



# 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

## WHAT'S THE VALUE OF A CHURCH FAMILY?

As I joined the Session, I came in with an open mind to learn more about the church, to learn from the people of the church, and to continue my path and my relationship with God. I only knew about session meetings from what Liz had told me about her time as an elder and the “dreaded” devotional. As sweet and bubbly as Liz can be, speaking in front of others when all eyes are on her isn't her favorite thing to do! I thought to myself, how hard could it be? Well I can tell you, it is hard for some to open up about such deep and personal thoughts and feelings even in front of their church family. But why is that?

After our first session meeting and Mike Murphy's devotional, the wheels began to spin as to different topics on my mind at the time. The next month Joe had a powerful message on prayer and a bike tube. Others followed, including Bill Dobbins discussing the passing of a loved one. I thought I had everything mapped out in my head and figured as soon as I sat down to put pen to paper, the words would just flow.

Then January happened. It started out as most Januarys, checking the scale as to how many pounds I'd put on over the holidays, making sure all the holiday stuff had been stored away, and trying to keep the poinsettia we took home alive. Much like many people, my work calendar flips come January 1<sup>st</sup>, and it's time to start over again. There are several bible verses that talk about a new start, like 2 Corinthians 5:17: *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.* A message of HOPE. Keep that word in mind as it will come up again. HOPE.

Little did I know, almost a couple of weeks later I probably would have one of the worst days in almost 28 years of my career. Essentially, I left the office that day feeling like I was not good enough anymore. It's a feeling I hadn't had in many years, which was an eerily similar feeling to when I was laid off from a former job. I know I had done nothing wrong, but the feeling left me very unsettled. I shared my feelings at our last session meeting, and I had several of you give me immediate words of encouragement. I also had several communications during and afterward, including an email from Joe that he provided me from an All-Pro Dads session with Josh that reminded me there is always HOPE. It made my mind up... I am going to spend my time talking about the church family during my devotional.

Then came the ice storm. The pressures and feelings of hopelessness were mounting again to take care of my family with no power and a cold house, try to manage my work with no power, and wonder if we were going to come back home to a mess of busted pipes and water everywhere. What did my church family do? They gave me HOPE by reaching out again to make sure we were OK or needed anything. We certainly were saying our own prayers, but knew others were praying for us, too.

That made me think more about our church family. Like our immediate families, we encourage each other through nurturing, encouragement, and support. With our church family, we encourage each other the same way for one common goal, and that's to grow in Christ. With our immediate family, we want to leave a legacy of instilled values and traditions that will pass to future generations, much like our church family in that we want to pass down our faith through spiritual guidance of our leadership and prayers.

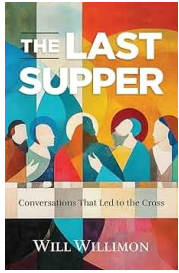
I can't help but think about those feelings in January and how my church family helped me through the perceived hard times. When in reality those hard times were just temporary. I once again borrow from Paul:

*For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.* —2 Corinthians 4:17–18

I for one want to go through my light afflictions with this church family as you give me HOPE. With HOPE and God on my side, we are all going to be OK.

—Scott Strickland (*devotional from February Session meeting*)

## THE LAST SUPPER: CONVERSATIONS THAT LED TO THE CROSS



During Lent, Pastor Kip will be leading the new Bible Study by Will Willimon, *The Last Supper: Conversations That Led to the Cross*. The study will begin **Tuesday, February 24** at 9:30 am and will meet in the Adult Library. Please call the church and let us know if you are participating.

## FEBRUARY IS SOUPER BOWL MONTH!



The Missions Ministry is collecting soup for GraceWorks Ministries in the month of **February**. Look for the bin marked "Souper Bowl" in the narthex.

## SYNODIC MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

Middle school students are invited to the Synodic Middle School Retreat, **March 27–29!** The theme is "Pause," all about learning how to slow down, focus, and grow in faith in the middle of busy lives.

It will be a weekend full of fun, friendships, and faith. We will also learn some of the basics that help us follow Jesus: how to pray, how to read scripture, and how to live out what we believe every day.

Registration opens **February 22**. Find all the details and sign up at [nsynodcpc.org](http://nsynodcpc.org).

## VBS WINTER GAMES

Our one-day Winter Olympics-themed VBS was a huge success. With 18 energetic kids joining the fun, the day was filled with laughter, teamwork, and meaningful learning. Through exciting games and frosty-themed activities, students discovered how to talk to God through prayer, explored practical ways to serve and help others, and even dove into the amazing science behind God's incredible world. It was a gold-medal day of faith, friendship, and fun, and we are so thankful for everyone who helped make it happen!



## TONIGHT...

Our **Soup Supper** will begin at 5:45 pm in the Fellowship Hall. And our **Ash Wednesday Service** will follow at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. We hope you will join us!

## CPWM NEWS

We will be filling bags with personal items for **Sacred Sparks Ministry** at our next **CPWM meeting** on **February 24** at 10:30 am. We will be meeting again in the Adult Library.

## CPWM BAKELESS BAKE SALE

The **Bakeless Bake Sale**, sponsored by the **Brenthaven Women's Ministry**, is a way to support their many ministry projects without the actual baking. This event will be going on throughout **February** and **March**. Contributions may be made online at [Brenthaven.org](http://Brenthaven.org). Or you may mail your check to the church, made out to *CPWM*.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

**Sunday, March 22** is **Youth Sunday!** Our youth will be leading worship, and we can't wait to see how they share their gifts with our whole church family. Make plans to be here and join us as we worship together!



## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Recent Additions

Millie Benefield (*mother of Karen Benefield*)  
Colton Osborne (*family friend of Rena Sutton*)  
Bonnie Pierce  
Haden Scott (*brother of Frank Scott*)  
Porter Stark

### 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, Donna Kirby, 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*), Beth Brakebill (*sister of Joe Malloy*), Sierra Broome (*friend of Lorri Jean Pulley*), Mary Ruth Campbell (*step-mother of Barry & Darryl Campbell*), Lauren (*friend of Ame Satterwhite*), 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*), Kristen Ertel (*co-worker of Aaron Ferry*), Garry Ferry (*uncle of Aaron Ferry*), 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*), Walter McBee, Jr. (*son of Walter McBee, Sr.*), Bettie Mason (*friend of Barbara Dial*), Butch Mayes (*friend of Walter McBee*), Joan Peay (*mother of Trent Johnson*), Rick Prentice (*son-in-law of Ben Davis*), Kinsley Ramey (*co-worker of Aaron Ferry*), Troy Rhone (*nephew of Scott Shepherd*), Jenny Rowe (*sister of Liz Strickland*), Darlene & Johnny Rush (*parents of Kip Rush*), Marjorie Shepherd (*mother of Sharon Malloy*), Casey Sherwin (*co-worker of Scott Strickland*), Bill Shouse (*uncle of Larry Pulley*), Judy Smith (*friend of Janiece Redmon*), Brittany Spradling, Caden Sullivan (*grandson of Nina Sullivan*), Nina Sullivan, Jim Summitt (*uncle of Blair Summitt*), Gary Tessar (*friend of Jan Marshall*), Bill Turner (*brother-in-law of Cheryl Tabor*), Lynn Underwood (*daughter of Dawn McBee*), Danny Williams (*brother of Linda Pulley*), those serving our country

### Deaths

Family of Austin Huskey (*cousin of Deborah Rolman*)  
Family of Sarah Thomas (*friend of Megan Gregali*)

## MEMORIALS

### *In memory of Betty Canupp*

Jeri Behan, Jan & Larry Davidson

### *In memory of Guy Sneed*

Holly Barker



Lipscomb Academy Middle School Basketball Teams finish strong as they wrapped up outstanding seasons. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball team (**including Jackson Gross**) finished their season with a first-place finish in the Jr. HVAC Division, capping it off with an impressive championship win against Brentwood Academy. The team had an undefeated season. Congratulations to you and your team, Jackson!



## KOK SUNDAY SCHOOL

On my first day teaching Sunday school, we had fun making fruit salad and pretending we were at the feast for the prodigal son. *Rena*



Ash  
Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Service tonight at 6:30 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

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 19** 9:30 AM BookEnd Book Club *(Adult Library)*  
 11:00 AM Creative Crafts *(Adult Library)*
- Feb 22** 9:30 AM Sunday School  
 10:45 AM Worship  
 5:00 PM Youth ROCKS *(Youth Room)*
- Feb 24** 9:30 AM Lent Bible Study *(Adult Library)*  
 10:30 AM CPWM Meeting *(Adult Library)*
- Feb 25** 6:30 PM Choir Practice *(Choir Room)*
- Feb 26** 11:00 AM Creative Crafts *(Adult Library)*
- Mar 1** 9:30 AM Sunday School  
 10:45 AM Worship  
 5:00 PM Youth ROCKS *(Youth Room)*

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 22

First Sunday in Lent *(Purple)*  
 Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7;  
 Psalm 32;  
 Romans 5:12-19;  
 Matthew 4:1-11

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 15

### OPERATING BUDGET

Dedicated Giving	\$ .00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	4,206.44
Weekly Need	10,835.00
Manse Rental Income	4,860.00
Received Year-to-Date	66,014.27
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	64,959.98
Difference	1,054.29

## STAFF & LEADERSHIP

**Kip J. Rush**, Senior Pastor  
**Ean Taylor**, Associate Pastor  
**Rena Sutton**, Children's Ministry  
**Linda Pulley**, Director of Music  
**Amity Marsh**, Organist  
**Karen Benefield**, Office Admin (secretary@brenthaven.org)

### Session – The Elders

<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>	<i>Class of 2028</i>
<b>Jeri Behan</b>	<b>Chris Fleming</b>	<b>Rachel Campbell</b>
<b>Jan Davidson</b>	<b>Renee McCulley</b>	<b>Bill Dobbins</b>
<b>Russ Deaton</b>	<b>Mike Murphy</b>	<b>Frank Scott</b>
<b>Joe Malloy</b>	<b>Ame Satterwhite</b>	<b>Scott Strickland</b>