



SEPTEMBER 24, 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

WHEN WILL IT STOP? WHAT CAN I DO?

As I write this, I realize you may not have the desire to read any further and I understand. This isn't a feel-good article filled with balloons and glitter. Instead, it is about a struggle I am having right now with what is going on around us. So, please feel free to stop reading and know that I understand.

For the last few weeks, I have been overwhelmed by the amount of senseless violence that has been inundating the news around us. From high school and college students to a young lady on a train, from a man talking to thousands to innocents dying in late night bombings, and many others I haven't named. It seems to be that violence has become the standard, the norm, rather than the exception. And while concerned, I've been able to keep it at bay because it happens "over there" or "in that place" or "to those people." Until Friday night, that is.

Friday night, Madison's roommate and a friend had parked and were walking to an event. Before arriving, they were held up at gunpoint and robbed and then one of the robbers shot her roommate's friend. With her hands held in the air, begging not to be shot, they pulled the trigger. Madison's roommate knelt beside her friend, waiting for help as the perpetrators fled with her purse. It took three surgeries with possibly more in the future, but I am pleased to report that the friend will survive. But will either of these girls' lives be the same? Will Madison's? She easily could have been with them and then what? Those are the questions that swirl in my head right before the most important one—WHEN WILL IT STOP?

I have been asking that question for a while now, but it is ever more real today. I almost feel like we have entered a time like when the Israelites were just learning what it meant to be the people who God wanted them to be. God felt a need to jot down some rules on stone tablets. Have we lost our sense of what it means to be God's people? Have we thrown out of our vocabulary words like grace, respect, peace, faith, hope—LOVE? Because it sure seems like we are hearing many other words that are the opposite of Jesus' commands.

Here's the thing I have come to realize; if I want it to stop, it has to begin with me. I know I wasn't here Sunday, but in doing the bulletin, I saw what the choir was singing and it could not be more appropriate.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our Creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other, in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.

I keep thinking that if we all remember that it starts with us, and that every word we say and every act we do, makes a difference, maybe if we are intentional, even when we are frustrated, to recount the words of Jesus, we can make the world a better place. Call me Pollyanna, call me an eternal optimist, call me crazy, but something has to give and it has to start somewhere.

Maybe it can start here. In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul writes words that we often use at weddings and I get it, that chapter is about love. But we may need to remember that he was writing to a church, a people, in turmoil. He wanted to remind them what love is.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

What if we start here? What if all we do and say revolves around this definition of love, which is an action, not an emotion, not a feeling. I just have to believe, if this is the driving factor in all we do, in how we treat one another, surely we will see a place that God intended. I am going to try my best to do this and I invite you to help me, and if you want, join me. I just feel like it's the only way to bring this world closer to what God intended.

Grace and peace,

THE REZ

With another cold winter coming up, the CPWM is collecting warm clothing for the **Lakota Indians on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation** in South Dakota.



If you would like to support our mission efforts, please bring new and gently used warm clothing items, such as **coats, hats, gloves, or scarves** to the church by this Sunday, **September 28**. There is a bin for donations in the narthex. Thank you to those who have already brought your donations to the church.



BOOKEND BOOK CLUB

Go as a River by Shelley Read is October's selection for the **BookEnd Book Club**, meeting on **Thursday, October 16** at 9:30 am in the Adult Library.



This is a heart-wrenching coming-of-age story and a drama of enthralling power. Combining unforgettable characters and a breathtaking natural setting, it is a story of survival and becoming, of the deepest mysteries of love, truth and fate.



Sunday, November 9 from 5:00–8:00 pm

A Sacred Sparks Fundraiser

Door Prizes and Bake Sale

If you would like to volunteer or make a donation for the **Silent Auction**, contact **Doris Cantagallo** at 415-320-0065. To **reserve your table** (for teams of up to 8 people per table), please call **Barbara Dial** at 615-293-6755.

BRENTHAVEN GAME SHOW NIGHT

Hosted by Youth ROCKS, this is a night you won't want to miss! Come join the fun **October 1** from 5:45-7:30 pm as we play our own versions of game shows, such as Jeopardy, Family Feud, Wheel of Fortune, The Price is Right, and more.



Bring your friends for laughter, prizes, and fellowship. Let the church office know if you want to join us for this event, or fill out the RSVP form [HERE](#).

SPARK IN THE PARK



**Presented by...
Sacred Sparks Ministry**

**Tuesday, October 14
10 am–2 pm**

Montgomery Bell State Park

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

Join us for a refreshing weekend at Montgomery Bell State Park, **October 17–19!** This retreat is designed for young adults to rest, connect, and grow together in faith. Registration is now open [HERE](#). Reserve your spot today!



KOK PLAY DAY AT THE PUMPKIN FARM

Our next KOK Play Day will be at a Pumpkin Farm! We're choosing between **October 19th or 25th**, and we want your input. Contact Ean to place your vote, and we'll announce the date soon.



HIKE FOR SAFE HAVEN 2025



Saturday, November 1 is the 21st Annual **Hike for Safe Haven** at Percy Warner Park (7199 Hwy 100). This is a Nashville favorite for outdoor fun for friends and family (and is pet friendly). Registration starts at 9 am and the Hike kicks off at 10 am. There is no entry fee. Register as a team or individual at <https://safehaven.org>. Come support the leading shelter-to-housing program in Middle Tennessee.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Recent Additions

Rick Prentice (*son-in-law of Ben Davis*)

Members

Ty Allen, Joan Bledsoe, Phyllis Burkhalter, Jan Davidson, 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 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*), Sherry Franks (*aunt of Ean Taylor*), Bill Garrett (*son of Beverly Garrett*), Miklos Gerendas, Eddie Grant (*friend of Becky & Ronny Jones*), 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*), Anne Walker (*friend of Tere Dowland*), Sandi Walter (*sister of Jim Tilley*), Matt West (*friend of the Flemings*), Iza Wojcik family and father John Kavouklis (*friends of Liz Strickland*), those serving our country

Deaths

Family of Ann Ghianni (*sister-in-law of Suzanne & Tim Ghianni*)

LOOK WHAT'S COMING...

Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 26

4-6 pm in the Front Parking Lot

(More information to come.)



BABY SHOWER...YOU ARE INVITED!

Dufresne Baby Shower

Sunday, October 19, 2025 (following worship)

For Kristin & Chris Dufresne & Baby Calvin

Amazon baby gift registry link: <https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/kristin-dufresne-september-2025bradyville/1FB5X3F4LH46N?ref=cmswrapindpAKWKDD54FGEEPXP42E1&language=en-US>

OR Go to Amazon.com and search *Baby Gift Registry*, and type in their names.

THANK YOU

To my Brenthaven Family,

I'm running out of ways to express my appreciation to all of you for the gifts and cards that continue to arrive. Marty and I are speechless. We are both so very thankful. Please know the words and memories you shared have touched my heart so deeply. I'm so thankful to have spent 22 years serving the families of Brenthaven. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

With many thanks,

Ms. Cheryl

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Oct. 3 Steve Moore
- Oct. 4 Lorri Jean Pulley
- Oct. 5 Luke Deaton
Kaye Holland
- Oct. 6 Brenda Medlin
- Oct. 7 Madge Graves
- Oct. 9 Katie Platz
- Oct. 19 Josh Malloy
- Oct. 23 Cindy Phelps
- Oct. 25 Jacob Malloy
- Oct. 26 Suzanne Ghianni
- Oct. 27 Paul Gonzales
- Oct. 31 Larry Ennenga

BRENTHAVEN CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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 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

- Sept 25** **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Sept 28** **9:30 AM** Sunday School
 10:45 AM Worship
 5:00 PM Youth ROCKS (*Youth Room*)
- Sept 29** **10:00 AM** Young @ Heart (*Adult Library*)
- Oct 1** **5:45 PM** Game Show Night (*Fellowship Hall*)
 6:30 PM Choir Practice (*Choir Room*)
- Oct 2** **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Oct 5** **9:30 AM** Sunday School
 10:45 AM Worship

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 28

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (*green*)
 Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 and Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16;
 Amos 6:1a, 4-7 and Psalm 146;
 1 Timothy 6:6-19;
 Luke 16:19-31

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 21

OPERATING BUDGET

Dedicated Giving	\$1,250.00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	4,188.00
Weekly Need	10,468.00
Received Year-to-Date	424,933.29
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	430,133.99
Difference	5,200.70

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

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