



# Center Brunswick United Methodist Church

## Latest news and bulletin updates

Winter 2024

Hello CBUMC community!  
 We are bringing the church newsletter back to life. We are currently planning on quarterly publication. We welcome any additional columns, notes, or news of upcoming events. Submit them here [cbumc990@outlook.com](mailto:cbumc990@outlook.com). We hope our project grows and we hope you enjoy it. Happy reading!

### Just For the Health of It

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

I have completed my Faith Community Nurse coursework and am looking forward to developing my role with you. Initial items on my “To Do” list are:

- Continuing to generate articles for this newsletter
- Search out reliable community resources that we can access for services and support
- Develop and offer monthly Sunday Breakfast education programs
- Explore the interest in a group exercise program (i.e., Qigong, Tai Chi, Yoga, walking group in better weather)

Keep an eye on the calendar to keep abreast of all of the church community happenings.



### 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*  
Thursday Jan. 9, 2025 6:30 p.m.

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

### Where’s Your Safe Harbor?

Join us as we begin the Christian New Year with reflections on home and restoration through sermons on Sunday mornings at 9 am, in person or virtually, and/or Thursday morning virtual Bible study at 10:00 am. Advent will be centered in the home and how we can

center ourselves in our personal refuge. The rest of the winter will focus on rebuilding, revitalizing, and restoring

ourselves during this season of “hibernation.”



### Our Community – Did You Know...?

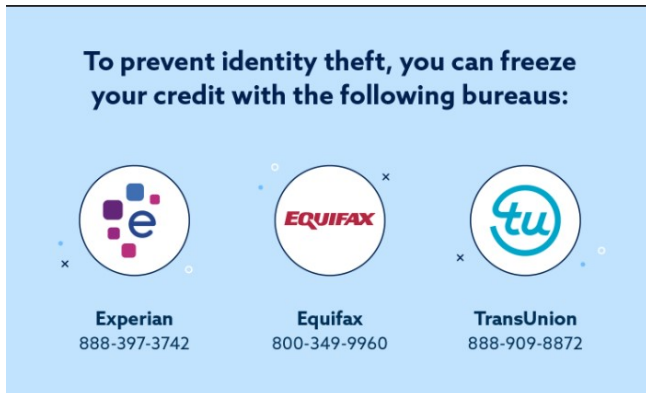
Our local population has increased by 2.7% since 2010; however, it is expected to stay level for the next ten years. There has been a 3.1% increase in the number of households which is expected to continue as a modest increase. The proportion translates to fewer people per household, meaning, sadly, fewer children in our

church community. Our largest growth group is age 65 and over. This is reflected in the average age in our community increasing by 6.9% since 2010, putting us at 39.69 for average age. In New York State the average age in the same time period went up by 7.9% to 40.96, so, in comparison, we’re youngsters



## Freeze Your Credit Bureau Accounts and Why You Should

By April Snow



Freezing your credit bureau accounts is a proactive step to protect yourself from identity theft and unauthorized access to your credit. This process restricts lenders and other entities from accessing your credit report without your explicit consent, making it nearly impossible for fraudsters to open accounts in your name.

### Steps to Freeze Your Credit

**Contact the Major Credit Bureaus:** Reach out to the three major credit reporting agencies—Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. Each bureau requires a separate request.

**Verify Your Identity:** Be prepared to provide personal information, such as your Social Security number, date of birth, and government-issued ID.

**Request the Freeze:** Submit your request online, by phone, or by mail. Most bureaus allow you to set up an account for easier management of the freeze.

**Obtain a PIN or Password:** Upon approval, you'll receive a PIN or password to manage your freeze. Keep this information secure.

### Benefits of Freezing Your Credit

**Enhanced Security:** Prevents unauthorized access to your credit report.

**Cost-Free Protection:** Freezing and unfreezing your credit is free in the U.S.

**Control Over Your Credit:** You can lift the freeze temporarily if needed, such as when applying for a loan.

### Important Considerations

A freeze does not impact your credit score or existing accounts.

You may need to lift the freeze for specific purposes, which can take a few days depending on the bureau and method.

Monitor your existing accounts regularly for suspicious activity, as a freeze only protects against new accounts being opened fraudulently.

Freezing your credit is a simple yet effective way to safeguard your financial identity. Take action today to ensure peace of mind and added protection against fraud.

## Honoring Rev. Arthur Hagy: A Lasting Legacy with the Hummel Nativity Set

By Sheryl Burke

The church is honored to dedicate this beautiful original Hummel Nativity Set in loving memory of Rev. Arthur Hagy, as a lasting tribute to his remarkable tenure at Center Brunswick United Methodist Church.

Rev. Hagy faithfully served this congregation for 17 years following his retirement as the District Superintendent for this area.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to his family for sharing this extraordinary gift, which will continue to inspire and bless our church community.



## Hitting the Right Notes: A New Piano, a Generous Gift, and a Musical Legacy

By Dave Little

Having Dianna as part of our congregation has been a tremendous blessing in countless ways. However, it did create one challenge: how could the choir see their director when she's positioned to the side, focused on the piano? Dianna herself came up with the perfect solution: a portable electronic piano that could be placed where she and the choir could see each other.

Determined to make it happen, Dianna found an excellent used piano at a fraction of the cost of a new one. The previous owner, also a church musician, was incredibly generous. Not only did

he offer the piano at an exceptionally low price because it was going to a church, but he also donated \$40 back to Center Brunswick when we paid him.

All that remained was the challenging task of moving the piano out of his basement—during a downpour—and setting it up in our sanctuary. Huge thanks to Pastor Joel and Dianna for braving the rain to make it happen! A quick trip to Hilton Music for a bench, and we were ready to go.

This new piano has several fantastic features. It allows the music to be adjusted up or down to better suit the

vocal range of the choir. It can also record accompaniments, which will be especially helpful for Sundays when Dianna can't be with us.

The piano was generously donated by the Littles in

honor of Ron Schott, recognizing his decades of service and remarkable contributions to both the vocal and handbell choirs. Ron would be delighted to know that, thanks to him, musical praise continues to thrive at Center Brunswick!



IN HONOR AND LOVING MEMORY  
RON SCHOTT  
CHOIR MEMBER, HANDBELL RINGER  
HE MADE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD

## Community Comes Together for Church's First Craft Fair

By Dawn Aubrey and Lori Holmes

The church hall was abuzz with holiday spirit and community cheer during Center Brunswick United Methodist Church's first-ever craft fair, held November 16. The event showcased a wide variety of unique homemade creations from talented local artisans and offered something special for everyone.

Crafts on display included hand-crocheted and knitted items such as mittens, hats, afghans, and blankets, as well as handmade cards, painted décor, ornaments, and delightful holiday gnomes. Attendees were also treated to an array of jewelry and items crafted by Hai-

tian artisans, each piece telling its own story.

Local author Suzi Ullmann added a literary touch to the event by signing copies of her inspirational devotional, *D.E.A.P. - Drop Everything*



And Pray, giving visitors an opportunity to take home

something meaningful for their spiritual journey.

Santa's Bake Shop, lovingly stocked by the CBUMC church ladies, featured an irresistible assortment of fresh baked goods and cocoa, warming both hearts and hands. A special visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus added extra magic to the day, as families captured cherished memories with photos alongside Santa.

The event wasn't just about shopping and fun—it was also a fundraiser for the church, raising an impressive \$547 to support its mission and community outreach programs.

"This was such a wonderful day," said Lori Holmes. "The turnout was amazing, and it was heartwarming to see the community come together to support local artisans and our church. We're already looking forward to next year's craft fair!"

With laughter, joy, and the spirit of giving filling the air, a good time was truly had by all. Center Brunswick United Methodist Church extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated, volunteered, and attended, making the first craft fair a resounding success.