



# Condit Courier

April 2024

## “The Resurrection Problem”

They say that April showers bring May flowers. May flowers bring pilgrims, but that is a joke best saved for November. The point is that in order for flowers to grow, they need water. This means rain. That means rainy days and thunder storms. No one really likes those. You can't do much in the rain. Storms are also just kind of scary depending upon the power of it. Yet we know and understand that we need to have that rain so that we can have the flowers.

It's a physical reminder of what I call “The Resurrection Problem.” Everyone loves Easter Sunday. We love the resurrection and return to life. There is just one problem. In order for something to be resurrected, it has to die first. You can't get to Resurrection Sunday without going through Good Friday. The problem? We don't like that. We don't like when things are sad or difficult.

It reminds me of Psalm 137. “By the rivers of Babylon- there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion. On the willows there we hung our harps. For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, ‘Sing us one of the songs of Zion!’ How could we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?” Written during the exile, the people of God were lost and adrift. They couldn't be the people that God called them to be. They didn't know

what they could do about it. They were paralyzed by the grief of the situation. How could they sing their joyful songs in the midst of all the pain and sadness they are feeling?

Have you ever thought about how an arrow is fired?

Much like how we need the rain to grow flowers, in order for an arrow to go forward, it must be pulled back. No- it isn't pleasant. We don't like it at all. We dislike being in pain and sadness. Yet the good news in Christ Jesus is this; Sunday is coming. God will not leave us in our grief and pain. We cannot forget this. Even though we walk through the darkest valley, God is still with us. You won't stay in that dark for long. God will pull you from it and you will be stronger for it.



As we move into our post Easter year, how can we carry the lessons of Easter with us? How can we live like the redeemed people of God? What difference does the resurrection mean in our own personal lives?

Blessings,

Pastor Sam

(330)-207-7038

[pastorsamuel85@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsamuel85@gmail.com)

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

## April Affairs



American Red Cross will be in the Condit Fellowship Hall from **12 to 6 p.m. Friday, April 12**, to collect donations to help save lives.

To save time at the **Blood Drive**, be sure to register to donate blood. You will get an email address to use the day of the drive to complete a Rapid-Pass Questionnaire before you go to Condit. Most people who do this will finish their donation in an hour.

You may register by using the Red Cross App on your phone, by talking to Polly Horn or emailing [GiveBlood@ConditChurch.org](mailto:GiveBlood@ConditChurch.org)



### ALL HANDS ON DECK 2024

*Submitted by George Justice*

The Trustees are organizing Condit's Annual Spring Clean Up Week between **April 13 – 20**. We have all of our usual annual duties, plus several other “one and done” maintenance projects. Worksheets have been posted on the entrance doors of the church. Please pick a couple of projects you'd like to be responsible for and initial them. Once completed, scratch through the task.

**Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup>** we need a “crew” of workers for a project. We need to remove and replace some of the flooring of the deck behind the manse, reinforce its frame, and also jack up and reinforce some of the frame of the manse's front porch.

In the chancel area, we'd appreciate if someone would polish the Lectern and Pulpit.

Also, we would like an “Edging Crew” to create nice crisp clean edges near the sidewalk. We're hoping a group of 5 – 6 could attack this task. Or, if someone has an edger, it would make this task much easier.

We would like to find a few people to join the crew that maintains the flower beds. If you are interested or have questions, please contact one of the Trustees.

The Trustees want to thank everyone in advance for your dedication, time, and effort to help us maintain our precious Church and surrounding grounds.



**Women's Circle** will hold their monthly meeting on **Wednesday, April 17**, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. A brown bag lunch will be followed with discussion about Chapter 6 of *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

Ladies mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 20**. The circle will once again be meeting at the home of Beverly Saks to sew spring pillowcases for Country View. The time and details will be announced soon.



### **OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE**

*Submitted by Marianne Westbrook*

On **April 27, 2024**, our church will be serving at Hoge Presbyterian Church for their ministry HM3 which stands for Hoge's Music, Message, and Meal. It is held in their lower level fellowship room, Wold Hall. It starts at 5 pm with 10 minutes of music, followed by the message lasting for 10 minutes and prayer requests for 10 minutes. The message can be a personal testimony or read inspirational writings. The meal is served at 5:30 pm. Usually the group serving will prepare the meal beforehand, but Hoge does have a great kitchen to work in. There is usually one person from Hoge to open the kitchen and help the group in the kitchen. The dinner is open to anyone. Some are homeless, others are hungry, or want to hear a message about God. Many church groups participate in this ministry. This ministry began in Jan 2009 and is done every Saturday. The Hilltop is blessed by this ministry.

Hoge Presbyterian is our sister church and we have the opportunity to stand beside them in this ministry for their community. The thing is we may be providing this service for people in need, but we are the ones who are blessed in the process. We need your help in doing this – if you want to provide the message or provide music, help shop, prepare food, or serve at the dinner. Let's do this and have some fun too! Contact Marianne Westbrook for a task to do! 614-738-5005

# Condit Correspondence

Dear Condit,

Mom loved Condit Presbyterian Church because of all of you. You were so good to her, especially this past year. You sent cards and prayed for her. Many of you visited her and a few sang to her either in person or on the phone. Some brought flowers, lotion, and sweets. (You knew how much she loved her chocolates.) Judy brought her dog, Sam, to visit and Georgann brought Mom library books. The Condit Bible Study group even met at the Country View Nursing Home so she could attend. Pastor Sam gave a lovely funeral service while Linda and Marv provided beautiful music. Marianne and Bob organized a scrumptious meal and many others donated food and their time to help put on the meal.

When she was at Country View she asked about all of you and prayed for those of you in need. You all made Mom feel so loved! Thank you for the beautiful flowers that the church sent to the funeral.

Love,  
The Cockrell Family



A **BIG THANK YOU** to Condit,

...for all the prayers and cards.

I needed and I felt all the love from Condit Church. I will keep moving forward with God and see what he has planned for me. Thank everyone for the prayers for Bill and a very BIG thank you to Pastor Sam for all the visits and the baptism at the hospital. It sure helped Bill feel important to God.

Much love and prayers to my church family,  
Sheila Micholes

## To Let Condit Know...

Dwayne Wampler has given up his ministry and now we are back to Condit. Dwayne never took any money for preaching but we gave to the kitty-adding up to \$4,500. We met at P.J.'s and it was decided to give the money, \$1500 to Condit Presbyterian Church, \$1500 to Big Walnut Friends Who Share and \$1500 to Olive Green Christian Church since they didn't charge for our meeting room.

We wish the best of luck to Dwayne wherever God leads him.

God Bless us All,  
Pat and Marvin Monroe



## Per Capita...\$40 per Member Reminder

The per capita has been paid to the Presbytery. If you have not yet contributed your payment please try to have it in by **April 28**. This is crucial to the overall well-being of PC (USA) because it binds presbyteries, synods and congregations together in one Church. (J. Herbert NelsonII, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly) When paying your per capita by check, please indicate "per capita" on the memo line.

## Scholarship Opportunity

*Submitted by Mick Sheets*

The Brenner scholarship was endowed by the Brenner family about 15 years ago. Mary, also known as Lib, was a teacher for many years. Her husband Tom was a farmer and they both valued education. They wanted to recognize kids that were active in the church. The award is for Condit seniors graduating from high school entering their first year of post high school education. Total award is \$250 each year.

The application should be completed and given to Mick Sheets. A group of Church Elders decide who will be given the scholarship. *Please find the*



*application on page 7.*





# Road Trip Recap

Five youth met at Condit on Saturday, March 6, to go on a "Road Trip." Their destination was Easter. Seven stops were planned along their journey, representing events that happened to Jesus during Holy Week. Each stop was explained through scripture and had an activity paired with the scripture to reinforce the message.



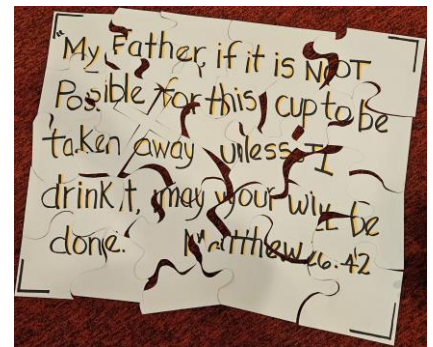
Stop #7  
The Ascension



Stop #2 The Upper Room  
Communion



Stop #3 Garden of Gethsemane  
Prayer Puzzle



Completed prayer puzzle



Stop #5 Golgotha  
Vinegar on sponge



carry the cross



carry the cross



Stop #7 Listening to scripture



Stop #5 Golgotha



"Paid in Full"



craft cross



# Postcards of the past...

Submitted by Polly Horn



This postcard of Presbyterian Church, Condit, Ohio, was mailed October 16, 1913, from the Condit Post Office to Mr. Earl Stinson in Centerburg, Ohio. The Condit Post Office was in North Condit in the home of Will and Ellie Lane. This card was given to me from Jim Gorsuch who found Iarl (not Earl) Stinson's grave in the Centerburg Cemetery. There are cross ornaments on the roof peaks and a tall cross with possibly a lightning rod over the belfry. Anson Blades was the Pastor in 1913 and must have sat in the rocker on the front porch of the manse to the right. There is a fence along the front and a hitching post to tie a horse beside the front walk.

## Grief Group Formed



A small grief recovery group has formed and will be meeting Tuesday evenings at the church at 7 p.m. after the exercise group. Meetings this month will be **April 2 and 9**. This is open to anyone who has recently experienced a loss of a loved one. If you are aware of anyone who could benefit from such a support group please direct them to Pastor Sam for more information.



## Survey Available

The Education Committee has included a survey in this issue to assess interest in Bible studies in addition to those offered at Lent and Advent. Printed forms are available in the Narthex. Please take 2 minutes to complete the survey and place

in the collection envelope marked "Surveys" in the Narthex or email a digital version to [ConditNews@gmail.com](mailto:ConditNews@gmail.com). Included on the survey form are questions for men in order to gauge interest about the possibility of forming a men's group. All suggestions are welcome. Please complete and return surveys no later than **April 14**. Please locate the survey on page 8.

## Remember in Prayer

Ralph & Cindy Monte  
Grandma Angie Walters  
Aiden King  
Danya and family  
Mary Jo Wilson  
Max & Peggy Sheets  
Helen Gilbert  
Family of Lee Miller



# Treasurer's Report

February 2024 Financials

Submitted by Ken Bartlett



Our regular offering was approximately 76% of its two-month budget amount (**\$21,524.00** of **\$28,332.67**; **\$6,808.67** in arrears). Total receipts were **\$26,873.67** of the two-month budget amount of **\$32,666.00**, **\$5,792.33** in arrears.

Insurance and real estate taxes have been fully paid for the year. Total expenses were **\$32,160.93** against the two-month budget of **\$32,666.00**, resulting in outflows greater than budget by **\$505.07**.

February year-to-date net was **\$5,287.26** in the red.

Receipts are **\$6,889.14** more than a year ago, while expenses are **\$13,266.53** more than a year ago. This results in the net being **\$6,377.39** worse than a year ago.

Investments as a whole were up **4.0%** year-to-date as of the end of February. Investments total **\$259,188.58**. Total funds available were **\$310,295.81** as of the end of February.

- 3 Sam Files
- 4 Christine Jones
- 5 Elizabeth Files
- Randy Longshore
- 6 Beverly Saksa
- 7 George Justice
- 9 Homer Wilson
- 10 Cheryl Caudill
- Doug Kerns
- 13 Larry Strouse
- 14 Heather Day
- 23 Sarah Alicardi
- 24 Doug Linnabary
- 29 Max Monte
- Odessa Monte



Faith Filled Women met Friday, March 8 at the Olive Green Church of Christ in Christian Union. Jim Gorsuch was invited by The Bridge to speak about his battle with sepsis five years ago. His talk drew from James 4:14-15, detailing his severe illness and recovery from near death. He lives today to tell his story and witness to others about the goodness of God.

A lunch of hot soup and salad was shared after the meeting. Condit women will host the next quarterly meeting on **Friday, May 10**. A volunteer from Snuggled in Hope will be speaking about their quilt projects. All women are encouraged to attend and bring any excess fabric/quilt tops for a donation to Snuggled in Hope.

## Happy Anniversary

18 Dennis and Cheryl Caudill

## Big Walnut Friends Who Share

Condit is a big supporter of B.W.F.W.S. There is a large container in the vestibule outside the Pastor's study to collect canned food items and staples between the major food drives. Times are hard and supplies are in great demand now more than ever. Please consider making a donation outside of our regularly scheduled holiday times to help a community family in need.

Hats and mittens are also collected for winter. Consider shopping end of season sales now to be prepared to donate in the fall.



Thanks, Condit, for all you do!

# Brenner Scholarship Application

**Eligibility:**

Award is for Condit graduating seniors from high school entering their first year of post high school education. Total award is \$250 each year.

Please complete the application and return to Mick Sheets by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Applicants Name:**

**Condit Church involvement:**

Describe your involvement with the Condit Church.

How has the Church affected your life?

**Community Service:**

Describe your involvement in community service projects.

**Grades in School:** What is your high school grade point and class ranking? \_\_\_\_\_

**Recommendation and Other Service Consideration:**

You are encouraged to provide copies of any recommendations you may have, but they are not required.

## Bible Study Survey

The Education Committee currently offers two book studies a year, one for Lent and one for Advent. We appreciate your feedback about your interest in additional Bible study opportunities.

Are you interested in participating in a Bible study? (Please circle) Yes No  
Do you have a topic or a specific book of the Bible you are most interested in studying?  
Please list or describe \_\_\_\_\_

The time of day you would be most available for a study: (please circle one)

Morning Afternoon Evening

The day of the week that would be most convenient to meet: (please circle one or two)  
Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

The season of the year that would be most convenient: (please circle one)  
Spring Summer Autumn Winter All Seasons

---

## Men's Group Survey

If you are male are you interested in participating in a men's group? (Please circle) Yes No

If yes, would you like the group to meet weekly or monthly? (Please circle) Weekly Monthly

Would you like this to include a Bible study? (Please circle) Yes No

Do you have a topic or a specific book of the Bible you are most interested in studying?  
Please list or describe \_\_\_\_\_

The day of the week that would be most convenient to meet: (please circle one or two)  
Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

The time of day you would be most available for a meeting: (please circle one)  
Morning Afternoon Evening





**April  
2024**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Exercise Club 6:00 Grief Group 7 pm	3 Choir 6:00	4 Exercise Club 6:00	5	6
7 Worship with Communion 10:00 No Sunday School	8 	9 Exercise Club 6:00 Grief Group 7 pm	10 Food & Fun 5-7 pm Choir 6:00	11 Exercise Club 5:30 Session & Trustees 7 pm	12 Blood Drive 12-6pm	13 Spring Cleanup Begins
14 Worship 10:00 Survey deadline	15	16 Exercise Club 6:00	17 Women's Circle @ noon Choir 6:00	18 Exercise Club 6:00	19 	20 Women's Circle Sewing day Spring Cleanup Ends
21 Worship 10:00	22 	23 Exercise Club 6:00	24 Food & Fun 5-7 pm Choir 6:00	25 Exercise Club 6:00	26	27 Hoge Dinner 5:30
28 Worship 10:00 Per Capita Due	29	30 Exercise Club 6:00	<p><i>April Flowers: Sheila Micholes</i></p> 			

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