



Congruity Presbyterian Church

March 2023
Volume 47, Issue 3

Congruity Connections

CLIFF'S NOTES

The month of March contains the bulk of the Season of Lent which runs from Ash Wednesday (February 22) through Maundy Thursday (April 6). During this month there will be weekly community Lenten Services, the full schedule can be found in the newsletter. March 11th is the 3rd anniversary of the World Health Organization declaring Covid-19 a pandemic. These last three years have challenged us and have changed the way we live our lives, hasn't it?

One of the traditions for Lent is to give something up during the Season of Lent and in doing so, we focus our attention on all that Christ has done for us. In recent years a new tradition has emerged of adding something to our daily life like calling someone we haven't spoken to in a while, sending someone a "thinking of you" card, or some other acts of kindness. As we live in the reality of the post-pandemic, I would like to challenge us to add something to our Lenten disciplines, to return to our weekly worship services. One of the things that we learn as we read through the Bible is that we were made to be part of a community, that we are part of the Body of Christ—the Church. As we have endeavored to be faithful during the Covid-19 pandemic, our sense of connectedness has waned. I will continue to post a brief worship service on Facebook each week.

As we journey through the Season of Lent, may we be mindful of all that Christ has done for us and all that he continues to do for us. May we continue to live into our call to be the modern-day disciples of Christ at work in our world today. I look forward to seeing you in church.

Yours in Christ, *Cliff*



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SPECIAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

- **Lenten Worship Services** are every Wednesday—Check the calendar for place and times.

WEEKLY WORSHIP
MEDITATIONS

March 5

John 3: 1-17

March 12

Romans 5: 1-11

March 19

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

March 26

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

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.

- | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| March 5 | Avonmore | Brenda Barnes, Moderator |
| March 12 | Delmont | Tony Catullo, Interim |
| March 19 | Lower Burrell, Grace Community | Doug Marshall, Interim |
| March 26 | Redstone Presbytery | Chuck MacPherson, Honorably Retired |

LITURGIST FOR MARCH

- | | |
|----------|---------------|
| March 5 | Rhea Summit |
| March 12 | Dave Foresman |
| March 19 | Debbie Perino |
| March 26 | Ced Stopansky |

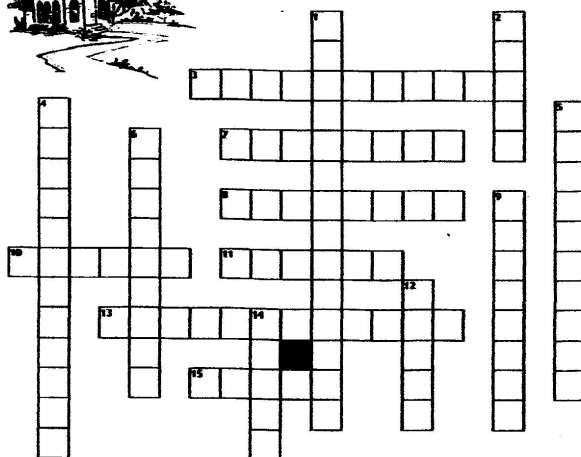
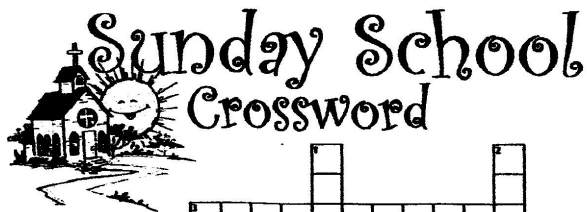
*Finding God * Growing in Faith * Discovering Purpose * Making a Difference*

WEEKLY WORSHIP
SERVICES

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



KIDZ KORNER SUBMITTED BY CHRISTIAN ED



Across

- 3. The earth was without
- 7. be a burnt sacrifice
- 8. Zeb'ulon, and Benjamin and one more
- 10. Speak unto the children of
- 11. The second book of Moses
- 13. Take ye the sum of all the
- 15. The names of the children of Israel, which came from

Down

- 1. In the beginning God created
- 2. Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and
- 4. What books from the bible
- 5. How many books are in the old testament
- 6. Another word used as family
- 9. The first book of Moses about what
- 12. The Lord called unto
- 14. In the second year after they were come out of the land of

MARCH CELEBRATIONS

Date	Anniversaries
03/02/1957	Bob & Kay Frye
3/3/2006	Vince & Sandy Kemerer
3/28/1981	Tom & Rosemary Orr
3/29/1981	Ron & Mary Ann Kaufman



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Date	Person
3/2	Jason Orr
3/3	Janet Rugh
3/4	Karen Dudek
3/7	Jacob Derek
3/8	Geri Kaufman Debbie Marchelletta Nancy Schweppe
3/9	Alicia D'Aurora
3/10	Ken Walters
3/11	Jessica D'Aurora
3/13	Nancy Walters
3/14	Alison Derek Sullivan
3/18	April Hawkey Richards Dana Kaufman
3/19	Michael Kaufman Betty Murphy
3/20	Sandy Kemerer Matt MacDonald
3/24	Colten Tarpay
3/25	Pam Foresman Lana Munsell
3/26	Bill Heasley
3/27	Adrian Frye
3/28	Robert Watt
3/29	Marlene Kifer
3/30	Perry Miller IV



IN SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the following families:

Debbie Perino and her family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of death of her brother Toner's death.

The Hamilton family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Scott's Aunt Dori's death.

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

CONGRATS !

We extend our congratulations to Matt and Stephanie Cunningham on the birth of their daughter Anastasia Lynn who was born on January 19, 2023 at Magee Hospital, she was 2lb 5oz and 13.5 inches.



ELDERS

Matt Cunningham
Tim D'Aurora
Evelyn Foresman
Phyllis Frye
Kathy Hamilton
Vince Kemerer
Nancy Lauffer
Ken Martz
Scott McIlnay

DEACONS

Stephanie Cunningham
Becky Davis
Sue Derek
Dave Foresman
Terry Selembo
Cedric Stopansky

ON THE COVER

As Easter approaches, this is an image from one of our beautiful windows in the sanctuary. This window depicts Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, where he went to pray while his disciples kept watch. **Mark 14: 32-36.**

ITEMS FROM SESSION BY S. STOPANSKY

The session met on Monday, February 20th and reports the following.

Were informed that the **Souper Bowl of Caring collection was \$207.** The money collected will be sent to the Westmoreland County Food Bank.

Approved the 2022 Statistical Report that is required by the General Assembly.

Decided to only have one Service on **Easter Sunday. Worship will begin at 10:30.**

Approved moving Worship to 10:00 for the summer months.

Discussed the need for an inside work day at the church.

The next Session meeting will be Sunday, March 19th immediately following worship. This will be a joint meeting with the Deacons.

DEACONS BY DAVE FORESMAN



CALL FOR COLLEGE, CAREER SCHOOL STUDENTS

If you know of someone in the Congruity Family that is currently attending a college, university or technical school, please submit their names and addresses to the Congruity Deacons.

Or leave a message with the Church Secretary. The Deacons would like to prepare **care packages** for a Spring pick-me-up!

The Deacons would like everyone to know that the **2023 FLOWER CHART** is posted in the greeting room. Please sign your name to the chart or call the church office to get your name on the list. Floral arrangements are made by Export Floral and cost \$40 payable to Congruity Deacons.



EASTER FLOWERS BY THE DEACONS



Order forms will be available for EASTER FLOWERS are located in the church pews, but you can also contact the church office at 724-668-7740, Reverend Foster, or any Deacon to place an order.

REPORT FROM THE REDSTONE MISSION TEAM

BY PHYLLIS FRYE

THANK YOU to all who supported our Mardi-Gras Pancake Dinner fund-raiser. We served 140 guests and raised around \$1400 to help with expenses for our spring trip. See photos to the right.

Redstone Mission Team has selected the week of April 16-22, 2023, for their Spring Mission trip. Their destination will be Bolair, WV, about 10 minutes from Webster Springs. Redstone will be working under WVMA, which partners with Webster Springs Christian Mission, which oversees Mountain Market Place Mission. The team will be staying in the upstairs of this mission. Cost is \$300 per volunteer, with team member paying \$150 and the balance coming out of the Mission Team Fund. Work project will be building a ramp in Cowan, another town about 10 minutes away. If interested in going, contact Phyllis Frye (724-468-3740).



COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

March 1	Congruity	7PM	Len Morgan Preaching
March 8	UMC	Noon	Soup Luncheon with Devotions
March 15	No Walls	7PM	Charlie Brownawell Preaching
March 22	Community	7PM	Wayne Duffield Preaching
March 29	UMC	7PM	Dan Schall Concert

OFFERING TOTALS

Jan 1, 2023

\$781.00

Jan 8, 2023

\$1,385.00

Jan 15, 2023

\$1,945.00

Jan 22, 2023

\$1,527.00

Jan 29, 2023

\$660.00



ONLINE GIVING
QR CODE

**REMINDER to
ONLINE GIVERS:**

Any on-line giving is not reported by the financial secretary on her statements. For tax purposes you can log into your account to obtain a record of your on-line donations. Please remember that any on-line donations are not deposited into Congruity's bank account until the first banking day of the next month.

TREASURER'S REPORT BY CAROLINE D'AURORA

A HUGE THANK YOU to John Blank for his long tenure as Treasurer, and a special **WELCOME** goes out to Caroline D'Aurora for taking on the role of Treasurer. Thank you BOTH for your ministries!

General Fund

	NET Receipts	NET Expenses	Actual Balance	YR TO DATE Balance
<i>Adjusted Balance as of January 1</i>			\$ 10,829.82	
January	\$ 7,884.65	\$ 9,374.38	\$ 9,340.09	\$ (1,489.73)

First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January*	\$ 1,462.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 962.00

*Includes Per Capita

Special Offerings

	Previous	This Month	To Date
Cents-Ability	\$ -	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00

Fund Accounts

	From 2022	Year to Date	Balance
Memorial Fund	\$ 3,448.50	\$ -	\$ 3,448.50
Local Mission	\$ 1,792.97	\$ 20.00	\$ 1,812.97
Building Maintenance	\$ 4,201.10	\$ 205.00	\$ 4,406.10

Congruity Presbyterian Church

2023

General Fund Giving

On-Line	Other Contribution	Date	Offering	Total to Date	Offering Avg.
	\$ 500.00	1 01/01/23	\$ 781.00	\$ 1,281.00	\$ 1,281.00
\$ -	\$ 339.24	2 01/08/23	\$ 1,385.00	\$ 3,005.24	\$ 1,502.62
	\$ 595.00	3 01/15/23	\$ 1,945.00	\$ 5,545.24	\$ 1,848.41
\$ 147.23	\$ 0.08	4 01/22/23	\$ 1,527.10	\$ 7,219.65	\$ 1,804.91
	\$ 5.00	5 01/29/23	\$ 660.00	\$ 7,884.65	\$ 1,576.93

BUDGET + STEWARDSHIP + INTERPRETATION

The newly formed Budget and Stewardship Interpretation Committee reminds everyone that the 2023 **per capita apportionment** for each member is **\$44.00**.

The per capita apportionment that we remit to the Presbytery covers their operating costs as well as the costs for the Synod of the Trinity and the General Assembly. You will see this recorded and tracked under the First Fruits on our Financial Reports. We ask that you indicate this as your per capita payment.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

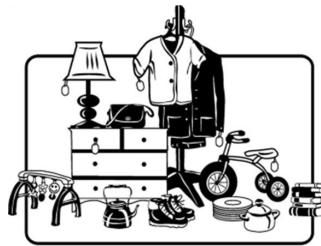
The next meeting is scheduled for Wed March 8 at 2pm. We are starting a new book study, Growing Older and Wiser by Dale Larson and Sandy Larson.

Both the Rummage Sale and the Turkey Dinner are fund-raisers for the Women's Association to help them fulfill their mission to Jesus Christ.

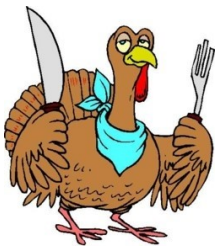
RUMMAGE SALE – BAKE SALE LUNCH:

Sat April 1st, 9am-2pm, \$2 bag sale at 1pm.

Clean out your cupboards and closets, Then come and refill them with new (to you) stuff from Congruity Women's Association Rummage Sale.



We will accept donations till noon Friday, March 31, but please bring them as early in the week as possible. We will need baked goods around 8am Sat. We plan on setting up tables on Sunday, March 26 after church. Help is needed all week and for clean-up Sat after the sale.. We appreciate any help you can give us, even if it is only an hour or two. Please don't bring rummage before that week unless absolutely necessary. Thank you.



The spring TURKEY DINNER will be **Saturday, May 13, 2023** . We are still planning on having the dinner, but are still undecided on whether to do

(1) take-out only,

(2) take out with the church being open to eat it there, or

(3) take-out and buffet. **We would like your feedback!**

We always need extra help with any of these dinners, but with options 2 and 3, we would need even more. We definitely don't have enough help to do the old sit-down dinners like we used to do. We would like your thoughts on this. And would you make a commitment? Contact either Terry Selembo (724-668-7577) Phyllis Frye (724-468-3740)

ATTENDANCE

Jan 1, 2023:	21
Jan 8, 2023:	36
Jan 15, 2023:	28
Jan 22, 2023:	28
Jan 29, 2023:	30

PER CAPITA DUE

Each year we are responsible to provide a per capita amount on each person in the congregation to help support the Presbytery. It helps Congruity if you earmark one your tithes specifically for the \$44 per person to 'Per Capita'. Thank you!

THANK YOU!

We wish to express our thanks to all who contributed to the **Souper Bowl of Car-ing** on February 12, 2023, we collected \$207 which will be given to the Westmoreland County Food Bank.

CONGRUITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: Cliff Foster

CLERK OF SESSION:
Sarabeth Stopansky

ASST. CLERK: Ken Martz

DEACON MODERATOR:
Dave Foresman

TREASURER:
Caroline D'Aurora

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:
Lana Munsell

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**
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**

**NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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