



SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

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THE MESSENGER

BRENTHAVEN CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A welcoming community of Christian disciples seeking to love and serve God and neighbor

615-373-4826

www.brenthaven.org

CREATION CARE—SABBATH KEEPING

We have kicked off a new school year and with it a new year of Youth ROCKS! Yay! I would love to start out our year by telling all of you one of the most important pieces of our Youth ROCKS puzzle this year...the 2023-2024 Youth ROCKS Theme.



This year, our new Youth Leadership Team have all agreed on a theme together. The team's members (Josh Malloy, Megan Butler, Jackson Campbell, Sophie Summit, Sophie Silvus, and adult volunteers Allie Crawford and Suzanne Ghianni) spent all summer brainstorming and spent two weeks discussing what theme options might be best suited for our group, considering the Good News that our Youth ROCKS Members need to hear. We finally settled on *Creation Care—Sabbath Keeping!*

Creation Care and Sabbath Keeping may seem like two separate ideas that are completely disconnected. When we think of sabbath, often we imagine it as self care or even a day off, but in a world where we overuse our bodies, our friends, our resources, and the land itself, Sabbath is much bigger. Here are a few of the discussions I hope our teenagers will have regarding creation and sabbath:

Sabbath is brought up very often in the bible, usually in the context of God commanding us to remember the sabbath. So it is not just a good choice for ourselves, but something that we should do for God. We finish all of our work in six days so that on that seventh day we can be reminded that work does not define us; God defines us.

Often when we discuss sabbath, we remember the creation story in Genesis. We remember God creating all of the world and then resting in the end. I think when we talk about creation we go in one of two directions, either we focus on God's creation of plants, animals, water and earth, or we talk about God's creation of mankind. While observing Creation Care and Sabbath Keeping, we hope our youth will unite these conversations. We humans are simply a piece of the puzzle, not a completely separate entity. Deuteronomy 5:12-15 reminds us that animals are included in sabbath, and Leviticus 25:1-7 tells us even the land itself should get sabbath every seven years. If all of creation is included in sabbath, are all the pieces being allowed to rest? Are we using and abusing the animals around us and the land around us?

Finally, we will discuss what the "dominion" God gives us in Genesis might mean to us from the viewpoint of sabbath for creation. Are we called to work for the land some days so that it can rest the next? Should we spend effort knitting kitty cat beds to help them rest? If all of creation is commanded to have sabbath, should we help families get enough food for their table so they can rest one day a week?

I am so excited to experience nature, sabbath, and care for ourselves and one another this year. I hope you will join us in seeking rest and care for creation, and maybe you can join us for worship outside?! (We will give more information about that later.)

One last thing, I'd like to offer a special thank you to the Cumberland Presbyterian Young Adult Retreat for their hard work presenting this theme at a recent retreat. It stretched my thinking on sabbath and now will grow into something even bigger for our Youth ROCKS community!

Love ya!

Ean



WOMEN'S MINISTRY



We have a Regional CPWM Meeting coming up **Saturday Sept 16th** at the Dickson CP Church. If you are interested in attending, please contact Beverly Garrett.

Our next **Women's Meeting** is **Tuesday, September 26th**. We will be having lunch at Donna Blewett's home (5012 Bentgrass Ct., Franklin). We will meet at the church at **10:30 am** to carpool. If you're interested, please see Beverly Garrett or call the church office so we will know how many plan to attend.

BookEnd Book Club



The Sweetness of Forgetting by Kristen Harmel is this month's selection for the **BookEnd Book Club**, meeting **Thursday, September 21st** at 9:30 am in the Adult Library.

SCENES FROM THE CHURCH PICNIC 2023



SUNDAY MORNING CONNECTIONS



Would you like to make meaningful connections with people from all age groups and phases of life? Then come try something new we are doing for the next few weeks during Sunday School hour. Our classes will begin this **Sunday, September 17th**, and will include *CP History and the Confession of Faith* led by Pastor Kip, *Christianity and World Religions* led by Deborah Deaton, *Wisdom Literature* led remotely by Dr. Marcus Hayes (a CP minister in Texas), and *Faith in Practice* led by Sandra Shepherd. It will give all of us a chance to grow spiritually and learn from one another's perspectives. Please join us, and let's Connect!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL

WNS Every **Wednesday** evening until **November 8th**, we'll meet at 5:45 pm to share a meal, have fellowship, and attend a class of our choice. Ron Medlin's class will look at "some huge hits in 20th century American poetry with a special shout out to Carl Sandburg and Robert Frost." Kip Rush will lead a Bible study. Sandra Shepherd will coordinate "Art for People Who Don't Think They're Artists." We will explore lots of different styles and techniques, featuring what she calls *Team Art* (rather than individual work), which is accessible for anyone! We hope you will join us!

CREATIVE CRAFTS NEEDS YOUR HELP

Do you have **costume jewelry** you don't want anymore? **The Creative Crafts Ministry** needs it for a project. There is a donation basket on the greeting card table in the narthex. Thank you!



THE REZ

With another very cold winter coming up, we are collecting warm clothing for the **Lakota Indians on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation** in South Dakota. This is one of the largest reservations in the United States, and encompasses several counties that are among the poorest, as well.

If you would like to support our mission efforts, please bring new clothing items, such as coats, hats, gloves, or scarves to the church no later than **October 2nd**. There is a bin for donations in the narthex.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Members

Greg Allen, Joan Bledsoe, Bill Blewett, Phyllis Burkhalter, Corina Crowe, Ben Davis, Jane Dowden, Marilyn Ewen, Ollie Faircloth, Fred Ford, Sr., Barbara Gentry, Paul Gonzales, Madge Graves, Tommy Hennesy, Linda Lipe, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Logan McCulley, Jack C. Phillips, Jodi Rush, Cheryl Tabor, Don Tabor, Valerie Thompson, Julie Travis

Family and Friends

Pat Allen (*mother of Greg T. Allen*), Abby Bailey and Family (*friend of Jane Dowden*), Tony Benefield (*brother of Karen Benefield*), Merritt Brakebill (*brother-in-law of Joe Malloy*), Becky Brown (*friend of Becky Jones*), Michelle Burke (*daughter of Joyce Burch*), Mary Ruth Campbell (*step-mother of Barry & Darryl Campbell*), Betty Canupp (*mother of Betsy Canupp*), John Copeland (*nephew of Martha Stewart*), Nelly Corbit (*friend of Julie Travis*), Steve Crawford (*friend of Carol Perryman*), Mac Crome (*cousin of Miab Faircloth*), Johnny Cunningham (*friend of Ford family*), Christi Dale (*friend of Jonelle Summitt*), Ann Ghianni (*sister-in-law of Tim Ghianni*), Shirley Jansma, Patti Jobe (*sister-in-law of Renee McCulley*), Doug Johnson (*friend of Shali & Frank Scott*), Sandy Keene (*sister-in-law of Joyce Burch*), Sue McClelland (*mother of Rachel Campbell*), Bettie Mason (*friend of Barbara Dial*), Lukas Miscae (*friend of Deborah Rolman*), Johnny Murray (*son of Betty Murray*), Ayden Orr (*friend of Ollie, Baird and Miab Faircloth*), Yvonne Reid (*aunt of Liz Strickland*), Raymond Roman (*friend of Amity Marsh*), Johnny Rush (*father of Kip Rush*), Rev. Teresa Shauf (*CP Minister*), Brittany Spradling, Judy Smith (*friend of Janiece Redmon*), Jim Summitt (*uncle of Blair Summitt*), James Talley, Bill Turner (*brother-in-law of Cheryl Tabor*), Philip & Isabel Ward (*parents of Heather McDonald*), Hayden White (*friend of Becky Jones*), Al Wilburn (*nephew of Martha Stewart*), Danny Williams (*brother of Linda Pulley*), Iza Wojcik family and father John Kavouklis (*friends of Liz Strickland*), those serving our country



ANNUAL DAY IN THE PARK

Come for a day of worship, fellowship, food, and fun as we gather at the Birthplace Shrine in **Montgomery Bell State Park on Tuesday, October 10**, from 9:30 am–noon. If you are interested, see Rev. Sandra, or call the church office.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Swanson Bennett

Peggy Phelps



DEAR BRENTHAVEN CHURCH FAMILY...

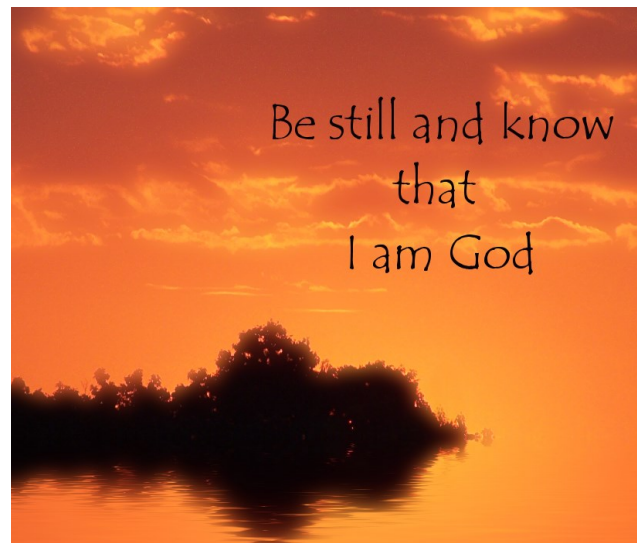
As I transition from surgery, chemo, and now to taking a new medication as I continue to heal and start back to work, I need to express my thanks to all who have called, visited, sent cards and text messages, and brought food and gifts during this time. Most of all, thank you for your prayers as I continue on this journey.

Thank you, Julie Travis

SACRED SPARKS NEWS

Greetings from Sacred Sparks Ministry! We have so many good things going on that we want to share with you. The first thing you need to do is **SAVE THIS DATE: Sunday November 12th**. This is the date for **Sacred Sparks Sunday 2023** at Brenthaven CP. This is our biggest fundraiser all year BY FAR, and we are excited to announce that our matching donor is willing to match funds raised this year up to **10K!!!** I will be sharing more in future newsletters about our growth opportunities and letting you know about some ways you can get involved to help us help our friends. Stay tuned to your newsletter as we get closer to Nov 12th, but for now, **SAVE THAT DATE!**

Next week's teaser: Sacred Sparks ministry goes to school!



BRENTHAVEN CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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 Brentwood, TN 37027-5909

Stamp

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY SCHOOL : 9:30 A.M.
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:45 A.M.

PHONE: (615) 373-4826
 FAX: (615) 373-4869
 www.brenthaven.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 17

- Sept. 14** 11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Sept. 17** 9:30 AM Sunday School (*Sunday Connections Classes*)
 10:45 AM Worship
 5:00 PM Youth ROCKS
- Sept. 18** 10:00 AM Young @ Heart (*Adult Library*)
- Sept. 20** 5:45 PM WNS
 7:30 PM Choir (*Choir Room*)
- Sept. 21** 11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Sept. 24** 9:30 AM Sunday School (*Sunday Connections Classes*)
 10:45 AM Worship
 5:00 PM Youth ROCKS

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (green)

Exodus 14:19-31; Genesis 50:15-21;
 Psalm 114; Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21;
 Psalm 103 (1-7), 8-13;
 Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 10

OPERATING BUDGET

Dedicated Giving	\$.00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	12,986.00
Weekly Need	10,120.00
Received Year-to-Date	370,948.30
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	386,076.75
Difference	-15,128.45

STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Kip J. Rush, Senior Pastor
Sandra Shepherd, Assoc. Pastor of Christian Discipleship
Cheryl Morris, Children's Ministry
Ean Taylor, Assoc. Pastor for Youth/Young Adult Ministry
Linda Pulley, Director of Music
Amity Marsh, Organist
Karen Benefield, Office Admin (secretary@brenthaven.org)

Session – The Elders

<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>
Ben Gross	Fred Ford, Jr.	Jeri Behan
Bart King	Suzanne Ghianni	Jan Davidson
Julie Murphy	Mark Humphrey	Russ Deaton
Jonelle Summitt	Gwen Keiser	Joe Malloy