

Deeds and Opportunities

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

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Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

AUGUST 2021



2021 AUGUST Worship Schedule

Hybrid Worship Service Both In-Person and Virtual!

Come Join Us in Virtual Worship Services on Church Website and Facebook:

<https://www.brentwoodumc.org/bcumc/home>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/28404281274/>

SUNDAY WORSHIP	Church Calendar/Scripture	WORSHIP MINISTER Schedule
August 1 10:30 am <i>In-Person & Online</i>	10th Sunday After Pentecost 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a Psalm 51:1-13 Ephesians 4:1-16 John 6:24-35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Communion • Worship Leader: Michelle Monsef • Pianist: Kevin Fallon • Anthem: Larry Schaffer • Ushers: Gbenga Olayomi
August 8 10:30 am <i>In-Person & Online</i>	11th Sunday After Pentecost 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 Psalm 130 Ephesians 4:25-5:2 John 6:35, 41-51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Leader: Larry Schaffer • Pianist: Greg Pacquer • Anthem: Joe Kick • Ushers: Gbenga Olayomi
August 15 10:30 am <i>In-Person & Online</i>	12th Sunday After Pentecost 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 Psalm 111 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Leader: Heidi Stark • Pianist: Lugh Baxter • Anthem: Alivia Logan-Kumagai • Ushers: Gbenga Olayomi, Scott Baxter
<p>Pastor Lee is on vacation from August 16 to August 29.</p> <p>Two guest preachers will preach on August 22 and 29.</p>		
August 22 10:30 am <i>In-Person & Online</i>	13th Sunday of After Pentecost 1 Kings 8:[1, 6, 10-11], 22-30, 41-43, Psalm 84 Ephesians 6:10-20 John 6:56-69	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Preacher: Lay Leader Julius Lukacs • Worship Leader: Polly Gallagher • Piano: Kevin Fallon • Anthem: Alivia Logan-Kumagai • Ushers: Gbenga Olayomi
August 29 10:30 am <i>In-Person & Online</i>	14th Sunday of After Pentecost Song of Solomon 2:8-13 Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10 James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Preacher: Rev. Pam Abbey • Worship Leader: David Funk • Piano: Lugh Baxter • Anthem: Joe Kick • Ushers: Scott Baxter

† Pastor's Letter †

Dear My Beloved Family of God

I hope everyone is doing well in this hot summer time. I pray that you all stay safe from COVID-19 especially from the Delta variant. Yesterday (7/27) I heard from news that CDC “recommends” to wear a mask inside the building, even though you are fully vaccinated. I’d like to encourage you to follow this guideline without mandating it for our church gatherings. Let us continue to respect others’ decision whether they wear a mask or not at our gatherings! We always need enough room to breathe freely as we express ourselves through our words, actions and behaviors. That is the value of diversity and the power of grace.

During my sermon on July 25th Sunday, I shared with you Psalm 151 that my husband wrote a month ago. He called it Psalm 151 because there are only 150 Psalms in the Bible and he made his own psalm. He wrote it because he was encouraged by Old Testament Professor Denise Hopkins at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington DC. She emphasized the importance of writing our own prayers and psalms that would express our current life challenges and hopes with our own words. When we share them, they may be more relevant and effective to our fellow Christians today. I began to use it to encourage people in difficult life journeys. Almost every time it touched their hearts and helped them to feel understood well by their pastor. So here it is again. Feel free to share it with your friends!

Oh Lord my God, I cry out in deep pit!

Why do you give me this pain?

I do not understand why.

Did I do something wrong?

What could I have done differently?

I have been faithful to you!

Why do you do this to me?

Answer me! Let me praise you with my heart.

Now I am broken and my lips are closed tightly.

My eyes are swollen with tears.

My vision is blurry.

How long, O Lord?

How long?

May you find grace and mercy as you walk with your neighbors in needs! I thank God for giving me “all of you” in my life. We will continue to walk our life journeys together for the common hope and love in our God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

(continued . . .)

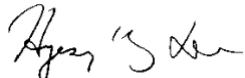
In my letter for the July edition of D's and O's, I asked you to pray with me for the following three things for the church:

- (1) God sends us a Youth Director for our wonderful youth ministry as soon as possible
- (2) We become more open, welcoming and diverse congregation, growing to serve diverse communities in our area
- (3) We grow spiritually, more like Christ, to love and live out grace (forgiveness and acceptance) and truth (accountability and honesty) in serving one another and working together as members of the church.

Thankfully and wonderfully, prayer request #1 has been now answered. As you can read from the report of SPRC Chair, Heidi Stark, somewhere in this August edition, Ms. Cheryl Breitenbacher has graciously accepted the position of Youth Director, beginning on August 1st. I am so thrilled to work with her. She will bring so many gifts to our Youth Ministry – loving heart, caring hands, talented resources, spiritual maturity and guide, biblical knowledge and teachings, spirit of hope and positivity, fun and laugh, etc. We welcome her as a Youth Director and pray for her with our thankful hearts!

God is wonderful! Let us keep moving forward with our Risen Lord in our hearts!

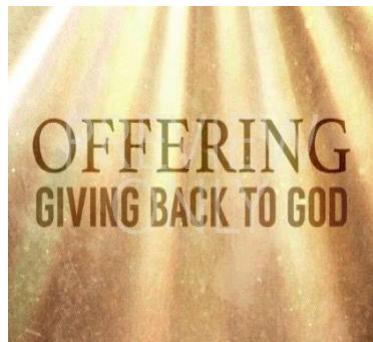
“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you!” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)



Your Pastor, Hyesung Lee



YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT IS CRITICAL TO THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH



Even though we do not meet in person every Sunday as we used to, the church is still working to be the church for all the people in the world. Ministries, done by clergy, staff and lay leaders, continue to serve God and His children in the following areas:

WORSHIP, PRAYER, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, CARING MINISTRY,
CONNECTING MINISTRY, OUTREACHING MINISTRY, etc.

Please send your donations to the church

(1) by check (to 809 Second Street, Brentwood, CA 94513) or

(2) by using Paypal or credit card online

[\(\[https://www.brentwoodumc.org/bcumc/make_donation\]\(https://www.brentwoodumc.org/bcumc/make_donation\)\)](https://www.brentwoodumc.org/bcumc/make_donation)

YOUR DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Let Us Pray for the Following Members and Friends of BCUMC!

(This list is provided by our Congregational Care Network of Brentwood Community UMC.

If you want to add names or make any change in this list,
please contact Linda Barnhill at 634-8521 or Michael Ann Honea at 516-9541)

Please Pray for the Sick:

Steve Wetherbee (blood cancer, Barb P.),

Ed Romero (neighbor of Barb P.),

Renee Hawkins (cancer, daughter-in-law of Larry S),

Margo Wents (fractured ankle and foot),

Patti Hitch (mild stroke, friend of Michael Ann),

Maxine Vermir (cancer, friend of Diane Lee),

Gayle Autentico (shingles, friend of Barb P.),

Don Barnhill (rehab), **Martin Tucker** (fractured hip),

Leonor Roberts (wife of Jim Roberts, Alzheimer),

Michael Moore (son of John/Katie, Utah), **Diane Lee** (Cardiac irreg),

Cathy and Melody (friends of Joyce Sorenson),

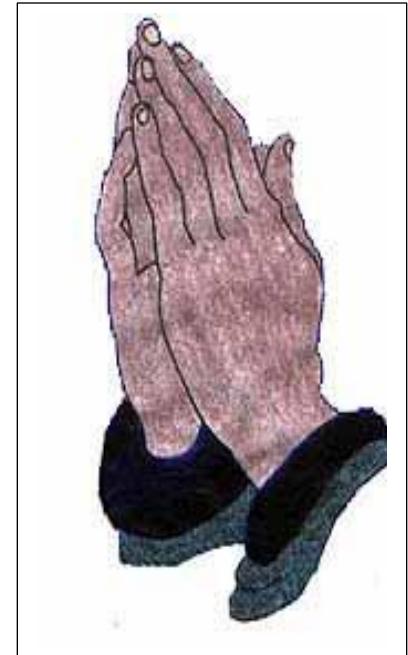
Heather (daughter of Eugene/Jenny Davis, recovery from heart surgery),

Bob Clarke (neck pain), **Laura** (mom of Cheryle Breitenbucher, cancer),

Rebecca Franks (cancer, aunt of Diana Lane), **David Funk** (cancer recovery),

Billie Ebert (cancer, mom of Lynn Austin), **Grace Olayomi** (wife of Gbenga),

John Logan Gonzales, Gordon Fong, Beverly Tucker



For Strength for the Homebound:

Diana Easley, Fran Hassler, Esther Riney, Jo Merritt, Joyce Heflin, Ethel Badham, Kittie Piotrowski, Verna Kruse (100th Birthday on 8/24)

*We pray for you and your care-givers that God may fill you every day with
Strength, faith, love and peace!*

Guidelines for In-Person Worship

“Do No Harm, Do Good, Stay in Love with God Always!”

(General Principle of Wesleyan Methodist Discipleship)

- (1) No Reservation is required
- (2) Face masks and social distancing are no longer mandated for those who are fully vaccinated but encouraged as COVID-19 Delta variant are spreading out speedily. Those not been vaccinated are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19, so we ask them to wear masks. Please show respect to those who choose to continue wearing a face mask and practicing social distancing.
- (3) Temperature taking will be no longer taken at the entrance.
- (4) Attendance log will continue to be taken at the entrance not for the purpose of tracking but for attendance checking for the care of the congregation
- (5) Hand sanitizers will be available continually at the entrance



- 2. Nate Ekpemiro
- 3. Jere Retzer
- 5. Jo Prewett Tenant
- 5. Ezihe Ekpemiro
- 8. Dolores Hauan
- 12. Henry Ogbonna
- 15. Elaine Braneland
- 15. Robin vanRuiten
- 16. Ginny Driscoll
- 21. Jason Tenant
- 21. Connie Azevedo
- 21. Kathryn Cruz
- 22. Ethel Badham
- 23. Justine Joaquin
- 24. Oluchi Ogbonna
- 25. Mike Logan
- 26. Lisa Slay
- 30. Jo Merritt
- 30. Jonathan Kurz

! *Happy Anniversary*

- 15. Julie and Sean Clarke
- 19. Jillian & Don Stirling

AUGUST DAYS

Okay God – let's put our cards

On the table. You know

Each of us from the very beginning.

We have our feelings and histories

We have our predictions and predilections

We have our restrictions, prescriptions,

And descriptions. You know

Us better than we know ourselves

And while we try to show

All we hope to be

You see what we do not

Yet see.

Still within each of us are worlds unseen

Rainbow colors, meadows green

You live in us – we live in you

You're so much bigger than we knew

Always here – always true.

August days they now unfold

You hold our lives like precious gold

We wait and listen for the sound

Of your footsteps – coming round

And doing all the good we can

We lend a hand – and hope to see

And rest in you

And let the mystery be.

© Joe Kick - 2021



United Methodist Women

by Heidi Stark

UMW continues to collect newborn and preemie knitted hats. If you are a knitter, please consider knitting for this project. The hats can be dropped off with Charlene Dobson (address is in the directory) and her daughter will take them to the hospital she works at. If you have yarn to donate, let UMW know, and we will get it to a knitter.

We are NOT meeting in July. Our next UMW meeting will be **IN PERSON** on Monday, August 16th at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be watching the documentary **Zero Weeks** to learn how the lack of paid family and medical leave affects women and children. There will be a time for discussion following the viewing. Please consider joining us for fun, fellowship, and spiritual growth - all women are welcome!

Please join us on Monday, August 16th at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall.



SPRC is thrilled to announce that Cheryl Breitenbucher, a long-time active BCUMC attendee, has accepted the position as Youth Director!

SPRC approached Cheryl in June about the position, and she acknowledged that she had been considering applying. God is so good! It is awesome to see how God worked to bring the right person to the job at just the right time. Please join SPRC in welcoming Cheryl to our BCUMC staff and be willing to support her and our youth program as needed.

Cheryl grew up in Linden, CA and attended the UMC there. She attended Cal State Hayward (Eastbay) and upon graduation started her teaching career in Brentwood. This is her 21st year of teaching. She teaches band, choir, and yearbook at Edna Hill Middle School.

Cheryl is looking forward to working with the youth and excited about planning for the year. The first youth group meeting will be Sunday, September 12. Watch for meeting details coming soon.

By Heidi Stark



2021-22 CONFIRMATION JOURNEY

There will be Confirmation Journey for BCUMC kids this fall. We hope and pray that many parents and kids participate in this wonderful spiritual journey.

What: 2021-22 Confirmation Journey

When: September 2021 – May 2022

Who: Kids from 7th Grade and up!

Program: Textbook “CONFIRM – Your Faith / Your Commitment / God’s Call“

10 classes for basic faith formation

10 sessions with a mentor for deeper learning of faith journey

Service projects

Registration: to Pastor Lee (hslee3@gmail.com; 925-303-9339) by the end of July

YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED! JOIN THE CHOIR

FIRST REHEARSAL: THURSDAY AUGUST 19th at 7 pm

1st Sunday: September 12th

New members, please contact Choir Director

Alivia Logan-Kumagai at livlogan13@gmail.com

*All choir members must be COVID vaccinated
in order to sing unmasked



COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR



For What?: To Increase Sense of Belonging to BCUMC Family; To Meet Old and New Friends; To Share Joys and Concerns

Who: All BCUMC members and friends! CCN members will personally call or email to you for the invitation. There will be 7-10 people for each gathering

When: Saturdays 10:00 am to 11:15 am (September 11; October 2; October 9; October 16; October 23; November 13)

*There will be a virtual meeting for those who are not available for In-Person gathering. The Virtual Gathering will be on November 9th (Tuesday) from 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm. Please let the pastor know that you are interested in coming for this gathering!

* There will be also a make-up session on Sunday November 14th at noon right after Worship Service in Fireside Room. Anyone is welcome!

HELP WANTED!

VOLUNTEER SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS!

K-2ND and/or 3-5TH Grade

With Sunday School kicking off again in September, there is a great opportunity to work with children from kindergarten through fifth grade from now through the end of the year. All teaching materials and handouts are provided, all of which have proven popular with both the children and their teachers--give them a try! If you are interested, please contact Christopher van Ruiten, chair of the Young Christians Ministry Committee, at Christopher.vanRuiten@gmail.com Thanks!



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MID-YEAR UPDATE FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Getting halfway through the year is a good time to take a look at how BCUMC is managing the circumstances of the shut-down, online worship for much of the year and a return to in-person activities.

Approximately 60% of the church's expected income comes from pledges, and the good news is that our members who pledge have been consistently faithful. The remaining 40% is covered by a variety of sources, but mostly are donations from non-pledgers and facility use. These two sources of income have struggled the first half of the year for obvious reasons of not having our facility open and for those members who are used to dropping their donations in the "plate". We are hopeful that these two sources will gain strength as we continue our return to in-person worship and our user groups return to our facility. *Remember that you can always mail in your contribution if you are not yet attending worship in the sanctuary.*

We were also very fortunate to have had a second PPE (CARES Act) loan approved for \$19,000. This loan helped keep us financially strong though the spring months but has been depleted as of May. We were also helped by lower than usual utility costs and some payroll savings.

Members of the Finance Committee thank all our generous members and know that your faithfulness is a gift to be appreciated.

SPRC – CONNECTING THE PASTOR, STAFF & CONGREGATION

By Heidi Stark

The United Methodist Church appoints/reappoints clergy to their Church as of July 1 each year. We are blessed to have Pastor Hyesung Lee entering her eighth year as our Pastor. Pastors are also tasked with others positions in the district and for the conference. As of June 30, Pastor Lee completed two terms as Dean of District Chairs of District Committees on Ordained Ministry. She continues to serve as the Chairperson of the Los Rios District Committee on Ordained Ministry. We are thankful for her faithful service in all she does.

Pastor Lee will be taking vacation August 16 – 29. She has arranged for guest speakers for the two Sundays she will be away. Also, our Office Administrator, Michelle Carrillo, will be on vacation August 23-25, and the office will be staffed on those dates by volunteers. We appreciate those who are willing to step in to give our staff some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

We can all look forward to beautiful choir music at our Sunday worship as our Choir Director, Alivia Logan-Kumagai brings the choir back after a long COVID break. SPRC appreciates our BCUMC staff and volunteers for faithful service. Please remember to reach out to a SPRC committee member to express your hopes, dreams, compliments, and concerns.

HOSTING COMMITTEES . . . NOTICE

CCN has purchased 24 new kitchen towels. They are all washed, and in the kitchen, now.

Hosting Committees -- please take dirty towels home, launder them,
and return them to the kitchen.

Please do not leave dirty towels in the hamper.

Enjoy using the new towels!

Michael Ann, CCN



Statement of Inclusion:

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church is a welcoming and reconciling congregation, affirming its ministry with the whole family of God regardless of age, race, ethnic origin, economic situation, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status.

Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño

California-Nevada Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

Los Rios District Superintendent: Rev. Schuyler Rhoads

Pastor: Hyesung Lee † Lay Leaders: Julius Lukacs and David Funk

Administrative Assistant: Michelle Carrillo

Brentwood Community
United Methodist Church
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Brentwood, CA 94513

TIME DATED MATERIAL

