



# Newsletter July 2024

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



## **FROM THE PASTOR: Rev. Larry Hoffmann**

In many ways summertime is like a pilgrimage. Many of us have the opportunities to travel to new locations, or to favorite places not available to us at other times of the year. Many of us spend more time reading.

Being a pilgrim is different from being a tourist. Tourists take in new sights and observe many events for their enjoyment. A pilgrim also takes in new sights and observes new things. However, as pilgrims encounter new experiences they are, in many ways, converted by them. Pilgrims become new people as a result of their many journeys.

The world we live in is not a static one. The creation continues to evolve, revealing previously unknown facts to us that impact the way we understand the world and live our lives in it. God is still at work. This means our faith and religious practices are also not static ones. What we believed and practiced many years ago may not be the same as today. May God bless us with new insights, and continue to fill us with abundant grace, compassion, and strength as we pilgrim together into God's future.

God's grace and peace to you, Larry

## **FROM THE CLERK OF SESSION: Dee Mowry**

Looking back thru my 'archives', I came across the Clerk's Corner from about 10 years ago. Part of this column is, in part, a reprint from that 'column of old.'

July is the traditional month of summer in earnest!!!! Certainly true this year. July 4 is when we celebrate the birthday of our nation (and my grandmother, Grace Mericle, our first female elder and Kathy's Mother, Eileen, my former secretary at Ohio University.) Our nation was born out of rebellion, and this word has many Biblical references. The Old Testament is replete with stories of the people of God rebelling against God and then finding themselves in intractable situations. The result was to call on God to 'bail them out'. Joshua, Chapter 22 '...in rebellion or in a breach of faith toward the Lord...' 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel Chapter 15 '...for rebellion is as the sin on divination'... 1st Kings, Chapter 12, 'So Israel has been in rebellion against the House of David to this day' plus many other stories regarding rebellion.

As mentioned above, our own country was born of rebellion, not against God, but against the British Crown. It appears that the Masonic movement may have been involved in the movement, especially the incident of the famous 'Boston Tea Party'.

## **FROM THE CLERK OF SESSION: Dee Mowry (continued)**

It is also true that about 30 of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were Presbyterians, so many so that the British referred to the movement as 'that damned Presbyterian rebellion.' In 1989, I was a commissioner to General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church representing the Scioto Valley Presbytery. This was the bicentennial of the church. On that Sunday morning, I attended the 'Old First Presbyterian Church'. In the adjoining churchyard were the burial grounds for members. Yellow ribbons were attached to the graves of the attendees of the first General Assembly 200 years ago. This was a MOST impressive sight!!!

Session is not meeting during the summer months, and any pressing business is taken care of by the church council made up of the chairs of the four standing committees of the session, the moderator and the clerk.

## **FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE CHAIR: Judy Turner**

**BREMEN BETHEL** and Bremen Community Methodist church are working together to provide snacks for the children at the Bremen swimming pool's free swim night on Tuesdays from 5 to 7 pm. Bremen Bethel is responsible for snacks on **July 2, 16 and 30**. If you would like to provide a snack, please see Judy Turner. Snacks that are individually wrapped are great! If it is cancelled due to weather, the snacks will keep until the next date. Fresh fruit is purchased on the day we are responsible for the snacks if the weather permits.

**THE BREMEN FOOD PANTRY IS HAVING A GIVEAWAY, FOOD & SCHOOL SUPPLIES, on Saturday, August 3.**

The food giveaway will be at the Bremen Calvary Methodist Church located at 124 Purvis Ave., Bremen, Ohio, from 9 am to 11 am.

Lunch and school supply giveaway will occur at the Bremen Community Methodist Church, 205 Walnut St., Bremen, Ohio, from 12:00 pm to 2 pm. Children who need school supplies from the Bremen and Rushville areas are welcome to attend.

If you would like to donate school supplies, see the school supplies list on page six (6) of the newsletter. Thank you.

## **FROM THE TREASURER: Kathy Mowry**

**2024 Community Play Dates Saturdays: Remaining Dates are July 13 and August 10; 10:00 am -11:30 am.** This is our 1<sup>st</sup> ever Community Play Dates! Our grounds will be open to the community for activities and refreshments. This will be an opportunity for our church family to connect with our community in an informal setting. ***We will need everyone's help*** (from moving tables and chairs to the parking lot, to helping with kids' games and making the adults feel welcome) to make this happen. Sign-up sheets are on the back table of the Sanctuary. There is a flyer on page five (5) of this newsletter. Please share it with friends, family and neighbors. Additional copies are available on the back table in the Sanctuary. For more information contact Kathy Mowry at (740-503-8945) or any of the Session committee chairs.

## **FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CHAIR: David Mowry**

This has been a busy summer already! On June 8, the church hosted our first community play date. Fourteen children and their family members attended. Participants were provided with ice cream coupons for the Bremen Drive-In. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped set up, pack up, provide food, and run the activities. Our next play date will be on July 13, and there will be a magic show for the kids. The final one for the summer will be on August 10, and the Kona Ice Truck will be here.

Our church also hosted the community's vacation Bible school this year. This year's theme was "Start The Party." Volunteers from our church were joined by volunteers from the Bremen Community Methodist Church, Calvary United Methodist, and the Bremen Jerusalem Church. This year, a total of 67 children registered to attend. It was well-attended each night, despite several other conflicting events. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this event a success!

## Calendar of Events

**July 4<sup>th</sup>** – Independence Day

**July 14<sup>th</sup>** – Zeta Alpha will meet at 9 am in the church basement.

Lesson 8 of Sacred Encounters Bible Study

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



**July 10<sup>th</sup>** – Ray and Mary Schmidt



**Please note:** There are no birthdays for the month of July.

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

## July Lay Readers, Communion Servers and Ushers:

**July 7<sup>th</sup>** – Brenda Winegardner: Lay Reader & Usher  
Kerry Boyd: Usher

**July 14<sup>th</sup>** – Linda Shreyer – Lay Reader & Usher  
George Shreyer: Usher

**July 21<sup>st</sup>** – Susan Henwood: Lay Reader & Usher  
Cinda Keller: Usher

**July 28<sup>th</sup>** – Cinda Keller: Lay Reader & Usher  
Linda Embrey: Usher

# Kids' Section

## 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY

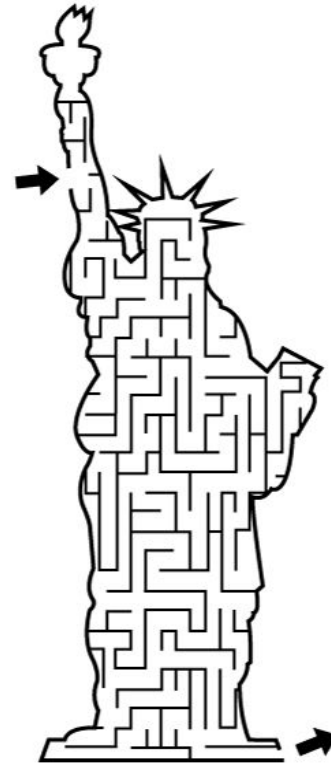
WORD SEARCH

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- BLUE
- COOKOUT
- FLAG
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## Statue of Liberty Maze



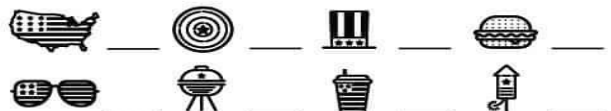
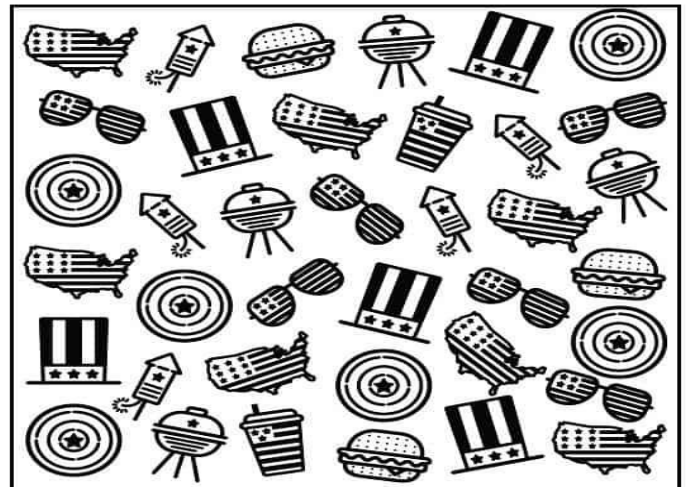
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## HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY



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## I SPY 4TH OF JULY



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*Please join us on the lawn of the*  
**Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church**

142 Purvis Avenue, Bremen, OH 43107  
740-569-7320

**FOR**

***2024 Community Play Date(s)***

Second Saturday of June, July & August

**July 13**      **August 10**

**10-11:30am**

**Coffee, Juice & Donuts**

*For the adults*

***Snacks & Beverages for children\****

***\*Children MUST be accompanied by a parent, babysitter  
or responsible adult***

**ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:** outdoor games, crafts, Hula Hoops, jump ropes,  
bubbles, chalk drawing & craft table with professional staffer!

**July 13:**      **Magic Show by “The Magic of Believe”.**

**August 10:**      **Enjoy complimentary Kona Ice.**

**\*ALL COMPLIMENTARY\***  
**FREE – FREE – FREE – FREE**



**School Supplies for Bremen Elementary,  
Rushville Middle School, and Fairfield Union  
High School Students for the  
2024-2025 School Year**



The Bremen Food Pantry giveaway will be held on August 3, 2024. School supplies for the next school year will be included in the giveaway. We would appreciate any donations from the following list. Donated money will be used for school children's needs. Please have donated items turned into the church by July 28, 2024. **Thank you and God Bless!**

- Spiral Notebooks (100 pages or more, wide & narrow ruled)
- Pocket Folders with Clasps (various colors)
- Pocket Folders – 3 Prong (various colors)
- Composition Books
- Filler Paper (wide and narrow ruled)
- Crayola Classic Markers – 10 pack (thin or wide)
- Canvas or Plastic Pencil Pouch – 5" x 8"
- Ziplock Sandwich Bags
- Ziplock Bags – quart & gallon sizes
- Colored Pencils (12 or 24 count with basic colors)
- Highlighters (mainly **yellow** but other colors okay)
- Pencil-top Erasers & Large Pink Erasers
- Blunt Scissors
- Pointed ADULT Scissors
- Glue Sticks – large & small
- Bottles of Glue – large (Elmer's)
- Plastic Pencil Box
- Headphones or Earbuds
- Crayola Crayons (24 count only)
- Handheld Pencil Sharpener
- Mechanical Pencils
- #2 Pencils
- Ink Pens – blue or black
- Dry Erase Markers – black
- Permanent Markers
- Rulers (inches & centimeters)
- 3x5 Index Cards
- Tissues
- Paper Towels
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Book Bag

