

Deeds and Opportunities

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

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Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

DECEMBER 2018



Merry Christmas

2018 December Worship Schedule

SUNDAY	Scriptures & Sermon theme	WORSHIP ACTS / OTHER ACTIVITIES
First Sunday of Advent December 2	Isaiah 9:2-7 Grace Coming Before Us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Holy Communion ▪ Advent Candle Lighting: Jere and Heidi Retzer ▪ Celebration of Ministries: Music Committee, Choir ▪ 5:30pm – 7 pm MTJ (Middle School) ▪ 7:30pm – 9 pm YAHS (Young Adults and High School)
Second Sunday of Advent December 9	Luke 2:8-20 Grace Breaking the Wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Celebration of Ministries: Reconciling Ministry Committee ▪ Advent Candle Lighting: Koo Kim & Zeke Canonica ▪ Christmas Cookie Walk by UMW to help children in need through Teddy Bear for Children and Angel Tree ▪ 5:30pm – 7 pm MTJ (Middle School) ▪ 7:30pm – 9 pm YAHS (Young Adults and High School)
Third Sunday of Advent December 16	Luke 1:26-38 Grace Commissioning Toward Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advent Candle Lighting: Bonnie Larabee & Rene McCarter ▪ Sunday School teachers Luncheon ▪ 5:30pm “Beat Michelle Monsef” MTJ & YAHS (Young Adults and High School)
Fourth Sunday of Advent December 23	Matthew 1:18-25 Grace Building Up Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advent Candle Lighting: Margo Wentz & Dorothy Pontsler ▪ 5:30pm – 7 pm MTJ (Middle School) ▪ 7:30pm – 9 pm YAHS (Young Adults and High School)
Christmas Eve December 24 <u>6 pm, Monday</u>	Luke 2:1-7 Grace Incarnating in Flesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Holy Communion ▪ Christmas music, choir
First Sunday after Christmas December 30	Luke 2:41-52 Grace and Truth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Watch Night/ New Year’s Eve Service

WORSHIP MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER

Sunday	Acolyte	Crucifer	Worship Leader
12/2	Robin van Ruitan	Zeke Canonica	Charlene Dobson
12/9	Grace Charpentier	Madeline Charpentier	Jan Schults
12/16	Christian Belino	Robin van Ruitan	Michelle Monsef
12/23	Maggie Monsef	Zeke Canonica	Polly Gallagher
12/24 X-mas Eve	Audrey Dunn	Alex Dunn	Michelle Monsef
12/30	Grace Charpentier	Madeline Charpentier	Dave Funk

Celebration of Lay Ministries in December

Each ministry team/committee will share for 2 minutes during Sunday Worship Service the following contents: (1) what they do as a team; (2) their greatest achievement in this year and (3) their joys of serving in the committee/team

Sunday	Presentation Group I	Presentation Group 2
December 2	Music Committee	Choir
December 9	Reconciling Ministry Committee	

◆ *Pastor's Letter* ◆

Dear Friends in Ministry

It is the most favored season of all by many people – Advent! It is a time to wait for the coming of the Lord! We are ***waiting*** for the promised Christ to be born amongst us. He would bring Peace, Joy, Love and Hope. We are ***waiting*** because we don't know when this would happen. We are ***waiting*** because we cannot make it happen. We can only rely on God's favor and wait for His act patiently. We are waiting for God's Grace to come upon us.

Are you waiting for God's favor upon your loved ones in troubles? Are you waiting for God's act to heal the sick and make broken ones whole again? Are you waiting for your children, your family and your nation to come back to God? Yes, we all are! Waiting, however, does not mean a passive and non-participatory thing. It is rather an active and participatory act of faith. So we will have special prayer time, special small group sharing time, special praise time and special worship service in December as follows:

Taizé Prayer Service – 3 Wednesdays December 5, 12, 19 from 6 pm to 7 pm

Advent Upper Room – Every Sunday morning at 9:30 am in Quiet Room

Christmas Cantata – Choir presents “What Sweeter Music” on Saturday December 15 at 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Service – Monday December 24 at 6 pm

Let us wait for the Christ to be born again in our lives! Our waiting is an active prayer, praise, meditation and service! Let us remember the word of prophet Isaiah – “By waiting and by calm you will be saved! In quiet and in trust your strength lies” (Isaiah 30:15).

Advent Blessings,



Your Pastor, Hyesung Lee

Let Us Pray for the Following Members and Friends of BCUMC!

(This list is provided by our Congregational Care Network of Brentwood Community UMC.

If you want to add names or make any change in this list,
please contact Linda Barnhill at 634-8521 or Michael Ann Honea at 516-9541)

Homebound: Barbara Bonnickson, Lou Bronzan, Cliff Fortner, Joyce Heflin
Diana Easley, Bev Johnson

Prayer Chain: Beverly Hendrix, Fred Schults, Debra Urzua,
Diane and Carey Hutchison, Gabriel Charpentier,
Heather Lawrence (Larry Schaffer's stepdaughter),
Eric von Forstmeyer (Michelle's Dad), Diana Easley
Galen Tidrick, Richard Wisdom, John D. Moore
and Byron UMC congregation.

*We pray for you and your care-givers that God may fill you every day
with strength, faith, love and peace!*



Wednesdays During Advent

December 5, 12 and 19

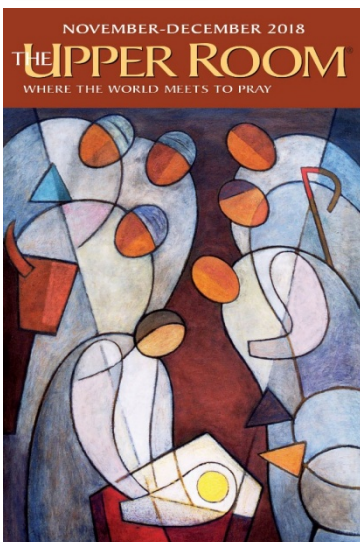
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Sanctuary of Brentwood Community UMC

Taizé (pronounced "teh-ZAY") prayer is an ecumenical form of prayer, for Christians of all traditions. It is a very different experience from a 'normal' church service. No one stands up front; there is no sermon. The church is lit by candles. The service is meditative in character, using singing, Scripture and silence.

The special intention of each of these Advent Taizé Services is for **peace**, within our hearts, which can lead us to reconciliation and peace among all people. We pray with compassion, without taking sides or pointing fingers. Christ gave us the gift of peace, but it is our responsibility to accept it and use it.

Refreshments will be served after the prayer service.



THE UPPER ROOM – SMALL GROUP

The November/December issues of the Upper Room are now available in the Fellowship Hall. Regardless of whether you have a copy of the booklet or not, please consider joining our small group on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Quiet Room. We share the readings from the week and discuss what moved us, got us thinking, etc.

This is a low-key, no pressure, come when you can group; a time of fellowship to discuss the devotionals. I hope you'll join us on Sundays at 9:30am in the Quiet Room.

If you have any questions, please contact Heidi Stark at 925-216-4709 or hstark@cobaltc.com.



- 2. Christian Belino
- 3 Janet Kurz
- 4 Lynn Austin
- 6 Don Stirling
- 11 Diane Lee
- 13 Heidi Retzer
- 14 Fred Gulizia
- 16 Chinedum Ekpemiro
- 17 Griffin Slay
- 17 Aidan Dunn
- 19 Benjamin Lukacs
- 19 Joseph Lukacs
- 20 Marcie Lukacs
- 21 Pastor Hyesung Lee
- 22 Ryan Price
- 26 Kaela Scott
- 27 Teresa Kick
- 27 Melissa van Ruiten
- 29 Valerie Umana

Happy Anniversary

- 6 Patti Evans & Marty Jewell
- 10 Diane & Carey Hutchison

CHRISTMAS

Sometimes life seems bewildering
We have children – they grow up
We have parents – they leave this earth
We have drought – we have rain
We have wildfires – and our hearts
Break for all those affected.
We have smoky skies
With the setting sun a ball of red.
We have rain – and we are grateful
We can breathe again.
What in life is steady? What is solid?
What can we count on?
Then Christmas comes around again
Christmas comes anew
A birth – and we are reminded
Of the unseen, loving Presence
Steady - unchanging – in our lives.
We sing carols of praise
We dance – holding hands with God
We come to the stable in wonder.
We can breathe again.

Merry Christmas

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UMW COOKIE WALK Sunday, December 9th

After worship, the congregation is invited to pick up a cookie tin and take the Cookie Walk to fill it with all sorts of cookies!

Donations go for Teddy Bears for Children in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Kaiser/Oakland and for presents to the Angel Tree Prison Fellowship Ministry for the children of prisoners.

Extra cookies and tins are welcome.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday – December 1st – 8:00-9:00 am

FIRST SATURDAY of each month - All men are invited to breakfast and fellowship.

Please call Dave Funk (925-513-0020) with any questions.

New Members Orientation

Sundays January 13 and 20 from 12 pm to 1 pm

In Quiet Room (behind the choir room/fireside 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! This is always a very enjoyable and spiritual time for all participants.

“HOW DO I SEE STEWARDSHIP – A YOUTH PERSPECTIVE”

by Jamie Feldermann

One of the Stewardship Moments during 2018 Pledge Campaign
(*Jamie could not read this on the assigned Sunday but submitted it to the pastor later)

Christian stewardship is the responsibility that Christians have in wisely using the gifts God has bestowed upon us. These include your time, talents, treasures, and witness. As I am a jobless child, I try to give time and talents to the church. In the past I have helped at HOPE HOUSE and throughout my years at church I've helped Dennis whenever I can by doing things like helping change light bulbs, locking doors, and anything else I can do that he asks.

I also like to help out at SSP (Sierra Service Project) events because I like helping other people. I like helping at SSP because we work as a team to help the less fortunate do things such as build fences, paint houses, weed gardens, clean alleys, and do heavy lifting & moving. It is very satisfying to finish a long, hard day of work.

These opportunities of service allow me to help others by using my talents and time. By serving others, you serve God, and this is one way to grow with God. I encourage all youth to participate in stewardship by using their time and talents to help the church if they feel like they do not have treasure to give. You can always participate in stewardship at any age.



The Reconciling Committee of BCUMC has started a new ministry for our community. Announcing the new Safe Space Program for LGBTQ Teens & Friends in Brentwood! We have held gatherings and scheduled our third Movie & Pizza Afternoon at the Church.

Since September, we have invited the GSA (Gay Straight Alliance) clubs from the three high schools in the Liberty Union High School District to attend a discussion group after school on the last Friday of the month.

The Safe Space Committee consisted of: Dave Funk, Marie Weekes, Sean Weekes, Jeanette Ruddick, Mathew Taum, Tristan Mendoza, and Sarah Zamjahn. Supporting us were: Koo Kim, Diane Lee and Pastor Hyesung. Thanks to all the Reconciling Committee members for their support.

By Dave Funk



CONGRATULATIONS!

Family news from John D. and Katie Moore

As doting Grandparents, we are proud to share the news that our only grandson, Nathan James Moore, is a member of the 12-person California Team that just won the National 2018 PGA Jr. League Championship November 16-19 in Scottsdale, Arizona. The event for ages 11 thru 13 starts with a field of 52,000 kids across the USA with the top 12 winning States teams competing for three days at Grayhawk Golf Club in Scottsdale. Katie was able to be there and cheer Nathan on to victory.



Sunday School has been very fun, and very well attended. We have been studying Kings and Queens of the Bible and the Book of Ruth. We will begin our Thanksgiving series, followed by Advent lessons. One of the areas in the Book of Ruth that stood out was how Boaz cared for and provided for others. As a Sunday School class, we decided to collect small toiletries to give to the youth to donate at Glide. We also decided to make some small care packages of our own...be on the lookout!

We are excited for all the great things this year has in store from our awesome lessons and outside of church activities including another Downtown Date at the Delta. Please look to our giving tree throughout the year for anything our Sunday School classes might need. Right now, Dixie cups and snack items would be greatly appreciated!

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

- Tuesday, December 11th, Brentwood Community Chest Toy Sort
- Friday, December 14th, Brentwood Community Chest Food Sort + Game Night
- Sunday, December 16th, "Beat Michelle Monsef" Cooking Competition + Advent
- Sunday, December 16th, "Walk through Bethlehem" @ Antioch Wesleyan
- Sunday, December 23rd, SF/Glide Trip MTJ

The middle school group, otherwise known as MTJ, and the young adult/high school group, also known as YAHS, have been continually meeting most Sunday nights. We have had some great discussions on issues such as marriage, television, abuse, belief, movies,

morality...and that's just to name a few! The food and fellowship have been wonderful with these awesome youth and we all look forward to meeting each weekend. Coming up is a game night for MTJ & a movie night for both MTJ & YAHS. MTJ meets from 5:30-7:00pm in the Youth Room/Fellowship Hall & YAHS meets from 7:30-9:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. The youth event calendar is tentatively finalized (based on youth and chaperone availability) and is available online on our website, brentwoodumc.org.





Youth-led Sunday Service

By Rebecca Feldermann

On Sunday, November 25th, we had a Youth-led Sunday service. The youth took on a variety of roles during the service such as welcoming to service, opening & offertory prayers, reading the scripture, ushering, greeting, playing offertory & postlude pieces on the piano, and handing out attendance pads.

During the message, service as a way to praise God was emphasized. Both the act of service as in helping others and by being present & active during a worship service.

The scripture reading for the message on Sunday was 1 Peter 4: 10-11. In it we are told that "each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others" and "if anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ." By helping out during Sunday service, not only were the youth putting their faith into action, but they were providing service and actively praising God.

Thank you to the congregation for constantly providing support and love to these youth as they continue to grow in Christ. We look forward to another youth-led service in the Spring!!



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REPORT ON CURRENT PROJECTS



The Board of Trustees has been busy for the past few months. Some large projects have been completed and we are waiting for quotes for some other projects.

The old galvanized water pipes that ran under the church to the kitchen and the three restrooms nearest the Social Hall have been replaced with new copper water pipes. This has increased the water pressure somewhat, but – more importantly – we are no longer getting rusty water when faucets are first turned on. In addition, the drinking fountain in the Sunday School Hallway has been repaired.

We hired an exterminator to work on the gopher problem we have had in the church and preschool lawns. The gentleman has worked many hours trying to rid us of the critters. We have not seen as many gopher mounds in the lawns as in the past, but there may still be one gopher left. The traps look like round tubes sticking out of the ground. If you see one, please do not tamper with it.

We had to have the locks changed on the church and H.O.P.E. House doors because a master key was lost. Church officers who need a replacement key should contact Dennis Buckley. Everyone who has a key should be very careful with it. The cost to re-key the church exceeded \$1,100.

The Trustees and the Staff-Parish Relations Committee are looking into options for custodial services for the church and Sunday School. So far, we have discussed four options: hiring a licensed and bonded building maintenance company (expensive!), hiring a house cleaner (if you know of a good, reliable house cleaner please let us know), hiring a new employee or continue to rely on volunteers from our own congregation. (Thanks go out to Alivia and Adella Logan for deep cleaning the Sanctuary.)

We have spent nearly \$9,500 on major projects this year. We have been able to do this without appealing to the congregation for money because a sizeable bequest was given to the church that was designated for “Necessary Improvements”.

Projects the Trustees are currently getting quotes for include:

- 1) replacing the concrete walkway that leads to the front steps of the church
- 2) replacing one of the accordion doors in the Sunday School
- 3) replacing some window blinds in the Sunday School
- 4) replacing some of the folding chairs in the Social Hall.

Once the numbers are in, the Trustees will decide which projects will be done.

Now that the rainy season is upon us, we are getting concerned about roofs. The Parsonage roof is 23 years old and the church roof may be as old as 40 years. Does anyone remember a roofing project on the church more recent than the 1970s?

If you see something around the church that needs attention, be sure to let one of the Trustees know.

Current Trustees are:

Don Barnhill, David Funk, Betty Gaughan, Kevin Gray, Joyce Sorenson and Dennis Buckley.

“Grow With God in 2019”

During the last two months, we have heard a lot about the many stewards in our church, giving of themselves in so many ways---everything from serving on committees, helping with Hope House, helping in Sunday School and youth programs, providing flowers for Sunday Worship, providing goodies and snacks for the social hour each Sunday, and so much more. It truly takes everyone to be a part of our ministry here at BCUMC! Some have asked, “What can I do?” There is so much to do, and the pastor has a list of opportunities for anyone that has stewardship time available.

The Finance Committee will be meeting on December 18th to put together the Ministry Budget for 2019. Thank you to everyone who has turned in your pledge forms. We are still short of pledges to support our ministry, but we continue to have faith that more will be forthcoming. Thank you to all for your continued, loving support of our mission to fulfill God’s work in our community and beyond.

Finance/Stewardship Committee

FINANCE UPDATE

For the past few months (July-October) our expenses have been higher than our income. We have had to borrow \$9,231 from our reserve funds. We have two more months with higher expenses, and we would like to go into the New Year in a positive position.

Please keep our church in your thoughts and prayers as we go through this Advent season.

Jerry Walton, Finance Chair



Save the date . . . 6:30 pm
Saturday – December 15th

The BCUMC Choir
under the direction of Alivia Logan
presents
WHAT SWEETER MUSIC . . .
a cantata for Christmas



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

Los Rios District Superintendent: Rev. Schuyler Rhoads

Pastor: Hyesung Lee ☩ Lay Leader: Julius Lukacs

Secretary: Debra Urzua

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TIME DATED MATERIAL

