



Condit Courier

VOLUME 2017

FEBRUARY

Can We Do It?

Condit has come a long way in the past year.

During our bleakest years attendance and membership dropped drastically. The trashed manse was another weight pulling us down. It was easy to point our fingers at the leadership and say "It was all your fault." Most wondered what to do to save the little church in the country.

New Beginnings was like looking in a mirror and we did not like the obvious conclusion in front of us. As head of the Personnel Committee, Mick Sheets said we could play it safe and hire a part-time pastor we could afford or put all on the table and get a full time pastor and figure out how to pay the salary. The congregation opted to call a full time pastor. Enter Rev. Annie!

Stewardship Committee gave us a balanced 2016 budget with the warning that it would not meet our bills. Jim Caudill reminded us Condit always finds a way.

When the heating and cooling system simply gave out and put us in the uncomfortable position of freezing or taking on more debt – we borrowed the \$22,000 from our reserves, raised \$16,500 for the H&C and finished the year with our funds all in the black. Rev. Annie got a raise not a pink slip.

Yes, the balanced budget is important but look at the other things we accomplished this year. We still supported B.W. Friends Who Share with food drives, back to school supplies, hats mittens, food for holiday boxes and of course cash.

(Continued on page 4)



Service Day-February 26 Let Us Help You!

Condit's Youth Group wants to serve our congregation. If you have tasks that you could use some help with, let us know. Some examples: move heavy items up/down stairs, special cleaning project.

These services will be done for free, but if you want to make a donation, the youth will send it to one of their favorite missions.

Please contact Rev. Annie or Alex Sheets if you would like the youth to serve you.



**5-7 Sunday, Feb. 5 Red Carpet
Fancy Valentine Dinner**

followed by our program looking at the life of children in Papua Indonesia. This program involves a craft and a target practice game.

Kids may dress up for our Red Carpet theme!

Watch out for the paparazzi!

Healthy Congregations – Respond to Anxiety



Rev. Annie Melick

As a trained Healthy Congregations Facilitator, I hope to help Condit be a vital healthy congregation. Over the coming months, I will share some of the characteristics of a healthy congregation so that we can both celebrate our strengths and increase our awareness of areas we can improve. In previous months, we looked at the healthy characteristics of focusing on strengths and mission.

Another foundational characteristic of healthy congregations is that they respond to anxiety. We are not speaking here of acute or chronic anxiety, as a medical condition, but rather the normal anxiety that everyone experiences. Anxiety can be productive and motivate us to change, but it can also choke us and cause us to stagnate. Anxiety does have an effect on a congregation's community life.

When we experience intense anxiety, a natural reaction is to go to extremes. We become less flexible, have trouble understanding data, exaggerate our differences, stop imagination and creativity, think the worst of others, get involved in secrecy and cover-ups, try to win others over to our position instead of letting them think for themselves, and cut off important relationships. A highly anxious person relies on instincts and isn't able to respond well to insight, reason, clear thinking, or even loving gestures. These behaviors don't just happen to individuals; they happen in a congregation. As a group, an anxious congregation will look for people to blame, start enforcing rules strictly and unreasonably, and look for simple solutions.

Many issues cause anxiety in a congregation. We are facing some of these ourselves! Typical triggers for congregations include: money, style of worship, leadership style, old vs. new, growth and survival, internal/external focus out of balance, property and buildings, and harm done to a child. When you look at the list, you can see why these triggers would cause anxiety for a congregation. You can also see that we face more than one of these.

A big problem with anxiety is that the energy of the group goes to the emotions rather than the actual issues at hand. Another problem is that the anxiety is contagious. One person's anxiety unchecked will spread to others. A chronically anxious congregation will be in constant crisis. They will be marked by constant criticism of others, people using manipulation, threats and tantrums to get their way, splinter groups forming, rejection of people who introduce changes, secret meetings and communications, and people seeing things always as black/white or we/they.

Healthy congregations can keep anxiety and conflict in check by using spiritual resources and human reason. They avoid looking at differences as an opportunity to win. They use objectivity and insight. They have healthy behaviors that allow people to calmly analyze situations, propose various responses, and then reasonably decide what to do.

FEBRUARY SERMON Series: Who Are You?

In February, we will look to the Sermon on the Mount to discover who we are, who God is, and why it matters.

Feb. 5	<i>You are the Light of the World</i>	Matthew 5:13-20
Feb. 12	<i>You Need Help in Relationships</i>	Matthew 5:21-37
Feb. 19	<i>You Have Enemies</i>	Matthew 5:38-48
Feb. 26	<i>You Have Seen the Glory of the Lord</i>	Matthew 17:1-9





Worship 10 a.m.



- February 5 Worship: Rev. Annie Melick, “You are the Light of the World,” Matthew 5:13-20.
 Liturgist: Pam Sheets. Accompanist: Sasha Neverov. Acolyte: Amy or Trent Pettit,
 Communion Servers: Sheila Micholes, Jane Markley, Mick Sheets and Polly Horn.
 Ushers and Greeters: George Justice and Kathy Kees, Doug and Karen Kerns.
- February 12 Worship: Rev. Annie Melick, “You Need Help in Relationships,” Matthew 5:21-37
 Liturgist: John Whitney. Accompanist: Sasha Neverov. Acolyte: Jason Skeen.
 Special Music: Isaia and Jaden Jacob.
 Ushers and Greeters: Georgann Whitney, Polly Horn, Trish and Megan Gilbert.
- February 19 Worship: Rev. Annie Melick, “You Have Enemies,” Matthew 5:38-48.
 Liturgist: George Justice. Accompanist: Sasha Neverov. Acolyte: Amy or Trent Pettit.
 Special Music: "He's Everything to Me", Chancel Choir.
 Ushers and Greeters: Mike and Donna Mucci, Jane and Ali Markley.
- February 26 Worship: Rev. Annie Melick, “You Have Seen the Glory of the Lord,” Matthew 17:1-9.
 Liturgist: Doug Kerns. Accompanist: Sasha Neverov. Acolyte: Nathan or Samuel Kirby
 Special Music: "Glory Bound", Chancel Choir.
 Ushers and Greeters: Carmie Joseph, Sheila Micholes, Bill and Teresa Gorsuch.

February Flowers provided by Mike and Donna Mucci

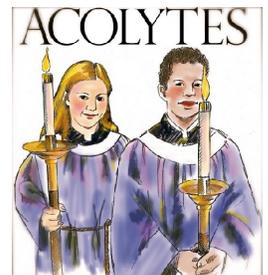


**Chancel Choir
 Practice**
 with Marv Monroe,
 director
**Practice at
 7:00 p.m.
 Tuesdays
 except the 1st
 Tuesday**

ACOLYTES ARE STEPPING UP

We had an acolyte training and party in January. The boys and girls learned the symbolism of bringing the light of Christ into the church and taking the light to the world when we depart. The two candles on our table represent the Christ’s divinity and humanity.

**Thank you for
 serving, acolytes!**



Children's Choir Practice
 Pre-K-6th graders
 9:30 Sunday Mornings
 in the Fellowship Hall
 Ken Bartlett, director

Remember to Pray

for Bonnie Caudill,
 Betty Cocklin,
 Sheila Mann, Joe
 Cox, Phil Ross,
 Sheryl Hernandez,
 Max and Peggy
 Sheets, Gene and
 Doris Wampler.



Condit Change

Thanks

Money collected through Condit Change is used to provide Bountiful Backpacks of food for the weekends for those families who are suffering financial difficulties. Of the five initial families at Big Walnut Intermediate School, only three remain. One family moved from the area and another's living conditions have improved so they no longer need the assistance. A family from the congregation supports one family and Condit does two. In addition to donating your pocket change, if you would like to assist with the program contact Frances Jenkins, Pat Monroe or Pam Sheets.

YOUTH GROUP Meet the Experts Night

Last month we had an interesting Youth Group meeting with some special Condit "experts." We invited Chip Welch, Karen Kerns, and Marv Monroe to join us for dinner, and then the youth heard each of them share stories from their life. The "experts" then gave some of their best advice to the young people, followed by a question and answer time. It was a wonderful intergenerational event and everyone enjoyed spending time together. Some of the comments from the youth were:

1. I learned a lot of things about them that I never knew.
2. It's really made me think about how to approach my career. I'm going to always have a back-up plan.
3. In the end, I guess it doesn't matter how much money you have, but family is most important.
4. I'm thinking about what they said about faith: people will let you down, but you always have the Lord. Keep your relationship with him strong.

(Continue from page 1)

Welcome Bags greeted 59 new residents. Sadly two of our members died but two babies and an adult were baptized. One member transferred in and one transferred out. One young man is going through Confirmation Classes in hopes of joining the church in the spring.

Attendance at Vacation Bible School and Sunday Worship increased. The Junior Worship group has been divided into two Sunday School Classes. The nursery and classrooms were updated.

A new group, Condit Kids, brings dinner, a religious lesson and fun to elementary and intermediate aged children. The Youth Group of teens meets twice a month - once for service projects and the other for recreation.

Heather Day gave flu shots at Condit's first flu clinic. In 6 blood drives, 127 pints of blood were collected to help save 381 lives.

21 volunteers from Condit and Van Valley churches provided educational fun for children at Buzz in the Barn at the Hartford Fair for the third year.

Once again, **You Did It Condit!**



**7 p.m. Saturday
February 25**

in
Condit

**Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall
15102 Hartford Road**

**Cards and Fellowship
Public Welcome!**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
 <h1 style="text-align: center; color: red;">February 2017</h1> 							
2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday Mornings: 9:00 Sunday School Teens/Adults 9:30 Children Choir 10:00 Worship Service 10:15 Sunday School- P-K thru 6th			1	2	3	4	
5 10 a.m. Worship & Communion 5-7 Condit Kids Red Carpet Valentine Party			6	7	8 9 9 Big Walnut Ministerial Association at Condit 7 p.m. Session & Trustees	10 1-6 Blood Drive 7 p.m. to 11 on Feb. 12 Youth Retreat at Akita	11
12 10 Worship 1-5:30 Youth Group Ice Skating at Easton Chill	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day 7:00 Chancel Choir	15	16 6:30 Christian Education Committee	17	18	
19 10 Worship	20 Deadline for March Newsletter submissions Send to Polly	21 3:30 Presbytery meeting at Broad Street Presbyterian 7:00 Chancel Choir	22 11:30 Lunch Bunch at PJ's	23	24	25 10 a.m. Presbyterian Women Gathering at Covenant Presbyterian 7:00 Euchre Night	
26 10 Worship 5-7 Youth Group - Service Day- Let Us Help You	27	28 7:00 Chancel Choir					



Jane Cockrell

Getting to Know You. . . .

Never Too Old To Volunteer

by Jennie Kavage

The sunbeam of Jane Cockrell's smile as she walks into church on Sunday catches your attention. Nearly 92-years-old, she has been a Condit member for 52 years. She still attends regularly, makes prayer chain calls and mails the monthly newsletter to those who prefer the old ways to computer.

Church has always been a part of her life. She was born Sarah Jane Rammelsberg on a farm on Old Rt. 3 in Genoa Township in Westerville School District. Half-a-mile up the road was another farmer's child, Dean Cockrell in the Galena School District. They met at Grace Chapel Community Church. In 1950 they married and in 1953 bought their farm on Meredith State Road at auction.

Jane couldn't attend the auction but well remembers Dean's description of their new place. "The house is falling down but the property has a beautiful barn. Doesn't that just sound like a farmer," she says. Over the years they cleared land, added acres, tiled and started a dairy herd. Children Carolyn, Teresa, Linda and Greg came along.

Condit church members in the area became friends – the Searles, Zada Longshore and Grace Condit all lived nearby. Jane already knew Margaret Fisher. As young women they both rode the Mt. Vernon Local bus to their jobs in town where Jane was secretary for a legal firm.

In the '50s she and Dean, along with their children, started at Condit. Marian Whitney was Sunday School teacher at the time. Over the years Jane also taught Sunday School, was a trustee and an elder and a member of Friendly Club, Presbyterian Women and Faith-Filled Women. She enjoys the Lunch Bunch at PJ's on the fourth Wednesday of the Month.

If she had to pick her favorite things about Condit Church they would be the stained glass window in the sanctuary of Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane and the church music.

"We have wonderful pianists and a wonderful choir," she says.

"I have tried to keep God in my life and I wanted my children to know God. Going to church was one way," Jane says. "It's one of my joys of life."

Condit Blood Drive

American Red Cross will be in Condit Fellowship Hall from 1-6 on Friday, February 10, to take blood donations. Condit's goal is 20 pints. So far there are 15 appointments. Jane Lahman and her elves are planning food for the canteen. Volunteers to greet the donors and serve the refreshments are still needed. If you would like to help or give blood, call Polly Horn (740-965-3582).

There are five other blood drives coming to Condit in 2017 so mark your calendar for April 14, June 23, August 18, October 13 and December 15. The drive is open 1-6 p.m.

Condit Presbyterian Church

15102 Hartford Road. Sunbury, Ohio 43074 •740-965-2911

ESTIMATE OF GIVING

Current Expense \$ _____ /wk. OR _____ /mo. OR _____ /yr.

Benevolence \$ _____ /wk. OR _____ /mo. OR _____ /yr.

Building Fund \$ _____ /wk. OR _____ /mo. OR _____ /yr.
Capital

Improvements \$ _____ /wk. OR _____ /mo. OR _____ /yr.

Name _____ Per Capita Tax \$ _____

Letter from the Condit Stewardship and Budget Committee

Dear Members and Friends of Condit Presbyterian Church,

As you prepare for the upcoming year, consider the Church in your financial thoughts and what the Church means to you. We urge you to consider how to best support Condit – not only financially but also with your time, talents and leadership.

With the New Year comes new challenges and opportunities for Condit. 2016 was a year that we together accomplished many things that brought all of us together to further God's teachings. Your gifts enable us to pay our pastor's salary and benefits, and pay the other expenses – heat, light and maintenance. We thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Your support for various categories on the pledge card which is attached is greatly needed if we are to meet our financial obligations. As always, stewardship is a personal decision between you and God – no one is going to pressure you to pledge. We respectfully ask you to think how much the Church means to you and to our community. Remember everything we have comes as a gift from God and our collective faith journey can be helped by our understanding, seeing, and accepting our stewardship. Please either mail your pledge card to the church or place in the offering plate.

Thank you for your past and present support.

The Stewardship and Budget Committee

FRIENDLY CLUB

Women will meet at 1:00 Wednesday, March 1st. Karen Kerns is the hostess. "The cleaning task you like to do the least," is roll call.

DINNER FOR OUR KIDS

A few times a month on Sunday evening we provide dinner at Condit Kids or Youth Group. If you would like to help or learn more about the meals, please contact Pam Sheets at 937-902-4779.

When did you last ask a friend or neighbor to come to church with you?



Condit Presbyterian Church
15102 Hartford Road
Sunbury, OH 43074-9725
<http://www.conditchurch.org>
Pastor: Rev. Annie Melick

SESSION
Class of 2019

Alex Sheets.....937-903-0939
Chip Welch.....614-774-0390
Mick Sheets.....937-765-7697

Class of 2018

Grant Bartlett.....614-915-9698
Jane Markley.....614-306-9884
Sheila Micholes.....740-965-4394

Class of 2017

Doug Kerns.....740-965-2238
Sue Overturf.....614-563-2570
Polly Horn, Clerk.....740-965-3582

Youth Elder Class of 2017

Isaia Jacob.....614-674-1511

Church Pastor

Rev. Annie Melick.....440-308-7664
Condit Presbyterian Church.....740-965-2911

Church Treasurer

Ken Bartlett.....740-965-1569

Financial Secretary

Darlene Ross.....740-965-3482

Christian Education and Nursery Care

Grant Bartlett, co-chair.....614-915-9698
Molly Blevins (Nursery).....740-225-2640

TRUSTEES
Class of 2019

George Justice.....740-965-9668
John Whitney.....(w)740-965-8130

Class of 2018

Karen Kerns.....740-965-2238
Ken Bartlett.....740-965-1569

Class of 2017

Molly Blevins.....740-225-2640

Custodian

.....

Church Directory

Frances Jenkins.....740-965-6902

Junior Worship and Bible School

Pam Sheets.....937-902-4779

Music Director

Bonnie Caudill.....740-965-2185

Choir Director

Marvin Monroe.....740-815-0544

Ushers/Greeters/Flowers

Sheila Micholes740-965-4394

Acolytes

Bill and Teresa Gorsuch.....740-965-3742

Newsletter & Website

Polly Horn740-965-3582

