



# 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)

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

We've said that a lot lately—to friends, family, colleagues, store clerks, postal carriers, neighbors walking their dogs, and just about everyone with whom we have interacted in person or online. Happy New Year! What do we mean when we say it? Is it simply a phrase we use in early January, akin to our “how are you” greeting that is often more of a “hello” than a genuine inquiry into someone’s circumstances, health, and well-being? Or is it a sincere expression of our desire for them to have a year filled with happiness, whatever that might mean to them? Or is it something else? Take a moment to ponder what **you** really mean with that “Happy New Year” greeting. Seriously, take a moment.

Do you remember Pharrell Williams’s “Happy” song from a few years ago? Upbeat rhythms, energetic movement, and a catchy tune combined to lift our spirits. The song inspired groups of people from many countries and walks of life to produce their own cover versions. I found it delightful and quite infectious! I readily admit liking the feeling it engendered. Is it that kind of “Happy” we’re wishing for when we offer the greeting?

As you ponder the meaning of your “Happy New Year” greeting, think about saying it to yourself. What would it take for your new year to be a happy one? Do you consider health, finances, and/or family dynamics? Do you reflect on your schedule? Do you wonder about the world’s political strife? Do you envision dozens of puppies frolicking in fields of wildflowers? What would make your year a happy one? I hope your answer includes growing in faith, sharing that faith in word and deed, and seeking to love and serve God and neighbor. Those things might not bring the same kind of happiness as Pharrell Williams’s song, but might a deeper happiness last longer?

Happy New Year!

*Sandra*



## SCENES FROM CHRISTMAS EVE 2023





# SPOTLIGHT



**Drew Crawford**, husband of Allie Crawford, received his Masters Degree in Special Education from Lipscomb University, with a concentration in mild-to-moderate disabilities. He will continue working at John Overton High School in Nashville where he is one of the lead Special Education teachers. Congratulations, Drew!

## JANUARY BLOOD DRIVE



Our next Blood Drive is coming up January 8<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00 am–4:00 pm in the church fellowship hall. To schedule an appointment, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter the code: **cityofbrentwood**. Streamline your experience by completing preliminary questions the day of your appointment. Go to [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass).

## BOOKEND BOOK CLUB



*The River We Remember* by bestselling author William Kent Krueger is this month's selection for the **BookEnd Book Club**, meeting **Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am** in the Adult Library.

## YOUTH ROCKS NEWS

**MLK Weekend Retreat** in Pigeon Forge, TN is **January 12<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup>**! The cost is \$200.00, paid to Brenthaven. Registration closes January 5<sup>th</sup>! Register at <https://forms.gle/KP85AMYaiXJ8yEU17>

If you need assistance registering a teenager you know, or if there are any barriers to a teenager's attendance to this event, please contact **Ean Taylor**.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Our next meeting is **Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>** at 10:30 am. We will be meeting in the fellowship hall to cut towels and prepare products to help young women in third-world countries to be able to attend school. If you would like to help with donations for this project, you can bring old towels through Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, and place them in the CPWM bin in the church narthex. Thank you!



## LADIES WINTER LUNCH MEETINGS

Happy New Year to all! And thank you to all of our fall hostesses for their work to get their groups together. We had 38 ladies gather and enjoy time and lunch together. We are beginning plans to set groups and hostesses for our winter lunch. If you would be available to host, please text me (Jeri Behan) at 615-604-8015. As a reminder, that job entails calling three ladies in your group and arranging a time and place of your choice to meet.

## SESSION MINUTES SUMMARY DECEMBER 12, 2023

**\* Prayer concerns were shared.**

**\* Program Ministry Reports were provided.**

Building and Grounds: The Session approved contracting with Liz Sauer, Real Estate Innovations for managing the rental of the manse. The Session also approved contracting with Joshe Gutierrez to perform the approved repairs/remodeling up to \$50,000.

Christmas Cantata will be December 17, 2023, followed by potluck lunch.

Live Nativity will be December 17, 2023.

Discipleship Ministry: The youth Sunday School classes will be redesigned, offering two different class options for middle and high school students. The Session approved Sunday School Sabbath on New Year's Eve due to many of the teachers scheduled to be out that day. Any classes that have interest in having Sunday School class that day are welcome to meet.

**\* The Administrative Committee will be asked to coordinate with the appropriate ministries to conduct staff evaluations within the next year.**

**\* Pledge Cards will be mailed out to all member families. Members will be asked to return their pledge cards in the offering plates.**

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Recent Additions

Walter McBee, Jr. (*son of Walter McBee, Sr.*)  
Stan Wooten

### Members

Charles & Gladys Belew, Joan Bledsoe, Bill Blewett, Phyllis Burkhalter, Ben Davis, Jane Dowden, Larry Ennenga, Marilyn Ewen, Ollie Faircloth, Fred Ford, Sr., Barbara Gentry, Paul Gonzales, Madge Graves, Tommy Hennesy, Linda Lipe, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Wylene Nix, Jack C. Phillips, Jodi Rush, Guy Sneed, Don Tabor, Cheryl Tabor, Julie Travis

### Family and Friends

Pat Allen (*mother of Greg T. Allen*), Abby Bailey and Family (*friend of Jane Dowden*), Merritt Brakebill (*brother-in-law of Joe Malloy*), Becky Brown (*friend of Becky Jones*), Michelle Burke (*daughter of Joyce Burch*), Mary Ruth Campbell (*step-mother of Barry & Darryl Campbell*), Betty Canupp (*mother of Betsy Canupp*), John Copeland (*nephew of Martha Stewart*), Steve Crawford (*friend of Carol Perryman*), Mac Crome (*cousin of Miab Faircloth*), Johnny Cunningham (*friend of Ford family*), Kevin Floyd (*son of Treva Floyd*), Seth Genes (*friend of the McCulleys*), Ann Ghianni (*sister-in-law of Tim Ghianni*), Shirley Jansma, Patti Jobe (*sister-in-law of Renee McCulley*), Doug Johnson (*friend of Shali & Frank Scott*), Rex Lineberry (*brother of Pat Chesnut*), Sue McClelland (*mother of Rachel Campbell*), Martha Malloy (*mother of Joe Malloy*), Bettie Mason (*friend of Barbara Dial*), Lukas Miscoe (*friend of Deborah Rolman*), Sherry Norton (*friend of Deborah Deaton*), Ayden Orr (*friend of Ollie, Baird and Miab Faircloth*), Yvonne Reid (*aunt of Liz Strickland*), Elwanda Roberts (*cousin of Cheryl Morris*), Raymond Roman (*friend of Amity Marsh*), Rev. Teresa Shauf (*CP Minister*), Brittany Spradling, Judy Smith (*friend of Janiece Redmon*), Jim Summitt (*uncle of Blair Summitt*), James Talley, Garry Todd (*friend of Barbara Dial and others*), Bill Turner (*brother-in-law of Cheryl Tabor*), Wilma Wade (*sister of Kaye Holland*), Philip & Isabel Ward (*parents of Heather McDonald*), Hayden White (*friend of Becky Jones*), Iza Wojcik family and father John Kavouklis (*friends of Liz Strickland*), Sacred Sparks Ministry & St Luke Church, those serving our country



## PRAYER LIST

Please take a look at the current prayer list, and if there is someone on this list ready to be removed, contact the church office. This would allow us space to add others in the future. Thank you!

## MEMORIALS

### *In Memory of Giff Jordan*

Joan Bledsoe, Jan & Larry Davidson, Bob Dozier, Beverly Garrett, Becky & Ronny Jones, Bart King, Jan Marshall, Sandra Moyers, Linda & Larry Pulley, Ame Satterwhite, Loretta & Guy Sneed, Willing Workers Sunday School Class, Young @ Heart

## HONORARIUMS

### *In Honor of Wylene Nix*

Willing Workers Sunday School Class



## THANK YOU!

Dear Church Family,

Your kindness, thoughtfulness, love, and prayers were so much appreciated during Giff's sudden illness and death. It's truly a comfort to be here. Kip was so much support in every way. To say he was always there when we needed him would be an understatement.

Blessings and love,  
Barbara and Family



The packages of 2024 Offering Envelopes are available on the Welcome Center and at the main entrance to the sanctuary for your convenience.

## WHERE ARE YOU CALLED?

Brenthaven Church is blessed with so many gifted and giving people. But there are many roles that need to be filled each week.

As we enter a new year and we schedule for these roles, you are asked to consider where God is calling you to serve. The traditional roles have been: Greeters, Ushers, Lectors, Nursery Workers, Communion Stewards, Letter Writers, and the list goes on. We also have a need for someone who might be willing to transport someone to church, or help do some things during the week. There are lots of things that go on between Sundays!

During your prayer time, you are encouraged to listen as to where God is calling you. One never knows what God has in store. And be assured, God is calling, no matter your age!

**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**

- Jan. 4**    **9:30 AM** Church Women United (*Willing Workers*)  
               **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Jan. 7**    **9:30 AM** Sunday School  
               **10:45 AM** Worship  
               **12:00 PM** DMT Meeting  
               **5:00 PM** Youth ROCKS Service Project
- Jan. 8**    **11-4 PM** Blood Drive (*Fellowship Hall*)
- Jan. 9**    **10:30 AM** Bridge Group (*Youth Classroom*)  
               **6:00 PM** Session (*Adult Library*)
- Jan. 10**   **6:30 PM** Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)
- Jan. 11**   **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Jan. 12-15** **MLK Youth Retreat**
- Jan. 14**   **9:30 AM** Sunday School  
               **10:45 AM** Worship  
               **4-6 PM** KOK New Year Party (*Children's Wing*)

**LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JANUARY 7**

*Baptism of the Lord (white)*

Genesis 1:1-5;  
 Psalm 29;  
 Acts 19:1-7;  
 Mark 1:4-11

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR DECEMBER 24**

**OPERATING BUDGET**

Dedicated Giving	\$1,368.60
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	6,078.24
Weekly Need	10,120.00
Received Year-to-Date	550,276.52
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	573,121.68
Difference	<b>-22,845.16</b>

**STAFF & LEADERSHIP**

**Kip J. Rush**, Senior Pastor  
**Sandra Shepherd**, Assoc. Pastor of Christian Discipleship  
**Cheryl Morris**, Children's Ministry  
**Ean Taylor**, Assoc. Pastor for Youth/Young Adult Ministry  
**Linda Pulley**, Director of Music  
**Amity Marsh**, Organist  
**Karen Benefield**, Office Admin (secretary@brenthaven.org)

**Session** – The Elders

*Class of 2024*

**Ben Gross**  
**Bart King**  
**Julie Murphy**  
**Jonelle Summitt**

*Class of 2025*

**Fred Ford, Jr.**  
**Suzanne Ghianni**  
**Mark Humphrey**  
**Gwen Keiser**

*Class of 2026*

**Jeri Behan**  
**Jan Davidson**  
**Russ Deaton**  
**Joe Malloy**