



APRIL 18, 2018

VOL. 14, NO. 16

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

CHANGE THE MESSAGE

The calendar says so, so it has, right? Has Spring sprung? The trees are blooming (and they are BEAUTIFUL), the sun is shining (most days), but wow, these temps! What gives? Snow in April! Temps in the 30's! I thought this was spring?! I know many of you are asking this same question, waiting with eager anticipation for those weeks of 70 degree weather, where the sun is shining, the flowers are blooming (without threat of frost) and you feel alive!

Truth is, we like having things just as they are supposed to be planned out. But, reality tells us that's not how life goes. Frosts can come in April. Jobs can be lost. Losing a loved one will happen. Unexpected, and in some cases unwanted, surprises will enter our lives. And we are faced with one question: how will we respond?

We have just come out of Easter, the Resurrection of our Lord, and I believe this event speaks to this question. Keep in mind, the disciples had witnessed the arrest, crucifixion and death of their teacher, their friend. Even though Jesus tried to prepare them, it was an unexpected surprise. What did they do? They ran, they hid, they rejected knowing him, they mourned, they stopped living. Flash forward three days and they get a report that he is risen and then he shows up in the room where they are hiding. Yet another unexpected surprise. However, this surprise fills them with a whole other set of emotions: joy, confusion, happiness, excitement.

It is so easy for us to get wrapped into the negative of life, in fact we are living in a time when negative makes the news way more than the positive. What can we do to break the cycle? The first thing we can do is "stop the madness." End the cycle by changing the message. We are so quick to jump on the band wagon, throwing our negativity in with the rest. Stop it! Life is full of joyful opportunities. Be a person who doesn't speak hatefulness or division, but begin to build a bridge of hope. Look for the positive, and if that's not possible, just be quiet. A very nice way of saying, "Life is too short, and I'm not playing."

Another thing is to stop focusing on yourself. Try a little each day to look for the good around you. Your neighbors, your spouse, your children or grandchildren, your friends, creation, co-workers, ... You are surrounded by the beauty of God's creation. It is rare we just STOP, LOOK, LISTEN. And when you find that gift of goodness, look to the heavens and just say, "Thank you, God." A little different than asking why. It changes the way we look and where we focus. Take the focus off you and on to God.

Finally, and I'm speaking to myself more so than many of you, spend some time in the quiet presence of God's grace. I hate the quiet. (Yes, the preacher said he hates the quiet even though he has 3 different moments of it in worship.) But, I need it. There is so much babble going on in the world that we can get distracted, losing ourselves in the chaos. In the quiet, we can read the Bible or a devotional, we can pray, we can just listen to the silence. And, we can begin to reconnect with the loving Creator.

If you made it this far, hopefully you can get one suggestion to help you silence the negativity. And remember, the temps are going to rise and fall, the flowers will bloom and die, the sun will shine - sometimes, but the love of God will surround you always, and I'm not sure there is a greater gift than that!

Grace and peace,

ELDER CLASS OF 2021 - NAMES REQUESTED

We will be electing the Elder class of 2021 at the next Congregational Meeting. If you would like the Session to consider someone for nomination, please submit the names to any current elder or the church office. Prayerfully consider those who are faithful in their support and active in the ministry of Brenthaven Church.

Those who are rotating off this year are: **Barry Campbell, Bill Dobbins, Jennie Ford and Julie Murphy**. We are grateful for their service.

GRADUATION TIME



It's hard to believe we are nearing the end of another school year. A display will be set up in the church narthex highlighting our three high school seniors. Please take a moment to fill out a note card on the display for **Ty Allen, Allie Ford, and Ian MacDonald**. Include your wishes, prayers or offers of support and guidance as they prepare to take the next steps in their journey. We will present these special young people with a Bible during worship on **Sunday, May 6**.

CPWM

The CP Women's Ministry of Brenthaven will meet on **Tuesday, April 24, 10:30 am** in the Adult Library. The guest speaker will be **Mark Humphrey** and he will be sharing interesting stories about all of his travels. Please plan to join us. Lunch will be furnished by hostess **Loretta Sneed**. We hope to see ya' here.

HAVE A SPECIAL GRADUATE?

Do you have a special graduate in your family you would like to tell us about? If so, please contact the church office by email secretary@brenthaven.org or by phone 615-373-4826 to leave your information. We'll begin publishing this information in future newsletters.

GRACEWORKS MINISTRIES

There is hunger in Williamson County. Families who do not have enough nutritious food are not simply "poor" or "lazy." Differing situations such as a medical issue, low wages, being a single parent can cause the need to seek help. GraceWorks offers: Food Carts, Student Fuel Bags, and Mobile Food Pantries.

Hunger knows no season. However, summer is an exceptional season of hunger for many of our neighbors. GraceWorks would like to expand their policy of giving one full grocery cart of food to a family for one month by increasing it to two carts per month. When a child runs in the house after a full morning of playing outside and asks his mom what's for lunch, she can look in her cabinets and readily prepare a meal for her child and his neighborhood playmate too because of our generosity.

Current Critical Needs of GraceWorks are:

Pasta, Pasta Sauce (*plastic or cans*), Soup, Boxed Meals (*like Hamburger Helper*) and Personal Hygiene Products.

Please bring your donations to the church office and place them in the orange bin.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCENE

"Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord;'" and she told them that he had said these things to her."
John 20:18

Easter Sunday may have passed, but the children in the *Workshop Rotation Sunday School Classes* are still learning about the importance of this day in the church year. They are learning that Easter itself is a period of time rather than just a day. It is actually a 7-week season called *Eastertide*, the great 50 days that begins at sundown the evening before Easter Sunday and lasts for six more Sundays until Pentecost Sunday. They are also learning that Easter can fall between March 22 and April 25, and that there are many symbols associated with this holy day.

Jan Davidson and **Linda Lipe** are working with the children to study Easter symbols, including the butterfly. In fact, they make an edible butterfly out of cheese sticks and pineapples that is quite tasty. **Kimberly Crowe** is also helping the children learn Easter symbols with the book, "Benjamin's Box." In this story Benjamin travels with Jesus as He enters Jerusalem and collects all sorts of reminders from Jesus' last days. The children will create their own box of memories.

To wrap up the study, the children will have to explain Easter to a group of visitors from outer space (otherwise known as the youth group). So if one Sunday you should see what appears to be a group of aliens in the Children's Wing, not to worry. The KOK'ers have it handled.

The Workshop Rotation classes are for children in Kindergarten through 6th grade and meet every Sunday beginning at 9:30 am.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL MENU

Wednesday Night Special menu for April 25: *Chinese Buffet*. Please make, cancel, or adjust your meal reservations by Monday, April 23 before 10:00 am.

ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE

Experience the Ride of a Lifetime!

Sunday — Thursday,
June 10-14
5:30 to 8:30 pm

To volunteer contact
Cheryl Morris 615-373-4826
or cabmorris17@gmail.com.



PRAYER CONCERNS



Recent Additions

Ollie Faircloth, Sue Hearn (*aunt of Jodi Rush*),
Kelly Jo Hicks (*friend of D'ann Ricketts*)

Homebound

Hester Allen, Forrest King

Members

Jackie Bryan, Evelyn Davenport, Ben Davis, Mickey Davis,
Marilyn Ewen, Carol Ford, Barbara Gentry, Em Ghianni,
Madge & Paul Graves, Tommy Hennessy, Joe Johnson,
Suzanne Johnson, Giff Jordon, Gwen Keiser, Robert Lipe,
Hardy Moyers, Jean Overstreet, Larry Pulley, Guy Sneed,
Cheryl Tabor, Don Tabor, Blaze Wattenbarger

Family and Friends

Misty Aird (*Bethel Univ. soccer coach*), Carney Allen (*father of Greg T. Allen*), Abbey Bailey and Family (*friend of Jane Dowden*), Charles Douglas Ballard (*cousin of Joan Bledsoe*), Jacob Boling (*nephew of Ann White*), Bowles Family (*friends of Angie Johnson*), Houston Brown (*friend of Rush family*), Michelle Burke (*daughter of Joyce Burch*), Peggy Byrd, Jimmy Carson (*friend of Miab Faircloth*), Betty Sue Cook (*mother of Lisa Cook*), LeeAnn Dawkins (*niece of Hardy Moyers*), Marion Day (*father of Jim Day*), Don Dowden (*brother-in-law of Jane Dowden*), Kathy Dozier (*daughter-in-law of Bob Dozier*), Meg Fugatt (*daughter of Ron & Ann White*), Bill Garrett (*son of Beverly Garrett Shaw*), Frank Gillespie (*step-father of Russ Deaton*), Parker Glenn (*friend of Becky & Ronny Jones*), Wendy Graves (*granddaughter of Paul & Madge Graves*), Brian Hartman (*friend of Jonelle Summitt*), Carolyn Hobbs (*friend of Jane Dowden*), Peggy Howell (*neighbor of Brenthaven Church*), Deborah Irwin (*friend of Jonelle Summitt*), Shirley Malborough (*grandmother of Angie Johnson*), Betty McCaskill (*friend of Ann White*), Denice Melton (*mother of Ean Taylor*), Marisa Morgan and Family (*friend of Heather and Ian MacDonald*), Ayden Orr (*friend of Ollie, Baird and Miab Faircloth*), Ben Osburn (*former member*), Lee Ann Pilkington (*friend of Crowe Family*), Judith Plucker (*friend of Nanette Ricker and Shali Scott*), Martha Pulley (*mother of Larry Pulley*), Finn Schafrann, 2 yrs. old (*friend of Faircloth Family*), Vicki Scott (*sister of Stan Wooten*), Pat Simpson (*mother of Sheryl Day*), Rev. John Smith, Debby Turner (*sister of Cheryl Tabor*), Cindy Underwood (*friend of Jan Davidson*), Cleo Underwood (*sister of Barbara Loyall*), Kelly Wallace (*daughter of Fred & Carol Ford*), Barbara Woodward (*mother of Sandra Moyers*), Judith Wright (*grandmother ofCarolynn Hallbright*), those serving our country

Deaths

Family of Tim Murphy (*brother of Mike Murphy*)
Family of James Dietz, Sr. (*uncle of Betsy Canupp*)
Family of Rev. Hugh Parsons

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Neill Coble

Bob Dozier
Bart King

In Memory of Martha Jean Williams

The Pulley Family

PULL TABS

Continue to save the pull tabs from your beverage cans or other canned items for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville. By simply saving this tiny pull tab, you can help raise thousands of dollars to support the families of seriously ill or injured children receiving medical treatment at Nashville area hospitals. So why save the pull tab and not the entire can? The pull tab is more sanitary, convenient and more importantly anyone can participate.

Next time you open a can, please pull for Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville!

Bring your pull tabs to the church office and place them in the container provided. Thank you.

GREETING CARDS FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Come, check out the expanded, Spring line of greeting cards hand crafted by the Creative Ministry. You will find them on display across from the Nursery. The price is \$3.50 per card or \$6.00 for two cards. All funds help support *Sacred Sparks Ministry*.

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, April 15, 2018

Sunday School 80 Worship 142

IMPORTANT YOUTH AND KOK DATES

Here are some important dates for 2018:

- Sun., May 6: High School Graduate Recognition
- Sun., June 3-8: Synodic Camp
- Sun., June 10-14: Vacation Bible School
(*Volunteer now with Ms. Cheryl!!*)
- Sun., June 24-29: CPYC
- Sun. - Fri., July 1-6: Youth ROCKS Mission Trip
- Sun., July 8-13: Jr. High Camp
- Fri. - Sat., July 13-14: Children's Fest at Bethel U.
- Sun., July 15-20: Junior Camp
- Sun., August 5: Sunday School Promotion

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516 Franklin Road
 Brentwood, TN 37027-5909

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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

- Apr 21 7:30 am** Carpool Departs for
 Nashville Women's Spring Meeting
- Apr 22 9:30 am** Sunday School
9:30 am Handbell Rehearsal
10:45 am Worship
5:00 pm Youth ROCKS
- Apr 24 9:00 am** Nashville Presbytery Mtg. (*Mt. View*)
10:30 am CPWM Meeting & Lunch
- Apr 25 5:45 pm** Wednesday Night Special - Meal
6:30 pm Wednesday Night Special - Classes
 Kids of the Kingdom
 WNY (Wednesday Night Youth)
7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Apr 26 11:00 am** Knitting/Creative Craft Ministry
- Apr 27 9:00 am** Depart for
Coffee, Symphony, and Lunch
- Apr 29 9:30 am** Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
3:45 pm Handbells
5:00 pm Youth ROCKS Service Project

SERVING WEEK OF APRIL 22

- Acolytes:* Luke Deaton, James Scott
Lector: Greg Allen
Greeters: Otis Hallbright, Rhonda Mossbarger
Nursery: Betsy Canupp (*Sunday School*)
 Betsy Canupp, Megan Gregali (*Worship*)
Usbers: Frank Scott, Greg Allen,
 Billy Dial, John Edwards,
 Trent Johnson, Barbara Loyall,
 Elwyn Pierce, Lori Wooten
Wee Worship: Liz Strickland, Allie Ford
Sunday, April 22 (white)
 Acts 16:16-34; Luke 6:18-19, 22-23

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR APRIL 15**OPERATING & DEBT
 RETIREMENT BUDGET**

Dedicated Giving	\$ 425.00
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	7,317.23
Weekly Need	10,277.69
Received Year-to-Date	165,877.18
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	158,534.28
Difference	7,342.90
Monthly Principal & Interest Payment	9,579.73
Mortgage Principal Balance	456,723.97

STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Kip J. Rush, Pastor
Sandra Shepherd, Associate Pastor of Christian Discipleship
Cheryl Morris, Children's Ministry
Ean Taylor, Youth Director
Linda Pulley, Director of Music
Amity Marsh, Organist
Penni Reitmeyer, Office Administrator

Session - The Elders*Class of 2018*

Barry Campbell
Bill Dobbins
Jennie Ford
Julie Murphy

Class of 2019

Russ Deaton
Chris Fleming
Renee McCulley
Julie Travis

Class of 2020

Otis Hallbright
Angie Johnson
Joe Malloy
Jan Marshall