

The Methodist

Burnt Hills UMC News January 2025

Contact Us

Office Phone: 518-399-5144

Fax: 518-399-0384

E-Mail:

burnthillsumc@gmail.com

Web: www.nybhmc.com

Office hours: Monday-Friday

8:30 am-12:30 pm

Worship hours

9:00am and

10:30am (with livestream)

Lead Pastor

Rev. Amy Gregory

revgregorybhmc@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

Pastor Ian Urriola

iurriola@burnthillsumc.org

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

Dee Lowman

treasurer@burnthillsumc.org

Financial Secretary

Sue Zoller

financialsecretary@burnthillsumc.org

Preschool Staff

Stephanie Tope - Teacher

Angie Barclay - Assistant

Teacher

Karen Lathrop - Director



Follow us on Facebook

https://

www.facebook.com/

BurnthillsUMC



Follow us on Instagram

Burnthillsumc518



livestream/Youtube



During worship on Sunday, January 5, we celebrated the ministry of two of our leaders who transitioned out of their particular roles, and we welcomed and commissioned two of our other members who will assume new leadership roles in our church. Since 2006, **Bert Longbotham** served as the chair of our Board of Trustees, and since 2015, **Pete Farrell** served as the chair of our Finance Committee. Thanks to the ways they cared for both of those committees, the foundation of our congregation's ministry plan remained strong. Our space has become more secure, accessible, and warm thanks to projects taken up by our Trustees during Bert's tenure, and, when the pandemic struck, Pete's care of our finances and administration helped our church navigate those uncertain waters. We also welcomed and commissioned **Kristen Reck** and **Scott Bryson**, who will be assuming the roles of co-chairs of our Board of Trustees moving forward. Please join us in praying for and giving thanks for Bert, Pete, Kristen, and Scott's leadership in our church!



Deadline for articles for the February Methodist is January 15. Please submit your articles to Robyn @ burnthillsumc@gmail.com

Human Relations Day

Human Relations Day is a special Sunday across our denomination, focused on fostering better relationships and supporting community and youth outreach. On the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, we take up a special offering to help bring his vision of a "beloved community" to life. Your gifts support important programs like **Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Services, and Youth Offender Rehabilitation**. On **January 19**, we invite you to give, helping us continue this vital work together. Thanks to your generosity, over **\$250,000** was raised last year to support these vital ministries through the Human Relations Day Sunday offering:

Fifty-seven percent of the funds received support the Community Developers Program (CDP) that strive to maintain, and strengthen racial-ethnic minority congregations through local United Methodist churches and engage based on community needs.

Thirty-three percent of the funds received support The United Methodist Voluntary Services (UMVS) that serves as a resource to congregations and volunteer working to challenge unjust political, social, and economic systems.

Ten percent of the funds received support youth rehabilitation programs, empowering young people through church-based activities, mentoring programs, and boys' and girls' clubs.

For over 50 years, United Methodists have observed this special Sunday to honor the message Jesus lived out: that **every one of God's children matters**. One of the beautiful things about The United Methodist Church is that, together, we can accomplish far more than we could on our own. Our collective gifts help build "the beloved community."

Please give online or use the "Human Relations Day" offering envelope in the offering plate.

Please share your gifts!

We are looking for some help with the following ministries:

2025 Ushers: would you like to greet people, hand out bulletins, collect the offering and a few other tasks on Sunday morning? Please contact the office to let them know when you are available and which service or use the sign up sheets in the hallway or scan the QR code.



Family Fun Night Coordinators for 2025 dates: Katharine Weis is ready to help out as essential support, but we need some folks to step up and take the lead for these days with 4pm gatherings: Jan 19, March 16 and April 27. Please contact Katharine Weis, Cathy Bryson or the office to let us know you are interested.

Save the Date: March 15—Corned Beef Community Dinner. Please contact Kathy Pirigy or Linda Noonan to volunteer.

Giving Tree Summary

This year we were able to **provide Christmas to 10 families with a total of 30 children, 16 adults and 107 presents.** This is an estimated giving of approximately \$4400 when the food gift cards are accounted for. Thanks to all who gave gifts. A special thanks to the LAF for providing funds used to purchase the food gift cards.

Audrey and I have been coordinating the Giving Tree since 1990. Over those 35 years, the BHUMC has provided Christmas presents to 501 Families with 1310 Children and 529 Adults. The total given is 6369 Gifts with an estimated value of \$140,000.

Well Done Everyone.

Mark Witkofsky



Giving Tree Before Tags



Giving Tree Full of Tags



All the Gifts Under the Giving Tree



Bagged and Ready for Delivery



Christmas Pageant

This year’s Christmas pageant was a beautiful celebration of the season and a true testament to the hard work and dedication of our involved congregation members. Their heartfelt storytelling brought the nativity to life and filled the room with joy and wonder. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported this special event—we are so grateful to share this cherished tradition with our community.



Men’s Breakfast

The next Men’s Breakfast will be on **Saturday, February 1 at 8:00 am 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!





finding joy and
connection
through shared
expression



Share your stories, explore your gifts, and celebrate community
Saturday, January 25, 2025 in Knight Hall
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (please plan to attend for whole day)



come and
play!

Story sharing
Collaging
Drum Circle
Food
Conversation
Fun!

Facilitated by Beth McLaughlin, Renee Mesh, and Marilyn Stoner

Lunch will be provided
Childcare available to those who need it

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER OR
SIGN UP ON BULLETIN BOARD

CONTACT BETH, MARILYN, OR RENEE
FOR MORE INFORMATION



Family Night ^{✦✦} Potluck Dinner

January 19, 4–7 p.m.

Bring a dish to share and don't miss this wonderful opportunity to connect with friends and family during the winter season!

FOOD. FUN GAMES. FELLOWSHIP.

Contact Orion Marchese or Katharine
Wels for more information.



Studies for Adults: Please join us!

- **Early Birds** with Pastor Amy, meets **Mondays at 9:30 am** in the Fireside room. On January 13, we begin *Painting the Stars: Science, Religion and Evolving Faith*. Join us any Monday.
- **Explorers** meets with Pastor Ian on **Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am** in the Fireside Room. We are currently working through a series on the Book of Revelation featuring video presentations by Dr. Craig Koester from Luther Seminary. This series has no pre-reading or homework attached to it—just come ready to learn and ask questions!
- **Seekers: Sisters in Christ**, ongoing study meets **Thursdays at 9:15 am** in Knight Hall.

BHUMC Council Meetings

Church Council meets once a month on the **third Monday of the month at 7:00 pm 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. **The next meeting is Monday, January 20 at 7:00 pm.**

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. Always feel free to join in. For more information contact Holly Rogers at 399-8629.

TUESDAY CONNECTION CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, January 14 at 9:30** in Fireside. We will be making Valentines for the Glendale nursing home.

SPECIAL K CIRCLE will meet on **Monday, January 27 at 2:00** in Fireside to watch a movie.

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 on Thursday 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*

Transformative Table Talk



Join us on **Wednesdays at 7:00 pm** to eat good food, connect with one another and talk about Theology (and whatever else is on our minds). We will meet at **Pizza Works every Wednesday except the last Wednesday of the month**, 720 Saratoga Rd., Burnt Hills. For updates please text 518-414-0967. No need to RSVP.

Caregiver Support Group



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

The next Caregiver Support Group meeting will be **Saturday, February 1, at 10:30 am** 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. Diane Skibinski is the facilitator and can be reached at dskibins@gmail.com or **518-423-2887** for any questions.

Soup Kitchen



This month, we will be serving at the soup kitchen on **January 13**. It is a week earlier due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Please sign up and bring all ingredients by **Friday, January 10**. (If you make a different plan, please put a notation on the signup sheet on the bulletin board outside Knight Hall. It saves us duplicating ingredients.) We will be making the soup after 2nd service on **January 12**. We will leave the church the **Monday, January 13 at 10 AM** to serve at Salvation Army in Schenectady. We are always looking for new people to prep and serve. If you would like to sign up to help prep or serve, please sign up on the bulletin board or scan the QR code for sign-up genius. Lots of fun and feels good to help others. Further info: Libby Horn, 518-698-4043.



Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will start the new year off at Glenville Queen on **Friday, January 24th at 12:00 pm**. Contact Carol Borthwick (399-5405) or Lynn Christie (399-8838) if you would like to attend.

January, 2025



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 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 9:15am Seekers/KH 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	3	4 8:00am Men's Breakfast/KH 10:30am Caregiver's Support Group/FS
5 9:00am Worship 10:30am Worship	6 9:30am Earlybirds 5:30pm Scouts/ Upstairs 6:00pm Scouts/KH 6:45pm Scouts/ Upstairs	7 10:00am Meditation/ SH Room 6:30pm SPRC/FS 7:00pm Scouts/KH	8 8:30am Fix-its 9:30am Explorers 6:00pm Scouts/ upstairs 7:00pm AA/FS 7:00pm Table Talk/ Pizza Works	9 9:15am Seekers/KH 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10	11
12 9:00am Worship 10:30am Worship 11:30am prepare lunch for SK	13 9:30am Earlybirds 10:00am Serve lunch at SK 12:00pm BH-BL Women's Club luncheon/KH 6:30pm Scouts/ Upstairs 6:30pm Scouts/FS 6:45pm Scouts/ Upstairs	14 10:00am Meditation/ SH Room 9:30am Tuesday Connections/FS 7:00pm Scouts/KH	15 8:30am Fix-its 9:30am Explorers 6:00pm Scouts/ Upstairs 6:00pm Saratoga Voices/Sanctuary 7:00pm AA/FS 7:00pm Table Talk/ Pizza Works 7:30pm Meditation/ SH room	16 9:15am Seekers/KH 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	17	18 3:00pm Birthday Party/KH
19 9:00am Worship 10:30am Worship 4:00 pm Family Game Day/KH	20 9:30am Earlybirds 6:00pm Scouts/ Upstairs 7:00pm Church Council/KH	21 10:00am Meditation/ SH Room 1:00 pm BH-BL Book Club 5:00pm Scouts/ Upstairs 6:00pm Scouts/ Upstairs	22 8:30am Fix-its 9:30am Explorers 6:00pm Scouts/ upstairs 7:00pm AA/FS 7:00pm Table Talk/ Pizza Works 7:30pm Meditation/ SH room	23 9:15am Seekers/KH 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	24 12:00pm Glenville Queen Diner 6:00pm Dinner/ KH	25 8:00am Retreat/KH 10:00am Preschool Open House
26 9:00am Worship 9:45am Youth Choir 10:30am Worship 11:30am Voices of Hope	27 9:30am Earlybirds 2:00pm Special K/FS 5:30pm Scouts/KH 6:30pm Scouts/FS 6:45pm Scouts/ Upstairs	28 10:00am Meditation/ SH Room 7:00pm Scouts/KH	29 8:30am Fix-its 9:30am Explorers 6:00pm Scouts/ upstairs 6:00pm Saratoga Voices/Sanctuary 7:00pm AA/FS 7:00pm SJAG/KH 7:30pm Meditation/ SH room	30 9:15am Seekers/KH 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	31	

Burnt Hills United Methodist Church

816 Route 50

Burnt Hills, NY 12027

Non Profit

Organization

U. S. Postage

PAID



Preschool

Happy New Year 🎉

We are so excited for our kids to return to school after the holidays. We will start the month with Show & Tell to give every child the opportunity to tell us about their break and show us their favorite Christmas present.

We would like to thank our incredible students and their families, Pete Farrell, Pete VanKeuren, Nick Adami, Robyn Axon, Pastor Ian, Pastor Amy, our amazing Preschool Board, and special visitor Bert Longbotham for all their help making our Nativity program a success! It was a fantastic way to end 2024.

We have begun accepting registrations for the 2025/26 school year. If you or someone you know is interested have them contact Stephanie Tope at 518-466-6566 or bhumpreschool@gmail.com. Our Open House for the general public will be **Saturday, January 25th from 10am-12pm**. If you cannot attend and would like to visit the preschool, reach out to Stephanie Tope for a private tour.