

Deeds and Opportunities

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

809 Second Street, Brentwood CA 94513

Office: (925) 634-3093

✝ Hyesung Lee, Pastor ✝

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Editor: Bob Clarke
Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

August 2024




2024 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	Scriptures / Themes	Worship Acts and More
11th Sunday after Pentecost August 4, 2024 10:30 a.m.	Ruth 1:8-19 “Timeless Will of God – Community”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Holy Communion ● Adult Bible Study: 9 am – 10 am; Youth Room ● Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples) ● All Church Potluck: after Worship Service
12th Sunday after Pentecost August 11, 2024 10:30 a.m.	Preacher: Diego Garcia , Treasurer & Adult Bible Study Leader (*Pastor Lee is on vacation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adult Bible Study: 9 am – 10 am; Youth Room ● Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples) ● Time for Young Disciples: Dr. Dari Tran (Professor at University of Pacific) ● Special Music: Steven Smith (piano + vocal)
13th Sunday after Pentecost August 18, 2024 10:30 a.m.	Preacher: Heidi Stark , Lay Leader (*Pastor Lee is on vacation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adult Bible Study: 9 am – 10 am ● Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples) ● Time for Young Disciples: Joe Niec (Admin Assistant of BCUMC) ● Special Music: String Band
14th Sunday after Pentecost August 25, 2024 10:30 a.m.	9 th Anniversary of Reconciling Congregation  <small>RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK</small>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adult Bible Study: 9 am – 10 am Youth Room ● 9TH ANNIVERSARY OF RECONCILING CONGREGATION ● Guest Preacher: Dr. Haley Feuer-bacher (Executive Director of The Center for Courageous Compassion) ● Sunday School for Kids: after Time for Young Disciples ● Special Music: String Band

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 **2024 Annual Conference**, go to <https://www.cnumc.org/eventdetail/18235978?month=6&year=2024&day=1&display=m>

For more information about UMC, go to ResourceUMC here <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/connection-makes-the-umc-work>



† Pastor's Letter †

Dear Siblings in Christ Jesus

We are thrilled to celebrate the 9th Anniversary of our congregation becoming Reconciling on Sunday, August 25th. This momentous decision, made in 2015, solidified our commitment to being a fully inclusive Christian community. I encourage you to read Heidi Stark's insightful article in this month's D's and O's, which delves into the history and significance of this important step.

As we commemorate this milestone, I want to share my daughter June's journey as a transgender woman. My hope is to offer support and encouragement to other parents and families navigating similar challenges. June thrives in the welcoming environments of both Central UMC in Stockton (where my husband serves) and Brentwood Community UMC. Her experiences highlight the importance of LGBTQIA+ visibility within our church and inspire others to join our community.

While I briefly shared June's story on June 2nd, I believe it's essential to provide more context. June, born male, has always exhibited feminine traits. However, it wasn't until April of this year that she openly expressed her transgender identity. As parents, we often feel we've done everything possible, but for some, finding the courage to transition takes time. During this challenging period, June endured severe depression and anxiety.

A turning point came during her visit to Korea in September 2023. My mother's unconditional love and support were instrumental in boosting June's confidence. Surrounded by the love of her family, she began to open up.

June found solace in our shared daily devotionals and reengaged in family activities like our daily walks. She took steps towards independence by cleaning the house, handling chores, and pursuing higher education. Acceptance into the University of Pacific marked a significant milestone.

A meeting with Rev. Alyss Swanson, the first transgender female ordained deacon pastor, during the Annual Conference provided invaluable support and guidance. June felt a renewed sense of hope and purpose. Her first Sunday worship service at BCUMC as a woman was a joyful experience filled with acceptance.

The journey of a transgender individual is undoubtedly challenging, but it's heartening to witness the progress made. With supportive communities and the unwavering love of God, individuals can find strength and hope. Let us continue to create a welcoming and inclusive space for all. Thank you for your love and support. Amen.

“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 believe love in action can change the world



Our program focus this year is “Food, Faith and Fellowship”. At our July meeting we shared about our communities and learned more about each other. We ventured into our Church Garden to find some of the smells we love. Of course, we shared fellowship with some delicious food – plum bread provided by Jan Schults. Karen Thomas will lead our August meeting titled “Food Deserts”. Please plan to join for meaningful conversations and tasty treats.

The next United Women in Faith meeting will be on Monday, August 19th 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.

Bishop Carcaño welcomes Bishop Olewine to California-Nevada

Friends,

Please join me in welcoming Bishop Sandra Olewine to the California-Nevada Conference. Bishop Olewine will assume the responsibility of serving as your resident bishop on September 1, 2024. She comes to us having served faithfully as a clergy member of the California-Pacific Conference.

I first met Bishop Olewine when she served as a United Methodist missionary to the Holy Land. To this day she has been a mentor to me about the historical and present-day suffering of the peoples of this land where Jesus was born, served and was murdered.



Bishop Sandra Olewine

I have helped our Council of Bishops speak into the horrific present conflict in Gaza with Bishop Olewine’s witness to me and others always upon my heart. Let us continue to pray for all who are affected by the violent destruction of human life occurring to this day in Gaza. May our Risen Lord, Prince of Peace, call to account all who engender hate and death, and be merciful to those of us who are complicit through our silence. I know that Bishop Olewine will continue to lead you in this spirit as a prophet of justice.

While serving in the California-Pacific Conference I was able to learn from her through her thoughtful pastoral ministry and her leadership in the Conference. She is clear about her faith in Christ Jesus, and devoted to helping the church be the body that the world looks upon and declares that indeed it is the community of those who follow Jesus. She holds up hope for all of us that our hurting world will be healed by God’s mercy and grace and is an ever-faithful servant leader in service to this holy vision.

Bishop Olewine will serve you well with the fullness of her Christian spirit and her many gifts. Please support her with your encouragement, your love, and your partnership. It will be a joy to serve with her on the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church. Her faith and her bold witness will strengthen us all.

Welcome Bishop Sandra (Sandy) Olewine!

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Minerva".

Bishop Minerva

**SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE
POTLUCK & TALENT SHOW
Sunday, August 25, 5-7:30pm**

We know we have lots of talented folks at BCUMC; so, plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, August 25 from 5-7:30pm for a potluck and talent show. This was a fun event last year, and we'd love to have more participants this year. This event is open to all ages, and we welcome all who wish to share a talent (tell jokes, dance, sing, play an instrument, etc...). Maybe you have a hidden talent you'd like to share – we can't wait to see what you have to offer. If you don't have a talent to share, plan to attend and cheer from the audience. A sign-up sheet is available in the Fellowship Hall – let us know if you can attend and what delicious dish you will bring. Come and enjoy dinner and a show with your Church family! All are welcome! Questions, please contact Pastor Lee or Lay Leaders, Dave Funk or Heidi Stark.



**Sundae Sunday
August 18**

United Women in Faith invite you to join in our annual Sundae Sunday after worship on August 18th. We will provide ice cream and toppings so you can make your own delicious ice cream sundaes. Donations are appreciated and benefit United Women in Faith ministries. Plan to join us for ice cream and fellowship.

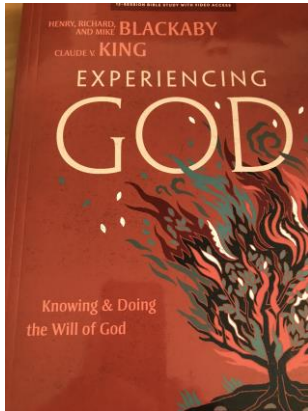


Greetings, men of BCUMC! The next Men's Breakfast is coming up on **Saturday, August 3rd**, at 8:00 a.m. Coffee will be piping hot by 7:30. Come on by and have a good breakfast and spend a summertime morning with your fellow Methodist men! We'll have good conversations, and Chaplain Dave will give us a spiritual thought for the day, too.

The cost for the breakfast, as always, is only \$5. Bring a friend or neighbor, and his breakfast is free. Hope to see you there!

And a special note to all the men: We could use another cook or two for the men's breakfasts--if you happen to have some kitchen skills and would be willing to join the cooking team, please let us know!

Thanks,
Joe, Diego, Larry, Dave, and Scott



BCUMC ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Experiencing God

For the summer quarter, beginning on July 7th, 9 am. to 10 am. In the Youth Theatre Room

A Study of Knowing and Doing the Will of God! Facilitated by Diego Garcia

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**, **John Moore**, **Dawn** (Daughter of Eugene and Jenny Davis), **Family of Ethel Badham**, **Joyce Heflin**, **Fran Hassler**, **Melvin Strong**, **Leonor Roberts**, **Charlene Dobson**, **Betty and Jack Gaughan**, **Bella** (Bob Clarke's friend), **Ginger** (Cynthia Geddes's friend), **Scott Kammeyer's mother**, **Denise** (Bob Clarke's friend), **Echo Paden** (Eileen Newill's granddaughter), **Bill Vaughn** (Robin's husband), **Lee Rogers** (Laura Webb's brother-in-law), **Joe Kick**, **Joe Niec**, **Will Ruddick and Family**, **Mother of Rick Dunn**, **Dan Badger** (Dave Funk's friend), **Donna Baker**, **Ron** (Joe and Joy Kick's friend), **Jerry Sorenson** (Joyce Sorenson's son), **Joyce Sorenson**, **Carol Clarke** (Bob Clarke's mother), **Scott Walton** (Linda and Jerry's son), **Jenna and Campbell** (Heidi Stark's daughter and baby granddaughter), **Barbara Pinkston**, and **Jim Roberts**.

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

Lay Leader News By Heidi Stark

When Dave Funk, Pastor, and I met in July, one of the topics we discussed was being a reconciling congregation. What does that mean? In August we will celebrate nine years as a Reconciling Church. Back in 2015 (this was before I became a member), BCUMC went through a process of study and discernment regarding becoming a Reconciling Church and was required to affirm the foundational statement of Reconciling Ministries (rmnetwork.org) by a vote of at least 75%. Below is the foundational statement of Reconciling Ministries:

“We celebrate God’s gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to stand in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed.”

In 2015, BCUMC affirmed this statement by a vote of 96%! If I had been a member at that time, I too would have voted in the affirmative. Like most churches our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We specifically state that:

“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.”

What’s next after becoming a Reconciling Church? How do we put our words into action? How do we walk the talk? I think we are a friendly and welcoming group of people, but how do we need to grow in our understanding of how we can pursue justice for all. We have a Reconciling Committee that is doing an excellent job of making us more aware of ways to affirm and support all people. It’s also important to realize and recognize that not everyone is “onboard”. Maybe you have questions or feel confused. It can be a lot to wrap your head around. I try to be open and nonjudgemental, but I don’t have a perfect understanding of the best ways to affirm and support all people. I know that I don’t always use language that would be considered inclusive, and I don’t always know how to do that, but I’m certainly willing to learn and grow. I hope that we will all be open to new ideas and ways to think that embrace Jesus’ loving examples and show our commitment to discipleship and transformation of the world.

When I’m asked about my church, I share that I am proud to be a member of BCUMC, and that as a member I except Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. That at BCUMC we believe that ALL are welcome, and we strive to be open and understanding. Come, learn, and grow.



CELEBRATION OF 9TH ANNIVERSARY OF RECONCILING CONGREGATION

When: August 25th, Sunday

Guest Preacher: Dr. Haley Feuer-bacher during Sunday Morning Worship

A Time with Dr. Haley Feuer-bacher: at 12:00 pm in Fireside Room



Dr. Haley Feuerbacher is the Executive Director of The Center for Courageous Compassion. She is a storyteller, creator, adventurer, spiritual activist, and theologian. She completed her Ph.D. at Southern Methodist University in Religion and Culture and Women's and Gender Studies, where she served on faculty. She has also taught at The Seattle School for Theology & Psychology and served for several years as a youth minister and then as campus minister for a United Methodist Reconciling college ministry. Passionate about the power of joy and compassion for personal and systemic transformation, Haley

is currently the founder and executive director of the Center for Courageous Compassion. The Center for Courageous Compassion is a nonprofit organization that is fighting compassion fatigue and burnout by creating sustainability in our activism and ministry with survivors of abuse and trauma through liberating our compassion and courage from exhaustion and exploitation, re-wilding our joy, and transforming trauma in ourselves and our systems. In addition to this life-giving mission, Haley is also a running coach at Fleet Feet Monterey, a yoga facilitator at M8 Wellness, a surfing and outdoor enthusiast, and an author, with her first book, "Single (M)Other", available later this year through Wipf & Stock.

How to participate in the celebration of 9th Anniversary of Reconciling Congregation:

- 1) Come, join in Sunday Worship on August 25th at 10:30 am. Wear your rainbow color clothes to the church!
- 2) Bring your family and friends to the church! Invite LGBTQIA+ people you know from your group or community to our celebration!
- 3) Come, join in the Time with Dr. Haley Feuer-bacher (at 12:00 pm in Fireside Room). Bring your open hearts and open minds with questions, feedback or suggestions!





August

2. Nate Ekpemiro
3. Jere Retzer
5. Jo Prewett Tennant
5. Ezihe Ekpemiro
8. Dolores Hauan
12. Henry Ogbonna
13. Carl Kammeyer
15. Robin Bliss
15. Anthony Basica
16. Ginny Driscoll
21. Connie Azevedo
22. Ethel Badham
24. Victoria Ogbonna
24. Emersyn Geddes
25. Mike Logan
26. Lisa Slay
26. Zy'Yannah Kammeyer

Happy Anniversary!

August

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



JOYFUL HOPE

Oh God, your love is like
The gentle rain that
Falls upon us and
Refreshes us with new life.
Your peace is like the cool
Breeze in the desert.
Your grace protects us like
The shadows from the
Purple desert mountains.

The melody of your love
Comforts us like joyful notes
From the mandolin.
You lift my soul and
Hold me in your peace.
The breath of your Spirit
Heals all that needs
To be healed in me.

May the gentle rain
Of your love
Fall upon us
And hold us
Close with you.
May we live in the
Joyful song
Of your hope.

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August 2024 Facility Use Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 UMM Breakfast 8-9:30am
4 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Church BBQ 12pm	5 Hope House 9-12pm	6 CHD 4:30-6:30pm Young Christians 7pm Y.R DIG 7-9:30pm Q.R.	7 Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Trustees 7pm Al Anon 7-8:15pm	8 NA 7:30-8:45pm	9 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	10
11 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am	12 Hope House 9-12pm	13 HH Produce Truck 4pm PEO group 6 pm FS Rm BC Chorus 7 pm	14 Hope House 9-12pm SPRC 4:30pm FS Rm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Al Anon 7-8:15pm Ad Council 7-8:30pm	15 NA 7:30-8:45pm	16 String Band 10:30am Voyagers 6pm AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	17
18 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Sundae Sunday! (after Worship) Fellowship Hall	19 Hope House 9-12pm United Women in Faith 7pm	20 CHD 4:30-6:30pm Finance 6:30 pm FS Rm BC Chorus 7 pm	21 Hope House 9-12pm CCN 10am ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Reconciling Comm. 7pm Al Anon 7-8:15pm	22 NA 7:30-8:45pm	23 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	24
25 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Talent Show! (& potluck) Fellowship Hall	26 Hope House 9-12pm DIG 7-9:30pm FH.	27 HH Produce Truck 4pm BC Chorus 7 pm NAMI 7pm	28 Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Al Anon 7-8:15pm	29 NA 7:30-8:45pm	30 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	31

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 Joe: 925 634 3093 or admin@brentwoodumc.org

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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. David Niu

Pastor: Hyesung Lee † Lay Leaders: Heidi Stark and David Funk

Administrative Assistant: Joe Niec

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TIME DATED MATERIAL

