



Congruity Connections

CLIFF'S NOTES

As you read these words, we have commenced on our Advent journey to the Bethlehem stable. The season of Advent is a time for us to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ Child. All of us are aware of all the preparations that need to be done as we get ready to celebrate Christmas: decorating and baking, shopping, and wrapping, writing and sending cards and many other items on our "to do" lists. The air is filled with excitement and anticipation, especially for our kids and grandchildren. The air is also filled with wonderful Christmas carols and songs.

One of the challenges that the Season of Advent places before each of us is to spend some time amidst the busyness and the hectic moments of this season to be preparing ourselves for the coming of Christ—God's great gift given to us. The Season of Advent affords us the opportunity to spend some time reflecting on the depth of God's love for the world shown to us in the birth of Christ Child. During the Season of Advent, we light the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love... wonderful words that remind us of all that God has done for us in our Lord Jesus Christ and these words capture the essence of this very special time of the year.

The other day I was thinking back over the last three years or so that we have been dealing with the global pandemic of Covid 19 and as we are emerging into our new reality, I thought of the image of a beautiful butterfly emerging from a chrysalis as an adult. As we begin to break out of pandemic, it is my hope and prayer that in the Season of Advent that we might once again experience the depth of God's love in God's gift to us of Christ who came as Jesus says in John 10:10 "that they might have life and have it abundantly".

I would like to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year!

Yours in Christ, *Cliff*



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SPECIAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

- Join us for **Advent**, every Sunday in December
- Christmas **Poinsettia** Orders are due Sunday **Dec 4.**
- Join us for **Christmas Eve** service, Saturday Dec 24th, 7:30 pm

WEEKLY WORSHIP
MEDITATIONS

December 4
Matthew 24: 36-44
December 11
Isaiah 11: 1-10
December 18
Matthew 1: 18-25
December 25
Luke: 2: 1-20

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 4	Delmont	Tony Catulo, Interim
Dec 11	Lower Burrell, Grace Community	Doug Marshall, Interim
Dec 18	Lower Burrell, Puckety	Brian Kilbert, Pastor
Dec 25	Redstone Presbytery	Cliff Buell, Honorably Retired

LITURGIST FOR DECEMBER

Dec 4	Sarabeth Stoapansky
Dec 11	Dave Foresman
Dec 18	Phyllis Frye
Dec 25	Cliff Foster

*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

Luke 2: 1-12
The Birth
of Jesus



Across

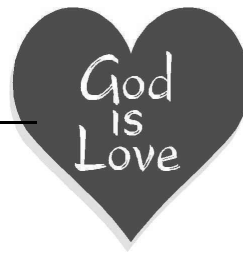
3. In verse 9 the shepherds saw an "_____ of the Lord."
5. "_____ also went up from ... Nazareth" is in verse 4.
6. The word after "because" in verse 4 is _____.
7. "And there _____ shepherds" is from verse 8.

Down

1. "Room for them in the _____" is in verse 7.
2. "_____ were watching their flocks in verse 8.
3. The third word in verse 4 is _____.
4. "He is Christ _____ Lord" is in verse 11.
7. The fourth to the last word in verse 2 is _____.

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



IN SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the following families in our church family who have lost loved ones:

The **Hohman family** as they walk through the valley of the shadow of the death of Carol's brother Junior (Lewis) and Carol's sister-in-law Mary.

The **Kemerer family** as they walk through the valley of the shadow of the death of Richard Deal.

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

WHAT YOU MISSED BY PHYLLIS FRYE



The November 12th Spaghetti Dinner reported about in the Budget+Stewardship report on page 5 was quite the success, but there was also a table of delicious desserts available !

So make sure don't miss out next time.

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

The Angel Gabriel appearing to Mary, is the subject of one of the beautiful windows in the front of the church sanctuary. Just in time for the Christmas Season. Look up Luke 1: 26-38 to learn more.

ITEMS FROM SESSION

BY SARABETH STOPANSKY

The session met on November 20th and reports the following:

Approved the 2023 Budget with the exception of Pastor's terms of call. These will be voted on at the December 4, 2022 Congressional Meeting.

Approved the Nomination Committee's slate of officers for Auditor, Deacon, Elder and Financial Secretary and Assistant Financial Secretary.

Voted to approve the Nominating Committee's recommendation to reduce the number of Deacons to 6 due to the fact that it was impossible to fill the slots. Several people were asked and a notice was put in the November newsletter asking for anyone one willing to serve. The committee received no responses.

Elected Caroline D'Aurora as Treasurer and Rebecca Rugh as Assistant Treasurer.

Personnel Committee did the annual employee reviews. Contracts will be signed and put on file in the office.

Voted to have one Elder and one Deacon count the offering after church each Sunday starting 1/1/23.

The Session will be meeting next on December 19th at 7PM.

DEACONS BY DAVE FORESMAN

The Deacons would like to say "**THANK YOU**" to everyone who donated or helped with the **HARVEST HOME** food collection for the month of November. Because of all the food and non-perishables that were collected, we were able to divide it up and give several boxes of food to **four different families** in need on November 20th. Thank you again for your generosity and concern for these families.



WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

The women of the church are invited to a simple **Christmas Tea on Sunday, Dec 11**, at 3pm. This an informal get-together to get caught up with your church friends, no games or entertainment, just a time to relax and chit-chat with each other. There is no charge, but please make a reservation with either Terry Selembo (724-668-7577) or Phyllis Frye (724-468-3749) and bring your own teacup. Also, if anyone would like to donate some cookies (maybe while you are making your Christmas cookies, you could make a few more for the tea). It would be appreciated.



There will be a sign-up sheet in the church greeting room both for reservations and for cookie donations. Thank you.

BUDGET + STEWARDSHIP BY TIM D'AURORA

A BIG Thank You to everyone who helped make our Spaghetti Dinner a success.

Whether you donated something, came to eat, helped during the dinner or with the cleanup, it was all part of a successful dinner. I wanted to especially thank everyone who contributed a basket. We were fortunate to have so many outstanding ones for people to try and win. Congratulations to all the basket winners.

We served around 100 people and after expenses, will probably show a profit of around \$900.00. We appreciate the effort of so many people.



REDSTONE MISSION TEAM BY PHYLLIS FRYE

Redstone Mission team spent a very **busy week in Hampdon, WV**. We were divided into three groups. One group skirted a mobile home and roofed a small porch at one home and rebuilt a ramp at another home. Group two completed reroofing with metal roofing a mobile home and got another roof partly finished. Group three replaced an old tub surround, did some plumbing and replaced a cabinet in the same home. In all, we helped **five families**, plus we took down a large number of donations of school supplies and socks for the school children of Mingo County. Thank you for all your support you have given us.

Check out the Special Report and photos on the back of the Calendar.

Redstone **Mission Team will meet on Jan 8, 2023**, with a snow date of Jan 15, to plan a spring trip to wherever God leads us. Anyone interested is invited to join us at the meeting. As of now, we are planning on reviving the Fat Tuesday (Mardi Gras) **Pancake Dinner** to raise funds for the team. There will be more info in the Jan newsletter.

OFFERING TOTALS

Oct 2, 2022

\$745.00

Oct 9, 2022

\$898.00

Oct 16, 2022

\$743.00

Oct 23, 2022

\$965.00

Oct 30, 2022

\$1,265.00

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>			\$ 9,535.36	
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)
October	\$ 7,949.21	\$ 7,985.74	\$ 1,061.09	\$ (8,474.27)
Year to Date	\$ 83,250.76	\$ 91,725.03	\$ 1,061.09	\$ (8,474.27)

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
October	\$ -		\$ 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
October	\$ 230.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 932.50

*Includes Per Capita

	Previous	This Mnth	To Date
*Per Capita to Date	\$ 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
October	\$ 150.00		\$ 3,806.10
Year to Date	\$ 2,145.00	\$ 976.00	\$ 3,806.10

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
October			\$ 1,792.97
Year to Date	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 1,792.97

Special Offerings

	Previous	This Mnth	To Date
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ 330.00	\$ -	\$ 330.00
Cents-Ability	\$ 107.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 115.00
Presby Disaster Assistance*	\$ 789.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 1,014.00
*\$235.00 Ukraine			
	Received	GOAL	Balance
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 873.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (127.00)
Pentecost ***	\$ 465.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 65.00
Peace Global Witness **	\$ 232.50	\$ 375.00	\$ (142.50)

**25% - Welcome Home Shelter

***40% - Blackburn Center

ATTENDANCE

Oct 2, 2022:	35
Oct 9, 2022:	24
Oct 16, 2022:	57
Oct 23, 2022:	25
Oct 26, 2022 :	26

PROPERTY COMMITTEE
BY KEN MARTZ

A BIG THANK YOU to all who turned out for the work day Nov 5. You REALLY make a difference.



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

Cliff is in the office most mornings.

**Congruity
Presbyterian Church**
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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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