



Condit Courier

June 2023

Getting to know you....

Polly Horn

by Jennie Kavage



Polly Horn says it may be the challenge of solving problems that has propelled her to jump in with both feet throughout her life. In 2014 her brother John Whitney told her she'd better get involved if she wanted to see the church of her childhood survive. She joined a New Beginnings group to help find the church's future direction, became an elder and editor of the church newsletter. When she learned a church could get along without a pastor but was required to have a clerk she took the training, became clerk and was the person in charge for nearly six months while the church was without a pastor.

Her great great grandparents settled on 100 acres in Trenton Township shortly after Ohio became a state. (what is now Longshore Road was Whitney Road for many years) Polly's parents, Marian and Bill Whitney, were the first Whitneys to bring their family to Condit Presbyterian Church. Marian played the organ. Polly spent her youth in the Sunday School classrooms and the youth fellowship. She sang in the choir and even played the organ a few times. Condit was still part of the Marion Presbytery in the 1950s and Polly was youth representative.

With its ping pong tables, games, programs and retreats, Condit became the place to be for "kids from everywhere," she says, remembering the church parking area filled with convertibles on Fellowship nights. At school she was in Y-teens, the choir and played saxophone in the band which at that time included a marching band, a concert band and a dance band.

Her mother was president of the local YWCA, the group that started the Community Library, and a Girl Scout leader. When Polly was seven or eight Marian had the Girl Scouts helping at the Library, tying magazines and other chores. Polly, like all five Whitney kids, was working at her dad's newspaper office—sitting at the front desk, washing windows, sweeping the floor. One day when no one else was around she had to write an ad for a female heifer. Her father chastised her for misspelling "heifer." She was only eight or nine and hadn't learned the "i" and "e" rules yet so she couldn't find it in the dictionary. She got mad and quit to devote her volunteering to the Library. She wrote a resignation letter there when the new librarian, Mrs. Dorothy (Dilly) Burrer, began arranging the books by the Dewey Decimal System. Polly preferred arranging by color, height and whatever fit.. Mrs. Burrer never acted on the resignation and Polly kept on working, eventually earning a dime and then a quarter an hour in junior high.

She never quit writing for the newspaper. She got her first byline in eighth grade for her story on the Eskham Hayes house explosion. Maxine Hayes, who was blown out of a window on her mattress, was a classmate and gave her the scoop.

Polly tied for second highest in her class when she graduated from BWHS in 1957. Her parents drove the whole family out to Lake Forest College north of Chicago where they thought, it being a Presbyterian school, she could get a scholarship. The scholarships were all gone by the time they got there but she did get a grant that paid half her tuition and gave her the opportunity to work off the other half at various campus jobs.

When the girls in her dorm discovered Polly's family owned a newspaper they encouraged her to write for the college paper. Of course, she did and was editor-in-chief her last two years in addition to playing intramural basketball and volleyball and joining the synchronized swimming club. During the summers Polly was lifeguard and taught swimming at the new Sunbury swimming pool.

Armed with a degree in English, Polly plunged into her first full-time job at the YWCA in the poverty-stricken Hough district of Cleveland. The first thing she noticed when she went for an interview was children searching through trash containers for food. Exploring her new neighborhood she discovered overcrowded conditions and 8-year-old children doing the family cooking. She sought help from Mrs. Stouffer of Stouffer Foods to get two stoves and two refrigerators and started cooking classes for six, seven and eight-year-old girls. "Sandwiches-for-Eight-from-One-Can-of-Tuna" was an important lesson.

Polly ran the Y's swimming and recreation program for three years, taught her cooking classes and took the girls to Y Camp in the summer. She was in Hough for the first of two race riots.



This is Library Page Polly Whitney riding the high-wheeler at a 4th of July Parade in the mid-1950s. Right behind Polly's head is 68 E. Cherry St., a former meat market that was Sunbury's first library building. Brother John Whitney, about 6-years-old, is standing on the corner at the right.

In 1965 she married Jack Brehm who had joined The Sunbury News as a linotype man, did job printing and was best known as Sports Editor. They lived in Delaware where Jack had bought an apartment building. She tried being a stay-at-home wife but when she was not feeling well her doctor suggested she needed to get a job. She went to work part-time with the Red Cross and then at Scioto Village School for Girls providing recreation, refereeing and teaching swimming. Tuesdays and Wednesdays she worked at The Sunbury News.

See Polly Horn Continued on page 8

Spring Clean-Up Day “Best in Years!”

Trustee President George Justice reports this year’s Spring Clean-up around the last week of April was the “best in years.” George says the clean-up crews, on Saturday, Apr. 29, and throughout the week, “have been able to get things crossed off our list that have been there several years.”

Top priorities were with the cutting down of four dead pine trees in the grove next to the softball field, carting the wood for a burn pile. And the sealing up of ceiling holes in the lower attic storage area above the Sunday School rooms. “We got the trees down and cleared, and the holes sealed so things in the attic don’t get ruined by bat dung.”

About a dozen congregation members joined trustees in raking, trimming, thinning, spraying, edging, and mulching the landscape around the church. Especially notes Justice, “the overgrown yews on the southeast corner of the church are gone.” Others cleaned inside, paying special attention to the sanctuary, door handles and light switches, and organized the copy room. And, one member worked throughout the day, cleaning and straightening the marquee “Searles Sign” on the CR 605 end of the church. And, yet another “extended congregation” member is re-working the wooden benches from the patio area, while another spent a day scraping the stone left over from snowplowing this winter back into the parking lot and drives. “Each year we have a handful of members actually here working on Clean-Up day,” Trustee Justice says. “This year all did ‘yeomen’s work’, and we got a lot accomplished.”

“We really appreciate anyone doing anything they can to help us keep Condit’s facilities in tip-top shape.”



Trustees have more plans for the immediate future, including on the outside, work on the slate roof and bell tower, gutters and drainage; as well as remodeling the main floor bathroom to a handicapped accessible facility this summer.



Special recognition goes to Grant Bartlett as he graduates June 8th from IEC Central Ohio after completing his electrical training apprenticeship and final exams. Grant will now transition from apprentice to journeyman electrician as he officially begins his career. Congratulations, Grant!

Congratulations to both Nathan Kirby and Joshua Shick who graduated May 20th from Big Walnut High School. Nathan is the son of Condit Trustee, Allison Skinner. His plans are to attend THE Ohio State University and study engineering. Joshua is the son of Condit Liturgist, Jennifer Shick. He plans to pursue a career as an electrician. Best Wishes, Nathan and Joshua!

Compliments are also extended to Emily Miller, grand-daughter of Jane Lahmon. Emily graduated Summa Cum Laude May 4th from the Zanesville branch of the Ohio University School of Nursing. She has accepted a job as a Registered Nurse at Fairfield Medical Center in Lancaster. Many of the congregation may remember Emily as she was baptized at Condit and helped with Vacation Bible School several summers. Congratulations, Emily!

Submit news articles to Newsletter@Conditchurch.org by the 20th of each month

From the Pastor



Friends in Christ,

After Pentecost Sunday the liturgical color is green for “normal time”. As of now we have worshipped together through Advent and Christmas (although the weather messed up our Christmas weekend), then the season of Lent leading us to the balloons of Easter, then the six Sundays of the Easter season and then Pentecost on May 28. Now we enter the Summer months on Normal Time. But don’t be fooled. That just means we are no longer in a special church season. How can Sundays be “normal”

when two or more are gathered? How can Sundays be “normal” when the Holy Spirit of Christ is present? Anything can happen to anyone of us or to all of us at any moment during our worship together. Maybe during a hymn, or the choir’s anthem, or one of Adam’s musical offering, or, perhaps, God might give me some words that might inspire. And so, it is important to us as individual worshippers and as the body of Christ to be in church throughout the Summer. And even when you travel, although it’s not quite the same, you can still join us on line. Who knows what you might miss during “normal” time if you’re not there. See you in church.

Let’s give a big thank you to Melissa Vermillion for volunteering to gather the information and create your newsletter. The newsletter is a very important media for sharing information about Condit’s life and worship. I confess I am often guilty of being late with my info and making the newsletter person’s job that much harder. I will try to be better Melissa.

At the same time, a big thank you to Polly Horn for creating the newsletter up to now. She has done a great job and deserves to pass it on.

Continue to keep your Pulpit Nominating Committee in prayer. They have completed a big step in the process by creating a Mission Information Form which Presbytery approved. They will now start looking at resumes. May God lead the right person to them and May they recognize that person together.

Again I remind you Condit, if there is a topic or question you would like for me to try and address from the pulpit let me know. While I am here I want to serve you the best I can.

God Bless You All,

In Christ,

Wayne

June Worship

10 a.m. Sundays

June 4- Guest Minister Rev. D. Paul LaMontagne

Worship with Communion

June 11- Worship with Pastor Wayne

June 18- Worship with Pastor Wayne/Father’s Day

June 25- Worship with Pastor Wayne

Sunday school will be in recess the months of June, July and August.

June Ushers: John and Georgann Whitney

June flowers provided by Connie Jacob and Kathy Kees

Faith Filled Women

Faith Filled Women met at the church Friday, May 12th for their quarterly meeting, program, and luncheon. After a brief business meeting Linda Finch of Sunbury UMC provided the program by speaking about her travels to Rome, the “Eternal City.” Beginning by sharing the myth of the founding of Rome by Romulus and Remus, she continued by highlighting top itinerary destinations which included the Colosseum, the Spanish

Steps, Trevi Fountain and the Vatican City, with special emphasis on the Sistine Chapel. This was a presentation full of both history and religion. We thank Linda for such an informative talk. After the lecture Condit ladies hosted lunch serving quiche, a variety of salads and lemon meringue pie. Twenty one were in attendance. The next meeting will be a planning session held August 11 at St John Neumann Church with lunch to follow. All ladies are invited to attend at 11:00 a.m.



Linda Finch of Sunbury UMC discusses her travels to Rome, Italy



Condit Mothers Honored

Mother's Day was observed during worship on May 14th with Pastor's Wayne's sermon "There are no Functional Families." After worship Sheila Micholes shared a special poem about mothers then she and Judy Watts, both representing the Congregational Care Committee, awarded a floral hanging basket to the oldest

mother present and the mother present with the most children. Jeff Marshall's mother, Karen, was the oldest mother present at 88 years young and Doreen Bartlett received the second basket as she is mother of three. All mothers were given a small potted annual as they left the sanctuary.

Guest Minister submitted by Marianne Westbrook

On Sunday, June 4, Rev. D. Paul LaMontagne will be with us during worship to fill in for Pastor Wayne. He grew up in Oregon and graduated from Whitworth College with a degree in Math and Religion. He went to study at Princeton Theological Seminary, receiving a Master of Divinity and later a Doctor of Philosophy. He served as solo pastor of Mt Airy Presbyterian Church for 7 years. He is married to Linda and enjoys spending time with his grandchildren. He enjoys hiking in the mountains, reading, and playing miniature golf. We look forward to welcoming him as our guest pastor.

Condit Missions

Big Walnut Friends Who Share



Summer Food Drive

Donations continue to be accepted to help nourish Big Walnut School District

children over the summer months. Please place food supplies in the boxes provided in the Narthex.

June 4- Peanut Butter and Jelly (no glass jars please)

June 11- Pancake Mix and Syrup

Thank you for the donations and for helping nurture our local children.



School Supply Collection

It is time again for the BWFWS

School Backpack Project! All donations should be placed in the boxes in the Narthex between Sunday, June 18 and Sunday, July 9. Please consider joining others on Sunday, July 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sunbury Christian Church to pack backpacks!

Condit's Contribution:

45 1-Subject Spiral Notebooks - (College Rule)

25 Zippered Pencil Pouches

50 WIDE Tip Dry Erase Markers



**7 p.m. Monthly
on Last Saturday
Cards and Fellowship
Public Welcome!**



We will be providing a dinner on Aug 26 at Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church from 5- 7 to serve members of their community. They serve around 60 people. We will be needing volunteers to prepare and serve, as well as planning assistance. Contact Marianne Westbrook at 614-738-5005.



On June 9th, Condit will be open 12 to 6 p.m. for the scheduled blood drive held in the Condit Fellowship Hall. Donors are gladly welcome. To register email GiveBlood@ConditChurch.org or call Polly Horn at 740-965-3582. The next opportunity to donate blood will be in August.



Condit Women's Circle

Women's Circle met at Country View May 17th to discuss Chapter 1 of Paul Bunyan's "The Pilgrim's Progress." Mary Ann Counts led the lengthy discussion with nine in attendance. After sharing a brown bag lunch, dessert was provided by Judy Watts. Women will gather at Country View Wednesday, June 21st to discuss Chapter 2. The Circle will meet again July 19th to discuss Chapter 3 (location to be determined), will take a summer break in August and resume monthly meetings September 20th. All women are welcome.



Condit Youth Plant Flowers

During worship May 21st Condit Kids gathered outside to plant flowers in the church flower bed. This beautification project is held annually so children can learn about God's creations. Many thanks to Pam Sheets for organizing the project.



Pam Sheets and Georgann Whitney help Condit Kids plant spring flowers.



Madison Howard waters freshly Planted petunias.



Celebrate June Birthday's

2- Sheri Linnabary
4- Caitlyn Garner
6- Donna Mucci
15- Ken Bartlett
16- Nathan Kirby

17- Ben Kerns
18- Linda Dado
23- Greg Gaydos

Polly Horn, *continued from page 2*

David, Stephanie and Bradd were all born in Delaware. When David was born, Polly quit her jobs except working at the News. Jack was Catholic so the family went to St. Mary's on Sundays after the children went to Sunday School at nearby St. Mark's Lutheran.

In 1971 the Brehms bought 7 1/2 acres on Letts Avenue from 89-year-old Essa Willison. The old house was built in 1881. There were barns but no running water in the kitchen. The one toilet flushed but another bathroom was needed because Essa planned to stay until she died. With a lot of help from their families a basement was dug, a bathroom installed and much remodeling done in time for the Brehms to move in and have a big Thanksgiving celebration. Essa enjoyed it all. She died in January 1972.

Polly began the "homesteading" part of her life. If she was going to stay home, she would provide food for the family. They raised chickens and rabbits, had two bee hives, an orchard, a vegetable garden and two chest freezers. She did work 10-13 hours a week at the Community Library as Children's Librarian, was in charge of all programs and the local history collection. Every year she was asked if she would like to work full-time.

When Stephanie was in first grade Polly started a Brownie Troop with 24 girls and three adults - Christy Manor, Rosie Moehler and Bobbie Herd. It grew into the Big Walnut Girl Scout Service Unit with 14 very active Girl Scout troops. One of these was Brownie Troop 549 which met at Condit Church for some 10 years; first under the leadership of Darlene O'Brian and then Jennie Kavage.

In 1982 Jack Brehm died suddenly from a heart attack. Polly had three children, no job and no insurance. With nightly meetings and lighted candles, she and the children worked themselves through the awful shock of losing husband and father. Jack had died on Saturday. On Monday Polly went to work with the Community Library full-time.

That year Len Weatherby, Sunbury mayor for 17 years and adjunct professor at Columbus State, offered a computer class at the Hopkins House. Polly took that course and then a second for which she wrote a payroll program the library used for the next 15 years. In 1991 she became acting director of Sunbury's Community Library and in 1994 was named director. The library had outgrown its space in the Sunbury Town Hall and during this period work was underway to raise funds, pick a location, design and build a new library facility. It was dedicated in 1994. Polly retired in 2005.



This picture of the three Whitneys was taken at the dedication of the present Library when it opened in 1994. Marian Whitney, president of the YWCA that started the first library in 1944; her daughter Polly Whitney Brehm Horn, Director of the Community Library, and John Whitney, owner of The Sunbury News.

To honor his wife Mapledell, in 1978 Harold McMillan had gifted the Library with the Hopkins House, now known as the Myers Inn after the town founder who built the original structure. Polly became liason with the workers rehabilitating the old stagecoach inn. In 1993 the Community Library signed the Myers Inn over to the newly-formed Big Walnut Area Historical Society. Polly started as the BWAHS board secretary but later became president. It was 30 years and \$650,000 in grants and fund-raising on top of the \$200,000 the Library had spent for the Myers Inn Museum renovation to be completed in 2008. Polly, a volunteer like the many others involved, continues to oversee all events and serve officially as Curator.

Through all these happenings Polly was instrumental in starting the Library Foundation, Christmas on the Square, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Marble Tree Foundation for care of the trees on Sunbury's square. She started and continues to shepherd regular Red Cross Blood Mobile visits to Condit Church. During the pandemic she led a zoom version of one of her very popular Community Library programs, "For My Children's Children," helping Condit members and friends write the stories of their lives for posterity.

In 1985 she and Robert Horn were married at Condit Church, the church Bob had joined as a teen. In the first year of their marriage he suffered six strokes and had a total of 11 by the time he died in 2018. The effect of the strokes prevented him being able to attend worship services at Condit. In 1998 Polly and Bob built a new house on part of the Letts Avenue property. Son David and family moved into the house where he grew up. Stephanie lives in the Sunbury area and Bradd is in Michigan. Polly is the proud grandmother of six grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Condit newsletter editor since 2015, Polly has turned that position over to Melissa Vermillion starting with this issue. She will, however, continue the Bloodmobiles and providing the PowerPoint parts of the Sunday worship service. With unending gratitude and affection, thank you, Polly Whitney Brehm Horn.



June Anniversaries


- 4- Bill and Jennie Kavage*
- 10- Bill and Teresa Gorsuch*
- 14- Mike and Carmie Joseph*
- 25 -Joe and Christy Krinn*

Save the Date!

July 28- An outing at Delaware Preservation Parks is being planned for Condit Kids. Reserve the day to explore nature with a park naturalist. More details will follow in the July newsletter.

Remember in Prayer:

Linda Dado, Jane Cockrell, Shelli Evans, Bill Walker, Pat Monroe, Joe Cox, the families of Mike Joseph and Bethlehem Frasure and our Pastor Nominating Committee


 Food and Fun- June 14 and 28, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Bring a friend for food, fellowship and fun!



paint the world
SUPER
COLORING

June 2023



					1	2	3
4	Worship with Communion 10:00	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Fitness Club 6:00	Chancel Choir 6:00	Fitness Club 6:00	12-6:00 Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall	
11	Worship 10:00	12	13	14	15	16	17
			Fitness Club 6:00	Food and Fun 5:00-7:00 Chancel Choir 6:00	Fitness Club 5:30 Session and Trustees 7:00		
18	Worship 10:00	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Father's Day		Fitness Club 6:00	Chancel Choir 6:00	Fitness Club 6:00		Euchre Game Night 7:00
25	Worship 10:00	26	27	28	29	30	
			Fitness Club 6:00	Food and Fun 5:00-7:00 Chancel Choir 6:00	Fitness Club 6:00		

CONDIT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Newsletter
15102 Hartford Road, Sunbury OH 43074

SESSION

Class of 2025

Grant Bartlett Sheila Micholes

Sue Overturf

Class of 2024

Doug Kerns Mick Sheets

Sandy Thacker

Class of 2023

Georgann Whitney Judy Watts

Marianne Westbrook

Gap Pastor Rev. Wayne Morrison

Treasurer Ken Bartlett

Music Director Adam Garner

Financial Secretary Doug Kerns

Acolytes Bill and Teresa Gorsuch

Phone Number 740-965-2911

Website <http://www.ConditChurch.org>

TRUSTEES

Class of 2025

Bob Westbrook George Justice

Class of 2024

Allison Skinner Kenneth Bartlett

Class of 2023

John Whitney Molly Blevins

Church Directory

Donna and Laura Mucci

***Custodian* Lynette Meliorre**

***Newsletter Editor* Polly Horn**

***Website, Streaming* Bob Westbrook**

***Ushers/Greeters* Georgann Whitney**

**All Contact Info in Church Directory
*available in the Church***