

Condit
Presbyterian
Church

Minister

Rev. Samuel Monte

Director of Music

Adam Garner

Session

Clerk of Session

Georgann Whitney

Class of 2028

Georgann Whitney

Ken Bartlett

John Whitney

Class of 2027

Sandy Thacker

Mick Sheets

Mary Kingseed

Class of 2026

Marianne Westbrook

Judy Watts

Melissa Vermillion

Board of Trustees

Class of 2028

Mike Mucci

Bill Gorsuch

Class of 2027

Dave Vermillion

Bob Westbrook

Class of 2026

George Justice

A Forty Day Adventure

Lent is a period of about forty days. It's interesting that it is technically forty-six days, but the Sundays don't count. I never really knew this as a kid. All I knew was that in high school we couldn't have pizza on Fridays during Lent and those weird fillet-o-fish commercials from McDonalds would be back. As I got older, I naturally looked more into Lent. Lent is bizarre.

The period of Lent is a time of prayer and fasting and self-examination. We do this to get ready for the joy of the Resurrection. Oddly enough, our journey starts on Ash Wednesday in which we are confronted with our own mortality. Lent does not start off happy. It's not supposed to be the happiest time of the year. Yet the paradox of Lent is that it leads us to the happiest time of the year- the resurrection of Jesus Christ. I'd like to think that I'm not the only one who sees this paradox. We get ready for new life with a focus on how everything is temporary. There is a reason that Genesis 3:19 reminds us, "You are dust and to dust you shall return."

Yet we know that this is not all there is to the story. While some things like our lives are temporary, there is such a thing as eternal life. While we admit that there are things that end, we also admit that there is no real end. Do you see how this can get confusing? Lent is, essentially, one giant, bizarre adventure that doesn't seem to make sense.

Be that as it may, when it comes to God, the impossible becomes the possible all the time. Yes: things are odd. Yes: things don't always make sense to us. The good news is that through God, even when things don't make perfect sense, we know that it all benefits God's glory in some way. Lent truly is an adventure. Let us take the time to examine ourselves so that we might glorify God.

In what ways is Lent different from other liturgic seasons? In what ways do you find Lent confusing? Is there anything you can do to spend more time in the word this season?

Blessings,

Pastor Sam

(330) 207-7038

Pastorsamuel85@gmail.com

Office Hours Monday-Thursday 9:30-2:30

March Calendar



Condit FHS 4H Club will begin meeting the **first and third Mondays of the month from 7-8 pm**. Please be mindful of their presence when scheduling other church activities. Welcome 4H!



The Missions Committee will be collecting a special One Great Hour of Sharing offering **during Lent**. Please listen to the "Mission Minute" during the February 22 worship service to learn how you can participate. Additional "Mission Minutes" will share examples of how this offering is used and distributed.



A Lenten Study led by Pastor Sam will be meeting in the church library on **Mondays, March 2, 9, 16 and 23 at 6:00 p.m.** The book being used is *Meeting Jesus on the Road* by Cynthia Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr. All interested in learning how to walk with Jesus on the path to the cross are welcome to participate.

Food & Fun Wednesdays, **March 11 and March 25 from 5-7 p.m.** dinner will be served in the fellowship hall. Who can you invite? Who can you deliver a hot dinner to?



Faith Filled Women will meet **Friday, March 13 at 11 a.m.** at the Olive Green CCU for their quarterly meeting. The Bridge of Sunbury will be providing the program. Lunch will be provided after the program and business portion of the meeting. All women are welcome to attend.



Condit Women's Circle will meet on **Wednesday, March 18 at noon**. Mary Ann Counts will continue the lesson about church history. Please read pages 30-44

in *Church History 101* covering the seventh to the ninth centuries to prepare for discussion. All women are welcome to attend.

Mark Your Calendars



Thursday, April 2, the Maundy Thursday worship service will again be incorporated into a pot luck **dinner at 6 pm** in the fellowship hall. A sign up for food assignments will soon be available in the narthex.



Sunday, April 5, Easter brunch will be served from **9-10 a.m.** in the social hall prior to the church service. Breakfast casseroles, biscuits and gravy, sweet rolls and fruit will be available along with drinks. Come and celebrate *Jesus Christ is risen today. Alleluia!*
Submitted by Mary Kingseed, Events Committee Chair



3 Trent Pettit
12 Marilyn DeFranco
15 Joe Marshall
16 Levi Jacob
22 Madi Howard
24 Lynda O'Quinn
29 Jane Strouse
31 Molly Blevins

March
Anniversaries
5 Marv & Pat
Monroe



New Clerk of Session



Georgann Whitney, photo above, has graciously volunteered to serve as Clerk of Session for 2026. She is currently serving as an Elder on session and will take on the extra duties of clerk as well. Please take the time to thank her for her diligence and double duties.

Ash Wednesday

Lent was ushered in on Ash Wednesday with a brief service and the imposition of ashes. How have you invited the Holy Spirit to work inside of you to create a clean heart this Lenten season?



Pam Sheets receives ashes from Pastor Sam.

Remember in prayer

Doug Kern-home rehab
Beverly Marshall-use of hand
Marianne Westbrook- surgery recovery
Grant Bartlett- serving in Honduras
Marv & Pat Monroe- health issues

Long term health needs:

Max Sheets
Homer & Mary Jo Wilson
John & Helen Szakas
Joe Szakas (Szakas are brothers of Jane Lahmon)
Cindy Monte

Fruit Cobbler

Submitted by Melissa Vermillion

Ingredients

½ cup of butter
Desired fruit, washed and well drained
1 ½ cup of sugar
1 ½ cup of self-rising flour*
1 cup of milk

Directions: Preheat oven to 350° F. Mix sugar, flour and milk in a bowl. In the hot oven, melt the butter in a glass 9" x 13" baking dish, making sure not to let it brown. Add the desired amount of berries to the butter. (I used approximately 4-5 cups of blueberries) Pour the batter over the berries, attempting to evenly distribute throughout the pan. Butter will rise on the edges of the pan. DO NOT MIX! Sprinkle a few more berries over the top. Bake for 50- 60 minutes. The top will be browned and the sides will be gently pulling away from the edge of the pan. Serving warm with ice cream is best.

*All-purpose flour can be substituted for the self-rising flour if 2 teaspoons of baking flour and 1 teaspoon salt are also added.

Note: This is the recipe that was used for the peach cobbler that was served at the Hogue Memorial dinners. One drained 29oz can of peaches in heavy syrup was substituted for the berries. A variation is to spoon the reserved syrup over the top before baking, which results in a pudding type texture. This recipe can be found online by searching Paula Deen's Southern Peach Cobbler.

Treasurer's Report

January 2026 Financials

Submitted by Ken Bartlett

Our regular offering was approximately 26% of its one-month budget amount (\$3,675.00 of \$13,899.67; \$10,224.67 in arrears). Total receipts were \$5,455.03 of the one-month budget amount of \$16,150.67, \$10,695.64 in arrears.

Insurance and real estate taxes have been fully paid for the year as of the end of January. This "pre-payment" overage of \$8,343.01 will amortize over the remainder of the year. Total expenses were \$22,139.95 against the one-month budget of \$16,150.67, resulting in outflows greater than budget by \$5,989.28, approximately 37% over-budget.

January net was \$16,684.92 in the red.

Receipts are \$4,370.17 less than a year ago, while expenses are \$1,486.34 less than a year ago. This results in the net being \$2,883.83 (20.9%) worse than a year ago.

Investments as a whole were up 2.4% in January. Investments totaled \$329,189.32 as of the end of January. Total funds available were \$340,354.60 as of the end of January. \$127,287.63 of this amount is general undesignated funds, \$177,704.37 is Condit's Building Fund balance, and \$35,362.60 is the aggregate balance of a variety of special funds.

January 2026 had one Sunday worship cancelation, accounting for much of the shortfall compared to January 2025. Most of the expense savings results from (1) the discontinuation of our advertising campaign and (2) Adam's change in work schedule such that we no longer require an outside accompanist. The expense savings will continue to be realized, while the impact of the lost Sunday should hopefully be made up in February, at least to some extent. We are continuing to be deficit spending, but hopefully will be on a more consistent basis as last year, or hopefully a bit better than last year. Time will tell.



Two Keys to Church

If anyone has a church key they don't need, (or know what it is) ..., please give it to a trustee. Church keys have a blue fingernail polish dot on one side, and the reverse side (pictured above) says PRIMUS: DO NOT DUPLICATE. *Submitted by John Whitney*



The Presbytery approved an increase in Per Capita for 2026 from \$44.00 to \$46.00 per member. The Per Capita is made up of: Presbytery of Scioto Valley \$31.34, Synod of the Covenant \$3.40, and General Assembly \$11.26. Please pay Per Capita dues by the end of April. If paying by check enter "Per Capita" on the memo line of the check.

**Current Address for Grant Bartlett
while serving in Honduras**









**Grant Bartlett
PSC 1300 unit 95716
Med Det
APO, AA 34042
United States**



Valentine's Day was celebrated at Condit during the February 11 Food & Fun dinner. Diners were filled with lasagna & spaghetti casserole, salad, garlic bread and a choice of desserts. Sheila Micholes submitted the photos below to mark the occasion. Can you guess who is behind the masks??



MARCH 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship with Communion 10am	2 Lenten Study 6 pm 4H @ 7 pm	3 Exercise 6 pm	4 Choir 6 pm	5 Exercise 6 pm	6	7
8 Worship 10 am Daylight Savings Begins	9 Lenten Study 6 pm 4H @ 7 pm	10 Exercise 6 pm	11 Food & Fun 5-7 pm Choir 6 pm	12 Exercise 5:30 pm Session & Trustees 7 pm	13 Faith Filled Women 11 am	14
15 Worship 10am 	16 Lenten Study 6 pm 4H @ 7 pm	17 Exercise 6 pm  St. Patrick's Day	18 Women's Circle @ noon Choir 6 pm	19 Exercise 6 pm	20 	21
22 Worship 10am	23 Lenten Study 6 pm	24 Exercise 6 pm	25 Food & Fun 5-7 pm Choir 6 pm	26 Exercise 6 pm 	27	28
29 Worship 10am  Palm Sunday	30	31 Exercise 6 pm	<i>March altar flowers - Mike & Donna Mucci</i> 			



 Coloring.app

JESUS' TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Condit Presbyterian Church Newsletter
15102 Hartford Road
Sunbury, Ohio 43074