



NOVEMBER 19, 2025

VOL. 21, No. 47

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

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

The composer of this great hymn, Martin Rinkart, was born in 1586 in Eilenburg, Saxony, which is now Germany. During his youth, he became a foundation scholar and chorister of the St. Thomas's School at Leipzig. This scholarship afforded him the opportunity to attend the University of Leipzig where he was a student of Theology. Upon graduation he served in various capacities in the Church, as a teacher, a cantor, and as a pastor. In 1617, he was invited by the Town Council of Eilenburg to become Archidiaconus there and served until his death in 1649.

The majority of Rinkart's professional life was lived during the horrors of the Thirty Years War. Eilenburg, being a walled town, became a refuge for fugitives, and being so overcrowded, suffered from pestilence and famine. Rinkart officiated the funerals of two of the town clergy and two of the clergy living in the nearby countryside. For a considerable amount of time, Rinkart was the only clergyman in the town and often performed the funeral services of 40 to 50 people a day, in all over 4,400 souls. A severe famine struck Eilenburg and Rinkart generously used his resources to assist the people in any way he could.

Through all the suffering that he witnessed and endured—illnesses, plagues, death, famine, and the responsibilities placed upon him as the only surviving pastor in his area—Rinkart served the people of his community and he served the Lord. His faithfulness was apparent to his community and lives on in the great hymns of faith that he composed. His life was truly one of sacrifice and courage, and a great example of a faithful servant of God.

Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom His world rejoices; who, from our mother's arms, hath blest us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us; And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son, and Him who reigns with them in highest heaven, The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore, for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

As we sing this great hymn in Sunday's worship service, may we reflect on the composer and the life he lived in service to God. May we have the courage to see our challenges as blessings, our blessings as a gift from God, and enjoy a life centered around Christ.

Blessings,

Linda

THANKSGIVING WEEK

The church office will be closed Wednesday, November 26 through Friday, November 28 in celebration of Thanksgiving. There will NOT be a newsletter for Wednesday, November 26. We wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Your Brenthaven Church Staff



THE GIVING TREE



The CPWM would like to invite you to participate in this year's **Giving Tree**, making it a special Christmas for the 15 children from the **Sacred Sparks laundry ministry**, the "Laundry Littles."

Look for the tree in the narthex with names, ages, sizes, and the wishes of the family. Choose an ornament, purchase the gift, and return it to the tree by **December 10** (unwrapped and labeled with child's name, or if wrapped, labeled with contents). Or, you may make a donation, made out to *Brenthaven Church*, marked for *Giving Tree*.

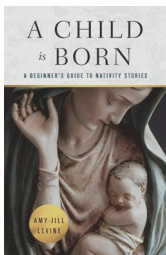
There is also a **Merry Meals Drive** for holiday food items the families may enjoy. Please see the sign by the Sacred Sparks table for suggestions.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our **Children's Christmas Program** will be **December 7** at 5:00 pm. There will be a reception following. Everyone is welcome, and we hope you will come out and support our children.

We will have practice for this program on **November 30** from 4:30–7:00 pm in the sanctuary. All children are encouraged to participate.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY



This Advent, you are invited to join as we study *A Child Is Born: A Beginner's Guide to Nativity Stories* by Amy-Jill Levine. In this study, you will discover the fascinating connections between ancient birth stories and the Nativity of Jesus in this four-week Advent study. The book discusses the births of Isaac and Ishmael, Samson, and Samuel to reveal how they foreshadow and enrich the Christmas story in the final chapter.

Pastor Kip will be leading the study, beginning **Tuesday, December 2** at 9:30 am, in the Adult Library. An evening session will also be scheduled if there is interest and can be done online. That would likely begin on Monday, **December 1**. Each session will be one hour.

We can order books for you, or you can go online and get them on Amazon. Just let the church office know. We so hope you will join us. Please call the church and let us know if you are participating. And let us know if you are interested in Monday evening.

JOIN US!

Sacred Grounds—2nd meeting **November 29**, 10:00 am at First Watch, Brentwood. (Hosts: Ean Taylor & guest host). Bring your faith questions for discussion.

Can You Dig It—2nd meeting **December 6**, 10:00 am–12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall (Hosts: Donna Kirby and Anita Tilley). We'll offer simple ideas to repurpose "found" materials in your landscape.

Please **RSVP to the hosts or the church office**.

LOAVES & FISHES

This is a reminder that we are participating in the Loaves & Fishes offering this month and will take up the boxes during worship on **Sunday, November 30**. If you need a box, come by the church office.

CPWM CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Our **CPWM Christmas luncheon** is **Tuesday, December 2**, at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. All women are invited to join the celebration, which will include a fun program and a favorite carol or two. Please bring a covered dish to share.

LIVE NATIVITY

Our **Live Nativity** is **Sunday, December 21** from 5:00–8:00 pm. This is a church-wide event and an opportunity to welcome our neighbors and remind all about the *Christ* in Christmas. We will need volunteers for set up, welcome tables, cooking and bringing soups, working in the kitchen, serving guests, hosts for walking groups of people through the live nativity, actors in the live nativity, and clean up after the event. Watch for sign-up information in our next newsletter.



HELP US FINISH THE PRAYER GARDEN

We're almost there, and we need your hands and hearts to help finish the Prayer Garden project! Join us for a Church Workday on **Saturday, December 6** as we spread gravel and sand, and then come back on **Sunday, December 7** after worship to lay the pavers together. We'll keep it simple—pizza for lunch and plenty of good company as we work side by side. The children's program is that evening, but we hope to finish early enough for everyone to head home, clean up, and return for the celebration. If you're able, come to worship dressed in your work clothes and let's finish this together.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Recent Additions

Judy Rebner

Members

Ty Allen, Jeri Behan, Joan Bledsoe, Phyllis Burkhalter, Ben Davis, David Dowland, Bob Dozier, Marilyn Ewen, Carol Ford, Beverly Garrett, Barbara Gentry, Tim Ghianni, Carol & Paul Gonzales, Madge Graves, Suzanne Hawkins, Tommy Hennessy, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Marty Morris, Rose O'Hara, Jack Phillips, Larry Pulley, Jodi Rush, Phil Slagle, Cheryl & Don Tabor, James Talley

Family and Friends

Jon Bates (*nephew of Kaye Holland*), Sierra Broome (*friend of Lorri Jean Pulley*), Mary Ruth Campbell (*step-mother of Barry & Darryl Campbell*), Betty Canupp (*mother of Betsy Canupp*), Lauren (*friend of Ame Satterwhite*), Waylon Cogbill (*great-grandson of Pat Chesnut*), Brenda Copeland (*niece of Martha Stewart*), John Copeland (*nephew of Martha Stewart*), Chrissy Deaton (*sister-in-law of Russ Deaton*), Melody Dobbins (*daughter-in-law of Kathy & Bill Dobbins*), Mary Dale Edwards (*mother of John Edwards*), Rev. Tim Ferrell, Harriet Gilliam (*friend of the Rushes*), Bill Garrett (*son of Beverly Garrett*), Miklos Gerendas, Eddie Grant (*friend of Becky & Ronny Jones*), Gregg Gross (*father of Ben Gross*), Chazz Jones (*friend of the Crafting group*), Hudson Jones (*friend of Joan Bledsoe's family*), David Kirby (*stepson of Donna Kirby*), Dianne Lyons (*aunt of Shali Scott*), Walter McBee, Jr. (*son of Walter McBee, Sr.*), Greg McEwen (*friend of Kaye Holland*), Bettie Mason (*friend of Barbara Dial*), Butch Mayes (*friend of Walter McBee*), Rick Prentice (*son-in-law of Ben Davis*), Troy Rhone (*nephew of Scott Shepherd*), Marjorie Shepherd (*mother of Sharon Malloy*), Bill Shouse (*uncle of Larry Pulley*), Judy Smith (*friend of Janiece Redmon*), Brittany Spradling, Jim Summitt (*uncle of Blair Summitt*), Gary Tessar (*friend of Jan Marshall*), Sarah Thomas (*friend of Megan Gregali*), Pat Travis (*mother of Julie Travis*), Bill Turner (*brother-in-law of Cheryl Tabor*), Lynn Underwood (*daughter of Dawn McBee*), Matt West (*friend of the Flemings*), Danny Williams (*brother of Linda Pulley*), Iza Wojcik family and father John Kavouklis (*friends of Liz Strickland*), churches in Haiti, those serving our country

Deaths

Family of Bill Jones (*brother of Ronny Jones*)

2025 SHEPHERDS POTLUCK LUNCH

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Shepherd/Stewardship Luncheon last Sunday. It's always a great time to get together with church family and to fellowship over a meal together, especially as we take the opportunity to express our thanksgiving to God during this holiday season.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Bill Jones

Loretta Sneed

In Memory of Wilda Patton

Joyce Burch



SACRED SPARKS FUNDRAISER

The amount raised from the Trivia Night fundraiser was \$10,040.00, but with the matched amount from a donor of \$10,000.00, that brings the total to **\$20,040.00** that will go to Sacred Sparks Ministry. That is a great outcome for one day's fundraising. Thanks to everyone who made it all possible!



Happy Birthday

- Dec. 2 Loretta Sneed
- Dec. 3 Shelby Thayer
- Dec. 5 Anna Brown
- Dec. 8 Joseph Malloy
Janiece Redmon
- Dec. 10 Barbara Dial
- Dec. 11 Donna Kirby
- Dec. 12 Jill Marshall
- Dec. 14 Devin Rush
- Dec. 16 Chase Dandrea
- Dec. 17 Joe Ghianni
Stan Wooten
- Dec. 18 Nancy Humphrey
Rhonda Mossbarger
- Dec. 20 Kathy Wood-Dobbins
- Dec. 23 Casey Marshall
Toli Rich
- Dec. 25 Dawn McBee
Walter McBee
- Dec. 29 Maegan Keller
- Dec. 30 Lee Johnson
- Dec. 31 Jackson Campbell
Jane Dowden



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

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR NOVEMBER 23

Nov 20 9:30 AM BookEnd Book Club (*Adult Library*)

11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)

Nov 22 2:00 PM KOK Play Day (*King's Bowl*)

Nov 23 9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Worship

12:00 PM Choir Practice (*Choir Room*)

5:00 PM Youth ROCKS (*Youth Room*)

Nov 24 1:00–3:00 PM Blood Drive (*Outside Bus*)

Nov 26–28 Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving

(No newsletter this week.)

Nov 29 10:00 AM Sacred Grounds (*First Watch, Brentwood*)

Nov 30 9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Worship (Hanging of the Green)

4:30–7:00 PM Children's Play Practice (*Sanctuary*)

Reign of Christ (*green*)

Jeremiah 23:1-6;

Luke 1:68-79 or Psalm 46;

Colossians 1:11-20;

Luke 23:33-43

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 16

OPERATING BUDGET

Dedicated Giving	\$1,795.60
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	13,599.44
Manse Rental Income	4,860.00
Weekly Need	10,468.00
Received Year-to-Date	543,332.84
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	521,625.43
Difference	21,707.41

STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Kip J. Rush, Senior Pastor

Ean Taylor, Associate Pastor

Linda Pulley, Director of Music

Amity Marsh, Organist

Karen Benefield, Office Admin (secretary@brenthaven.org)

Session – The Elders

Class of 2026

Jeri Behan

Jan Davidson

Russ Deaton

Joe Malloy

Class of 2027

Chris Fleming

Renee McCulley

Mike Murphy

Ame Satterwhite

Class of 2028

Rachel Campbell

Bill Dobbins

Frank Scott

Scott Strickland