



# 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

## TIME — A PRECIOUS GIFT



Two weeks ago, we flew to Austin to visit my parents. I have told some of you before that I try and go every 3 months “to change the A/C filters.” Dad is a stickler for wanting them changed, and so I consider this my job, my contribution, since I can’t be there as often. We laugh every time that he reminds me, as he did last Tuesday, “So, I’ll see you in April.” And most of the time, I go just to see mom and dad.

This last trip however had a special purpose. Mom turned 80 years old on January 12<sup>th</sup>, and Dawn, Jodi, and I felt we should do something special for her. So, we invited her friends (and some of ours) to an 80<sup>th</sup> birthday blow out. And a blowout we had. Over 100 people came and wished her a happy birthday. I met people who live in their neighborhood (who all asked, “now you’re the preacher, right?”), reconnected with old family friends, and celebrated Darlene Rush, my mom. It was a special time of fellowship, fun, and fajitas. Our girls were there, hanging out with the cousins, Jodi was snapping great candid shots and meeting all kinds of people (most of whom I didn’t know), my sister was an exceptional host, and amazingly, my dad stayed the whole time (he usually wants to leave after an hour). It was a beautiful day in Austin, Texas, with my whole family gathered together.



We don’t get those days much anymore. Time passes and kids become adults and have their own lives and pretty soon, you begin to wonder if you’ll ever have those times like before, when everyone was together. So, we try to make special moments at times like holidays or birthdays. We want to hold on to just a small part of those pieces of our lives that brought laughter and smiles.

I am beginning to realize more and more just how precious our time is with those we love. I’ve always known that, I mean how many times have I sat with families as they said goodbye to their loved one and listened to the stories they tell or the memories they share. They are so precious!

The writer of Ecclesiastes reminds us in chapter 3 about time and the dance we have with it:

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:  
a time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;  
a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;  
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live;  
*Ecclesiastes 3:1-4, 12*

The writer says much more, but you get the idea. In time, we face the ebb and flow, the good and bad, the happy and sad. And often, we can’t get to one without the other. So we muddle on through life, sometimes we mightily struggle, sometimes we gleefully glide, but hopefully we are always cognizant of just how precious every moment is. Notice, I left out the expected adjective—fleeting—in front of *moment*. It was intentional. Because I don’t think any moment in time should be “fleeting,” lasting a short time. It should be a time we remember, a time we learn from, a time that changes us in one way or another, that challenges us. A time we cherish.

I’m not saying that every moment is filled with joy, trust me, I’ve had some of those. But every moment has made you who you are today, and I thank God for who you are. So, there is time ahead, maybe a long time, maybe not, but there are places to go, things to do, and people to see. What are you waiting for? It’s time!

Grace and peace,

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Our next **CPWM** meeting has been changed to **Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>** at 10:30 am in the fellowship hall. We will be working on a project to help young women in third-world countries. If you would like to help with donations for this project, you can bring old towels to the church and place them in the CPWM bin in the narthex. We will accept donations through **Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**.



## CRAFTING DAY

On **Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 8 am–5 pm**, all are welcome to come to a "no-frills" crafting day in the Fellowship Hall. No class or instruction, no structure at all, just come as you are and bring whatever you want to work on. If you want to join us, please contact Rachel Campbell at [gnentry96@yahoo.com](mailto:gnentry96@yahoo.com) or 615-415-7487.



## BOOKEND BOOK CLUB

*Flight of Dreams* by Ariel Lawton is next month's selection for the **BookEnd Book Club**, meeting **Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am** in the Adult Library. We will also be discussing *The River We Remember* by William Kent Krueger since we had to cancel January's meeting due to weather.



## LADIES WINTER SMALL-GROUP LUNCHES

*Ladies Luncheon* We are beginning plans to set up our groups and hostesses for our **winter small-group lunches**. We have had so many comments from our women about our previous lunches and how delighted they have been with the opportunity to get to know others on a more personal level. Since the groups are small and change every season, we are able to engage with more people.

If you are interested in attending one of the groups or would be available to host, please text or call Jeri Behan at 615-604-8015. As a reminder, the hosting job entails calling three ladies in your group and arranging a time and place of your choice to meet. Please join us!

## CHILLY OUTSIDE? CHILI INSIDE!

We are having our **2024 Chili Cook-Off** on **Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 pm**. Bring your best pot of chili. We will vote for the winner using dollars, all of which will go to support Sacred Sparks. If you're not a chili cook, please bring chips, cheese, or other toppings, and/or dessert. There will be hotdogs for the kids. The chili champion's name will be memorialized on the Brenthaven apron, but the real winner is Sacred Sparks.



## TIME TO SEND SOME VALENTINE LOVE!



It's that time of the year to send some Valentine love to our young people away in college. *The Brenthaven Way* is to send a shoe box packed to the brim with candy, crackers, snacks, pencils, pens, Kleenex, Chapstick, more candy, socks, a toothbrush, and of course, more candy. And we do mean **PACKED!**

The Kids of the Kingdom will do their part in the packing and making Valentine cards and crafts to fill the special boxes. Your help is needed in donating candy, food items, and other goodies and dropping them by the church by **Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

If you prefer, you can give monetarily to help cover needed items or postage. Just drop a check in the mail, or go online to our Brenthaven.org page to the *Giving* section and you'll find a line item to donate to *Valentine Boxes*. We'll take care of the shopping. If you have any questions, please see Ms. Cheryl.

## BABY SHOWER

On **Sunday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>** at 2:00 pm in the church narthex, we will be hosting a baby shower for **Katie Platz** and helping her and her husband to welcome their new bundle of joy.

Katie and her husband, Dylan, are expecting a baby boy in April. They are going for a castle/knights and dragon-type theme. They have registries at Target and Amazon.

Your hosts for this Baby Shower are Sheryl Day, Deborah Deaton, Suzanne Ghianni, Cheryl Morris, and Jodi Rush.



## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Recent Additions

Heather Perillo (*daughter of Dawn and Walter McBee*)

### Members

Charles & Gladys Belew, Joan Bledsoe, Bill Blewett, Phyllis Burkhalter, Ben Davis, Jane Dowden, Larry Ennenga, Marilyn Ewen, Ollie Faircloth, Fred Ford, Sr., Barbara Gentry, Paul Gonzales, Madge Graves, Tommy Hennesy, Linda Lipe, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Cheryl Morris, Jack C. Phillips, Jodi Rush, Guy Sneed, Don Tabor, Cheryl Tabor, Julie Travis, Stan Wooten

### Family and Friends

Pat Allen (*mother of Greg T. Allen*), Abby Bailey and Family (*friend of Jane Dowden*), 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*), Steve Crawford (*friend of Carol Perryman*), Mac Crome (*cousin of Miab Faircloth*), Johnny Cunningham (*friend of Ford family*), Kevin Floyd (*son of Treva Floyd*), Seth Genes (*friend of the McCulleys*), 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*), Rex Lineberry (*brother of Pat Chesnut*), Walter McBee, Jr. (*son of Walter McBee, Sr.*), Sue McClelland (*mother of Rachel Campbell*), Martha Malloy (*mother of Joe Malloy*), Bettie Mason (*friend of Barbara Dial*), Lukas Miscoe (*friend of Deborah Rolman*), Sherry Norton (*friend of Deborah Deaton*), Ayden Orr (*friend of Ollie, Baird and Miab Faircloth*), Yvonne Reid (*aunt of Liz Strickland*), Elwanda Roberts (*cousin of Cheryl Morris*), Raymond Roman (*friend of Amity Marsh*), Rev. Teresa Shauf (*CP Minister*), Brittany Spradling, Judy Smith (*friend of Janiece Redmon*), Jim Summitt (*uncle of Blair Summitt*), James Talley, Garry Todd (*friend of Barbara Dial and others*), Bill Turner (*brother-in-law of Cheryl Tabor*), Wilma Wade (*sister of Kaye Holland*), Philip & Isabel Ward (*parents of Heather McDonald*), Hayden White (*friend of Becky Jones*), Iza Wojcik family and father John Kavouklis (*friends of Liz Strickland*), Sacred Sparks Ministry & St Luke Church, those serving our country

## DEAR BRENTHAVEN CHURCH,

I would like to express my sincere thanks to so many of you who offered me and my family prayers and kind words. I am so grateful to God for providing me his healing power. I am blessed to be a part of such a wonderful church congregation. Thank you all for your support for me and my family over the Christmas holiday!

Much thanks, Stan Wooten

## MEMORIALS

### *In Memory of Giff Jordan*

Tim Baker, Angela Bostelman



## ARRANGEMENTS FOR WYLENE NIX

The service for **Wylene Nix** will be on **Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>** at Brenthaven Church.

Visitation is from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Service is at 12:00 pm.

Burial is at Beechwood Cemetery in Cornersville after the service.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Feb. 2:** College Valentine Supplies Due

**Feb. 7:** Chili Cook-Off

**Feb. 13:** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

**Feb. 14:** Lenten Kick-Off/Ash Wednesday Service

**Feb. 21:** Wednesday Night Special/Classes Begin

**Feb. 24:** Youth Sunday Practice

**Feb. 25:** Youth Sunday

**Mar. 28:** Maundy Thursday Service

**Mar. 29:** Good Friday/Tenebrae Service

**Mar. 31:** Easter Service/Egg Hunt

**Apr. 5–7:** Middle School Retreat/Crystal Springs

**Apr. 10:** Wednesday Night Wrap-Up Dinner

**Apr. 12–14:** Young Adult Retreat

**Apr. 14:** Children's Service

**May 5:** High School Graduate Recognition

### Summer Activities

**Jun. 2–7:** Senior Synodic Camp

**Jun. 8–15:** Youth Mission Trip

**Jun. 17–20:** General Assembly

**Jun. 24–27:** Vacation Bible School

**Jul. 7–12:** CPYC

**Jul. 7–12:** Junior Camp

**Jul. 14–19:** Middle School Camp

**Aug. 4:** Backpack Blessing/Promotion

**BRENTHAVEN CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
516 Franklin Road  
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

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan. 25** 11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Jan. 28** 9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:45 AM Worship  
12:00 PM Missions Ministry Meeting  
5:00 PM Youth ROCKS Worship
- Jan. 29** 10:00 AM Young @ Heart (*Adult Library*)
- Jan. 30** 10:30 AM CPWM (*Fellowship Hall*)
- Jan. 31** 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)
- Feb. 1** 10 AM/12 PM Visitation/Service: Wylene Nix
- Feb. 4** 9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:45 AM Worship  
12:00 PM DMT Meeting  
5:00 PM Youth ROCKS

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JANUARY 28

*Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany (green)*

Deuteronomy 18:15-20;  
Psalm 111;  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13;  
Mark 1:21-28

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR JANUARY 21

**NO REPORT**

### 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

*Class of 2024*

**Ben Gross**  
**Bart King**  
**Julie Murphy**  
**Jonelle Summitt**

*Class of 2025*

**Fred Ford, Jr.**  
**Suzanne Ghianni**  
**Mark Humphrey**  
**Gwen Keiser**

*Class of 2026*

**Jeri Behan**  
**Jan Davidson**  
**Russ Deaton**  
**Joe Malloy**