



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

LIVE NATIVITY



Our **Live Nativity** is this **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. **It is not too late to volunteer.** We 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. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Jonelle Summitt (615-414-4550 or jonellesummitt@gmail.com).

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

Brenthaven members, family, and friends are invited for a service celebrating the arrival of God's gift to ALL. This candlelight service is a meaningful tradition for many and a special time for all ages. Please join us for our **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service** at 6:00 pm.



ORGAN CONCERT – SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

On **Sunday, January 4**, at 3:00 pm, Brenthaven Church is hosting an organ concert. This special event will showcase the remarkable range of the organ from powerful, majestic passages to gentle, prayerful melodies that speak to the heart. Whether you are a devoted lover of sacred music or simply looking for a meaningful and beautiful way to spend the afternoon, this concert promises to be both inspiring and memorable.



The concert will feature guest organist **Brenda Johnson** and our own **Amity Marsh**. Brenda Johnson earned her education from Rollins College in Winter Park, FL, Scarritt College in Nashville, TN, and Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, TN. She began playing organ at churches at the age of 17. She has extensive experience as a church organist and has played for over 50 years. Through the years, Brenda has played the organ for five different denominations and has performed in numerous regional concerts as either soloist or ensemble member. Performances include major sacred choral works and orchestral literature. Brenda played at City Road United Methodist Church for 30 years. She had a period of time where she played for the First Baptist Church in Orlando, FL, and was organist at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga for six years. Brenda currently serves as the organist of Hendersonville First United Methodist Church where she has played for the past 10 years. She is a member of the American Guild of Organists.



Amity Marsh graduated Cum Laude from Oklahoma City University with a degree in music business. While there, she studied piano with Robert Laughlin and oboe with Lisa Harvey-Reed. Toward the end of her college career, she studied organ with Dr. Antone Godding, professor at Oklahoma City University. Amity has been playing organ for about 26 years. She began her career subbing at various churches. Then, she became organist of Peace Lutheran Church in Edmond, Oklahoma in July 2001. She was at Peace Lutheran for two years until she and her husband moved to Tennessee in the summer of 2003. After moving, Amity got an organist position at Forest Hills United Methodist Church in December 2003. She was organist at Forest Hills for about 10 years and then came to Brenthaven Cumberland where she has served for 11½ years. Amity is also a member of the American Guild of Organists.



Join us for this music-filled event! Reception following the concert.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

So often, we forget that God speaks to us in many forms. When we think of worship, we think of a preacher behind a pulpit or reading scripture or in a discussion group setting. But God speaks to us in many ways.

This past Sunday, God blessed Brenthaven through the gift of music as our choir presented *Glory to the Newborn King!*, a cantata by Lloyd Larson. If you were unable to attend, I invite you to go online and listen to the blessed message our choir shared, and if you get a chance, thank them for sharing their gifts with us all!



YOUTH ROCKS WINTER RETREAT

Join us for an unforgettable **Winter Retreat** in Nashville from 4:00 pm on **Friday, January 2** through 2:00 pm on **Sunday, January 4**. The cost is \$200.00 per youth, covering all activities, meals, and lodging. **Please note:** Space is limited to 20 youth, so first come, first served. Once the spots are filled, they're gone! Don't wait to sign up!

SACRED SPARKS SPARK BEARER

This Christmas, we invite you to join our new family of recurring donors. **Spark Bearer** recurring donors are the heartbeat of Sacred Sparks Ministry. Your monthly gifts keep our **Loads of Love laundry ministry, community meals, and outreach programs** shining with compassion and care. Every new Spark Bearer helps insure that our neighbors know they are seen, cherished, and loved. (Contact **Lisa Cook** at sacredsparksministry@gmail.com.)

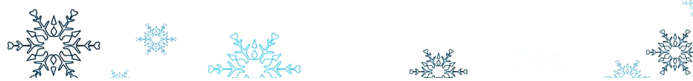
Your Monthly gift makes a difference...

\$25.00—three loads of clean clothes, plus two warm meals. \$50.00—clean clothes and full meals for a family. \$100.00—keeps our washers running and meals cooking each week.



COMING SOON... THE SNOW GAMES!

- Brenthaven Church is hosting a one-day winter **Vacation Bible School** event with a Winter Olympics theme. This event will take place on **Saturday, January 31** from 10:00 am–3:00 pm.
- Look for registration information to come.



KOK CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

We appreciate everyone who made this event a success. Our children were wonderful!



This Christmas Season:
 'May the God of hope
 fill you with all
 joy and peace...
 so that by
 the power of the Holy Spirit you
 may abound in hope.'

Linda
 Karen
 Edw
 Amity
 Kp

PRAYER CONCERNS

Recent Additions

Mac Holland

Members

Ty Allen, Jeri Behan, Joan Bledsoe, Phyllis Burkhalter, Ben Davis, David Dowland, Bob Dozier, Marilyn Ewen, Carol Ford, Barbara Gentry, Tim Ghianni, Paul Gonzales, Madge Graves, Suzanne Hawkins, Tommy Hennesy, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Marty Morris, Rose O'Hara, Jack Phillips, Larry Pulley, Jodi Rush, Phil Slagle, Cheryl & Don Tabor, Jane & 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*), Harriet Gilliam (*friend of the Rushes*), Bill Garrett (*son of Beverly Garrett*), Miklos Gerendas, Amy Glenn (*daughter of Becky & Ronny Jones*), 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*), Jenny Rowe (*sister of Liz Strickland*), Johnny Rush (*father of Kip Rush*), Marjorie Shepherd (*mother of Sharon Malloy*), Bill Shouse (*uncle of Larry Pulley*), Judy Smith (*friend of Janiece Redmon*), Brittany Spradling, Caden Sullivan (*grandson of Nina Sullivan*), 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*), Sandi Walter (*sister of Jim Tilley*), Matt West (*friend of the Flemings*), Danny Williams (*brother of Linda Pulley*), those serving our country

Deaths

Family of Judy Rebner



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In Memory of Bill Jones

Kay & Mac Holland

In Memory of Joyce Malone Wilding

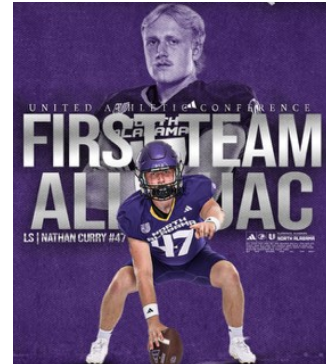
Marilyn & Randy Elliott

In Honor of Ean Taylor

Jan Marshall



Nathan Curry, a University of North Alabama long snapper, was voted best in the United Athletic Conference, making First Team All-Conference. Just a junior, Nathan has snapped all three years. He is the son of **Scott** and **Suzanne Curry** and the grandson of **Randy** and **Marilyn Elliott**. Congratulations, Nathan!



IF YOU LOOK FOR ME AT CHRISTMAS...

You won't need a special star—
I'm no longer just in Bethlehem,
I'm right there where you are.

You may not be aware of me
Amid the celebrations—
You'll have to look beyond the stores
And all the decorations.

But if you take a moment
From your list of busy things to do
And listen to your heart,
You'll find I'm waiting there for you.

You're the one I want to be with,
You're the reason that I came,
And you'll find me in the stillness
As I'm whispering your name.

Love, Jesus

(Submitted by Beverly Garrett.)



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

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UPCOMING EVENTS

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR DECEMBER 21

- Dec 18** 11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Dec 21** 9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship
5:00 PM Live Nativity
- Dec 23–26** CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- Dec 24** 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Service (*Sanctuary*)
- Dec 28** 9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship

Fourth Sunday of Advent (*blue*)

Isaiah 7:10-16;
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19;
Romans 1:1-7;
Matthew 1:18-25

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR DECEMBER 14

(Note: There will not be a newsletter next week,
the week of Christmas.)

OPERATING BUDGET

Dedicated Giving	\$1,050.00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	30,194.08
Manse Rental Income	4,860.00
Weekly Need	10,468.00
Received Year-to-Date	619,658.92
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	589,131.55
Difference	30,527.37

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