

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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BurnthillsUMC



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@burnthillsumcvideos480

The Methodist

Burnt Hills UMC News

March, 2026



Coming Soon!

BHUMC 101

New Members Classes

Sundays May 3, 10, & 17

9 - 9:45am

Are you curious about what it might look like to take a next step in your faith here? **BHUMC 101** is a relaxed, three-week Sunday morning class in May (9:00–9:45am, before worship with a makeup class May 24) designed to help you explore just that.

Together we'll look at the four pillars that shape our life as a faith community — **Welcome, Grow, Send, and Tend** — and how each of us is invited into **loving God, loving neighbor, and serving the world**. Whether you're brand new, have been visiting for a while, or have been a member for years and want a refresher, this class is for you.

Those who wish to join the church will be received during worship on **May 31**, but the class is simply an open door to **learn, connect, and discern your next step**. Contact Pastor Ian for more information.

A Note of Gratitude

We are so thankful for our church community and the ways we support the BHUMC ministry plan for 2026. Here's a **quick overview of how estimates of giving (pledges) contribute to our shared mission** of Love God. Love Neighbors. Serve the World.

Our 2026 approved budget total is \$428,806. **Your generosity supports** creativity in worship that draws us closer to God whether we meet in person or on the livestream, **discipleship and Christian education** opportunities that help us **grow in faith, and outreach that shares love beyond our walls**.

Your giving also provides for **our pastors and staff**, keeps **our commitments** to the Upper NY Annual Conference & Albany/Adirondack District, and **cares for our building** — including utilities, maintenance, and even snow removal — so we have a warm, welcoming place to gather.

We are **especially grateful that our building is a place of ministry** all week long through Bible studies, small group meetings, and especially in our **beloved pre-school. Scouts, AA, and other local community groups** meet here, extending hospitality, love, and a safe space into our neighborhood.

In gratitude,

Staff Parish Relations Committee, shepherds of our staff and church community
Trustees, tenders and stewards of our physical space
Finance Committee, caretakers of the ministry plan



Q&A Gathering on March 1st

On **Sunday, March 1, 2026**, our church leadership will host a Q&A Gathering about our transition in July to a one-pastor model. **Join the conversation from 12 - 1 pm in Knight Hall**. We will provide childcare.

Also on March 1st, we will post questions and responses available by that date in Knight Hall for your consideration. At a later date, questions and responses will be gathered and shared with the church community.

Our BHUMC Staff Pastor/Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) will guide us through this transition with care, prayer, and steady leadership. They will work closely with our pastors, other BHUMC leaders, and our Albany/Adirondack District Superintendent, Debbie Earthrowl, throughout this season of change. As questions arise about the transition, many will be directed to SPRC for thoughtful consideration and response. Beth McLaughlin and Stephanie Tope serve as co-chairs, and we are truly grateful for their leadership.

Reminder: please submit questions, concerns, and ideas to bhumc.council@gmail.com (please include your name) or by scanning this code and completing the online form.



2026 Easter Offering

This year's Easter Offering will **support UMCOR** (United Methodist Committee on Relief) in its efforts to give aid during **domestic disasters**. This year's flooding and hurricane season have caused widespread damage. With the changing weather patterns there is sure to be more calls for help.

Our other Easter Offering emphasizes food insecurity. The **Regional Food Bank and food pantries in Galway, Lifeworks Community Action** in Ballston Spa and the **Sycamore connective, formerly SICM**, will receive monetary donations. A new organization we are supporting is **Raindrops Closet for Homeless Families**. We have helped them in the past with goods and financial aid from LAF. In 2026, we would like to directly support their food program. We are thankful for your continued support of our own food pantry. Thank you also for giving to the Easter Offering. Your generosity helps **so many people**.

Please use the **Easter Offering envelopes** found in the pews or give online and choose "Easter Offering".

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.

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!

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 "Lent in Plain Sight—A Devotion Through Ten Objects" by Jill J. Duffield.

Monthly Activities: Please Join Us!

Men's Breakfast - March 7

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



Caregiver Support Group: March 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, March 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: March Gatherings



TUESDAY CONNECTION CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, March 10 at 9:30 am in Fireside.** We will be making Easter cards for our shut-ins.

SPECIAL K Circle will meet on **Monday, March 23 at 2 PM in Fireside.** We might play Pictionary or we might do something useful. Come and find out! Either way, we will be having fun!

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: March 27

Lunch Bunch will be meeting at **Maxon's American Grill (507 Rt 50) on Friday, March 27th at 12 pm.** Contact Carol Borthwick (518-399-5405) or Lynn Christie (518-399-8838) if you would like to attend.

Literary Expression & Social Justice In Action

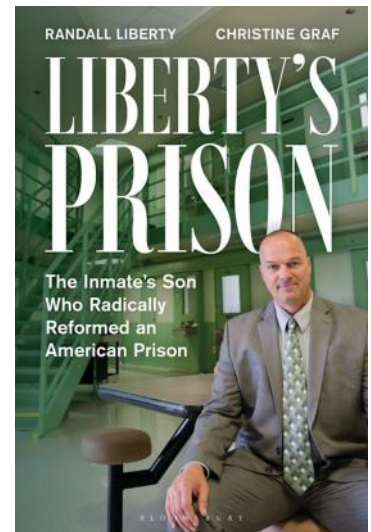
Meet Co-author, Chris Graf

Friday, March 27, 6:30—8:30 pm

Chris Graf, a BHUMC member, will share her inspiration for this recently released book, sign books, and answer questions. This book tells Randy' Liberty's story, how he was able to break free from generational incarceration and poverty to achieve redemption and a life filled with purpose by forging a radical shift from traditional models of incarceration, which focuses on rehabilitation, redemption, de-stigmatization, and humanization.

Book order sign up is on the bulletin board outside of Knight Hall to pre-order a book (so you can read ahead) or to receive at the event. Cost is \$25 to order with Chris, or \$33 supporting your local bookstore.

Contact Cathy Bryson 518-428-9691 with questions about the event.



Encore! Community Musical Theater Camp at BHUMC



In July, Burnt Hills United Methodist Church is excited to host **Encore! Community Musical Theater Camp**. This is a *free*, three-week afternoon arts program for students in grades 2–5 in the 2025–26 school year.

Held Monday–Friday from 2:30–5:15 PM (July 6–25), Encore provides a safe, creative, fun and welcoming space for children who love musical theater. Students will explore storytelling through singing, dancing, acting, and hands-on prop and craft creation, all leading to a joyful final Musical Theater review for families and the community!

Daily snacks will be provided, and collaboration with the BH-BL Summer Recreation program is underway to help support transportation from Summer Rec to the Burnt Hills United Methodist Church.

Encore was created to support working families while making high-quality musical theater experiences accessible to all, at no cost to participants.

Stay tuned for registration details, and join us for a summer filled with creativity, confidence, and community! Email Jillzygo@gmail.com if interested. She will make sure you get registration details when available.



UMCOR SUNDAY: March 15, 2026

The UMCOR Sunday offering underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need. These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable. Please give online or use the special envelope during worship this month. Thank you for your generosity!

UMCOR'S RESPONSES IN 2025



Soup Kitchen: March 15 (prep) and March 16 (serve)

Friday, March 13 or before: Sign up to bring ingredients using sign up sheets on the bulletin board outside of Knight Hall or talk to Libby. (If you plan to bring ingredients on Saturday or Sunday, please put a notation on the signup sheet to avoid ingredient duplication.)

Sunday, March 15: Make soup after second service.

Monday, March 16 at 10 am: Leave the church to serve and/or visit with us at Salvation Army in Schenectady. We are always looking for new people. Help us prep or serve by signing up on the bulletin board. Lots of fun and feels good to help others. For further information, please contact Libby Horn at 518-698-4043.

⇒ *Join us in one or more of these ways to gather and serve our neighbors a warm, nutritious meal!*



Souper Bowl Sunday—Update

Souper Bowl 2026 Collection Update: We collected and donated 284 cans of soup, together with Gates of Heaven synagogue's 166 cans of soup and 20 packages of Ramen noodles, to Sycamore Collaborative in Schenectady. First UMC of Schenectady collected 60 cans of soup and \$50, donated to Street Soldiers of Schenectady. These three faith communities **collected over 500 meals for our neighbors!** Thank you!

2025 Christmas Offering

Thank for your generous contributions to the Christmas Offering. The total for 2025 was \$2745, shared as follows: \$800 to the Ministry Plan, \$800 to Sycamore (formerly SICM), \$300 to Community Human Services, \$300 to RISSE, \$300 to Young Parents Unite, and \$245 to local Food Pantries.

Our caring congregation continues to support so many people and organizations. Outreach Commission

February Preschool Notes

February may have been a short month, but it was filled with so much love! We had enjoyed a pancake breakfast with both of our classes and their families followed by a trip to the Glendale Nursing Home to deliver Valentine's Day cards. Both classes exchanged Valentines with their classmates and created beautiful gifts for their families. We ended the month with a field trip to the Children's Museum at Saratoga for their "Be a meteorologist" program.

We are looking forward to a full month in March. Our 4 year olds will continue learning about weather, then move into dental health. Our 3 year old class gets to spend the month learning nursery rhymes and fairy tales. Both classes have the chance to plant seeds and watching them sprout. We will discuss St. Patrick's Day and finish the month with Easter preparations.



Our Open House had been rescheduled for Saturday April 25th from 10am-noon. Please help us spread the word. If you have any questions about our preschool program please reach out to **Stephanie Tope at 518-466-6566 or bhumpreschool@gmail.com.**

Council Meadows

Council Meadows Senior Housing is looking for a temporary part-time maintenance person for 6 weeks for 12 hours weekly beginning in April. If interested please contact Karen Lathrop at lathropk28@gmail.com.

March at Glance

March 1: All Church Q&A Session
March 4,11, 18, 25: Lenten Program
March 7: Caregiver's Support Group
March 7: Men's Breakfast
March 7: Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
March 8: Daylight Savings Time Change
March 15/16: Salvation Army Soup Kitchen
March 17: St. Patrick's Day
March 22: Daniel Huh Piano Concert
March 25: SJAG Annual Pollinator Meeting
March 27: Book Signing - Liberty's Prison
March 29: Palm Sunday / Easter Egg Hunt

Check out our real-time online church calendar for updates & changes: www.nybhunc.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

Piano Concert by Daniel Huh on March 22!

Daniel, a senior at Skidmore and former youth choir accompanist, is giving a **free classical piano concert at our church on Sunday March 22 at 2 pm in the Sanctuary**. Everyone is warmly invited! A free will offering for Encore! Community Musical Theatre Camp is gratefully accepted.

Daniel Huh began studying piano at the age of six and currently studies with Dr. Kim as a Filene Music Scholar at Skidmore College. Daniel is a two-time alternate of the Manhattan School of Music Precollege Concerto Competition and the winner of the Skidmore College Concerto Competition, through which he performed Grieg's Piano Concerto in A Minor with the Skidmore College Orchestra. Daniel is also one of the presidents of the Skidmore Asian Cultural Association.

The repertoire he's playing is as follows:

1. Bach: Partita BWV 826 in C Minor - I. Sinfonia
2. Haydn: Sonata in A Major Hob. XVI:26
3. Ravel: Jeux d'eau
4. Chopin Ballade No.4 in F Minor, Op.52
5. Kapustin Concert Etudes Op.40 No.2- Reverie and No.1-Prelude
6. Brahms Intermezzo Op. 118 No.2

FREE!

Classical Piano Concert at BHUMC

Featuring Daniel Huh
(Former Youth Choir Accompanist and Skidmore Senior)

SUNDAY, MARCH 22
2:00PM



Free will offering to benefit
Encore! Musical Theater Camp
(Summer Launch 2026 at BHUMC)

Deadline for April Methodist articles is March 15. Please send articles to Renee at burnthillsumc@gmail.com.

Burnt Hills United Methodist Church

816 Route 50

Burnt Hills, NY 12027

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PAID

Burnt Hills, NY 12027

Permit NO. 1

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

EAT IN OR TAKE OUT

MENU

Corned Beef with
Cabbage, Carrots
and Potatoes
Irish Soda Bread,
Desserts



Saturday, March 7 from 4:30-6:30

Adults: \$20

Children 5-10: \$8

Under 5 Free

Purchase Tickets
at: Mail 'N' More,
BHUMC Church
Office or at the
Door



Burnt Hills United Methodist Church

816 Route 50, Burnt Hills, New York

HOP ON OVER TO OUR Easter Egg Hunt!

March 29th
@ 12 noon

Burnt Hills United Methodist Church
816 NY-50, Burnt Hills, NY 12027

Meet us inside Knight Hall for bag
decorating & snacks before the egg hunt.

**At-Your-Own-Pace Egg Hunt
will also be available**

Questions? Call 518-399-5144