



AUGUST 13, 2025

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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

DON'T GO CHANGING OR IS GOD DOING A NEW THING?

This is going to age me, but my first experience with the song *Just The Way You Are* by Billy Joel was actually from the end of the movie *Shrek*. After the credits, Shrek welcomes us to a karaoke night, and he kicks off the party singing his rendition of the first two lines to his bride. He sings: "Don't go changing to try and please me, you've never let me down before." I have been thinking about all of the changes Brenthaven is going through—Sandra's retirement then Cheryl's retirement—and now, the culmination of the ENGAGE program could bring changes, too. I wonder if God would sing this song to us right now? How does God feel about change?

If you are reading online and would like to have a quick dance party, [click here](#).



It's no surprise to those of us with some experience that change is always a part of life. But I think all of us can agree it is more uncomfortable to believe that it is also part of life in the church. When change comes, it can bring many emotions. Some people feel excitement. Others feel worried. Most of us feel a mix of both.

For people of faith, we have to see change as more than just a shift in plans. We have to see change as an invitation to seek God's guidance, a chance to figure out where God is leading us. The Bible is full of moments where God led people into deep changes and transformation. Abram became Abraham, leaving his homeland for a promised land he had never seen. The early Church learned to open its doors to gentiles, expanding its understanding of God's family. Even the wee-little man, Zacchaeus, went through deep change that many could not recognize except Jesus. He went from a tax collector, who took too much, to a follower of Jesus, who gave back and even welcomed Jesus into his home.

In each of these moments it is safe to assume that prayer and discernment were the first steps—watching where God is moving then trying to follow. God's people made space to listen for His voice and be open to change. We can do the same. When we take time to pray, we are reminded that God is steady, even when our world feels uncertain. God is leading us through the darkness, even though we may feel unguided.

Last week marked a new school year beginning. Students are meeting new teachers and starting new routines, and families are adjusting to different schedules. Similarly, we as a church are beginning a new chapter. Our church is in a similar season of change. I pray that we learn to adjust to the new schedules and new routines.

Change can feel like a disruption, but in our Christian journey, it is part of how God makes things new. Every change is a chance to follow where He is leading and to take part in the new thing God is doing.

For those of you reading online, [Click Here](#) to see a video I found years ago!



If you choose to watch, please watch the entire three minutes of dancing, singing, gasping for air, and the honest joy that I feel in knowing that God is doing a new thing at Brenthaven Church!

Ean

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Immediately following worship this **Sunday, August 17**, Brenthaven Church will hold a congregational meeting to elect the Elder class of 2028. This meeting will be for in-person attendees. The four members nominated are: **Rachel Campbell, Bill Dobbins, Frank Scott, and Scott Strickland**. We are thankful to these members for their willingness to serve.

A special thanks goes to **Fred Ford, Jr., Suzanne Ghianni, Mark Humphrey, and Gwen Keiser** 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.

ALL MINISTRY MEETING

Our next **Ministry Team Meeting** will be **Sunday, September 7**, after worship in the fellowship hall. We would like for all team members to meet with their ministry teams.

Thank you!

MORE WAYS TO CONNECT...

If you are looking for some fun and fellowship during the week, check out these options.

Young @ Heart meets every first, third, and fifth Monday at 10:00 am in the Adult Library. The games played are *Rook*, *Shanghai Rummy*, and *Dominoes*. Don't forget to pack a lunch!

Bridge Group meets every second Tuesday at 10:30 am in the Youth Room. Contact the church office if you are interested in making a reservation.

CPWM, our **Women's Ministry**, meets every fourth Tuesday at 10:30 am in the Willing Workers Classroom. Watch the newsletter for details.

BookEnd Book Club meets every third Thursday at 9:30 am in the Adult Library. Please check the newsletter for current books being read.

Creative Crafts meets every Thursday at 11:00 am in the Adult Library. You may bring your own art supplies and work on your own craft.

Call the church office if you want to learn more.



ENGAGE

You're invited to stay after worship **Sunday, August 24** from **12:00–3:30 pm** (lunch included).

We will take the next step in the **ENGAGE** process with Rev. Dr. Chris Fleming, exploring how our church can grow in vitality and mission together.

COMING SOON...CHURCH PICNIC

Join us for our **Church Picnic** on **Wednesday, September 10**, at **Granny White Park** in the pavilion. Burgers and hotdogs will be provided, just bring a side dish to share. Come and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, food, and fun together!



BOOKEND BOOK CLUB



Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus is August's selection for the **BookEnd Book Club**, meeting on **Thursday, August 21** at 9:30 am in the Adult Library.

Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one, Calvin Evans, the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results.

But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.

Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of characters, *Lessons in Chemistry* is as vibrant as its protagonist.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Recent Additions

Jan Davidson

Members

Ty Allen, Joan Bledsoe, Phyllis Burkhalter, Ben Davis, David Dowland, Bob Dozier, Marilyn Ewen, Carol Ford, Barbara Gentry, Tim Ghianni, Carol Gonzales, Paul Gonzales, Madge Graves, Garrett Gross, Suzanne Hawkins, Tommy Hennesy, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Marty Morris, Rose O'Hara, Jack Phillips, Jodi Rush, Phil Slagle, Cheryl Tabor, 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*), Brenda Copeland (*niece of Martha Stewart*), John Copeland (*nephew of Martha Stewart*), Melody Dobbins (*daughter-in-law of Kathy & Bill Dobbins*), Mary Dale Edwards (*mother of John Edwards*), Jamie Travis Gallimore (*sister of Julie Travis*), Bill Garrett (*son of Beverly Garrett*), Miklos Gerendas, Ann Ghianni (*sister-in-law of Tim Ghianni*), Gregg Gross (*father of Ben Gross*), Doug Johnson (*friend of Shali & Frank Scott*), 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.*), Greg McEwen (*friend of Kaye Holland*), Bettie Mason (*friend of Barbara Dial*), Butch Mayes (*friend of Walter McBee*), Troy Rhone (*nephew of Scott Shepherd*), Rev. Teresa Shauf (*CP Minister*), 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*), Sarah Thomas (*friend of Megan Gregali*), Bill Turner (*brother-in-law of Cheryl Tabor*), Lynn Underwood (*daughter of Dawn McBee*), Matt West (*friend of the Flemings*), Joyce Malone Wilding (*sister of Marilyn Elliott & Peggy Phelps*), Iza Wojcik family and father John Kavouklis (*friends of Liz Strickland*), those serving our country

Members

Family of Brad Geren (*Brother-in-law of Christi Peppers & Jonelle Summitt*)



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In Memory of Guy Sneed

Phil Slagle

In Honor of Cheryl Morris

The Crowe Family



MISSIONS MINISTRY

The **Missions Ministry** is collecting hygiene products for **Norman Binkley Elementary School** (a Title I school) **through this Sunday, August 17**. Look for the donation basket by the church office.

AUGUST BLOOD DRIVE

The next **Blood Drive** will be on **Tuesday, August 19** from 1–5 pm in the fellowship hall. You can schedule your donations: bloodassurance.org/brentwoodcommunity. Walk-ins are welcome.

THE LEAST COIN OFFERING



The Least Coin Offering began in 1956 and has helped millions of people from all over the world. When you give your offering, say a prayer for peace and reconciliation at home and abroad. All monies collected will be sent to **Church Women United** through the **Brenthaven Women's Ministry**. Look for the donation jar in the narthex.

GREETING CARDS & GIFT BAGS

Check out the expanded line of greeting cards and gift bags that are perfect for all occasions, located in the church narthex. All funds from the sale of the cards and bags help to support **Sacred Sparks**.



Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

(Romans 12:12)



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

- Aug 14** **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Aug 17** **9:30 AM** Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship
(following) Congregational Meeting
- Aug 18** **10:00 AM** Young @ Heart (*Adult Library*)
- Aug 19** **1-5 PM** Blood Drive (*Fellowship Hall*)
- Aug 20** **6:30 PM** Choir Practice (*Choir Room*)
- Aug 21** **9:30 AM** BookEnd Book Club (*Adult Library*)
11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Aug 24** **9:30 AM** Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship
12:00 PM Engage Luncheon/Meeting (*FH*)

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR AUGUST 17

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (*green*)

Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:1-2,8-19;

Jeremiah 23:23-29 and Psalm 82;

Hebrews 11:29-12:2;

Luke 12:49-56

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR AUGUST 10

OPERATING BUDGET

Dedicated Giving	\$,750.00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	17,832.00
Weekly Need	10,468.00
Received Year-to-Date	343,034.05
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	356,176.55
Difference	-13,142.50

STAFF & LEADERSHIP

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

Session – The Elders

Class of 2025

Fred Ford, Jr.
Suzanne Ghianni
Mark Humphrey
Gwen Keiser

Class of 2026

Jeri Behan
Jan Davidson
Russ Deaton
Joe Malloy

Class of 2027

Chris Fleming
Renee McCulley
Mike Murphy
Ame Satterwhite