

Deeds and Opportunities

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

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Brentwood Community United Methodist Church



May 2015



2015 May Worship & Preaching Schedule

<i>SUNDAYS</i>	<i>SCRIPTURE</i>	<i>SERMON TITLE</i>
May 3, 2015 [White] 5th Sunday of Easter <i>Holy Communion</i>	Corinthians 3:10-11 Guest Preacher: Susan Peters (Executive Director of United Methodist Foundation)	“Will Elizabeth Remember God? – Our Legacy to Future Generations”
May 10, 2015 [White] 6th Sunday of Easter “ <i>Mother’s Day</i> ”	John 15:9-17	“Do Small Things with Great Love”
May 17, 2015 [White or Gold] <i>Ascension Sunday</i> 7th Sunday of Easter	Acts 1:1-11	“Do Mission with the Holy Spirit”
May 24, 2015 Red or White] <i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	Acts 2:1-21	“The Day of Holy Spirit”
May 31, 2015 [White] Trinity Sunday/ First Sunday After Pentecost	Romans 3:12-17	“Holy Spirit Leads Us”

ACOLYTE AND CRUCIFER SCHEDULE

Date	Acolyte	Crucifer
5/3	Jamie Feldermann	Sam Lukacs
5/10	Audrey Dunn	Aidan Dunn
5/17	Alex Dunn	Ike Esomonu
5/24	Ogechi Ekpemero	Chineyere Ekpemiro

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,	Adella Logan,	Vernon Noble,	Joan Peterson,
Lou Bronzan,	Homer Richardson,	Phil White	

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

◆ Pastor's Letter ◆

Dear Friends and Members of BCUMC

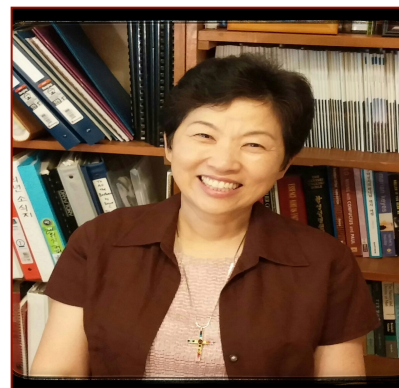
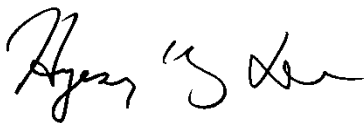
It has been 10 months for me to serve God with you in Brentwood. PEOPLE are great! I mean YOU are beautiful and awesome! Brentwood congregation is filled with people who are dedicated, faithful, loving, open and good-hearted. I can see why God has blessed you with new members and new ministries like Youth Ministry, H.O.P.E. HOUSE ministry, Mercy Hall ministry and so on. The field is good. The workers are here. So... we see lots of FRUITS. New ideas are being shared. New connections are being made. We witness and share many celebrations among us.

On the other hand, I have seen people expressing their concerns. The common concern has something to do with PROCESS. There is some confusion with the way things are done. There are some frustrations with the not-so-good ways we do things together either consciously or unconsciously. This does not mean that we forgot or lost our greatest mission as a church, which was given to us by Jesus our Lord: **to make disciples of Jesus Christ to transform the world**. Our question is how we are making disciples of Jesus Christ. What do we do exactly to make it happen? What does all we do have to do with the greatest mission? How do all our doings connect with one another? Where am I in terms of the process of making disciples? Where should I go to from where I am now?

Are you interested in making this problem solved? In order for us to be better at what we do as a church, it needs to be solved. I am hoping and planning to begin this conversation with you in the coming years, beginning with lay leadership sooner or later. I pray that we all get clearer idea together on these questions. I am open to your thoughts and ideas. I invite you to take this journey with me through prayers and conversations.

With much expectation,

Your Pastor, Hyesung





2 Marie Weekes
11 Carey Hutchison
14 Blanca Malagon
16 Julius Lukacs
16 Graham Stirling
17 Jackie Azevedo
19 David Funk
19 Margaret Cruz
20 Robert Easley
23 Adam Simas
24 Dennis Buckley
27 Annie Azevedo
28 Brian Gray

Happy Anniversary

22 Jackie & Dan Hanel
31 JoAnn & David Funk

OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND GROW

WHAT: Mission Volunteer Team Leader Training

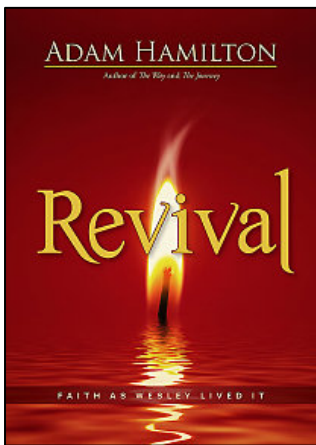
WHEN: Saturday, July 11, 2015 (9:30am – 4:30pm)

WHERE: Walnut Creek UMC at 1543 Sunnyvale Avenue,
Walnut Creek Phone [925-934-4208](tel:925-934-4208)

The Mission Volunteer Team Leader training teaches you how to create and lead small groups of volunteers, create hands-on ministry projects, facilitate a powerful spiritual journey and host team projects that transform individuals and make a difference. Leader training covers all aspects of identifying, planning, and completing a mission project. The one day class is led by trained staff and covers such topics as project logistics, team safety, administrative forms, fundraising, group travel, spiritual leadership, and volunteer recruiting. The training cost of \$40 per person secures your spot and includes two official UMVIM Team Leader Manuals and a collection of mission reference materials. Lunch is provided.

Learn more about these classes or to register, visit the Conference website: [UMVIM](http://www.umvim.org) at <http://www.cnumc.org/umvolunteersinmission>

Phil Bandy, Director of UMVIM
[916-374-1582](tel:916-374-1582)
philb@calnevumc.org



3 Week Small Group Study
(Good for New Members; Fresh for Old Members)
Sundays May 17, 24, 31
12:15 pm - 1:30 pm
Study Leader: Pastor Hyesung Lee

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 <http://www.AdamHamilton.org>.



UMW SALAD LUNCHEON -- A BCUMC TRADITION

Sunday May 3rd after church the UMW, made up of Jesse Lee and Priscilla Circles, will have their annual Salad Luncheon. The Salad Luncheon has been happening at BCUMC for over 50 years. Agnes Bonde started the Luncheon. It was held on the first Wednesday of April/May. Agnes set the menu and only specific salads were made. Mary Bronson's Hot Chicken salad was one of them, and it will be served at this year's Luncheon.

At the time, Billie Fortner was working at Liberty High school and she would sell tickets to all the office staff and teachers. Many people from the community would come and would wait each year to buy their tickets. The Salad Luncheon was the UMW's largest fundraiser. Over time, as more women were working and other women got older, the Luncheon was changed to Sunday after church.



Support the UMW and their Mission Giving and be a part of the Salad Luncheon Tradition!

Creating Your Legacy Workshop

How Endowments and Planned Giving Reflect Your Values

Sunday, May 3, 2015 @ 12:15 PM at BCUMC

Susan Peters, CFRE, Executive Director of the California-Nevada United Methodist Foundation, will present “**Creating Your Legacy – How Endowments and Planned Giving Reflect Your Values**”. She will be discussing how endowments work for churches, as well as different ways to give to the Endowment Fund. Many times we want to support our favorite causes, but need to balance our philanthropic impulses with family and personal obligations. Learn about an array of methods for giving that can help fulfill our “need to give”.



In April the BCUMC Youth Group participated in an Easter overnighter where they saw and discussed the film "Do You Believe?" They then prepared for our Easter Sunrise Service. The Youth also had a yoga night, and bought/assorted items to send to Dignity Village, a homeless shelter they visited during the Sierra Service project.

Upcoming events include Game Night on May 8th, which is a Friday Night Drop-In, an overnight trip to Waller Center/Glide and a swim party. We will attend church on Sunday May 24th and then leaving for San Francisco where we will tour Mission Dolores and discuss mission work and why witnessing is important to Christianity. We will spend the night at the Waller Center and get up very early the next morning to serve breakfast at Glide Memorial. The afternoon will be spent doing "something fun." If any youth are interested in participating, please contact Julius, as there are a limited number of spots for this trip.

May 30th is our year-end Swim Party at the Brentwood WaterPark, complete with a fun sleepover. The next morning a few of our youth will be participating in the Car Show Fundraiser in Pleasanton.

From Cheryl Breitenbucher

9 AM DISCUSSION GROUP

by Mel Strong

The 9am discussion group is viewing the PBS DVD Sacred Journeys by Bruce Feiler. It is a six-week course. We meet in the youth room at 8:45 so we can start viewing the video by 9. That way the people who have choir practice or other responsibilities on Sunday morning can view the entire video. (Each unit is one hour in length.) Following is the schedule for the class:

May 3th. We journey with a group of American Buddhist Pilgrims on a 800mile, 88-temple journey as they seek personal salvation and renewal. (On each of these Journeys we travel with American pilgrims.)

May 10th. Jerusalem, we follow the trail of pilgrims from the three Abrahamic traditions as the ground their faith in one of the holiest cities on Earth.

May 17th. Mecca, we go behind the closed doors of the Hajj in a rare, intimate look at pilgrims making the trip of a lifetime.

May 24th. India, plunge into the Ganges during the largest human gathering on earth, the Kumbh Mela, which takes place every 12 years.

May 31th. Nigeria, dance at the waters edge with African-Americans at a spectacular Yoruba festival where they reclaim their religious roots.

Hope you will be joining us we explore Sacred Journeys to sites around the world.

FAMILY AND SCHOOL KITS FOR GUATEMALA

by Michael Ann Honea

Please consider purchasing items for the Medical Mission Trip to Guatemala, which I will be participating in as a team member at the end of July.

If you want to make the kits yourself, please put only the items listed in each gallon size zip lock bag. If you would like to purchase items in bulk and let me make the kits I will gladly do that.

Family kits:

I large box of toothpaste
Family size bar soap (3)
Toothbrushes (4-5)
Covers for toothbrushes (4-5)
Dental floss (1 large package)

School kits:

I box of 24 crayons
5 unsharpened pencils
12 inch ruler
small pencil sharpener
erasers (5)
blunt tip scissors – 5 inches long

Thank you very much. I will have a basket in the Narthex on May 9 and May 16 to collect the items.

*Blessings,
Michael Ann Honea*



The United Methodist Women will be collecting items monthly for HOPE HOUSE. There is a basket in the Narthex for your items.

May	Paper towels
June	tooth brushes
July	toilet paper
August	Kleenex
September	peanut butter
October	can of tuna

Look for a reminder every month in your Deeds & Opportunities!

RECONCILING CONGREGATION

from Martin Tucker

Reminder: Reconciling Congregation (RC) means that the members of the church congregation have voted to publically state that they are accepting of all people who wish to worship with the congregation regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or any other defining characteristic. The movement of Reconciling Congregations began in the 1980's and has become a large group of United Methodist churches throughout the United States. It is meant to make individuals who might be hesitant to join a church because of past experiences feel that they are welcomed to worship in this particular congregation.

Three articles explaining the movement in more depth have been published in our Deeds and Opportunities.* The committee advancing the process of our becoming a Reconciling Congregation wants to be sure everyone has had an opportunity to understand RC before we vote on the issue. A church conference to take action on any issue needs to have been announced three weeks in advance. Therefore, the RC Committee has set **two evening meetings -- 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 7 and Tuesday, May 19.** You may attend either meeting to ask questions or make comments. The two meetings are to assure that everyone has a chance to participate, but you need not attend both.

A vote to become a Reconciling Congregation or not to become one will be held on May 31. A ballot will be mailed to each member prior to that time with voting instructions. If a church conference is required to make the vote official, such a conference will be held following the church service. Once a congregation votes to become Reconciling Congregation, a statement is designed and approved. Actually, our statement we presently put on our bulletins and other printed material is inclusive as it now stands.

* If you missed these articles and wish to see them, you may email martintucker@comcast.net and he will email them back to you.



MOTHERS DAY

Your mother was once a little girl
New to life - and to the world
She once was younger than you are now
Yet life keeps changing - it's mystery how
I held my daughter in my arms
She now holds her son - smiles at his charms
Rich in love and life - my mother is doing well
We both have stories and things to tell
God's love surrounds and holds us all
When we blossom - and when we fall
In God - and in a mother's care - is found
There is plenty of love - to go around.

© Joe Kick - 2015



Merry Methodists



Games! Lots of really good
homemade food, too. So much
fun, we decided to make it a
regular event. . . tentatively
June 12 . . . and bowling in
July; date to be determined.
(from Jenn Dunn)

Finance Committee Comments - May 2015

I am pleased to report that for the first quarter of 2015 we have met all of our financial obligations with our increased new budget. However, there are a couple of items that the Finance Committee wants to bring to your attention. Early in the year we saw a surplus of funds as some members pay their annual pledged funds all at one time for the year. Thank You.

A review of our status at the end of March showed that we were actually running substantially behind on year-to-date overall pledge receipts; also, our open plate donations are lower than last year. When we are low on income in any given month it affects how much we can afford to pay for our 10 % apportionment due each month. We do maintain an "Emergency Fund" that earns interest during the year, and can be utilized when we need to cover short-term finance needs. However, this fund could not sustain multiple months for longer deficit periods should this trend continue.

We also want to alert you that it appears that some members are just placing their pledge amounts onto the collection plate. Please be advised that unless your donation is in an envelope with your name on it, or you pay by check, we have no way to identify your donation as part of your pledge. It just becomes an open plate donation.

We also want to take this opportunity to remind everyone that our e-script program earns us funds during the year as part of our financial income. If you do not participate, I am sure that Dolores Hauan can get you signed up quickly.

Faithfully yours,

Carey Hutchison, Finance Chair

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN – CIRCLES

by Jan Schults

BCUMC has always had an active United Methodist Women's group with Salad Luncheons, Mother's Day Teas, various fundraising and programs that affirm the mission of the UMW. Years ago these circles were meeting in the morning, afternoon and evening times to accommodate the individual needs of the different women in our church.

Currently BCUMC has two circles within the UMW. The morning circle is called the Jesse Lee Circle. They meet the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. We can't find the history behind the naming of this circle from our past.

The evening circle is the Priscilla Circle. It meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. and is hosted by different circle members. This circle is named after Priscilla in the Bible. Priscilla was a woman of Jewish heritage and one of the earliest known Christian converts who lived in Rome. Her name is a Roman diminutive for *Prisca* which was her formal name. She is often thought to be the first example of a female teacher in early church history. Coupled with her husband, she was a celebrated missionary, a friend and co-worker of Paul.

Some scholars have suggested that Priscilla was the author of the [Book of Hebrews](#). It is the only book in the [New Testament](#) with author anonymity. Others suggest that Priscilla was the author, but that her name was omitted either to suppress its female authorship, or to protect the letter itself from suppression.

The third circle we had was named the Mary Elizabeth Circle. There is no Mary Elizabeth circle at this time. They met in the afternoon to meet the needs of the women who couldn't attend the morning or evening circles. It is named after the Mary Elizabeth Inn in San Francisco.

The Mary Elizabeth Inn was founded in 1914 by Mrs. Lizzie Snyder Glide. As a woman of vision, Lizzie also built Glide Memorial United Methodist Church. Lizzie's legacy has provided a safe haven for women and her commitment to the community is still evident today. With an awareness of the great need for affordable safe housing for single women who were coming to San Francisco seeking employment, schooling, or leaving behind family turmoil, Lizzie Glide worked to make such a home a reality.

In 1914 Mrs. Glide built and furnished the building at 1040 Bush Street and named the building after her two daughters. Mrs. Glide then donated the Inn to the United Methodist Church. The Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church still holds the deed to the Inn today. The Mary Elizabeth Inn is part of the [Caring Connection](#) of institutional ministries of the United Methodist Church.

The May meeting of the UMW Priscilla Circle will be Wednesday, May 20 at 7:00 pm. Hostess for the evening will be Donna Baker. All women are welcome to attend. The evening usually begins with a short devotional and a little business, followed by a program that may focus on world events, a reading, or a local concern. It always is a time for good fellowship, food and a chance to chat! Come join us.



All women are welcome to join either of the circles. We also encourage anyone who still can't make either to think about starting a Mary Elizabeth Circle to meet at a time that works best for your schedule. As always we encourage members to bring a friend who doesn't have the opportunity to attend a women's group.

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

