

Contact Us

Office Phone: 518-399-5144
Email:
burnthillsumc@gmail.com
Web: www.nybhumc.com
Office hours: Monday-Friday
8:30am-12:30pm

Worship hours

9:00 am and 10:30 am

Lead Pastor

Rev. Amy Gregory
revgregorybhumc@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

Pastor Ian Urriola-Schonewolf
iurriola@burnthillsumc.org

Music Directors

Peter Van Keuren
Jill Zygo

Sound and Video

Charles Hartmann

Sunday School Superintendent

Jodi Facticeau-St. Gelais

Church Office Manager

Renee Mesh

Custodian

Nick Adami

Treasurer

treasurer@burnthillsumc.org

Financial Secretary

Sue Zoller
financialsecretary@burnthillsumc.org

Preschool Staff

Stephanie Tope - Teacher
Angie Barclay - Assistant
Teacher
Karen Lathrop - Director



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@burnthillsumcvideos480

The Methodist

Burnt Hills UMC News

February, 2026

PANCAKE SUPPER

**TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 17
4:30-6:30PM**

FREE
Food
Pantry
donations
welcomed

**PANCAKES / SAUSAGE/
VEGGIE SAUSAGE/
& REAL MAPLE SYRUP!!**

**ASH WEDNESDAY STATION WITH:
IMPOSITION OF ASHES OR
TAKE OUT "ASHES TO GO"
GLITTER ASHES AVAILABLE TOO**



Burnt Hills United Methodist Church

816 Route 50 Burnt Hills, NY 12027

Deadline for articles for the March Methodist is February 15th.
Please submit your articles to Renee at burnthillsumc@gmail.com

Budget Updates

2026 Budget and Staff Shift Announcement

Our caring community at BHUMC comes together in person, via the livestream, and through YouTube to share the blessings of community, support each other, and work through hard conversations. We remain grateful for this space to nurture children and adults, share God's love in creative ways, and house community activities.

A challenge for our caring community reoccurs annually: *How do we continue to be a church that Loves God, Loves Neighbor, and Serves the World, while being responsible with the resources God placed in our care?*

Given our now firm pledge numbers for 2026, Finance, Trustees, Endowment, and Staff Parish Relations Committees partnered to design a budget that matched the monies pledged with the projected budget. We are grateful for your estimates of planned giving and worked thoughtfully to reduce expenses for all ministry areas.

As a result, at the Church Council meeting on January 19, 2026, **church leaders approved a 2026 budget that will support a shift to a one full time pastor model beginning July 1, 2026.** Our projected estimates of giving for 2026 will support this change.

Changes in pastoral leadership spark questions as we wait to receive confirmation from the Bishop and Cabinet District Superintendent of Rev. Amy's annual appointment at BHUMC and Pastor Ian's next appointment. We are deeply grateful for Ian's faithfulness and effectiveness in his current position. We invite our church community to make room for both sadness and gratitude as we begin this transition.

We want to hold space for receiving your questions knowing that some answers are unknown at this time. Reach out to us by:

* Emailing questions to bhumc.council@gmail.com. Include your name please. OR

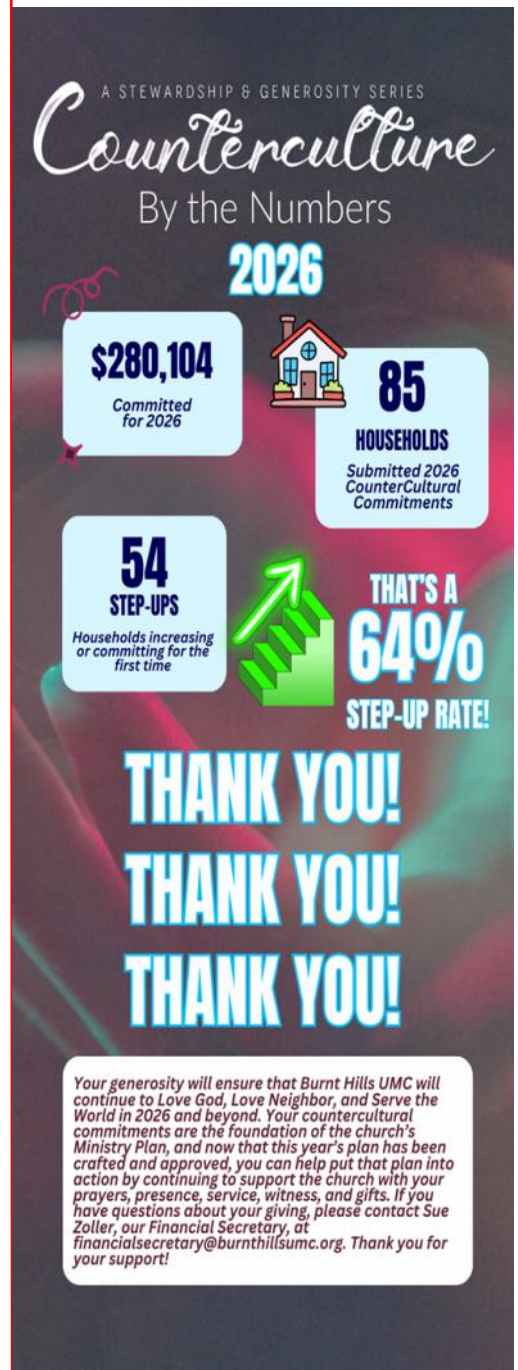
* Fill out this online form:



Save the date for a **Questions & Answers Gathering on Sunday, March 1, 2026** after the second service. We will share more details about this event in the coming weeks.

In gratitude for the gifts that you so freely share,

April Hicks [bhumccouncil@gmail.com] & Jan Tunison



A STEWARDSHIP & GENEROSITY SERIES

Counterculture

By the Numbers

2026

\$280,104
Committed for 2026

85
HOUSEHOLDS
Submitted 2026
CounterCultural
Commitments

54
STEP-UPS
Households increasing
or committing for the
first time

THAT'S A 64%
STEP-UP RATE!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Your generosity will ensure that Burnt Hills UMC will continue to Love God, Love Neighbor, and Serve the World in 2026 and beyond. Your countercultural commitments are the foundation of the church's Ministry Plan, and now that this year's plan has been crafted and approved, you can help put that plan into action by continuing to support the church with your prayers, presence, service, witness, and gifts. If you have questions about your giving, please contact Sue Zoller, our Financial Secretary, at financialsecretary@burnthillsumc.org. Thank you for your support!



Weekly Studies & Activities for Adults at BHUMC: Open to Everyone!

No matter your schedule or interests, there's a place for you to grow in faith and community this fall. Join one of our adult study groups to learn, share, and connect with others.

Early Birds – **Mondays at 9:30 am** in the Fireside Room. We are reading "Hagitude—Reimagining The Second Half of Life" by Sharon Blackie. Books are available in the church office. No class 2/16.

Meditation – **Tuesdays from 10am-11:30am** in the Sparkle Room upstairs, facilitated by Marilyn Stoner. Each session is stand alone; come when you can! Call/text Marilyn 502-456-1502 for more information.

Explorers – **Wednesdays at 9:30 am** in the Fireside Room. No pre-reading required – just come ready to learn and ask questions. Contact Ian if you are interested! No class on 2/18.

Queer Holy Club offers a gentle, ongoing, openly affirming, and fully inclusive space for LGBTQIA+ people and their supporters seeking a safe place to reconnect with faith and community. We meet **Wednesdays at 7 pm** (except the last Wednesday of the Month) at Burnt Hills Pizza Works. Contact: Pastor Ian

Seekers: Sisters in Christ – **Thursdays at 9:15 am** in Knight Hall. Studying "The Dream Giver" by Bruce Wilkinson beginning in January. Books are available in the office .

Monthly Activities: Please Join Us!

Men's Breakfast - February 7

The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, February 7 at 8 am** in Knight Hall. Spread the word, and bring a friend. We hope to see you there!



Caregiver Support Group: February 7



Are you the caregiver for a family member or friend? Do you know someone who is having difficulties with caregiving? It helps to talk to others going through the same experiences. This group is open to both church members and non-church members.

The Caregiver Support Group will meet **Saturday, February 7 at 10:30 am** in the Fireside Room. We welcome caregivers in all stages of caregiving from taking care of a loved one in their own housing to dealing with hospice in nursing homes. Contact Diane Skibinski at dskibins@gmail.com or 518-423-2887.

United Women in Faith: February Gatherings



United Women in Faith



TUESDAY CONNECTION CIRCLE will be meeting at **The Ripe Tomato in Malta** for lunch on **Tuesday, February 10 at 11:30am**. Be at the church at 11am if you would rather carpool .

SPECIAL K Circle will meet on **Monday, February 23 at 2 pm** in Fireside. We will be packing up supplies for Young Parents United of Schenectady as well as a bit of cleaning in the kitchen.

UMW Circles are small groups that gather monthly for fellowship and a variety of programs and projects. All meetings are open and welcoming. For more information, contact Holly Rogers at 399-8629.

Lunch Bunch: February 27

The February luncheon date for Lunch Bunch will be **Friday, February 27th**. The group will meet at **Applebee's in Glenville (268 Saratoga Road) at 12:00 pm**. Contact Carol Borthwick (399-5405) or Lynn Christie (399-8838) if you would like to attend.



Food Pantry

Food Pantry Hours are 9am - 12 noon Monday to Friday, Sunday mornings, and by appointment. Ring the door bell to get in any weekday. Currently the pantry could really benefit from: **boxes of cereal, individual applesauce, non-grape jelly, and manual can openers.** Thank you!



Souper Bowl Sunday



Our church is collecting cans of soup for **SICM's food pantry in Schenectady** for Souper Bowl Sunday.

Let's try to collect over 200 cans of soup!

We will be collecting cans **until the Souper Bowl on Sunday, February 8.** Cans will be collected and stored in the sanctuary so we can visualize progress. Thank you for your generosity!

Corned Beef and Cabbage Community Dinner

Mark your Calendars! Our **Corned Beef and Cabbage Community Dinner** is scheduled for Saturday, **March 7, 2026**, eat in or take out from 4:30 to 6:30pm. **Watch the bulletin board outside Knight Hall for how to help.** Questions? Kathy Pirigyi or Linda Noonan.



Easter Flowers



The Altar Committee would like to offer the congregation the opportunity to purchase Easter Flowers to beautify the altar this year. The flowers can be in honor of someone, in memory, or given to someone who cannot attend service. If you would prefer, we would greatly appreciate donations. Look for further details in the weekly bulletins. Thank you!

New District Superintendent Announced

Bishop Héctor A. Burgos-Núñez has announced **Rev. Anna Blinn Cole will become Superintendent for the Adirondack and Albany Districts**, effective July 1, 2026. "Rev. Anna Blinn Cole is the pastor of Cobleskill UMC and the coordinating elder of the Mosaic Cooperative Ministry, a network of 10 congregations in the Oneonta District. Previous appointments include church planter at Nourished: Richmondville, Regional Coordinator for the Schoharie Region, Associate Pastor at Cobleskill UMC, and pastor of Warnerville UMC. She served the conference as a candidacy mentor and member of the Oneonta DCOM, DLT, the UNY Board of Ordained Ministry, the Creation Justice Team, the New Faith Communities Team, the UNY Camp and Retreat Ministry Team, chaplain at Skye Farm Camp & Retreat Center, and as Chair of the Order of Elders.

The child of itinerant UMC pastors, Anna spent much of her childhood in the Red Bird Missionary Conference in southeastern Kentucky. Before entering ministry, she worked as a professional architectural historian in central New York while serving in lay leadership at Sidney UMC. Her ministry is grounded in a deep sense of place, a love for God's creation, a commitment to justice, and a belief in the church's capacity for joy and new possibility. Rev. Blinn Cole holds a B.A. from Bryn Mawr College, an M.A. in Historic Preservation from the University of Delaware, and an M.Div. from Emory University.

Rev. Blinn Cole brings a deep passion for serving diverse communities, strengthening connections, fostering innovation, and inspiring faith-filled action. She is a strong advocate for the holistic wellness of both clergy and laity. Her generational perspective and experience guiding cooperative parish ministries will be a tremendous asset in this season, as our mission calls us to bold adaptation and creative approaches to ministry."





Soup Kitchen: Watch for signups for March 16th



Young Parents United

Our congregation has a history of supporting **Young Parents United** of Schenectady. This organization helps young families find apartments and jobs, and offers classes in parenting and finances. Ginni, the founder, sets up a table at the LAF each year to share information about their programs. They also collect (for free) furniture, household goods, clothing, baby equipment, linens and toys from the Lord's Acre Fair to be given to these young families. **Our Women's Circle, Special K, is gathering baby products and toiletries (not covered by food stamps) to help these families and we would love help from the congregation.**

Items most needed are:

Babies

Diapers, size five and six
Baby body wash
Baby wipes
Diaper rash ointment

Adults

Shampoo/ conditioner
Toothpaste
Deodorant
Soap

We have a **collection bin in Knight Hall on a table in front of the Outreach/ Social Justice bulletin board.**

Thank you so much for any help you can give us. Even the smallest donation shows these young families that someone cares about them. **If you have a favorite baby product and it is not on the list, please share it!**

We appreciate your kind generosity.
Outreach/Special K

January Preschool Notes

Our preschoolers have been learning a lot about winter and arctic animals. We had the "Arctic Experience" set up in our Drama room upstairs for the kids to enjoy when it was too icy for sledding and playing outside.

Due to the intensely cold weather, we had a sparse response to our Open House. **We are rescheduling another Open House for April.** Thank you to all you provided goodies for us — they'll be generously shared with coffee hour.

Both classes and their families will be gathering at the church on **February 10th** to enjoy a pancake breakfast together before heading to the Glendale Nursing Home to deliver Valentine's Day cards to the residents there.

Our friends are very excited for their own Valentine's Day celebrations. They have decorated mailboxes and bags for the Valentine's Day cards they will deliver to one another.



We still have spaces available in both classes, so if you or someone you know is interested in our program please have them reach out to Stephanie Tope at 518-466-6566 or bhumpreschool@gmail.com.

February at Glance

February 7: Caregiver's Support Group

February 7: Men's Breakfast

February 14: Valentine's Day

February 19: Red Cross Blood Drive

February 28: Gathering Retreat

Check out our real-time online church calendar for updates & changes: www.nybhmc.com/calendar.html



WEDNESDAYS IN MARCH, 6-7:30PM

EAT, PRAY, LOVE

A time to gather for some food, contemplation and sharing love with our hurting world



ALL AGES WELCOME! **WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS**

Sunday School Schedule—Spring 2026

- **February 1st**- Regular SS Classes
- **February 8th** - ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL YOUTH are remaining in church full service to participate in the running of the church service (Camp Sunday/Youth Sunday)
- **February 15th** - K-5 combined
- **February 22nd and ALL Sundays in March** - Regular SS Classes
- **April 5th** - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL Happy East. Attend the service in the sanctuary.
- **April 12th** - K-5 combined class in Fireside Room (Preschool youth welcome to see Miss Alyssa in Family Room, MS/HS welcome to remain in church or assist with K-5 class)
- **April 19th, 26th and May 3rd, 10th** - Regular SS Classes
- **May 17th** - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (Music Sunday)
- **May 24th** - K-5 combined class in Fireside Room (Preschool youth welcome to see Miss Alyssa in Family Room, MS/HS welcome to remain in church or assist with K-5 class)
- **May 31st** - Final Day of Sunday School - End of Sunday School Celebration (activities and treats together during SS time)

The Golden Journey of Discovering Beauty, Meaning and Hope in These Broken Times

Retreat led by Marilyn Stoner and Rhody Streeter in Knight Hall

This 12-person retreat, offers a time to be together in a small group setting, to share gratefulness and brokenness, grief, hurt, and even anger in a healthy way...and stories of courage, wonder and joy! We will dive into storytelling, music, art, and movement, gentle and easy for everyone, even those of you who think you aren't good at any of that! This is for all genders over 18.



Saturday February 28, 10:00-4:00pm—snacks and lunch provided

Sign up on the bulletin board, or at Signup Genius using the QR code. Any questions or concerns, text Marilyn at (502) 456-1502. Dietary needs accommodated.



February 2026

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9-10am Worship 9:45-10:25am Youth Choir 10:30-11:30am Worship 11:30am-12:15pm Voices of Hope Choir	2 9:30-10:30am Earlybirds/Fireside 4:30-5pm - Private Piano Lesson/KH 6-7pm Troop #3892/ Knight Hall 6-7pm Troop #3801/ Upstairs Classroom 6:30-8:30pm Troop #2169/Sparkle Room	3 10-11:30am Meditation/ Sparkle Room 7-8:30pm Troop #3056/Knight Hall	4 8:30-10:30am Fix-its 9:30-10:30 am Explorers/Fireside 6-7pm Troop #3910/ Upstairs 7-8pm AA/Fireside 7-8pm Queer Holy Club/Pizza Works	5 9:15-10:45am Seekers/Knight Hall 10:30-11:30am BH-BL Women's Club Board Meeting/Fireside Room 6:30-7:30pm Troop #3020/Knight Hall 7-8pm Choir Rehearsal/Loft	6	7 8-9am Men's Breakfast/KH 10:30-11:30am Caregiver's Support Group/ Fireside 11:30am-2pm Pinewood Derby - Troop #3020/ Knight H. 5pm-9am Troop #3056/Overnight/ Knight Hall
8 10-10:30am Voices of Hope & Youth Choir 10:30-11:30am Worship	9 9:30-10:30am Earlybirds/Fireside 12-3pm BH-BL Women's Club Luncheon/KH 4:30-5pm Private Piano Lesson/KH 5:30-7:30pm Troop #3916/Upstairs 5:45-7:30pm Troop #3847/Knight Hall 6-7pm Troop #3801/ Upstairs 6:30-8:30pm Troop #2169/Sparkle Room	10 9-11am Preschool Pancake Breakfast/ Knight Hall & Kitchen 10-11:30am Meditation/ Sparkle Room 11am-1:30pm Tuesday Connection/Ripe Tomato 5:30-6:30pm Troop #3872/KH 7-8:30pm Troop #3056/Knight Hall	11 8:30-10:30am Fix-its 9:30-10:30am Explorers/Fireside 6-7pm Troop #3857/ Upstairs 6:30-8pm Troop #2424/Upstairs/ Sparkle Room 6-7pm Troop #3934/ Upstairs 7-8pm AA/Fireside 7-8pm Queer Holy Club/Pizza Works	12 9:15-10:45am Seekers/Knight Hall 7-8pm Choir Rehearsal/Loft	13	14
15 9-10am Worship 10:30-11:30am Worship	16 No Preschool 4:30-5pm Private Piano Lesson/KH 6-7pm Troop #3801/ Upstairs Classroom 6:30-8:30pm - Troop #2169/Sparkle Room	17 No Preschool 10-11:30am Meditation/ Sparkle 1-3pm BH-BL Women's Club Book Club/Fireside Room 4:30-6:30pm Pancake Supper/ Knight Hall 6-7pm Troop #3917/Upstairs 7-8:30pm Troop #3056/Knight H. 7-8pm Trustee Meeting/Fireside	18 No Preschool 8:30-10:30am Fix-its 6-9:30pm Saratoga Voices/Knight Hall 6-7pm Troop #3910/ Upstairs 7-8pm AA/Fireside 7-8pm Queer Holy Club/Pizza Works	19 No Preschool 9:15-10:45am Seekers/Knight Hall 11am-6pm Red Cross Blood Drive/ Knight Hall (12-5 pm) 6:30-8:30pm Finance Committee Meeting/Fireside Room 7-8pm Choir Rehearsal/Loft	20 No Preschool	21
22 9-10am Worship 10:30-11:30am Worship 5-7pm Family Fun Night - Pasta Party/ Knight Hall & Kitchen	23 9:30-10:30am Earlybirds/Fireside 2-3pm Special K/ Fireside Room 4:30-5pm Private Piano Lesson/KH 6-7pm Troop #3801/ Upstairs Classroom 6:30-8:30pm Troop #2169/Sparkle Room	24 10-11:30am Meditation/ Sparkle 5:30-6:30pm Troop #3872/ Knight Hall 7-8:30pm Troop #3056/Knight Hall	25 8:30-10:30am Fix-its 9:30-10:30 am Explorers/Fireside 5:45pm-7:30pm Troop #3847/Upstairs 6-7pm Troop #3857/ Upstairs 6:30-8pm Troop #3934/Upstairs 7-8pm AA/Fireside 7-8pm Social Justice Action Group	26 9:15-10:45am Seekers/Knight Hall 6:30-7:30pm Troop #3020/Knight Hall 7-8pm Choir Rehearsal/Loft	27 12-2pm Lunch Bunch/Glenville Applebee's	28 10am-4pm Retreat/Knight Hall & Kitchen

Burnt Hills United Methodist Church

816 Route 50

Burnt Hills, NY 12027

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Organization
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PAID

Burnt Hills, NY 12027
Permit NO. 1



SAFER SANCTUARIES

Online Training Opportunities

Saturday, February 21, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Registration closes Feb 14 at midnight (no exceptions).
Registration link: <https://forms.gle/WPTnJphKgHW5hSSbA>

Saturday, May 2, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Registration opens Apr 1 and closes Apr 25 at midnight (no exceptions).
Registration link: <https://forms.gle/jtUQiYYH6GRAoMEM7>

Both trainings take place on Zoom. MANDATORY for any volunteers or staff who works with or wants to work with children and youth. Contact Pastor Ian for more information.