



# 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](http://www.brenthaven.org)

## A DEVOTIONAL...HOME SAFELY

Last Sunday, Pastor Kip played a clip of **Joe Malloy** giving his devotional at the Session meeting. Since it was difficult to hear, we have included it in this week's newsletter.

I enjoy riding bikes, not only for exercise, but to get away, away from all the noise and stress of the world. It is also often some of my time with God. I often find myself talking to God or better yet, listening. When I was younger, it would bother me if I found my mind wandering during my time with God until I realized it may be God guiding my thoughts. Maybe this is one of the ways God talks to us. Now, I like to let my mind wander and see where God takes my thoughts.

I was riding a few weeks ago on a Saturday morning when I happened to remember that I did not have a spare tube. I generally ride a fair distance, so I take a spare tube so if I do have a flat tire, I can change it and continue my ride. I had a flat on the previous ride and had forgotten to get another tube when I got back. I am not sure why I was concerned—I have ridden hundreds of miles without a flat. But for some reason, I felt I was going to have a flat. Also, Sharon was busy that morning so if I had a flat it would be much later before she could pick me up.

So, without thinking about it, I said a quick prayer—"God, please don't let me have a flat." As soon as I said the prayer, I started thinking about my request. I don't think you can pray "wrong," but I have always had a thing about praying for specific things. What does it mean if I have a flat tire? Did God not hear me? Where this typically comes up is when someone is sick or hurt. What should I even ask for?

Sure enough, about six or seven miles from home, I had a flat tire. I got off the bike and started walking while I considered options. It would take some time to walk six or seven miles, but Sharon would not be available for some time. "Maybe I should walk until she can get here," I thought. Before I could move my thoughts from options to what this meant about my prayer, I heard another biker ride up behind me.

"Having trouble?"

"Yea, I have a flat."

"Do you have a tube?"

"No"

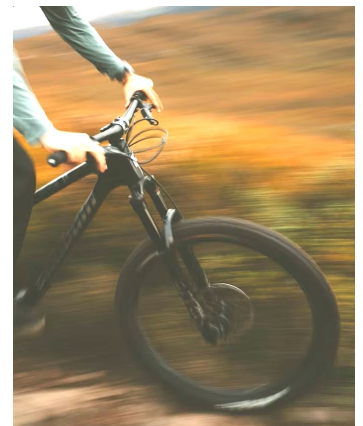
He pulled a tube out of his bag, handed it to me. "Have you got what you need to change it?"

"Yes, thanks." And he rode off. I changed the tire and finished my ride, arriving home safely. But as I rode away, I started thinking about prayer again. I had prayed for what I wanted: a smooth, hassle-free ride. But what I hadn't done was pray with an open heart. I hadn't said, "God, here's my concern—but I trust You with whatever happens." That moment helped me with the question I never really asked.

Sometimes we approach God with prayers that are more about control than connection. We want Him to fix our circumstances when He wants to form our character. We want Him to prevent the hardship when He may be planning to provide through it.

God didn't answer my prayer by preventing the flat. He answered it by making sure I wasn't alone when it happened and that someone would be there to help.

So, next time, instead of asking for what I want, what I think I need, I will tell God what is on my mind, on my heart, what concerns me, and what keeps me up at night. Then I will turn it over to Him and let Him be God. I believe if I do, if we do, someday He will get us all home safely.



## Trunk or Treat...



**This Sunday, October 26, 4–6 pm.**

We have started a **Sign-Up Genius** for anyone who would like to help. We'll have music, games, crafts, raffle prizes, costumes, "best of" prizes, and lots of fun, so you won't want to miss it! The Sign-Up Genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094CA9AF29A0FAC70-59416390-brenthaven>

## CPWM NEWS

This month's **CPWM** meeting will be **Tuesday, October 28** at 10:30 am in the Willing Workers classroom. Our guest speaker will be Emily Wright with Friends of Adziwa Christian School in Malawi. We will be having lunch out after the meeting.

## PRAYER GARDEN REFRESH

A big thank you to everyone who came out to help Jackson with his Prayer Garden Refresh project. It was a beautiful day to share in the work and enjoy some fellowship.



## SACRED SPARKS SUNDAY/TRIVIA NIGHT!

**Sunday, November 9** is **Sacred Sparks Sunday**, with **Rev. Lisa Cook** preaching Sunday morning and sharing the latest news about the ministry. Then our Sacred Sparks fundraiser, **Trivia Night**, will be that evening from 5:00–8:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a taco bar, bake sale, silent auction, door prizes, and lots of fun.

If you'd like to volunteer or make a donation for the **Silent Auction**, contact **Doris Cantagallo** at 415-320-0065. To **reserve your trivia table** at \$100.00 for up to 8 people, call **Barbara Dial** at 615-293-6755. (To play without a team is \$12.50 per person.)



## JOIN US!

**Can You Dig It—Saturday, October 25** from 10:00 am–12:00 pm at Brenthaven Church (Hosts: Anita Tilley and Donna Kirby). Are you *dig'n* a gardening adventure with amazing and simple ideas for the holidays? We have lots of fun and takeaways for you. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am and weather permitting, go outside for a portion of time.

**Sacred Grounds—Saturday, November 1** at 10:00 am at Crema in Brentwood (Hosts: Rev. Ean Taylor and a surprise pastor). We will gather for open conversation over a good cup of coffee. Bring your questions—faith related or otherwise—for a thoughtful, round-table style discussion that welcomes curiosity and connection.

**The Meat-ing—Sunday, November 2** from 6:00–10:00 pm at Brenthaven Church (Hosts: Chris Fleming and Scott Strickland). How does a hearty dinner straight off the grill sound, followed by *cheering on* the game together on the big screen? Then you won't want to miss this event.

**Wine Sippers—2<sup>nd</sup> meeting November, 15** at 2:00 pm at Arrington Vineyards (Hosts: Jodi Rush and Nancy Humphrey).

**Want to host a gathering?** If these groups don't sound like you, maybe it's your time to host one! All we ask is that hosts serve in pairs (get a friend to co-host with you), try to meet once a month until at least January, and create that welcoming community Brenthaven is known for. Contact the church office with your idea; we'd love to help you get started.

**Please RSVP to the hosts or the church office.**

## SPARK IN THE PARK

Tuesday, October 14, was a beautiful, fall day with over 50 Cumberland Presbyterians gathering at the Birthplace Shrine at Montgomery Bell State Park.



We came to honor and support the work of **Sacred Sparks Ministry**, started by **Rev. Lisa Cook**. Inside that historic chapel, we were inspired by Lisa's ministry stories and experiences of those impacted by Sacred Sparks. We were led in worship that included a sermon by Rev. Victor Hassell, "Love One Another," and ended with Holy Communion.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Recent Additions

Phyllis Burkhalter      Harriet Gilliam (*friend of the Rusbes*)  
Carol Gonzales      Dianne Lyons (*aunt of Shali Scott*)

### Members

Ty Allen, Jeri Behan, Joan Bledsoe, 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, Scott Shepherd, Phil Slagle, Cheryl & Don Tabor, James Talley

### Family and Friends

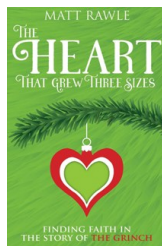
Jon Bates (*nephew of Kaye Holland*), Sierra Broome (*friend of Lorri Jean Pulley*), Mary Ruth Campbell (*step-mother of Barry & Darryl Campbell*), Betty Canupp (*mother of Betsy Canupp*), Lauren (*friend of Ame Satterwhite*), Waylon Cogbill (*great-grandson of Pat Chesnut*), Brenda Copeland (*niece 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*), Bill Garrett (*son of Beverly Garrett*), Miklos Gerendas, 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.*), 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*), 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 Vester Gilliam (*friend of the Rusbes*)  
Family of Wilda Patton (*mother of Amity Marsh*)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL ADVENT STUDY

Come join us for a fun Advent study! The Sojourner class will be exploring faith themes in this classic Christmas favorite. We'll start **November 2** in the Adult Library.



## THANK YOU, BRENTHAVEN CHURCH...

Thank you all, brothers and sisters in Jesus our Lord and Savior. The five big boxes came last week with all the new jackets, sweaters, gloves, scarves, and blankets. Some have owners now so we are waiting for others to take what they need. I got a blanket, very soft and warm, also a pair of gloves, two caps, and a scarf, all very nice. My immediate family all took what they needed, so one box is empty and we still have four boxes to give away. The weather turned cool so what you sent came just in time. May God bless you!

Your sister in Jesus Christ,  
Cecelia Spotted Bear (from The Rez)



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Make a difference in a child's life with **Operation Christmas Child**. We will collect the Shoeboxes throughout the month of **October**. Look for the display in the church narthex.

## HIKE FOR SAFE HAVEN 2025

We're only two weeks away **from** the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual **Hike for Safe Haven** on **Saturday, November 1** at Percy Warner Park (7199 Hwy 100). There is still time to team up and fundraise for families facing homelessness with our own **Team Sneed**. Here is the link: <https://www.classy.org/fundraiser/6742079> Come support this beautiful family-friendly fall event that includes hiking, music, and children's activities.

## VOICES FROM THE LIGHT

Join **Vox Grata Women's Choir** for the powerful **Voices from the Light**, a choral masterpiece by composer Dorothy Rudd Moore. Interweaving poetic tributes to Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, and spirituals, Moore's evocative work blends original composition with soulful melodies that celebrate African American heritage. (See Voxgrata.com)

**Oct. 23, 7:30 pm**—St. Vincent De Paul Church

**Oct. 26, 5:00 pm**—Second Presbyterian Church

## IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!



You are invited to join in the Christmas celebration by providing **poinsettias for the sanctuary** or by giving a donation to **Sacred Sparks Ministry**. There will be an order form in Sunday's bulletin and next week's newsletter. The cost is \$10.00 for the plants, and the deadline for ordering will be **November 16**.

**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

www.brenthaven.org

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Oct 23**    **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Oct 25**    **10 AM–12 PM** *Can You Dig It* Garden Event  
**10:00 AM** KOK Play Day at Gentry Farm
- Oct 26**    **9:30 AM** Sunday School  
**10:45 AM** Worship  
**4–6 PM** Trunk or Treat
- Oct 28**    **10:30 AM** CPWM (*Willing Workers*)
- Oct 29**    **5:45 PM** Youth ROCKS (*Fellowship Hall*)  
**6:30 PM** Choir Practice (*Choir Room*)
- Oct 30**    **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Nov 2**    **9:30 AM** Sunday School  
**10:45 AM** Worship (All Saints Day)  
**12:00 PM** Instrumental Practice (*Sanctuary*)

**LECTIONARY READINGS FOR OCTOBER 26**

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (*green*)  
 Joel 2:23-32 and Psalm 65;  
 Jeremiah 14:7-10,19-22 and Psalm 84:1-7;  
 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18;  
 Luke 18:9-14

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR OCTOBER 19****OPERATING BUDGET**

Dedicated Giving	\$1,702.00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	16,298.00
Manse Rental Income	4,860.00
Weekly Need	10,468.00
Received Year-to-Date	495,380.19
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	467,917.21
Difference	27,462.98

**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**