



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

CINDERBLOCKS—BACK TO THE BASICS

I am thinking about cinderblocks. I know...what a strange way to start your newsletter! This weekend our youth are headed to one of our favorite places in the world, Crystal Springs, and all the cabins there are made of, you guessed it, cinderblocks. Concrete bricks go back all the way to Jesus, but these cinderblocks that we see today are a modern marvel. Do you realize what an incredible invention cinderblocks are?

In the 1900s, Harmon S. Palmer invented a machine that could produce concrete blocks. They were strong and could be made quickly. However, the first blocks were hard to carry, as they were solid concrete squares weighing almost 100lbs. It wasn't until the 1920s that cinderblocks increased in popularity, when Mr. Palmer created a new design. The new design cut out large portions of the block and made them hollow. These hollow blocks were not only lighter, but more insulating, as well. Incredible! It is amazing that what made the cinderblock better was to remove something instead of adding something. What might this tell us about faith?

Fall Retreat this weekend will be a time to laugh, grow, and get “back to the basics.” Fall Retreat is always one of those moments that brings our youth group closer together with God and other youth from our synod, but I can already tell this one is going to be something special.

Our theme this year is “The Pause,” and it’s all about learning how to slow down, focus, and build our faith in the middle of busy lives. We’ll have all the fun, games, campfires, late-night snacks, and inside jokes that you would expect, but we’ll also dig into some of the faith basics that every follower of Jesus needs to know—how to pray, how to read scripture, and how to live out what we believe every day. These are just some of the main topics we will be discussing.

With All Saints’ Day behind us, I think about some of the most faithful people in history (and the ones who’ve shaped our own faith) and how they learned these same basic faith skills. They’re simple, but they’re powerful, and they help us build a real, lasting relationship with God.

So, Brenthaven Church, how do you pray? How do you make time to press *pause* and spend time with God? What are your habits and rhythms that keep your relationship with God consistent? How do you read scripture? Do you do daily devotional readings? Would you like to? What is missing in your faith? Can you even put it to words?

So, as we pack up and head to camp, I ask that you pray for our group. Pray that our students would not just have fun (though there will be plenty of that!), but that they also ask all these same questions of themselves and their faith practices. Pray that they grow in confidence, community, and in their walk with Christ. Sometimes the best way to move forward in faith is to go back to the basics, and that’s exactly what this weekend is all about.

Ean

SACRED SPARKS SUNDAY/TRIVIA NIGHT!

This **Sunday** is **Sacred Sparks Sunday!** Rev. Lisa Cook will be preaching Sunday morning and sharing about the ministry. Then our 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. We have a donor who will match all proceeds up to \$10,000.00!

If you’d like to make a donation for the **Silent Auction**, contact **Doris Cantagallo** at 415-320-0065. To **reserve your trivia table** at \$100.00, call **Barbara Dial** at 615-293-6755. Don’t have a team? Let us assign you one: \$12.50 per person. To donate items for the taco bar, please see the link. →

Sacred Sparks
TRIVIA
Taco Night Fundraiser
NOVEMBER 9TH | 5:00 PM
Sign-up to help with dinner!
<https://bit.ly/3JI72t0>

JOIN US!

Wine Sippers—2nd meeting **November 15** at 2:00 pm at Arrington Vineyards (Hosts: Jodi Rush and Nancy Humphrey). Enjoy an afternoon of good conversation and good company.

Sacred Grounds—2nd meeting **November 29**, 10:00 am at First Watch, Brentwood. (Hosts: Ean Taylor & surprise guest host). Bring your faith questions for discussion and lively conversations.

Can You Dig It—2nd meeting **December 6**, 10:00 am–12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall (Hosts: Donna Kirby and Anita Tilley). Are you dig'n a mid-morning garden adventure with simple ideas straight out of the Tennessee Smart Yard program to repurpose “found” materials in your landscape? We'll get hands on and crafty with takeaways to nourish your body and soul.

Please RSVP to the hosts or the church office.

Our First *Can You Dig It* garden adventure delivered fun and great gardening ideas.

Pictured: hosts Donna and Anita help us *dig* gardening.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Make a difference in a child's life with **Operation Christmas Child**. A girl who once received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox now teaches *The Greatest Journey* discipleship course to other children in need. Samnang* (name changed) comes from a family of scavengers, also known as waste pickers—people who earn a meager living by collecting recyclable materials from garbage dumps, streets, and landfills of Cambodia. But God used the new items inside the shoebox gift she received at age 13 to help draw her to a relationship with Christ. Today, she is teaching a new generation of shoebox recipients the truths of the Gospel that transformed her life. This is one story how your generous gift can change lives.

We are extending our collection of the shoeboxes until **Sunday, November 16**, so there is still time to participate. Look for the display in the Narthex.

SHEPHERD/STEWARDSHIP LUNCH

The Session would like to invite everyone to bring a dish and have a time of food and fellowship in Shepherd groups on **Sunday, November 16** after worship. This is a time for sharing and caring, getting to know one another better, and for the church to gather outside of worship. It also will be a time for talking about the church and the ministry taking place. Everyone will sit with their group and their shepherds. And this is an opportunity for the church family to get together for a time of thanksgiving to God. Please make plans to be here and bring a tasty dish or two!



BOOKEND BOOK CLUB

Searching for Sylvie Lee by Jean Kwok is November's selection for the **BookEnd Book Club**, meeting **Thursday, November 20** at 9:30 am in the Adult Library.

This is a deeply moving story of family, secrets, identity, and longing, both a gripping page-turner and a sensitive portrait of an immigrant family. It is a profound exploration of the many ways culture and language can divide us and the impossibility of ever truly knowing those we love.

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**. The **deadline for ordering is November 16**.

Please fill out the order blank below and mail to

516 Franklin Road, Brentwood, TN 37027

I wish to donate \$ _____

to be given to *Sacred Sparks Ministry* and/or

purchase _____ poinsettias at \$10.00 each. (Payment is enclosed.)



Given in memory of:

Given in honor of:

By: _____

Please make your checks payable to **Brenthaven Church**.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Recent Additions

Danny Williams (*brother of Linda Pulley*)

Members

Ty Allen, Jeri Behan, Joan Bledsoe, Phyllis Burkhalter, Ben Davis, David Dowland, Bob Dozier, Marilyn Ewen, Carol Ford, Beverly Garrett, Barbara Gentry, Tim Ghianni, Carol & Paul Gonzales, Madge Graves, Suzanne Hawkins, Tommy Hennessy, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Marty Morris, Rose O'Hara, Jack Phillips, Larry Pulley, Jodi Rush, 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*), Rev. Tim Ferrell, Harriet Gilliam (*friend of the Rushes*), Bill Garrett (*son of Beverly Garrett*), Miklos Gerendas, Eddie Grant (*friend of Becky & Ronny Jones*), Gregg Gross (*father of Ben Gross*), Rev. Tim Ferrell, Chazz Jones (*friend of the Crafting group*), Hudson Jones (*friend of Joan Bledsoe's family*), David Kirby (*stepson of Donna Kirby*), Dianne Lyons (*aunt of Shali Scott*), 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*), Pat Travis (*mother of Julie Travis*), 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*), churches in Haiti, those serving our country

Deaths

Family of Robert Allen (*former member*)

Family of Binyam Fekadu (*friend of the Gross family*)



MEMORIALS

In Memory of Wilda Patton

Jan & Larry Davidson, Jan Marshall, Brenda & Ron Medlin, Linda & Larry Pulley, Ame Satterwhite

In Memory of Joyce Wilding

Brenda & Ron Medlin

THANK YOU!

We would like to give a shout out to our own Brooke Taylor (graphic designer) and Liz Strickland (Outreach Ministry) for the wonderful advertising items they put together for Trunk or Treat, the Live Nativity, and other upcoming Christmas events at Brenthaven. We appreciate their time and talent devoted to our church family.



Congratulations to **Renee McCulley** who was named **Teacher of the Year** at Sunset Elementary School. Renee has poured herself into her students over the past 30 years and never once needed or wanted any kind of attention or accolades for all her hard work. However, the faculty at Sunset Elementary recognized her for all her hard work by selecting her as Teacher of the Year! Congratulations, Renee!



GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT



Bennett Hasty, grandson of **Ron and Brenda Medlin**, received his bachelor's degree in Health Science from Karl Landsteiner University in Krems, Austria (outside Vienna). He is now enrolled in the medical school at that university. Congratulations, Bennett!



SPECIAL EVENTS COMING UP...

November 22 — Kok Play Day

November 30 (4:30–7:00 pm) — Practice for our Children's Christmas Program—all children are encouraged to participate.

December 7 (5:00 pm)—Children's Christmas Program in the sanctuary, with reception following—everyone is welcome! **More Information to come!**

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

- Nov 6** **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Nov 7-9** **Synodic High School Retreat** (*Crystal Springs*)
- Nov 9** **9:30 AM** Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship (Sacred Sparks Sunday)
5-8 PM Trivia Night (*Fellowship Hall*)
- Nov 11** **10:30 AM** Bridge Group (*Youth Room*)
6:30 PM Session (*Adult Library*)
- Nov 12** **5:45 PM** Youth ROCKS (*Fellowship Hall*)
6:30 PM Choir Practice (*Choir Room*)
- Nov 13** **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Nov 14** **5:00 PM** Youth Lock-In (*Pick Up Sat. at 9:00 am*)
- Nov 15** **10:00 AM** Synodic Council (*Adult Library*)
2:00 PM Wine Sippers (*Arrington Vineyards*)
- Nov 16** **9:30 AM** Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship
12:00 PM Shepherd Luncheon (*Fellowship Hall*)

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR NOVEMBER 9

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (*green*)
Haggai 1:15b-2:9 and Psalm 145:1-5,17-21 or Psalm 98;
Job 19:23-27a and Psalm 17:1-9;
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17;
Luke 20:27-38

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2

OPERATING BUDGET

Dedicated Giving	\$1,432.10
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	10,509.16
Weekly Need	10,468.00
Received Year-to-Date	510,651.45
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	493,274.30
Difference	17,377.15

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