



# Condit Courier

January 2025

## Renewal for the New Year

I'm pushing forty this year. Yikes. I'm not super sure if I am where I thought I would be when I was pushing twenty. I know I have a lot more grey in my beard than I thought I would have. I honestly didn't think I would ever have a beard at twenty, yet here I am.

I'm not upset by this fact. Why would I be? I can't control the passage of time, no matter how hard I try. Instead, all I can do is move with it. Life, it would seem, is the same. It almost looks like chaos. No matter how much you plan for something, it always seems like something else will happen. What is the old saying? Man plans, God laughs.

I don't think it's a bad thing. In the midst of the chaos, we are drawn closer to God. I am reminded of two prophets when I think about riding the chaos of life. The first is Hosea. In Hosea 2:14, we read, "Therefore, I will not allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her." Here, God is talking about how in the wilderness when God's people traveled, they were closer together. The wilderness, while a wild place, is also a place of being very close to God. It was in the midst of the chaos that the people were close and leaning on God.

The second prophet I think of is Isaiah. Isaiah 43:19

reads, "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" In the midst of this chaos and being closer to God, we can take joy in the fact that God is a God of the new. There is renewal in God. Just because things are different and chaotic doesn't mean it is wrong or bad. It means that God is doing something new for us.



It is my hope that, as we approach the new year, we will meditate on all this. Every year, we stand at the foot of a new year, ready to see what God has in store for us. It isn't always what we expect. It isn't always easy. It is, however, always what God knows we need. We do not

face the new year and the new challenges alone. Instead, we face them with the God of renewal, knowing that we are close to the God of love.

How can we live into the new things God is doing in the New Year? What are some practical ways we can allow God to lead us through the wilderness of our lives? What can we do to fully rely on God?

Blessings,  
Pastor Sam  
(330) 207-7038  
[Pastorsamuel85@gmail.com](mailto:Pastorsamuel85@gmail.com)

Office hours Monday-Thursday 9:30-2:00

## Preparing for Christmas

**Saturday, November 30** found many at the church decorating both inside and out.

### Thank You from the Trustees

The Trustees want to thank all of you who helped prep and decorate our church for the Christmas Season. Many hands make a big task much easier and faster! Erecting the outdoor Nativity Scene, setting up and decorating the Christmas Tree, organizing the Poinsettia Tree, and hanging garland and wreaths is a huge task! Travelers along Rt. 605 and everyone entering our sanctuary can feel and appreciate the Spirit of Christmas at Condit. Thanks again and Merry Christmas to everyone! *Submitted by George Justice, Trustee*



*Inside decorators: (L-R) George Justice, Ken Bartlett, Kathy Kees, Laura Mucci, Teresa Gorsuch, Donna Mucci, Bill McKown, and Bill Gorsuch*



*Outside decorators (L-R): Dave Vermillion, Bob Westbrook, George Justice, Grant Bartlett, John Whitney, Doug Linnabary, and Mike Mucci*

## Advent Began

**December 1** we began the celebration of Advent. The first Advent candle, representing **HOPE**, was lit by John and Georgann Whitney, *photo below*.



The chancel choir sang “People Look East” to remind us that **LOVE** is indeed on the way.



*Back row (L-R): Pastor Sam, Grant Bartlett, Ken Bartlett  
Middle row: Polly Horn, Bev Saksa, Pam Sheets, Mary Kingseed  
Front row: Marv Monroe, Linda Dado*

Communion was shared.



*Pastor Sam breaks communion bread.  
Continued on page 3*



Advent, *continued from page 1*

Lastly, final decorations were placed on the tree.



*Sheila Micholes and Sandy Thacker add the final touches.*

**On December 7**, Condit Presbyterian Church had a booth at the Christmas on the Square celebration in Sunbury. This was an outreach opportunity with the purpose of connecting the church to the community. We provided hot chocolate, Christmas chex mix, hand warmers, and Christmas books to those in attendance. All was free of charge. We also participated in Christmas caroling around the square. Thank you to all who made this successful. They are Dave Vermillion, Melissa Vermillion, Georgann Whitney, John Whitney, Sandy Thacker, Bev Saksa, Sheila Micholes, Mike Mucci, Pam Sheets, Mary Kingseed, Bob Westbrook, Judy Watts, and Marianne Westbrook. *Submitted by Marianne Westbrook, Outreach*



*From left: J. Whitney, M. Westbrook, B. Westbrook, D. Vermillion*



*G. Whitney, Cameron Gale, J. Whitney, S. Micholes*

**December 8** Adam Garner began worship with a moving piano prelude, *photo below.*



Then the second Advent candle, the candle of **PEACE**, was lit.



*Marianne and Bob Westbrook light the Advent wreath.*

*Continued on page 4*



## New Records Set

**December 11** a record number of diners were counted at **Food & Fun**. Nearly 60 braved a cold winter evening to enjoy a hot holiday meal of brisket, mac & cheese, vegetable casserole and a variety of desserts. Photos below capture random fellowship moments at Food & Fun, both in December and throughout the fall. Condit can't thank Doreen Bartlett, Ken Bartlett, Bob Westbrook and the various clean-up crews enough for maintaining this worthy community outreach mission.



*Cameron and Georgann having some fun.*



*Family of Frank & MaryAnn Counts.*



*Food & Fun regulars. Note: the table is full to the other end!*



*Bill  
Gorsuch  
and Linda  
Dado*



*MaryAnn Counts and Mary Kingseed converse.*



*Chatter Box men?*

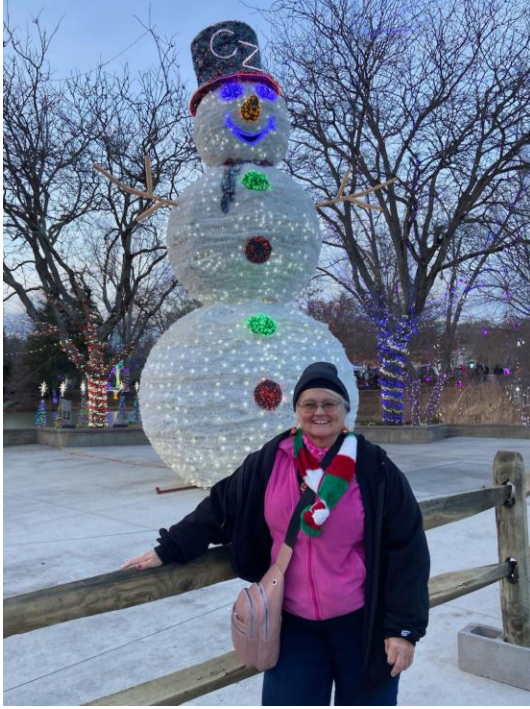


Our record breaking **Red Cross Blood Drive** on **December 13**, had 46 donors which included 3 walk-ins and collected 38 pints of good blood to save 114 lives. This made a grand total of 184 pints collected and 552 lives saved by Condit in the six drives this year. Our next drive is scheduled for **Friday, February 14, from 12 to 6**. Check with Polly Horn to register or email [GiveBlood@ConditChurch.org](mailto:GiveBlood@ConditChurch.org).



## Advent Continued

A small party of 1 attended the Columbus Zoo Lights on **December 14**. Many had to cancel because of illness, but Sheila Micholes braved the cool night air and toured the zoo on her own, *photo below*.



**December 15**, the third Advent candle, the candle of **JOY**, was lit by Dave and Melissa Vermillion, *photo below*.



Condit Women's Circle met **Wednesday, December 18** at The Myers Inn Museum for a special Christmas luncheon prepared by Mary Kingseed with the assistance of Jane Lahmon. Between lunch and dessert an educational tour of the Inn was directed by Polly Horn. Ladies enjoyed a traditional Yule Log dessert before parting for the day. Special thanks to Sheila Micholes for helping Mary set up, serve and clean up the luncheon.

The next Women's Circle meeting will be January 15, 2025, at noon in the fellowship hall. Chapter 9 of *The Pilgrim's Progress* will be discussed, workbook pages 96-99. All women are invited to participate.



### Remember in Prayer

Carmie's cousin, Bryan Engle  
Max & Peggy Sheets  
Homer & Mary Jo Wilson  
Grandma Angie  
Cindy Monte  
Carol Pickworth  
Jensen (4 year old with leukemia)



## Upcoming January Events

**Food & Fun** will resume **Wednesdays, January 8 and January 22 from 5-7 p.m.** Come early, stay late. See what winter comfort food Doreen will offer.



Church Officer Training will be offered for Elders and Deacons on **Saturday, January 11 from 9:00- 11:30 a.m.** This year the training will be held at Gahanna Mifflin Presbyterian Church. Registration is required. Reference the Presbytery Mid Week E News for more information.



A winter special event- mark your calendar for **January 19.** Grant Bartlett will be working with the youth of Condit to create a **Hot Chocolate Bar** after worship. Feel free to Bring Your Own Mug (BYOM) and stay for fellowship while sipping cocoa.



Annual Congregational Meeting will be held **after worship on Sunday, January 26.** Please plan to attend.



### *Birthdays*

2 Mike Joseph  
8 Doreen Bartlett  
12 Karen Kerns  
16 Christy Krinn  
Richard Day  
19 Jeff Marshall  
Peyton White  
26 Jeff Groseclose  
27 Laura Mucci  
28 Jane Markley  
30 Jane Lahmon  
31 Virginia Kavage

## Treasurer's Report

November 2024 Financials

*Submitted by Ken Bartlett*

Our regular offering through November was approximately 74% of its eleven-month budget amount (**\$115,038.14** of **\$155,829.67**; **\$40,791.53** in arrears). A \$30,300 bequest was received in May. Total receipts through November were **\$170,308.14** of the eleven-month budget amount of **\$179,663.00**, **\$9,354.86** less than budget.

Insurance and real estate taxes have been fully paid for the year, as well as our per capita to presbytery. Total expenses through November were **\$159,337.10** against the eleven-month budget of **\$179,663.00**, resulting in outflows less than budget by **\$20,325.90**.

November net was approximately **\$14,400** in the black. November year-to-date net was **\$10,971.04** in the black.

Receipts through November were **\$64,038.56** more than a year ago, while expenses were **\$66,476.83** more than a year ago. This results in the net being **\$2,438.27** worse than a year ago.

Investment returns were up **16.8%** year-to-date. The \$30,000 bequest received in May was invested and investments totaled **\$321,309.55** as of the end of November. Total funds available were **\$358,675.89** as of the end of November. \$163,997.46 of this amount is general undesignated funds, \$163,236.16 is Condit's Building Fund balance, and \$31,442.27 is the aggregate balance of a variety of special funds.

### **B.W.F.W.S.**

A big thank you to all of you who participated in the collection of Jiffy Muffin mixes for the Big Walnut Friends Who Share Christmas Food Boxes project. We were asked to supply 120 boxes of muffin mix. As always, we exceeded the number requested! 120 will be used in the Christmas boxes helping each neighbor in need have a wonderful Christmas meal. The remainder of the mixes have been put on the shelves at the BWFWS food bank. *Submitted by Kathy Kees*

On a similar note, Condit collected 39 hats, 47 hats/mittens and 3 scarves for Friends Who Share. Thank you to Teresa Gorsuch for coordinating this mission.



# JANUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>January Anniversary</i> Rick &amp; Darlene Ross, January 23</p> <p><i>January Sanctuary Flowers-</i> Mick &amp; Pam Sheets</p>			<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p> <p><b>Exercise</b> <b>6 pm</b></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p><b>Worship with Communion</b> <b>10 am</b></p> <p><b>Epiphany Sunday</b></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p><b>Exercise</b> <b>6 pm</b></p>	<p>8</p> <p><b>Food &amp; Fun</b> <b>5-7pm</b></p>	<p>9</p> <p><b>Exercise</b> <b>5:30 pm</b></p> <p><b>Session &amp; Trustees 7 pm</b></p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>Church Officer Training</b></p>
<p>12</p> <p><b>Worship</b> <b>10 am</b></p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p><b>Exercise</b> <b>6 pm</b></p>	<p>15</p> <p><b>Women's Circle @ Noon</b></p> <p><b>Choir 6 pm</b></p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>Exercise</b> <b>6 pm</b></p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> 
<p>19</p> <p><b>Worship</b> <b>10am</b></p> <p><b>Hot Chocolate Bar</b></p>	<p>20</p>  <p>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p>	<p>21</p> <p><b>Exercise</b> <b>6 pm</b></p>	<p>22</p> <p><b>Food &amp; Fun</b> <b>5-7pm</b></p> <p><b>Choir 6 pm</b></p>	<p>23</p> <p><b>Exercise</b> <b>6 pm</b></p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p><b>Worship</b> <b>10am</b></p> <p><b>Annual Congregational Meeting</b></p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p><b>Exercise</b> <b>6 pm</b></p>	<p>29</p> 	<p>30</p> <p><b>Exercise</b> <b>6 pm</b></p>	<p>31</p>	

Condit Presbyterian Church Newsletter  
15102 Hartford Road  
Sunbury, Ohio 43074

## SESSION

### *Class of 2027*

Sandy Thacker    Mick Sheets  
Mary Kingseed

### *Class of 2026*

Marianne Westbrook    Judy Watts  
Melissa Vermillion

### *Class of 2025*

Grant Bartlett    Sheila Micholes  
Kathy Kees

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 2027*

Allison Skinner    Kenneth Bartlett

### *Class of 2026*

John Whitney    Molly Blevins

### *Class of 2025*

Bob Westbrook    George Justice

### *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