

Deeds and Opportunities

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

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Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

April 2015



GOOD FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE
7:00 pm BCUMC Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE



YOU ARE INVITED
EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
6:30am at Lukacs' Home



SEE
DETAILS
INSIDE

◆ Pastor's Letter ◆

Dear Friends and Members of BCUMC

I want to share my experience of Sierra Service Project with our youth group to Vernonia in Oregon from March 19 to 24. When I said I would join our youth group for SSP, I was told, “You are crazy!” “You are out of mind!” “Do you know what you are getting into?” I guess I didn’t know exactly what I was getting into. But now I know!

When I came back, one member asked me “Was it worth going there?” My answer was “Yes! It was definitely worth going there.” I learned a lot. I learned that SSP is a really **SERIOUS** Service Project. The work itself involved only two days. But after two days, most of us had muscle aches all over our bodies. 24 of us were divided into four teams with four different tasks: landscaping, gardening, planting trees, and a flooring job at a house.

Cheryl Breitenbucher and I had the four youngest members of the youth group in our team. We went to a house owned by an elderly couple. Our job was to take off the old flooring and to install a new one. It sounded easy at first. But the thing was that the 50-year-old vinyl flooring would not easily come off. The black gluing stuff was so hard like rocks. We sweated a lot and labored hard. We used hammers, chisels, knives.... I was so worried about the safety for the kids. But no one was hurt. We could finish the job on the second day.

Our kids were so impressive. The hardest thing for me was the smell of the house and the dust generated constantly. The cat litter box in the house seemed never cleaned up. The smell and the dusty air were unbearable. But our four kids had never complained about anything.



For two days, we had water breaks from time to time outside the house. Whenever Cheryl and I were about to enjoy the fresh air outside, the kids finished drinking the cup so quickly and “BAM” disappeared into the house. They were so focused and so driven to finish their job. I’ve never seen kids like them before. Ordinary kids would start complaining after 5 to 10 minutes of such hard work. Then you have to convince them to change their minds. Often times, therefore, it is easier for us to do the work by ourselves without kids’ help.

But our kids were not like that. They were not only focused and driven but also non-judgmental and respectful toward the homeowners. They soon became my inspiration throughout those two days. Their attitude inspired not only me but also the homeowners. On the first day they paid almost zero attention to our presence. But on the second day, they got out of their sofa and bed and started picking up garbage. They had smiles on their faces. And they thanked us, saying “You guys are doing a great job. Thank you very much!” It made our days so worthwhile and rewarding.

And I wondered who were responsible for helping our kids to grow into such humble Christ-like servants. They drove 10 hours, total 673 miles to get there and offered 10 hours of service without expecting anything in return to those whom they had never met before.

You may think that parents made them do it. Maybe true to some! But what I had witnessed with my own eyes was not backing up that answer. I asked some kids who had come this year the third time, "Why did you come back?" They said, "Because it is fun!" I could tell it was a sincere answer.

I am not saying that they are perfect kids. I've seen enough that they were perfectly teenagers. They did all kinds of things that typical teenagers usually do. Believe me! I have seen so many frustrating battles going on between the counselors and the kids. These were all behind scenes / stories hidden under the beautiful Facebook pictures.

But they were different in many ways having shown Christ-like characters. I think Sierra Service Project has impacted on their character. I think Service-oriented youth ministry has slowly transformed their hearts and minds.

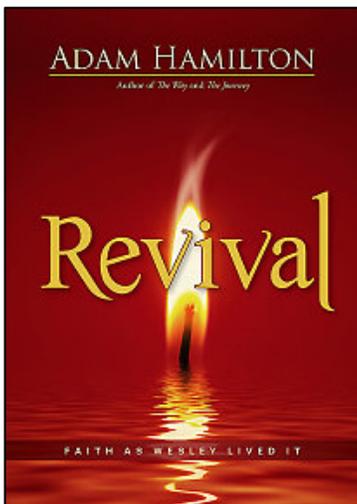
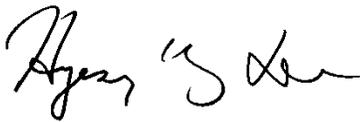
On the trip we had six youth leaders who constantly showed God's unconditional love through their loving care and coaching. I witnessed throughout this trip how dedicated they are, how united they are, and how skillful they are in teaching the kids with the examples of Christ. Their leadership and shepherding have produced such strong Christian youth members who understand true meaning of service found in the life of Jesus Christ.

I am so grateful for what I have witnessed during this trip! I've seen so much bright light and hope for the future of our church and for the next generation Christian community! Thanks be to God!

So come to the Good Friday Service at 7 pm on Friday, April 3rd, and to the Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 am on Sunday, April 5th at the home of our Lay Leader Julius Lukacs at 3103 Ursus Court, Antioch (Home Phone. 757-3216) and Easter Sunday Worship at 10:30 am in the sanctuary for the Holy Communion and the celebration of our new life in our risen Lord!

With full of joy and gratitude,

Your Pastor, Hyesung



Six Week Small Group Study
(Good for New Members; Fresh for Old Members)
Sundays April 26 - May 31
12:15 pm - 1:30 pm
Study Leader: Pastor Hyesung Lee
Study Book \$12

Adam Hamilton is senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, one of the fastest growing, most highly visible churches in the country. *The Church Report* named Hamilton's congregation the most influential mainline church in America, and he preached at the National Prayer Service as part of the presidential inauguration festivities in 2013. Hamilton is the best-selling and award-winning author of *Why? Making Sense of God's Will*, *24 Hours that Changed the World*, *The Journey*, *The Way*, *Enough*, *When Christians Get It Wrong* and *Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White*, all published by Abingdon Press. Learn more about Hamilton at AdamHamilton.org.



SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT EXCURSION

by Cheryl Breitenbucher



Seventeen kids, seven adults, two vans, one trailer, and a whole lot of luggage headed north to Oregon for an incredible time. We met at the church at 5:30am on Thursday, March 19th. The drive was lengthy, but we had food stops in Dunsmuir at a beautiful park overlooking the river and at Dorris Ranch, which was closed, but we wandered the grounds anyway. We arrived at our hotel in Klackamas where we had a late dinner, then headed off to our rooms, grateful to be out of the vans. The next morning, we woke up to a gray sky and headed to a very trendy music store that had loads of CDs, records, and obscure gifts. We had time to shop for about an hour, and then headed to Powell's Books, which is an extremely large bookstore. You could spend an entire day there, but we only had an hour.

We walked a few blocks to Right to Dream Too (R2D2), a homeless tent community. It's a place that offers shelter (sleep) for 12 hours. A tour was guided by someone who works and lives there. They rent the land for \$1 a year, and we learned about the struggles they have endured in trying to keep the place going. Their largest bills are the porta pottys and the cleaning for the bedding. Afterwards, we waited in line to get VooDoo Doughnuts, which are super unique doughnuts with fun flavors. We crossed the border into Washington (for those who had never been in Washington), ate lunch at a park and went back into Oregon. We visited another community called Dignity Village, a city-recognized encampment of around 60 people in Portland. There are about 40 10x15 foot shelters. The people who live there must work within the community; all must take shifts at the security desk, and they run small businesses to be sustainable. We brought doughnuts to the village and chatted with folks before taking a tour of the grounds. This was a great opportunity to see two very different homeless communities that even differed greatly from the shelter at Skid Row in Los Angeles that we toured last year.

Friday evening we arrived in Vernonia, where we unloaded the vans and trailer, met the awesome SSP staff (Becca and Cate), and got settled. We had a great dinner made by community members and learned about our group projects. Julius, David, Kellen, Hannah, Alyssa, and Aidan worked at the school, which had been recently built because all of the schools had been so severely damaged from the flood that there was only the shell of their gym left. The school was moved up on a hill. This group planted trees, flowers, weeded, and worked a lot with the new community garden that the entire town will be working on and fitting into their school curriculum.

Rick, Becca, Hunter, Justine, Wren, and Griffin did some beautification at the Pioneer Museum. They weeded a lot and cleared debris, removed old concrete bits, de-mossed sidewalks and a porch area, and dug a ditch for piping for water diversion. Paul, Jen, Kiala, Emma, Jamie, and Sam recovered a handicap ramp, cleared debris from the parking lot, scraped a lot of moss, and stripped many layers of aging paint from the ramp railing so that it would be ready for a new paint job by community members at the museum. Hyesung, Cheryl, Jaylynn, Murphy, Alex, and Isaac worked in a community member's home, stripping old linoleum from a small hallway and bathroom. We then cut and placed the new flooring with a new diamond pattern that was at times challenging, to fit just so.

Saturday evening we had a wonderful program, where community members Patty and Penny came and talked to us about their experiences when the flood occurred. Although the last flood happened in 2007, they are still doing a lot of rebuilding not just in the town, but also in their hearts. Sunday morning, we headed back to our work sites, and finished our tasks. Afterward we drove to Tillamook, where we toured the cheese factory and tasted the delicious samples (twice). We also indulged in the delicious ice cream. We then headed to Tillamook UMC, where we spent the night and had a Pajama Service. It was quite meaningful and special, because the youth leaders washed the kids feet, just as Jesus washed the feet of the disciples.



Monday morning we drove to the Cape Meares lighthouse and saw the beautiful Oregon coast. We drove to Salem, and stopped at Bush's Pasture Park where there are signs warning of an attack owl, "Owl Capone". We ate lunch quickly, but got chased away by rain (not the owl). We trekked to Ashland, and were thankful for the indoor pool and hot tub. Tuesday morning we wandered the streets of quaint Ashland and had a restaurant meal before seeing Guys & Dolls at the Shakespeare Festival. The show was incredible. We

finally drove home after an exhausting and fulfilling trip, arriving back to the church at 11:15pm.

What a wonderful opportunity for our youth to experience. We served, worked and played together, and had several learning opportunities throughout our trip. A huge thank you to everyone who made this trip possible. We know that we could not have this trip without your generous support and prayers.

COMMISSIONING OF CHERYL DOBSON AS A MISSIONARY

March 15, 2015



Cheryl Dobson will be in Gabon, West Africa from April 6-17, working as a representative from Project HOPE and in concert with the U.S. Navy. She will be working at a hospital in Port Gentil to improve capacity of the healthcare system by providing what the Navy calls Subject Matter Expert Exchange (SMEE). This mission involves interacting with local healthcare professionals, going on rounds, and providing teaching relevant to their needs and wants. We gear the education to helping them implement evidenced-based practice using the resources they have available. The hope is that care will be improved while respecting the limitations of the resource-poor setting.

Cheryl says the work she does rejuvenates her and makes her appreciate the bounty that we enjoy here. God bless our BCUMC member for devoting her time to help others.

Hope House has business cards now, and Robin Vaughan will be passing them out to the congregation. The idea is -- if in your day you come across someone who could use our help . . . just slip them a card. The card has our church name and phone number along with directions to Hope House and information they would need to get assistance. Just one more way we can reach out to the community and spread Gods kindness and love for all.....

Anyone interested in volunteering at Hope House is encouraged to join us. Call Robin Vaughan with any questions 925-634-6409



HOLY BAPTISM of
KAYLA C. UMANA
Palm Sunday – March 29

The congregation welcomed Kayla (pictured with her parents, Doug & Valerie Umana):

“We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, that everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.”



Sunday, March 29th during Worship, United Methodist Women recognized Past President Charlene Dobson for all her work done with UMW and developing Mercy Hall.

Sunday, March 29th during Worship, United Methodist Women presented Michael Ann Honea with a check for \$250 to help with the costs of her Volunteer in Mission project to Guatemala.



**Family Game Night with
Merry Methodists
Saturday April 11
6-9 pm**

Come join us for a light dinner and an evening of games. If you like, bring a game and/or a dish to share. We'll have Train Dominoes, board games, even Wii .



RUMMAGE SALE
SATURDAY, APRIL 18
8am-3pm



Debra Urzua will have a Rummage Sale in the garden April 18th.
All proceeds will benefit the maintenance of the garden and general upkeep.
Anyone who is interested in bringing a few of their own items to sell (for themselves)
please contact Debra at 925-437-6262.

PRISCILLA CIRCLE – UMW

by Patti Bartlebaugh

Wednesday March 18th the Priscilla Circle met and discussed the book *Chasing Chaos: My Decade In and Out of Humanitarian Aid*. We had a lively discussion of the book and the author's perspective of how humanitarian aid is given after disasters. This book was part of the UMW Reading Program.

Starting in June, Jenn Dunn will be leading a book discussion in a "Walk and Talk" Format. Once each month from June to September we will meet at Round Valley Regional Park (off Marsh Creek Road) to discuss the book *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie--Random House (2014). Here is a Brief Description of the book:

Ifemelu reluctantly left Nigeria on a college scholarship and seems to have everything a Nigerian immigrant in America could desire. But culture shock, hardships and racism have left her feeling like she has "cement in her soul." Astonished at the labyrinth of racial structures that confront her, Ifemelu launches an audacious and instantly popular blog that explores what she calls Racial Disorder Syndrome. May contain provocative language and content.

All women of the Church are invited to meet at Round Valley on
June 13, 8 am (pp 1-140)
July 13, 7 pm (pp 141-278)
Aug 8, 8 am (pp 280-431)
Sept 12, 8 am. (pp 432-588)

"Walks and Talks" will last about an hour-90 minutes.



The next Priscilla Circle Meeting will be on Wednesday April 15th at 7pm at the home of JoAnn Funk. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Every 3rd Sunday is **GREETING SUNDAY**
Sponsored by CCN

Let us get to know one another better
through intentional fellowship after Sunday Worship Service!

- ✓ Wear your Name Tag
- ✓ Go to your Designated Spot in the Fellowship Hall (guided by CNN each month)
- ✓ Meet New People and Get to Know Them with Open Hearts and Minds!



UMW NEWS

Sunday, March 15th, 25 women met for the Unit Gathering and to participate in the annual Call to Prayer and Self Denial Program. We had a tasty lunch prepared by Roxanna Simas, who then led the program. A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial is an annual observance during which members reflect on the gospel of Christ and make an offering to mission in response to Christ's love and his people.

Purpose of offering

The Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offering is dedicated to a particular area of mission each year and funds national and international programs. The areas of mission occur in four-year cycles. In 2015, the offering received will go toward the pensions and health care of retired deaconesses and missionaries. *One hundred percent of the offering will go directly to provide health and pension support for retirees. This year we collected \$160.*

Sunday, March 29th during Worship, United Methodist Women recognized Past President Charlene Dobson for all her work done with UMW and developing Mercy Hall. They also presented Michael Ann Honea with a check for \$250 to help with the costs of her Volunteer in Mission project to Guatemala.

UMW members have been busy "Taking Church out of the Building" --raising funds and making our church known in the community. They sold snacks at the Little League Baseball Jamboree and helped in the Kids area of the Good Guys Car Show, doing crafts.

Mark your calendars now for our Annual UMW Salad Luncheon that will be held after Church on Sunday May 3rd. All money raised will be used for Mission Projects both local and International.

ENDOWMENT FUND

by Dennis Buckley

A number of years ago an Endowment Committee was formed. The committee met with an advisor from the California-Nevada United Methodist Foundation and developed plans to create an Endowment Fund for our church. The Endowment Fund for BCUMC was established about five years ago, but few people know about the fund. The concept behind an endowment fund is quite simple. Members and friends of the church donate money to the Endowment Fund and people at the Conference who know about money matters then manage the money. The money deposited in the Endowment Fund is never spent. It does, however, earn interest. The earned interest could be available to support special projects for the church. Interest from endowment funds provides large organizations like the symphony or ballet with a good chunk of their budgets. Our Endowment Fund is small and the interest earned currently is simply reinvested.

Donations to endowment funds can be cash donations at any time. However, many endowment funds receive donations from estates because people named the fund in their wills, trusts, insurance policies, and financial and retirement accounts.

The Endowment Committee will host Susan Peters, a representative of the California-Nevada United Methodist Foundation after church on May 3. Her presentation will describe how donations to the Endowment Fund can be advantageous to both the church and the donor.

THE 9AM BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP will be finishing our discussion of Flora Wuellners' book *Forgiveness, the Passionate Journey* after Easter. We haven't decided on our next subject for discussion. When we have decided, I will announce it to the congregation. Everyone is invited and encouraged to be part of our group and enjoy the Christian Fellowship and Spiritual Growth of a small group.

Mel Strong

YOU ARE INVITED

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

6:30am at Lukacs Home

There must have been something very special about the rawness of those early Christian services. What has now become a BCUMC tradition, we will gather on the hill outside the Lukacs family home to experience the joyfulness of watching the first light come up on Easter Sunday.

Please plan to arrive by 6:30am. We will start by the fire pit and then make our way to the hill for a service and candle lighting. We will conclude with a nice breakfast inside the Lukacs home. Please plan for a very cool morning on the hill.

The Lukacs home is located at **3103 Ursus Ct, Antioch, CA**. Please RSVP to Julius and Marcie to plan for food at julius.lukacs@hotmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you all there at 6:30am.



EASTER

Early in the morning - we rise up
The sun rises - painting streaks of orange and red
Across the horizon - a new day.
We journey through Lent - letting go of old ways.
Talking with God - day by day
As we seek new paths - new understandings
New ways - to forgive
And grow - in peace and compassion
Finding ways to serve - and give - and receive.
Early in the morning - the Son rises
See the stone is rolled away
How could this be?
Yet with Christ we find - new direction
As we celebrate - resurrection!

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7. John Moore
9. Donna Baker
12. Joey Zamjahn
15. Murphy Slay
16. Jill Price
21. Ellen Rowan
22. Jenn Dunn
25. Polly Gallagher
21. Greg Pacquer
27. Beverly Tucker
29. Charlie Johnson

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.

Diane Hutchison	Cliff Fortner	James Collins	Helen Curtis
Norma Hall	Vernon Noble	Joan Peterson	Lou Bronzan
Homer Richardson	Adella Logan	Phil & Nancy White	

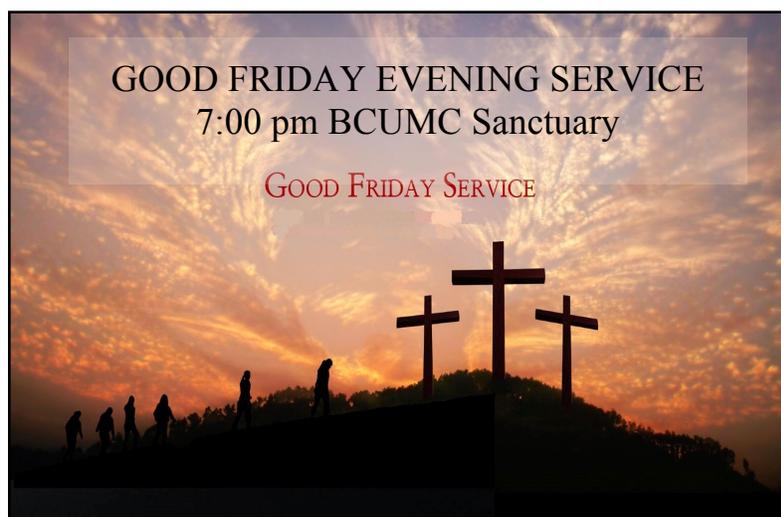
We pray for you and your caregivers that God may fill you every day with strength, faith, love and peace!

2015 April Worship & Preaching Schedule

DATE	SCRIPTURE	SERMON TITLE
April 3 [Black] Good Friday at <u>7 PM</u>	TENEBRAE SERVICE	Matthew's account of the Passion of our Lord
April 5 [White] Easter Sunday	6:30 am John 20:11-18 10:30 am John 20:1-18	"From Death to Resurrection" "From No Room to Empty Tomb"
April 12 [White] Second Sunday of Easter	John 20:19-31	"From Doubt to Faith"
April 19 [White] Third Sunday of Easter	Luke 24:36b-48	"From Seeing the Ghost to Touching the Body"
April 26 [White] Fourth Sunday of Easter	John 10:11-18	"From Belonging to Following"

ACOLYTE AND CRUCIFER SCHEDULE

Date	Acolyte	Crucifer
4/5	Wren Driscoll	Murphy Slay
4/12	Jacob Lukacs	Sam Lukacs
4/19	Ogechi Ekpemero	Chineyere Ekpemiro
4/26	Jamie Feldermann	Aidan Dunn



Statement of Inclusion:

Because we believe that no one is excluded from God's love and that all may come who hear the Shepherd's voice (*John 10:1-18*), so we affirm:

In keeping with the spirit and teachings of Jesus Christ and with United Methodist principles, the Brentwood Community United Methodist Church welcomes all persons into our fellowship.

Resident Bishop: Warner H. Brown, Jr.
El Camino Real District Superintendent: Kristie Olah
Pastor: Hyesung Lee † Lay Leader: Julius Lukacs
Secretary: Debra Urzua

*The Mission of the United Methodist Church
is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

Brentwood Community
United Methodist Church
809 Second Street
Brentwood, CA 94513

TIME DATED MATERIAL

