



Condit Courier

October 2024

Fear Not

It's spooky season. The world has become populated with plastic skeletons and ghosts made from bed sheets. Soon, Charlie Brown will be gifted a rock while Linus patiently waits for The Great Pumpkin. And, of course, there are things that go bump in the night.

The goal is simple: creep people out. That is one of the hallmarks of this season. It is why we even call it "spooky season" as a joke. Fear is one of those primal human emotions. It's a basic emotion that exists in all people. It makes sense. We know that our lives are temporary and fragile. This is something that fills us with fear and anxiety.

It's interesting when you think of fear as a concept. When things are confusing, it tends to fill us with fear. This is something that is normal and natural. In fact, it's normal to have a fear response with things that scare or confuse us. There is just one slight issue with it.

God is. That is the best statement that I can come up with to describe God. God exists outside the normal human senses. God is so far removed from us that we can't fully understand God. God even identifies God's own self as "I Am" in Exodus 3:14. Not to mention all the names that we have for God in the Old Testament and the names like Jehovah that people make up and aren't even in the Bible in the original Hebrew.

All of this makes God confusing. If God is confusing, then, God will fill us with fear. This wouldn't be a problem except for the fact that God wants a relationship with us. The idea or concept of God, though, when we think about it, fills us with fear. Even

the messengers of God- the angels- have to announce their presence with "Be not afraid" because it's all out of the human condition.

Yet here is the thing about fear: once you understand something, the fear disappears. God does not want us to live in fear, but instead know and respect God. This is why the person of Jesus is so important to us. Jesus is the way that we can come to know God. God does not want us to live in fear. Rather, God wants us to know God and love God. In order for this to happen, God sent God's only son Jesus to show us all about God's love. There are no scary tricks with God. There is only the love of God found in Christ Jesus as the sweetest treat there is.

What are some ways that we can come to know God more fully? How do you address God in your prayers? What does it mean for you to "serve the LORD with fear and trembling?" (Psalm 2:11) What do we know and understand about God?

Blessings,

Pastor Sam

(330) 207-7038

Pastorsamuel85@gmail.com

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



October Calendar



October 13, 20, 27 Youth Sunday school will be held downstairs in the fellowship hall during the worship service. Children will be excused from worship after the Children's message.

The Genealogy of Jesus is being taught. Please plan for kids age 5- sixth grade to come learn about the people God chose to form the lineage of Jesus. Sunday School will not be offered October 6 due to Communion being served.



Condit Blood Drive is **12-6 on Friday, October 11**. Maybe you are one of the lucky ones who has never needed blood but the odds are good someone in your family will need blood some time. Only 8% of the population takes an hour to donate a

pint of blood which could save someone's life. Take this opportunity to save up to three lives by giving at Condit.

To save you time at the blood drive, make a reservation by using the Red Cross Blood App, email GiveBlood@ConditChurch.org or call Polly Horn. 740-965-3582 and leave your phone number so she can return your call. Registered donors get a reminder to use Rapid-Pass which saves time at the blood drive.

Please ask your neighbors and friends if they would consider giving. *Submitted by Polly Horn*

Saturday, October 12 Condit will hold the Annual Bonfire and Wiener Roast. Youth activities will begin at **6:00 p.m.** Pumpkins and carving utensils will be available. Provided menu items will be hot dogs, s'mores, apple cider and bottled water. Please bring wiener roast appropriate side dishes to share. Feel free to bring

your own soda, iced tea, lemonade, juice, etc.



Come and join in for
Smoke fun!



Condit Women's Circle will meet **Wednesday, October 16 at noon** in the fellowship hall. Please complete Chapter 8 and study guide questions, pages 90-93, to prepare for discussion.



Monday evenings October 7, 14, 21 at 6 p.m. the Bible study, "Making a Prophet," will be held in the fellowship hall. This study coordinates with the Sunday prophet sermon series, which will also be continuing in October. A handout for the study is available each Sunday in the Narthex. It is never too late to join.

Food & Fun dates for the month are **Wednesdays, October 9 and October 23, from 5-7 pm**. As the outside temperature begins to cool, stop in for hearty comfort food and warm conversation.



Euchre will be held in the fellowship hall the last **Saturday** of the month, **October 26, from 7-9 p.m.** All ages, all skill levels welcome. Do you know someone younger than you that you could bring to teach?

Remember in Prayer

Family of Clayton Davey
Gene Wampler
Carol Pickworth
Mary Jo Wilson
Cindy Monte
Mary Vescuso
Max & Peggy Sheets



Trustee News

Submitted by George Justice

The Trustees thank Doug Linnabary and Bob Westbrook for installing a new toilet in Fellowship Hall's restroom. The toilet replaced had a significant crack in the base. It's very helpful having someone with plumbing skills in the congregation.

Another improvement has been made through an anonymous donation from a Congregant. The twin swinging doors to the Sanctuary have new brass door pulls. The current ones are old and pitted. A very nice improvement for the entry of our Sanctuary.

Finally, the Trustees are making a Last Call for a New Home for an antique, upright piano and an electric organ. You can see each of these in the Choir Room. If you, or if you know of someone who might be interested, please contact any of the Trustees.

Presbytery Visitor

Sunday, September 15, the congregation was visited by Emily Krause Corzine, Presbyter for Congregational Life and Transitions. Since March she has been visiting small churches in the Scioto Valley to show the Presbytery's presence and support. She thanked our congregation for our Per Capita participation, which is crucial to the overall well-being of the PC (USA). She also encouraged each to serve in some capacity to continue the health of our own congregation. It was nice to have her present and to be reminded that the Presbytery is there for us as a resource if needed.

October Anniversaries



- 1 Adam & Caitlyn Garner
- 3 Doug & Karen Kerns
- 14 Richard & Heather Day
- 16 Larry & Sandy Thacker
- 19 Josh & Kaitlin White
- 28 Homer & Mary Jo Wilson



Submitted by Marianne Westbrook, Missions

Believe it or not, Christmas is right around the corner. Condit is participating in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child mission. This is our second year to support this shoebox ministry. This is a mission that touches children all over the world for Christ. They receive the gospel in their own language. And the joy a box of surprises brings! We will make the boxes available to you beginning of October at the church. The last day to turn in a completed box is **Sunday, November 17 of 2024**. Please consider doing this. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations." Matthew 28:19



The Education Committee has selected *Calling All Angels, An Advent Study of Fearlessness and Strength*, by Erin Wathen as this year's requested study. Pastor Sam will lead the study group which will meet four Monday evenings beginning November 25, December 2, December 9 and December 16 at 6 p.m. Books will cost \$11.00 and will be ordered October 15. Please sign up in the Narthex by **October 13** to ensure early bird pricing on the books.

B.W.F.W.S.

Condit will again be participating in the Big Walnut Friends Who Share holiday food basket preparation and the collection of hats/ mittens. More details will be coming in the November newsletter and in church announcements. Thank you for your continued support of these local ministries.



Getting to Know You...

Grant Bartlett

by Jennie Kavage

Grant Bartlett was baptized in the Sanctuary as an infant on the same day in 1997 his parents, Ken and Doreen, joined Condit Presbyterian Church. He has been an involved part of the congregation ever since.

He participated in the Sunday School classes and Youth Fellowship, sang in the choir, played bells in the Bell Choir, acted in church plays, served as Youth Elder and as liturgist and usher when needed. John Whitney, who led the youth class and fellowship, says Grant was always a leader and liked to play devil's advocate. Grant explains he asks questions because he "likes to see every opinion out there." He was Condit's Man of the Year in 2015.

Grant was in Boy Scouts from Cub Scout until he was 16. That's where, he says, he got his love for camping and hiking. He was one of four youth leaders for the Columbus Troop, serving as scribe, for the inaugural jamboree held at Summit Bechtel Reserve in WV in 2013. At Big Walnut High School he was on the tennis team and served as assistant coach for five years following graduation in 2016.

From the time he was a boy playing with his toy soldiers, Grant knew he wanted to join the army. He was 17 when he talked to a recruiter at the high school and signed with the Army Reserve. He attended basic training between his junior and senior years and trained as a Tactical Power Generation Specialist. For eight years as a reservist he supervised and performed maintenance and repairs on power-generation equipment, internal combustion engines and associated equipment.

As a civilian he was an apprentice electrician for Appalachian Renewable Power for two years installing the electrical portion of solar power systems. Then he became an electrician with Area Energy and Electric, Inc. working in residential, commercial and industrial installation as well as completing the OSHA 30 certification for safety in the workplace.

When Covid hit, his Reserve unit was called to provide



Grant Bartlett, right, with parents, Ken, left, and, Doreen, center, at a recent Condit Food & Fun dinner.

power distribution to temporary hospital facilities in New York and California. Grant, however, was kept behind to help with the logistics of getting everyone and everything shipped out.

He says, himself, he can't sit still. He needs to be doing something; he needs to be working with his hands. He feels a calling to help others. Consequently, starting in June 2023, Grant spent 11 months at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, TX training to be a Biomedical Equipment Technician learning and doing preventative maintenance and fault isolation on equipment including incubators, suction units, ECGs, infusion pumps, diagnostic imaging equipment and dental chairs to mention a few. He was an honor graduate.

Recently he started a new job at Riverside Methodist Hospital where he's already performing preventive maintenance on various types of medical equipment. He's very happy working at Riverside and feels what he's doing definitely will affect patient quality of life.

Even though he lives in Reynoldsburg, Grant's contribution to the life of Condit Presbyterian Church is as strong as ever. He is an adult Elder, sings bass in the choir, plays the trumpet in the occasional brass quartet, runs the monthly euchre night and helps wherever needed. Most recently he spent an afternoon squatting down by the kids' *Continued on page 5*

fish pool at Sunbury’s Sizzle and Sound. That’s where he got one of the Condit Church wrist bands Marianne Westbrook purchased for promotional pieces. (They are available in a box in the Narthex. Take one.)

Grant wears his wristband proudly because he sees potential in Condit Church. He would like to see more young people attracted to the church. He suggests an adult Sunday School class before worship as well as more activities outside of Sunday such as small group worship and more frequent Bible studies.



Grant (far left) practicing with the Chancel Choir.

He feels Condit does a “great job” connecting with those who have lost their faith. “It’s because we are a welcoming, come-as-you-are, accepting type of church,” he says.

“I don’t think the church should get politicized and wrapped up in its differences,” Grant says. “The role of the church is making sure everyone feels the love of God. The church should do what Jesus has called us to do—love God and our neighbor.”



Treasurer's Report

August 2024 Financials

Submitted by Ken Bartlett

Our regular offering through August was approximately 62.7% of its eight-month budget amount (**\$71,021.80** of **\$113,330.67**; **\$42,308.87** in arrears). A \$30,300 bequest was received in May. Total receipts through August were **\$120,430.61** of the eight-month budget amount of **\$130,664.00**, **\$10,233.39** less than budget.

Insurance and real estate taxes have been fully paid for the year, per capita has been paid for three-quarters of the year. Total expenses through August were **\$116,359.38** against the eight-month budget of **\$130,664.00**, resulting in outflows less than budget by **\$14,304.62**.

August net was nearly **\$14,000** in the red. August year-to-date net was **\$4,071.23** in the black.

Receipts through August were **\$39,944.47** more than a year ago, while expenses were **\$64,546.53** more than a year ago. This results in the net being **\$24,602.06** worse than a year ago.

Investment returns were up **11.8%** year-to-date. The \$30,000 bequest received in May was invested and investments totaled **\$308,711.17** as of the end of August. Total funds available were **\$339,177.43** as of the end of August. \$153,217.14 of this amount is general undesignated funds, \$156,003.41 is Condit’s Building Fund balance, and \$29,956.88 is the aggregate balance of a variety of special funds.

October Birthdays

- 2 Max Sheets, Audrianna Agnew
- 5 Pam Sheets
- 6 Terri Groseclose
- 11 Jackie Covert
- 23 Bill Gorsuch, Emily Sheets
- 24 Chip Welch, Samuel Kirby
- 27 Cameron Gale, Nemo Monte
- 28 Jules Miller
- 29 Tiffany Miller
- 30 Brayden Joseph, Jason Skeen
- 31 Larry Thacker, Josh White





OCTOBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Exercise Group 6 pm	2 Choir 6 pm	3 Exercise Group 6 pm	4 	5
6 Worship at 10 am World Communion Sunday No Sunday School	7 Prophet Bible study 6 pm	8 Exercise Group 6 pm	9 Food & Fun 5-7 pm Choir 6 pm	10 Exercise Group 5:30 pm Session & Trustees 7 pm	11 Blood Drive 12-6 pm	12 Bonfire & Wiener Roast 6 pm
13 Worship at 10 am	14 Prophet Bible study 6 pm  Columbus Day	15 Exercise Group 6 pm	16 Choir 6 pm Women's Circle @ noon	17 Exercise Group 6 pm	18	19 
20 Worship at 10 am	21 Prophet Bible study 6 pm	22 Exercise Group 6 pm	23 Food & Fun 5-7 pm Choir 6 pm	24 Exercise Group 6 pm	25	26 Euchre 7 pm
27 Worship at 10 am	28 	29 Exercise Group 6 pm	30 Choir 6 pm	31 Exercise Group 6 pm Halloween		

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