

# Newsletter September 2024



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Pastor: Rev. Larry Hoffmann; Clerk: Dee Mowry



## FROM THE PASTOR: Rev. Larry Hoffmann

In "A Guide to Healing Prayer," Graham Standish writes, "Healing also includes total surrender: giving to God everything, including the power to choose what kind of healing to give you (note: death is a healing). To truly let God heal you, you have to let God decide what kind of healing is best, even if it is different from what we want. God is not a genie doing our commands. God is the loving healer who will do what's best for us. Trust in this."

Most of us want to be healed on the outside. We want to be healed of something physical or mental, but God is interested most in healing from the inside out – from the soul outward. The more we are open to God, the more God can heal us. Standish offers these suggestions for engaging in healing prayer for yourself or others:

- 1. Lay aside your doubts, worries, and cares** – Psalm 46:10 says, "Be still, and know that I am God!" Let yourself be as still as possible. If it is hard to be still, don't worry. God will accept whatever stillness you have. Relax and trust that God exists and cares.
- 2. Open yourself to God** – Just as we need to plug a light into electricity to receive its power, we need to plug into God to receive healing power. Try taking a minute to silently recite to yourself, "Bless the Lord, O my soul." When you feel more open to God, ask God to enter you and grow within you.
- 3. Trust and believe that God's power is entering into you** – When God works, we usually *don't* see, sense, or feel it. Sometimes healing is immediate, more often it is slow and gradual. This is especially true of pervasive physical diseases like cancer or degenerative diseases and mental illness. Don't spend time analyzing whether you are being healed or not. Just trust and believe.
- 4. Thank God for healing you** – When we thank God, we are appreciating God, and the more we appreciate God, the more we allow God into our lives. After you've prayed for healing, thank God for being with you.
- 5. Set up a prayer discipline** – Too often people pray once, and when nothing happens, quit praying. We are invited to not only pray, but to pray constantly. It is through our constant prayer that God increases in our lives. Make regular times for healing prayer. Do it two or three times a day. Also, keep it simple and direct. God doesn't require long-winded prayers with wonderful language. The best prayers are simple: "God, I know you love me and are with me. You know my struggles and pain. In the power of Christ, fill me with your Spirit and heal me."

God's healing peace be with you,

Larry

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

As we enter the fall season, this time period ushers in a very busy time for your Bremen-Bethel Session members. There are a number of items to be accomplished by the session. For instance, there is the review of paid personnel of the church, that is, our church secretary and the custodian. This task, under the supervision of the Session Operations Committee, needs to be finished in order to formulate the pro forma budget for the up-coming year.

The Mission Committee is tasked with the annual review of the church members. This committee will recommend to session any changes in our church membership rolls. This is a very important task as our per capita charges are computed on this figure. The number is an important figure for budget considerations as the per capita figure is now \$40.00(+) per member. An audit committee will be appointed to audit the books of the church treasurer.

The Nominating Committee will be activated and is composed of members of the congregation and two members of the retiring class of elders, the Class of 2024. The retiring elders are D. Dee Mowry, George Shreyer, Sally Spangler and Judy Turner. One of the retiring elders will chair this committee.

Session is also responsible for the establishment of dates for the Congregational meetings, one in December for the election of church leadership and budget affirmation and one in January for the reception of reports from church entities and for setting the dates for elder training and the first session meeting of 2025.

Many of these tasks are spelled out in the Book of Order which governs the operation(s) of Presbyterian Churches. It is the task of the Moderator of Session, in the case of the local church, the Ordained Minister of the Church and the clerk of session to assure that the church is in compliance with the Book of Order.

You may be assured that Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian is in strict compliance and operates under the provisions spelled out in the Book of Order.

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

There are currently 11 households participating in our Kroger Community Rewards. For the quarter of May through July, we received \$37.66. The session has designated the income to the **Breakfast to Go** program.

### **2024 Community Play Dates A Success!**

On the second Saturday of June, July & August, Bremen-Bethel opened its grounds to the community for games, arts & crafts, food & fellowship. More than 18 members & friends of all ages volunteered, making these events a success. Many of them volunteered more than one Saturday. Our thanks go to all of them!

The Play Dates were for all ages. The children especially enjoyed a magic show by “The Magic of Believe” and everyone enjoyed complimentary Kona Ice.

Discussions are already taking place for Community Play Dates 2025!

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

### Bremen Food Pantry School Supply

Thank you to the church members and friends who donated funds and school supplies for the food pantry giveaway in August. With your help we were able to help 40 children with backpacks, notebooks, crayons, pencils, colored pencils, pens, markers, erasers, glue/glue sticks, rulers, pocket folders and earphones. The children were very excited to have new school supplies. Thanks again for your help!

### Pool Snacks

Our church provided free snacks to children at the Bremen Swimming Pool on June 4, 18, July 2, 16 and 30. Thanks to our generous members and friends we had lots of different snacks available to the children. I saw a lot of smiles on some little faces. I appreciate everyone who helped with this project.

## *Calendar of Events*

**Sep 1<sup>st</sup>** – Worship time returns to 10:30 am

**Sep 8<sup>th</sup>** – Zeta Alpha will meet in the church basement at 9:30 am;  
new Bible Study: Let Justice Roll, Lesson 1

**Sep 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Session Meeting after worship service

## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*



**Sep 1<sup>st</sup>** – David Shannon  
**Sep 7<sup>th</sup>** – Dee & Kathy Mowry  
**Sep 8<sup>th</sup>** – Ezri Mowry  
**Sep 9<sup>th</sup>** – Nathaniel McCandlish  
**Sep 19<sup>th</sup>** – Kerry Boyd

**Sep 24<sup>th</sup>** – Judith Ackerman  
**Sep 24<sup>th</sup>** – Larry Hoffmann  
**Sep 26<sup>th</sup>** – Cinda Keller  
**Sep 26<sup>th</sup>** – Linda Shreyer  
**Sep 29<sup>th</sup>** – Savannah Collis



## *September Lay Readers, Communion Servers and Ushers:*

**Sep 1<sup>st</sup>** – Ron Cullumber: Lay Reader, Communion Server & Usher  
Cindy Cullumber: Communion Server & Usher

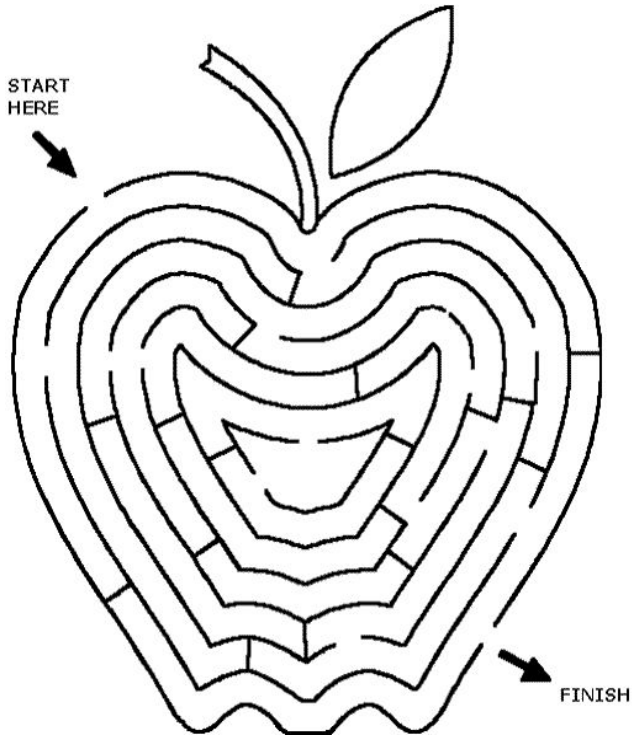
**Sep 8<sup>th</sup>** – Scott Bergreen: Lay Reader & Usher  
Karen Bergreen: Usher

**Sep 15<sup>th</sup>** – Susan Henwood: Lay Reader & Usher  
Judy Turner: Usher

**Sep 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Brenda Winegardner: Lay Reader & Usher  
Kerry Boyd: Usher

**Sep 29<sup>th</sup>** – Cinda Keller: Lay Reader & Usher  
Linda Embrey: Usher

# Kids' Section



## Adam and Eve

(Genesis 3)

T	Y	E	L	M	U	J	F	K	F	P
R	V	G	H	B	A	S	Z	N	D	Y
E	N	A	W	L	J	S	N	O	Y	V
E	M	E	I	O	J	F	O	W	T	G
Q	F	D	T	A	M	G	S	N	T	O
M	E	D	G	Q	F	A	I	R	M	I
A	J	V	Y	C	Q	R	N	P	D	Y
N	X	L	I	A	W	D	U	H	C	Z
A	J	B	S	L	E	E	P	I	O	L
T	S	I	R	M	W	N	E	A	T	J
D	F	N	W	F	Q	S	P	T	W	Z

EAT  
TREE  
FRUIT  
GARDEN

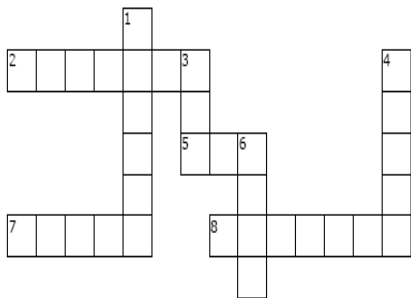
MAN  
GOOD  
SLEEP

SIN  
EVIL  
WOMAN



## Temptation in the Garden

"You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:4-5 (NIV)



### ACROSS

2. The man to whom a woman is married
5. To put food into the mouth, chew it, and swallow it
7. An adult female human being
8. The creature that tempted Eve; a snake

### DOWN

1. A piece of land where flowers and other plants are grown
3. To stop living
4. The sweet-tasting part of a tree which can be eaten
6. A tall plant which has a wooden trunk and branches

WOMAN	HUSBAND	SERPENT	TREE
FRUIT	GARDEN	EAT	DIE

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

- \_\_\_ 1. The creature that tempted Eve; a snake  
A. cat B. bird C. husband D. serpent
- \_\_\_ 2. To put food into the mouth, chew it, and swallow it  
A. eat B. drink C. bite D. sip
- \_\_\_ 3. The sweet-tasting part of a tree which can be eaten  
A. trunk B. leaves C. bark D. fruit
- \_\_\_ 4. A tall plant which has a wooden trunk and branches  
A. garden B. tree C. weed D. fruit
- \_\_\_ 5. A piece of land where flowers and other plants are grown  
A. desert B. lake C. garden D. die
- \_\_\_ 6. To stop living  
A. eat B. die C. born D. sleep
- \_\_\_ 7. An adult female human being  
A. man B. girl C. boy D. woman
- \_\_\_ 8. The man to whom a woman is married  
A. serpent B. son C. husband D. uncle