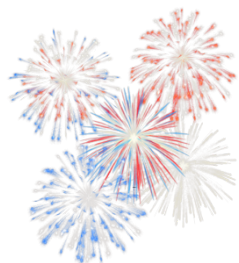


Newsletter July 2023



Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church

142 Purvis Ave., Bremen, OH 43107

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bremenbethelpc@outlook.com

<https://www.bremenbethelpc.org>

Pastor: Rev. Larry Hoffmann; Clerk: Dee Mowry



FROM THE PASTOR: Rev. Larry Hoffmann

Looking for a different prayer discipline for the summer? Try the Psalms. Recently I read a small book, Psalms, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. The Psalms were a central part of Bonhoeffer's prayer life. He describes them as a "Priceless Treasure" for the Church and believed they should be included in every worship service. Bonhoeffer recommended each Christian pray the Psalms daily, once every morning and once every evening. In the ancient church it was not unusual to memorize the Psalms. David prayed the Psalms. Christ prayed the Psalms. We pray the Psalms. In praying the Psalms we participate in the prayer life of Christ and His community and are drawn closer to God. Peace, Larry

FROM THE TREASURER: Kathy Mowry

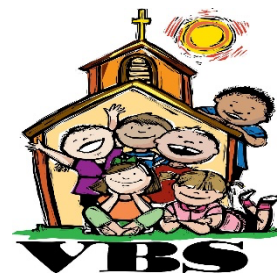
Regular (Operating) Income for January 1 to June 30, 2022, was \$37,903.31

Regular (Operating) Income for January 1 to June 30, 2023, was \$37,555.72

The difference is \$347.59

FROM THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR: Cindy Cullumber

I think this year was our biggest Community Vacation Bible School! The attendance ranged from 54 children to 65 children. The home church this year was the Bremen United Methodist Church. The other supporting churches were Bremen Bethel Presbyterian, Calvary United Methodist and Jerusalem. There were approximately 75 or more volunteers. (As the saying goes, it takes a village). The theme was *Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God!* The children learned of God's love and how he provides. The children had a light dinner to start and then enjoyed music, recreation, story time, science and crafts. We started on Sunday evening and ended on Thursday evening. What a fun way for the children to learn about God!



FROM THE CLERK OF SESSION: Dee Mowry

A few days ago, a lady stopped in at the church while Loretta was there. Her name was Carla Smith and was accompanied by her friend, John McEwen. They left a cash donation and Mr. McEwen stated that his Grandfather preached at this church. That would have been Rev. John A. (Archibald) McEwen. Rev. McEwen was employed by the church at a yearly salary of \$2,000, \$200 of which was returned as the tithe... (Rev. McEwen was the minister who baptized me, and the story goes that I threw-up all over his clerical robe after the baptism.)

Thinking about these events brought the thought that perhaps it is time to look a bit of history about Bremen-Bethel.

The Presbyterians came to the Rushcreek area early in the settlement of this part of the country. In 1806, a log church was built on the William Thompson farm in Section 5, Rushcreek Township. The location was near the junction of the trails that crossed Rushcreek.

Rev. John Wright was the first pastor being sent from the Presbytery of Pittsburgh to serve Lancaster (then Hockhocking) and Rushcreek. He was pastor until 1835. In about the year 1825, the church was moved to West Rushville, and a church was erected in the north-west corner of what is now the West Rushville Cemetery.

In about 1824, the Bethel Church was organized, and in 1827, a church was built on the lands of Abel Everitt. Abel was my great, great, great, great grandfather. The reason for the church being built was because members of the Rushcreek Church lived as far north as Thurston and as far south as several miles beyond Maxville. On October 20, 1844, the records of the Licking Presbytery record that the Bremen Church was organized with some of the officers of the Bethel Church as charter members. The first Bremen Presbyterian Church was erected on the south-west corner of Broad and Walnut Streets. In 1887, the second church was erected at the northwest corner Fort and Marietta Streets. In 1907, the congregation, having outgrown this church building (this was the oil boom days), construction was begun on the present Building.

As this column is getting rather lengthy, I will stop here and perhaps add to this history in future columns. Dee M.



FROM THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE: The mission committee will be taking turns with the Bremen United Methodist Church to provide snacks for children on Tuesdays during the 5-7 pm free swim sessions at the Bremen Pool. If you would like to help with this mission, please contact Judy Turner.

Upcoming Events

July 2nd - Communion Sunday and two Baptisms with lunch following the service. All are welcome.

July 4th - Independence Day



July 9th - Zeta Alpha meeting, 9:00 am, in the church basement. We will study Lesson 9, Sabbath and Community, the final chapter of Celebrating Sabbath. All ladies are invited to attend.

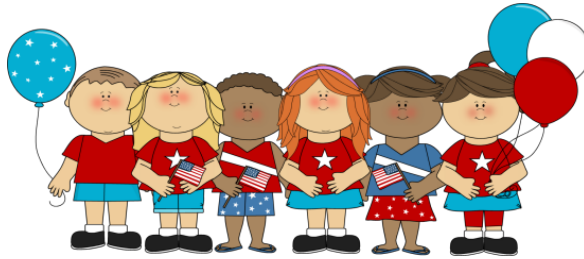
Happy Anniversary!

July 10th - Ray and Mary Schmidt



No birthdays for July

Anyone wanting to add a birthday or anniversary to the list, please send an email or call the church office.



July Ushers, Communion Servers and Lay Readers:

July 2nd - Ron Cullumber: Lay Reader, Communion Server and Usher

Cindy Cullumber: Communion Server and Usher

July 9th - Brenda Winegardner: Lay Reader and Usher

Kerry Boyd: Usher

July 16th - Linda Shreyer: Lay Reader and Usher

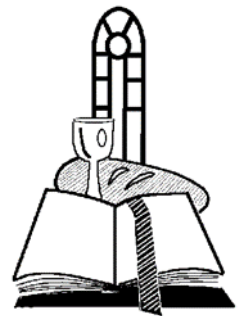
George Shreyer: Usher

July 23rd - Susan Henwood: Lay Reader and Usher

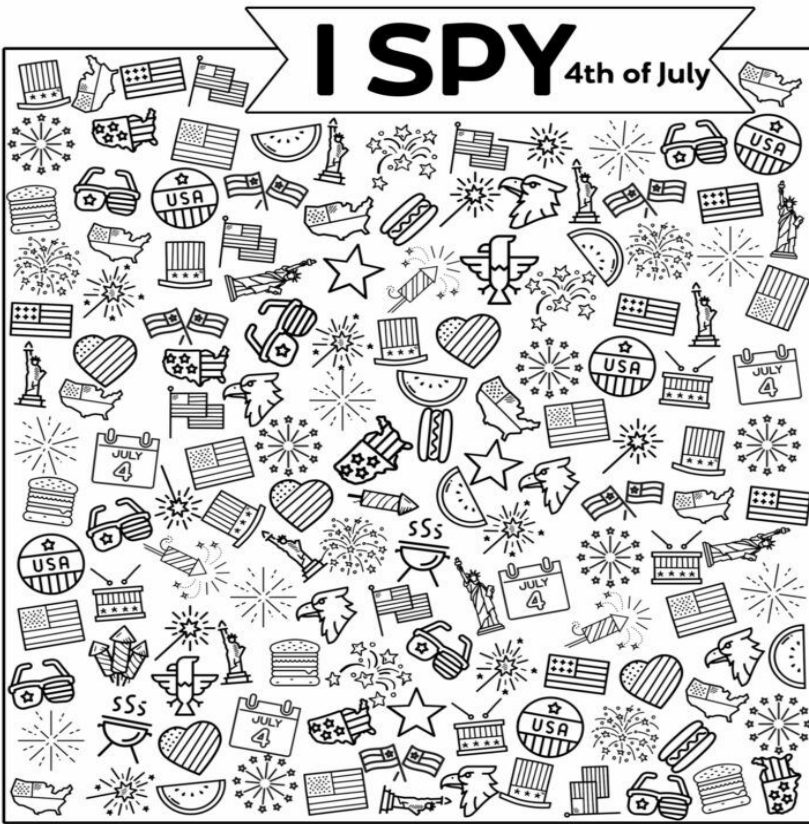
Susan Hoffmann: Usher

July 30th - Cinda Keller: Lay Reader and Usher

Linda Embrey: Usher



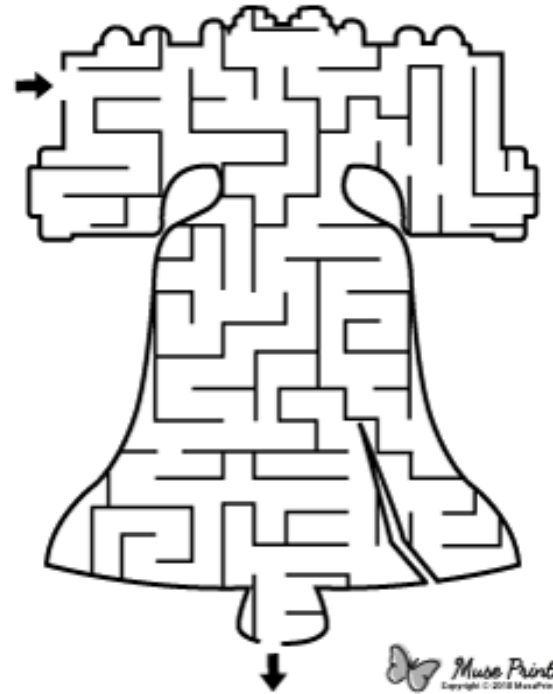
FUN FOR KIDS!



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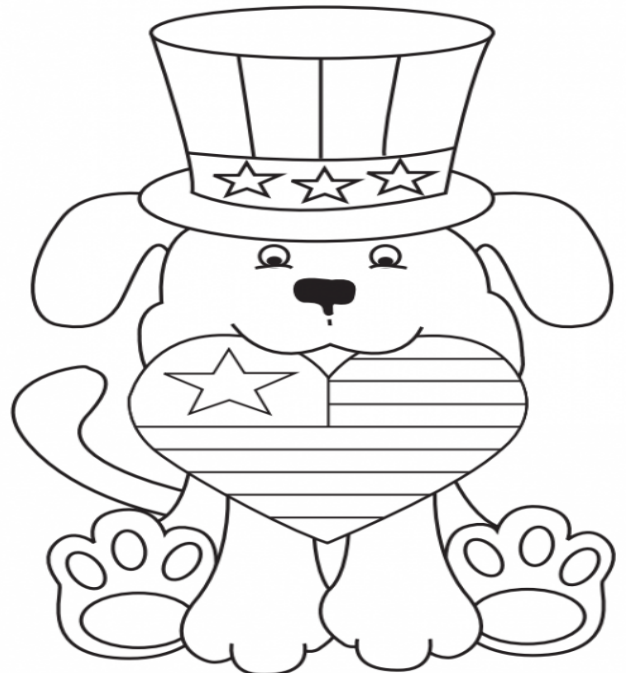
FOURTH OF JULY WORD SEARCH

FIND AND CIRCLE EACH WORD!

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|-----------|---------|-------|---------|
| July | Stripes | White | USA |
| Patriotic | Stars | Party | Freedom |
| Fireworks | Red | Blue | Fun |

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