



Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church
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Pastor: Rev. Larry Hoffmann; Clerk: Dee Mowry

NEWSLETTER 2023

FROM THE CLERK OF SESSION: Dee Mowry

I often hear about Bremen-Bethel being 'a small poor' church. Let's set the record straight, which is important in the world today with so much 'disinformation.' Bremen-Bethel belongs to the Scioto Valley Presbytery which includes 86 churches with a total membership of 12,817 (as of March 20, 2023,) the latest available statistics from Scioto Valley. The presbytery is dominated by the urban center of Columbus, OH and extends from Marion in the north, east to Newark, west to London and southward, through the central part of the state, to the Ohio River. We are on the fringe of the southern portion of the presbytery, which is distinguished by an Appalachian culture, which includes many small towns and much rugged open country. Bremen-Bethel is also in the Synod of the Covenant which extends from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to Northern Kentucky. Back to Scioto Valley Presbytery, individual church membership in the presbytery ranges from 1,399 members (10.7% of presbytery membership, Bremen-Bethel represents .004% of Presbytery membership) to 8 members.

In Fairfield County, there are 6 Presbyterian Churches, Bremen-Bethel is the second largest. The Columbus area has 16 Presbyterian Churches, 7 of these churches have fewer members than Bremen-Bethel. A lot has been noted about membership numbers, this is important because our per capita cost is figured on reported members. This per capita figure currently stands at \$40.00 per member (Bremen-Bethel is always up-to-date with our per capita contributions.) The per capita dollar(s) is the figure that the church pays to support the higher adjudicators, that is, presbytery, synod and general assembly. The Book of Order mandates that the church membership be reviewed annually, this is accomplished by the Mission Committee of the church session and, as a result, our membership number is up-to-date.

The church is on very firm financial ground as session a few years ago opened an equity account at the Stifel Nicolaus Brokerage Company. The gain over the years has averaged about \$1,000.00 per month. \$35,000.00 was withdrawn to handle some church expenses, this amount has been replaced by the market at a very favorable rate. The treasurer is able to provide firm figures regarding the investment portfolio as well as the church investment committee. This committee consists of the session Operations Committee, the assistant treasurer and the clerk of session.

Major improvements have been made to the church building and the grounds recently. These improvements have been made possible because of the generosity of the members of Bremen-Bethel and favorable investment returns.

FROM THE TREASURER: Kathy Mowry

There are currently 12 households participating in our Kroger Community Rewards. For the quarter of February through April, we received \$43.94. The session has designated the income to the **Breakfast to Go** program.



FROM THE MISSION 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.

FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR: David Mowry



There are a number of Christian education activities available this summer. As usual, we will be helping with the community Vacation Bible School, which is hosted by the Bremen United Methodist Church. It will be held from June 25-28 and the theme is Food Truck Party. Registration forms are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

If you are aware of any high school or college graduates, please let one of the members of the CE committee know, so that we can order the traditional graduation gifts and recognize them.

The CE committee also has scholarships available for kids who want to attend summer camps. Please contact David Mowry for more information.

Finally, we are exploring options to expand our Sunday School options. There will be a program based on the PBS documentary "*The Black Church: This Is Our Story. This Is Our Song.*" It explores the history of African-American congregations in America. Thank you to Cenell Boch for providing the material for this! More details will be provided later.

Other Sunday School topics are being explored, but we would appreciate input from the congregation as to what people would be willing to participate in. Below is a link and a QR code to a Google Form. We encourage you to fill this out so that we can find topics and times that people are willing to participate in. If you have any questions, please contact David Mowry.

<https://shorturl.at/CGMPU>





dates to Remember



June 4th – **Church's Summer Time Schedule Begins** – Church Service will begin at 10 am.

June 4th – Session will meet after the worship service.

June 18th – **Happy Father's Day!**

June 25th through June 29th – Bremen Community Vacation Bible School begins at the Bremen United Methodist Church. Light meal served at 5:45 pm; program begins at 6:15 pm. For kids preschool – completed 6th grade. Registration forms are on the table at the back of the sanctuary. This year's theme is *Food Truck Party: On A Roll With God! Kids, come and check it out!* ***Please Note*** VBS needs icing containers for a craft. If you have a donation, please leave it on the table at the back of the sanctuary.



June 1st – Dean and Judy Ackerman

June 26th – Mike and Sue Henwood

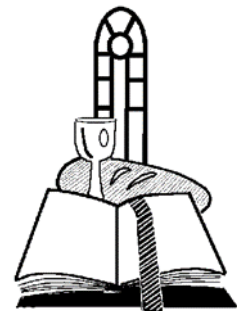
- June 14th – Sally Spangler
- June 15th – Jon Schmidt
- June 24th – Katie Cullumber
- June 25th – AJ Ray
- June 26th – Elizabeth Henwood
- June 27th – Don Spangler



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

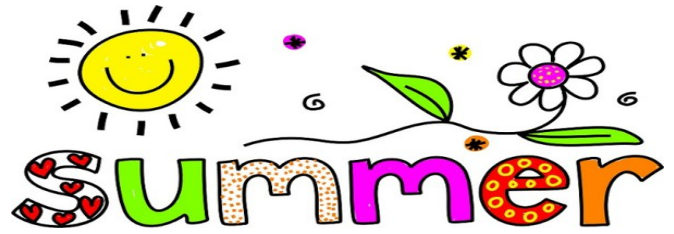
June Ushers, Communion Servers, and Lay Readers:

- June 4th – Sharon Ankrom: Lay Reader, Communion Server and Usher
Tom Ankrom: Communion Server and Usher
- June 11th – Mark and Tracy Embrey: Ushers
Susan Henwood: Lay Reader
- June 18th – Cinda Keller: Lay Reader and Usher
Jane Griffith: Usher
- June 25th – Scott Bergreen: Lay Reader and Usher
Ila Bergreen: Usher





KIDS PAGE



Bible Pathway Adventures

BIBLE QUIZ

FATHERS IN THE BIBLE

Match the question with the answer on the right.

QUESTIONS

- ___ Who was the father of Abraham?
- ___ Whose father was so pleased to see him that he killed a fatted calf?
- ___ Who was the earthly father of Yeshua?
- ___ Which father asked Yeshua to help his daughter who was dying?
- ___ Who stole her father's household gods?
- ___ What nationality was Timothy's father?
- ___ Who was the father of John the Baptist (Immerser)?
- ___ Who was the father of Solomon?
- ___ Whose father was prepared to sacrifice him on an altar?
- ___ Which commandment says to honor your father and mother?

ANSWERS

1. Fifth
2. Isaac
3. Greek
4. Terah
5. David
6. Rachel
7. Zechariah
8. Jairus
9. Joseph
10. Prodigal son

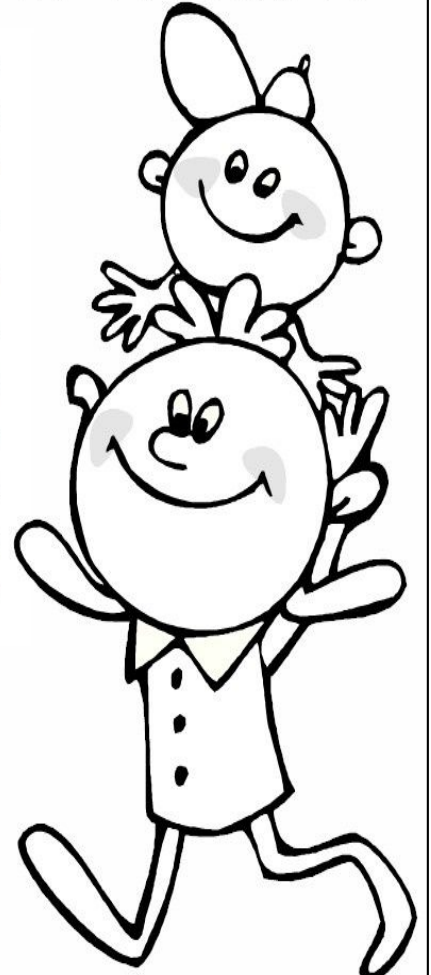


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FATHER'S DAY WORD SEARCH

N U F T E N U J
W U Q N B L E U
K R H E C V O D
R A M N O S J S
Q O V L O C T D
H Y F L X K I A
U A E A I V F X
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| FATHER | HUGS |
| FIX | JUNE |
| FUN | KISSES |
| HELP | LOVE |
| HOME | PLAY |



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