



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

CHANGES

“Without change, there would be no butterflies.”

-Unknown

Change is inevitable. Good or bad, wanted or unwanted, change is going to come. I recently was reminded of this when I moved across town. It was very much a needed and wanted change, but it was still hard. It was both physically and mentally exhausting. It was not just the packing and unpacking, but it was changing the utilities over and changing my address on 100 different things. But even all of that wasn't the hardest part. Waking up the first day in my new place quickly made me realize everything was different. My usual routines were thrown off, my usual storage places hadn't been established yet, and it was hard to find anything when I needed it. Even my driving routines were different. All my “norms” were no longer normal, and nothing felt comfortable. I know in a few short weeks I will have everything put away where I want it and will establish a new set of routines that will begin to feel comfortable again. But no matter how much better this change is, and even though this feels like growth to me, it has not been easy.

Whatever we think or feel about change—or how much we try to avoid it, life is made up of the ebb and flow of change. The good news in all of this is that God is our constant through all our changes because He is perfect and never changes. I love the scripture in James 1:17 that says, “*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.*” In other words, God doesn't have a dark side and won't surprise us with a bad mood or simply change His mind and decide He doesn't care for us anymore. Like the saying goes, God is good—all the time! Even when it's hard to navigate the changes in our lives, we can trust Him to never leave or forsake us. My grandma used to say, “Hold to God's unchanging hand.” That was always a great comfort amid the uncertainty of change.

I want to share a poem I wrote several years ago about how hard growth and change can be. This poem uses the example of the metamorphosis of a butterfly. When the butterfly first emerges from the cocoon, it struggles to break free. But it's in the struggle that it gains the strength to fly. May we all hold to God's unchanging hand and find the strength and comfort we need for whatever change or struggle we may be currently facing.

In His love,

Karen

Chrysalis

For a moment
I see a glimpse of a life I once lived.
I crawl upward,
Pushing my belly away from gravel and mud,
Straining to see the hope of something more.
How many lives have I lived that were not my own?
Spinning endlessly
In this cycle of rebirth,
I cling to my destiny
With tightly wound anticipation.

Hanging from a tiny strand,
I wait
Inside this vulnerable grave.
Suspended in time,
I struggle to break free.
I will break forth from the most bandaged part of my soul.
And then... I will fly!



Brenthaven Consignment

August 10-12

Thursday 12-6 pm
Friday 10 am-6 pm
Saturday 8 am-2 pm (1/2 Price)

Come on out and support our consignment sale! Thirty percent of sales goes to support our youth and children's programs. For more information, call Jonelle at 615-414-4550.

AUGUST BLOOD DRIVE

Our next Blood Drive is coming up **Monday, August 28**, from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm in the church fellowship hall. To schedule an appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter the code: **cityofbrentwood**. Streamline your experience by completing preliminary questions the day of your appointment. Go to RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass.

BRENTHAVEN WOMEN'S MINISTRY

For our **August meeting**, we are planning to take a meal to share with our friends at **Loads of Love** at St. Luke's CP church in Madison, which is part of **Sacred Sparks Ministry**. Instead of meeting on the usual fourth Tuesday, we will be meeting on the fifth Tuesday, which is **August 29th**. Look for more details to come.



SCENES FROM SUNDAY'S PROMOTIONS AND BACKPACK BLESSING...



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY

Immediately following worship on **Sunday, August 13**, Brenthaven Church will hold a congregational meeting to elect the Elder class of 2026. This meeting will be for those in attendance. Four dedicated members have been nominated for this class. They are:

Jeri Behan, Jan Davidson, Russ Deaton, & Joe Malloy.

We are thankful to these four for their willingness to be nominated and for each of you in the many ways you serve. A special thanks also goes to **Deborah Deaton, Melinda Fleming, Jay McCulley, and Christi Peppers** for their service, which will come to a close at the end of August. Brenthaven is blessed to have so many faithful persons who answer the call to serve in many ways.

You are invited to become a member of the church choir. Consider taking part in sharing God's blessings with those around us.

Wednesday Nights
at 6:30 pm, starting
August 16.



Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth. Serve the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.
 Psalm 100:1-2 NRSV

BookEnd Book Club

Dreaming of Flight by Catherine Ryan Hyde (Goodreads Author and New York Times bestselling author) is this month's selection for the BookEnd Book Club, meeting **Thursday, August 17th** at 9:30 am in the Adult Library.



LADIES SMALL GROUP LUNCHES

After a lovely garden party at the home of Anita Tilley, we felt the need to spend more time together and deepen our relationships. So we will begin to meet quarterly (starting the end of October to mid-November) in small groups of four with a hostess for each group. The hostess's job is to contact the other ladies in her group and decide the location and time to meet (her home, Dutch treat at a local restaurant, or a sack lunch at the church). Groups and hostesses will change with each gathering.

We now have 38 ladies interested in our next gathering, and we would like for you to join us. Please call **Jeri Behan** (615-604-8015) if you have any questions, and if you want to be added to the list, text your name and number. Hope to hear from you soon!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Recent Additions

Steve Crawford (*friend of Carol Perryman*)
Ben Davis
Danny Williams (*brother of Linda Pulley*)

Members

Joan Bledsoe, Phyllis Burkhalter, Corina Crowe, Jane Dowden, Marilyn Elliott, Marilyn Ewen, Ollie Faircloth, Fred Ford, Sr., Barbara Gentry, Paul Gonzales, Madge Graves, Tommy Hennesy, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Jack C. Phillips, Jodi Rush, 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*), Nelly Corbit (*friend of Julie Travis*), Mac Crome (*cousin of Miab Faircloth*), Johnny Cunningham (*friend of Ford family*), Christi Dale (*friend of Jonelle Summitt*), Jackie Dial (*daughter-in-law of Barbara Dial*), 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*), David Katz (*brother of Dan MacDonald*), Sandy Keene (*sister-in-law of Joyce Burch*), John McArthur (*brother-in-law of Larry Davidson*), Sue McClelland (*mother of Rachel Campbell*), Bettie Mason (*friend of Barbara Dial*), Joe Moore (*neighbor of Becky & Ronny Jones*), Johnny Murray (*son of Betty Murray*), Ayden Orr (*friend of Ollie, Baird and Miab Faircloth*), Bill Rolman (*father of Deborah Rolman*), Raymond Roman (*friend of Amity Marsh*), Johnny Rush (*father of Kip Rush*), Rev. Teresa Shauf (*CP Minister*), Brittany Spradling, Jim Summitt (*uncle of Blair Summitt*), James Talley, Bill Turner (*brother-in-law of Cheryl Tabor*), Hayden White (*friend of Becky Jones*), those serving our country



MEMORIALS

In Memory of Swanson Bennett

Joyce Burch



Devin Rush will graduate with a 4.0 GPA at the end of August with her MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Walden University. She will be working towards full licensure to become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC). She has been and will continue working at the Child and Family Counseling Center in Cool Springs, seeing clients ages 5–18.

Congratulations, Devin!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...



We are planning a **church picnic** at Granny White Park on **September 6** at 5:30 pm. Watch for more details to come, and plan to join us!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL KICK OFF

Pull out your favorite football jersey or T-shirt and save the evening of **Wednesday, September 13th** for our Wednesday Night Supper and Classes Kick Off. And kick off we will with tailgate-type food on the menu (did someone say chicken wings?!), and games, fun and fellowship to follow. There's even rumors of a halftime show with Jay McCulley leading the band. No classes on our first night, just a chance to bring us all together, youth and KOK'ers included. Kick off is 5:45 pm. **Save the date!**

MY OWN BACKYARD

As school has started, there is a greater need to help children with school lunches. **My Own Backyard Ministry** is in need of non-perishable snacks to stock their pantry. They could use peanut butter crackers, fruit cups, cookies, chips, raisins, etc., as long as they are individually wrapped. For your convenience, there is a bin for **My Own Backyard** set up by the office to drop off your donations.

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

- Aug. 10** **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
 12–6 PM Consignment Sale (*FH/Narthex*)
- Aug. 11** **10 AM–6 PM** Consignment Sale (*FH/Narthex*)
- Aug. 12** **8 AM–2 PM** Consignment Sale (*FH/Narthex*)
- Aug. 13** **9:30 AM** Sunday School
 10:45 AM Worship
 12:00 PM Congregational Meeting
- Aug. 14** **6:30 PM** Session (*Adult Library*)
- Aug. 16** **6:30 PM** Choir Practice (*Choir Room*)
- Aug. 17** **9:30 AM** BookEnd Book Club (*Adult Library*)
 11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Aug. 20** **9:30 AM** Sunday School
 10:45 AM Worship
 5-7 PM Youth Planning Meeting

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR AUGUST 13

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (green)
 Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28;
 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45; Psalm 85:8-13;
 Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR AUGUST 6

OPERATING BUDGET	
Dedicated Giving	\$325.00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	12,681.95
Weekly Need	10,120.00
Received Year-to-Date	321,415.45
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	321,892.29
Difference	-476.84

STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Kip J. Rush, 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 2023</i>	<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>
Deborah Deaton	Ben Gross	Fred Ford, Jr.
Melinda Fleming	Bart King	Suzanne Ghianni
Jay McCulley	Julie Murphy	Mark Humphrey
Christi Peppers	Jonelle Summitt	Gwen Keiser