

Deeds and Opportunities

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

809 Second Street, Brentwood CA 94513

Office: (925) 634-3093

† Hyesung Lee, Pastor †

Website: Brentwoodumc.org

Editor: Bob Clarke
Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

September 2023



2023 September 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	Scripture Readings	Worship Acts and More
14th Sunday after Pentecost Sep 3, 2023 10:30 a.m.	Guest Preacher Rev. Mary Elyn Bahlert *Pastor Lee is on Family Vacation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Holy Communion ● Sunday Morning Bible Study: (Youth Room 8:45 am – 9:45 am) ● Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples)
15th Sunday after Pentecost Sep 10, 2023 10:30 a.m.	Special Preacher Lay Leader: Heidi Stark *Pastor Lee is on Family Vacation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sunday Morning Bible Study: (Youth Room 8:45 am – 9:45 am) ● Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples)
16th Sunday after Pentecost Sep 17, 2023 10:30 a.m.	Exodus 14:19-31; 15:1b-11, 20-21 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sunday Morning Bible Study: (Youth Room 8:45 am – 9:45 am) ● Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples) ● Acolyte Training: 12:00 pm (Sanctuary) ● Making Sense of the Bible: 6:30 pm (zoom)
17th Sunday after Pentecost Sep 24, 2023 10:30 a.m.	Exodus 16:2-15 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sunday Morning Bible Study: (Youth Room 8:45 am – 9:45 am) ● Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples) ● Making Sense of the Bible: 6:30 pm (zoom)

WORSHIP MINISTERS

Date	Worship Leader	Pianist	Acolyte	Crucifer	Greeter	Ushers
9/3	Polly Gallagher	Greg Pacquer	Victoria Ogbonna	Chimela Ogbonna	Linda Walton	Gbenga Olayomi Scott Baxter
9/10	Larry Schaffer	Greg Pacquer	TBD	TBD	Michael A. Honea	Bob Clarke
9/17	Jan Schults	Kevin Fallon	Chinedum Ekpemiro	Emma Smith	Eileen Newill	Gbenga Olayomi Scott Baxter
9/24	Dave Funk	Kevin Fallon	TBD	Elijah Van Ruiten	Linda Walton	Gbenga Olayomi Scott Baxter

† Pastor's Letter †

Dear Friends in God's Family

What a meaningful celebration of the 8th Anniversary of Reconciling Congregation on August 9th! Now we have people who volunteer to share their journeys with others. Before I asked anybody, I got three people who offered their testimonials. Sharon Morgan shared her personal journey with her transgender son. Dennis Buckley shared a brief history of our 8 years as a Reconciling Congregation and delivered his message, "Stop weaponizing the Bible! Love your neighbor... open to a better translation!" And Joe Kick shared his song that was written for Reconciling Ministry, "Let Your Own Light Shine!" I had so many people who told me how much this song touched their hearts:

***You don't have to change – to be okay; Just be who you're always gonna be
With a little love – the world is turning today; Reconciling – you and me***

***I don't have to try – to be someone else; Everybody's gonna find their own way
We're all related – since life was created; And here we are – together on this beautiful day***

I can see your light shine – just like I know – you see mine; No, you don't ever have to pretend

One family we are – it's a beautiful mystery; We're all God's children – let your own light shine...

I will be visiting Korea from August 28th to September 9th and back to the office on September 12th. As you remember, I visited Korea last year to celebrate my mom's 90th Birthday. Since my visit, her health went down bad, in January this year, my siblings and I thought that we were losing her. I almost purchased a plane ticket to see her for the last time. But by the grace of God, through so many prayers from you and others, she recovered well and is now doing fine. She even goes out to her favorite park with a dog of 14 years. Thanks to God! I just want to go see her this summer while I can see her one more time.

Another grateful thing is that my son, Hozeh (34 yr), is coming with us to Korea. This is his 3rd time to visit Korea following the first time at the age of 2 and the second at 9. I am very thankful that he is open to this trip and even a little excited about it. Thanks to God and to all of you who have prayed for his recovery from depression! He has not wanted to go anywhere outside his room for a long time. This trip will be a big leap of step for him. May God help him to get boosted with the will for life and motivation for a new thing!

Another thankful thing is that my husband, rev. Sungho Lee (pastor of Central UMC, Stockton), recovered well from his partial knee replacement surgery on August 9th and coming with us to Korea. In fact, he already left for Japan by himself Friday (8/23) in order to offer lectures to Japanese pastors in Fukuoka. His older sister, a missionary, will translate for him. Again, many thanks to God and all those who have prayed for his recovery. Many people at his church could not believe that he had a surgery when he showed up on the very next Sunday to preach. So, he showed his scars on his left knee and they believed him. God has blessed him with extraordinary healing and strength very fast and smoothly. When he suffered so much from pain before the surgery, he prayed to God that he wanted to do more for the ministry up until he dies. His sister got so worried about his condition after the surgery and asked him, "Are you even able to walk?"

Continued on next page

Sungho answered, "I can't walk to Japan because it is too far. So, I will take an airplane!" May God use him to the fullest for the rest of his life!

I am extremely thankful to three guest preachers who will fill the pulpit with the message of the Gospel while I'm gone! May God bless them with spiritual strength and inspiration as well as peace and love!

August 27th (Sunday)

Rev. Hugh Stevenson

September 3rd (Sunday)

Rev. Mary Elyn Bahler

September 10th (Sunday)

Heidi Stark, Lay Leader of BCUMC

For the following two weeks, please contact our wonderful two Lay Leaders David Funk and Heidi Stark for any need of pastoral presence or prayers. They will do their best until I come back and contact you.

We continue to collect donation for Maui Fire Victims to be sent to U.M.C.O.R. (United Methodist Committee on Relief). Please make a check payable to BCUMC with a note on the bottom "For Maui Fire Victims"! Your generous offerings will deliver a light of hope and encouragement!

I pray with you again:

Come, Spirit, Come

Fill us with Your Love

Come, Spirit, Come

Lead us to Your Peace

Blessed Spirit-filled Journey!

"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

WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!

We are ONE PEOPLE rooted in Scripture, centered in Christ, serving in love, and united in essentials!

Here are some resources for those who'd like more about United Methodist Church!

For California-Nevada Annual Conference, go to <https://www.cnumc.org/>

For Los Rios District, go to <https://losrios.cnumc.org/>

For Youth 2023 national gathering, go to <https://losrios.cnumc.org/event/16402842>

For more information about UMC, go to ResourceUMC here

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/connection-makes-the-umc-work>





We believe love in action can change the world

After taking a break this summer, Priscilla Circle has resumed regular monthly meetings. We typically meet on the third Monday of the month. On August 21st six women gathered in the Fellowship Hall. We enjoyed fellowship with leftover ice cream and planned for upcoming events.

Our Sundae Sunday event was held on August 20, and thanks to the generous support of our Church community we raised \$282. These funds are used to support United Women in Faith mission projects. At our meeting, we agreed to put those funds into immediate action. Donations of \$100 each will be sent to Shepherd's Gate, Winter Nights Ministry, and UMCOR for Maui fire relief. We appreciate everyone who helped with this event by supplying items, serving, and donating time, and money to make this a success.

The next United Women in Faith meeting will be on Monday, September 18th at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. All women are welcome; please consider joining and putting your faith in action! Questions, please contact Jan Schults, United Women in Faith President at 925-890-6296.



SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 & SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

BCUMC will host a Blessing of the Animals community event on Saturday, October 7 from 10-11am in front of the Church. We will be advertising this event to the community in the weeks leading up to the date. Pastor will bless each animal presented, and we will provide water and pet treats

for the animals, and bottles of water for their humans. Information about our worship service and the ministries of BCUMC will be on display. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Pastor, Dave Funk, or Heidi Stark for more information.

Also, on Sunday, October 8 our worship service will take place outside on the lawn. Church members are encouraged to bring their pets (properly restrained/contained) to be blessed by Pastor during the service. All God's creatures are welcome to attend!



A group of us visited our good friend Mel Strong on July 22nd. We all had a great time and Mel is doing well. He was very happy to see us as we were very happy to see him.
God Bless You Mel!

Fellowship Hour Staffing

We will continue to share the responsibility of making coffee, providing juice, and goodies and treats with the general congregation on a freewill basis with a Sign-Up Sheet made available on the Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall. This is an opportunity for more people to join in this endeavor, which, of course, includes set-up and clean-up.



ALL GOD'S CREATURES

Our pets are members of our family – of value to us and God. The refrain of the hymn “All Things Bright and Beautiful” reminds us that *All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.* For the months of September and October, we are inviting everyone to bring pictures of their pets past and present and post them on our tree in the sanctuary. We are hoping to fill the tree with photos of the animals that are or have been an important part of your lives. These photos are sure to make us smile and share stories of our treasured pets.

Welcome to our New Members

The Tran Family



Dari, Elise, and Andy Tran

The Kammeyer Family



Carl, Zy'Yannah, Jayceon, and Scott Kammeyer

SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE

Potluck & Talent Show

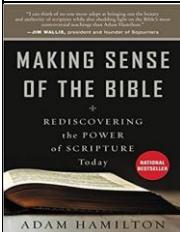
On Sunday, August 27th 38 friends gathered in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck dinner and talent show. In true United Methodist fashion, we had an amazing array of tasty potluck dishes. People of all ages shared their talents to an appreciative audience. We had kids and adults share poetry, a presentation of kayaking adventure photos, dancing, jokes, and there were a variety of wonderful musicians and singers. The String Band led a fun sing-along to end the evening. A good time was had by all! Our last talent show was held ten years ago, and we all agree that we won't wait that long to do this again. We are hoping to make the talent show an annual event. So, start thinking now! What talent would you like to share with your Church family? This event was hosted by your Pastor and Lay Leaders. Be on the lookout for the next Sunday Night Live event coming soon!



SMALL GROUP – 6 WEEKS

(ZOOM - negotiable with the participants)

*Registration by August 7th to Pastor Lee (hslee3@gmail.com)



MAKING SENSE OF THE BIBLE REDISCOVERING THE POWER OF SCRIPTURE TODAY

By Rev. Adam Hamilton

FACILITATOR: Pastor Hyesung Lee

*The book can be purchased from Amazon or Cokesbury

#	Zoom Sundays 6:30pm -7:30pm	Session Title	Chapters
1	Aug 6	Making Sense of the Old Testament	Introduction; Book Chapters 1-7
2	Aug 13	Making Sense of the New Testament	Book Chapters. 8-13
3	Aug 20	Questions about the Nature of Scripture	Book Chapters 14-18
3 weeks break			
4	Sep 17	The Bible and Science	Book Chapters 19-21
5	Sep 24	Violence, Suffering and Other Troubling Issues	Book Chapters 22-26
6	Oct 1	Wrestling with Issues of Sexuality and Relationships	Book Chapters 27-32

Mark your calendar!

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES...

Blessing of Animals (10.8. Sunday) – Outdoor Service

You are invited to bring your pet animals and sit with you on the lawn.

*BLESSING OF ANIMALS FOR THE COMMUNITY: **Saturday Oct 7th between 10 am and 11 am**
on Maple Street side lawn.

Celebration of Life for Diane Lee

When: September 30th Saturday at 10:00 am
Where: BCUMC Sanctuary

Celebration of Life for Marsha Carlson

When: October 7th Saturday at 1:00 pm
Where: Veterans Hall Brentwood

Celebration of Life for Wanda Rybolt

When: October 5th Thursday at 1:00 pm
Where: BCUMC Sanctuary

Lay Leader News

By Heidi Stark

Pastor Lee is taking a well-deserved vacation. She left for Korea to visit family and friends on August 28; she will return to her office on September 12. We wish her and her family safe travels and memorable experiences. If you have any pastoral care needs while Pastor is away, please reach out to your Lay Leaders, Dave Funk (925-628-8938 or drfunk519@gmail.com) and/or me, Heidi Stark (925-216-4709 or hstark@cobaltc.com). Prayer requests may be directed to Linda Walton (925-209-8597 or waltonlinda@comcast.net). As a congregation we will stand together to support our Pastor and each other.

As I reflected on the messages shared from the pulpit in August, several things stood out to me. I am proud that BCUMC is a reconciling congregation! I was moved by Sharon Morgan's personal journey with her transgender child. She shared that this life changing event caused her to ask questions, to learn, and to grow. It taught her to choose love over hate. Dennis Buckley cautioned us not to weaponize the Bible. Too often verses are twisted or "cherry picked" to meet a specific point. Sometimes we are blinded by what we perceive to be "right", and we justify our words and actions with Bible verses that we can manipulate to fit our needs at the time. We take our eyes off Jesus and forget his command to love our neighbor as ourselves. We are not to judge but rather to trust and remember that we are all made in God's image. Often our fears and ignorance keep us from seeing truths. God calls us to go beyond our fears – to trust, to learn, to grow, and to love all.

Perceptions vary depending on the interactions, relationships, and experience we have with someone. What we know about someone may be different from what someone else knows or perceives. This was true for Jesus as well; there are different versions of Jesus in the Bible because the four gospel writers – Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John shared the message of Jesus in ways that met the need of their audience at the time. This doesn't mean one gospel is truer than another it just shows that the time, the place, the people, and the culture matter. None of the gospel writers knew that what they wrote would endure and become part of the Bible; they were just trying to share the good news of Jesus with as many people as possible. Sometime when we don't like something from the past, we want to pretend that it just didn't happen that way and put our current spin on things. The reality is history cannot and should not be erased even when it reflects badly on us. We need to learn from our past, keep the good and move away from bad and unhealthy ways. We all must stand up for what we believe – share what we believe. Our words matter – use them wisely and share your faith! *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.* Matthew 22:37-39.

Let all that you do be done in love. – 1 Corinthians 16:14

COVID-19 GUIDELINES UPDATED (March 1st, 2023)

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

(General Principal of Wesleyan Methodist Discipleship)

For the safety of all, and in alignment with the state and county advice we continue to strongly suggest wearing a mask in public settings. We will continue respecting each person's choice to wear or not wear a mask in any circumstances. No one should be asked 'why?'

In addition, please, if you are sick stay at home.

COVID-19 GUIDELINES will be displayed on each wall of the rooms in the church.

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church Ad Council

Finance Update

The Finance Committee is given the task to oversee carefully and prayerfully the funds and pledges that are generously given by so many. In an effort to keep our membership informed as to the financial health of BCUMC, the table below will be updated each quarter and published in the D's and O's. Always feel free to check in with any Finance member with questions or concerns.

2023 Fiscal Year Snapshot	January 1 to July 31, 2023		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Budget Revenue from Donations	85,841	84,507	1,334
Other Revenue (Building use, ERTC, Stockton)	38,911	37,341	1,570
Total Revenue	124,752	121,848	2,904
Comments: ERTC: Employee Retention Tax Credit Stockton: Extra monies paid by Stockton UMC for shared usage of Parsonage Expenses are generally running under target to date with the exception of PGE bills that are higher than budgeted for. Thank you all for your ongoing financial commitment to BCUMC.			

Please Pray for the trial of Bishop Minerva Carcaño and all those who are involved!

The trial was originally scheduled for August 21-25, 2023, in Pasadena CA but now moved as below:

Date: The trial will begin on Sep 19, 2023

Jurisdiction: The North Central Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church.

Location: The Wespath Benefits and Investments headquarters in the Chicago area (Glenview, IL)

Presiding Officer Bishop Alfred Gwinn

Jury Selection: Bishop Frank Beard, President of the North Central Jurisdictional College of Bishops will assist in selecting about 50 jurors from throughout his jurisdiction.

HOPE House Quarterly Newsletter

We will begin publishing a HOPE house quarterly newsletter on October 1st. This newsletter will be distributed to the local community to let them know about the wonderful service our church is providing for the needy in our community. If you have anything to contribute, please submit it to Bob Clarke or Diego Garcia before the 28th of September.



WE LIFT UP OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES IN OUR PRAYERS

This list is provided by our Congregational Care Network (CCN) of BCUMC. If you want to add names or make any changes to this list, please contact Linda Barnhill (925) 634-8521 or lindalucy1103@outlook.com.

We pray for all these friends that God may fill them every day with strength, faith, love, and peace.



Prayer Chain:

Grace Olayomi (Gbenga Olayomi's wife), **John Gonzales** (Adella Logan's son), **Bev and Martin Tucker**, **Hozeh Lee** (Pastor Lee's son), **Dawn**, (Daughter of Eugene and Jenny Davis), **Ethel Badham**, **Joyce Heflin**, **Fran Hassler**, **Melvin Strong**, **Leonor Roberts**, **Charlene Dobson**, **Betty and Jack Gaughan**, **Don** (Kim Fraley's husband), **Bella** (Bob Clarke's friend), **Alfred Narayan**, **Hisako Suzuki**, **Don** (Dave Funk's friend), **Beth's daughter** (Linda Barnhill's friend), **Ginger** (Cynthia Geddes's friend), **Barbara Pinkston**, **Jeff Schults's mother**, **Fred Gulizia** (Kathie's husband), **Scott Kammeyer's mother**, and **Michelle Carrillo**.



Next UMM meeting will be on Saturday September 2nd, 2023, at 8:00 AM. In fellowship hall! All men are welcome! Come and enjoy a great breakfast, and fellowship.

Once again we would like to remind everybody that UMM has the goal of providing academic scholarships for anybody affiliated with our church to help with college expenses. If you have a family member going to college or starting college, be sure to ask for a scholarship application from Bob Clarke or Dave funk.

Yours in Christ,
UMM



Youth Group has started back up for the year. If you are between 6th-12th grades and you would like to participate in Youth Group, please contact Cheryl Breitenbacher at cbreitenbacher@sbcglobal.net. This month we are looking forward to these events on Sunday nights from 5:30pm-7pm. On Sunday, Sept. 10th we will meet for Pizza/Bible/Games. On Sunday, Sept. 17th we will have a movie night in the youth room, enjoying a great film and snacks. And finally, on Sept. 24th we will make dinner, read some of the Bible, and have some fellowship time. We will then take a few weeks off with Fall Break in early Oct. and afterwards we will start planning for the upcoming Youth Service. We hope that you will be able to join us and we look forward to a great year!



September

- 9. Koo Kim
- 12. Bryan Webb
- 13. Jenny Davis
- 14. Judy Gerry
- 15. Matthew Taum
- 16. Charlene Dobson
- 16. Riley Clarke
- 19. Jeffry Zamjahn
- 20. Gabriel Clarke
- 20 Kathie Gulizia



September

- 9. Joy and Joe Kick
- 15. Beverly and Martin Tucker



RELAXING IN GOD

A stream flows before me
Reflecting the sky
Sunlight on the water
Sparkles like tiny diamonds
With little effort the water flows
Around stones and boulders
Around fallen logs and
branches.

When stress and worry tell me
To try to push on through
I remember the water's
wisdom.
I breathe and ease up
I let go of resistance
And go with the flow
Letting Spirit guide me.

“Be still before the Lord
And wait patiently for him.”
Psalm 37:7

© Joe Kick - 2023



BCUMC Meetings & Facility Use

September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 String Band 10:30am F.H. AA 6:45pm AI-Anon 8pm	2 UMM Breakfast 8am F.H.
3 Bible Study 8:45am Worship 10:30am	4 H.O.P.E. House Closed LABOR DAY	5 DIG Board Meeting 7pm Fireside rm. Young Christian Ministry 7pm Youth rm. BCC 7pm	6 H.O.P.E. House 9am- 12pm ACA 5pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7pm Trustees 7pm online	7 Trilogy Vineyard Singers 4pm N/A 7:30pm F.H.	8 String Band 10:30am FH AA 6:45pm AI-Anon 8pm	9
10 Bible Study 8:45am Worship 10:30am Youth Group 5:30pm	11 H.O.P.E. House 9am-12pm	12 Worship Committee 10am F.H. BCC 7pm	13 H.O.P.E. House 9am- 12pm ACA 5pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7pm SPRC 4:30 Ad Council 7pm in person	14 Trilogy Vineyard Singers 4pm N/A 7:30pm F.H Choir Rehearsal 7pm	15 String Band 10:30am F.H. AA 6:45pm AI-Anon 8pm	16 Piano Class 8:30-11am
17 Bible Study 8:45am Worship 10:30am Youth Group 5:30pm	18 H.O.P.E. House 9am-12pm United Women in Faith 7pm F.H.	19 Finance Committee 6:30pm Fireside Rm BCC 7pm Produce Truck Hope House	20 H.O.P.E. House 9am- 12pm ACA 5pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7pm	21 Trilogy Vineyard Singers 4pm N/A 7:30pm F. Choir Rehearsal 7pm Communications Committee 6:30pm	22 String Band 10:30am F.H. AA 6:45pm AI-Anon 8pm	23
24 Bible Study 8:45am Worship 10:30am Youth Group 5:30pm	25 H.O.P.E. House 9am-12pm DIG 7pm	26 NAMI 7pm BCC 7pm	27 CCN 10am H.O.P.E. House 9am- 12pm ACA 5pm Quiet Rm	28 Friends in Faith 11am Trilogy Vineyard Singers 4pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm	29 String Band 10:30am F.H. AA 6:45pm AI-Anon 8pm	30 Memorial Service for Diane Lee 11am

* Dates and Times are subject to change

* For the most updated calendar/schedule see church website: www.brentwoodumc.org

* To request use of Facility or any questions contact Michelle: 925 634 3093 or admin@brentwoodumc.org



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

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, Interim Bishop Sally Dyck
California-Nevada Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

Los Rios District Superintendent: Rev. Shinya Goto
Pastor: Hyesung Lee † Lay Leaders: Heidi Stark and David Funk
Administrative Assistant: Michelle Carrillo

Brentwood Community
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809 Second Street
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TIME DATED MATERIAL

