

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

September 2025




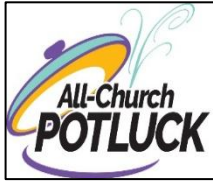



2025 SEPTEMBER Worship Schedule

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	Scriptures / Themes	Worship Acts and More
13 th Sunday after Pentecost Sep 7, 2025 10:30 a.m.	 Preacher: Rev. Hugh Stevenson <i>*Pastor Lee is on vacation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Communion • Adult Bible Study: 9am – 10am Youth Rm • Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples) • CHOIR is back! • ALL CHURCH POTLUCK: who wishes are invited to bring share for Fellowship Hour  Anyone food to
 14 th Sunday after Pentecost Sep 14, 2025 10:30 a.m.	158th Anniversary of BCUMC Preacher: Rev. Hugh Stevenson <i>*Pastor Lee is on vacation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Bible Study: 9 am–10 am (Youth Rm) • Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples) • Sundae Sunday by Women's Group for Fellowship Hour 
15 th Sunday after Pentecost Sep 21, 2025 10:30 a.m.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Bible Study: 9 am–10 am (Youth Rm) • Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples) • Special Music: String Band • Orientation to <u>Joint Confirmation</u> at 12:30 pm
16 th Sunday after Pentecost Sep 28, 2025 10:30 a.m.	"Living in Love" Luke 16:19:32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Bible Study: 9 am–10 am (Youth Rm) • Sunday School for Kids (after the Time for Young Disciples)



Joint Confirmation 2025-2026

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 2ND St.)
Questions: Pastor Sungho Lee (rev.sungholee@gmail.com)

✝ Pastor's Letter ✝

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you today with a heart full of joy and excitement about the growing fellowship within our Church Circuit, which includes Byron, Brentwood, Antioch, and Pittsburg UMCs. On August 14th, the pastors and lay leaders from our churches gathered via Zoom, and it was a wonderful time of sharing, brainstorming, and planning how we can strengthen

our bonds and serve God together.

I want to share some of the wonderful things emerging from this partnership.

A Joint Confirmation Journey for Our Youth

One of the most exciting initiatives already in motion is a **Joint Confirmation Class** for the youth of all four churches. This is a fantastic opportunity for our young people to learn and grow in faith alongside their peers from our neighboring congregations.



- **Orientation:** Sunday, September 21st, at 12:30 p.m.
- **Location:** Brentwood Community UMC
- **Who Should Attend:** All interested youth, and their parents are welcome to learn more about this journey.

Teachers and mentors from all four churches will be leading the class. We are praying for a powerful and successful Confirmation Journey for all who participate.

An Invitation to Worship and Learn Together In the spirit of collaboration, our sister churches are opening their doors and sharing their events with all of us. You are warmly invited to enjoy these wonderful activities:

- **From Pittsburg UMC:**
 - **"Worship Under the Stars" (Cafe Agape Ministry):** An evening for young people and families to worship with LIVE praise music, art, and dance. There will be local vendors, game booths, and more!
 - **Date:** Saturday, September 13th, from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
 - **Location:** Pittsburg UMC (153 West Leland Road, Pittsburg)
 - **Hip Hop Liberation Bible Studies:** A unique and engaging study held via Zoom.
 - **When:** The 2nd & 4th Mondays of each month, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
 - **Zoom ID:** 895 2654 2310 | **Passcode:** 182625
- **A New Partnership in Worship:**
 - Antioch and Pittsburg UMCs have begun a beautiful new tradition. On the **first Sunday of every month**, the Pittsburg congregation, which is faithfully served by two young lay ministers, will join the Antioch church for a combined worship service and to share in the Holy Communion. We pray that by God's grace, this partnership will bless both churches abundantly.

Continued on next page

A Personal Note: A Journey Home On a personal note, I will be traveling to Korea for two weeks to visit my mother, siblings, and other relatives. My trip is centered around a very special occasion: my mother's 94th birthday on September 8th!

Many of you know we feared we might lose her last year, but she has made a remarkable recovery and grows stronger each day. It brings me such happiness to share that she is now enjoying the peaceful rhythm of crocheting and the lively company of a new family puppy. Your prayers have meant the world to us.

While I Am Away (September 7th & 14th) During my absence, our church will be in very capable hands.

- **Guest Preacher:** The Rev. Hugh Stevenson will be preaching on both Sundays, September 7th and 14th. I am so excited for you to hear his message!
- **Joyful Music:** I will be sad to miss the return of our wonderful Choir on September 7th, but I will be with you in spirit!
- **Pastoral Care:** For any matters requiring pastoral support, please contact our Lay Leader, **David Funk (925-628-8938)**, or our CCN Chair, **Linda Walton (925-209-8597)**. They will graciously coordinate any necessary care.

We also continue to hold David Funk in our prayers as he undergoes cancer treatment. Thanks be to God, he is responding well and without side effects.

Let us continue to live out the Gospel that has freed us from sin and death, from fear and oppression!

God is Wonderful!

In His Grace,



Your Pastor, Hyesung Lee



BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

158 YEARS

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

SINCE 1867

SUNDAY
10:30 AM
09.14.2025



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 was held on Saturday, August 16th, and it was a success raising \$500 for UWF mission Projects! We are donating \$300 to UMCOR, \$100 to the Winter Nights Program, and \$100 to Shepherd Gate. We appreciate everyone who worked to put this event on and provide amazing raffle baskets, and we thank all who supported this fun event by coming out to play trivia!

UWF will host Sundae Sunday on September 14th. Plan to stay after the service and enjoy delicious ice cream sundaes courtesy of your United Women in Faith.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, September 15th at 7pm Karen Thomas will lead the program at her home (920 Elk Run Terrace, Brentwood). If you have been participating in the Secret Sister Summer of Surprises, all will be revealed! We will all learn who our Secret Sister is and share that fun experience

United Women in Faith will meet on Monday, September 15th at 7pm (Home of Karen Thomas). 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! The next Men's Breakfast is coming up on **Saturday, September 6** at 8:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come spend a fine early morning with your fellow Methodist men, have a good breakfast, and spend some time in fellowship. Coffee will be piping hot by 7:30.

Conversation topics will include the October 4 bocce ball event and the October 10-11 men's retreat--plus, we'll have some spiritual direction from Chaplain Dave.

The cost for breakfast is \$5.00--a bargain! Bring a friend, and their breakfast is free!



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.

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), **Martin Tucker Family**, **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), **Lyric 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**, **Dave Funk**, **Kellie** (granddaughter of John & Katie Moore), **Robert Ruddick**, **Marlise** (Bob Clarke's granddaughter), **Janet Gulizia** (Kathie's sister), **Annie Hendrix** (Bev Hendrix's daughter, **Mark**, and **Jo Chapman**.

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



Celebration of life **Beverly Tucker**

**Saturday, Sept 27, 2025
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Brentwood Community
United Methodist Church**

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Join us as we celebrate our unity in Christ with fellow Christians worldwide on **World Communion Sunday, October 5th**.

We invite you to participate in this special celebration in the following ways:

- **Wear traditional clothing** to represent your cultural heritage.
- **Bring a dish that reflects your culture** to share in a church-wide potluck.
- **Share the name of a country** that is significant to you. As you come forward for Communion, please state the country's name into the microphone so all can hear. To ensure everyone has a chance to participate, we ask that you share just the name.
- **Email a photo** of you or your family in traditional clothing to the church office by **Wednesday, October 1st**. These photos will be shared to celebrate our wonderful diversity and give glory to God!



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.

NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION

Sunday, October 5th and 12th

12 pm to 1:15 pm (Quiet Room)



You are invited to this orientation if you want to (1) join our church as a committed member or (2) just learn more about our church. This orientation will include (1) sharing of faith journeys; (2) United Methodist Church Beliefs and Mission; and (3) our B.C.U.M. church mission.

If you are interested, please let the pastor know by contacting her at 925-303-9339 (cell) or hslee3@gmail.com. Or you may just show up!

Our gathering is always very enjoyable and spiritual.

Save the date

Bocce Ball Tournament: Saturday, October 4!

The United Methodist Men will again be hosting a **bocce ball tournament** in place of its regular monthly breakfast on Saturday, October 4 at 8:00 a.m. at Veterans Park on Balfour Rd. A light breakfast (pastries, fruit, coffee) will be provided, and Joe's special bacon will make a return appearance. **All are invited!** Hope you can join us! For more information, please contact Joe Niec or any officer of the UMM.



NEW MEMBERS

Christine Nelson

The day we have been waiting for. Who is Christine Nelson? She was born in Long Beach CA and baptized as an infant in the Long Beach Methodist Church. Growing up she lived in Baghdad Iraq in 2nd grade, due to Chris's dad study abroad on a Fulbright Award. She graduated from Whittier College with a degree in Music Education, hence her Angelic voice. Chris taught school for a few years, then was Alumni Director at her Alam Mater - Whittier College, followed by Human Resources Executive Assistant in the El Monter school district in Southern CA. She has been widowed for almost eight years; moving to Brentwood five years ago, living in Summerset I. Chris has two sons and is a very active GRANDmother to four grandsons. When asked about her biggest accomplishment? Her first son weighed 13 lbs. and was 24" long. Chris is an active Kare Bear in Summerset I; welcoming new residents, enjoys going on Summerset organized trips, and is an Alto with the Summerset Singers; and as we all know a soloist here. Chris started attending this church three years ago, and almost immediately became a H.O.P.E. House volunteer. And Chris is an active member of the Friends in Faith Ministry Committee.



Sherani & David Schepppler

They were married on April 29th, 2017. Son Dylan was born Feb 28th, 2021, and participates in BCUMC'S children's Sunday school. His sister Sofia was born on September 23rd, 2023. The Schepppler family resides in Oakley.

Sherani was born in Pittsburg and baptized Catholic. She graduated from UC Davis with a degree in Psychology. Her employment background includes Server, Bartender, various psych labs and a developing retail banking career. Most recently as Branch Manager & AVP at Wells Fargo Bank. Interests outside of family have included Junior Achievement, taught grade school children elementary financial literacy. At Davis involved with UCD Women's Center, CAPS (counselling services), and UCD Art Center. And volunteering has included Wells Fargo Habitat for Humanity, Contra Costa Solano County Food Bank; and at some point, she would like to help at H.O.P.E. House.

David was born and raised in Dublin CA and baptized Catholic. He held a variety of different Customer Service jobs and worked as an Activity Director for an Assisted Living Facility. David has spent the last 12 years at Blazeo and is Manager of Strategic Partnerships. They provide Live Chat & Call Center services to a variety of industries including law, home improvement, and medical. Outside of family and work, volunteering includes Broadcaster for High School Sports, and with residents living in Assisted Living and Memory Care facilities.

Lay Leader News

By Heidi Stark

I was unable to write anything for August D & O because July was truly one of the worst months of my life, and I just didn't have the capacity to share anything. In June, I shared that my husband, Luiz has Alzheimer's disease. This terrible disease is a living death. It's stealing the man we knew and leaving behind a shell. It is devastating for our family on a daily basis. It's a lot for my children/grandchildren to have not one but two sick parents/grandparents. Over the last couple of months, we'd seen Luiz's decline accelerate – a lot more confusion, agitation, paranoia, and sleep disturbances. Unfortunately, we hit a tipping point in the middle of July, and Luiz was taken to the ER and admitted to the hospital for several days. For people with Alzheimer's stress can be a big trigger and Luiz's doctors believe that my cancer diagnosis was too overwhelming and scary for him and caused him to enter a manic state. His doctors recategorized his Alzheimer's to dementia with major cognitive decline and explained that he has probably had dementia for the last 5-10 years. Luiz has a PhD in Physics, and his brilliant mind likely enabled him to mask his decline until the symptoms become too much to hide.

While Luiz was hospitalized, his care team and mine told our family that it was no longer safe for Luiz to live at home and have us care for him. My chemo treatments were starting on August 5th, and we were advised that seeing me sick would do more harm than good for both Luiz and me. Given the level and severity of decline it was time for us to place him in a memory care facility where he would be provided with care and routines to meet his needs. This was an absolutely devastating turn for our family, but we also understood and agreed that the time had come. We do know that this was the best and safest option for both him and me, but it was a heartbreaking experience for our family. We were very fortunate to find a wonderful memory care facility that is now Luiz's home. Everything about the facility checked all our boxes and the staff is attentive and caring and well trained to handle Alzheimer's/Dementia. Luiz has settled in well, and he has renewed energy and purpose. He believes that he is working on a project to cure Alzheimer's/Dementia. We visit often and while he misses us, he is content with where he is. My daily prayer is that he never feels alone or lonely and always knows that he is loved.

Throughout this nightmare, there have been many, many God moments that I will happily share as I am able. My first chemo treatment hit me hard, taking me days to recover and causing me to realize that I would not have been able to care for Luiz while navigating my cancer journey too. I've now had two chemo treatments and bounced back a little better from the second one. In September, I will receive two more rounds of the same chemo "cocktail" before switching to a different weekly chemo "cocktail" on September 30. I am coming to understand each treatment is a new experience, and I am taking it one day at a time. About two weeks after my first treatment, I started losing my hair by the handfuls which was very disconcerting. I am now trying to get used to my bald head and trying to find joy in every day. My 4-year-old grandson, Mikey informed me that he did not want me to be "balded", but once he saw and touched my bald head he declared me beautiful. I love that little boy! My children (Drew, Kate & Jenna) and their spouse (Britt, Mike & Jake) and my grandchildren (Macy, McKinley, Mikey & Campbell) have been amazing. My daughter, Jenna and her family have moved in to help take care of me and keep me company.

I am blessed with a tremendous amount of love and support. I was so touched to receive the poster from my BCUMC family filled with heartfelt messages. I have it in my bedroom to remind me of the love and prayers that keep coming for me and my family. When I can't live stream Church on Sunday morning, I watch the recording later in the week. It has been a blessing to see new members join our congregation and students receive scholarships from the Men's Group. I pray for the joys and concerns lifted up each week. I've mourned the passing of our dear friend, Beverly Tucker, and I was so sad to hear that Dave Funk has a recurrence of cancer. I love the generosity challenge put forth by the Finance/Stewardship Committee - I sure hope that vase is full! I watched with joy the amazing celebration of our 10th year as a reconciling congregation, and thoroughly enjoyed the amazing sermon delivered by Melissa Van Ruiten. I am so proud to be a member of BCUMC – proud of who we are and all that we do! I continue to ask for your prayers for my family and me as we travel this unexpected journey. I am blessed to have the love, support and prayers of my family, friends, Church, and so many people I don't even know lifting me up. I remain thankful!

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. – Romans 8:18



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
- 21. Nimfa Ochinang
- 23. Sofia Scheppler



September

- 8. Onnie and Nini Picart
- 9. Joy and Joe Kick
- 15. Beverly and Martin Tucker

GOD IS HERE

When times are dark
Low, bleak and troubling
God is here. God is near.
When truth is trampled on
And people live in fear
And hope is running thin
God is here. God is near.
When health seems fragile
When we're not so agile
Distress comes knocking
At the door
We pray some more
And know - God is here.

Oh Spirit Divine
Within and around
You bring us to
Solid ground
You are our peace
Our comfort, our strength
Our refuge in the storm
Our hearts are calm
Trusting and knowing
God is near, God is here.

© Joe Kick - 2025

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Hope House Closed for holiday	2 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old BCC 7pm	3 Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7-8:15pm Trustee 7pm	4	5 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm AI Anon 8- 9:30pm	6 UMM Breakfast 8am
7 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Church Potluck	8 Hope House 9- 12pm Liberation Bible Study 7 pm	9 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old BCC 7pm DIG 7pm	10 Hope House 9-12pm SPRC 4:30 pm Ad Council 7pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7-8:15pm	11 NA 7:30- 8:45pm	12 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm AI Anon 8- 9:30pm	13
14 158 th anniversary BCUMC Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am UWF Sunday Sundae	15 Hope House 9- 12pm	16 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old HH Produce Truck 4pm Finance 6:30 pm BCC 7pm	17 Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7-8:15pm	18 NA 7:30- 8:45pm	19 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm AI Anon 8- 9:30pm	20
21 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Confirmation Class 12:30pm	22 Hope House 9- 12pm Liberation Bible Study 7 pm	23 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old BCC 7pm	24 Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7-8:15pm	25 NA 7:30- 8:45pm 7pm Choir Meet & Greet	26 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm AI Anon 8- 9:30pm	27 Beverly Tucker's Memorial Service 2-4pm BCUMC
28 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am	29 Hope House 9- 12pm DIG 7-9:30pm Q.R.	30 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old HH Produce Truck 4pm NAMI 7pm BCC 7pm				30

*** 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 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

Los Rios District Superintendent: Rev. David Niu

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

Administrative Assistant: Michelle Carrillo

Brentwood Community
United Methodist Church
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Brentwood, CA 94513

TIME DATED MATERIAL

