



## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024**

**BREMEN-BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**142 PURVIS AVENUE**

**BREMEN, OH 43107**

**740-569-7320**

**[bremenbethelpc@gmail.com](mailto:bremenbethelpc@gmail.com)**

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION  
BREMEN-BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
FOR THE YEAR 2024

The duties of the clerk of session are spelled out in the Book of Order under Section G-3.0104. The clerk and moderator must be familiar with the contents of the Book of Order in order to assure that the church operates within the parameters of the documents and rules of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Scioto Valley Presbytery.

Locally, your session held a total of 9 regular meetings. Attendance was very good with only a .0104% of unexcused absences. Elders David E. Mowry, D. Dee Mowry (Clerk) and Judy Turner had perfect attendance at all session meetings. Moderator, Rev. Larry Hoffmann had a perfect attendance record as well. Elders Tracy Embrey, Sue Henwood, Cinda Keller and Gene McCandlish had only one excused absence. Retiring Elders, whose terms expired in 2024 were D. Dee Mowry, George Shreyer, Sally Spangler and Judy Turner. The Class of '27 will be Scott Bergreen, Kerry Boyd, Sally Spangler and Judy Turner. Judy also served as representative to Scioto Valley Presbytery as our commissioner. Our thanks go to the retiring members and Judy for their service to the church.

Your session operates under the committee structure with four committees, Christian Education, Mission, Operations and Service. Other (non-elder) church members may be co-opted to any committee as the need arises.

The books of the Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church are being audited by Scioto Valley Presbytery, a new procedure as of this year. We do not have the results at the time of this article.

COVID 19 seems to be subsiding, however, the phone-in option is still available and is being used.

Community Vacation Bible School was hosted by Bremen-Bethel this year and, by all reports, was very successful. Bremen-Bethel also hosted three Community Play Days this past summer.

Loretta Dawson was hired a little over two years ago to assume the role of church secretary/ financial clerk. This has worked out very well to date.

Support was offered by Bremen-Bethel to many local community agencies which will appear later in this publication.

Many upgrades to the church building were finished under the direction of the Operations Committee.

It has been a busy but productive year for your session as well as the members of Bremen-Bethel.

D. Dee Mowry,  
Clerk of Session, 2024

## Necrology Report 2024

**#518 Harry "Sam" Custer** died February 27, 2024

Confirmed November 28, 1993

**#611 Michael Henwood** died May 6, 2024

Confirmed February 25, 2018

**#216 C. David Keller** died May 15, 2024

Confirmed July 26, 1953

Ordained as an Elder January 17, 1979

**#226 Mildred "Millie" Rutherford** died December 23, 2024

Confirmed November 29, 1953

Friends of the church:

**Barbara Curtiss Stiles** died May 5, 2024

**Carol Hilyard** died July 17, 2024

## Church Statistics 2024

Active Members on the Roll December 2023	47
Member Gains	+6
Member Losses	-5
 Total Active Members December 2024	 48

Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church Checking Account Activity - 2024

2024			Balance	
Month	Expenses	Deposits*	\$ 225,679.17	12/31/2023
Jan	\$ 9,319.79	\$ 7,485.65		
Feb	\$ 204,694.82	\$ 4,844.01 <sup>1</sup>		
March	\$ 10,176.19	\$ 4,476.68		
April	\$ 7,206.57	\$ 8,848.17		
May	\$ 9,769.09	\$ 11,867.97		
June	\$ 9,877.35	\$ 5,228.37		
July	\$ 8,227.33	\$ 5,505.76		
August	\$ 8,958.76	\$ 54,967.52 <sup>2</sup>		
Sept	\$ 5,997.27	\$ 6,000.25		
October	\$ 11,958.11	\$ 5,052.52		
Nov	\$ 61,839.97	\$ 53,636.63 <sup>3</sup>		
Dec	\$ 10,693.30	\$ 5,653.97		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 358,718.55</b>	<b>\$ 173,567.50</b>	<b>\$ (358,718.55)</b>	
			\$ 173,567.50	
			<b>\$ 40,528.12</b>	<b>12/31/2024</b>
	* Includes Interest			
	<sup>1</sup> Includes Manse Proceeds transferred to Stifel Account			
	<sup>2</sup> Includes Francisco Estate Bequest Deposit			
	<sup>3</sup> Includes Francisco Estate Bequest Deposited & Transferred to Stifel			

## Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church

### Treasurer's Report 2024

1. Report on checking account is attached. As of December 31, 2024, the checking account contained "General Fund" money, "Yard Sale Fund" money and "Lilies & Poinsettia Fund" money.
2. A report of the General Fund (money used for regular operating expenses) and Permanent Improvement Fund expenditures are also attached.

3. Fund Balances 12-31-24\*

- Memorial Fund \$ 188,937.69
- Mission Fund \$ 11,571.28
- Permanent Improvement Fund \$ 19,242.25
- Manse Sale Proceeds \$ 204,120.38
- \* Choir Fund moneys were placed in the General Fund
- \* Reserve Fund moneys were placed in the General Fund

4. Special Offerings:

- **One Great Hour of Sharing** **\$ 835.93**  
\$ 345.00 - 2020  
\$ 450.00 - 2021  
\$ 465.25 - 2022  
\$ 320.00 - 2023
- **Joy Offering** **\$ 330.00**  
\$ 605.00 - 2020  
\$ 501.00 - 2021  
\$ 590.00 - 2022  
\$ 665.00 - 2023
- **Hurricane Relief** **\$ 1,470.00**

Special offerings collected in 2024 were 78% higher than in 2023. Special offerings in 2023 included \$ 490.00 for Maui Wildfires.

5. Validated Mission Giving (Benevolence) **\$ 1,293.49**
- \$ 1,642.00 - 2020
  - \$ 1,592.00 - 2021
  - \$ 1,557.00 - 2022
  - \$ 1,693.00 - 2023

6. Our assets exceed the 2.0 years of budgeted expenditures required by Session Policy.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need further information. Respectfully submitted: Kathy Mowry, Treasurer

**Income and Expenditures  
Detail**  
Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church  
142 Purvis Avenue  
Bremen, OH 43107  
740-569-7320  
bremenbethelpc@gmail.com  
Transaction Date Jan 1 2024 to Dec 31 2024

**Income**

Regular Income

Local Offering 2024	66,677.61	
Loose Offering	1,012.25	
Interest Checking	27.22	
Regular Income Total		67,717.08

**Total Income**

**67,717.08**

**Expenditures**

Administration

<Accounts Without Sub-Categories>

Misc. - General Fund	4,000.00	
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories> Total		4,000.00

Personnel salary

Secretary	12,675.15	
Custodian	6,469.80	
Musician Supply	165.00	
Personnel salary Total		19,309.95

Personnel Other

Social Security	2,566.94	
Medicare	600.33	
Workers Compensation	127.00	
RITA	207.00	
Staff Bonuses	300.00	
IRS Income Tax Withheld	270.00	
Personnel Other Total		4,071.27

Minister

Pastor Salary	31,363.56	
Pulpit Supply	1,261.80	
Minister Total		32,625.36

Office

Postage	204.00	
Office Supplies	98.15	
Computers	900.00	
Website	750.00	
Office Total		1,952.15

Church

Minor Repairs and Maintenance	827.95	
Major Repairs	2,000.00	
Elevator & Boilers	250.00	
Outside Vendor	1,100.00	
Real Estate Taxes/Assesments	172.54	
Church Total		4,350.49

Utilities & Insurance

Gas	1,998.25	
Electric	2,668.91	
Water, Sewer & Garbage	1,200.44	
Phone & Internet	1,395.74	
Insurance	5,281.00	
Utilities & Insurance Total		12,544.34

Administration Total

**78,853.56**

**Income and Expenditures  
Detail**

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Programs			
Service Committee			
Worship Supplies	192.42		
Communion Supplies	21.98		
Misc.	712.80		
These Days	95.40		
Flowers	50.00		
Service Committee Total		1,072.60	
Mission Committee			
Per Capita	2,000.00		
Local Mission	1,906.48		
Breakfast to Go	2,914.10		
Mission Committee Total		6,820.58	
Christian Education Committee			
New Baby / Toddler	25.78		
Vacation Bible School	357.69		
Christian Education Committee Total		383.47	
Programs Total			8,276.65
<b>Total Expenditures</b>			<b>87,130.21</b>
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**Income and Expenditures  
Detail**

Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church  
142 Purvis Avenue  
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Transaction Date Jan 1 2024 to Dec 31 2024

**Expenditures**

Designated Funds			
Expenditures Designated Funds			
Permanent Improvement Expenditure	13,782.96		
Expenditures Designated Funds Total		13,782.96	
Designated Funds Total			13,782.96
<b>Total Expenditures</b>			<b>13,782.96</b>

**Fairfield County Foundation Fund**

The Fairfield County Foundation Fund is a designated fund to provide support for purpose(s) related to the mission of the Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Congregation, Scioto Valley Presbytery, Synod of the Covenant or General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, USA, as determined by the Session (Governing Body) of the Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church.

The balance as of 12-23-24 was \$ 12,934.16. This is an 11% increase over 12-31-23. The average monthly growth was \$ 108.55.

For more information about this fund contact Kathy Mowry.

## BREAKFAST TO GO REPORT 2024

Volunteers for 2024: Dean and Judy Ackerman, Ron and Cindy Cullumber, Sue Burnworth, Marilyn Boyd, Cinda Keller, Rose Ann Elliott, Mike, Sue and Joshua Henwood

This group set up and packed bags on Wednesday morning. It averaged about thirty six weeks per year, about an hour and a half each week.

Total Bags Packed:	January 01 through May 31, 2024	4,579
	September 01 through December 31, 2024:	3,468
	Total:	8 047
Balance in Breakfast To Go Fund:		
	January 01, 2024	\$1,141.03
Contributions to Breakfast To Go Fund:		
	January 01, 2024 to December 31, 2024	\$3,503.83
	Total:	\$4,644.86
Amount Spent from Breakfast to Go Fund:		\$4,644.86
Fund Balance December 31, 2024:		- 0 -
Amount Spent from Mission Committee Budget:		\$2,914.20
(This was 32.38% of the total budgeted amount)		
Total Breakfast To Go Expenses for 2024:		\$7,558.96

Kroger Reward Points are also added to this fund.

Students who received bags did so with the permission of their parents by signing up through the school. Beginning in January of 2023, we were serving about 150-160 students per week. This year we packed 241 in January and by December we were packing 251.

I have taken over the ordering and record keeping for this project that Mike always did. With the help of our volunteers and the support of the church, congregation and our friends in the community, we were able to continue this program this past year. We are very blessed to Harold and Donna Hoffman for their continued support of our program. We also had an anonymous person donate the October 16 funds for that week. With the passing of Mike, we asked our friends and family members to donate to this fund in his memory. We received about \$2,000.00. We are so thankful for this wonderful, kind act from everyone.



## Bremen Food Pantry 2024

The Bremen Food Pantry committee is made up of representatives from Bremen Community Methodist, Calvary Methodist, Bremen Jerusalem, Avlon United Bros in Christ and Bremen Bethel Presbyterian Church. The representatives are Linda Young, Vickie Winkelman, Joyce Mohler, Dorene Guseman, Judy Turner and Mary Shumaker, Treasurer.

In 2024 we had 5 open pantries serving an average of 51 families per open pantry.

Our August food pantry included school supplies.

We also help families who need food at other times during the year on an as needed basis. This year we served 83 families. If a family needs our Food Pantry they should call 211, Information and Referral. 211 will contact us and we will plan to help the family.

In December we prepared Christmas Baskets for 52 families. In 2023 we prepared 58. Thanks to the congregation of Bremen Bethel Presbyterian Church for donating funds, dish cloths, dish towels, food and taxable items (personal care items, laundry soap and paper products) to support this local mission.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Turner

### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT 2024

The personnel committee members were committee chair members, Judy Turner, David Mowry, Cinda Keller, Susan Henwood and Brenda Winegardner as a member from the congregation.

Joyce Turner will receive an increase in her pay to \$14.50 per hour from \$13.62 per hour.

Loretta Dawson will receive an increase in her pay to \$16.00 per hour from \$14.84 per hour.

A \$100.00 bonus to Joyce and Loretta was approved.

A \$500.00 donation to Echoing Hills in Athens for Ray Schmidt for not taking a salary. We appreciate his willingness to continue playing his beautiful music for us.

## Christian Education Committee Report 2024

**Reporting Date:** January - December, 2024

**Committee Chair:** David Mowry

**Committee Members:** Carri McCandlish, Corey Riley

2024 has been a busy year for the CE committee. The committee offered a number of educational programs during the past year.

**Budget:** Christian Education was budgeted \$2275 for 2024. We did not use the full amount of our budget. Further details are contained in the Treasurer's report. The same amount has been requested for 2025.

### **Programming:**

Children's Sunday School classes are offered during morning worship services. The new smart TV and Blu-Ray player continue to be used for the children's Sunday School program and are available for use by members of the congregation.

With help from the other church committees and volunteers, we hosted three community play dates during the summer. These featured ice cream coupons for the Bremen Drive In, a magic show, "The Magic of Believe," and the Kona Ice Truck. More play dates are being scheduled for 2025.

Our church hosted the community Vacation Bible School this year, which was coordinated with Bremen Community Methodist, Calvary United Methodist, and Jerusalem Churches. Many church members volunteered to help create a successful program. The theme was "Start the Party" and over 60 children were served this year during the course of the week.

The CE committee also put on a short children's Christmas program during the last Sunday morning service of Advent. Carri McCandlish coordinated this for us.

The CE committee has scholarships available for 2025 camps and other upcoming youth activities. A copy of the scholarship guidelines is available on request.

For 2025, we would like to focus on increasing the number of CE opportunities available for the adults in the congregation. Topics are being explored for possible evening and Sunday morning adult programming.

Respectfully submitted,

David Mowry  
Chair, Christian Education Committee

## Mission Committee Report 2024

The Mission Committee members for 2024 were Tracy Embrey, Dee Mowry and Judy Turner.

This year the Mission Committee supported the Fairfield Union Music Department musical production by placing a business card size note of best wishes from Bremen Bethel Church in the program. The committee also financially supported the Bremen Chamber of Commerce by placing a quarter page ad for our church in their directory. Bremen Bethel is also a member of the Bremen Chamber of Commerce.

The committee promoted the One Great Hour and Joy Offerings.

Thanks to Susan Henwood for volunteering to manage the Breakfast to Go for Bremen Elementary. Thanks also to Ron and Cindy Cullumber, Judy and Dean Ackerman, Mike Henwood and Cinda Keller, Sue Burnworth, Josh Henwood, Marilyn Boyd and Rose Ann Elliott. also volunteered to help with the project.

Financial donations were made to:

- Perry Multi County Juvenile Detention Center
- Samaritan Purse for postage for Christmas Shoe Box Ministry
- Presbytery Disaster Assistance
- Bremen Food Pantry
- The Lighthouse
- Grace Haven Ministry

The committee promoted activities for National Day of Prayer.

During the summer Bremen Bethel provided free snacks on 5 Tuesday evening free swim nights. We took turns with Bremen Community Methodist Church. No church funds were needed as donations from our church members sufficiently covered the cost.

The committee also assisted with the Community Play Dates on the second Saturday of June, July and August.

The mission committee also reviewed the membership roll.

Judy Turner  
Mission Committee Chair

## OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 2024

The Operations Committee for 2024 were George Shreyer, Gene McCandlish and Susan Henwood, chairperson.

Many projects were accomplished this year regarding the maintenance of the church.

- Air conditioners were inspected in the sanctuary. Both were low on freon and was taken care of. In the near future, this will remain a problem because the inability to obtain freon.
- Fire extinguishers were inspected by Fairfield Fire Protection. This is an annual preventative inspection.
- The elevator was inspected by the State of Ohio. A pressure switch had to be replaced. The elevator is an annual prevention inspection.
- The boilers were inspected by the State of Ohio. Approximately two weeks later, the one boiler stopped working. The drain was clogged, the flame sensor and the ignitor were dirty. This was due to not being maintained. This work was done by Enerwise. This will now be an annual inspection.
- Electrical work was done by Favor Electric by a certified electrician. Several breakers were replaced and several wall switches in the basement were replaced.
- Front steps and sidewalk were power washed this summer.
- Carpet was cleaned in large room and narthex.
- Key pads were installed on the back door, the kitchen door and the Purvis Avenue door.
- New railings were installed on back door steps and steps to kitchen.
- New mountings were installed on front door as well as door fasteners.
- New baseboard was installed in Sunday school room in basement.
- Kitchen cabinets were repaired.
- Parking lot was sealed and striped by D B Striping LLC.

I appreciate my committee working so easily with me to accomplish all of these projects. My sincere thanks to George for working with many of the contractors. His time spent on session was very much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Henwood

## Service Committee Report 2024

The Service Committee is in charge of the following: schedule the ushers (including one pulpit reader), communion, pulpit supply, Christmas decorations and change altar cloth according to the church's Liturgical colors. Also, we are in charge of preparing and serving meals. The committee was Cinda Keller, Sally Spangler and Linda Shreyer.

Meals and refreshments served were:

February 18<sup>th</sup> – Scout Sunday with Jay's Pancakes

March 2<sup>nd</sup> – Meal served after Sam Custer's funeral

March 17<sup>th</sup> – Meal served after baptism

June 9<sup>th</sup> – Meal served for Bible school & helped with last meal

June 27<sup>th</sup>, July 25<sup>th</sup>, August 22<sup>nd</sup> & September 26<sup>th</sup> – served meals for Bremen Chamber of Commerce

June 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> – Served coffee and helped clean up for children's play dates

September 7<sup>th</sup> – Served brunch for the Presbyterian Coordination Team

October 20<sup>th</sup> – Served meal after church with congregation providing the dessert and salad

Cynthia McKay filled the pulpit May 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, June 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

Celebrated Mother's Day May 12<sup>th</sup> and Father's Day June 16<sup>th</sup>

Communion was served: February 4<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, March 31<sup>st</sup>, May 5<sup>th</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, August 4<sup>th</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup>, October 6<sup>th</sup>, November 24<sup>th</sup>, and December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The church was decorated for Christmas. Poinsettias were donated by the congregation for decoration. Four Christmas bags were given to people unable to come to church.

Thank you to everyone who helps this committee. We appreciate all of you.

Cinda Keller, Chairman

## Zeta Alpha 2024

Zeta Alpha finished the bible study, "Sacred Encounters" in August 2024. We began a new bible study, "Let Justice Roll Down" in September 2024.

Our mission project this year was to provide the items for 2 backpacks for boys who have been released from the Perry Multi County Juvenile Facility. One of our members provided items for a 3<sup>rd</sup> backpack.

We also participated in 3 Presbyterian Women offerings: 1. Birthday Offering, 2. Thank Offering and 3. Fellowship of the Least Coin Offering.

Our meetings are on the second Sunday of the month and are held in the church basement an hour before church service starts. We extend an invitation to anyone who may be interested.

Judy Turner  
Secretary/Treasurer