



DECEMBER 21, 2016

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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

BRENTHAVEN WELCOMES . . .

On Sunday, December 4, Brenthaven officially welcomed John and Amity Marsh to the church family. Many of you already know the Marsh family and that they are fans of the Texas Longhorns and Tennessee Titans. Amity has been on staff as the church organist since April 2014, John sings in the choir, and you have seen 5 year old Caleb in some of the KOK productions. All three enjoy music. John and Amity both enjoy playing the piano and Caleb is in the process of developing his musical skills in voice. When not playing games with Caleb, John is a medical coder for Vanderbilt and Amity is an account representative for Broadcast Music Incorporated (BMI). The Marsh family resides with their cat Clawdia at 105 Autumn Oaks Ct, Brentwood, TN 37027. Their phone number is 615-496-4206.



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE

Saturday, December 24, 6:00 pm

Brenthaven members, family and friends are invited for a service celebrating the arrival of God's gift to all. This candlelight service is a meaningful tradition for many and is a time for all ages. Join us.

NURSERY / WEE WORSHIP UPDATE

For **Christmas Sunday, December 25** there will be **NO** Wee Worship available during our regular service. We ask for all families to be together for the Christmas Service. However, the Nursery, led by Barbara Dial, will be available. We thank all our volunteers who provide these services for our members throughout the year.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR: ADVENT BLESSING BOX

It's time to return your Blessing Boxes! Throughout Advent we've been adding gifts to our Advent Blessing Boxes, and they are FULL, FULL, FULL! If your family's box is overflowing, feel free to grab another box (any size) or a bag to hold the rest of the items and bring it along.

On Christmas morning, please bring your Advent Blessing Box(es) to worship and keep it on or under your pew. Someone in your family can bring it forward as part of the offering. (If you are unable to join us for worship on Christmas morning, you may bring the box on Sunday, January 1.)

The contents of the boxes will help Rev. Lisa Cook of Sacred Sparks to minister to our friends who are experiencing homelessness and extreme poverty.

Both the Missions and Discipleship Ministry Teams appreciate your taking part in this project. We pray that you have felt God's blessings as you have been a blessing to others.

WHAT BETTER WAY TO CELEBRATE?!!

Celebrate the birth of our Lord by joining your church family in fellowship and worship. Gather your gang and come to Brenthaven at **9:30 am** for a **church-wide Sunday school session**. Worship follows at 10:45 am. This is an opportunity to demonstrate your belief that regular worship is important...and that worshipping together on special days is a special gift! "O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!"

And, don't worry if your little one is passionate about wearing the brand-new footie pajamas all day or your kid can't seem to let go of the newest toy. Bring them along anyway! Come as you are. I'm confident that God will be more interested in your actions than your clothing or accessories.

CRAFTING FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Members of Brenthaven's Knitting and Creative Craft Ministries delighted to present Rev. Lisa Cook of *Sacred Sparks Ministry* a check totaling \$3,000. This amount was raised from the Brenthaven booth sales at the 2016 Brenthaven Bazaar and from this year's sales of the All-Occasion cards. Thank you, Brenthaven, for making it possible to bless the homeless and those in extreme poverty.



BLANKETS! BLANKETS! BLANKETS!

Your help is needed to prepare for Brenthaven's next Warming Shelter. We are in need of individuals who would be willing to help wash blankets. We have 5 large bags of blankets that need to be washed. If you can help please pick up a bag from the Table Storage Closet and return them to the *Sacred Sparks Ministry Table*. Thank you for your help.

KNITTING/CREATIVE CRAFT MINISTRY TIME CHANGE

Join us for fun every Thursday. Learn to knit or craft, bring your won project, or just come and enjoy the fellowship.

We will meet in the Adult Library at the new time 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Bring your lunch to eat as your craft, or join us as we go out to eat at 1:00 pm. (The big decision each week is where will we eat!) We hope you will join us.

CHRISTMAS PALOOZA

Youth ROCKS partnered with Kathleen Murphy and *My Own Backyard* again this year to celebrate the birth of Jesus with Christmas Palooza. We had an exciting time with energizers, crafts, shopping, and enjoying pizza together. Through service and donations we were able to provide Family Boxes for over 30 families in East Nashville this Christmas. We are thankful to make everlasting memories with many new friends. Thanks to all who were involved.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

Matthew 5:8

SUNDAY SCHOOL PREVIEW FOR DECEMBER 25

Here's a preview of Sunday school:

- * Eat breakfast finger foods. And, yes, there'll be coffee. Plenty of coffee.
- * Recreate the Christmas story told in Luke with as many folks as want to participate in the action. There will be parts for everyone! Did you ever want to be a star? A sheep? A manger? Some hay?
- * Construct nativity scenes out of recyclables. You may want to work solo or team up with others for a more complex scene, perhaps.
- * Watch the Charlie Brown Christmas movie. There will be a cozy corner filled with pillows and quilts for snuggly watching this seasonal favorite.

For another option check out the next article.

A 2016 CREATIVE RETELLING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Calling all creative writers!!! There will be lots of options at the church-wide Sunday school on Christmas morning. If you aren't feeling crafty, you are sick of the Charlie Brown Christmas movie (although I can't quite imagine that), or you simply prefer a more solitary endeavor, there's another great choice for you: a creative retelling of the Christmas story in a different time and place. You'll use your imagination and describe the Christmas story as though it were happening today, starting by reading the biblical account from Luke 2:1-20, and then creating your own modern version of the story. There will be writing prompts to help you through the process. Can you keep the message the same while changing all these details? Come to the church-wide Sunday school at 9:30 on Christmas morning and give it a try!

RECENT GUESTS

Ed & Mary Ruth Campbell
Sue McClelland
Linda & Sam Miller
Andrew & Nathan Moser

**Merry
Christmas**

PRAYER CONCERNS

Recent Additions

Lea Palmer (*mother-in-law of Penni Reitmeyer*)
Troy Rhone (*nephew of Sandra Shepheard*)

Homebound

Chris Henry, Forrest King

Members

Hester Allen, Andy Blake, Ed Bryan, Jackie Bryan, Evelyn Davenport, Ben & Mickey Davis, Marilyn Ewen, Barbara Gentry, Em Ghianni, Madge Graves, Paul Graves, Tommy Hennesy, Tammy Lake, Jacob Malloy, Joe Marshall, Hardy Moyers, Jean Overstreet, Larry Pulley, Janiece Redmon, Peggy Rushing, Beverly St. John, Guy Sneed, Cheryl Tabor

Family and Friends

Jim & Christine Alford (*co-workers of Diana Williard*), Carney Allen (*father of Greg T. Allen*), Charles Douglas Ballard (*cousin of Joan Bledsoe*), Dorothy Black (*grandmother of Megan Gregali*), Charles Bloom (*friend of Barry Campbell*), Jacob Boling (*nephew of Ann White*), Michelle Burke (*daughter of Joyce Burch*), Peggy Byrd, Betty Collins (*friend of Rose O'Hara*), Sue Cook (*mother of Lisa Cook*), Allan Deckret (*friend of Brenthaven*), Glen DeWitt (*father of Suzanne Ghianni*), Charles Dial (*brother of Billy Dial*), Rob Dollar (*friend of Tim Ghianni*), Mallory Dowden (*great niece of Jane Dowden*), Kathy Dozier (*daughter-in-law of Bob Dozier*), Bill Garrett (*son of Beverly Garrett Shaw*), Frank Gillespie (*step-father of Russ Deaton*), Tommy Graves (*son of Paul & Madge Graves*), Wendy Graves (*granddaughter of Paul & Madge Graves*), Joe Hearn (*father of Jodi Rush*), Deborah Irwin (*friend of Jonelle Summitt*), Mary & Don Johnson (*friends of Jane Dowden*), Judy Jones (*friend of Scott Felts*), Jennie Sue Kuebitz (*daughter of Beverly Shaw*), Lori Lindley (*friend of Mike & Julie Murphy*), Shirley Malborough (*grandmother of Angie Johnson*), James McCulley (*father of Jay McCulley*), Larry Mitchell (*uncle of Jodi Rush*), Ben Osburn (*former member*), RheAnn White Peacock, Martha Pulley (*mother of Larry Pulley*), Reggie Reed (*husband of co-worker of Lori Wooten*), Johnny Rush (*father of Pastor Kip*), Mary Scott (*mother of Frank Scott*), Pat Simpson (*mother of Sheryl Day*), Ellie Taliaferro (*young friend of the Crowe Family*), Debby Turner (*sister of Cheryl Tabor*), Cleo Underwood (*sister of Barbara Loyall*), Kelly Wallace (*daughter of Fred & Carol Ford*), Robert Williams (*brother of Linda Pulley*), Barbara Woodward (*mother of Sandra Moyers*), Billie Lou Wooten (*sister of Brenda Medlin*), Judith Wright (*grandmother of Carolyn Hallquist*), those serving our country.



MEMORIALS

In Memory of John Ferguson

Jane Dowden
Hardy & Sandra Moyers
Betty Murray
Guy & Loretta Sneed

In Memory of Betty Hogan Tiller

Jean Robinson

In Memory of Lu Haywood

Jean Robinson

THANK YOU

Dear Brenthaven Church,

The family of Curtis Vaughn thanks you for your kindness and sympathy at a time when it was deeply appreciated.

Thank you,
Deborah Bolen

SEE THE "BIG APPLE"

The Young @ Heart and all members of Brenthaven have been invited to join the Mt. Juliet Senior Center and see New York City and the Statue of Liberty. The trip is 7 nights and 6 days from Thursday, July 27 through Wednesday, August 2, 2017. Cost is \$749 per person for double occupancy. The incredible price includes ■ Motor-coach transportation with Diamond Tours. ■ 6 nights lodging, including 4 consecutive nights in New York City. ■ 10 meals: 6 breakfast and 4 dinners. ■ Two guided tours of New York City. See Central Park, Rockefeller Center, Times Square, Wall Street the 9/11 Memorial and much more. ■ Visit Ellis and Liberty Island, home of the Statue of Liberty. ■ Baltimore Inner Harbor, a historic seaport and world-class center of shopping and dining.

\$75 is due at signing and your final payment is due May 20, 2017.

For information and reservations contact Anna Sue Wilhoit @ 615-773-8054. If you are not a member of the Mt. Juliet Senior Center, please add \$20.

BRENTHAVEN CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

516 Franklin Road
Brentwood, TN 37027-5909

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
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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
www.brenthaven.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 23** Church Office Closed
- Dec 24 6:00 pm** Christmas Eve
Candlelight Communion Service
- Dec 25 9:30 am** Churchwide Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
- Dec 26** Church Office Closed
- Dec 28 7:00 pm** Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Dec 29 11:00 am** Knitting Group/Creative Craft Ministry
- Jan 1** Happy New Year!
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
- Jan 2 10:00 am** Young @ Heart
- Jan 3 9:30 am** Staff Meeting

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, December 18, 2016
Sunday School 82 Worship 222

SERVING WEEK OF DECEMBER 25

- Acolytes:* Leah McCulley
- Greeters:* Guy & Loretta Sneed
- Nursery:* Rebecca Dandrea (*Sunday School*)
Carol Gonzales (*Worship*)
- Usbers:* Stan Wooten, Angela Beaton, Billy Dial,
Tim Garrett, Chester Johnson, Barbara Loyall,
Elwyn Pierce, Blaze Wattenbarger
- Wee Worship:* No Wee Worship
- Narrative Lectionary Readings for*
Sunday, December 25 (Blue)
Luke 2:8-20; Psalm 123:1-2

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR DECEMBER 18

**OPERATING & DEBT
RETIREMENT BUDGET**

Received this week	\$40,096.00
Debt Retirement	(10,300.00)
Weekly Need	10,805.00
Received for Budget Year-to-Date	525,336.93
Need Year-to-Date	551,055.00 (25,718.07)
Monthly Principal & Interest Payment	10,000.00
Mortgage Principal Balance	570,613.32

STAFF & LEADERSHIP

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

Session - The Elders

<i>Class of 2017</i>	<i>Class of 2018</i>	<i>Class of 2019</i>
Suzanne Ghianni	Barry Campbell	Russ Deaton
Jill Weisz Keller	Bill Dobbins	Chris Fleming
Rhonda Mossbarger	Jennie Ford	Renee McCulley
Christi Peppers	Julie Murphy	Julie Travis