



Center Brunswick United Methodist Church

Latest news and bulletin updates

Fall 2026

Welcome to Pastor Sung Jun!

By April Snow

Hello CBUMC community!

Currently we provide a quarterly publication. We welcome any additional columns, notes, or news of upcoming events.

Submit them here
secretary@
centerbrunswickumc.org
We hope our project grows and we hope you enjoy it. Happy reading!



Center Brunswick United Methodist Church is pleased to welcome the Rev. Dr. Sung Jun Park and his family. As we begin this new season of ministry, we look forward to getting to know Pastor Sung Jun, learning from his experience, and serving alongside him. His arrival brings an opportunity for our congregation to grow in faith, strengthen our connections, and continue sharing Christ's love within our church and throughout the community.

Pastor Sung Jun was born and raised in South Korea, where he grew up as the son of a Methodist pastor. His early life within the church helped shape a faith journey that eventually led him into pastoral ministry. In 2006, he came to the United States to continue his theological education. He earned both a Master of Divinity and a Doctor of Ministry from Wesley

Theological Seminary. His studies focused on worship theology and missional leadership in the local church—areas that reflect his commitment to meaningful worship and ministry that reaches beyond the church walls.

With more than 20 years of ministry experience, Pastor Sung Jun has served churches and communities in South Korea, New Zealand, and the United States. This international ministry background has allowed him to serve people from different cultures and life experiences. His work has included youth ministry, campus ministry, and service as both an associate pastor and a lead pastor. Since 2017, he has served within the Upper New York Annual Conference. He is also a certified coach, bringing experience in encouraging others, developing leadership, and helping individuals and congregations recognize possibilities for growth.

At the heart of Pastor Sung Jun's ministry is a clear calling: to know God and to make God known. He seeks to live out that calling by embracing people in unity,

building one another up, and sharing the transforming love of Jesus Christ. These values offer a foundation for ministry together. They remind us that the church is at its best when we welcome one another, encourage the gifts within each person, and work side by side in service to God and our neighbors.

Pastor Sung Jun's experience in worship, leadership, and ministry across cultures will bring a perspective to Center Brunswick. He comes ready to share in the everyday life of the congregation—the worship services, conversations, celebrations, challenges, and acts of service through which a church family grows together. We hope that he and his family will feel at home among us.

Pastor Sung Jun and his wife, Seong Ae, are the parents of five children: Ginny, Sunny, Siwon, Siwoo, and Sion. We warmly welcome each member of the Park family and look forward to the many ways they will become part of the life of our church and community.

Please join us in offering Pastor Sung Jun and his family a heartfelt Center Brunswick welcome

Meetings and Events

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

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. (none in July)

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

Welcome to Nyasha Jeché

By April Snow

Center Brunswick United Methodist Church is delighted to welcome Pastor Nyasha Jeché as our new Associate Pastor. As we begin this new season, we look forward to getting to know her and joining with her in worship, fellowship, and service. We are grateful for the gifts she brings to our congregation and community.

Pastor Nyasha was born and raised in Harare, Zimbabwe. Her education reflects a commitment to faith, leadership, justice, and building peaceful communities. She earned a Diploma and a Bachelor of Arts with Honors in Religious Studies from the University of Zimbabwe. She later completed a master's degree in Conflict, Peace and Governance. After coming to the United States, she earned her



Master of Divinity degree from Drew University.

Before joining the Upper New York Conference, Pastor Nyasha served at Grace United Methodist Church in Wyckoff, New Jersey. There she served as Associate Pastor and Family Ministries Pastor. That experience allowed her to minister across generations, support families, and help people grow in faith through seasons of life.

Pastor Nyasha brings a passion for congregational leadership, youth ministry, gender justice, and social justice. She seeks to create spaces where faith, equity, and community come together and where people are encouraged to recognize their worth, deepen their relationship with God, and participate in the life of the church. Her ministry is grounded in pastoral care, nurturing faith and discipleship, and servant leadership modeled after Jesus Christ.

An important part of Pastor Nyasha's calling is walking alongside individuals and families. She values being present with people during times of celebration, uncertainty, change, and difficulty. Her background in ministry and conflict, peace, and governance gives her a perspective on building

relationships, strengthening communities, and helping people find common ground. These gifts will be valuable as we grow together and reach beyond our church walls.

Outside of ministry and academic life, Pastor Nyasha enjoys watching documentaries and listening to music. She finds inspiration in stories and melodies, interests that give us another way to connect with her as a person as well as a pastor.

Please join us in extending a warm Center Brunswick welcome to Pastor Nyasha. We pray that she will feel at home among us and know that she is surrounded by a church family. We are excited to share this chapter of ministry and look forward to what God will accomplish through our worship, service, and life together.

Thank You, Ann—and a Call to Serve

By April Snow

Thank You, Ann—and a Call to Serve
Ann Austin's caring attention began a ministry that has become a meaningful part of life at Center Brunswick United Methodist Church. Ann noticed that local food programs received many kinds of donations, but fresh bread was frequently missing. She brought that need to the church's attention, helping inspire our tradition of sharing bread with the community.

Whenever we celebrate Holy Communion, loaves are brought forward not only for the Lord's Table

but also for our neighbors. After worship, the bread is divided between the Grafton Senior Center and Pittstown, providing nourishment, comfort, and a reminder that those facing difficult circumstances are remembered. What began with one thoughtful observation has become a visible connection between our worship and our service.

Ann has faithfully handled the coordination and many behind-the-scenes details that keep this ministry going. She has also served our congregation

as Benevolence Treasurer, carefully overseeing funds used to respond to needs and extend the church's care beyond our walls. As Ann prepares to move away from our area, she will be deeply missed. We thank her for her compassion, dependability, and faithful service. Her work has made a lasting difference in our church and community.

Her departure also leaves an important need. We are seeking someone willing to assume

responsibility for coordinating the bread ministry and serving as Benevolence Treasurer. These roles offer a practical and rewarding way to help our neighbors and continue the ministry Ann has nurtured so faithfully.

If you feel called to serve, please speak with a pastor or church leader. Ann has shown what can grow when one person notices a need and steps forward. Now we need someone to help carry that work into its next chapter.

2026 Harold and Mabel Keyes Education Award Winner - Becca Ellison

By Sheryl Burke



Center Brunswick United Methodist Church is pleased to announce that Becca Ellison is the recipient of the 2026 Harold and Mabel Keyes Education Award. Becca is a graduating senior at Tamarac High School.

The award is made possible through a gift from the estate of Harold and Mabel Keyes. Mrs. Keyes taught in the Brunswick schools and was devoted to helping young people learn and grow. Through this award, her commitment to education continues to encourage and support young people in our community.

Throughout high school, Becca has demonstrated a commitment to academics and service. She has maintained a 4.0 grade-point average and is a member of the National Honor Society

and Junior National Honor Society. She has also participated in Key Club, Students Against Destructive Decisions, Class Council, and the Yearbook Club. Becca also volunteers at school and at Transfiguration Parish.

Becca's desire to help others, especially children who have difficulty communicating verbally, has inspired her to pursue a career in speech-language pathology. She will continue her education at SUNY Plattsburgh, where she plans to develop the skills needed

to diagnose and treat communication, cognitive, and swallowing disorders. Her chosen field will allow her to make a difference in the lives of individuals.

We congratulate Becca on her accomplishments and recognize her dedication through this award. The Center Brunswick church family wishes her success at SUNY Plattsburgh and in her future endeavors. May this chapter bring opportunities to learn, grow, serve others, and follow the calling she has chosen.

Trustees Report: June–July 2026

By Sheryl Burke

June and July were exceptionally busy—and expensive—months for the Trustees.

All stained-glass windows in the sanctuary were washed on the inside, and an ant infestation in the basement was treated. Considerable work was also completed at the parsonage to prepare it for an incoming pastoral family. Unwanted furniture was removed, with usable medical equipment donated to the Veterans Miracle Center in Albany.

Parsonage repairs included plastering around

the main shower, repairing drawers and shelves, reinforcing closet shelving, and replacing porch railings and a side step. Hope UMC provided an electric stove and refrigerator, while the church purchased a basement refrigerator. Swanny's Cleaning Service cleaned the walls, woodwork, bathrooms, floors, carpets, and other areas. The lawns and overgrown brush were also addressed.

We gratefully received a donated zero-turn mower from Dawn Aubrey and Lori Holmes. It has been

serviced and will be put to good use.

Heavy rain on July 28–29 caused approximately 1½ inches of standing water in the church basement after one of the four sump pumps failed. Steve Pozzi came to our rescue with another pump, beginning an all-night cleanup. Fans and borrowed industrial equipment helped dry the area. A new dehumidifier has been purchased, and the failed pump will be replaced.

The parsonage septic tank was located and cleaned, and its location recorded.

Downspout extenders will also be installed.

It truly took all hands on deck. The Trustees extend thanks to everyone who donated, volunteered, cleaned, repaired, hauled, mowed, and helped us through two demanding months.



Just For the Health of It: It's back to school and flu shot time!

By Dr. Jeanine Santelli

Influenza Vaccination

The CDC recommends annual flu vaccination for all people ages 6 months and older. While even healthy children and adults can experience severe influenza, the risk is higher for children younger than 5, adults 50 years and older, pregnant people, and those with conditions that weaken an individual's immune system.

Circulation of the flu virus has returned to pre-pandemic levels. In order to lower your risk of severe influenza, make sure you and your family receive this year's flu vaccine by the end of October.

For more information on influenza vaccination, [click here](#).

COVID-19 Vaccination

It is important to remember that COVID continues to pose a threat, especially for those who are most vulnerable. COVID-19 vaccines continue to be one of the best and safest ways to protect against severe illness and hospitalization. Studies have also found that COVID vaccines reduce the risk of developing Long COVID.



The updated COVID vaccines, also referred to as "boosters", have been developed to target variants currently circulating and are recommended for everyone 6 months of age and older. Keep in mind, vaccine protection against COVID-19 decreases over time, so it is important for your family to stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccine. A late-summer COVID-19 wave is showing up so be sure to get yourself and your family boosted!

RSV Vaccination

Respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV, is a common respiratory virus that usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms. But infants and older adults are more likely to develop severe RSV and may need hospitalization. Vaccines are available to protect older adults from severe RSV. To prevent severe RSV disease in infants, the CDC recommends either maternal RSV vaccination or infant

immunization with RSV monoclonal antibodies.

For more information on RSV vaccination, learn more at the links below: [RSV Vaccination Information for Adults Over 60](#), [RSV Vaccination Information for Pregnant People](#), [RSV Immunization for Infants and Young Children](#)

Vaccine Availability and Coverage

Vaccines are widely available at doctor's offices, pharmacies, clinics, local health departments, and Federally Qualified Health Centers. [You can find vaccine appointments near you here](#). If you are unable to get to any of these sites, your health care provider may be able to help.

The good news is that the flu, COVID-19, and RSV vaccines may all be given at the same visit for those who are eligible. If you have insurance, these vaccines should be free to you in most cases. For eligible children and adults, New York State provides some vaccines at no cost through the [Vaccines for Children](#) and [Vaccines for Adults](#) programs.

School & Family Immunization

Missing school and feeling sick due to preventable illnesses can get in the way of success in school. Getting vaccinated is the best way to keep kids healthy and ensure that they are present through all their favorite school activities! We can help children thrive this school year with regular check-ups and being sure they receive recommended vaccines. If you're unsure what vaccines are recommended for your child, talk to your child's health care provider or give the school nurse a call.

It's important to remember that older people are more likely to get sick if a child or other family member brings home an illness. Getting recommended vaccines can help keep the whole family safe from preventable diseases. For more information on which vaccines are recommended for you and your family, check with your pediatrician and/or primary care provider.

