

# *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

*November 2025*



**Thank You Pastor Lee for 11 years of Service!**



# 2025 NOVEMBER 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
<p><b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b> Nov 2, 2025 10:30 a.m.</p> 	 <p>ALL SAINTS' DAY</p>	<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>• Bring a votive candle to light in remembrance of your departed loved ones</li> <li>• STEWARDSHIP MOMENT ①</li> <li>• ALL CHURCH POTLUCK: wishes are invited to bring food Fellowship Hour</li> </ul>  <p>Anyone who to share for</p>
<p>22nd Sunday after Pentecost Nov 9, 2025 10:30 a.m.</p>		<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>• STEWARDSHIP MOMENT ②</li> <li>• Joint Confirmation ③: 12:30 – 2:00 pm at Antioch UMC (50 Walton Lane)</li> </ul>
<p>23rd Sunday after Pentecost Nov 16, 2025 10:30 a.m.</p>		<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>• STEWARDSHIP MOMENT ③</li> <li>• Presentation of the Bible to 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders</li> </ul>
<p><b>THANKSGIVING SUNDAY</b> Nov 23, 2025 10:30 a.m.</p>		<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>• THANKSGIVING for PLEDGES</li> <li>• HANGING OF THE GREENS (Sandwiches will be provided)</li> </ul>
<p><b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> Nov 30, 2025 10:30 a.m.</p>		<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>• Lighting of Advent Candle by a new member family</li> <li>• Advent Study: 12 pm – 1 pm (Youth Rm)</li> </ul>



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
**HANGING OF THE GREENS**

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2025**  
**After Worship Service**

Come, join us to fill our church with greens and Christmas colors. It's a wonderful time of fellowship as we prepare our space to celebrate Christ's coming. We'll bring the spirit of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love—and the Worship Team will bring the *sandwiches*! All are welcome.

# ✝ Pastor's Letter ✝

Dear Friends,

As many of you know, our beloved Lay Leader, **David Funk**, is walking a difficult road with his health, and our Men's Group has organized a "**Meal Train**" to support his family. We continue to hold **Heidi Stark** in our prayers with gratitude, as her treatment has been progressing well.

However, the Funk's family are walking a particularly difficult road.

A Meal Train is more than just food; it is a visible prayer. It is a sermon in a casserole dish.

This act of bringing a meal to a home in need is an ancient one. It is a core part of our spiritual DNA. When we read in the book of Acts that the first Christians "broke bread in their homes" and ensured that no one had any unmet needs, we are reading the origin story of the Meal Train. When we read of Jesus taking five loaves and two fish and feeding a multitude, we see the divine model for our own community: God takes our small, humble offerings of food and faith and multiplies them into an abundance of grace.

This act of direct, personal care feels more important than ever. We look at the world and see systems strained to the breaking point. We are living through a government shutdown that leaves so many of our neighbors anxious about their well-being. It is easy to feel small and powerless in the face of such enormous, impersonal challenges. But this is precisely where the spirit of the Meal Train offers us a prophetic word.

The systems of the world may run on division and scarcity, but the Kingdom of God runs on an economy of grace and abundance. A government may shut down, but the Body of Christ *shows up*. We show up with a hot meal. We show up with a prayer. We show up with a quiet refusal to let our neighbor bear their burden alone.

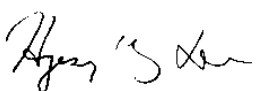
In the face of a challenge like cancer, or a national crisis like the shutdown, we can be tempted to despair, thinking, "What good can I possibly do?" The Meal Train is the idea. We cannot cure every illness. We cannot solve every political crisis. But we *can* love our neighbor. We can ensure they are fed. We can be the tangible, nourishing, unmistakable presence of God's love for them.

Each dish prepared, each meal delivered, is a powerful act of faith. It is a stubborn declaration of hope. It is a way of saying, in the face of all that is wrong, "We will still be the Church. We will still practice love. We will still be the hands and feet of Christ, and sometimes, that looks a lot like a casserole."

I encourage you to participate in this ministry of care if you are able. You may contact Scott Baxter at [scottmbaxter@aim.com](mailto:scottmbaxter@aim.com) the secretary of Men's Group and the coordinator of the Meal Train. If you don't do email, then call or text to Joe Niec, the president of Men's Group (925-234-5747).

I encourage all of us to look for opportunities to practice these small, tangible acts of love, wherever we can. They are not small at all; they are the very things that hold our world together.

May we be a people whose faith is as real and as nourishing as the bread we share.



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.

The women met October 20th for their monthly meeting and program entitled "How Do You Live in Community with Your Sisters?" We explored how we create and support sisterhoods of grace. Isaiah 58:10-12 and Mark 9:41 were the focus scriptures which showed us that "we can satisfy our needs in parched places and make our bones strong; and we shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail."

**Next month's meeting will be November 17th at 7:00. It is our World Thank Offering and Polly will be presenting the program.**

**We encourage all our women to join us for this program. If you would like to join us but don't like driving at night, email Jan at [menkesis@yahoo.com](mailto:menkesis@yahoo.com) and she can make arrangements to pick you up. We are happy to have you join us.**



Greetings, men of the UMM! The next Men's Breakfast is coming up on **Saturday, November 1** at 8:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come spend a fine autumn 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 a men's retreat reflection and the scholarship plan--plus, we'll have some spiritual direction from Chaplain Dave.

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

**Hope to see you there!**

~Joe, Diego, Larry, Dave, and Scott



# HOPE HOUSE NEEDS OUR HELP!

This November, let's come together to stock the shelves at Hope House. Please bring your donations to the church on any Sunday during the month.

## Most Needed Items:

- Canned Meats (Tuna, Chicken and other meats)
  - Cereal
  - Peanut Butter

Let's work together so no one in our community goes hungry!



## 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), **John Moore, Dawn** (Daughter of Eugene and Jenny Davis), **Joyce Heflin, Leonor and Jim Roberts, Charlene Dobson, Betty Gaughan, 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), **Blake Kurz, Jake** (Barbara Pinkston's grandson), **Mike Martin** (Linda Barnhill's friend), **Heidi Stark, Luiz Da Silva** (Heidi Stark's husband), **Dave Funk, Robert Ruddick, Annie Hendrix** (Bev Hendrix's daughter), **Mark** (Edie Tidrick's family), **Martin Tucker Family, Jo Chapman, Gloria Martin** (Laura Webb's friend), **Frank** (Jerry Walton's brother), **Ian** (Linda Walton's friend), **Mother of Daisy Kennedy, Alivia Logan-Kumagai's Mother-in-Law, Heather Cannon** (Susan Stuteville's daughter), **Abby** (Katie Moore's neighbor's daughter), **Adella Logan, Jeff Schults's mother, Ava** (Nancy Weld's granddaughter), **Carol Green Family, Susan** (John & Katie Moore's daughter), and **Hila** (Edie's sister).



## 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/>



**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 attendance, assisting with crafts and activities, and accompanying students who need to leave the classroom.

**Lay Leader News**  
**By Heidi Stark**

Hello to my dear BCUMC family; I sure do miss you all. I feel your love and support, and I appreciate all the prayers for me and my family. I have been live streaming Church on Sunday; so, I am able to see and hear what’s happening in our Church. I look forward to when I will feel ready to attend Church in person again. I am halfway through my chemo treatments – 8 down and 8 more to go. If all goes well, I will finish before Christmas. I will get a break to recover before I start radiation in early 2026. It’s a journey for sure. So far, I’ve been very fortunate that my body seems to be tolerating chemo without too many side effects. It’s not fun, but it has been manageable. Mentally and emotionally, I’m very up and down. I remain positive that I can beat this cancer, but I’m still dealing with the grief of no longer having Luiz beside me to navigate this journey. I know that I can no longer care for him and that he is safe and thriving in his memory care facility, but I miss him – who he was before Alzheimer’s/Dementia took him.

I often feel like I am outside my body watching all this craziness unfold and thinking this family is a mess! I also know most of us have messy lives or at least messy moments; it’s hard to get through life unscathed. I feel like there was my life before Luiz’s Alzheimer’s diagnosis and then we tried to figure out how we would enjoy the time we had. Before we could even wrap our heads around next steps, I was diagnosed with breast cancer and life seemed to spiral out of control. I do not know what the future holds, but I continue to hold onto my faith; I believe God has a plan for me and my life. I’ve always loved the Bible verses about worrying and anxiety; they encourage me to take things one day at a time and trust God. *So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today. – Matthew 6:34* My brother and sister-in-law gave me a book of one-minute prayers for women with cancer. I found the prayers very comforting and hopeful.

Last month Pastor shared a sermon about persistent prayer that really resonated with me. Persistent prayer is a radical act of focus that brings intimacy with God especially in a world that has us expecting instant gratification and social media that provides the illusion of connection but often brings about isolation. Persistent conversation with God makes it easier to hear God’s voice. Persistent prayers is an act of defiant HOPE! Persistent prayer believes in a God that saves and heals. Faith keeps showing up – doesn’t give up because faith is knowing God never gives up on us. Stay in conversation with God – PRAY PERSISTENTLY!

***And hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. – Romans 5:5***



## Capital Improvement Project

As we move along in the first 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.

## 2025 “CHURCH” CONFERENCE OF BCUMC

**a. Who:** Committee Chairs (Ad Council Members) + any church members and friends who wish to come (All votes will be taken by members only)

**b. When:** Wednesday November 12, 2025 at 7:00 pm

**c. Where:** Sanctuary

- Presider: Rev. Sungho Lee
- Agenda
  - i. Election of the Secretary of the Church Conference
  - ii. Membership Report - Presenter: Membership Secretary or Pastor
  - iii. Approval of 2024 Clergy Compensation - Presenter: Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) Chair
  - iv. Election of Church Leaders (Nomination Committee Report) – Presenter: Pastor



## 2025 Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule

11/30 Sun.	• First Sunday of Advent - HOPE
12/7 Sun.	• Second Sunday of Advent - PEACE
12/14 Sun.	• Third Sunday of Advent - JOY
<b>12/20 Sat</b>	• <b>Christmas Concert (BCUMC CHOIR) 6:00 pm</b>
12/21 Sun.	• Fourth Sunday of Advent - LOVE
<b>12/24 Wed</b>	• <b>Christmas Eve Worship at 7:00 pm</b>
12/28 Sun.	• First Sunday after Christmas <b>Four Circuit Churches Joint Worship Service</b> When: Sunday Dec 28, 10:30 am Place: Antioch UMC (50 Walton Lane, Antioch)

## Joint Confirmation Class: Growing Together in Faith



October 19th marked a joyful beginning of our **Joint Confirmation Class** with youth and teachers from four different UM Churches (Byron, Brentwood, Antioch & Pittsburg) coming together to learn, share, and grow in faith. We had **five youth participants** from **two churches** and **five teachers** from **four churches** – a true expression of connection and community!

Our first session explored the question, “*Who is God?*” The students discussed how each of us carries a unique image of God – some imagine God as a loving parent, others as a strict judge, and some as a

distant creator. But through Scripture and conversation, we discovered that **Jesus reveals the perfect image of God** – the One who cares for the lost, works with us daily, and gave His life for us.

The youth enjoyed both the plenary and small group discussions and left excited for the next session. The class will continue through **May 2026**, concluding with the **Bishop’s Confirmation Retreat**, and the **Confirmation Service on Pentecost Sunday, 2026**, which will be celebrated jointly across all participating churches. What a beautiful journey ahead!

## LGBTQ+ Youth Forum: Creating a Safe and Loving Space

On **Sunday, November 23, at 12:00 PM**, right after worship, **Antioch UMC** (50 Walton Lane, Antioch) will host a special **LGBTQ+ Youth Forum** in partnership with the **Contra Costa Rainbow Center**.

Many LGBTQ+ youth face heartbreaking challenges – some are even rejected or kicked out of their homes because of religious misunderstanding. This forum will give us an opportunity to listen, learn, and respond with compassion. Representatives from the Rainbow Center will share their work supporting young people who need safe housing and community care.



Our **Edge Youth Group** will host the event, and everyone from our circuit churches is invited to attend. Together, we can be a church that reflects Christ's love for all people – a love that heals, restores, and includes.





## November

2. Joyce Heflin
4. Rebecca Feldermann
5. Eileen Newill
6. Adella Logan
7. Chinyere Ekpemiro
8. Jeff Geddes
8. Sherani Scheppler
9. Diego Garcia
10. Alvin Simas
10. Kim Fraley
11. Diana Lane
11. Sarah Zamjahn
12. Kayla Gallagher
14. Annalise Miesen (Geddes)
18. Darby Gray
21. Onnie Picart
22. Jamie Feldermann
22. Joanie Johnson
22. Hisako Suzuki
25. Dan Hanel
27. Patricia Evans
27. Alma Kennedy
27. Jasmine Kennedy
27. Christine Nelson
29. Joe Kick
29. Will Ruddick



## November

13. Connie and Mark Azevedo
17. Rebecca and James Feldermann
21. Shirley and Kevin Gray
24. Diana and Nathan Lane

## GRATEFUL TO BE

Gratitude is the song  
My heart wants to sing  
And does sing along  
For so many blessings  
Large and small  
May I be thankful  
For them all  
Sunlight on my face  
Being a unique part  
Of the human race  
Children's smiles  
And easy delight  
Friendship by day  
Shelter at night  
Thanks be to God  
The source of all good  
I am grateful to live  
Grateful to love  
Grateful to be  
A beloved child  
Of our loving God.

© Joe Kick - 2025

# NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 UMM Breakfast 8am
2 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am All Saints Sunday Church Potluck	3 Hope House 9-12pm	4 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old BCC 7pm DIG 7pm Fireside	5 Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Al Anon 7-8:15pm Trustee 7pm	6 Trilogy 4pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm NA 7:30-8:45pm	7 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	8
9 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Special Ad Council after church Confirmation Class Antioch UMC 12:30pm	10 Hope House 9-12pm Liberation Bible Study 7 pm Office Closed	11 Worship Committee 10am HH Produce Truck 4pm Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old BCC 7pm Veterans Day Office Closed	12 Hope House 9-12pm SPRC 4:30 pm Church Conf. 7 pm Ad Council 7:30pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Al Anon 7-8:15pm Office Closed	13 Trilogy 4pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm NA 7:30-8:45pm	14 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	15
16 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am	17 Hope House 9-12pm UWF 7pm DIG 7-9:30pm Q.R.	18 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old Finance Committee 6:30pm BCC 7pm	19 CCN 10am Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Al Anon 7-8:15pm	20 Trilogy 4pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm NA 7:30-8:45pm	21 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	22 9:45am Piano Recital
23 Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Thanksgiving Sunday	24 Hope House 9-12pm Liberation Bible Study 7 pm DIG 7pm Fellowship Hall	25 HH Produce Truck 4pm Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old NAMI 7pm BCC 7pm	26 Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm Al Anon 7-8:15pm	27  Office closed	28 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm Al Anon 8-9:30pm	29



\* 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)

## **Stewardship 2025 - Generosity Challenge**

As we finish up this year, we want to complete the challenge and fill up the vase with the remaining generosity ping-pong balls.

Remember, generosity comes in all shapes and sizes - from a smile, to a ride to the doctor, to volunteering your time at HOPE House, to sending a donation to a cause that has meaning for you. In the next few weeks, recognize your acts of generosity and fill our vase to overflowing!





*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

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809 Second Street  
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TIME DATED MATERIAL

