



Condit Courier

November 2024

Thanks Giving or Giving Thanks?

Merry Christmas! Wait... that's not right. I must be confused. You see, since about mid-October, I've seen Christmas decorations up. Walmart has a display of Christmas trees in the front of the store. We didn't even get through Halloween and they were ready to just jump into Christmas. What about Thanksgiving?

"Thanksgiving" is a compound word made up of two words- both "thanks" and "giving." Traditionally, we in America celebrate this day by watching parades, eating Turkey, and forcing Christmas shopping earlier each and every year. The word, and indeed the holiday, center around the idea of "giving thanks."

Usually, this is done via verbal sharing around the dinner table before we eat the turkey. One by one, we go around and speak about what we are grateful for during the previous year. Of course, this always makes us feel good. We like to recall what it is that made us happy. It's logical because we are, in fact, truly grateful for all that we have received.

I have to wonder, however, what the world would look like if we took the word another way. What would happen- how would the world look- if we "gave" our thanks away? Psalm 107:1 reads: "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His steadfast love endures forever." I can't help but imagine a world where our giving thanks is a direct result of what God has given us.

This, of course, makes sense, but imagine replacing mere words with actions. If we "gave our thanks," then

we would be giving out of the abundance of what God has blessed us with. What a joyous life that would be! Perhaps, this year, we can truly show our thanks by giving unto others as God has given unto us.

What are some things you're thankful for this year?

How can you share your blessings with others? Is giving thanks more than just saying "thank you?" How can you develop an "attitude of gratitude" and then bless others?

Blessings,
Pastor Sam

(330)-207-7038
Pastorsamuel85@gmail.com
Office Hours Monday-Thursday
9:30-2:00



Pastor Sam leading World Communion on October 6th. wearing his special jacket from Malawi for the occasion.

Remember in Prayer

- Max Sheets, Mick Sheets, Peggy Sheets
- Judy Watts
- Mary Kingseed
- Carol Pickworth
- Cindy Monte
- Homer & Mary Jo Wilson
- Calvin Joseph, Ron Grober
- Hurricane Victims



November Calendar

Big Walnut Friends Who Share



It is time once again to bring in Jiffy Muffin Mixes, hats, mittens and gloves for families in the community who are presently in need of a helping hand this holiday season. Beginning **Sunday, November 3** a hat/mitten display will be set up in the narthex as well as boxes to collect all mix donations. Please have items to the church by **Sunday, December 1**. This year's goal is 120 boxes of muffin mixes. See Kathy Kees with any questions you may have.



November 8 at 11 am Faith Filled Women will be gathering at the Sunbury United Methodist Church for their autumn quarterly meeting and luncheon. Condit Women's Circle will host the program and has invited a guest speaker to share about her endeavors with Equine-assisted therapy. All women are welcome to come and learn about this unique treatment program.



Altar Flowers

Please contact Shiela Micholes by **November 17** if you would like to be removed from or added to the list of individuals providing fresh flowers for the worship service. The list is currently being update and a revised edition for 2025 will be posted in December. Thanks to all who contribute to make the sanctuary a more beautiful place to worship.

Food & Fun Dinner will be offered **November 13 and 27 from 5-7pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy a hot, home cooked meal and stay afterward to have some fun.



Calling all women! Pack a lunch and come join the Women's Circle **November 20 at noon** in the Fellowship Hall for the last Bible Study session of 2024. Please read Chapter 9 of *The Pilgrim's Progress* and prepare workbook pages 94-99 for discussion. MaryAnn Counts will lead the group. All women are encouraged to attend.



Hey Condit!!!! It's that time of year already!!! Yes- Christmas is right around the corner! We're planning to once again decorate our Sanctuary with another beautiful "Poinsettia Tree". It is created by 60 poinsettia plants. Please print/clip the order form on **page 4** and return or mail to George Justice by **November 24** if you would like to participate. *Submitted by George Justice*



Monday, November 25, at 6 pm the Advent Book Study will meet in the library. The selected book, *Calling All Angels: An Advent Study of Fearlessness and Strength*, has been ordered and will be distributed to participants soon. Please prepare by reading the introduction and "The First Week of Advent."



Operation Christmas Child is underway. The shoeboxes to be filled are in the church vestibule. You can choose gifts for a girl or boy, as well as the age. Self-adhesive tags and possible gift choices are inside the boxes. I have more info if you need help. When filling your boxes, make it FUN-include a Wow item, such as a soccer ball with pump, stuffed animal, or a doll as examples. Make it FULL – toys, personal care items, or school supplies. **PERSONALIZED** – pray for the child who receives your box. Include a personal note and/or a photo. Things **NOT** to put in: war stuff, candy, toothpaste, gum, used or damaged items, seeds, food, liquids or lotions, medication or vitamins, glass or breakable things, or aerosol items. A donation of \$10 per box is needed for shipping the box. You can pay online (you can track your box). You can also send a check to Samaritans Purse, PO Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607. This mission project is a demonstration of The Great Commission. Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." Doing this pleases our Lord. Please return completed boxes to the church by **Sunday, November 17, 2024**. *Submitted by Marianne Westbrook, Missions*

Mark your Calendar



All hands on deck! **December 1** please plan to stay after worship to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas.

Community Event



Condit will be participating in Christmas on the Square on **December 7, 2024**. This event will be 4 to 8 pm. We will be having a booth with a snack, hot drink, a takeaway, and our church information. We are looking for Christmas carolers to join in the festivities. Victorian dress is encouraged. Also if you are interested in helping staff our table or prepare something, it would be welcome.

Submitted by Marianne Westbrook, Missions



Condit Christmas will be **December 8 at 6 pm**. Gather in the sanctuary for the Christmas program and venture downstairs afterward for cookies and punch.



Last fall Pastor Sam suggested Session come up with a new church logo. He and one of the twins worked together, and with Session's input, came up with the above design. Plans are currently underway to order Condit T-shirts from 4imprint at the price of \$12.25 per shirt. We are looking at heather gray shirts with a full front sized logo with white lettering. The shirt brand is Gildan, 5.5 oz, 50% cotton/50% polyester blend. The sizes range from adult S through 5XL. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex. We need a minimum of 18 shirts to place the order.

Submitted by Marianne Westbrook, Mission



Welcome James Michael Vandewater

James entered the world September 28, 2024 at 1:13 p.m., weighing 6 pounds and 7 ounces at 20 inches long. Proud parents are Michael and Natalie Vandewater. Prouder grandparents are Brad and Lisa Reed. The Proudest Great Grandmother is Condit member, Mary Kingseed. Congratulations to the entire family!



Birthdays

6 Mick Sheets
9 Marvin Monroe
10 Joshua Shick
11 Jacquelin Kerns
12 Harold Ramsey
17 Kathy Kees
26 Michael Jones
28 Mary Jo Wilson



November Anniversaries

7 Mick and Pam Sheets
16 Ken and Doreen Bartlett
27 Gary and Jackie Covert



At Blood Drive on October 11, Condit Presbyterian Church completed 10 years of saving lives since starting in December 2014. Our little church in the country has sponsored 57 drives, collected 1292 pints of blood to save 3,792 lives, three lives per pint. We celebrated with balloons, cupcakes and carnations.



Joe Murphy completed donating 15 gallons of blood at the October drive.



Jim Gorsuch completed donating 18 gallons of blood at the June drive.

Many thanks to both men.

We are now taking reservations for the December 13th Blood Drive at Condit. GiveBlood@ConditChurch.org
Submitted by Polly Horn

Treasurer's Report

September 2024 Financials

Submitted by Ken Bartlett

Our regular offering through September was approximately 62.4% of its nine-month budget amount (**\$79,504.80** of **\$127,497.00**; **\$47,992.20** in arrears). A \$30,300 bequest was received in May. Total receipts through September were **\$130,978.46** of the nine-month budget amount of **\$146,997.00**, **\$16,018.54** less than budget.

Insurance and real estate taxes have been fully paid for the year, per capita has been paid for three-quarters of the year. Total expenses through September were **\$129,062.61** against the nine-month budget of **\$146,997.00**, resulting in outflows less than budget by **\$17,934.39**.

September net was approximately **\$2,155** in the red. September year-to-date net was **\$1,915.85** in the black.

Receipts through September were **\$44,425.21** more than a year ago, while expenses were **\$63,372.44** more than a year ago. This results in the net being **\$18,947.23** worse than a year ago.

Investment returns were up **12.3%** year-to-date. The \$30,000 bequest received in May was invested and investments totaled **\$310,039.70** as of the end of September. Total funds available were **\$338,350.67** as of the end of September. \$151,500.41 of this amount is general undesignated funds, \$156,686.74 is Condit's Building Fund balance, and \$30,163.52 is the aggregate balance of a variety of special funds.

Poinsettia Tree Order Form

Order by November 24

Name _____

Quantity _____ x \$8.25 each = \$ _____

In Memory _____

In Honor of _____

Make check payable to Condit Presbyterian Church
(write **Poinsettia** on memo line of check)

Give or mail to George Justice, 16019 Hartford Road,
Sunbury, Ohio 43074



Lessons from the Genealogy of Jesus by Jennie Kavage

“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” Genesis 1:27

When Condit’s Education Chair Melissa Vermillion couldn’t find ready-made curriculum for this fall’s Sunday School classes, she made it herself. Most of what was available, she recounts, was for larger and lengthier classes than Condit’s. She didn’t like the idea of spending money on material that wouldn’t be able to be used.

Christmas will be the culmination of the season’s work and as she thought about it Melissa was convinced the children needed a basic orientation to the Bible journey from Adam to the birth of Jesus. After consulting with Pastor Sam Monte and others who have worked in Condit’s Christian Education program, she decided to create 13 lessons based on genealogy.

She drew on her own Christian Education growing up in Methodist and Presbyterian churches and on genealogy that’s readily available in the Bible. Genesis 4-5 gives the line from Adam to Noah and Genesis 10-11 goes from Noah to Abram, who was renamed Abraham. The New Testament opens with the lineage from Abraham to Joseph.

The story of the first man and woman as presented in Genesis kicked off Condit’s Sunday School classes in September. Melissa says the foundation for families is in this story.

Most of the people the classes are built around will be familiar to anyone who grew up going to Sunday School: Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Leah, Ruth and Boaz,

David and Bathsheba, and Solomon. Some like Judah and Tamar, Salmon and Rahab are more obscure. In some cases the story will center on the women. In others, the subject had a difficult, even unsavory, past but, as Melissa puts it, “God chooses that person to be in the lineage.”

Sandy Thacker made the family tree that hangs on the north wall in the Fellowship Hall. On the right are maps that show the physical journey of the generations as they range throughout the Middle East from Egypt to Babylon. On the left are the words children will learn with each lesson. **Trinity, holy** and **fellowship** are the first on the list.

Every other week the children receive a Bible verse to commit to memory. First was the verse that begins this article. Coming up with an activity to reinforce each lesson was the hard part, Melissa notes. Parents can see the lesson summary, the scripture it’s from, new words learned and the memory verse on a handout each week.

Condit has a corps of teachers who take turns leading the classes: Teresa Gorsuch, Marianne Westbrook, Georgann Whitney, Beverly Saksa, Sandy Thacker, Pam Sheets

and Melissa. Odessa Monte has helped set up and clean up the room.

There will be a break from genealogy for Thanksgiving when the lesson will be built upon First Thessalonians 5:18 *“In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”* Discussion will center on the fact that each person has different circumstances and each child will make a thankful list.

Christmas emphasis will be on the Book of Luke and the familiar decree from Caesar Augustus calling all people to their home cities to be taxed. *“And Joseph*

Continued on page 6



Lessons, continued from page 5

also went up . . . unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.”

The story of Jesus will continue in January with a book on his beginnings that will take Sunday School classes to Lent.

Special events also are planned for the Sunday School age group during the year, Melissa says, including the Easter Road Trip offered last spring, a Vacation Bible School Experience this past summer and the October Bonfire.



Wiener Roast a “Smoking” Success

Approximately twenty adult and youth gathered around the fire pit in Condit’s parking lot on October 12 for the Annual Wiener Roast and Bonfire. The weather could not have been more perfect and the hot dogs tasted wonderful in the great outdoors. Kids had fun decorating and/or carving pumpkins, playing games and eating S’mores. Thanks to Grant Bartlett for heading up this year’s event and to Jackie Covert & Christy Krinn for making sure the children had pumpkins to carve. Enjoy event photos below.





November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Set clocks back at bedtime 
3 Worship With Communion 10 am Daylight Savings Time Ends	4	5 Exercise 6 pm Election Day	6	7 Exercise 6 pm	8 Faith Filled Women @ 11 am	9
10 Worship 10 am	11 	12 Exercise 6 pm	13 Food & Fun 5-7 pm	14 Exercise 5:30pm Session & Trustees 7 pm	15	16
17 Worship 10 am Shoebox deadline	18	19 Exercise 6 pm	20 Women's Circle @ Noon Choir 6pm	21 Exercise 6 pm	22	23
24 Worship 10 am Poinsettia Deadline	25 Advent Book Study 6 pm	26 Exercise 6 pm	27 Food & Fun 5-7 pm Choir 6pm	28 	29	30 

Condit Presbyterian Church Newsletter
15102 Hartford Road
Sunbury, Ohio 43074

SESSION

Class of 2026

Marianne Westbrook Judy Watts
Melissa Vermillion

Class of 2025

Grant Bartlett Sheila Micholes
Kathy Kees

Class of 2024

Doug Kerns Mick Sheets
Sandy Thacker

Minister Rev. Samuel Monte
Music Director Adam Garner
Treasurer Ken Bartlett
Financial Secretary Doug Kerns
Clerk of Session Chip Welch
Church Phone Number: 740-965-2911
Website: <http://ConditChurch.org>

TRUSTEES

Class of 2026

John Whitney Molly Blevins

Class of 2025

Bob Westbrook George Justice

Class of 2024

Allison Skinner Kenneth Bartlett

Church Directory

Donna and Laura Mucci

Newsletter Editor M. Vermillion
Website, Streaming Bob Westbrook

Acolytes Bill & Teresa Gorsuch
All Contact Info in Church Directory
available in the church