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Office hours: Monday-Friday

8:45 am-12:45 pm

Worship hours

Sunday at 9:00 and 10:30 am

Lead Pastor

Rev. Amy Gregory

revgregorybhumc@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

Pastor Brendan Fox

pastorbrendanbhumc@gmail.com

Music Directors

Peter Van Keuren

Jill Zygo

Sound and Video

Charles Hartmann

Sunday School Superintendent

Jodi Facticeau-St. Gelais

Communications Coordinator

Robyn Axon

Custodian

Nick Adami

Treasurer

Kimberly Spath

Financial Secretary

Sue Zoller

Preschool Staff

Stephanie Tope - Teacher

Angie Barclay - Assistant

Teacher

Deb Whitehead - Director



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BurnthillsUMC

The Methodist

Burnt Hills United Methodist Church News April, 2023

COME JOIN US THIS HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY – Sunday, April 2nd

- **9:00am** Worship with palms to take home. Special music.
- **10:30am** Worship with palms to take home. Children and Youth Choirs.
- **11:45am** Easter Egg Hunt for all! Please invite your friends for the fun!

MAUNDY THURSDAY – Thursday, April 6th

- **6:30pm** Potluck dinner and Informal service in Knight Hall with Holy Communion remembering The Last Supper. Please come with a dish to share or just bring yourself. There's always more than enough food to go around!

GOOD FRIDAY – Friday, April 7th

- **7:00pm** Contemplative Service remembering Jesus' last hours.

EASTER SUNDAY – Sunday, April 9th

- **9:00am** Easter Worship: Celebration of the Resurrection and New Life. Special music with brass trio.
- **10:30am** Easter Worship: Celebration of the Resurrection and New Life. Brass trio and Children's time with a special Easter Puppet visitor.

Our special **Easter Offering** is given away in its entirety to the community to address rural poverty, hunger, education access and to support female veterans and their families. More info on our website. Please mark gifts "Easter Offering." Together, let us bring resources and hope to our neighbors near and far. Thank you for your generosity!

Home Health Equipment

Thank you to all who have donated home health care equipment to the church. We welcome those donations because there are constant requests for this equipment as our members become caregivers to loved ones. **At present, we have the following equipment that is available to any of you that need it:**

A power reclining chair

A Polar Cube, which is a device that can circulate ice water to an extremity that needs swelling reduction

Toileting Chairs

Walkers

Crutches

If you are in need of any of the listed items, please contact Robyn in the church office or email Greg Adams at adamsgreg01@gmail.com

Easter Offering 2023

This year's Easter Offering continues our tradition to give it all away for the benefit of others in our community and beyond. We will share the offering with these four groups or agencies.

For more than 100 years **Red Bird Missions** has been helping the people of the Appalachian mountain area. The Mission has a K-12 Christian school, dental and medical clinics, job training, parenting classes, senior citizen programs, kids sports teams, food distribution, day care and many other programs. The Mission has been a lifeline for the people of these rural communities who struggle to improve their lives. **Red Bird Mission** will receive a part of our Easter offering.

The new **Chacocente Scholars' Program** will receive help from us. For years we have made donations to Project Chacocente, the program that helped people who lived in the Managua City Dump (Nicaragua) relocate to a community built on nearby farmland. Farming techniques were taught, buildings constructed and a school was created. Unfortunately, two years ago the Nicaraguan government took over the community school, equipment, farmland and well, and we could no longer donate money to the Chacocente community. However, the school has recently reopened under government control. A new program has been created by people who formerly worked with the Chacocente community to support scholars directly. By donating to this new program, we can provide children with school supplies, uniforms, shoes, school registration and tuition fees, and transportation. Adult scholars can receive funds to cover vocational training or college tuition and supplies. All of these expenses are nominal but have a huge impact on the lives of the scholars. With this new program, we can continue to help these people who are trying to improve their lives.

The Guardian House, the shelter for homeless women veterans, will receive a donation. They are planning to expand their facility by building two duplexes on their property. This new housing will be for homeless women veterans and their children. Because there will be children living there, our church has agreed to work with the Presbyterian New England Church of Saratoga to raise money and help build a playground.

Money will also be shared with the local food pantries we continue to support including **Schenectady Community Ministries and Life Works Community Action** in Ballston Spa.

Thank you for your kind and generous hearts.

The Outreach Commission

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN

It's an exciting time of year! Why? Because Summer Camp registration is open at **all five** of our Upper New York United Methodist Camp and Retreat Centers! From the Adirondacks west to the edges of two Great Lakes, north to the St. Lawrence Seaway and south to the state border with Pennsylvania, Upper New York's Camp and Retreat Ministry (CRM) sites serve thousands of people every year.

We at Burnt Hills UMC are blessed to be only an hour away from Skye Farm Camp & Retreat Center, located on picturesque Sherman Lake in Warrensburg, NY. This summer, Skye Farm is offering **six full weeks of camp**, starting July 2nd through August 11th. Most sessions are for children and youth between the ages of 9-15, but there are also specific, partial-week programs designed for children as young as 3-6 (with a guardian), and 6-9 (on their own). Skye Farm is also excited for the return of a very special week of camp called Ropes & Rivers (July 9th-14th) for youth ages 13-18.

Whichever program you register for, a week at Skye Farm or any of our other United Methodist Camp & Retreat Centers is sure to be an amazing experience—one that will help you grow closer to God, to nature, and to all the new friends you'll meet!

For more information, follow the QR codes below, or grab a Skye Farm Summer 2023 brochure from the church office.



Special Session of the Upper New York Conference — March 25, 2023

Your representatives (Libby Horn, Holly Rogers, Pastor Amy, and Pastor Brendan) attended the Zoom meeting on Saturday 3/25. This was the first session led by our new Bishop Hector. The purpose of the meeting was to present and vote on the Requests for Disaffiliation by 18 churches in our Conference. As part of the presentation, it was explained that each congregation has completed a period of discernment, had a church conference when at least 2/3 majority voted for disaffiliation and paid to the conference their pension liability and 12 months of ministry shares. Church property ownership will stay with the individual churches as per agreement with the Conference. Details of Global Methodist affiliation or independence were not shared as part of these resolutions, but could be requested of individual churches.

The following churches had requested and were granted Disaffiliation with a 90-98 % approval:

AuSable Forks UMC	Findley Lake UMC	Presho UMC
Bemus Point UMC	Germany Hill UMC	Schenevus UMC
Candor McKendree UMC	Gerry UMC	Sinclairville: Park UMC
Charlotte Center UMC	Indian Falls UMC	Spart Center UMC
Colton UMC	Mount Pleasant UMC	Waverly UMC
Dewittville-Hartfield UMC	New Hope: Midlakes	West Davenport UMC

The regular Annual Conference will be in Syracuse, June 1-3. An additional Zoom conference is scheduled for October 14 to address other Disaffiliation Resolutions.

Respectfully submitted,
Libby Horn, Lay Member to Annual Conference

CROP WALK 2023

The **Phil Grigsby Memorial Crop Hunger Walk** is scheduled for **May 2, 2023** as a community event beginning at **Trinity Community Center, 705 Curry Road in Rotterdam**. We will walk as a group again! A full schedule and maps will be available soon – but you can donate now by going to **crophungerwalk.org** and searching for our team under the names **Phil Grigsby Memorial Crop Hunger Walk and/or Burnt Hills United Methodist Church**. While searching, find and read information about the purpose and benefits of CROP Walk. In year 2022 the Schenectady NY area collective efforts for CROP raised over \$36,000, 25% of which was used locally and 75% which was used for global projects through Church World Service. CWS is currently working in Moldova, Ukraine; Afghanistan; Jackson, Mississippi, Pakistan in conjunction with World Service Asia, and in Turkey with Middle East Council of Churches and UMCOR. Of particular interest to us here in BHUMC, CROP is currently helping Kenyan farmers who live in areas flooded due to climate change by suspending bee hive boxes on overhead supports. The bees and their honey combs now provide income and nutrition to those farming families! Please join our walkers on May 2 and make a donation. If you cannot walk, please visit the website to learn more and, if you are able, make a donation to our team.

Paula Miller 518-399-7422

Sadly, we have lost touch with some of our members. If you have a current address or contact information for any of the following people, would you please share that with the church office?

Kevin and Anita Adair
David and Heather Arthur
Michael Burnetter
Forrest Burnetter
Dwayne and Valerie Cooper
Jean Craft
Rosanno and Melissa Grasso
Patricia Hoffman
James and Deborah Hudson
Bryce Kaler
Adam and Rebecca Klein
Dan and Helen Lake
Vicky Lizer
William Marley
Christopher Oakes
Richard Quinn
Thomas and Pamela Lyle
Barbara Huff
Tommy, Janice, and Carly Urbanski
William and Leanne Williams



Volunteers Needed!

Spring Work Days

Council Meadows ^{*}is a 25 unit apartment complex providing a safe, attractive, comfortable and affordable community environment for seniors and/ or people with disabilities.

Volunteers are needed for one or both work days to assist the residents of Council Meadows with to some much needed spring chores including window washing, gardening, raking, and more. Beverages and snacks will be provided.

Saturdays, May 6 and May 20; 10 AM—2 PM

126 Council Lane, Burnt Hills

RSVP to lorettarigney@gmail.com or 518-301-0140





BH-BL-Women's Club Games and Card Party

Saturday, April 22 from 12:00-4:00 pm in Knight Hall

Bring your friends and your cards or board game of choice and enjoy a light lunch followed by an afternoon of companionship, sportsmanship, raffles, a bake sale and fun! **\$20.00 per person includes table reservation, lunch, beverage and dessert.**

Reserve your table today! Call **Pat at 518-399-5990** or email **bhblwomensclub@gmail.com** or text **518-441-2450** with your contact information and reservation. Please make checks payable to **BH-BL Women's Club** and mail them to BH-BL Women's Club PO Box 232, Burnt Hills, NY 12027.



Stewardship Update on 2023 Pledges

The Stewardship Team and Finance Committee have new information to share with you about funding for our 2023 operating budget. When we last communicated our status in December, we needed an increase of \$76,000 in pledges. **You have responded with such generosity** and as a result **we have reduced our operating budget deficit by more than half!**

As of our March reports, **our new target for increased pledging is \$34,000**. Together, we can reach that goal!

BHUMC is a great place to love God, love neighbor, and serve the world. We need your prayers, your presence, gifts, service and witness. **Thank you for all the ways you participate in the life of this church.**

If you have not yet submitted an estimate of giving and are able to do so, you can find our pledge cards in the narthex as you enter for worship, or you can contact Robyn in the church office at 518-399-5144 or burnthillsumc@gmail.com.

Thank you to everyone who has completed an estimate of giving pledge card and for your ongoing commitment to our ministries. If you have opportunity to make an increase to your estimate of giving, there is an option to note that on the pledge card.



A reminder that giving is available online anytime at our website through our secured account with Vanco at www.nybhumc.com/online-giving.

We will continue to update you on our progress against our goal to ensure the 2023 operating budget is fully funded.

April Hicks

Stewardship Team and Council Chair

Hi Folks!

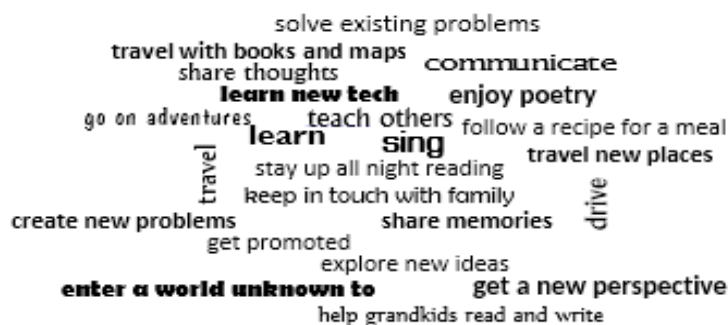
The Social Justice Action Group has been busy so far this year, and we're excited for what is to come. Here are our updates:

The Savvy Ally - We've been really enjoying this course and discussion so far. It's been super helpful and taught us a lot! There's lots of really fabulous skills from the book and the discussion that can be applied to all kinds of allyship. We will be wrapping up this week. We encourage everyone to read the book (even if you haven't gone to the discussions)!

Earth Day - A Small Fair of Display's in Knight Hall Sunday, April 23 from 12 - 2 pm!. Would you like to make a display or find a vendor to come to our church for an Earth Day Fair? Please contact Shelby, Cathy or Scott Bryson, or Orion Marchese if you'd like to help!

Shelters of Saratoga Updates - Look at all the fabulous donations for Shelters of Saratoga! We dropped them off in March and they were much appreciated.

Reading is Fun Updates - For the Month of March we were showcasing Reading is Fun! Their mission is to mobilize volunteers to enhance reading-readiness, comprehension, vocab, and conversational skills in Schenectady School District youngsters most in need of extra reading assistance. Volunteers meet weekly for one-on-one sessions for about 30-45 minutes with a student to read a book, and work on sight words/vocabulary. If you'd still like to volunteer, or would like to hear more, please reach out!



We asked you: Why is literacy important? What are some things you can do because you are literate? Enjoy this word cloud of your answers!

Here's a lovely picture of our furry visitor as well!



Pub Theology - Now that the Savvy Ally is over, your Wednesday's might be free! Please join the Pub Theology group meeting Wednesday nights at 7pm at Pizza Works! Hope to see you there!

PRIDE Updates!

Mark your Calendars -Capital PRIDE Parade & Festival is Sunday June 11th, 2023!

Studies for Adults: Please join us!

- **Early Birds** with Pastor Amy, Mondays at 9:30 am in the Fireside room. We will be reading *Entering the Passion of Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine. There will not be a class on April 10.
- **Explorer's Bible Study** with Pastor Brendan, Wednesdays at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room. The group views a 30 minute video about the bible and then talks about it. No homework, no additional reading. Just come, learn and share.
- **Seekers: Sisters in Christ**, ongoing study meets Thursdays at 9:15 am in Knight Hall. We will be reading *A Way Other Than Our Own: Devotions for Lent* by Walter Bruggemann.



United Methodist Women

UMW Circles are small groups that gather monthly for fellowship and a variety of programs and projects. All meetings are open and welcoming. If you have questions or would like more information, please call Holly Rogers at 399-8629

TUESDAY CONNECTION CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, April 11 at 9:30 AM** in Knight Hall. Sally and Kathy will be sharing their latest travel adventures.

SPECIAL K CIRCLE will meet on **Monday, April 24 at 2 PM** in Knight Hall. Look for details on the UMW bulletin board across from the church office.

Music



We may not all be singers, but **each of us has a song to sing!** And if you feel like sharing your vocal gifts in the Chancel Choir, **weekly rehearsals** are at **7:00 pm in the choir loft**. It's a fun and meaningful way to worship God, and you'd be helping others in worship. **Join us in the loft;** it's the best seat in the house! *Pete Van Keuren*

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will meet at **Finnegan's (175 Lake Road, Ballston Lake) on Friday, April 28th at 12:00 pm**. You must make a reservation with Carol Borthwick (399-5405) or Lynn Christie (399-8838)

Pub Theology

Pub Theology meets **every Wednesday (except for the last Wednesday) at Pizza Works** on Saratoga Rd. Hope to see you there!

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast will be on **Saturday, April 1st at 8am in Knight Hall**. Men of all ages are invited. Come and meet other people of the Church and share good food and fellowship. Hope to see you there.



Preschool



Our **4 year old class** had a fun month in March learning about space and dental health, with a special **visit from Dr. Down**. Our **3 year olds** worked on **opposites and rhyming words**. Both classes learned about **St. Patrick and Irish traditions**.

This month we have lots of fun planned for spring, with **insects and plant life cycles**.

Ms. Laura, from LTG Photography, will be coming to take our class photos.

We are filling up fast, so if you or anyone you know is interested in preschool for the fall, please reach out to Stephanie Tope at 518-466-6566 or bhumpreschool@gmail.com.

Caregiver Support Group



Caregiving can be very rewarding. You get to spend one on one time with your loved one and reminisce about family events. However, there are also many challenges. Those caregivers who participate in a Caregiver Support Group are able to talk with others who are going through similar experiences and learn how to care for their loved one.

The next Caregiver Support Group meeting will be **Saturday, April 1st at 10:30 am**. We will meet in the **Fireside Room**.

The caregivers who attend this support group are in all stages of caregiving from just taking care of a loved one in their own apartment or house to those dealing with hospice in nursing homes. Lynn Christie is the facilitator and can be reached at 399-8838 or hlchristie@aol.com for any questions.

Soup Kitchen



This month's Soup Kitchen is **April 17th**. We need items brought to the church's kitchen by **Friday, April 14th**. If you have a different plan, please write it on the sign-up sheet such as "will bring Sunday". Please also **put your initials on your donations** so we know who to contact for missing items. We will make vegetable soup and egg salad after second service on

Sunday, April 16th. Sign up on the bulletin board outside Knight Hall to donate food items and/or sign up to prepare food on Sunday or serve in Schenectady on Monday. We have a different crew for these tasks each month. Hope you can join us!

Libby Horn, 518-698-4043; Terry Prany's 518-256-8476.



College Scholarships

College around the corner? We urge high school seniors to apply for **Memorial Committee scholarships** now. Applications are available in the church office. You may also call the church office at (518) 399-5144 and ask for an application to be mailed to you. **The deadline for submissions is May 15.**

BHUMC Council Meetings

Once a month, we hold a Church Council Meeting to share updates and review church business. We meet in person on the **second Monday of the month at 7pm in Knight Hall**, with an option to join live online via Zoom – a hybrid meeting. All church members are invited to attend and participate. **Contact April Hicks, Council Chair, at BHUMC_Council@gmail.com** for the Zoom link for any given month, or to be added to the standing invitation email distribution list.

Women's Retreat

SAVE THE DATE: BHUMC Women's Retreat, Friday evening through Saturday afternoon, **September 22-23**, at **Christ the King Retreat Center, Greenwich, NY.** (ctkcenter.org) More information to follow.

Trustee News

Memorial Bricks -We continue to offer the opportunity to have a brick engraved in honor or in memory of someone. If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity, please see Robyn in the church office. She has the forms for the information to be engraved on the bricks. The cost for this service is **\$115.00 for three lines and \$125.00 for four lines.** If you have questions about the bricks, please feel free to contact Bert Longbotham at 518-399-4490.

Altar Flowers



BHUMC has a tradition of having **members donate flowers to decorate our altar** as a **remembrance or a celebration**. Examples of this are loved one's birthdays, wedding anniversaries or "just because". In the past we had a physical sign-up sheet in the hallway outside Knight Hall. With fewer people in the building, we will be changing how this works. Instead of a physical list in the hallway, **Robyn Axon, our communication coordinator, will be maintaining this list.** Please call her at (518) 399-5144 to reserve your weeks. A member of the altar committee will call you close to your selected date as a reminder and to help with any necessary coordination. **You may bring in your own flowers, or use Country Florist** at (518) 399-2650. Country Florist has a key to the church and will insure they are delivered for the Sunday service. Now that we are back in the sanctuary fulltime, it would be **great to celebrate your special days in this way.**

Food Pantries

Please consider donating food to be given to food pantries and our own food shelves. We will stock our shelves, then give any extra to **Schenectady Community Ministries, Life Works** in Ballston Spa and the **Rennselaer UMC**. The following list has many suggestions about items needed. Thank you!

Proteins:

Canned Tuna, Salmon and/or Chicken
Canned or Dried Beans
Peanut Butter

Vegetables and Fruit (canned):

Green Beans, peas, mixed vegetables, carrots
Peaches, Pineapples, Pears, etc.
Tomatoes
Canned 100% Juice

Other:

Condiments
Canned Pasta Sauce
Jelly
Can Openers

Infant Needs

Diapers (all sizes) 1 in 3 Families in the United States Report experiencing diaper need
Formula (Gentlease or other)
Baby Wipes

Hygiene Supply Drive:

Pads + Tampons
Shampoo + Conditioner
Toothpaste + Toothbrushes
Razors + Shaving Cream
Deodorant
Bathroom Tissue + Paper Towels
Bar Soap + Body Wash
Laundry + Dish Soap

Fund Drives:

\$1.00 = 6.25 pounds of food = 5 meals
\$10.00 = 62.5 pounds of food
Monetary donations are a great way to get involved.

Foods To Avoid:

Home Canned Food, Outdated Food, Food Without Labels, Glass Jars

Starches:

Rice/Pasta (Brown/Whole Wheat)
Cereals (Whole Grain)
Oatmeal
Pancake Mix

Meals:

Soups (Lentil, Minestrone, Chicken & Rice)
Canned Pasta Meals (Ravioli, Spaghetti)
Chili



For the most up-to-date calendar, check our webpage at www.nybhumc.com. Want to add something to the master calendar? Email burnthillsumc@gmail.com or call the office at 518-399-5144.

Weekly Recurring Events

Sundays

- * 9:00 am Worship
- * 9:45 am Youth Choir
- * 10:30 am Worship
- * 11:30 am Voices of Hope
- * 4:00 pm Scout Troop # 2658 (**second and fourth Sunday**)

Mondays

- * 9:30 am Earlybirds
- * 12:00 pm BH-BL club luncheon (**second Monday only**)
- * 2:00 pm Special K (**fourth Monday only**)
- * 6:30 pm Scout Troop # 2169
- * 6:30pm Scout Troop # 3020

Tuesdays

- * 9:30 am Tuesday Connections (**second Tuesday only**)
- * 1:00 pm BH-BL Book club (**third Tuesday only**)
- * 7:00 pm Trustee meeting (**third Tuesday only**)
- * 7:00 pm Scout Troop #3056

Wednesdays

- * 8:30 am Fixits
- * 9:30 am Explorers
- * 1:00 pm Preschool meeting (**second Wednesday only**)
- * 5:30 pm Scout Troop # 3824
- * 6:00 pm Scout Troop #3857 (**second and fourth Wednesdays**)
- * 6:30 pm Scout Troop #2502 (**second and fourth Wednesdays**)
- * 7:00 pm AA meeting/Fireside Room
- * 7:00 pm Pub Theology –Pizza Works (**first, second, third Wednesday**)
- * 7:00 pm Social Justice Action Group (**last Wednesday only**)

Thursdays

- * 9:15 am Seekers
- * 6:00 pm Scout Troop # 3856 (**Third Thursday only**)
- * 7:00 pm Choir rehearsal

Saturdays

- * 8:00 am Men's Breakfast (**first Saturday only**)
- * 10:30 am Caregiver's Meeting (**first Saturday only**)

Other Events and Meetings

Sunday, April 2

- 11:30 am Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday, April 6

- * 10:30 am BH-BL Women's Club/FR

Saturday, April 8

- * 1:00 pm Birthday party/Knight Hall

Tuesday, April 11

- 7:00 pm Finance Committee meeting

Saturday, April 15

- Birthday party/Knight Hall

Sunday, April 16

- * 11:30 am Prepare meal for Salvation Army

Monday, April 17

- * 10:00 am Serve meal at Salvation Army

Saturday, April 22

- 12:00 pm BH-BL Women's club game day/KH

Friday, April 28

- * 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch at Finnegan's

Note: Children's choir, scouts, Earlybirds and Explorers follow the BH-BL school schedule.

Burnt Hills United Methodist Church

816 Route 50

Burnt Hills, NY 12027

Non Profit

Organization

U. S. Postage

PAID

Lessons We Can Learn From Children

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Be Fearless | 11. Use your imagination |
| 2. Trust your inner knowing | 12. Believe in yourself |
| 3. Be carefree | 13. Dream big |
| 4. Be happy | 14. Honesty |
| 5. Express yourself freely | 15. Have patience |
| 6. Love unconditionally | 16. Explore |
| 7. Say what's on your mind | 17. Be resilient |
| 8. Forgive | 18. Be curious |
| 9. See everybody as being special | 19. Find happiness in simple pleasures |
| 10. Give with an open heart | 20. Live in the moment |

