



JULY 9, 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

BE STILL...

It's late on Monday evening as I write this from a dorm room at Bethel University. For over 35 years, this week has been a time for me to feel young again (or too old, I'm still trying to figure that out) at the Cumberland Presbyterian Youth Conference (CPYC). I'm here with over 150 youth and adults, studying, singing, praying, playing, and just being together, away from the routines of home.

The theme this year is *Be Still and Go*, with a theme verse from Psalm 46:10, where we are reminded to "Be still, and know that I am God." Each day, the focus will be on a different aspect of what that call means: listening for God in the silence, in the ways we serve as a neighbor, feeling God in spite of the pressures that fill our lives, and following the example of Jesus. And while these lessons are focused on teenagers, I am convinced that even adults could learn from that call.

I guess I like this week because it forces me to do just that—Be Still! Everyday life can be challenging for us to be still. How many expectations do we live with everyday? Work, family, friends, church, school—they all fill our schedules to the point that we are so often struggling to just catch our breath. And these don't even include the expectations we place on ourselves.

Don't we desire to be the best worker, the best parent, the best son or daughter, the best follower of Christ, the best this and the best that? And we beat ourselves up when we fall short or we don't finish what we wanted to get done. There is pressure to fulfill all of those expectations. So, we jam every minute with something to do.

Except one thing—spending time with our creator—how important is it to make that time? Your boss may say it is not nearly as important as giving 110% to your work. Granted, your boss does write the check. However, I would suggest that maybe putting time into your relationship with God may be just as important.

This week we are learning that doing that happens in a variety of ways. One way is in the silence. Remember that time when Elijah was running from Jezebel and hiding out in the mountains (1 Kings 19). He felt alone and kept thinking God would help him. But he just didn't feel that presence—not in the hurricane force winds, not when the earth shook, not in a fiery moment, but rather, in the still, silence of the moment. It is important for us to take some time to listen, to read, to be silent.

But it is unrealistic to stay in silence in every minute of every day. So, we can also encounter God in the ways we serve our neighbors. I'm reminded when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and commended them to "love one another." It is in doing for others that we can also feel that presence.

And it is important for us to remember that in spite of all the pressures that surround us, God loves us just as we are, with all our imperfections. Every other person and every other situation we find ourselves in challenge us to be what they expect of us. I think what God wants more than anything, though, is to be the best of who we were created to be. Today in my small group, I asked the group why it was so easy to be themselves in a setting like CPYC versus at home. They all agreed it was because they had to live up to the expectations of those around them—family, friends, teachers. It's what is expected of them to fit in, or fulfill expectations. But with God, they get to be who they are.

I don't know what you do to spend time with God. Maybe you find that gift in the garden, or in a morning run, or in a quiet Bible study time. Maybe you find it when you're driving to work (let me know how that works in traffic), or in listening to music, or maybe in just sitting alone. Or maybe, you have so many excuses that you just don't make the time. I pray you seek a desire to grow closer by taking that time. May you do all you can to *Be still, and know that God is God.*

Grace and peace,



BE STILL
and go

MISSIONS MINISTRY NEWS

We have been made aware of some immediate needs for the ministries we support. Please place donated items in the bins marked for each ministry.

Sacred Sparks has a need for the following food items for their friends: sugar, olive oil, rice, pasta, salt, Nescafe instant coffee, juices, breakfast cereal, baby diapers and baby wipes, Nido (red top) toddler formula, and Similac (blue top) baby formula.

GraceWorks is in need of food items for their fuel packs: fruit cups, pudding cups, pull-top cans of Beanie Weenies, pastas and soups, and granola/breakfast bars.

Our very own **Allie Crawford** is a teacher at **Norman Binkley Elementary School**, a Title I school. A new hygiene program is starting at the school this year and the following items are needed for many of the students. A bin to collect these items will be outside the church office. We will collect hygiene items **through Sunday, August 17**. They need the following items: deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, mouthwash, bar soap, wash clothes, feminine hygiene products, hair brushes, ponytail elastics/hair ties, shampoo, and lotion. As always, thank you for your help!

BOOKEND BOOK CLUB



The Women by Kristin Hannah is July's selection for the **BookEnd Book Club**, meeting **Thursday, July 17** at 9:30 am in the Adult Library.

Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances "Frankie" McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path.

The Women is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten. A novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism, this is a richly drawn story with a memorable heroine whose idealism and courage under fire will come to define an era.



CHERYL MORRIS RETIREMENT PARTY

03 AUGUST 2025

You don't want to miss this one!

Help us celebrate **Cheryl Morris** on **August 3!** We invite you to honor her during the service and stay afterwards for a celebration luncheon. Please help us spread the word to friends and family who have been loved by Cheryl over the years.

ATTENTION: ALL BARGAIN HUNTERS...

The **Brenthaven Women's Ministry** is now accepting treasures for their **Yard Sale** on **Friday, July 25** at 8:00 am–2:00 pm and **Saturday, July 26** at 8:00 am–12:00 pm.



Requested donations are household items, working electronics, children's toys, seasonal items, books, CD's, DVD's, VCR tapes, furniture, and miscellaneous items. You are requested to place your donations on the **fellowship hall stage**. Please **DO NOT** bring clothes or shoes. Thank you!

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP

July 13–18: Middle School Camp

July 28–31: Triennium

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say,

rejoice.

—Philippians 2:4



PRAYER CONCERNS

Recent Additions

Marcine Cook (*friend of the Rush Family*)
CPYC
Junior Camp and Middle School Camp

Members

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

Family and Friends

Jon Bates (*nephew of Kaye Holland*), Sierra Broome (*friend of Lorri Jean Pulley*), Sharen Butler (*friend of Pat Chesnut*), 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*), CPL Andrew Dial (*grandson of Barbara Dial*), Melody Dobbins (*daughter-in-law of Kathy & Bill Dobbins*), Mary Dale Edwards (*mother of John Edwards*), Jamie Travis Gallimore (*sister of Julie Travis*), 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, Texas Floods



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In Memory of Charles Belew

Jan & Larry Davidson

In Memory of Dot Dobbins

Kaye & Mac Holland

In Memory of Richard Keiser

Kaye & Mac Holland

In Memory of Guy Sneed

Kimberly & Charlie Crowe

Jan & Larry Davidson

Bob Dozier

Kaye & Mac Holland

In Honor of Cheryl Morris

Kimberly & Charlie Crowe



LETTERS TO CAMP



It is a tradition at Brenthaven Church for campers at Crystal Springs to receive cards and letters from home. You are invited to send a letter to our Brenthaven campers. To ensure the campers will receive mail during their week at camp, please mail by the date listed below. Mail to: Crystal Springs Camp, (insert camper's name), 21 Crystal Springs Camp Rd, Kelso, TN 37348. And remember to pray for our campers.

For the Middle School Campers (July 13–18), mail by Monday, July 14. The campers are: Mia Devries, Grant Silvus, Haven DeVries, Ellie Kate Fleming, Jorgia Deaton, Barrett Strickland, Paxton Ferry, Henry (Hank) Terrell, Ambar Rodríguez Oyer, Ean Taylor (counselor), and Josh Malloy (counselor).

Please be in prayer for the campers, their counselors, and those who are leading the camp. Please pray for safe travel, the health and safety of everyone, and plenty of laughter and fun. But also pray that everyone will come to know more of God's love.

JULY BLOOD DRIVE

The next **Blood Drive** will be on **Tuesday, July 22** from 12–5 pm. There will be a bus from **Blood Assurance** in the church parking lot. You can schedule your donations: bloodassurance.org/ brentwoodcommunity.org/. Walk-ins are welcome.

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 JULY 13

- July 10** **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts *(Adult Library)*
- July 13** **9:30 AM** Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship
2:00 PM Check-In for MS Campers
- July 15** **6:30 PM** Session *(Adult Library)*
- July 17** **9:30 AM** BookEnd Book Club *(Adult Library)*
11:00 AM Creative Crafts *(Adult Library)*
- July 20** **9:30 AM** Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time *(green)*

Amos 7:7-17 and Psalm 82
Deuteronomy 30:9-14 and Psalm 25:1-10;
Colossians 1:1-14;
Luke 10:25-37

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR JULY 6

OPERATING BUDGET

Dedicated Giving	\$1,250.00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	7,660.00
Manse Rental Income	4,565.00
Weekly Need	10,468.00
Received Year-to-Date	285,466.01
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	323,749.33
Difference	-38,283.32

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

<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>
Fred Ford, Jr.	Jeri Behan	Chris Fleming
Suzanne Ghianni	Jan Davidson	Renee McCulley
Mark Humphrey	Russ Deaton	Mike Murphy
Gwen Keiser	Joe Malloy	Ame Satterwhite