



Condit Courier

October 2025

I want to first say thank you. My church family here has welcomed me and my family with open arms. You all managed to sneak around in front of us all and plan a surprise that came out of the blue. It was amazing to watch and behold. It also really speaks to this congregation's capacity for love which is important to have- especially in this day and age. You all should really be commended on how well you all love.

It's fascinating the dichotomy that October is bringing for me this month. Typically it's all about the spookiness of the season because I myself am strange and unusual. That's still there to be sure. I like Halloween because it spooky and strange. Yet the dichotomy that is being formed is that the "fear" is now and forevermore going to be juxtaposed with "love." I realize that God has a sense of humor because fear is often times cast out by love.

Proverbs 9:10 reminds us that fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. 1John chapter 4 mentions in verse 8 that God is love. We in fact love because God is love. Why, then, should we be afraid? Are we meant to be that scared of God? Often we understand that the fear we are called to have of God is more of a respect. It's almost a paternal thing where we would logically be kind of scared of God simply because of God's nature. Yet what if there is more? What if part of that fear we are to have of God is understanding just how much God loves us?

This love isn't a controlling love. It's kind and forgiving. It's full of grace and empathy. To be honest, if you're not used to that kind of love, it's going to be scary. It's going to be off putting. When you fall in that kind of love too, it's also terrifying. Maybe these ideas are more connected than we think. If fear is feeling

the fear and doing the brave thing anyway, wouldn't that also count for how we love God as God loves us? Maybe we rest in the love that God has for us and that will drive the fear out of us to an extent. It's okay to be a little afraid sometimes. We just need to temper it always with love.

In what ways do you "fear" God? Do you feel that is a normal reaction to have? Now thinking about that "fear" of God, how do you balance that out with loving God? Is it overwhelming to you when you think about the depths of God's love for us? Why or why not?

Blessings,
Pastor Sam
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Pastorsamuel85@gmail.com
Office hours Monday-Thursday 9:30-2:30
*Text is the best method of contact

Pastor Sam will be vacationing from October 21 through November 4. Please plan ahead for any meetings, discussions, etc. you may need and schedule it prior to his time away.



October Calendar



Operation Christmas Child gift boxes will be available to pick up after worship in the narthex on **Sunday, September 28**. Please reference page 4 for details.



Boundary Training for CREs and Teaching Elders will be **October 6, 2025**. Training will be offered on a later date for elders in churches.



Blood Drive will be held **12-5:30 p.m. on Friday, October 10**. You may use your Red Cross APP to register or email GiveBlood@ConditChurch.org or call Polly Horn at 740-965-3582 and leave your name and phone number and you will be called to register.

Food & Fun dates for the month are **Wednesdays, October 8 and October 22**. Doreen will be back from the Africa trip and will have some delicious fall comfort food prepared. Plan to come to the church from **5 – 7 p.m.** to dine and share great fellowship.



Condit's annual Fall Weiner Roast will take place on **Saturday, October 11 at 5:30 p.m.** The Events Committee will be providing hot dogs/buns, s'mores and paper products. The committee requests everyone bring a side dish or snack to share. Bring your lawn chair, your own beverage and come prepared to color a pumpkin or to play games in the crisp autumn air around the blazing fire. *Details provided by Mary Kingseed, Events Committee Chair*



Condit Women's Circle will meet **Wednesday, October 15 at noon** in the Fellowship Hall. All women are invited to share fellowship over a brown bag lunch and the provided dessert. MaryAnn Counts will lead a discussion about the Old Testament character Ruth. The business portion of the meeting will discuss mission options and take up a collection to contribute

to the Faith Filled Women's holiday gift card fundraiser. Condit Women have opted not to sell gift cards.



The Condit Chancel Choir will be attending the Taizé Vespers Service on **Friday, October 17**. Anyone from the congregation is welcome to meet at the church at **5 p.m.** to carpool to Columbus to attend. This is a contemplative worship experience in the style of the Taizé community in France offered the third Friday of each month at Indianola Presbyterian Church. If you have questions please contact Deb Bergmann.

Mark your calendars



Condit Christmas will be held the evening of **Sunday, December 7**. Start planning now how you can participate in the program.



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

A Mission Outreach Project

Submitted by Marianne Westbrook, Missions Committee



People have been talking about ways to serve our community for at least a year. A blessing box was an idea. We presented to session and it was approved for us to have a blessing box on our property. Bob Westbrook and Judy Watts decided to work on building the box. Bob researched many patterns for the box and settled on the one on the Blessing Box Project website. He gathered materials and made the Box. Judy selected the color and it was soon painted. It was mounted at the end of August and foodstuffs started



filling the box. Judy plans to dedicate the box to her mom, Ann Ross. The cost to make it was \$232.00. A grant has been applied for through the Scioto Valley Presbytery for projects that support Matthew 25. This will address food insufficiency in our community. We applied and have been

approved to be a part of the Columbus Blessing Box Project which has a map showing where all boxes are located in Central Ohio. We will receive stickers for the box from that organization. Marianne Westbrook will monitor the Box for September – November to keep the box organized and to make sure items are correct for box use. Items must be shelf stable and easy open (such as tab top). Appropriate items for the box are food, hygiene, and baby items. After November, there will be a sign-up sheet to monitor the box. There are plans to put a Box for books close to the existing Box.

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



Substitute Musician



Mary Jane Hitt

September 14 Mary Jane Hitt was so kind to substitute as pianist for our worship service. She is a retired PCUSA minister who was accidentally listed on the music supply list. We were happy to have her bless us with her gift of music.



Prayer Requests

- Homer & Mary Jo Wilson
- Marv & Pat Monroe
- Cindy Monte
- John Kerns
- John & Helen Szakas
- Chris Lawless
- Max Sheets
- Randy Longshore
- Baby Collin

Treasurer's Report

August 2025 Financials
Submitted by Ken Bartlett

Our regular offering was approximately **61.8%** of its eight-month budget amount (**\$69,814.28** of **\$112,980.00**; **\$43,165.72** in arrears). Total receipts were **\$92,050.74** of the eight-month budget amount of **\$131,073.33**, **\$39,022.59** in arrears.

Insurance, real estate taxes, and per capita have been fully paid for the year and propane has been pre-bought for the winter season. Total expenses were **\$130,174.58** against the eight-month budget of **\$131,073.33**, resulting in outflows less than budget by **\$898.75**, approximately **0.7%** under-budget.

August net was **\$5,298.77** in the red, and August year-to-date was **\$38,123.84** in the red.

Receipts are **\$28,379.87** less than a year ago, attributable to a \$30,300 bequest received in 2024. Expenses are **\$13,815.20** more than a year ago. This results in the net being **\$42,195.07** worse than a year ago.

Investments as a whole were up **7.0%** through August. Investments totaled **\$310,983.46** as of the end of August. Total funds available were **\$330,014.77** as of the end of August. \$129,837.58 of this amount is general undesignated funds, \$167,354.40 is Condit's Building Fund balance and \$32,822.79 is the aggregate balance of a variety of special funds.

Through the end of August, offering has continued to lag behind our budget and spending levels. And we continue to lag behind last year's all-in pace. Spending has continued to be generally in line with or less than budget. With reserves currently in place, there is no need to panic, but we do need to look at what we see our future to be, and how we will be able to achieve what we set out to accomplish.

Missions Update

Submitted by Marianne Westbrook, Missions Chair

The Blessing Box Project is now active. (See page 3) The Columbus Blessing Box Project states that we have a great looking box. They have added us to their list and map. The stickers are in the mail. The founder of the Columbus Blessing Box Project is Gretchen

Davis. I have signed up to check the Box for 3 months. Items to put in the box are shelf stable grocery, toiletry, and baby items. Canned food is good, but must be easy open cans, no can opener needed.

The CWS cleanup Bucket collection is complete. Twenty four items needed for disaster cleanup were packed in two 5 gallon buckets. Condit came through again, donating all the necessary products. And somehow all the clotheslines, brushes, soap, cloths, sponges, pads, gloves, and masks fit in the buckets! The cost for shipping was \$3 and was included in the buckets. The buckets will be delivered to Scioto Valley Presbytery for them to outsource.



Church World Service Emergency Cleanup Buckets

Operation Christmas Child is coming! I attended the Project Leaders Meeting at Hillsong on Sept 6 and much information was imparted. We also received 50 free boxes for our church. Boxes will be available on **Sunday, September 28** after service and filled boxes will be **due back on November 9**. The goal number of boxes for Condit is 25. Of course, we can do more than that. The age groups most needed are age 2-4 boy and girl and 10-14 boy and girl. There is a do not pack list. Soap is now on that list. These items will hang up boxes in customs. We can do this, Condit!



Note: There will be an Operation Christmas Child Packing party in Newark at the YMCA on **Nov 14 at 4:30 pm**. See me if you are interested in volunteering. They will fill 2000 boxes there.

Special Brunch

The “Back to School Brunch” on August 31 was a complete ruse. The brunch was actually a well-planned and organized surprise Wedding Shower for Pastor Sam and Jules. And were they ever surprised, especially when Jules’ mother walked in to join the celebration!



Surprise!

Pam Sheets, Deb Bergmann, Mary Kingseed, Doreen Bartlett and others all pitched in to pull off a beautiful shower for the couple and the Monte children. No one leaked a hint and they were truly surprised. Condit blessed them with Disney gift cards for their honeymoon, a quilt handmade by Bev Saksa, and other assorted items. Each child was presented a journal to document special moments in their first year moving forward as a family.



And of course, the planning team really did offer a full brunch selection of breakfast tacos, oven baked French toast, ham sliders, fruit salad and bakery cake to enjoy on beautifully decorated tables.

A great time was had by all who gathered to wish the couple well.



Pastor Sam and Jules display the handmade quilt.



Jules, right, and her mother, left.



A jacket gifted to Jules by her mother.



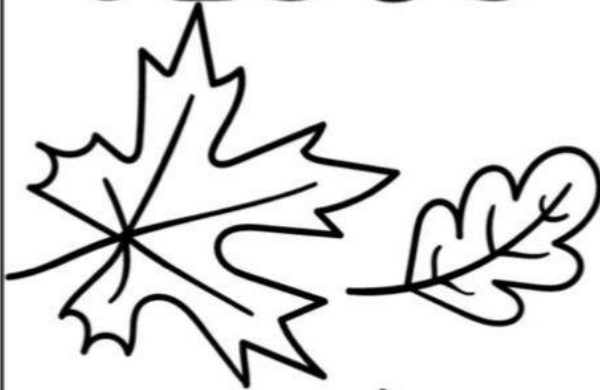
The Wedding Shower cake.

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Altar Flowers- Beverly Saksa</i>			1	2 	3	4
5 Worship with Communion 10 am	6 Boundary Training	7 Exercise 6 pm	8 Food & Fun 5-7 pm Choir 6 pm	9 Exercise 5:30 pm Session & Trustees 7 pm	10 Blood Drive 12-5:30 pm	11 Fall Wiener Roast 5:30 pm
12 Worship 10 am	13  Columbus Day	14 Exercise 6 pm	15 Women's Circle @ noon Choir 6 pm	16	17 Taizé Vespers Service depart 5 pm	18 
19 Worship 10 am	20	21 Exercise 6 pm	22 Food & Fun 5-7 pm Choir 6 pm	23	24	25
26 Worship 10 am	27	28 Exercise 6 pm	29 Choir 6 pm	30	31  Halloween	

****October 21- November 4 Pastor Sam will be on vacation****

FALL
IN LOVE
WITH
JESUS



HE
NEVER
LEAVES

Condit Presbyterian Church Newsletter
15102 Hartford Road
Sunbury, Ohio 43074

SESSION

Class of 2027

Sandy Thacker Mick Sheets
Mary Kingseed

Class of 2026

Marianne Westbrook Judy Watts
Melissa Vermillion

Class of 2025

Georgann Whitney Sheila Micholes
Kathy Kees

Minister Rev. Samuel Monte
Music Director Adam Garner
Treasurer Ken Bartlett
Financial Secretary Doug Kerns
Clerk of Session Deb Bergmann
Church Phone Number: 740-965-2911
Website: <http://ConditChurch.org>

TRUSTEES

Class of 2027

Ken Bartlett Dave Vermillion

Class of 2026

John Whitney

Class of 2025

Bob Westbrook George Justice

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