



Congruity Connections

CLIFF'S NOTES

Recently I was reading the latest issue of Presbyterian Today magazine and one of the articles was talking about “forest bathing” which is a Japanese antidote for stress. The article says that “sometimes in life we need to stop what we are doing, what we are thinking and what we are saying, and listen.” I thought that this sentence captures the essence of the summer months. One of the things that I enjoy at this time of the year is sitting on the porch. The other evening, I spent some time simply listening and I was amazed at the various sounds: the birds chirping, the wind rustling through the trees, laughter of children filling the air, the buzz of a bee in flight and many other sounds that I often miss because I am not listening.

As we enter the summer months, I hope that you will have some time to simply listen to the sounds that surround us and in that time of listening to be renewed. I am reminded of those words in Psalm 46: 10: “Be still, and know that I am God!” I hope that during these summer months that all of us have some time to listen to all that is going on around us.

During the summer months, we will be having a Bible study which will meet five times on Thursday evenings from 7-8pm in the new pavilion. We will explore the theme of “when life gives you lemons, make lemonade” based on several stories in the Bible of how those individuals managed and thrived in those trying times. We will meet on July 1, July 8, July 22, August 5 and August 19. Lemonade will be provided.

It is my hope that you have a wonderful and enjoyable summer.

Yours in Christ,

Cliff



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Announcements	2
Celebrations.....	3-5
Session.....	6
Deacons	6
Committees.....	3,6-11
Treasurer's Report.....	8,9
Calendar.....	insert

SPECIAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

- **Sunday Services will now be at 10 am** for the Summer Season.
- Continue following safety recommendations, **in-person worship is back in full force!**

WEEKLY WORSHIP
MEDITATIONS

July 4

2 Cor. : 12:2-10

July 11

Mark 6: 14-29

July 18

Ephesians 2:11-22

July 25

2 Samuel 11:1-15

August 1

John 6:24-35

August 8

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

August 15

1Kings 2:10-12;3:3-14

August 22

Ephesians 6:10-20

August 29

James 1:17-27

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.

July 4	Apollo, Poke Run	Pete Goetschius, Pastor
July 11	Avonmore, First	
July 18	Delmont	Tony Catullo, Interim Pastor
July 25	Redstone Presbytery	Cliff Buell, Honorably Retired
August 1	Lower Burrell, Grace Community	Ken Foust, Pastor
August 8	Lower Burrell, Puckety	Brian Kilbert, Pastor
August 15	Murrysville, First	Ed Gray, Pastor
August 22	Murrysville, New- lonsburg	Curtis Paul, Pastor Travis Webster, Assoc. Pastor
August 29	Redstone Presbytery	Lisa Dormire, Member-at- Large

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

WEEKLY WORSHIP
SERVICES

A short meditation
with Pastor Cliff is
being uploaded to the
Congruity Facebook
page each Sunday
morning.

LITURGIST FOR JULY and AUGUST

July 4	Cliff Foster	August 1	Rhea Summit
July 11	Janet Rugh	August 8	Sarabeth Stopansky
July 18	Dave Foresman	August 15	Tim D'Aurora
July 25	Phyllis Frye	August 22	Ced Stopansky
		August 29	Caroline D'Aurora

JULY-AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

Date	Anniversaries
7/4/2014	Tim & Titina Adams
7/4/2015	Joe & Courtney Stopansky
7/7/2012	Wes & Kayla Kirkpatrick
7/15/1978	Fred & Hope Sehring
7/25/2015	Nick & Brandy Guthrie
7/25/2009	Anthony & Ashley Passante
7/30	Delbert & Ruth Thompson
8/3/1991	Ken & Missy Martz
8/4/1973	Ken & Nancy Walter
8/4/2013	Jim & Kristie Roemer
8/8/2015	Jason & Krystal Maciupa
8/10/2000	Scott & Yvonne McIlnay
8/10/2018	Matt & Stephanie Cunningham
8/18/1973	Rich & Linda Youngbauer
8/19/1972	John & Sue Blank
8/26/1989	Bob & Tracey McDonald



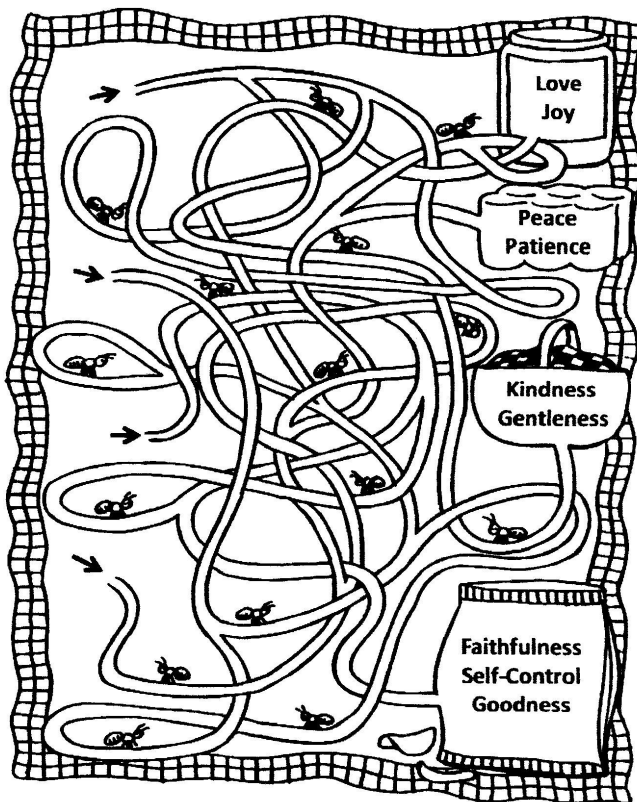
IN SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the **Hamilton/Douglass family** as they walk through the valley of the shadow of the death of Kathy's mother's Nancy's death. May God's presence give you comfort and strength in your time of loss.

We extend our sympathy to the **Miller/Ziegler family** as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Carol's niece Judy's death.

CHRISTIAN ED SUBMITTED BY PAM FORESMAN

Enjoy this
'How
Sweet is
the Fruit of
the Spirit
Bible
Maze' puzzle while
you enjoy
your summer!



May the *love* of those
help you
through the
days ahead.

Congratulations!



Cody Kaufman

Graduated from Greensburg Salem High School and will be attending Ohio Northern University where he will major in Engineering and continue his wrestling career at the collegiate level.

Courtney Kaufman

Graduated from Greensburg Salem High School and has committed to Allegheny College where she will continue with the honors program for her Biology/Neuro Science majors and minor in Psychology. All in preparation for her journey to Med School. She has already received early acceptance into medical school as a senior in high school.

Cody and Courtney are the children (twins) of Eric and Dorothy Kaufman and the grandchildren of Ron and Gerri Kaufman.

Class of 2021

JULY-AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Date	Person	Date	Person
7/1	Bill Karstaedt	8/1	Rhea Summit
7/2	Rylee Kirkpatrick	8/7	John Johnson
7/3	Brennan Foster		Tracy McDonald
	Heather Kaufman	8/8	Kayla Kirkpatrick
	Robert Young	8/10	Carole Johnson
7/6	Katie Frye	8/12	Marjorie Aaron
7/9	Doug Stine		Linda Sellinger
7/11	Michelle Kepple	8/13	Evey Anderson
7/12	Betty Lou Carr		Keith Orr
	Cliff Foster		Terry Selembo
	Hillary Lapcevic		Amber Sellinger
7/13	Thaddeus Piovesan	8/14	Carol Miller
7/15	BJ Johnston	8/15	Tom Kepple
7/16	Sharon Rubrecht		Chris Johnston
	Mark Writt		Sara Johnston
7/20	Evelyn Foresman	8/16	Cara Kaufman
	Alex Swatchick		Sandy Loperfeto
	Ruth Thompson	8/18	Jim Kepple
7/21	Jessica Carnathan		Amy Stine
	Andrew Roemer	8/19	Becky Davis
	Shania Thompson	8/21	Titina Ott
7/22	Sue Bish	8/22	Stacey Burns
7/24	Carol Zabkar	8/23	Mason Tarpay
	Amelia Rose Rader	8/29	Tim D'Aurora
7/26	Gary Kulick		Ryan Schweppe
7/29	Debbie Perino	8/31	Jeremiah Kaufman
7/31	Eric Heasley		
	Ken Sellinger, Sr.		



ELDERS

Matt Cunningham

Tim D'Aurora

Evelyn Foresman

Vince Kemerer

Nancy Lauffer

Ken Martz

Scott McIlnay

Terry Selembo

Sarabeth Stopansky

DEACONS

Dorothy Brant

Tom Davis

Sue Derek

Dave Foresman

Glenn Henry

Lana Munsell

Janet Rugh

Cedric Stopansky

ITEMS FROM SESSION/DEACONS

BY SARABETH STOPANSKY/DAVE FORESMAN

Session met Monday, June 21, 2021, and made the following decisions:

Approved vacation days for Cliff, August 23 and 24.

Approved the outdoor summer Bible Study in the Pavilion for Thursday evenings in July and August.

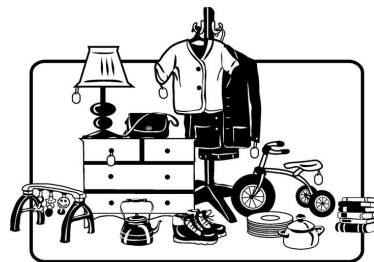
Gave permission to the Women's Association to explore having a Fall Turkey Dinner.

Gave approval for a cemetery workday lead by Ken Martz. Details will be posted in the Sunday Bulletin.

The Session and Deacons will NOT be meeting in July.

THE RUMMAGE SALE IS BACK!

Our Rummage Sale is back! Our plans are to have it on Aug 7, 2021 from 9am til 2pm. We will have a bake sale, but NOT LUNCH. Please bring your items to the church the week of Aug 2 until noon Fri.



Rummage Sale

Smaller items may be brought to the church beforehand and put in the back Sunday School rooms or the third floor. Please do not bring larger items (like furniture) until that week and please do not put rummage in Fellowship Hall before Aug 2.

We will be needing help all that week anytime from 8am til 3pm Mon-Fri and also Sat. Any time you can help will be appreciated. Please contact Debbie or Phyllis if you are willing to help. We will also need help taking loads to Root International in Mercer the week after the sale.

MISSION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

Redstone Mission Team is planning a trip to **ROOT International July 6-7.**

There are a variety of jobs to be done including some painting, construction, sorting and packing, and whatever else they come up with. It can be a one day trip if you can't make both days or don't want to stay overnight. We are always open to new volunteers, so if you think you might want to try mission work, this is a good place to start. If interested, contact Phyllis Frye at 724 468 3740.

Redstone Mission Team is planning a trip to **Halpen (Gilchrist) West Virginia, October 9-16, 2021** Cost is \$125. For more info, contact Phyllis Frye 724-468-3740 or e-mail to pfrye1234@windstream.net We will work with PDA through West Virginia Ministry of Advocacy Workcamps.

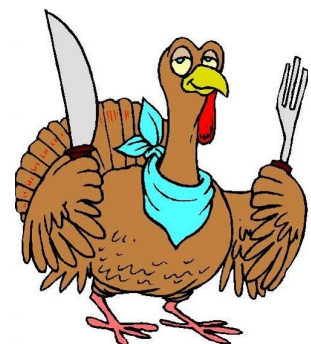


Once again, we will be **collecting school supplies** for the fall school season. We will fill bags for our Sunday School children and send the balance to ROOT International, where there is a great need for these. Also ROOT needs **backpacks** to send to the Navajo Nation. There will be boxes in the greeting room for these donations.

WOMENS ASSOCIATION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

The Women's Association will have its **annual picnic on July 15, 2021** at 6pm at the church. We will exchange our secret sister gifts (a \$10 gift) and pick new ones for the coming year. This is open to all women of the church (and friends) so if you are coming and don't have a secret sister, you may bring a grab bag gift worth \$10. Please bring your gift, a covered dish, a friend, and if you can, something Christmassy to decorate the table, Come join us as we relax and celebrate Jesus' birth without all the hustle-bustle of the Christmas season.

The Women's Association is tentatively planning to have another **turkey dinner in October.** Whether it will be all take out or partially sit down will depend on circumstances and you. We can't do a sit down dinner without more help. If you are willing to help with this dinner, please let the office know or contact either Debbie or Phyllis.



OFFERING TOTALS

May 2, 2021

\$1,940.00

May 9, 2021

\$1,050.00

May 16, 2021

\$700.00

May 23, 2021

\$906.00

May 30, 2021

\$925.00

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>			\$ 21,994.04	
January	\$ 8,549.71	\$ 9,591.83	\$ 20,951.92	\$ (1,042.12)
February	\$ 6,713.68	\$ 8,645.45	\$ 19,020.15	\$ (2,973.89)
March	\$ 7,772.17	\$ 8,839.50	\$ 17,952.82	\$ (4,041.22)
April	\$ 5,675.18	\$ 10,420.52	\$ 13,207.48	\$ (8,786.56)
May	\$ 8,176.57	\$ 9,879.14	\$ 11,504.91	\$ (10,489.13)
Year to Date	\$ 36,887.31	\$ 47,376.44	\$ 11,504.91	\$ (10,489.13)

Memorial Fund

	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 4,905.96
January	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,905.96
February	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,905.96
March	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 4,930.96
April	\$ 925.00	\$ -	\$ 5,855.96
May	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,855.96
Year to Date	\$ 950.00	\$ -	\$ 5,855.96

First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January*	\$ 890.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 390.00
February*	\$ 324.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 214.00
March*	\$ 859.50	\$ 500.00	\$ 573.50
April*	\$ 302.50	\$ 500.00	\$ 376.00
May*	\$ 426.45	\$ 500.00	\$ 302.45

*Includes Per Capita

	Previous	This Month	To Date
*Per Capita to Date	\$ 1,699.40	\$ 127.50	\$ 1,826.90



LENDING LIBRARY—UPDATE

Due to the overwhelming response Congruity's lending library has moved downstairs to the Sr High Sunday School classroom. We have 3 bookcases filled with books and have organized them by genre. We hope you will stop in and look around. A big thanks to everyone that donated books and a special thanks to everyone that helped sort and shelf books. If you still have books to donate you can drop them off in Cliff's office.

Included in General Fund			
<u>Building Maintenance</u>			
	NET	NET	TO DATE
	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ -
January	\$ 470.00	\$	\$ 20.00
February	\$ 145.00	\$	\$ (237.50)
March	\$ 145.00	\$ -	\$ (92.50)
April	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 157.50
May	\$ 367.30	\$ -	\$ 524.80
Year to Date	\$ 1,377.30	\$	\$ 524.80

<u>Local Mission</u>			
	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 2,342.97
January	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,342.97
February	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,342.97
March	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,342.97
April	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,342.97
May	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,342.97
Year to Date	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,342.97

Special Offerings

	Previous	This Month	To Date
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$	\$ -	\$ 152.00
Cents-Ability	\$	\$ 8.00	\$ 58.57
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$	\$ 10.00	\$ 239.00

	Received	GOAL	Balance
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 104.25
Pentecost ***	\$	\$ 400.00	\$ 87.11

***25% Welcome Home Shelter

NEW DIRECTORY

Debbie will be putting together a new Church Directory in the near future. If there are any changes to your address or contact information, please let the Church office know.



ATTENDANCE

May 2, 2021:	37
May 9, 2021:	43
May 16, 2021:	29
May 23, 2021:	54
May 30, 2021:	22



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.



MISSION INTERPRETATION + STEWARDSHIP

BY TIM D'AURORA

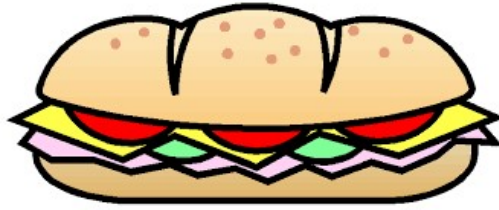
It's time for our second Hoagie Sale of the year. We will be doing three this year. We will be meeting on Friday, July 30 at 5:30pm to assemble the hoagies. We will again be taking additional hoagies to First Commonwealth Bank in New Alexandria, the BP at Five Points, and hopefully the Rite Aid in Delmont to sell to the general public on Saturday. We need your help. First to **Sell, Sell, Sell**. There is an **order form** in this newsletter as well as additional copies in the Greeting Room at church. Turn these order forms in to Tim either at church or by calling your totals in by Monday evening. Then we need help to assemble the hoagies. The more the merrier. We hope to be making around 250-300 hoagies so we could use more bodies than usual. Finally, we could use a couple of people to help sell hoagies on Saturday. Last time we were there from around 10:00am to around noon and were able to sell all the hoagies. Let Tim know if you would be willing to help Friday evening and if you are able to help at a location. As you can see from our financial reports, we are struggling a bit. This is a great opportunity to generate some income for the General Fund.

As referenced above, the financial news is not great. While we had tremendous response at the height of the pandemic, I wonder if people are now taking things for granted. Even though we have had in person worship for a good while now, we still have fairly low attendance. I believe in the past year, we had many people step up to try and cover any shortfalls we might have. We certainly could use that again. At the end of May, we are \$10,489.13 in the red. This is the worst financial position we have been in for quite awhile. Please prayerfully consider your level of giving.

I thought I would include one more reminder about the Per Capita collection. Remember, it is per person, not per family and is \$42.50 each. This should be over and above your normal giving. This is the money that supports our higher levels of church government and the Presbytery's mission involvement. We seem to be somewhat behind our collections from last year as we have only collected \$1,826.90 through May. If everyone on the rolls paid their Per Capita, we would collect over \$5,500.00. As you can see, that is a significant shortfall.

Ending on a positive note, we did exceed our \$400.00 goal for the Pentecost Special Offering by \$87.11. Thanks to everyone who donated to this worthwhile cause.

Congruity Presbyterian Church



Hoagie Order Form

July 30, 2021

Pick up after 6:30

Additional hoagies will be available on Saturday the 31st at the First Commonwealth Bank in New Alexandria, at the BP at Rts 22 & 819, and hopefully at the Rite Aid in Delmont, as well.

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 \$6.00

<u>Name</u>	<u>Italian w</u>	<u>Italian w/o</u>	<u>Turkey</u>	<u>Total</u>
-------------	------------------	--------------------	---------------	--------------

Orders are to be turned in to Tim D'Aurora by Monday, July 26 at 724-668-8319.
Let's all work to make this a successful sale!

**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

CONGRUITY CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

SUMMER'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY!

Please join us on Thursdays through July and August for a summer Bible Study in the new Pavilion. Cliff we be exploring 'when life gives you lemons, make lemonade'! We will meet from 7-8 pm Thursday July 1, 8, and 22, and August 5 and 19. Check your calendars!

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 10:00 am**

**NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO 8**