

# *Deeds and Opportunities*

## **Brentwood Community United Methodist Church**

809 Second Street, Brentwood CA 94513

Office: (925) 634-3093

✝ Hyesung Lee, Pastor ✝

Website: [Brentwoodumc.org](http://Brentwoodumc.org)

Editor: Bob Clarke

*August 2025*



# WELCOME



SNikitenko




## 2025 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
8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost August 3, 2025 10:30 a.m.	 <i>"The True Gospel"</i> Galatians 1:3-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holy Communion</li> <li>• Adult Bible Study: 9am – 10am Youth Rm</li> <li>• Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples)</li> <li>• Special Music: Christine Nelson</li> <li>• <b>GENEROSITY CHALLENGE:</b> Finance Committee</li> <li>• <b>ALL CHURCH POTLUCK:</b> Anyone who wishes are invited to bring food to share for Fellowship Hour</li> </ul>
9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost August 10, 2025 10:30 a.m.	 <i>"Transforming Power of the Gospel"</i> Galatians 1:11-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Bible Study: 9 am–10 am (Youth Rm)</li> <li>• Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples)</li> <li>• Annual Conference Report: Polly Gallagher and Fran Bowman</li> <li>• Special Music: Joe Kick</li> <li>• New Members: Christine Nelson, David and Sherani Scheppler (Dylan &amp; Sofia)</li> </ul>
10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost August 17, 2025 10:30 a.m.	 <b>10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Bible Study: 9 am–10 am (Youth Rm)</li> <li>• Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples)</li> <li>• Special Music: String Band</li> <li>• Wear Rainbow colors to church</li> <li>• All Church Photo Time: After Service</li> <li>• Young Disciples' Time: Jeanette Ruddick</li> <li>• Message: Melissa van Ruiten</li> </ul>
11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost August 24, 2025 10:30 a.m.	<i>"Gospel Changes the Church"</i> Galatians 2:1-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Bible Study: 9 am–10 am (Youth Rm)</li> <li>• Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples)</li> <li>• Special Music: Jeff Schults</li> </ul>
12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost August 31, 2025 10:30 a.m.	<i>"Gospel Transforms Our Traditions"</i> Galatians 3:10-14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Bible Study: 9 am–10 am (Youth Rm)</li> <li>• Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples)</li> <li>• Special Music: Steven Smith</li> <li>• Sunday Night Live <b>TALENT SHOW:</b> 5pm-7pm – with Potluck</li> </ul>



## Pastor's Letter



Dearest Family of God,

My heart ached last month when I heard the news of our Lay Leader **Heidi Stark's cancer diagnosis**. It broke again just last week with the news of **David Funk's cancer returning**. I am truly heartbroken and deeply saddened for both of them.

Heidi and David have both worked incredibly hard, individually and together, for the ministry of our church over the years. Their dedication has been a tremendous blessing.

I remember about five years ago, **Heidi** joined the Friends in Faith team, meticulously checking attendance records for Sunday worship. She brought monthly Excel reports to the committee, and her thoroughness not only impressed me but also helped us understand who needed more support from the church and gave us insights into our Sunday attendance trends. She then served as the chair of the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) for three years, bringing significant improvements and stability to that ministry area. When our needs grew, she graciously accepted both the chairperson role for the Ad Council and the Lay Leader position. Her leadership has brought stability and creativity to our church. Heidi's consistent vision and dedicated passion have provided steady guidance, and her innovative approaches have led to more effective ministries. Her excellent communication skills have kept all of us informed and inspired through articles in our church newsletter and her insightful sermons delivered twice a year. Her thoughtful, caring presence and leadership have been deeply and widely appreciated by our entire congregation.

**David Funk** stepped into the Lay Leader role to work alongside Julius Lukacs, our wonderful Lay Leader of a decade, who could no longer attend church every Sunday. David has provided a vital ministry of presence to many committees, sharing his wisdom gained from years of experience as a United Methodist leader. His passion for missions, the Men's Group, and the Scholarship ministry has never wavered. He volunteered to become the interim Director of HOPE HOUSE in March 2022, and soon after, became its full Director. His leadership not only attracted many volunteers but also brought in new givers, both large and small, from our community and beyond. When we faced challenging times, he became a trustworthy bridge for our ministries. This was also after he bravely battled cancer for the first time; as soon as he recovered, he jumped back into ministry wherever he was needed. For the past year, he has been on a break from HOPE HOUSE to care for his wife, JoAnn, since her Parkinson's diagnosis.

I am incredibly proud of our two Lay Leaders. They have served us faithfully and lovingly. Now, it's our turn to support them with **prayers, cards**, and most importantly, by **doing our own part faithfully and lovingly**, just as they have done for us.

We pray that God's incredible grace brings them complete healing and renewed health. And as we uphold them in prayer, let's continue to serve the Lord and His ministries in our respective places with joyful hearts and faithful hands and feet. We are all deeply connected in this sacred journey, moving forward together!

Many Prayers & Many Blessings,

"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



United  
Women  
in Faith

The theme for the 2025 United Women in Faith program is Carrying Our Faith Forward. We will be exploring an intergenerational conversation about what it looks like to carry our faith forward in an expanding or new context. Water is used as a theme - the path of water, our faith stories reflect a punch and a pull, peaks and waterfalls, stagnant ponds and storms. It is for us to recall what faith means to us - to define our faith and to remember who conveyed faith to us.

Trivia, Treats and Treasures will be held on Saturday, August 16th from 3-5pm. Please plan to join us for trivia, snacks, drinks and raffle baskets. Tickets for this fun family event are available.

Save the date for Sundae Sunday on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Plan to stay after the service and enjoy delicious ice cream sundaes courtesy of your United Women in Faith.

If you are participating in the Secret Sister Summer of Surprises, please remember to send your Secret Sister little gifts and/or cards during the month of August. At our meeting in September our Secret Sisters will be revealed. Let's have fun with this!

**United Women in Faith will not be meeting in August. 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.**



**Greetings, men of the UMM!**

**Our next meeting will be on Saturday August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, at 8:00 AM.**

**In the fellowship hall! All men are welcome! Come and enjoy a hot breakfast and fellowship.**

### **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 **Reconciling Ministries Network**, go to <https://rmnetwork.org/>

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

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

For Western Jurisdiction, go to <https://westernjurisdictionumc.org/>

For more information about UMC, go to ResourceUMC here

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

For recent UM news, go to umnews.org here

<https://www.umnews.org/en/>





# 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](mailto: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), **Joyce Heflin**, **Leonor and Jim Roberts**, **Charlene Dobson**, **Betty Gaughan**, **Scott Kammeyer's mother**, **Echo Paden** (Eileen Newill's granddaughter), **Joe Niec**, **Rick Dunn's mother**, **Danny Carpenter** (Edie Tidrick's nephew), **Lytic Jones** (Eileen Newill's granddaughter), **Nathan** (Steve Smith's brother), **Robin Thompson** (JoAnn Funk's friend), **Hisako Suzuki**, **Blake Kurz**, **June Lee** (Pastor's daughter), **Jake** (Barbara Pinkston's grandson), **Mike Martin** (Linda Barnhill's friend), **Heidi Stark**, **Family of Heidi Stark**, **Joyce** (Edie Tidrick's sister), **Dari Tran**, **Dave Funk**, **Kellie** (granddaughter of John & Katie Moore), **Tim** (Joyce Sorenson's nephew), and **Jeanette Ruddick's Father**.

## Communication from Laura Webb – Youth Ministry Director RE: Children's Sunday School

I enjoy so much the time I spend with our children at Sunday School! They are eager to learn more about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. As we talk and share together, they are musing about the lives of the Bible characters, their circumstances and their choices. They ask funny and deep questions about the meaning of things. Seeing their faces light up with understanding is the greatest joy.

We have one class that includes late 3 yr. olds to 11-year-old students. Attendance currently ranges from 3-10 students. There are 4 teachers who rotate through the month. Curriculum is provided.

I invite you to join in this experience as our Sunday School classes become larger. To strengthen our Sunday School, I need:

1-2 additional adults to teach 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays and Substitute. Curriculum is provided

4-5 high schoolers or adults to assist the teacher once monthly. Tasks would include taking attendance, assisting with crafts and activities, and accompanying students who need to leave the classroom.



Antioch, Brentwood, Byron, and Pittsburg UMC

**ORIENTATION** \*Lunch provided

For Middle & High Schoolers and Parents

September 21, Sunday 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Place: Brentwood Community UMC (809 2<sup>ND</sup> St.)

Questions: Pastor Sungho Lee ([rev.sungholee@gmail.com](mailto:rev.sungholee@gmail.com))



*We're delighted to announce that **Jazmine Harnishfeger-Brand** is joining the BCUMC music team as a new Co-Director of our choir!*

*This fall, she'll begin conducting on a bi-weekly basis alongside our current Co-Director, Alivia Logan-Kumagai. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Jazmine!*

Originally from Southern California, Jazmine Harnishfeger-Brand has been a music educator, conductor, performer, and arts advocate for over 25 years. With a diverse musical background that focused on jazz piano, composition, and choral music, Ms. Harnishfeger-Brand completed both her undergrad and graduate studies at the USC Thornton School of Music. Since then, she has gone on to teach both in and outside the classroom, conduct singers as young as 4 and as old as 101, travel the world with her choirs, serve at several churches, and lectures at numerous locations throughout the Bay Area. Most recently she is the Founder of the Brentwood Vocal Collective, an intimate vocal ensemble that specializes in challenging treble music, with whom she also sings Alto 2. Ms. Harnishfeger-Brand is currently the President and CEO of Family Wellness & Success to her four children, Dean (6.5), James (4.5), and twins Ellie and Dotti (2.5), and her husband, Kris, all of whom feel blessed to call Brentwood their home. When not holding a little hand, volunteering in a classroom, or prepping a rehearsal, Jazmine enjoys reading, coffee with friends, and a mother's most prized procession, a good nap. She feels very blessed and excited to continue sharing her love of God through music with Alivia, the BCUMC Choir, and the congregation at large.

Jazmine Harnishfeger-Brand  
[jazmine.harnishfeger@gmail.com](mailto:jazmine.harnishfeger@gmail.com)  
 cell: (562) 331-0684

# Celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Reconciling Congregation

## Theme: "Joy in the Journey"

When: August 17<sup>th</sup>, Sunday at 10:30 am

### How to Participate in the Celebration:

1. **Invite Everyone:** Bring your friends, neighbors, and especially your LGBTQIA+ loved ones to the church.
2. **Wear Rainbow Colors:** Show your support by wearing rainbow attire to the service.
3. **Worship Joyfully:** Participate in the worship service with open and joyful hearts.
4. **Hear Inspiring Testimonies:** Celebrate our journey as a Reconciling Congregation with special messages and testimonies:
  - A Message for Young Disciples: Jeanette Ruddick, co-chairperson of the Reconciling Ministry Committee, will share a message. Jeanette bravely stepped up to co-chair this vital ministry when no one else would for many years. She's also a teacher-advisor for the Gender-Sexuality Alliance (GSA) group at Liberty High School and helped the Center for Human Development launch East County LGBTQ+ Youth Support in our church. Along with Melissa, she has been instrumental in leading this ministry, including participating in Pride Month Parades in Clayton and Concord.
  - A Message for the Congregation: Melissa van Ruiten, co-chairperson of the Reconciling Ministry Committee, will address the congregation. Her profound passion for this ministry is widely recognized within our church and the broader community. She has consistently advocated for the well-being of LGBTQIA+ students and adults in our community and beyond. As a pastor's kid, she will share her love of Christ and passion for this ministry.
  - Congratulatory Remarks: Tristan Mendoza and Matthew Taum, early leaders of our Reconciling Ministry, will share a special video message with us during the service. About nine years ago, they led "Open Discussion" sessions after worship, teaching us about pronouns and how to genuinely welcome our LGBTQIA+ siblings into our church family. Their sessions were incredibly impactful, allowing many to share personal experiences publicly for the first time, fostering encouragement and healing. They are thrilled to share their memories and celebrate with us.
5. **Annual Church Photo:** Join us for our annual all-church photo immediately following the worship service.
6. **Fellowship & Festivities:** Enjoy the special decorations and our Sunday Fellowship Hour, thoughtfully prepared by the Reconciling Ministry Committee.





## Cici Moved to Folsom

Our hearts have been so sad with the news of our dearest sister, Cici (Carolyn Kirchner)'s moving to Folsom on June 26th. She was a cherished part of our community for four years, and during that time, she gave birth to some truly wonderful initiatives.

Think of the "Peace Community Garden" (at Midway and Maple) and the weekly ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics & Dysfunctional Families) support group. Both have been incredible channels, bringing so many people into God's healing space and restorative ministries. How profoundly grateful we are for all the blessings God poured out through her!

Beyond these, Cici also dedicated herself as a greeter, an usher, a volunteer at HOPE HOUSE, and a helper to countless individuals in need. She did all of this while also working several days a week at a nearby Elementary School for children with special needs. Her commitment was truly remarkable.



I was genuinely sad when I learned about her move. So, during the Annual Conference, when there were no evening schedules, my husband and I drove about 30 minutes from Sacramento to visit her new residence in Folsom. There, we met her friend, Ellen, who had joyfully welcomed Cici into her home. It turns out they've been friends for 40 years! Their mobile home was incredibly spacious and beautiful. We enjoyed tea together, toured the house, and discovered just how artistic both are. We closed our visit by praying together, blessing their new home and new journey.

Cici specifically asked me to convey how much she misses us—the church and our community. I truly hope to see her as often as possible in the future. May God wrap her life in abundant love and joy!

If you'd like, you may send a card to Cici to this new address:

*Carolyn (Cici) Kirchner (Ellen Anderson)*

*168 Leafwood Way*

*Folsom, CA 95630*



## Capital Improvement Project



As we move along in the first three months of this project, we can see the fruits of our collective generosity. The good news is that we were able to move ahead with the termite work and painting project with funds already in our Necessary Improvement Fund. Now we need to work on replenishing that fund (which has been pretty much taken to its last \$1,000). We also look ahead to the possibilities of transforming the “lawn area” on Second Street.

Please see the display in the fellowship hall to see the pledges received and actual monies received to date. This is a work in progress! Feel free at any point to make a one-time donation or submit a pledge. Also check the display for pledge cards.

## TRIVIA, TREATS AND TREASURES

United Women in Faith are hosting Trivia, Treats and Treasures on **Saturday, August 16th from 3:00-5:00pm**. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a fun afternoon of tasty treats, trivia competitions, and a treasure trove of amazing raffle baskets. Event and raffle basket previews and tickets have been able to be purchased since July 27<sup>th</sup> but will continue August 3rd and 10th as well as at the door on August 16th. Event tickets are \$10/person. No charge for kids! Additional raffle tickets will be available for purchase – 1 ticket for \$1, 7 tickets for \$5, or 15 tickets for \$10. Even if you can't attend the event, you can still participate in the raffle basket drawings by writing your name on your tickets. Drawings will take place at the event. All funds raised will go to support United Women in Faith mission projects. Please plan to attend this fun family event and support worthy causes. Questions, please contact Jan Schults, United Women in Faith President at 925-890-6296. All are welcome!



The Treasure Baskets will be on display for the next two Sundays as well as at the event. Raffle tickets can be purchased at any of those times (need not be present at event to win!) Come check them out - there is something for everyone!





## August

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



## August

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



Psalms 113:3  
From the rising of the  
sun unto the going  
down of the same the  
LORD'S name is  
to be praised.

Drawn - clipart

## AN IMMIGRANT

My name is lost  
I'm an immigrant  
Looking for freedom  
And a better place  
Trying just to stand  
In the human race  
When hope is  
Running thin  
And prayers feel  
Abandoned  
Upon the wind.

Isn't everyone  
An immigrant?  
Come from one  
Place or another  
Everyone a sister  
Or a brother.

May peace be  
In your soul  
May peace be  
In my soul.

© Joe Kick - 2025



# August



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	2 UMM Breakfast 8am
3 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Church Potluck	4 Hope House 9-12pm	5 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old BCC 7pm	6 Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Al Anon 7-8:15pm Trustee 7pm	7 NA 7:30-8:45pm	8 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	9
10 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Church Group 12 pm Youth Rm	11 Hope House 9-12pm	12 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old HH Produce Truck 4pm BCC 7pm	13 Hope House 9-12pm SPRC 4:30 ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Ad Council 7pm Al Anon 7-8:15pm	14 NA 7:30-8:45pm	15 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	16 UMF Trivia Treats & Treasures 3 pm
17 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am	18 Hope House 9-12pm	19 Worship Committee 10 am Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old Finance 6:30 pm BCC 7pm	20 Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Al Anon 7-8:15pm	21 NA 7:30-8:45pm 7pm Choir Meet & Greet	22 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	23
24 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am	25 Hope House 9-12pm DIG 7-9:30pm Q.R.	26 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old HH Produce Truck 4pm NAMI 7pm BCC 7pm	27 Hope House 9-12pm CCN 10am ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Al Anon 7-8:15pm Reconciling Committee 7pm	28 NA 7:30-8:45pm Bcumc Choir 7pm	29 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	30

\* Dates and Times are subject to change

\* For the most updated calendar/schedule see church website: [www.brentwoodumc.org](http://www.brentwoodumc.org)

\* To request use of Facility or any questions contact Michelle: 925 634 3093 [brentwoodcommunityumc@gmail.com](mailto:brentwoodcommunityumc@gmail.com)





*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 Sandra Olewine

California-Nevada Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

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Los Rios District Superintendent: Rev. David Niu

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

Administrative Assistant: Michelle Carrillo

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TIME DATED MATERIAL

