



Newsletter March 2024

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



FROM THE PASTOR: Rev. Larry Hoffmann

In his book, *No One Cries the Wrong Way: Seeing God Through Tears*, Joe Kempf writes, “Once during a house fire, a man crawled out to safety. His daughter stood at the second-floor window, trapped and terrified. He called out to her, ‘Jump, Lisa, jump into my arms!’ Because of all the smoke, she couldn’t see him, and she cried out, ‘But Daddy, I can’t see you.’ ‘It’s okay,’ he said, “because I can see you.”

We are well into the season of Lent, a season of discovering faith anew. Kempf reminds us that when we cannot see God, God can see us and waits with arms opened in love. We are not promised an easy life. But God does promise to us to be there – always. May each of us more fully see and experience the love of God in our lives. Grace and peace, Larry

FROM THE CLERK OF SESSION: Dee Mowry

The February Session meeting of the Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church was a memorable one as new members were received. The class had been instructed by Rev. Hoffmann prior to reception into membership. New members are Kenny and Sydney Parrish, Jenna Alfman, Destiny and Timothy Garven and Cara Woods. Please give them a good Presbyterian welcome when you see them. They will be formally introduced at the March 17 morning worship service. Several baptisms will also take place on this day. A luncheon (pizza) and desserts will be served after the morning service.

Plans for the Community Good Friday observance are being made along with the traditional Bremen-Bethel Easter Sunrise Service with breakfast to follow. Several items relating to the funds from the sale of the manse were discussed along with recommendations from the treasurer regarding the Stifel account. If you would like further information on this subject, contact the treasurer or clerk.

Rev. Hoffmann reported that he had visited with Sam Custer who was recently a patient at FMC and is recovering nicely. The church is busy as we will be the host church for the Community Vacation Bible School. Judy Turner will chair this event. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is currently underway. The Presbyterian Church (Nationwide) has four offerings per year. Our session, many years ago, decided that Bremen-Bethel would participate in two of the offerings, OGHS and the Joy Offering at Christmas. This was done in order to lessen 'donor fatigue', however we also participate in the Presbyterian Disaster Fund when the need arises.

We are, indeed, a busy church, and I did not mention the on-going projects, the ministries of the breakfast program, shawl ministry, greeting card ministry for nursing home residents, support of other entities such as the Bremen Area Food Pantry, Lighthouse, Echoing Hills, etc., etc., etc.



FROM THE TREASURER: Kathy Mowry

There are currently 12 households participating in our Kroger Community Rewards. For the quarter of November through January, we received \$38.80. The session has designated the income to the **Breakfast to Go** program.

FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE CHAIR: Judy Turner

One Great Hour of Sharing

During this season of Lent, Bremen Bethel will be receiving the Offering for One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). This is the 75th year for this offering. Bremen Bethel's offering of OGHS, along with offerings from other Presbyterian Church (USA), will be used to repair peoples' lives. People who are hurting, broken, oppressed, lost or on the margins of society. Visit the OGHS website (pcusa.org/oghs) to find out more information on how your gift helps people all over the world. We will soon distribute the fish banks and/or special envelopes for your family to start collecting for OGHS. The offering will be collected Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. You can also specify on your weekly giving envelope under special offering your donation for OGHS.



- Mar 10th** – Zeta Alpha Meeting at 9:30 am in the church basement; Lesson 6 of the Bible Study Sacred Encounters
- Mar 10th** – Daylight Saving Time Begins; set you clocks forward 1 hour.
- Mar 17th** – St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 17th** – Luncheon after worship service; menu: pizza, chips, salad, and cake
- Mar 19th** – Spring Begins
- Mar 24th** – Palm Sunday
- Mar 24th** – Session Meeting after worship service
- Mar 28th** - Maundy Thursday
- Mar 29th** – Good Friday Service at Bremen Community Methodist Church at 7 pm
- Mar 31st** – **Easter Sunday** - Sunrise Service is at Bethel Cemetery at 7 am. Breakfast will follow in the church fellowship room. Easter Sunday Communion Service is at 10:30 am.

Easter Blessings

Birthdays and Anniversaries

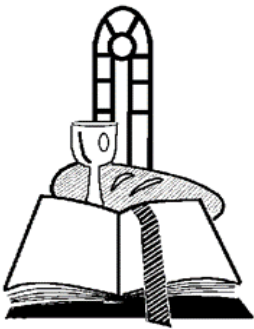


Mar 6th – Carolyn Ankrom
Mar 8th – Larry & Cyndi Maley
Mar 12th – Brian & Kerry Boyd
Mar 21st – David & Julia Mowry
Mar 23rd – Gene & Carri McCandlish
Mar 24th – James David Mowry
Mar 25th – Sharon Ankrom
Mar 26th – Carri McCandlish
Mar 27th – Peyton McCandlish



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

March Lay Readers, Communion Servers and Ushers:

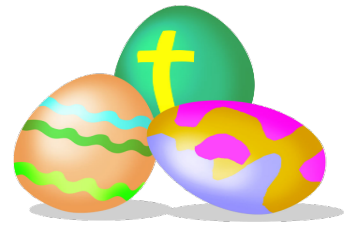


Mar 3rd – Ron Cullumber: Lay Reader & Usher
Cindy Cullumber: Usher
Mar 10th – Linda Shreyer: Lay Reader & Usher
George Shreyer: Usher
Mar 17th – Cenell Boch: Lay Reader & Usher
Judy Turner: Usher
Mar 24th – Brenda Winegardner: Lay Reader & Usher
Kerry Boyd: Usher
Mar 31st – Cinda Keller: Lay Reader, Easter Communion Server & Usher
Linda Embrey: Easter Communion Server & Usher





Kids' Page

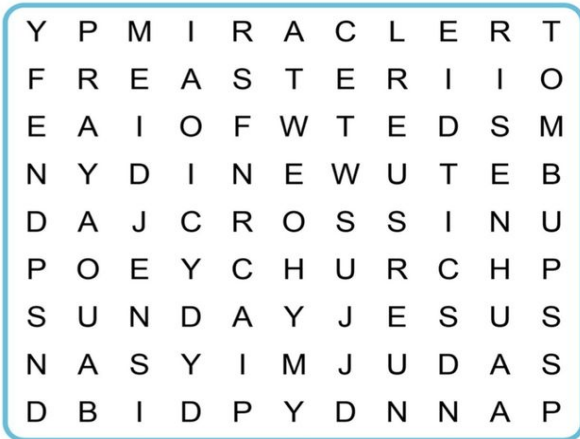


The Case of the Empty Tomb

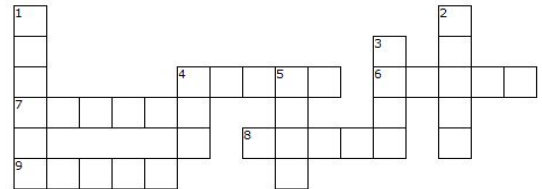
Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.
John 20:1 (NIV)



EASTER WORD SEARCH



- | | |
|--------|---------|
| CHURCH | MIRACLE |
| CROSS | PRAY |
| EASTER | RISEN |
| JESUS | SUNDAY |
| JUDAS | TOMB |



ACROSS

- A piece of fabric made by weaving cotton, wool, or other fibers
- Not dead
- The day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection
- To have nothing inside
- What was used to cover the entrance to Jesus' tomb

DOWN

- Messengers from heaven
- The color of snow; the opposite of black
- The woman who found the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb
- To produce tears; to weep
- A grave or a room where someone is buried

EMPTY	ANGELS	EASTER	CLOTH	WHITE
STONE	ALIVE	TOMB	CRY	MARY

Words may appear horizontally or vertically, but forwards only!

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The Triumphal Entry Jumble



DOYNKE	□ □ □ □ □ □
	6
TLOC	□ □ □ □
	2
STUOH	□ □ □ □ □ □
	3 1
ADAEH	□ □ □ □ □ □
	4 7
KNIG	□ □ □ □ □
	5

The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted "_____ to the Son of David!" Matthew 21:9a (NIV)

□	□	□	□	□	□	□
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Unscramble the words then arrange the numbered letters to form a word to complete the Bible verse.

Cross Maze

