

# Congruity Connections

## CLIFF'S NOTES

When I was in the second grade, I remember that we spent some time in November learning about that first Thanksgiving in Plymouth, Massachusetts. In our social studies time, we learned about the struggles the Pilgrims faced, the crops that they grew and how they celebrated with the Indians/indigenous people. In art class we made pilgrim hats out of black construction paper, coloring white paper silver to be used as belt and shoe buckles. In our music class we learned the words to "We Gather Together" as we rehearsed for a short play about the first Thanksgiving. Each year as the month of November begins, I find myself thinking back to those days as I sing or hum the words of that Thanksgiving hymn.

In a few weeks the air will be filled with the aroma of our annual Thanksgiving celebration as we gather with family and friends to give thanks to God for all that God has given us. There is something wonderful about gathering at the table surrounded by family and friends, hearing the laughter, stories and conversations that take place. The table is a place where we remember... where we reflect on all that has transpired since the last gathering... and where the bonds of love are strengthened.

As we look forward to enjoying our favorite dish at our Thanksgiving feast or to enjoying our favorite pie, I hope that each of us will spend some time reflecting on all that we are grateful for and to give our thanks to God. The Psalmist in Psalm 100 reminds us: "Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations." (Psalm 100: 4-5).

I would like to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours in Christ, *Cliff*



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## SPECIAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

- Join us Sunday November 5, 2022 for **WORK DAY**
- Join us Saturday, November 12 for **Spaghetti Dinner**
- Nov 20th is **Harvest Home Sunday**
- **Hanging of the Greens** is Nov 26th

# WEEKLY WORSHIP MEDITATIONS

**November 6**

2 Thessalonians

2: 1-5, 13-17

**November 13**

Luke 21: 5-19

**November 20**

Luke 23: 33-43

**November 27**

Matthew 24: 36-44

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.

Nov 6 New Kensington Wendy Keys, Pastor

Nov 13 Apollo, Poke Run Pete Goetschius, Pastor

Nov 20 Avonmore, First Wendy Keys, Moderator

Nov 27 Redstone Presbytery Susan Blank, Member at Large

# LITURGIST FOR NOVEMBER

Nov 6 Rhea Summit

Nov 13 Tim D'Aurora

Nov 20 Cliff Foster

Nov 27 Ced Stopansky

*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.

# KIDZ CORNER SUBMITTED BY PAM FORESMAN

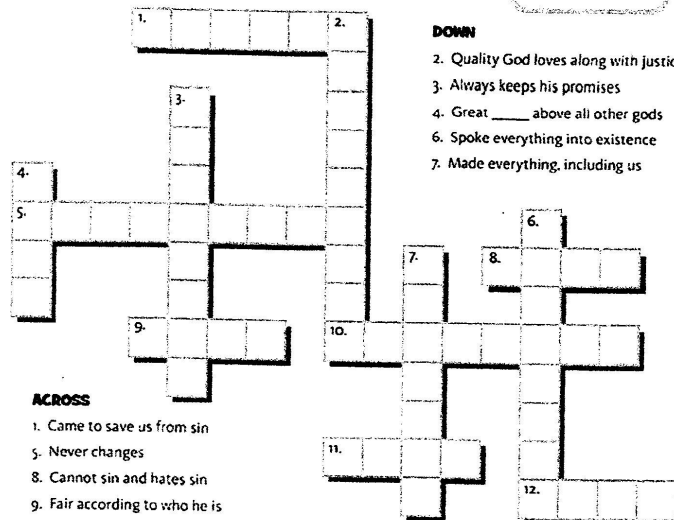


# Giving Thanks to God

James 1:17; Psalm 33:2-5, 100:1-5, 9:1-2, 95:1-5

God has many wonderful attributes we are thankful for!  
Read the clues then write the correct answer from the Word Bank in the  
crossword puzzle

Good	Creator
Holy	Faithful
King	Immutable
Love	Shepherd
Just	Powerful
Savior	Righteous



# DOWN

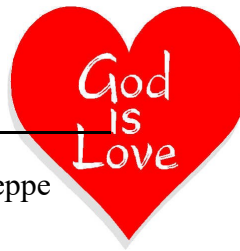
2. Quality God loves along with justice
3. Always keeps his promises
4. Great \_\_\_\_\_ above all other gods
6. Spoke everything into existence
7. Made everything, including us

# ACROSS

1. Came to save us from sin
5. Never changes
8. Cannot sin and hates sin
9. Fair according to who he is
10. Cares for us like lost sheep
11. Gives every \_\_\_\_\_ and perfect gift
12. Steadfast and lasting forever

## NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Date	Anniversaries
11/1/2014	Matthew & Megan Schweppe
11/7/1976	Bill & Cindy Karstaedt
11/20/1965	Chuck & Mary Lou Heasley



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Date	Person
11/9	Tammy Kulik
11/11	Madeline Burns Brandy Sellinger
11/14	Mike Marchelletta
11/18	Erik Eidemiller Erin Kaufman
11/19	Kay Frye
11/20	Matt Cunningham Ron Kaufman
11/21	Katrina Kaufman
11/22	Tyler Johnston
11/23	Jen Hufford Deana Karstaedt
11/24	Wes Kirkpatrick Delbert Thompson
11/25	Jon Hamilton Vivian Schweppe
11/26	Vince Kemerer Sarabeth Stopansky Virgil Walters
11/29	Bob Kaufman



## CONGRATS!



We extend our congratulations to Ian and Christy Derek on the birth of their daughter, Fiona Margaret who was born on October 1, 2022. Fiona is the granddaughter of Steve and Sue Derek.

## IN SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the Wagner/Brant family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Janet's death. May God's presence give you comfort and strength in your time of loss.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE BY S. STOPANSKY

The Nominating Committee has been working to prepare a slate of officers for 2023. They have been successful with the exception of finding folks to become Deacons. The committee needed to find 3 Deacons to serve a 3 year term and 1 to serve a 1 year term. Someone has been found to fill the one year term. Several folks have been asked for serve a 3 year term and all said no.

The committee is reviewing several options and will make a recommendation to Session in November. The Session will then decide on a course of action to take to the Congregation to vote on at the December Congressional Meeting, since any changes involve changing the Bylaws of Congruity.

If you would like to serve as a Deacon please contact a member of the Committee, Becky Davis, Dave Foresman, Pam Foresman and Sarabeth Stopansky.

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

## ELDERS

Matt Cunningham  
Evelyn Foresman  
Phyllis Frye  
Kathy Hamilton  
Vince Kemerer  
Nancy Lauffer  
Ken Martz  
Scott McInay  
Sarabeth Stopansky

## DEACONS

Dorothy Brant  
Stephanie Cunningham  
Tom Davis  
Sue Derek  
Dave Foresman  
Lana Munsell  
Terry Selembo  
Cedric Stopansky

## ON THE COVER

A lesson of faith, when Jesus invites Peter to walk on water, is the subject of one of the beautiful medallion windows in the church sanctuary. Look up Matthew 14: 28-31 to learn more.

## ITEMS FROM SESSION

BY SARABETH STOPANSKY

The Session met on October 17, 2022 and reports the following:

- \* The clerk reported that Layla Rose Maciupa has been added to the Baptized Roll.
- \* Janet Wagoner had been removed from the Active Roll and transferred to the Church Triumphant on September 28, 2022.
- \* The Session elected Sarabeth Stopansky as Clerk of Session for 2023 and Ken Martz as assisted Clerk of Session.
- \* Approved the Date of the Women's Association Simple Tea for December 11, 2022.
- \* The session was informed the Women's Association had changed their monthly meeting to the 2nd Friday of the month at 2:00 PM.
- \* Rev. Foster thanked Dave Foresman for painting the doors at the manse and making a new door for the storage area under the porch.
- \* Session was reminded of the work day at the cemetery on November 5th.
- \* Session was informed that the nominating committee has filled all slots for officers for 2023 with the exception of Deacons. Several folks have been asked and said no. Several options were discussed.

The Session will be meeting next on November 21st at 7PM.

## DEACONS BY DAVE FORESMAN

**Sunday, November 20th, 2022 is HARVEST HOME** at Congruity. This is when we collect non-perishable food items all throughout the month of November and then distribute them to needy families in the area. If you know of such a family, please contact the church office at (724) 668-7740 or any Deacon with the names and addresses of the families in need.

**Saturday, November 26th, 2022 is the HANGING OF THE GREENS** at Congruity. This is always a lot of fun getting the church decorated for the holiday season. A great time for fellowship, listening to Christmas music and pizza for lunch afterwards. Anyone is welcome to join and help the Deacons for this fun time starting at 10:00 am

## MISSION COMMITTEE BY PHYLLIS FRYE

*Thank  
You!*

The Mission Committee wants to thank all who have donated food to cook or donated baked goods to take to Union Mission in Latrobe. The residents there are very appreciative. Also the extra school supplies have been taken to ROOT International in Mercer where they will be sent on to El Paso and distributed to Mexico or the Navajo Nation. Again, thank you for your support.

## WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

The Women's Association **meetings have been changed** to the **second Friday** of the month at 2pm, so we can meet before the newsletter deadline.



A **Simple Christmas Tea** is planned for Sunday, Dec 11 at 3pm for the **women of the church**. This will be a very informal Tea with no frills, just a chance to get together with our church friends and get caught up with everyday life. There will be no charge, but **reservations are requested** by contacting either Terry Selembo (724-668-7757) or Phyllis Frye (724-468-3740). Also, if anyone would like to donate tea cookies or help with the tea, contact Terry or Phyllis.

## BUDGET + STEWARDSHIP BY TIM D'AURORA

*A BIG Thank You* to everyone who helped make our hoagie sale a success. We did a good job selling. We exceeded our presale quantity from last time by 20. That meant we had less to sell on Saturday. We had a good crew to help assemble hoagies including several friends that aren't even members. And Caroline, Becky, Dot, and her friend Sue did a great job in the wind on Saturday selling the remainder. We sold our 250 hoagies and even though costs continue to increase, due to the increase in the price to \$7, we were able to make over \$700! Thanks again, everyone.

Our next fundraiser is a **Spaghetti Dinner**. Yes, it's back. It will be on **Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm**. It will be a eat-in or take-out and as usual will include spaghetti, meatball, salad, bread and dessert. It will be \$8.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children 6–12, and under 5 are free.



We will also have a basket raffle, so **we need baskets!** This is important because we raise almost as much on this as we do on the dinner. So now is where I ask for your help. There will be a list in the Greeting Room for donations. Remember, anything we get donated, we won't have to spend money on. We've done a great job on this in the past, but it's been a few years. If you can put a basket together, great. If you can donate some items for a basket, but don't want to organize or assemble them, we can assemble it. We just need to have the items by Friday, if possible. **Spread the word.** We need people to know about it and be encouraged to come and participate. Finally, we could use **help on Saturday**. We need some set-up help, some serving help, and probably most importantly, some clean-up help. If you can, let Tim know if you are bringing a basket or are able to help. It's thanks to all of you that these events are successful.



## OFFERING TOTALS

**Sept 4, 2022**

\$1,135.00

**Sept 11, 2022**

\$1,005.00

**Sept 18, 2022**

\$527.50

**Sept 25, 2022**

\$640.00

ONLINE GIVING  
QR CODE



## FRIDGE NEEDED!

We need to replace the refrigerator in the old furnace room. If anyone knows of one available, please contact the church.



## 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>			\$ 9,535.36	
January	\$ 18,247.97	\$ 8,771.09	\$ 19,012.24	\$ 9,476.88
February	\$ 9,623.42	\$ 9,872.34	\$ 18,763.32	\$ 9,227.96
March	\$ 6,082.13	\$ 10,132.96	\$ 14,712.49	\$ 5,177.13
April	\$ 6,818.65	\$ 10,598.19	\$ 10,932.95	\$ 1,397.59
May	\$ 8,804.79	\$ 9,173.94	\$ 10,563.80	\$ 1,028.44
June	\$ 8,555.12	\$ 8,420.32	\$ 10,698.60	\$ 1,163.24
July	\$ 4,187.15	\$ 7,999.73	\$ 6,886.02	\$ (2,649.34)
August	\$ 7,812.40	\$ 8,051.03	\$ 6,647.39	\$ (2,887.97)
September	\$ 5,169.92	\$ 10,719.69	\$ 1,097.62	\$ (8,437.74)
Year to Date	\$ 75,301.55	\$ 83,739.29	\$ 1,097.62	\$ (8,437.74)

### Memorial Fund

	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 2,873.50
January	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,873.50
February	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 2,923.50
March	\$ -		\$ 2,923.50
April	\$ 380.00		\$ 3,303.50
May	\$ 125.00		\$ 3,428.50
June	\$ 20.00		\$ 3,448.50
July	\$ -		\$ 3,448.50
August	\$ -		\$ 3,448.50
September	\$ -		\$ 3,448.50
Year to Date	\$ 575.00	\$ -	\$ 3,448.50

### First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January*	\$ 1,192.50	\$ 500.00	\$ 692.50
February*	\$ 928.50	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,121.00
March*	\$ 736.50	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,357.50
April*	\$ 779.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,636.50
May*	\$ 388.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,524.50
June	\$ 520.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,544.50
July	\$ 135.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,179.50
August*	\$ 583.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,262.50
September	\$ 440.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,202.50

\*Includes Per Capita

	Previous	This Mnth	To Date
<u>*Per Capita to Date</u>	\$ 2,512.50	\$ -	\$ 2,512.50

### Building Maintenance

	NET Receipts	NET Expenses	Actual Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 2,637.10
January	\$ 250.00	\$ 327.00	\$ 2,560.10
February	\$ 180.00		\$ 2,740.10
March	\$ 135.00		\$ 2,875.10
April	\$ 270.00		\$ 3,145.10
May	\$ 235.00		\$ 3,380.10
June	\$ 275.00		\$ 3,655.10
July	\$ 155.00		\$ 3,810.10
August	\$ 275.00	\$ 649.00	\$ 3,436.10
September	\$ 220.00		\$ 3,656.10
Year to Date	\$ 1,995.00	\$ 976.00	\$ 3,656.10

### Local Mission

	Receipts	Expenses	Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 2,117.97
January	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,817.97
February	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 1,917.97
March	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,917.97
April	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,917.97
May	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,917.97
June	\$ -	\$ 225.00	\$ 1,692.97
July	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,692.97
August	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 1,792.97
September	\$ -		\$ 1,792.97
Year to Date	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 1,792.97

### Special Offerings

	Previous	This Mnth	To Date
<b>Souper Bowl of Caring</b>	\$ 330.00	\$ -	\$ 330.00
<b>Cents-Ability</b>	\$ 99.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 107.00
<b>Presby Disaster Assistance*</b>	\$ 649.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 789.00

\*\$235.00 Ukraine

	Received	GOAL	Balance
<b>One Great Hour of Sharing</b>	\$ 873.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (127.00)
<b>Pentecost ***</b>	\$ 465.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 65.00
<b>Peace Global Witness **</b>	\$ 75.00	\$ 375.00	\$ (300.00)

\*\*25% - Welcome Home Shelter

\*\*\*40% - Blackburn Center

## **REDSTONE MISSION TEAM BY PHYLLIS FRYE**

*Thank you* to all who supported Redstone Mission Team's Soup sale.

We made 215 qts of soup and made \$1450, which will help fund the upcoming trip to Hampdon, WV. There the team will be doing skirting, metal roofing, wheel chair ramps, and some other repairs to homes of those in need. You are our home team and your support is greatly appreciated.

### ATTENDANCE

**Sept 4, 2022: 21**

**Sept 11, 2022: 32**

**Sept 18, 2022: 25**

**Sept 25, 2022: 20**

## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

**BY KEN MARTZ**

Please put **9 am  
November 5th**  
on your calendars  
for a church and  
manse workday!



**CONGRUITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**CHURCH STAFF**

PASTOR: Cliff Foster

CLERK OF SESSION:  
Sarabeth Stopansky

ASST. CLERK: Ken Martz

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**



Email Newsletter items to [congruitynewsletter@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://congruitychurch.org)



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

**NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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