

We are here to: Love God, Love Our Neighbor and Serve the World.
July 16, 2023 9:30 AM Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude *Spirit of Faith, Come Down* Wesley/Mason

Words of Welcome Rev. Amy B. Gregory

***Call to Worship** By Steve Garnass-Holmes

God of truth, sow the seed of your Word in our hearts.
We receive your grace with glad and generous hearts.
 Loving Christ, sow the seeds of healing and growth in our bodies and souls.

We receive your grace with glad and generous hearts.

Holy Spirit, sow the seeds of your love in our lives.

We receive your grace with glad and generous hearts. Alleluia!

***Hymn** *For the Beauty of the Earth (vs. 1-3, 6)* UMH #92

Listening Prayer by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

**O Sower of Love,
 we are ready soil.
 Plant your word in us;
 nourish it in the sun of your grace
 and the rain of your love.
 May it bear fruit
 by the power of your Spirit. Amen.**

Anthem *Lonely River* Kirkpatrick/Smith

Song *Jesus Loves Me (Verse 1)* UMH #191

Young Disciples Time

Song *Jesus Loves Me (Verse 1)* UMH #191

Scripture Reading Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

Message Rev. Amy B. Gregory

Response Song *Love Sowing God* Tune UMH #408
 Tune: Gift of Love Words: Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Love-sowing God, sow love in me,
 your seeds of grace abundantly.
 My soul be soil where love may root
 and grow and bear your precious fruit.

Where habit's feet and wheels have tracked,
 my anxious work the soil has packed,
 soften my soul with bliss or pain,
 so love may enter in again.

*You are invited to stand as you are able or comfortable

My angry thorns, my selfish weeds,
 God, clear away, and sow your seeds.
 Despite the hungry, wanting bird,
 Love, plant in me your living Word.

Love-sowing God, your labors done,
 help me to trust the rain and sun,
 receive your grace and faithfully
 bear forth your love that grows in me.

***Invitation to Generosity: Offering Our Gifts and Our Thanks**

Offertory *Bless The Lord, O My Soul* Traditional

***Singing Our Praises** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #94

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer Song *Be Thou My Vision* Trad. Irish melody

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer UMH #895

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Hymn** *You Are the Seed (vs. 1 & 2)* UMH #583

***Benediction**

Postlude *O God Who Shaped Creation* Wood

Please join us for Punch on the Patio, after the service, hosted by the Seekers Study Group.

Prayers Needed?

We will be collecting prayer cards during the offering.
 If you would like your prayer request forwarded to the Prayer Chain,
 please remember to check the appropriate box on the card.

WEEKLY CALENDAR	
Sunday, July 16	
9:30 AM	Worship with Punch on the Patio
10:30 AM	Prepare meal for Salvation Army
Monday, July 17	
10:00 AM	Serve lunch at Salvation Army
Wednesday, July 18	
8:30 AM	Fix-it's
7:00 PM	AA
7:00 PM	Pub Theology at Pizza Works
Thursday, July 19	
9:15 AM	Seekers
Sunday, July 23	
9:30 AM	Worship with Punch on the Patio

Pastor Brendan will be away on an unpaid leave to work at our **United Methodist camp, Sky Lake this summer.** Please pray for our United Methodist camping ministry this summer—leaders, volunteers and campers alike!

If you have a notice you'd like to put in the weekly bulletin, please email the church office by Wednesday to ensure inclusion. Anything received after Thursday will be put in the following week.

Announcements

- The flowers on the altar this morning are in celebration of Ann and Dick Chatterton's 60th wedding anniversary on July 13. **Happy Anniversary!**
- **Welcome to worship!** If you are new, please fill out a welcome card found in the pews, if you'd like to receive more information. **Thank you for coming** to spend part of your Sunday with us. We hope you experience a sense of God's love and grace here today.
- The flag hangs in gratitude to the United States of America that grants us freedom of religious practice and expression.
- Summer church office hours: Monday-Thursday between 10:00-12:00.
- **Summer Choir will be singing on the last Sundays of each summer month: July 30 and August 27.** If you're interested in singing, **show up in the loft at 8:45** and we'll practice music for that morning's worship service, very simple pieces familiar to everyone.
- **Vacation Bible School** is being planned to occur **at our own BHUMC this July 31st to August 3rd!!!!** However, we can't do it without volunteers -- whether you're interested in helping to plan/coordinate **before the big week** or if you're available to work **during the week of VBS**, we have things that could be done in both that are equally as important. **Please contact Jodi Facticeau-St. Gelais (jafstgelais@gmail.com) as soon as possible if you'd like to help plan/coordinate our VBS endeavor, as we are currently working on it all and can't do it without you!** Information about volunteering during the week of VBS will be coming soon!
- **Sunday School** is on break until September, we'll see you then! There will **not** be youth programming during church services this summer, however of course feel free to come to church and stay for the service, young friends! There will be a Young Disciples Time most weeks and activity bags are available to use during the service. **Children are always welcome in worship!**
- The **Nursery will be open for your use this summer but not staffed.** A changing table is in the bathroom near the sanctuary. An usher can point it out to you.
- **Mary's Haven** is seeking new volunteers for our community home for the dying. Please consider becoming a volunteer and attending our upcoming **volunteer training on Wednesday, July 19th and Thursday, July 20th from 9:30 am –3:30 pm** at **Mary's Haven 35 New St. Saratoga Springs, NY.** Please call Agatha to sign up at 518-584-9397.

Save the date:

- **The Ballston Spa United Methodist Church** will be having their **annual rummage sale on July 22 from 8 am to 3 pm.** This may be accessed by the back entrance to the church at 101 Milton Avenue in Ballston Spa. We hope to see you there!
- **Charlton Freehold Presbyterian Church will host a Take-Out Ziti Dinner Wednesday, August 2, 4:30-6:30pm, \$15 per dinner.** The church is located at 768 Charlton Rd. **Tickets available at Mail 'n' More** in Burnt Hills and also sold on the day of the dinner at the church. The net proceeds will go to support our Local Veterans!
- **The Lords' Acre Fair is September 8 and 9!** Donations accepted after August 21st, please.
- **Confirmation classes are forming now for the fall.** Students entering **8th grade and above** are welcome. We will **need 2 leaders** as well as **mentors** to pair up with the youth. Please contact Cathy Bryson, catbryson@aol.com, or Robyn in the office to sign up.

Our Ministry Today

Lead Pastor: *Amy Gregory*
Associate Pastor: *Brendan Fox*
Communication Coordinator: *Robyn Axon*
Custodian: *Nick Adami*
Music Ministers: *Pete Van Keuren & Jill Zygo*
Treasurer: *Dee Lowman (treasurer@burnthillsumc.org)*
Financial Secretary: *Sue Zoller (financialsecretary@burnthillsumc.org)*
Prayer Blankets: *Deb Whitehead*
Sunday School Superintendent: *Jodi Facticeau-St. Gelais*
Preschool Teachers: *Stephanie Tope & Angela Barclay*
Sound & Video: *Charles Hartmann*

Lead Pastor, Amy Gregory: revgregorybhumc@gmail.com

Church phone: 518-399-5144 press "1"

Associate Pastor, Brendan Fox: pastorbrendanbhumc@gmail.com

Church phone: 518-399-5144 press "2"



July 16, 2023



BHUMC Welcome Statement

At Burnt Hills UMC, we aspire to be a community of grace and unconditional love, where all people will find hospitality, compassion and mercy. We seek to welcome all on the journey, to grow together in faith and to go out to serve the world. We welcome people of any age, culture, race, nationality, ability, marital status, economic status, sexual orientation and gender identity, as full participants in the life of our congregation. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be part of Jesus' movement of love and justice for all of God's children. All are welcome to worship, grow and serve with us.

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