



MARCH 27, 2024

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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

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Each year we conclude our Easter service with the “Hallelujah” chorus, written by G. F. Handel. The “Hallelujah” chorus is one section of the greater work, *Messiah*, which was composed by Handel in 1741. I wanted to share with you the background story of Handel and his composition.

Handel was born in Halle, Germany, the son of a surgeon who wanted his son to study law. At the age of 11, a friend of the family, the Duke of Weissenfels, heard the young Handel play the organ and recognized his musical genius. The recognition of his talent likely led his father to allow him to become a musician. By 18, Handel had composed his first opera. For the next five years he was employed as a musician, composer, and conductor at courts and churches in Rome, Naples, Venice, and Germany.

Unlike other composers of his day, Handel was restless and independent. He rarely attached himself to any benefactor for a long period of time. That independence led to the flexibility to move to London and pursue a new Italian opera in the 1720's. In the 1730's, the emotional and financial toll of producing operas contributed to Handel's growing interest in sacred oratorios—large musical works for orchestra and voices. With oratorios, Handel could be more in charge of his works.

But the independent musical life he chose came with a financial cost. In 1741, Handel was heavily in debt, following a string of musical failures. It seemed as if his career was over and he even may have been forced to go to debtors' prison. On April 8, 1741, Handel gave what he thought would be his final concert.

Later that year, two key events changed the course of Handel's future and the landscape of music forever. His friend, Charles Jennens, wrote a libretto—the text of a long vocal work, taken from the Bible, based on the life of Jesus Christ—and gave it to Handel. Then, Handel was given funding by a group of charities from Dublin, Ireland to compose a new work for a benefit performance that would help free men from debtors' prison. Handel would also receive a commission for composing the work, which helped him on his path to reversing his own misfortune.

The composition of *Messiah*, the complete 260 page oratorio, was completed in 24 days. Handel composed *Messiah* on very little sleep and even less food. His assistants would often find that many of his meals had gone completely untouched. Often they would find him in tears as he composed. After he completed the “Hallelujah” chorus, he was reported to have said, “I did think that I saw Heaven before me, and the great God Himself seated on His throne, with His company of Angels.”

The first performance of *Messiah* in Dublin on April 13, 1742, was a huge success, but unfortunately, it didn't receive the same excitement in London the following season. Six scheduled performances were cancelled by Handel in 1743 and *Messiah* was completely removed from the 1744 schedule, not to be performed in London again until 1749.

London's Foundling Hospital held a fundraising concert in which Handel performed a variety of old and new pieces, including the “Hallelujah” chorus. The concert was so successful that Handel was invited back the next year, where he performed the entire *Messiah* oratorio. Performances of *Messiah* became an Eastertime tradition at the Foundling Hospital until the 1770's. Earnings from many performances of the oratorio were used to help the poor, needy, orphaned, widowed, and sick.

Text for “Hallelujah” chorus comes from the book of Revelation. Revelation 19:6: “Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.” Revelation 19:16: “And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.” Revelation 11:15: “And he shall reign for ever and ever.”

As we continue our journey through Holy Week, we look toward the celebration of Easter, knowing that Christ, our Savior, is risen indeed and reigns forever!

Linda



MY OWN BACKYARD GIFTS AND EASTER LILIES

IN MEMORY OF

Florence Brooks
Phyllis Lewis

Mildred & Bennett Brown
Becky & Ronny Jones

Jerry Chesnut
Patricia Chesnut

Marie & Marvin Clement
Walker Family

Ann & Neal DeMarcus
Bob Dozier

Barbara Dozier
Bob Dozier

Ralph Faye
Gina Wattenbarger

Artie & Charlie Ganus
Bart King

Georgie & James Hill
Bob Dozier

Alice & Bob Humphrey
Nancy & Mark Humphrey

Lucille & Woodrow Jones
Becky & Ronny Jones

Tracy Jones
Gina Wattenbarger

Giff Jordon
Doug Powers
Loretta & Guy Sneed

Luttie & Lona King
Bart King

Mary King
Bart King

Marjorie Neuhoff
Bob Dozier

Patricia & Arthur Neuhoff
Bob Dozier

Wylene Nix
Martha Stewart

Eddie Redmon
Janiece Redmon & Family

Maxine & Bill Rienschild
Carol & Porter Stark

Jane & Jimmie Salato
Nancy & Mark Humphrey

Dot & Lee Roy Satterwhite
Bob Dozier
Ame Satterwhite

Helen & Porter Stark
Carol & Porter Stark

Jimmy Stewart
Martha Stewart

Lin Swensson
Walker Family

Sue & Earl Swensson
Walker Family

Blanch Tucker
Phyllis Lewis

Mary Jean Walker
Walker Family



IN HONOR OF

Greg Allen Family
Bart King

Gladys & Charles Belew
Jeri Behan

Karen Benefield
Bob Dozier

Kathy & Matt Dozier
Bob Dozier

Jay McCulley Family
Bart King

Cheryl Morris
Gwen Keiser

Julie & Mike Murphy
Beverly Garrett

Kathleen Murphy
Jan & Larry Davidson

Larry Pulley Family
Bart King

Kip Rush Family
Bart King

Scott Shepherd Family
Bart King

Martha Stewart
Ame Satterwhite

Liz Strickland
Barrett & Beckett Strickland

Ean Taylor Family
Karen Benefield

Isabel & Philip Ward
Heather, Ian, & Dan MacDonald

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Thursday	March 28	7:00 pm	<i>Maundy Thursday Service</i>
Friday	March 29	7:00 pm	<i>Good Friday Tenebrae Service</i>
Sunday	March 31	10:45 am	<i>Easter Service</i>



PRAYER CONCERNS

Recent Additions

Garrett Gross

Members

Gladys & Charles Belew, Joan Bledsoe, Bill Blewett, Phyllis Burkhalter, Ben Davis, Billy Dial, Jane Dowden, Marilyn Ewen, Ollie Faircloth, Fred Ford, Sr., Barbara Gentry, Paul Gonzales, Madge Graves, Tommy Hennesy, Linda Lipe, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Syble Mitchell, Cheryl Morris, Jack C. Phillips, Jodi Rush, Guy Sneed, Cheryl Tabor, Don 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*), Helen James (*friend of Julie Travis*), 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*), Jackie Nash (*friend of Julie Travis*), Sherry Norton (*friend of Deborah Deaton*), Ayden Orr (*friend of Ollie, Baird and Miah Faircloth*), Heather Perillo (*daughter of Dawn and Walter McBee*), Melissa Pyne (*granddaughter of Doris Cantagallo*), Yvonne Reid (*aunt of Liz Strickland*), 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*), Forrest Sutton (*brother-in-law of Ean Taylor*), 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

Deaths

Family of Eric Ghianni (*Brother of Tim Ghianni*)

2024 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS will be **June 24–27**. This year's theme is the Olympics. We need volunteers to serve in all areas, including assisting teachers, shepherding the children, decorating, administering first aid, helping in the kitchen, and cleaning up afterwards.

Please contact Ms. Cheryl or the church office if you can help.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL TONIGHT

Catered dinner from 5:45–6:25

Classes from 6:30–7:30

* Tonight's Dinner: Potato Bar (from Corky's)

TWO GREAT NIGHTS AT BRENTHAVEN!

What: Wednesday Night Special Talent Show

When: April 3, 2024 at 5:45 pm

Where: Brethaven Fellowship Hall

Also... *Trivia Night on April 10* at 5:45 pm!

For meal reservation and inquiries, contact Sandra Shepherd or the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Kenneth and Delight Hopson, missionaries to Uganda, will be speaking on **Saturday, April 6, 2024** at 9:30 am at the Goodlettsville Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The Hopsons are CP missionaries and have been part of World Gospel Missions for 30 years.



April 2 Caleb Marsh
April 3 Zach Nienaber
April 4 Austin Agee
April 7 Donna Blewett
April 8 Becky Jones
April 12 Elizabeth Allen
April 14 Phyllis Bennett
April 16 Gwen Keiser
April 17 Robert Lipe
Cheryl Morris
April 19 Kira Sutton
April 21 Treva Floyd
April 24 Ron Medlin
April 30 Josh Nienaber
Keith Perryman
Lilly Van Allen

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

- Mar. 28** 11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service (*Sanctuary*)
- Mar. 29** OFFICE CLOSED
 7:00 PM Good Friday Service (*Sanctuary*)
- Mar. 31** 9:30 AM Sunday School
 10:45 AM Worship (*Easter/Resurrection Sunday*)
 12:00 PM Easter Egg Hunt
- Apr. 1** 10:00 AM Young @ Heart (*Adult Library*)
- Apr. 3** 5:45 PM WNS—Talent Show
 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)
- Apr. 4** 11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Apr. 7** 9:30 AM Sunday School
 10:45 AM Worship
 12:00 PM Member Care Meeting (*Adult Library*)

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MARCH 31

Resurrection of the Lord (white)
 Acts 10:34-43 Or Isaiah 25:6-9;
 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43;
 John 20:1-18 Or Mark 16:1-8

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR MARCH 24

OPERATING BUDGET	
Dedicated Giving	\$94.00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	5,230.14
Weekly Need	10,822.00
Received Year-to-Date	147,549.49
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	163,819.84
Difference	-16,270.35

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