Loan			\$ 22,854.52	\$ 12,873.75

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
November	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,905.96
December	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 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)
November	\$ 250.00	\$ 541.66	\$ (418.34)
December	\$ 795.00	\$ 541.66	\$ (165.00)

*Includes Per Capita

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

Included in General Fund			
Building Maintenance			
	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)
November	\$ 195.00		\$ 135.68
December	\$ 265.00		\$ 400.68
Year to Date	\$ 7,045.00	\$ 6,644.32	\$ 400.68

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
November	\$ 91.25	\$ 91.25	\$ 2,342.97
December	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,342.97
Year to Date	\$ 91.25	\$ 241.25	\$ 2,342.97

Special Offerings

	Previous	This Mnth	To Date
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ 247.00	\$ -	\$ 247.00
Cents-Ability	\$ 149.40	\$ 8.00	\$ 157.40
	Received	GOAL	Balance
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 384.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (616.00)
Pentecost **	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ (400.00)
Peacemaking ***	\$ 380.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 5.00
Christmas Joy	\$ 140.00	\$ 400.00	\$ (260.00)
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$ 191.00	\$ -	\$ 191.00

**40% to Blackburn Center

***25% Welcome Home Shelter

ATTENDANCE

Dec 6, 2020: 25

Dec 13, 2020: no in-person worship

Dec 20, 2020: no in-person worship

Dec 24, 2020: no in-person worship

Dec 27, 2020: no in-person worship



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.

**CONGRUITY
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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:
Debbie Perino

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Vicki Walters

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
Kathy Hamilton

WEBMASTER: John Blank

CONGRUITY CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

Email Newsletter items to congruitynewsletter@gmail.com

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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