



Congruity Presbyterian Church

April 2023
Volume 47, Issue 4

Congruity Connections

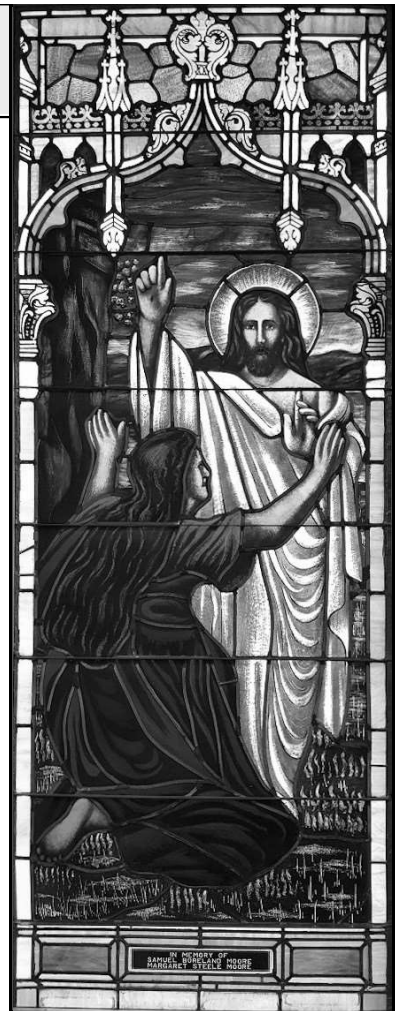
CLIFF'S NOTES

As I write these words I am thinking about something that I recently heard on a newscast, that so far this year we are about 24 inches below our normal snowfall amount for the year. We are all aware that here in Western PA we have had a very mild winter. I know that March came in like a lamb and so it may leave like a lion, but for the most part this has been a fairly mild winter.

For me, the month of April holds a powerful image for us of renewal, rebirth and resurrection as we prepare to celebrate Easter on April 9th. We are surrounded by the sights, sounds and smells of the springtime symphony. As the trees, flowers and lawns come back to life, it is a visual reminder for us of the transforming power of the empty tomb. The symphony of spring reminds us of those words of Paul in 2 Corinthians 5: 17: "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" To me this verse captures the essence of the impact that our faith makes in our lives and we are made new... made into the persons that God wants us to be as we endeavor to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel message to all those around us.

As we are surrounded by the symphony of spring, may we be reminded that we are Easter people, as the old hymn reminds us "and because He lives I can face tomorrow." May the message of Easter—that Christ is alive and risen from the dead, enable us be Christ' disciples at work in our world today. I wish you all a very Happy Easter!

Yours in Christ, *Cliff*



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SPECIAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

- Come Celebrate **Easter** at Congruity, April 9, 2023. **Service starts at 11 am**

WEEKLY WORSHIP
MEDITATIONS

April 2 (Palm S.)

Matthew 21: 1-11

**April 6 (Maundy
Thursday)**

John 13: 1-17,31-35

April 9 (Easter)

John 20: 1-18

April 16

John 20: 19-31

April 23

Luke 24: 13-35

April 30

Psalms 23

SEPARATED BY SPACE + UNITED IN PRAYER

Please Pray for the following Redstone District 1 Pastors and congregations.

April 2 Lower Burrell, Puck- Brian Kilbert, Pastor
ety

April 9 Murrysville First Ed Gray, Pastor

April 16 Murrysville, New- Curtis Paul, Pastor; Travis
lonsburg Webster, Assoc. Pastor

April 23 Murrysville Union Bob Reufle, Pastor

April 30 Redstone Presbytery Becky Maiman, Member-at-
large

LITURGIST FOR APRIL

April 2 Cliff Foster April 23 Caroline D'Aurora

April 9 Sarabeth Stopansky April 30 Cliff Foster

April 16 Tim D'Aurora

*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.



DEACONS BY DAVE FORESMAN



The Deacons would like everyone to know that there is still room on the **2023 FLOWER CHART**, 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.

Many Thanks from the Congruity Deacons

EASTER FLOWERS

Order forms are available for EASTER FLOWERS. These forms will be 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.



APRIL CELEBRATIONS

Date	Anniversaries
4/7/1984	Darrell & Diane D'Aurora
4/13/2005	Michael & Kim Matvey
4/27/1969	Ron & Geri Kaufman
4/27/2002	Bob & Mimi Kaufman



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Date	Person
4/2	Ashley Bish
4/6	Elaine Kaufman Meryle Kaufman
4/7	Alyssia Thomas
4/8	William Kaufman
4/9	Jill Blank John Blank III
4/11	Rich Youngbauer
4/15	Missy Martz
4/16	Lisa Heasley
4/17	Colton Boggs Phyllis Frye
4/18	Steve Derek Dan Lapcevic
4/19	Christine Kuzmkowski
4/20	Shirley Stoltz
4/23	Mimi Kaufman
4/26	Sue Derek
4/30	Tom Hamilton



A BIG THANK YOU!

Phyllis Frye would like to thank all those who sent birthday cards to her sister, Helen Miller (Toots) on her 90th birthday.

CONGRATS!

To Nick and Brandy Guthrie on the birth of their son Cooper Brent who was born on February 25, 2023 and was 8lb 5oz and 21 inches.

To Wil and Liz Hamilton on their birth of their second daughter Annalise Jean, March 8, 2023. She is the granddaughter of Kathy and Scott Hamilton.

IN SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the following families:

The Davis family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of Becky and Tom's Brother-In-Law Michael's death.

The Blank family as they walk through the valley of the shadow of death of Sue's brother Mark's death.

To Hope Sehring as she walks through the valley of the shadow of Fred's death.

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

He is Risen! This is an image from one of our beautiful windows in the sanctuary. This window depicts the risen Christ. He is Risen Indeed!
John 20 : 11-18

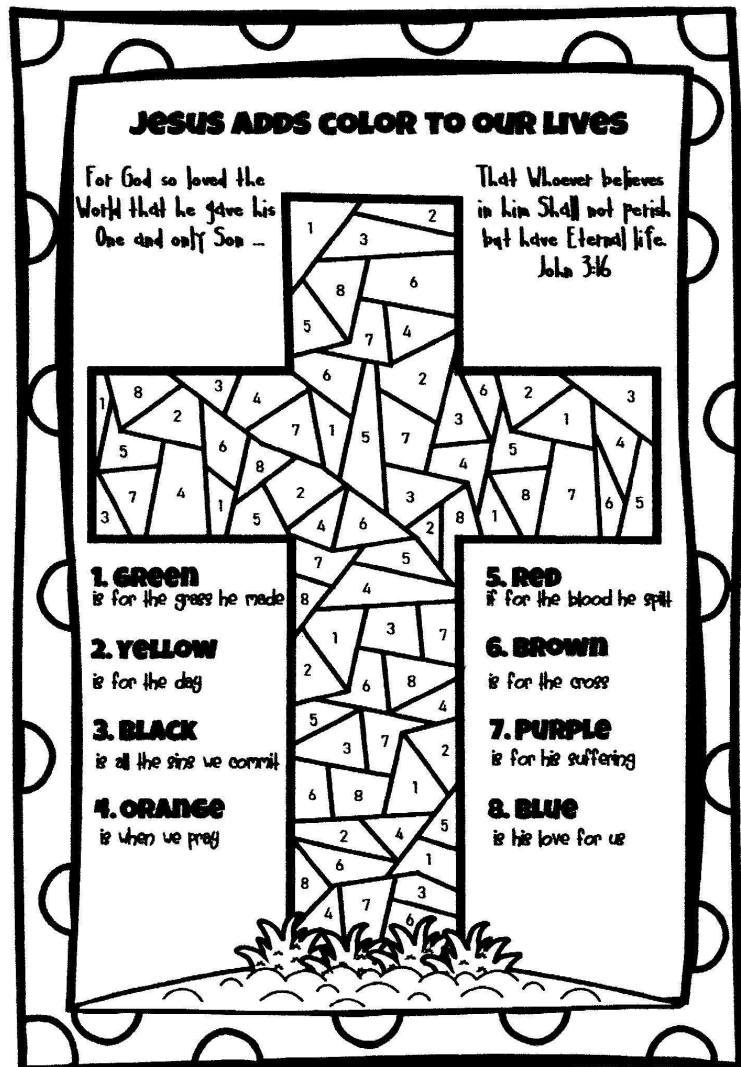
ITEMS FROM SESSION BY S. STOPANSKY

The session met on Sunday, March 21st for their annual joint meeting with the Deacons and reports the following.

Topics discussed included volunteering for church committees, and calling up the committee to make decisions to replace the sanctuary roof.

The session held a brief meeting after the Annual Joint Meeting of the Session and Deacons. At that meeting the session approved request to baptize Lindsay Schweppe on April 20, 2023. She is the daughter of Matt and Megan Schweppe and granddaughter of Bob and Nancy Schweppe. They also approved 1 vacation day for Cliff for Monday, March 20, 2023.

KIDZ KORNER SUBMITTED BY CHRISTIAN ED

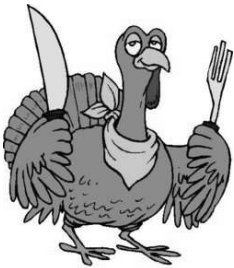


WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION BY PHYLLIS FRYE

RUMMAGE SALE- BAKE SALE-LUNCH :

Saturday April 1, 9am-2pm. \$2 Bag sale at 1pm. We will accept donations until noon Friday, but please try to bring them earlier in the week, if possible. **We will need baked goods** round 8am Saturday. **Help is needed all week**, including Sat for after sale clean-up and delivery to Goodwill.

ROOT International will take a lot of it, but not until May, so it will need to be put in the back room to be delivered later. All proceeds go to the Congruity Women's Association to help fulfill their mission to Jesus Christ.



TURKEY DINNER; BUFFET or TAKE-OUT:

Saturday May 13, 4-7pm. \$12 adults, Children 6-12 \$5, Children under 6 free. Reservations are a must and can be made by contacting either Terry Selembo (724-668-7577) or the church (724-668-7740) by Sunday, May 7. When reserving, if possible, please state take-out or buffet.

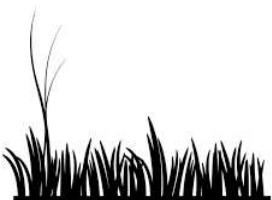
We are accepting donations of corn, Miracle Whip , butter, lots and lots of milk. We need people to roast turkeys and, donate cakes (9x12 or larger that can be cut into at least 12 pieces). Monetary donations are also accepted.

If you would like to donate, please contact Phyllis Frye(724-468-3740). There will also be a sign-up sheet at church. We will also need help on the day of the dinner on the serving line and clean-up , so please keep that date open. This is something new, so if you have any suggestions, please contact Terry or Phyllis.

MEETING: The next **Women's Association meeting is April 13 at 1pm.** We will be studying chapter 2 of the study book Growing Older and Wiser.

PROPERY COMMITTEE BY TIM D'AURORA

It is time for bids to mow the cemetery and church lawn. We need the bids for mowing the church lawn as often as needed (almost weekly) and for the cemetery mowing which should include at least 3 trimmings. They should be by the mowing for each part. This bid is due by Monday, April 17th and should be turned into the church office. If you have any questions, please call the office at 724-668-7740



OFFERING TOTALS

Feb 5, 2023

\$2,147.00

Feb 12, 2023

\$946.00

Feb 19, 2023

\$4,602.50

Feb 26, 2023

\$970.00



**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

General Fund

	Receipts	Expenses	Actual Balance	Year 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)
February	\$ 8,812.88	\$ 10,196.69	\$ 7,956.28	\$ (2,873.54)

First Fruits

	Received	Pledged	Balance
January*	\$ 1,462.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 962.00
February	\$ 639.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,101.00

*Includes Per Capita

Special Offerings

	Previous	This Month	To Date
Cents-Ability	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 16.00
Change for the Future Per Capita	\$ 29.65	\$ -	\$ 29.65
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ 1,673.00	\$ -	\$ 1,673.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ -	\$ 251.00	\$ 251.00
	\$ -	\$ 111.00	\$ 111.00

Included in General Fund Balance

<u>Fund Accounts</u>	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	\$ 300.00	\$ 4,501.10

REPORT FROM REDSTONE MISSION TEAM

BY PHYLLIS FRYE

Please keep the Redstone mission Team in prayer as they will be going to **Bolair (near Webster Springs), WV** the week of **April 16-22** to work with Webster Christian Mission. They will be staying, and possibly doing some work, at Mountain Marketplace Mission. Plans are also to build a wheelchair ramp in nearby Cowan, WV. This is all part of WMAW and works under PDA.



BUDGET + STEWARDSHIP + INTERPRETATION BY TIM D'AURORA

As you can see from the Treasurer's Report, February wasn't a very good financial month for our church. We experienced our second consecutive negative month. At the end of February, we are now \$2,873.54 in the red for the year. Hopefully, we can reverse this

alarming trend. On a positive note, we are ahead for the year in our First Fruits giving. Obviously, this is due in large part to the high degree of Per Capita contributions. We still have a lot of people who

haven't paid their **Per Capita of \$44.00** per member yet. Let's get everyone paid up.



It's **Spaghetti Dinner** time. On **Saturday, April 22, 4-6:30pm**, we will be holding our first of this year's Spaghetti Dinners. This is a direct benefit to our bottom line so we need everyone's support. We need help with donations (donation sheet will be in the Greeting Room), help on the

day of the dinner both with preparing and serving and especially clean up, and most importantly, we need to get people to come out and join us. Invite your family and friends because the more people we serve, the more we will make for the church. A big part of this fundraiser is the basket raffle. We need your help here as well. If you are able to put a basket together, that is great. But even if you just have things to donate, we can combine things to make additional baskets. Let Tim know if you are able to do one. **Let's work together to make this our most successful dinner yet.**

ATTENDANCE

Feb 5, 2023:	28
Feb 12, 2023:	25
Feb 19, 2023:	30
Feb 26, 2023:	29



REQUEST FOR BIDS: MOWING

Congruity is looking for someone who loves to mow!

Check out the Property Committee article on page 5.

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

CELEBRATE
EASTER

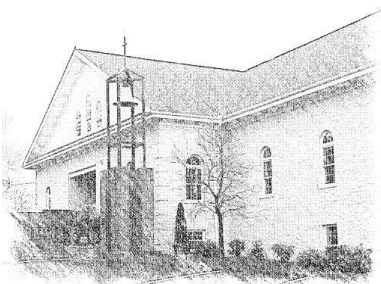
Email Newsletter items to congruitynewsletter@gmail.com

Cliff is in the office most mornings.

**Congruity
Presbyterian Church**
136 Fennelton 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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