

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



December 2025



2025 DECEMBER 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>2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Dec 7, 2025 10:30 a.m.</p>	 	<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) ● Advent Wreath Candle-lighting by New Members ● ALL CHURCH POTLUCK ● Advent Study: 12:00 – 1:00 pm at Youth Room ● Celebration of Ringers Concert- 2:00 pm at BCUMC
<p>3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Dec 14, 2025 10:30 a.m.</p>		<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) ● Advent Wreath Candle-lighting by New Members ● Advent Study: 12:00 – 1:00 pm at Youth Room
<p>4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Dec 21, 2025 10:30 a.m.</p>		<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) ● Advent Wreath Candle-lighting by New Members ● Advent Study: 12:00 – 1:00 pm at Youth Room
<p>CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE Dec 24 Wednesday 10:30 a.m.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Candle-lighting Worship Service ● Christmas Wreath Candle-lighting by New Members ● Children Carol Singing
<p>1ST SUNDAY after CHRISTMAS Dec 28, 2025 10:30 a.m.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Joint Worship of Four Churches – Byron, Brentwood, Antioch and Pittsburg Time: 10:30 am Place: Antioch UMC (50 Walton Lane, Antioch) ● BCUMC worship will happen at Antioch UMC

Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends,

I would like to share with you my reflections on our ministry together this year. I am truly thankful for your dedication and the steadfast faithfulness you have shown in leading our congregation. Here is my report:

Our Guiding Vision

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church (BCUMC) shares the Vision and Values of the California-Nevada Conference of the United Methodist Church:

- **FOLLOWING JESUS**
- **THRIVING IN THE COMMUNITY**
- **HEALING THE WORLD**

Our goal is to make ministry decisions according to these values, create channels to transform those decisions into life-giving fruits, and follow up with open hearts, open minds, and open resources.

Reflection on 2025: A Year of Blessings

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church has been blessed in many ways in 2025. We celebrate the following areas of growth and gratitude:

Ministry and Community Growth

- Growth in both worship attendance and the Children's Sunday School program.
- A strengthened Nursery Care system.
- Welcoming new members into the BCUMC family.
- Adding new members to the String Band.
- New volunteers and well-organized leadership for the Hope House ministry.
- Steady and revitalized Women's and Men's Groups.
- A faithful Sunday Adult Bible Study.
- The small but mighty ministry of the Reconciling Team.
- A strengthened Worship ministry with creative ideas for special Sundays.
- Beautiful Garden Parties that welcome neighbors and friends.
- Effective and inspiring weekly and monthly Church Newsletters.
- Warm and steady caring ministries.
- A strengthened BCUMC Choir with a co-director.
- Well-loved Sunday fellowship hours, including monthly potlucks and good snacks every week.
- And many more faithful ministries by various lay members of the church

Significant Milestones & Gifts

- **Building Improvements:** The new painting of the whole church building and complete termite extinction work, thanks to the remarkable work of the Trustees.
- **Campus Beautification:** Creation of the beautiful and inspiring drought-tolerant garden in front of the church office, thanks to Joe Niec, Cici Kirchner, and other helpers.
- **Community Outreach:** Participation of the United Women in Faith in the Winter Night (Homeless ministry) at Antioch St. Anna Catholic Church in October.

Continued on next page

- **Congregational Growth:** Welcoming 7 new professing members and celebrating 2 infant baptisms.
- **Fundraising Launch:** Beginning the "Capital Fundraising for Major Improvements" campaign with a goal of \$70,000 over two years (2025-27).
- **Anniversary Celebration:** A wonderful 10th Anniversary celebration of our Reconciling Congregation, thanks to Jeanette Rudick and Melissa van Ruiten.
- **Nurturing Youth:** Beginning the Circuit-wide Joint Confirmation (Sep 2025 – May 2026) with 5 confirmands, 4 mentors, 4 teachers, and 2 pastors.
- **A New Piano:** As our sanctuary piano could not be in use any longer, our beloved Edie Tidrick donated her baby grand piano. Her generous donation is deeply appreciated.

2026 Ministry Focus

Building on this foundation of God's faithfulness, I will work on the following key areas in 2026:

1. Nurturing the Next Generation: Rebuilding Youth Ministry

Our Sunday School program is thriving, with a dozen children steadily attending Sunday morning Worship Services. This presents a clear and joyful need to re-establish our Youth Ministry, ensuring our children can continue to grow in their faith and Christian fellowship.

It has been two years since our Youth Director resigned (6/2/2024), and with a Confirmation Class now active, the students themselves are asking for a Youth Group. This will be a top priority for 2026. Our immediate plan is to start a volunteer-led (parents or church members) Youth Fellowship for 6th Grade and over in the early part of the coming year.

2. Investing in Our Home: Capital Fundraising for Major Improvements

Our church buildings and property require ongoing maintenance and transformation to remain effective and fruitful spaces for ministry. The Ad Council established a two-year "Capital Fundraising for Major Improvement" campaign with a \$70,000 goal.

As of the end of 2025, we have received \$18,660 in pledges and \$15,327 in actual funds. While this is a wonderful start, we are still a long way from our goal. In 2026, we will need creative ideas to fulfill this goal. I will work closely with the Ad Council, especially the Trustees and Finance Committee, to create more bridges to reach our goal. I hope and pray that the process will be joyful and empowering for all other ministries and for the spirit of the congregation.


3. Strengthening Our Witness: Deepening Circuit Collaboration

We will have increasing opportunities to work with our sister churches in the "**Planting the Seeds of Hope Circuit**" (Byron, Brentwood, Antioch, and Pittsburg). This collaboration has already begun with a Joint Confirmation Class, a Joint Youth Forum for LGBTQ+ Youth, and our first Joint Circuit Worship Service on December 28th, 2025.

Of the four churches, BCUMC is the largest and most stable financially and in membership. This gives us a special opportunity and responsibility to offer mutual support so that all four churches may grow meaningfully. It is very important that we United Methodists continue to provide God's radical love and hospitality through our presence, ministries, and voices. I am looking forward to working with our circuit churches and pray that all our church members and leaders feel the same excitement and hopefulness.

May God bless our new year with surprising hope and meaningful fruits of collaborative ministries! Amen.

Sincerely submitted,



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 held their World Thank Offering program Nov. 17th. All donations received will go to the National United Women in Faith to support

our mission work throughout the world. "We're a sisterhood acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation."

Driven by God's love and united in sisterhood, we work to improve the lives of women, children and youth. Every day, we show up. We take action, We get it done. And we invite you to join us.

We will be taking December off as we all enjoy the many activities the season brings.

We wish you a wonderful Christmas reflecting in the reason for the season - the birth of Jesus Christ. Peace and joy to you all.

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 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, December 6th** 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!

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
 - Empty egg cartons

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.

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), **Jo Chapman, Gloria Martin** (Laura Webb's friend), **Frank** (Jerry Walton's brother), **Ian** (Linda Walton's friend), **Alivia Logan-Kumagai's Mother-in-Law, Heather Cannon** (Susan Stuteville's daughter), **Abby** (Katie Moore's neighbor's daughter), **Ava** (Nancy Weld's granddaughter), **Susan** (John & Katie Moore's daughter), **Christina Rama** (Laura Webb's daughter), **Brother of Jan Schults, Joyce Sorenson, Karen** (Jan Schults' sister-in-law), and **Gary** (Polly Gallagher's brother-in-law).



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 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.

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.



Stewardship 2026



What does Paul bring? Throughout the book of Acts first we see Paul bringing quite simply, himself; he shows up. He has given his time (years of travel), he has given his talent (as an organizer and communicator) and he has given, most of all, his passion. We, too, as members of BCUMC, show up. We are invited to give, releasing what is valuable to us into the hand of another - trusting it will be a part of something bigger.

As Finance begins its process of putting together a budget for 2026 to support our ministries, you are all invited to respond to “What Shall We Bring”. It may be with a pledge commitment; it may be with a commitment to give faithfully as you are able. The generosity of this church family rises to the ministry needs of BCUMC.

If you have any questions or comments regarding any budget information, please do not hesitate to contact any Finance committee member.

Polly Gallagher
Finance Chair

Welcome to the family, Nancy Weld!






JOINT WORSHIP

When: Sun, Dec 28, 2025, 10:30 AM
Where: Antioch UMC
Theme: Planting Seeds of Hope

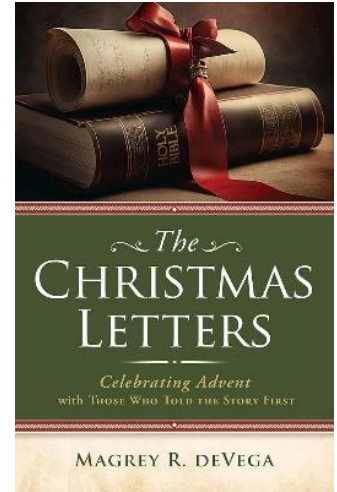
Praises, Testimonials by Laity,
 Mission Reports
 Potluck and Fellowship
 Sunday School and Nursery

Directions to Antioch UMC
(50 Walton Lane, Antioch, CA 94509)
From Highway 4 (East or West):
 1. Take the **A Street / Lone Tree Way** exit (Exit 28).
 2. Follow signs to turn **south** onto **Lone Tree Way**.
 3. Continue on Lone Tree Way, passing W Tregallas Rd.
 4. Turn **left** onto **Walton Ln**.
 5. The church will be on your right.




FOUR WEEK ADVENT STUDY

- Text book: "The Christmas Letters: Celebrating Advent with Those Who Told the Story First" by Magrey R. Devega (Abingdon, 2024)
- **You may purchase this book from Cokesbury, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, etc.
- When: Sundays Nov 30, Dec 7, 14 & 21 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
- Where: Youth Room
- Facilitator: Pastor Hyesung Lee
- Registration: Please let Pastor Lee know if you are interested in joining



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

Christmas Concert

CELEBRATION OF RINGERS

Who: Byron Bell Choir
 When: Sunday Dec 7th, 2pm
 Where: BCUMC (809 2nd Street, Brentwood)

Brentwood Community UMC
 Choir, String Band and Musicians present

Christmas Music Celebration

December 20, Saturday at 6:00 pm
 At BCUMC (809 Second St)

Thank you David

David Funk with his predecessor Jackie Hannel (3.30.2022)

Appreciation of Dave Funk H.O.P.E. House Director

for your light has come!



December

2. Christian Belino
2. Roya Kim
3. Janet Kurz
4. Lynn Austin
7. Nini Picart
13. Heidi Retzer
14. Fred Gulizia
16. Chinedum Ekpemiro
16. Noelle Ochinang
17. Griffin Slay
17. Aidan Dunn
17. Evelyn Gonzalez (Kennedy)
18. Colby Wayne (Sorenson)
19. Benjamin Lukacs
19. Jacob Lukacs
20. Marcie Lukacs
21. Pastor Hyesung Lee
23. Kevin Kennedy
25. Andre Smith
26. Rachel Green
26. Karen Thomas
27. Zeke Canonica
27. Melissa van Ruiten



December

6. Patti Evans and Marty Jewell
17. Nimfa and Samuel Ochinang
21. Koo and Roya Kim

CHRISTMAS NIGHT

Somewhere in the world

The night is calm

A light snow falls

Like a healing balm

A dream of peace

Seeps across the land

The hungry fed

The weak shall stand

Angels singing songs of joy

A mother holding her baby boy

And born in us - gloriously

Realizing our inner divinity

The past let go, fear release

We join in love with





The Prince of Peace.

© Joe Kick - 2025





DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Hope House 9-12pm	2 Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old BCC 7pm DIG 7pm Fireside	3 Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7-8:15pm Trustee 7pm	4 Trilogy 4pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm NA 7:30-8:45pm	5 String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm AI Anon 8-9:30pm	6 UMM Breakfast 8am
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Church Potluck Advent Sunday Joy Celebration Ringers 2 pm Sanctuary	Hope House 9-12pm Liberation Bible Study 7 pm	HH Produce Truck 4pm Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old BCC 7pm	Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm SPRC 4:30 pm Ad Council 7:30pm AI Anon 7-8:15pm	Trilogy 4pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm NA 7:30-8:45pm	String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm AI Anon 8-9:30pm	Recital 1:30 pm
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Advent Sunday Love Recital 12:45 pm	Hope House 9-12pm UWF 7pm Fellowship Hall	Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old Finance Committee 6:30pm	Hope House 9-12pm CCN Luncheon ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7-8:15pm	Choir Rehearsal 7 pm NA 7:30-8:45pm	String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm AI Anon 8-9:30pm	BCUMC Christmas Choir Recital 4pm
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Advent Sunday Peace	Hope House 9-12pm UWF 7pm Liberation Bible Study 7 pm DIG 7-9:30pm Q.R.	HH Produce Truck 4pm Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old	Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7-8:15pm Candlelight Service 7pm		String Band 10:30am AA 6:45-7:45pm AI Anon 8-9:30pm	
28	29	30	31			
Bible Study 9am Worship 10:30am Four Joint Worship 10:30 am Antioch UMC	Hope House 9-12pm	Empowerment Program Youth 4pm 12-16 yrs old 5:30 17-20 yrs old NAMI 7pm	Hope House 9-12pm ACA 5:30pm Quiet Rm AI Anon 7-8:15pm 			

* 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
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Brentwood, CA 94513

TIME DATED MATERIAL

