



MARCH 13, 2024

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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

THE HOPE OF RENEWAL

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away: see, everything has become new!” –2 Corinthians 5:17

Being a Florida girl, winters with single-digit temperatures and several inches of snow for multiple days can be a bit much. Although I was thankful for a warm place to hunker down, I’ve been even more appreciative of the early spring-like temperatures we have experienced over the last few weeks.

Yesterday was one of those picture-perfect days, so I took a walk to take it all in. I didn’t speed ahead to try to get my heart rate up or see how many steps I could get in, but this time I meandered the trail along the river and tried to notice everything that was happening around me. This was more of a mental-health break to enjoy the moment.

As I was walking, I could hear the neighbor’s chimes in the background as a pleasant breeze playfully whipped through the air. I stopped in the middle of the trail to observe an undeterred bird singing in a bush. I took out my phone to record the symphony of soothing sounds so I could enjoy it again later. I could feel my stress melt away with each delightful note.



As I continued my journey, I noticed blooms beginning to appear for the first time on some of the trees while squirrels sprightly chased one another in the shade. And as I watched the river unhurriedly find its path through the woods, gleaming in the afternoon sun, I was grateful to experience the wonder of it all.

By the time I got home from my walk, I felt completely at peace, and a surprising sense of hope began to bubble up from within. I had been too busy to notice how many signs of spring already were peeking through lifeless and dead places.

Sometimes we need a visual reminder that our seasons are indeed changing. We get so used to the barren trees and the cold, overcast skies with our heads down, going about our business that we are surprised to see the first revelations of spring.

Sometimes it feels like spring will never come, that the buried, cold things in our lives will never see the warmth of new life again. But regardless of our momentary impatience, spring always comes and reminds us that every dormant thing will eventually flourish again, and with it, the hope of renewal.

I love the fact that Easter—Resurrection Sunday— comes in the spring, because it is so much about our new life in Christ springing forth—what was once dead is alive again! It is a reminder of Jesus’ triumph over death and his victory over the grave and our hope of eternal, never ending life with him.

So, as we prepare for the celebration of Christ’s resurrection, let us take in the promise of new life blossoming in God’s creation. But let us not only wait in hopeful expectation of the renewal around us, let us joyously be thankful for the life we have in Christ Jesus—now and forever! Praise be to God!

Karen



NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL TONIGHT

We resume next week, March 20th at 5:45 pm.

*Next Week's Dinner: Italian

Take the Stage!



Wednesday Night Special Talent Show

April 3, 2024 at 5:45 pm
Brenthaven Fellowship Hall



Also...You're invited to *Trivia Night*, coming up **April 10** at 5:45 pm.

For meal reservation and inquiries, contact Sandra Shepherd or the church office.

SAFE HAVEN FAMILY SHELTER

Safe Haven relies on donations of household items to help make families feel at home as they move into their own housing. They helped 400 families this last year, and we have been made aware of an immediate need for new essential household items. Please see the list below for some needed items. Look for the donation table set up in the narthex. Thank you!

16-20oz. Plastic Cups
Pot holders/Oven Mitts
Pots & Pans with Lids

Mops & Buckets
Brooms & Dust Pans

BOOKEND BOOK CLUB

The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot by Marianne Cronin is March's selection for the **BookEnd Book Club**, meeting **Thursday, March 21st** at 9:30 am in the Adult Library.



YOUTH SUNDAY—MARCH 24

It is Palm/Passion Sunday, so we will be celebrating the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem through the waving of palms and mourning the expected arrest and crucifixion. But we also will hear the stories of the seven high school seniors who will be preaching: **Anna Grace Wooten, Sloane Stewart, Ray Scott, Daisy Urbanowicz, James Scott, Evatt Howerton, and Josh Malloy**. They will present their reflections on the theme of the day, "This is my Story." We hope you will join us!



EASTER CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED

Easter Sunday is **March 31**, and the **Easter Egg Hunt** will follow after our service around noon. All children through 6th grade, including visitors, are invited. You can help us by donating candy or special prizes that can go into the **Easter Treat Bags**. A collection basket is outside the church office for your donations through **March 27**. Monetary donations are also welcome.



2024 OLYMPICS AT BRENTHAVEN...

Vacation Bible School is coming **June 24-27**. This year's theme is the Olympics. You are invited to be a part of this important ministry to our children. We need volunteers to serve in all areas, including assisting teachers, shepherding the children, decorating, administering first aid, helping in the kitchen, and cleaning up afterwards. Please contact Ms. Cheryl or the church office if you can help.



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Sunday	March 24	10:45 am	<i>Palm/ Passion Sunday</i>
Thursday	March 28	7:00 pm	<i>Maundy Thursday Service</i>
Friday	March 29	7:00 pm	<i>Good Friday Tenebrae Service</i>
Sunday	March 31	10:45 am	<i>Easter Service</i>



PRAYER CONCERNS

Recent Additions

Mike Cecil (*brother-in-law of Scott Shepberd*)

Members

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

Family and Friends

Pat Allen (*mother of Greg T. Allen*), Abby Bailey and Family (*friend of Jane Dowden*), Serenity Barksdale (*great-granddaughter of Barbara & Billy Dial*), 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 Miah 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*), Helen James (*friend of Julie Travis*), Doug Johnson (*friend of Shali & Frank Scott*), Rex Lineberry (*brother of Pat Chesnut*), Walter McBee, Jr. (*son of Walter McBee, Sr.*), Sue McClelland (*mother of Rachel Campbell*), Martha Malloy (*mother of Joe Malloy*), Jackie Nash (*friend of Julie Travis*), Sherry Norton (*friend of Deborah Deaton*), Ayden Orr (*friend of Ollie, Baird and Miah Faircloth*), Heather Perillo (*daughter of Dawn and Walter McBee*), Melissa Pyne (*granddaughter of Doris Cantagallo*), Yvonne Reid (*aunt of Liz Strickland*), 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*), Forrest Sutton (*brother-in-law of Ean Taylor*), 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*), those serving our country

Deaths

Family of Elwanda Roberts (*cousin of Cheryl Morris*)



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!

IMPORTANT DATES

Mar. 24: Palm Sunday/Youth Sunday

Mar. 28: Maundy Thursday Service

Mar. 29: Good Friday/Tenebrae Service

Mar. 31: Easter Service/Egg Hunt

Summer Activities

Jun. 2–7: Senior Synodic Camp

Jun. 8–15: Youth Mission Trip

Jun. 17–20: General Assembly

Jun. 24–27: Vacation Bible School

Jul. 7–12: CPYC

Jul. 7–12: Junior Camp

Jul. 14–19: Middle School Camp

Aug. 4: Backpack Blessing/Promotion

REMINDER:

This Sunday, March 17, is the last day to order Easter lilies for the sanctuary or make a donation to ***My Own Backyard Ministry*** in memory or honor of a loved one. Thank you!



EASTER LILIES

You are invited to join in the Easter celebration by providing a **gift** for *My Own Backyard* ministries and/or purchasing a **lily** for the sanctuary. You may wish to honor or memorialize a person. The plants are **\$ 10.50 each**.

I wish to purchase ____ lilies at **\$ 10.50 each**.
(payment enclosed).

I wish to donate \$ ____ to be given to ***My Own Backyard Ministries***.

Given in memory of

Given in honor of

By:



Please make your checks payable to Brenthaven Church.
Deadline for ordering is **March 17, 2024**.

BRENTHAVEN CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH516 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

- Mar. 14** 11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Mar. 17** 9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship
12:00 PM DMT Meeting
5:00 PM Youth ROCKS
- Mar. 18** 10:00 AM Young @ Heart (*Adult Library*)
6:30 PM Session
- Mar. 20** 5:45 PM WNS
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)
- Mar. 21** 9:30 AM BookEnd Book Club (*Adult Library*)
11:00 AM Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Mar. 24** 9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship (*Palm Sunday/ Youth Sunday*)

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MARCH 17*Fifth Sunday in Lent (purple)*Jeremiah 31:31-34;
Psalm 51:1-12;
Hebrews 5:5-10;
John 12:20-33**STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR MARCH 10****OPERATING BUDGET**

Dedicated Giving	\$1,205.50
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	7,750.00
Weekly Need	10,822.00
Received Year-to-Date	135,553.91
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	151,647.56
Difference	-16,093.65

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