



# 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

## HOW THINGS CHANGE... AND YET STAY THE SAME

I will celebrate my 60<sup>th</sup> Christmas this year. Some of you read that and call me a baby, others of you call me old, and some just call me. But in those years, I have become more and more aware how much has changed. There was a time when someone would ask me what I wanted for Christmas, and I could spout off everything Dallas Cowboys in the Sears Christmas Wish Book. Now, I have to think about it for days, hoping something will pop up and grab my attention. My family says I am the hardest person in the world to choose a gift for. I didn't mean to be that way, it just happened.

I would get up early on Christmas morning and run into the living room to see what was there. Now, I want the girls to sleep-in just a little while longer before we go check out the loot. I could have cared less what we were eating for dinner, but now I love hearing the menu before we ever get to that day. (Obviously!) I didn't care about decorating the tree with mom, and while I still don't get really involved, there is one special ornament that I place every year.

Growing up, we never went to a Christmas Eve service. We would pull out at around 3 and head to Grandma Wiley's and wait for everyone to get there. But now, I don't remember *not* being with Church folk at a candlelight service with communion on Christmas Eve. It's been grafted into my DNA. I am sure there are many other things that have changed, but space is limited and so is my memory these days.

Yet what I have realized is that even though these things have changed, there is much that has stayed the same. Like being together with family in very fun and festive times. Yes, the people have changed and the places have changed, but they are family, my family, and they are the most important people in my life. Traditions continue. We have combined our traditions and made new ones that keep me tethered to the spirit of the season.

There is still the story of a man and his young, pregnant wife going on a journey. When they arrive, there is no hotel room, and they find themselves in an area for animals where she gives birth. And while this takes place, a host of angels appear before some shepherds out in the fields and tell them something amazing is happening, and they need to go see. A child is born!

The emotional rollercoaster of that story never changes. Fear, confusion, angels, shepherds, a babe—born in a manger—the beauty of the night that life changed for us all. It's about a gift, and it has always been about a gift, just not one out of Sears Wish Book, but one contained within those moments with family and friends that I will cherish forever. May you make more of those memories this year! Merry Christmas!

Grace and peace,



### 2023 LIVE NATIVITY

**BRENTHAVEN CP CHURCH**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 5:00–8:00 PM**



Come hear the story of the birth of Jesus at this walkthrough nativity, complete with live animals. Warm beverages and snacks will be provided.

### CHRISTMAS CANTATA & LUNCHEON

Everyone is invited to the Brenthaven **Christmas Lunch, Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** immediately following *A New and Glorious Morn!*, presented by the Brenthaven Choir. Meat and drinks will be provided by the Fellowship Ministry and everyone is asked to bring a covered side dish or two and/or desserts to share with our church family and guests. Come and be blessed with the music of Christmas and enjoy a festive lunch with family and friends.

# SACRED SPARKS MINISTRY & POINSETTIAS

## IN MEMORY OF

Louise & Grady Adcock  
*Ame Satterwhite*

Mary Helen Alexander  
*Mary Lynn Alexander &  
Kathy Brian*

Mac & Leonard Arnold  
*Ame Satterwhite*

Marita Beck  
*Anita & James Tilley*

Curtis Lee Belew  
*Gladys & Charles Belew*

Kimberly Renee Belew  
*Gladys & Charles Belew*

Florence Brooks  
*Phyllis Lewis*

Ted Brothers  
*Marilyn Ewen*

Mildred & Bennett Brown  
*Becky & Ronny Jones*

Charles Burch  
*Joyce Burch*

Christine Carter  
*The Strickland Family*

Jerry Chesnut  
*Patricia Chesnut  
Douglas Powers*

Marie Clement & Marvin Clement  
*The Walker Family*

Ann & Neal DeMarcus  
*Bob Dozier*

Mary Lee & Claude Dickinson  
*Ame Satterwhite*

Rev. C. Ray &  
Mary Alice Dobbins  
*Bill Dobbins  
& Kathy Wood-Dobbins*

Barbara Dozier  
*Bob Dozier  
Susan & Scott Powers*

Margaret & Owen Follis  
*Barbara & Joe Shoemake*

Barbara Griffin  
*Heather, Dan,  
& Ian MacDonald*

Georgia & James Hill  
*Bob Dozier*

Alice & Bob Humphrey  
*Nancy & Mark Humphrey*

Joe Johnson  
*Suzanne Johnson & Family*

Lucille & Woodrow Jones  
*Becky & Ronny Jones*

Margaret & Durham Keene  
*Joyce Burch*

Naomi Mayhan  
*Ame Satterwhite*

Lady Jane &  
Charles E. McGee  
*Ame Satterwhite*

Robertta & Ewing McGee  
*Ame Satterwhite*

David Bennett Medlin  
*Brenda & Ron Medlin*

Elizabeth & M. W. Moser  
*Sue & Bill Moser*

Marjorie Neuhoff  
*Bob Dozier*

Patricia & Arthur Neuhoff  
*Bob Dozier*

Patty Page  
*Carol Gonzales*

Gay Payton  
*Ame Satterwhite*

Mary Ann Perry  
*Heather, Dan,  
& Ian MacDonald*

Elwyn Pierce  
*Bonnie Pierce  
Barbara & Joe Shoemake*

Eddie W. Redmon  
*Janiece Redmon & Family*

Jane & Jimmie Salato  
*Nancy & Mark Humphrey*

Dot & Lee Roy Satterwhite  
*Bob Dozier  
Susan & Scott Powers  
Ame Satterwhite*

Jimmy Stewart  
*Martha Stewart*

Mildred Strickland  
*The Strickland Family*

Lin Swenson, Sue Swenson, &  
Earl Swenson  
*The Walker Family*

Fay Tilly  
*Anita & James Tilley*

Mary Jean Walker  
*The Walker Family*

Rev. Bill & Kathryn Wood  
*Bill Dobbins &  
Kathy Wood-Dobbins*

Our Grandparents  
*Brooke & Ben Gross*

My Sister & Brothers: Alma,  
Buddy, Fred, Ed, & Ernie  
*Cheryl Morris*



## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Recent Additions

Tommy Hennesy  
Giff Jordan  
Bart King  
Sacred Sparks Ministry  
St Luke's Church

### Members

Greg Allen, 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, Linda Lipe, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Wylene Nix, Jack C. Phillips, Jodi Rush, Guy Sneed, Don Tabor, Cheryl Tabor, Julie Travis

### 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 Miah 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*), Sue McClelland (*mother of Rachel Campbell*), Martha Malloy (*mother of Joe Malloy*), Bettie Mason (*friend of Barbara Dial*), Lukas Miscac (*friend of Deborah Rolman*), Johnny Murray (*son of Betty Murray*), Sherry Norton (*friend of Deborah Deaton*), Ayden Orr (*friend of Ollie, Baird and Miah 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*), those serving our country, prayers for the Middle East



## IN HONOR OF



Bob Dozier <i>Susan &amp; Scott Powers</i>	Jodi & Kip Rush Family <i>Bob Dozier</i>
Kathy & Matt Dozier <i>Bob Dozier</i>	Ame Satterwhite <i>Becky &amp; Ronny Jones Susan &amp; Scott Powers</i>
Angie, Lee, & Allie Grace Johnson <i>Suzanne Johnson</i>	Rose Thomas <i>Brooke &amp; Ben Gross</i>
Bart King <i>Brenda &amp; Ron Medlin</i>	Phil & Isabel Ward <i>Heather, Dan, &amp; Ian MacDonald</i>
Julia Harris Marshall <i>Jan Marshall</i>	My Grandchildren <i>Carol Gonzales</i>
Rose O'Hara <i>Jane &amp; James Talley</i>	Our Parents <i>Brooke &amp; Ben Gross</i>



## OTHER GIFTS

*Barbara & Giff Jordan  
John Marsh*

## MEMORIALS

### *In Memory of Don Beck*

Jan Marshall  
Loretta & Guy Sneed

## THANK YOU!

Thank you, KOK parents, for the flowers and gift card given to me after the Children's Christmas Play. The play is a wonderful way to start the Christmas season, and it allows our children to put a unique spin on the retelling of the story of Jesus' birth. We have an incredible group of Kids of the Kingdom and that is a tribute to all you parents and grandparents!

—Suzanne Ghianni

(We wanted to give **Luke Deaton** credit for taking the photos of the KOK Christmas Program that we ran in last week's newsletter. Thank you, Luke!)

## Christmas Eve Candlelight

### Communion Service

6:00 pm



**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

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Dec. 14**    **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Dec. 16**    **9:50 AM** Choir Rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)
- Dec. 17**    **9:30 AM** Sunday School  
                  **10:45 AM** Worship (Sanctuary Choir Cantata)  
                  **12:00 PM** Christmas Luncheon  
                  **5:00-8:00 PM** Live Nativity
- Dec. 18**    **10:00 AM** Young @ Heart (*Adult Library*)
- Dec. 21**    **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Dec. 24**    **9:30 AM** Sunday School  
                  **10:45 AM** Worship  
                  **6:00 PM** Christmas Eve Service

(Church Office Closed December 25, 26 for the Holidays)

**LECTIONARY READINGS FOR DECEMBER 17**

*Third Sunday of Advent (Blue)*  
 Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11;  
 Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55;  
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24;  
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 10**

<b>OPERATING BUDGET</b>	
Dedicated Giving	\$12,362.00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	13,153.00
Weekly Need	10,120.00
Received Year-to-Date	515,890.27
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	535,749.67
Difference	<b>-19,859.40</b>

**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**