



Condit Courier

February 2021

Statistics for 2020

Normally statistics are rather boring but they are a necessary part of our lives. Each year the Clerk of Session must turn in statistics to Presbyterian Church USA. These represent our attendance, people we serve and our membership.

Due to covid our statistics for 2020 need a second look. Remember our Worship Services were in person thru March 8, online until August 9, outdoors and online thru September 6, then in person and online until November 15 when we needed to close the church. and lastly just online. Then we had extra attendance to Adam’s music, children’s flags and Condit Christmas.

In church	Online	Outdoors	Extras	Advent
320	2084	373	553	927
TOTAL ATTENDANCE AT WORSHIP = 4257				

If we take the total and divide by the number of services, 76, we get an average attendance of 56+ people per worship service.

Missions Committee

Wands for Wildlife

Once again Sheila Micholes is collecting mascara wands to help rehab birds and animals. Last fall Condit sent 30 wands to Wands for Wildlife. She is collecting for another shipment in February. Please wash your wands in Dawn to get them ready for shipment. They can be dropped off at the church on Tuesday and Thursday evenings during Fitness Club or make arrangements with Sheila.

Condit Blood Drive, February 12 1-6 on Friday



February 17

Ash Wednesday Begins Lent

Each of us is created a precious and holy vessel of embodied love. We have been through a harrowing time since last Lent that has shattered our sense of wholeness—body, mind, and spirit—like a glass vessel fractured into pieces. In this Lenten “season of recovery” for our physical, communal, mental, intellectual, and environmental health, we will explore the healing narratives of Jesus that tell of divine solidarity with human suffering and remind us that we can begin a journey toward making something beautiful from that which is seemingly broken. Beach glass offers us a multifaceted symbol of this transformative process.

Supplies Needed for Children’s Service Thru Lent

Rev. Annie has chosen some interactive programs for children during Sunday morning Worship. Here is a list of items the children will need some time during Lent. Pencil, paper, crayons, blanket, latex-free bandage (extra points if it is colorful), a prop bin or box with assorted items from the household which are not breakable, not sharp or otherwise dangerous (suggested items like plastic cups, wooden spoon, strainer, oven mitt, necktie, comb, etc.), few items from nature like leaves, river rocks, or *(Supplies Continue on page 2)*

From Brokenness to Joy

by Rev. Annie Melick

Lent is a season in the church calendar when we typically do soul searching and repenting, fasting or giving something up, and begin new spiritual habits. We have witnessed and experienced different kinds of brokenness this year. Since most of us are spending more time than usual at home, this might be a good time to explore our spirituality.

Our Lenten Series for worship this year is called “Holy Vessels; A Lenten Season Of Recovery.” The idea is that we have areas of brokenness in our lives that can be recovered through the work of God in our lives. We will explore this journey to health and wholeness from several perspectives:

- Physical Health
- Community/Economic Health
- Mental Health
- Intellectual Health
- Environmental Health
- Integrated Health
- Our Commission from Christ

As you prepare to participate and engage this Lenten season, I encourage you to focus on one or two of these areas where you would like to grow. A list of books about these different topics that you might consider reading is included in the newsletter. If fasting or giving something up for Lent is one of your spiritual practices, maybe this year you could choose one of these areas to focus on. Some examples might be:

- Begin a practice or habit that would support your physical health.
- Begin a new practice of budgeting and giving financially to God’s work.
- Explore the concept of mindfulness for better mental health.
- Commit to learning something new. One idea is to study the Confession of Belhar that cites Scriptures about reconciliation, unity, and justice.
- Find new ways of enjoying and caring for God’s creation.

I pray that this Lent will be a time of recovery for each of us, and that as we experience God in new and different ways we will be filled with joy.

“Our life is full of brokenness - broken relationships, broken promises, broken expectations. How can we live with that brokenness without becoming bitter and resentful except by returning again and again to God's faithful presence in our lives,” by Henri Nouwen.



Rev. Annie Melick

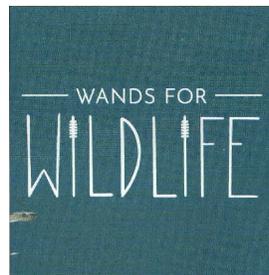


Remember in Your Prayers

Joe Cox, Sue Overturf, Homer Wilson Family,
and Jim Irwin

Supplies Continue from page 1

houseplant, palms to wave (may be from a plant at home
of make from paper, see page 7).



THANK YOU!



www.wandsforwildlife.org



Polly at a Zoom Meeting

Getting to Know You

Polly Horn, Former Clerk

by Jennie Kavage

“You can still have a church without a pastor but you cannot have a church without a Clerk of Session.” That’s the first thing Polly Horn heard when at training to be an Elder of Condit Church in January 2015. At that moment Condit had neither. The church was between ministers and in a New Beginnings program trying to decide its future. Polly volunteered to help with communications in the little church with the flying buttresses and beautiful stained glass windows she had fallen in love with as a child.

The Rev. Carol Weiss, a former Condit minister, was also at the training and confirmed for Polly that the church did indeed have to have a Clerk. Carol bought Polly a copy of The Book of Order and spent the lunch break talking her into accepting the Clerk position. Polly had missed the Clerk training but, she thought, “how hard can it be to take minutes.” She was elected Clerk at the next Session meeting just in time for the arrival of interim pastor Dr. Jeri-Lynne Bouterse and the Annual Congregational Meeting..

Polly went to the Congregational Meeting armed with a pencil, paper and a clipboard planning to take notes of the two meetings involved and have her brother John Whitney help her later with what she didn’t understand. It was a shock when Dr. Bouterse asked her to read back the minutes at the end of the meetings. She did the best she could from her notes and vowed she would never go to another meeting unless she knew what to expect.

Book of Order sets forth the constitution and the governmental structure of the Presbyterian Church USA. Polly set about studying the Clerk’s role, filling the book with post-it notes and to-do lists. Among her responsibilities were keeping Robert’s Rules of Order at meetings, knowing what The Book of Order required, making sure things happened in the right time frame, preparing reports and forms for the Presbytery and the national office.

Answers for some of these forms were more difficult to find than one might expect, such as separating the congregation into age groups when the women, and some of the men, were reluctant to reveal their ages. As to the issue of disabilities, Polly could see who wore glasses and hearing aids but other problems might be hidden. Fortunately, once Polly got a form filled out the first time she could simply update it as the years passed.

She was in charge of keeping the Register, the book that keeps track of when a member joins the church, baptisms, and professions of faith. Condit’s current Register goes back more than 70 years.

Notices of meetings and information for those meetings had to be provided to each member involved. Minutes had to be taken of each meeting, approved and recorded. From her years at the Community Library Polly had learned to number each motion and index them so they would be easy to find. Every other year the Presbytery would grade the Minutes Book, stamping it if it was judged okay and issuing a citation if it was not. A demerit was given if the Minutes did not note that each meeting began and ended with a prayer. Polly’s book was always okay.

All went well until Dr. Bouterse’s six-month interim stint came to an end. She told Polly that as Clerk she was now in charge including Sunday worship and left her a few bulletins. The Presbytery assigned Condit a Moderator for Session and provided a list of pastors who would fill in on Sundays. Deb Bergmann and Sue Overturf signed them up. Bonnie Caudill took care of the music. Sermon topics and Bible readings were found online but filling in the rest of the service was up to Polly. She asked the Moderator about the various prayers and he kindly sent her 10-12 prayers in each category. It really helped when she found a big notebook of past *(Continue on Page 5)*

Worship and Music Committee. . . .

Makes Plans for Lent

Worship and Music Committee met Monday Evening via Zoom to prepare for Lent using the theme, Holy Vessels. Ken Bartlett, Darlene Ross, Teresa Gorsuch, Adam Garner and Rev. Annie attended the meeting.

Darlene will make a display in the sanctuary with bottles, beach glass and possibly sand. Ken is ordering the beach glass. Adam will decorate the cross in the sanctuary. Children will also decorate crosses for the sanctuary.

Lent at Home Kits will be distributed to Condit's church people by Darlene. The kits will include Ash Wednesday stickers (provided by Annie), beach glass, craft wire, and a journal provided by the Christian Education Committee.

Easter Flower Sale

This year we will have an Easter Flower Sale instead of our normal Easter Lily Sale. The sanctuary will be decorated with 8 plants for Easter - lilies and other spring plants. Complete the form below and return it with a check for \$5 for each plant you are purchasing. You may give the money in memory of someone or in honor of someone. Make the check out to Condit Presbyterian Church. On the memo line write Easter Flowers. Mail it to Darlene Ross, 3490 Columbus Road, Centerburg, Ohio 43011
Bob Westbrook is making a wooden cross covered

with chicken wire which will be displayed outside. Spring flowers will be put on the cross by our church families using flowers provided by the committee with the money from the Flower Sale. In addition, individuals or families may also purchase flowers and bring them to the church from 10:00 to 4:00 on Saturday, April 3rd, and place the flowers on the cross. Teresa will announce pick up place for the flowers when the time gets closer.

(Horn Continued from Page 4)

bulletins because, she discovered, every few years the lectionary repeats.

Once she got all the parts in place each week she sent the bulletin to Kate Skeen for printing. Polly says it was not her forte but the congregation was very understanding. It is an understatement to say she was relieved when the Rev. Annie Melick started at Condit November 16, 2015.

Polly's six terms as Clerk of Session just ended and she has turned the books over to new Clerk Porter "Chip" Welch. During her tenure she says she got to know the Trustees and other Elders better than she would have otherwise. She's proud of the way Condit's members have stepped up during the pandemic and the way they pitch in with food, mittens, bookbags and supplies for people who need them.

"There's lots of room for little churches," she says. "They do make a difference."

FLOWERS FOR EASTER \$5 EACH

I wish to order _____ flowers at \$5.00 each = _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of: _____

By: _____

Complete Coupon and Check made out to Condit Presbyterian Church with Easter Flowers on memo line
Mail to Darlene Ross, 3490 Columbus Road, Centerburg, Ohio 43011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <h1 style="color: red; font-family: serif;">February 2021</h1> 						
	1	2 10 Children's Children via Zoom 6:00 Fitness Club	3	4 6:00 Fitness Club	5	6
7 10 Worship with Communion	8	9 10 Children's Children via Zoom 6:00 Fitness Club	10	11 5:30 Fitness Club 7:00 Session & Trustees via Zoom	12 1-6 Blood Drive	13
14 10:00 Worship Valentine's Day	15 President's Day	16 10 Children's Children via Zoom 6:00 Fitness Club	17 Ash Wednesday Worship online	18 6:00 Fitness Club	19	20 Newsletter Deadline
21 10:00 Worship	22	23 10 Children's Children via Zoom 6:00 Fitness Club	24	25 6:00 Fitness Club	26	27
28 10:00 10 Worship	<p>ALL WORSHIP SERVICES ARE VIA ZOOM.</p> <p>Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 17</p> <p>Lent packets will be mailed to the Condit Families</p>					

**Color the palm,
glue to cardboard,
(like a cereal box)
Cut out, put aside
for Children's Worship
on Palm Sunday**



February

- 10 Trish Gilbert
- 17 Helen Gilbert
- 21 Alex Sheets



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Condit Presbyterian Church

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

SESSION
Class of 2023

Darlene Ross.....614-403-1341
 Judy Watts.....614-832-7902
 Marianne Westbrook..... 614-738-5005

Class of 2022

Chip Welch, Clerk.....614-774-0390
 Ken Bartlett.....740-965-1529
 Sue Milem.....614 984-7966

Class of 2021

Doug Kerns.....614-216-0964
 Jeff Marshall.....740-816-4676
 Sheila Micholes.....740-965-4394

Youth Elder Class of 2021

Jaden Jacob.....740-967-9154

Church Pastor

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

Music Director

Adam Garner.....740-739-0002

Church Treasurer

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

Financial Secretary

Darlene Ross.....614-403-1341

Christian Education

Sue Milem.....614-984-7966

TRUSTEES
Class of 2023

John Whitney.....740-485-0844
 Molly Blevins.....740-225-2640

Class of 2022

Bob Westbrook.....614-668-8850
 George Justice.....740-965-9668

Class of 2021

Allison Skinner.....614-214-5813
 Grant Bartlett.....614-915-9698

Sunday School and Bible School

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

Nursery Care

Molly Blevins (Nursery).....740-225-2640

Special Events

Jeff Marshall740-816-4676

Ushers/Greeters/Flowers

Sheila Micholes.....740-965-4394

Acolytes

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

Church Directory

Donna and Laura Mucci.....740-965-5798

Custodian

Lynette Waldo.....614-562-7769

Newsletter Polly Horn740-965-3582
 Website Bob Westbrook.....614-668-8850