



Center Brunswick United Methodist Church

Latest news and bulletin updates

Spring 2026

Walking the Redemption Road Together



This season of the church calendar takes us on a path down the redemption road. Lent invites us to make space for this journey that we have probably traveled before; however, each year although the map is the same, the journey occurs within a different

context. Perhaps our companions for the journey have changed, our personal circumstances might be different, and, most certainly, the world in which we reside is different each time we travel this road. The good news of Easter reminds us that our

journey now includes grace and empowerment as the Body of Christ. We are encouraged to engage all of our senses as we travel, witnessing and sharing the abundant life around us through child's eyes, lifting them up to receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

I invite you to come and walk this path with us on Sunday and every day.

Hello CBUMC community!
Currently we provide a quarterly publication. We welcome any additional columns, notes, or news of upcoming events.
Submit them here cbumc990@outlook.com. We hope our project grows and we hope you enjoy it.
Happy reading!

Meetings and Events

Sunday Service 9:00am.
990 Hoosick Rd, Troy, NY 12180

Sunday School
Sundays 10:15 am.

Topic: Bible Study
Time: Thursday 10:00 am
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92077854707>

Choir Practice
Thursdays at 7:00pm.
990 Hoosick Rd, Troy, NY 12180

Administration Meeting
Second Monday of Month
6:30 p.m.

See full calendar
[Click Here...](#)

Just For the Health of It

By Jeanine Santelli, PhD, RN, AGPCNP-BC, FAAN
Faith Community Nurse

Put Some SPRING in Your Step!

This cold, snowy winter is coming to a close and it's time to think Spring! Let's get out of our hibernation from viruses and the frigid weather and get outside. Here are some trails near us:

Poestenkill Gorge Park – about a 10 – 15 minute round trip walk (0.3 mi) with a waterfall

Garnet Douglass Baltimore Trailhead – moderate hike that will take 0.5 – 1 hr (0.8 mi) with a 180 ft grade

John B. Staalesen Vanderheyden Preserve – short trail along the creek (0.5 mi) with grade of 29 ft.

Frear Park – 2 miles of hiking trail along reservoirs and waterfalls

Grafton Lakes State Park – a large variety of trails from 0.14 – 2.55 mi

Brunswick Community Center – four trails to choose from (0.3 – 0.95 mi) close to home. Did you also know that they have a dog park and an outdoor pickleball court?



Bennington Battlefield State Historic Site – four trails ranging from 0.5 – 1.2 miles

So, call me and let's TAKE A HIKE!

From the Table to the Community

Ann Austin



It began with a simple awareness: while many organizations receive donations, fresh bread is often missing from the tables of those who could most use it. What started as one thoughtful observation has grown into a meaningful expression of our church's

mission.

Each time we gather at the Lord's Table, we remember that bread is never just bread. It is provision. It is presence. It is grace made tangible. Now, that same symbol extends beyond our sanctuary walls. Whenever we celebrate Holy Communion, loaves are brought forward not only for worship, but also for our neighbors in need.

After the service, the bread is carefully divided. Half is delivered to the Grafton Senior Center, and half to Pittstown, ensuring both communities receive consistent support.

What may seem like a small offering becomes something much larger in the hands of those who receive it. Fresh bread shared at the Senior Center offers more than nourishment — it brings warmth, dignity, and a reminder that they are remembered. In Pittstown, it continues to support families and individuals who rely on community care.

This ministry beautifully connects what we proclaim on Sunday with how we live on Monday. The bread we bless at the altar becomes daily bread for those navigating fixed incomes, tight budgets, or challenging seasons. Volun-

teers who deliver the loaves often return with stories of gratitude — reminders that generosity nourishes both giver and receiver.

In a world where needs can feel overwhelming, this simple, steady act grounds us. We do not have to solve everything to make a difference. We simply bring what we have, offer it to God, and trust it will multiply in meaning and impact.

May we continue to let our worship shape our witness — and may the sharing of bread remain a visible sign of Christ's love in our community.

Joy in Every Ring

Kathy Hoffman

Our Bell Choir is preparing to add joyful sound to this holy season, and we are excited to share their music with you. On Palm Sunday, the congregation will be treated to a special bell duet — a beautiful and reflective offering that will help lead us into the week of Christ's passion. The blend of two ringers, working in harmony, creates a sound that is both intimate and powerful, setting the tone for worship as we begin Holy Week.

Then on Easter Sunday, the full Bell Choir will lift their instruments in celebration of the Resurrection. There is

something uniquely stirring about the bright, resonant sound of handbells ringing out the good news: Christ is risen! The music will add energy and joy to our worship, echoing the triumph and hope of the empty tomb.

Handbells require precision, teamwork, and careful listening. Each ringer holds only a few notes, yet together they create a complete and beautiful song — a wonderful reminder of how the Body of Christ works in harmony. Rehearsals take dedication and focus, and our ringers give generously of



their time each week to prepare music that enhances and deepens our worship experience.

We are grateful for the commitment of every member of the Bell Choir and for the spirit of excellence they bring to this ministry. Their faithful preparation allows the congregation to experience worship in a richer,

more vibrant way.

We invite you to join us on Palm Sunday and Easter morning to experience the gift of this ministry. Come ready to listen, to reflect, and to rejoice as the bells proclaim the story once again.

From the Table to the Community

Jill Walton

Free Community Dinners: A Table for Everyone

One of the most visible ways we live out our faith is through our Free Community Dinners — and they continue to be a tremendous blessing to our neighbors. Hosted at Center Brunswick United Methodist Church, these meals are open to the public and welcome anyone in the community who would like a warm meal and friendly fellowship.

In January, we gathered for our Community Turkey Dinner, serving turkey with dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, cranberry sauce, rolls, dessert, and beverages. Guests could eat in and enjoy conversation around the table or choose take-out for convenience. The room was filled with laughter, gratitude, and the simple joy of sharing a meal together.

In February, we hosted a Free Community Pasta Dinner fea-

turing a choice of meatballs or sausage, along with salad, bread, dessert, and beverages. Once again, neighbors filled the fellowship hall, volunteers worked side by side, and new friendships were formed. A free will offering is available, but never required — the invitation remains clear: come and be our guest.

These two-hour gatherings are more than meals. They are opportunities to connect in a world that often feels rushed

and isolated. We are especially grateful to Jill for organizing and running these dinners with such dedication, care, and steady leadership. Her commitment, along with the many volunteers who cook, serve, and clean up, makes this ministry possible.

When we open our doors and set the tables, we do more than feed people — we strengthen our community, one plate at a time.

Manhattan Clam Chowder Fundraiser – April 3

Sheryl

Join us on April 3 for our Manhattan Clam Chowder Fundraiser! Pickup will be available from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., making it easy to grab a delicious meal while supporting a great cause.

Our homemade Manhattan Clam Chowder is a hearty, tomato-based favorite filled with clams, vegetables, and savory seasonings. It's perfect for lunch, dinner, or to

freeze and enjoy later. Each quart is priced at \$12, and every purchase directly supports the ministries and outreach efforts of our church.

Ordering is simple — just call 518-469-7692 to reserve your quarts in advance. We encourage early orders, as our chowder fundraisers are always popular and quantities are limited.

A big thank-you goes to the volunteers who prepare, cook, and package each batch with care. Their hard work — and your support — make events like this possible.

Mark your calendar, tell your friends, and plan to stop by on April 3 between 11:00 and 1:00. Great chowder. Great cause. Great community.



Save the Date!

Brook's BBQ Fundraiser – Friday, April 10, 2026

Mark your calendars and bring your appetite — Brook's BBQ is coming to Center Brunswick UMC on Friday, April 10, 2026! This is one of our most popular fundraisers of the year, and it's a delicious way to support the ministries and mission work of our church.

Brook's BBQ, known across the Northeast for their mouthwatering chicken and

ribs (learn more at brooks-bbq.com), will be serving up their famous meals right here at CBUMC. Whether you're a long-time fan or trying it for the first time, you won't want to miss it!

Stay tuned for serving times, meal options, and ticket information.

Spread the word — invite your neighbors, friends, and family! Every meal pur-

chased helps strengthen our outreach and supports the good work happening in our community.

Take out only. Come hungry. Leave happy. Support CBUMC.



Easter Cantata April 4 @ 4:00pm

Our performance will take place on April 4 at 4:00 p.m. at Calvary UMC in Latham. This year's cantata, *God So Loved*, is a contemporary choral musical for Holy Week by Pepper Choplin. It is both reflective and powerful, tracing the story of Christ's love through moving scripture and song. Calvary has generously purchased SATB-dominant practice tracks, and they are available free to all singers

through the shared Drive link. You are encouraged to download the files to your own device and rename them in whatever way makes practice easier.

Rehearsals begin Thursday, February 19 at 7:00 p.m. at Calvary UMC, and all singers are welcome. Because our sanctuary is under renovation through at least March 1, we will be rehearsing in the choir room and adjacent spaces. Please let us know if you plan

to attend February rehearsals so we can prepare seating and materials accordingly.

In addition, two joint full rehearsals are scheduled: Saturday, March 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and Tuesday, March 31 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Please share the signup link with others who may wish to participate. We're grateful you are part of this meaningful ministry.



Breakfast in the Basement – First Sunday of Every Month

Organized by Jeanine Santelli, PhD, RN, AGPCNP-BC, FAAN

Looking for good food, good company, and something worthwhile to take home with you? Join us for Breakfast in the Basement on the first Sunday of every month. It's simple: we gather, we eat, we learn, and we enjoy time together.

Each month features a guest who brings practical, relevant insight for everyday

life. In past sessions, Shanna McCabe from the National MS Society helped us understand multiple sclerosis and recognize early warning signs. We've shared "10 Tips to Keep Your Brain Healthy," and welcomed Dr. Jen Pettis from the Office for the Aging alongside a representative from the Alzheimer's Association to talk

about keeping your brain active and strong. Kara Travis from the NYS Department of Health introduced many of us to valuable – and often underutilized – state programs and services available right here in our community.

The topics are meaningful. The conversation is relaxed. And yes, the breakfast is

worth showing up for.

This isn't a lecture series; it's neighbors gathering around tables, learning something useful, asking questions, and strengthening community. There's always room for one more chair.

Come hungry. Leave informed. Bring a friend.

Mother's Day Flower Sale at Center Brunswick UMC

Saturday May 9 - 10:00 - 1:00

Mother's Day is almost here — and what better way to celebrate than with something blooming and beautiful? Join us at Center Brunswick United Methodist Church on Saturday, May 9, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for our annual Mother's Day Flower Sale.

We'll be offering a lovely selection of hanging plants, potted flowers, and seasonal

blooms — perfect for brightening a porch, patio, garden, or sunny window. Whether you're honoring your mom, grandmother, spouse, daughter, mentor, or remembering someone dear, a vibrant plant is a thoughtful and lasting gift that speaks volumes.

Located at 990 Hoosick Road in Troy, the sale is easy to find and easy to en-

joy. Stop by, bring a friend, and choose something special. Every purchase also supports the ministries and outreach efforts of the church, extending care and compassion beyond the bouquet.

Beautiful flowers. A meaningful cause. A simple way to show love and appreciation this Mother's Day. We hope to see you there!

