

# *Deeds and Opportunities*

## **Brentwood Community United Methodist Church**

809 Second Street, Brentwood CA 94513

Office: (925) 634-3093

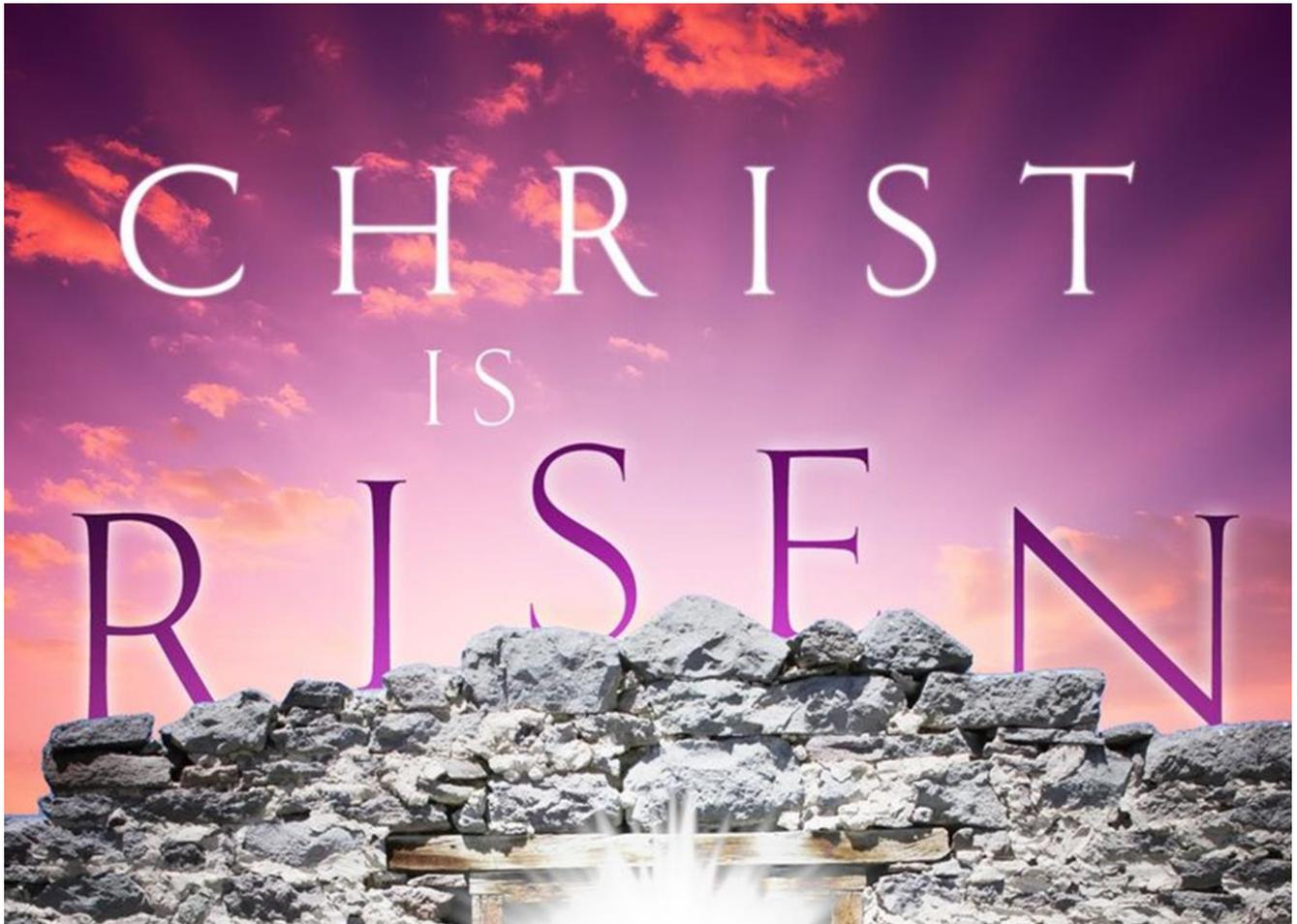
✝ Hyesung Lee, Pastor ✝

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

Editor: Bob Clarke

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

*April 2024*



## 2024 APRIL 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
<b>2nd Sunday of EASTER</b> April 7, 2024 10:30 a.m.	Acts 4:32-35 Message: "Community" By Rev Hugh Stevenson <i>*Pastor Lee is on vacation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Holy Communion</b></li> <li>● <b>Adult Bible Study:</b> (Youth Room 8:45 am – 9:45 am)</li> <li>● <b>Sunday School for Kids</b> (after the Time for Young Disciples)</li> </ul>
<b>3rd Sunday of EASTER</b> April 14, 2024 10:30 a.m.	Acts 3:12-19 Luke 24:36b-48  <Native American Ministries Sunday>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Adult Bible Study:</b> (Youth Room 8:45 am – 9:45 am)</li> <li>● <b>Sunday School for Kids</b> (after the Time for Young Disciples)</li> <li>● <b>Membership Moment ①:</b> speaking on the importance of membership</li> </ul>
<b>4th Sunday of EASTER</b> April 21, 2024 10:30 a.m.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Adult Bible Study:</b> 8:45am – 9:45am</li> <li>● <b>Sunday School for Kids</b> (after the Time for Young Disciples)</li> <li>● <b>Membership Moment ②:</b> speaking on the importance of membership</li> <li>● <b>Youth Sunday:</b> Youth members will serve as worship ministers; Cheryl Breitenbucher will preach.</li> <li>● <b>New Members Orientation ①:</b> 12:00-1:15pm in Quiet Room</li> </ul>
	Acts 8:26-40 John 15:1-8  "Abiding in Jesus"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Sunday Morning Bible Study:</b> (Youth Room 8:45 am – 9:45 am)</li> <li>● <b>Sunday School for Kids</b> (after the Time for Young Disciples)</li> <li>● <b>New Members Orientation ②:</b> 12:00-1:15pm in Quiet Room</li> <li>● <b>Sunday Night Live:</b> 5pm &lt;Making Blessing Boxes&gt; for unhoused people</li> </ul>

Come Join Us in Virtual Worship Services on Church Website and Facebook:

<https://www.brentwoodumc.org/bcumc/home>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/28404281274/>

## † Pastor's Letter †

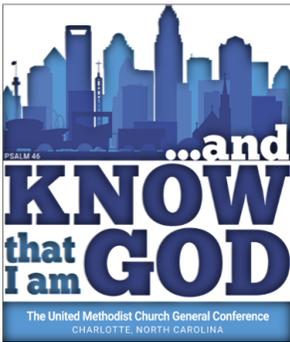
Dear Beloved in Christ

HAPPY EASTER! The Risen Lord is with us! He came back for us so we can have a resurrection life too – a life with the Risen Lord, with His strength and with extra Hope in Him. We are not alone in any circumstance. Thanks be to God!

I hope and pray that our United Methodist Church can find a new hope for the future. 2024 General Conference of U.M.C. is about to begin. General Conference is the only body that can set official policy and speak for the international denomination. It brings together lay and clergy delegates from four continents whose decisions will affect how millions of United Methodists do church for years to come.

From April 23 to May 3, United Methodists from around the world will gather in Charlotte, North Carolina for General Conference. The theme comes from Psalm 46:9-10a: “He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

***Be still and know that I am God!***”



General Conference is expected to attract between 5,500-7,500 people. That includes 862 voting delegates—55.9% from the U.S., 32% from Africa, 6% from the Philippines, 4.6% from Europe, and the remainder from concordat churches that have close ties to The United Methodist Church.

A group of delegates (about 300) who are concerned about the inclusivity of UMC has publicized an appeal letter on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. They propose 3 Rs to happen during this General Conference as follows:

**R**egionalization: We support ... to create distinct regional governing bodies in Africa, Europe, the Philippines, and the U.S. These proposed changes would expand the ability of regions outside the U.S. to adapt portions of the UM Book of

Discipline, and, for the first time, would give the U.S. the same authority. We support this legislation because we are committed to greater self-determination and self-governance. We also believe that expanding regional decision-making will allow annual conferences within each region to thrive.

**R**evise Social Principles: We support the adoption of the revised Social Principles as a much-needed restatement of our fundamental moral and social commitments as United Methodists... the newly revised Social Principles fulfill their mandates to be more globally relevant, theologically, and biblically grounded, and succinct. The revised Social Principles provide a timely opportunity for reaffirming who we are as United Methodists.

**R**emoval of Exclusionary Policies: We support the removal of all provisions in the UM Book of Discipline regarding the participation of gays and lesbians in The United Methodist Church. Added more than fifty years ago to address issues primarily affecting the U.S. Church, the current prohibitions have led to years of disagreement, conflict, and harm to those they have impacted. Removing the current language will create a new starting place for dialogue and learning. It will also remove a significant stumbling block to engaging all people in the ministries of the Church, particularly for local congregations and annual conferences ready to welcome LGBTQ+ people as full church members.

It looks like the special session will be live-streamed. I'd like to ask all of you to pray for our denomination that we may continue to bless one another no matter what happens this year and that we may become more like Christ through all the work and conversation we have.

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

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

For **Youth 2024 Summer Camp**, go to [cnumc.org/camp](https://cnumc.org/camp)

For **2024 General Conference**,

go to <https://www.cnumc.org/newsdetails/united-women-in-faith-plans-for-general-conference-18832161>

For more information about UMC, go to Resource UMC here

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



### **We believe love in action can change the world**

This year's program book is titled "Food, Faith and Fellowship". All are invited to join at God's banquet table as we explore what it means to be a community – not just in our circle, but with all of creation. We are called to be inclusive, loving, and hospitable. Come enjoy fellowship around the table, learn, share, and find God's presence in our gatherings.

Our March meeting was at the home of Heidi Stark, and seven women gathered for fellowship and our Pledge to Mission Service program lead by our Treasurer, Polly Gallagher. We were reminded that even in time of drought and famine, God is with us. We discussed climate change and the very real struggle some face to have food and water - basic human rights. We heard how our United Women in Faith donations help support missions and ministries locally and globally.

**The next United Women in Faith meeting will be on Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm (location to be determined). 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.**

## **Community Garden Earth Day Celebration**

**Potluck and Sing Along**

**On April 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM**

**At the BCUMC Community Garden**

**All are Welcome**

**Bring a chair!**

**For more info contact CiCi at (530) 306-7034**



Greetings, BCUMC! **The men's breakfast is coming this Saturday, April 6th at 8:00 a.m.** Coffee will be piping hot by 7:30. Come on by, have a good breakfast, and spend a little time with your fellow Methodist men.

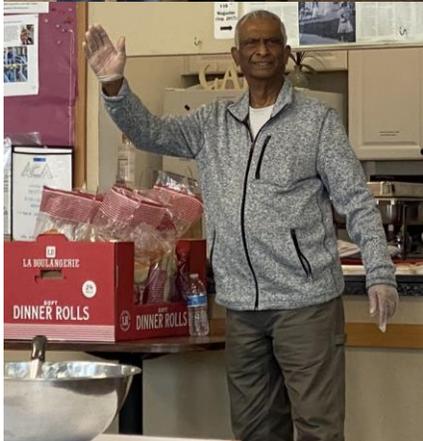
## United Methodist Men Annual Bean Feed

The United Methodist Men would like to thank the BCUMC congregation for being so supportive of the 2024 Bean Feed: it was a very successful event and is the primary fundraiser of the UMM for scholarships. This year we made \$1,995.00 to add to the scholarship pot. Thank you so much for coming through for the students again!

We would also like to acknowledge the contributions of the following BCUMC men who made the event a great success:



Scott Baxter  
Bob Clarke  
Rick Dunn  
Nate Ekpemiro  
Dave Funk  
Diego Garcia  
Kevin Gray  
John Moore  
Alfred Narayan  
Joe Niec  
Gbenga Olayomi  
Larry Schaffer  
Andre Smith  
Daniel Vitello  
Jerry Walton



## SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE

If you were unable to attend our February Sunday Night Live event and wish to hear the message Diego Garcia and his wife Deborah Hopwood shared about their paths to mission service, check out the YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/aFcYyQJRcw4>. Diego shared his faith journey from a reluctant Christian to a fully charged Christian. Deborah shared her call to service on medical missions and how a miserable first experience came full circle for her later in life. It was a blessing to hear their stories as they shared how they came to follow God's call to serve. Many thanks to Dennis Buckley for recording this event and posting on YouTube.

## SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE DINNER AND BLESSING BAGS Sunday, April 28, 5-7pm

Your Pastor and Lay Leaders, Dave Funk and Heidi Stark are hosting a Sunday Night Live dinner and activity on Sunday, April 28 from 5-7pm. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 5pm for dinner and after the meal we will assemble Blessing Bags from the items we have been collecting. A Blessing Bag is a small bag filled with essential items that can be provided to the homeless.

We are continuing to collect items for Blessing Bags through April 21. Please leave your donations in the collection box located in the Narthex. A list of suggested items can also be found in the Narthex. These are just suggestions, and every bag will be different with a focus on hygiene items for all. The more items and variety of items we collect will mean we can create more bags. Each bag is filled with simple items to help someone get through the day. Hygiene items, snacks, and inspirational materials are common blessing bag items. The completed bags will be distributed throughout our community to help those in need.

We will be providing the meal per our current Church Food policy; so, it is important that those wishing to attend this event **sign up by April 21** to allow us to plan and order enough food for all. This event is open to all ages, and a sign-up sheet is available in the Fellowship Hall or contact Heidi Stark at 925-216-4709 or [hstark@cobaltc.com](mailto:hstark@cobaltc.com) to **RSVP by April 21**. Come – spend time with your Church family and enjoy dinner, fellowship, and a project to help those in need. All are welcome; please plan to join us for a time of fellowship and service!

## Easter Breakfast

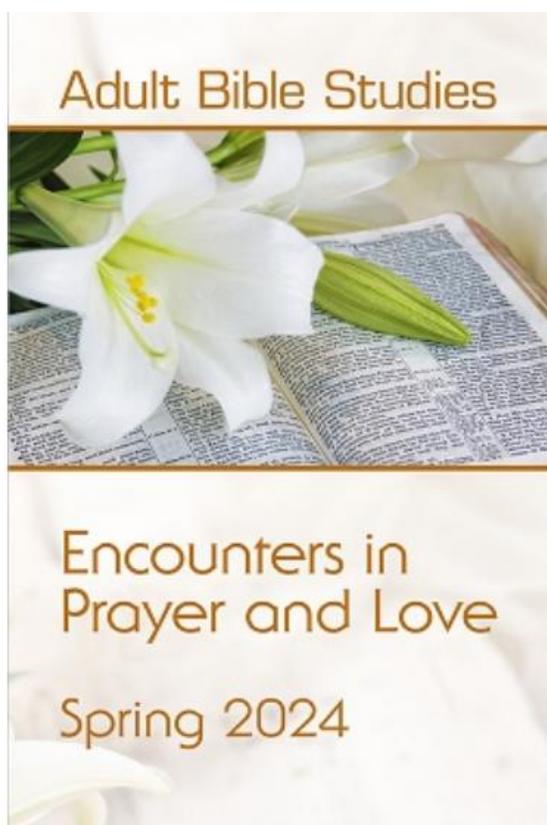


Thanks to the men of the UMM for contributions of food, time, and energy to make a nice Easter breakfast event for the BCUMC congregation! Spirits were high and everybody enjoyed the food and fellowship. Also, Thank you, CiCi, for the beautiful flower arrangements throughout the building.



# BCUMC ADULT BIBLE STUDY FOR THE 2024 SPRING TRIMESTER

Our Adult Bible Study series continues this Spring 2024 with the theme  
“Encounters in Prayer and Love”.



We announce Jesus’ Resurrection with Easter lilies, the sound of trumpets, and bright streaming light. After all, it is Christianity most significant event. Without Resurrection there is no Christian faith.

But Resurrection happened in a cave, it happened in complete silence, in absolute darkness .... New life starts in the dark. Whether it is a seed in the ground, a baby in the womb, or Jesus in the tomb, it starts in the dark. But, rather than a hopeless and void meaning, the darkness of Lent and Holy Week creates fertile ground for us, for it invites us more deeply into prayer and that, in turn, leads us into God’s presence.

Our lessons continue with the theme of prayer begun last quarter and allow us to listen in as Jesus, fully aware of what awaited him, prayed. He prayed for his disciples, for their safety and unity. He prayed for us, “for those who believe in [him] because of their word” (John 17:20). He prayed for himself. He prayed that God’s will would be done. As Jesus prayed, so can we. And when we do, we find new life in him. With that new life comes the indwelling Spirit of God, who empowers us to engage in our world in ways that announce the good news and work for justice, peace, reconciliation, and healing. The work of this empowering Spirit forms the foundation for the remaining lessons of our Adult Bible study series this quarter.

“I am the light of the world,” Jesus said. “Whoever follows me won’t walk in darkness but will have the light of life” (John 8:12).

## A Message from Michelle

Dear BCUMC Family,

As, many of you already heard, I will be leaving my position as an Administrative Assistant at BCUMC. My Last day is Friday, March 15, 2024. I very much appreciate having had the opportunity to work at this Beautiful Church. Thank you all for the support, kindness and love you have provided me during my time at BCUMC.

Even though I will miss EVERYONE, I am excited about this new challenge and I’m looking forward to starting a new phase of my career.

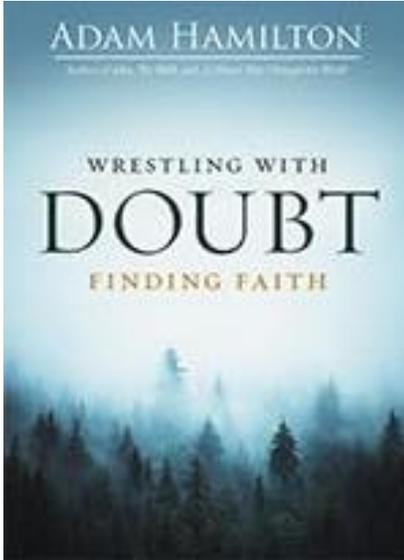
I hope to visit and attend service soon.

Thanks again for everything.

Best,



Michelle



## 3 Week Small Group

# DOUBT

(by Adam Hamilton, Abingdon Press, 2023)

Book: You may buy the book at Cokesbury.com or Amazon.com

\*Four copies of large print is available for \$10 in the office.

Facilitator: Pastor Hyesung Lee

When: 3 Thursdays, April 11, 18 and 25, 7:00 pm (zoom)

\*\*\* Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87203062553>

Meeting ID: 872 0306 2553

We will learn, explore, discuss about following DOUBTS:

- i. Is There a God? (4/11)
- ii. A Good Book? Wrestling with the Bible (4/11)
- iii. Are All Non-Christians Going to Hell? (4/18)
- iv. Is Heaven Real? (4/18)
- v. When Prayers Go Unanswered (4/25)
- vi. Why do the Innocent Suffer? (4/25)

Registration: to Pastor Lee ([hslee3@gmail.com](mailto:hslee3@gmail.com); 925-303-9339)

## BCUMC Youth

The Youth Group did not meet in March, since we didn't have enough to participate, and the end of the month was Spring Break. Please feel free to ask the youth what they did on their breaks. Some of them went on special vacations. In April, we will be participating in the Sierra Service Project in Sacramento on Sunday, April 7th, so we will not be in worship that day, but will be serving our greater community. RSVPs for this event need to happen by April 1st, so please contact Cheryl Breitenbucher if you are interested. She can direct you to the forms that need to be filled out, and the details for the day trip. We plan to meet on Sunday April 14th for planning/Bible study/pizza/games, and on Sunday, April 21st will be our Youth Service and the youth director will be preaching. Youth, please think about how you can serve in worship that day. We will need greeters, readers, and special music. If you need any information on the youth program, please email Cheryl at [cbreitenbucher@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cbreitenbucher@sbcglobal.net)

### SCAM ALERT

**DO NOT RESPOND TO ANY TEXT OR EMAILS!** Please remember that Pastor Lee would not contact a member directly with an emergency request for cash, gift cards or any favors. If you are unsure if an email or text is "real", please contact Michelle in the office, or reach out to Pastor Lee, or Lay Leaders, Dave Funk or Heidi Stark before taking any action. **AGAIN, DO NOT RESPOND TO ANY TEXT OR EMAILS without verifying the validity of the message!**

## 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), **Ethel Badham**, **Joyce Heflin**, **Fran Hassler**, **Melvin Strong**, **Leonor Roberts**, **Charlene Dobson**, **Betty and Jack Gaughan**, **Don** (Kim Fraley's husband), **Kim Fraley**, **Bella** (Bob Clarke's friend), **Beth's daughter** (Linda Barnhill's friend), **Ginger** (Cynthia Geddes's friend), **Barbara Pinkston**, **Fred Gulizia** (Kathie's husband), **Scott Kammeyer's mother**, **Dari Tran**, **Timothy** (Joyce Sorenson), **Denise** (Bob Clarke's friend), **Echo Paden** (Eileen Newill's granddaughter), **John Annable** (Linda Barnhill), **Kobee Wayne** (Joyce Sorenson's grandson), **Michael** (John and Katie Moore's son), **Kathie Gulizia**, **Bill Vaughn** (Robin's husband), **Lee Rogers** (Laura Webb's brother-in-law), **Joe Kick**, **Joe Niec**, **Family of Sandy McKean** (Barbara Pinkston's friend), **Will Ruddick**, and **Mother of Rick Dunn**.

### BCUMC Food Policy Update By Heidi Stark

Last month, I shared that in February, the Ad. Council had been asked to reevaluate our current food policy and lift the ban on homemade items. We did not take a vote at the February meeting; instead, we agreed to ask the congregation and specifically the ten victims of the November food poisoning to give their thoughts and opinions on lifting the ban on homemade items. I personally reached out to the ten people affected in November and their responses were the only input received. At our March Ad. Council meeting, I shared that nine out of the ten people who suffered from the food poisoning in November, were fine with lifting the ban, but one member felt that this was happening too soon. I shared with the Ad. Council my discussion with that member who understands the desire to change the policy but questions the timing. The member also acknowledged that the trauma the member experienced may not be lessened with time. While all the victims believe that the incident was unintentional and unlikely to happen in the future, it did happen, and we need to be respectful of everyone's feelings. I shared with Ad. Council that my gut reaction in February was that it was too soon to make a change to our policy, but as we discussed at our meeting what would be proper timing. 6 months, 9 months, a year? After some discussion, it was suggested that a new food policy be drafted (see below) to go into effect June 1, 2024, if approved by Ad. Council vote. This amended policy would allow for homemade items, but also always offers a commercially prepared and individually packaged food option at fellowship events. Our goal is always to make BCUMC a safe and hospitable place for everyone. Please let us know your thoughts on this proposed change. You may leave feedback in the suggestion box at the back of the sanctuary or contact Pastor Lee, or Lay Leader, Dave Funk or Ad. Council Chair/Lay Leader, Heidi Stark. We will vote on this matter at the April Ad. Council meeting; so, please reach out prior to April 17. We look forward to hearing from you.

## **PROPOSED BCUMC FOOD POLICY**

*As of June 1, 2024, the Administrative Council is proposing an amendment to our current food policy for Church social events. We will no longer ban homemade items at fellowship gatherings. However, BCUMC will also offer a commercially prepared, individually packaged food item or food items to respect all members and friends of BCUMC. We appreciate everyone's support as we try to provide a healthy and safe environment for all to worship and fellowship in. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please contact Pastor Lee, or Lay Leader, Dave Funk or Ad. Council Chair/Lay Leader, Heidi Stark.*

## **COVID-19 GUIDELINES UPDATED (March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023)**

**"Do No Harm, Do Good, Stay in Love with God Always!"**

(General Principal of Wesleyan Methodist Discipleship)

For the safety of all, and in alignment with the state and county advice we continue to strongly suggest wearing a mask in public settings. We will continue respecting each person's choice to wear or not wear a mask in any circumstances. No one should be asked 'why?'

In addition, please, if you are sick stay at home.

COVID-19 GUIDELINES will be displayed on each wall of the rooms in the church.

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church Ad Council



### **NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION**

**April 21 and 28 from 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](mailto:hslee3@gmail.com). Or you may just show up!

Our gathering is always very enjoyable and spiritual.



## April

- 7. John Moore
- 9. Donna Baker
- 12. Joey Zamjahn
- 15. Murphy Slay
- 16. Robert Ruddick
- 17. Jeanette Ruddick
- 19. Joe Niec
- 21. Greg Pacquer
- 21. Ellen Rowan
- 22. Jenn Dunn
- 25. Polly Gallagher
- 27. Beverly Tucker



## April

- 7. Bob and Janet Clarke

## SPRING HEALING

Playful orange poppies  
Waving on the hill  
Yellow is the song  
Of the daffodil  
God is showing off perchance  
Another spring dance  
I love it!

Still there are times  
We need to heal  
Body laid low  
Nowhere to turn or go  
Strength ebbed away  
Oh Lord, won't you  
Come by here today  
Anytime would be okay.

Lord, bring your spring  
Bring your healing  
We'll wait in the Silence  
'Til you come revealing  
That we are all  
Rocked in the  
Loving arms of God.

© Joe Kick - 2024

### Attention:

**Donna Baker one of our former members will celebrate her 95th birthday on April 9  
It would be nice to shower this special lady with cards on this special occasion.**

**Donna Baker  
5505 Vanner Path  
Georgetown, TX. 78626**



*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 Minerva G. Carcaño

California-Nevada Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

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Los Rios District Superintendent: Rev. Shinya Goto

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

Administrative Assistant: Michelle Carrillo

Brentwood Community  
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809 Second Street  
Brentwood, CA 94513

TIME DATED MATERIAL

