



2025

# Annual Report

BE LOVED. BELONG. BE THE DIFFERENCE.

*cobleskill united*  *methodist church*

# Overview



*June Cole and Lena Noble  
at the Block Party.*

## Creativity at play

Paint a picture of a vibrant, spirit-filled community of faith and you will see Cobleskill United Methodist Church. Each and every day this church seeks to live out its mission of showing our neighborhood that we all are **beloved**. We all **belong**. And we all can work together to **be the difference** in a hurting world.

Throughout the pages of this Annual Report, you'll watch the life of this church in 2025 unfold in stories, pictures, numbers and real humans making a real difference.

We are dedicated to the proposition that church should be fun. Watch our creativity at play as the **joy** jumps off these pages.

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*Maundy Thursday  
dinner church  
table set with  
bread and cup.*



*Candles light up the Little Chapel during the Advent HUSH services.*



# Staff

REV. ANNA BLINN COLE

*Pastor*

PAIGE BULMER

*Office Manager*

JEFFERY FOOTE

*Treasurer*

NAOMI PETERSON

*Financial Secretary*

CHUCK BARBER

*Building Monitor*

HILARY TAYLOR

*Nursery Manager*

DAVE MADISON

*Nursery Assistant*

BETSY WALSH

*Organist*

LENNA ANDREWS

*Music Director*

MARGARET ORTIZ

*Custodian*

# Cobleskill United Methodist Church

## LAY LEADERSHIP REPORT

For the year beginning January 1, 2026

**NOTES:**

Blank Underlined spaces are vacancies to be filled. **Bold underlined** are newly filled positions. Numbers after a person's name designate how many terms that person has served on a particular committee.

### ADMINISTRATIVE ROUND TABLE

Lay Leader.....	Scott Barton
Lay Member to Annual Conference.....	Neil Law ( <i>term: 2025 – 2027</i> )
Alternate Lay Member.....	Paige Bulmer ( <i>term: 2025 – 2027</i> )
Church Council Chair.....	Ann-Marie Frank
Church Council Vice-chair .....	Rotates
Church Treasurer.....	Jeff Foote (staff)
Financial Secretary .....	Naomi Peterson/Jessica Capeci (staff)
Finance Committee .....	Tarrence Lasher
Trustees Co-Chairs .....	Neil Law and Bruce Wright
Trustees Treasurer.....	Jeff Foote
Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chair.....	Libby Hammecker
Youth Representatives.....	_____
Beloved Chair.....	Naomi Peterson
Belong Chair.....	Lisa Cardilli
Be the Difference Chair.....	Lori Lasher
Church Historian.....	Martha Price

**STAFF PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (SPPRC)**

Libby Hammecker, *chairperson*

CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027	CLASS OF 2028
Natasha Foote (2)	Libby Hammecker (1)	<u>Brain Elder (2)</u>
Tom Carney (2)	Chris Cash (1)	<u>Denise Smith (2)</u>
Debra Wollaber (2)	Sarah Blood (1)	_____

Members not included in classes:

Scott Barton, Lay Leader    Neil Law, Lay Member to Annual Conference  
*Committee must have 5-9 members; all professing members of the church*  
**TERM LIMITS:** *Members may serve TWO consecutive 3-year terms*

**TRUSTEES**

Neil Law and Bruce Wright, co-chairs

Jeff Foote, *treasurer*

Jeff Foote, *secretary*

CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027	CLASS OF 2028
John Price (5)	Jeff Foote (2)	Bill Toohey (1)
Loren Schaff (3)	Will VanDeValk (1)	Doris Leverett (1)
Bruce Wright (8)	Tristan Peterson (1)	Neil Law (2)

*Committee must have 3-9 members; 2/3 must be professing members of the church.*  
*Trustees must be elected by written ballot at Church Conference.*  
**TERM LIMITS:** *There is NO mandated term limit. QUORUM: A majority of the members (5)*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Tarrence Lasher, *chairperson*

CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027	CLASS OF 2028
Tarrence Lasher	Janet Sand	Debra Wollaber
Linda Horstmann	Garrett Cole	Angie Wright

Ex-officio members (staff): Jeff Foote (treasurer); Naomi Peterson (financial secretary)  
**TERM LIMITS:** *There is no mandated term limit.*

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM**

Pastor Anna Blinn Cole, *chairperson*

CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027	CLASS OF 2028
Martha Price	Alan Danforth	Kate Elder
Brittany Noble	Naomi Peterson	Paige Bulmer

*\*New class members are to be nominated from the floor of church council*  
**TERM LIMITS:** *Members are limited to ONE 3-year term.*

## Ministry Teams

*Be Loved. Belong. Be the Difference.*

### BE LOVED

Naomi Peterson, *representative*

Beloved Events Team	Naomi Peterson, Brittany Noble, Cindy Barton, Kate Elder, Natasha Foote, Ann-Marie Frank, Denise Smith, Bill Toohey, Deb Wollaber, Brandi Kerber
Worship Team	Pastor Anna Blinn Cole, <i>chairperson</i> Liturgists: Scott Barton, Alan Danforth, Natasha Foote, Brian Elder, Suzanne Mazoff, Paige Bulmer, Tom Carney, Lisa Cardilli, Sarah Blood, Chris Cash, Henry Mau, Pete Enders, and Libby Hammecker
Audio/Visual Team	Tarrence Lasher, Carl Stoner, Jeff Foote, Kaitlin Daley

### BELONG

Lisa Cardilli, *representative*

Belong Team	Ginger Mason, Beth Cash, Lisa Cardilli, Tom Carney, Denise Smith, Pastor Anna Blinn Cole
Youth Ministry Team	Amy Kennedy, Dennis Manning, Kate Elder, Brandi Kerber, Paige Bulmer, and Pastor Anna Blinn Cole
Children's Ministry Team	Lisa Cardilli, Hilary Taylor, Amy Kennedy, Ann-Marie Frank, Michelle Arrowood, Pastor Anna Blinn Cole, Teri Hammon, Beth Cash, and Lori Lasher (camping rep)

### BE THE DIFFERENCE

Lori Lasher, *representative*

Margaret Herrala, Paige Bulmer (Thrift Store Manager), Loren Schaff (Food Pantry Manager), John Jarvis, Tom Carney, Laurie Pracher (Treasurer), Pastor Anna Blinn Cole, Lori Lasher, and Amy Gildemeister

# The Canvas

## Pastor's Report

by PASTOR ANNA BLINN COLE

In the spring of 2025, I picked up a tiny little square canvas at The Community Library. They were putting on a "Tiny Art Show" and asking community members to paint a tiny scene and bring it in. When I contemplated my tiny canvas, I couldn't help but want to paint Cobleskill United Methodist Church.

Such a small square to contain so much joy, connection, shared sorrow, celebration and genuine community. And yet, the ways in which God fits large miracles into tiny, everyday actions and ordinary moments is *not* surprising.

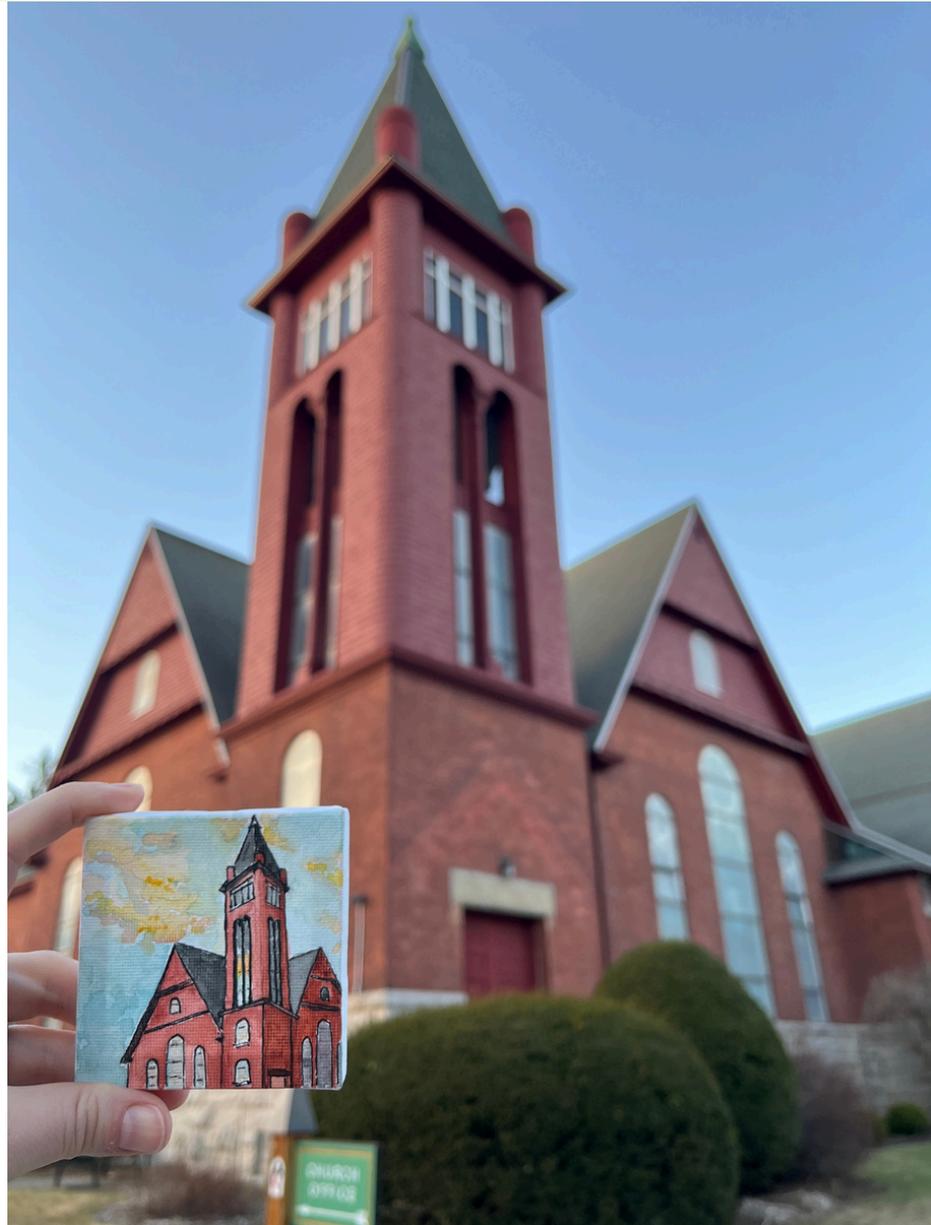
2025 will be one I always remember. It was a year of deepening our identity as a church and shining a light of warmth across our neighborhood. It was a year of understanding our calling to be a safe and nurturing space for all people. It was a year of finding rhythm and potential in the gifts of the laity. And also, was a year of rest and exploration for me personally.

I want to highlight a few examples:

+ We love to welcome new people into our community and help everyone belong. 2025 was no different! One big initiative we completed was the first **picture directory** this church has had in over a decade. Instead of using a professional service, we DIY'd it with a pop up photo booth in the social hall and a compilation of names and addresses. The result is a booklet of smiling faces that is easy to update from year to year.

+ Celebrating a **Pride Sunday** for the first year ever was a colorful and growing experience. Hatched as a plan out of our re-energized and expanded Inclusive CUMC team, we hosted several events that deepened our understanding of difference and brought out more than 100 colorful nametags for the congregation to wear.

+ During the month of July I was grateful to take a month of **sabbatical**. During this time my family traveled with a pop-up camper to national parks all across the western United States. I was thankful for the way our Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee supported this time of renewal. I was also proud of the way many amazing programs continued over the summer while I was away thanks to our incredible laity including Compassion Camp, Summer Lunch Program, and Operation: Home Repair.



+ In August, a group of 11 of us from CUMC traveled together to the small Isle of Iona off the Scottish coast. Having been there two years earlier, I was excited to lead our church to this sacred place after a year of studying Celtic theological threads. This small island became a place of pilgrimage for us as we explored our ancient faith, rooted in care and connection to the earth, the sacredness of all, and the closeness of God. It was a joy for me to facilitate this journey and the impact it has on Cobleskill UMC's own articulation of identity and path forward will be long-lasting.

+ Feeding people has always been at the creative heart of this congregation and this year was no different. It was special to see a garden take shape in the back yard of the church as we sought to grow food on site for the summer lunch program. When threats to food systems mounted in November, I was blown away by the response of this community in donations and hours volunteered to help fill the gaps.

+ Along with all the rest, this year also brought special baptisms, the celebration of significant saints in our church, and all the beautiful relationships that being in community brings forth. I've so enjoyed welcoming all of the many new faces this year.

+ On a personal note, it was a new experience for our family to tap the maple trees around the church property with the Agen family and boil the sap down to make syrup for our Easter Brunch.

In many ways, 2025 was a year that challenged us to tap into our best and most creative selves, the people God needs in the midst of troubling times. The sacred identity we are "painting" as a community fills the canvas from edge to edge. I couldn't be more proud to have been your pastor this year.



Pride Sunday



Avery's baptism in January.



Maple syrup made in the parsonage from CUMC maple trees.



Iona pilgrimage



Block Party

# 2025 by the numbers



## \$57,596.78

### DOLLARS RAISED FOR FOOD PANTRY

The outpouring of generosity was astounding in 2025. When our Food Pantry faced both a rise in food prices and a greater demand for food from the neighborhood, our community stepped up and raised an unprecedented amount of money. This represents a 145% increase in giving. Many thanks to volunteers who also donated their time to respond to the increased need.



## 836

### HALLOWEEN HOLLOWERS

Thanks to handy counter device and a move indoors because of weather, it was easy to count the number of community members who wandered through our decorated building on Halloween for treats.



## 8

### LAY-LED EVENTS SHOWING RADICAL HOSPITALITY

This year marked a big shift in how neighborhood hospitality events are planned and led with lay people stepping into leadership roles for eight major events. See pg. 20 for details.



## 30+

### YOUTH

engaged in our combined youth ministry work with the Mosaic including a confirmation class and Suddenly Sunday youth group.

## 143

### NAME TAGS, *approximately*

In 2025 we brought back the name tags! Introduced on Pride Sunday in June, name tags are a way for us to connect faces with names and also show our pronouns, if desired.



## The Balcony View

*Administrative Round Table Report*

by ANN-MARIE FRANK

The Administrative Round Table meets approximately every two months to share information regarding the work and activities that are taking place within our church. Committee members include church leaders as well as committee and team chairs.

As we move into 2026, we have become more streamlined in our approach, with committee members who represent and focus on our vision statement of "Be loved. Belong. Be the Difference."

As is expected in any healthy organization, our church experienced a number of changes in 2025. That included changes in staff; the addition of new members; the passing of several beloved brothers and sisters in Christ; new events such as the Soup-er Bowl luncheon, Friendsgiving potluck, and the Community Christmas concert; and several new small groups.

Our Hospitality Team coordinated a variety of events that have become annual traditions and are popular with the congregation and the community alike. These include our Easter egg hunt, the September block party, Halloween Hallow, the Eco-Advent Festival, and the Christmas Parade.

Once again, our church participated in "Operation: Home Repair"; sponsored by the Mosaic United Methodist Cooperative Ministry. Volunteers from CUMC and other Mosaic churches provided maintenance and home repairs for local homeowners in need of assistance. At the end of July, eleven folks from CUMC headed to the Isle of Iona, Scotland--the birthplace of Christianity in Scotland. Upon their return, they shared their experiences with the rest of the congregation in an inspirational Sunday worship service.

Our facility continued to be a hub for the community. We hosted community events such as plays, concerts, blood drives, etc. A variety of organizations used our building for their meetings. We continued to host the summer lunch program for the Cobleskill area. Our food pantry and thrift store provided vital services for our neighbors.

It seems that each year we embark on new and exciting endeavors while also embracing the traditions we've come to love and cherish. I can't wait to see what's in store for 2026!



*The Administrative Roundtable at their January meeting.*



## Building Healthy Relationships

### *Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee Report*

BY DEBRA WOLLABER & LIBBY HAMMECKER

The Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC) continues to work towards our goal to focus on building relationships between the Pastor, staff, and congregation so that we can effectively be a beacon of hope and change as we seek to be better disciples of Christ in a hurting world. We meet regularly to celebrate those initiatives that have proven to be helpful, to identify and address any issues that may arise, to support our pastor's work and to operationalize congregational goals.

This year we welcomed Lenna Andrews as our Music Director. Over the course of the year, we have seen our music programs flourish. There has been a significant increase in choir members, both singing and handbell, and music selections have been uplifting and beautifully performed. Jeff Foote offered his support as Treasurer, working to identify issues in our budgeting system that need to be addressed. With the added help and skill of a church volunteer, Linda Horstman, we have gone on to identify and begin to implement a new system that will significantly improve our ability to manage our finances.

During the month of July, our Pastor Anna Blinn Cole took four weeks of sabbatical leave, a piece of the clergy wellness that the Upper New York Conference encourages local pastors to use. Our committee worked with Pastor Anna to make sure adequate coverage of pastoral duties occurred. We were pleased to welcome Rev. Tom Carney to cover most all of the Sundays Pastor Anna was away.

We have seen increased attendance this year (average of 82) along with an increase in our online community participating in our services (average of 33). As one of our members stated: "People are finding a refuge here from what is happening around the world." As a result, we are better able to Be the Difference through our work with the Food Pantry, the Road to Jubilee Thrift Store, and our work with the Mosaic initiative, Operation: Home Repair. We also continue to host many community groups in our building.



Christmastide  
Brunch Church

## A Look at the Numbers

### *Finance Committee Report*

BY TARRENCE LASHER

The vitality of Cobleskill United Methodist Church is clearly reflected in our 2025 finances. Congregational giving reached \$207,565, an increase of approximately \$22,000 over 2024. The church was amazingly generous with our food pantry ministry and rallied to help meet the growing demand and rising prices of food raising \$57,596.

However, expenses continue to rise. We began the year 2025 with a budget deficit in hopes that we would come in under budget as we have in many years past. 2025 proved to be a challenging year as expenses for various things only rose. A large increase in expenses this year was in support staff salaries, approximately \$13,000. We are committed to supporting church staff by providing cost-of-living increases whenever possible. Another significant increase in expenses is utilities and care of our grounds. A rise of over \$14,500. Our Trustees continue to work diligently to manage these costs responsibly while ensuring that our building remains safe and welcoming.

One of the Finance Committee's goals in recent years has been to reduce our reliance on interest income from investments. We are disappointed to report that this year the operating budget needed approximately \$32,000 in earned interest from investments to balance the budget. We are fortunate to have investment funds from which to pull in emergency situations like this.

Looking ahead to 2026, projected income will rise 13% and budgeted expenses will increase by 2% helping to lessen our dependence on investment income. We ask for your continued generosity, which has been a defining strength of this congregation throughout its history. Thank you for your ongoing faithfulness and support.

A special word of thanks to Linda Horstmann who has volunteered to help move our church financials into a more modern accounting software. The following report is a result of her dedicated work.

# Statement of Activity (Operating Income and Expenses)

	Total 2025	Total 2024
<b>Income</b>		
Contributions/Pledges		
Unrestricted/Restricted	207,565.99	184,634.00
Plate Offereing	3,117.76	3,784.00
Holiday Offerings	1,110.00	4,015.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>211,793.75</b>	<b>192,433.00</b>
Other Operating Income		
Building Use Income	8,425.00	16,083.00
Building Use Income - Internal	8,965.00	
Service Income (Weddings, Funerals)	1,700.00	
Other Miscellaneous Income	196.13	
<b>Total for other Operating Income</b>	<b>19,286.13</b>	<b>17,515.00</b>
Grant Revenue		
Schoharie County Council of Arts	300.00	
<b>Total for Grant Revenue</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>-</b>
Transfers from Restricted/Designated funds	26,112.74	32,900.00
<b>Total Transfers from Restricted/Designated funds</b>	<b>26,112.74</b>	<b>32,900.00</b>
<b>Total for Income</b>	<b>257,492.62</b>	<b>242,848.00</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>257,492.62</b>	<b>242,848.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Personnel Expenses</b>		
Pastor Compensation		
Base Salary - Pastor	54,681.12	52,986.00
Parsonage Electric	1,625.04	1,370.00
Parsonage Fuel	1,985.26	1,199.00
Pension	11,483.04	26,247.00
Medical Insurance	15,120.00	
Food	22.07	4,601.00
Travel	640.70	
Continuing Education	44.00	
Supplies	461.40	
<b>Total for Pastor Compensation</b>	<b>86,062.63</b>	<b>86,403.00</b>
Staff Compensation		
<b>Staff Compensation</b>	<b>75,593.89</b>	<b>65,536.00</b>
Substitute Office Help	750.00	500.00
Substitute Pastor	2,225.00	350.00
<b>Total for Substitute Staff</b>	<b>2,975.00</b>	<b>850.00</b>
Payroll Taxes	7,491.82	6,461.00
<b>Total for Personnel Expenses</b>	<b>172,123.34</b>	<b>159,250.00</b>

This number includes the monthly Trustee contribution of 11,730, and additional restricted funds designed to cover camperships, scholarships, building maintenance and repair, and tree removal.

	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
<b>Property Management</b>		
Building Repairs & Maintenance	7,960.48	12,500.00
Grounds Maintenance	8,470.39	3,390.00
Custodial Supplies	551.42	1,342.00
Insurance	9,917.61	10,012.00
Snow Removal	7,515.00	5,055.00
<b>Total for Property Management</b>	<b>34,414.90</b>	<b>32,299.00</b>
<b>Utilities</b>		
Electric	6,501.90	3,539.00
Fuel	7,092.74	4,567.00
Telecommunications	1,854.94	1,516.00
Water/Sewer	2,614.33	1,287.00
Waste & Disposal Service	844.00	828.00
<b>Total for Utilities</b>	<b>18,907.91</b>	<b>11,737.00</b>
<b>Administration</b>		
Bank Charges & Fees	2,391.86	1,598.00
Marketing/Publicity	636.50	147.00
Office Supplies	1,364.64	4,170.00
Postage & Delivery	631.16	312.00
Professional Fees	3,830.00	3,435.00
Service Contracts	1,993.98	
Software & Technology	2,060.26	844.00
Miscellaneous	79.30	197.00
<b>Total for Administration</b>	<b>12,987.70</b>	<b>10,703.00</b>
<b>Program Expenses</b>		
Curriculum	780.49	744.00
Entertainment	1,072.56	
Food	1,679.82	856.00
Music Material	927.37	568.00
Music - Instrument Tuning	1,370.00	
Supplies	3,650.62	1,812.00
Travel	1,303.89	1,166.00
Worship Supplies	2,046.18	1,219.00
<b>Total for Program Expenses</b>	<b>12,830.93</b>	<b>6,365.00</b>
<b>Upper New York Conference</b>		
Ministry Shares	32,256.00	29,148.00
Retiree Premium	2,865.56	2,678.00
<b>Total for Upper New York Conference</b>	<b>35,121.56</b>	<b>31,826.00</b>
<b>Total for Expenses</b>	<b>286,386.34</b>	<b>252,180.00</b>
<b>Net Operating Loss</b>	<b>(28,893.72)</b>	<b>(9,332.00)</b>

This deficit was covered by transferring \$20,000 from the Trustee-managed investment funds and using relevant restricted funds to apply to operational categories of spending.

## Non Operating Income and Expenses

	Total 2025	Total 2024
<b>Special Collections Pass Through</b>		
Missional Donations	4,941.03	5,294.00
<b>Total for Special Collections Pass Through</b>	<b>4,941.03</b>	<b>5,294.00</b>
<b>Payments of Pass Through Donations</b>		
Conference Giving - General Advance Specials	(586.00)	(2,697.00)
Special Sunday - Human Relations	(100.00)	
Special Sunday - UMCOR Sunday	(1,415.92)	
Special Sunday - Peace with Justice	(443.00)	
Special Sunday - Native American Sunday	(367.00)	
United Methodist Charitable Causes (General)	(456.74)	
<b>Total for Payments of donations to others</b>	<b>(3,368.66)</b>	<b>(5,660.00)</b>
<b>Net Pass Through Donations</b>	<b>1,572.37</b>	<b>(366.00)</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>		
Dividends & Interest - Investments	79,870.04	115,131.00
Realized Gain (Loss) - Investments	1,523.19	
Unrealized Gain (Loss) - Investments	72,256.15	
<b>Total for Investment Income</b>	<b>153,649.38</b>	<b>115,131.00</b>
<b>Investment Disbursements</b>		
Scholarships - Educational	(4,000.00)	(2,000.00)
Investment Fees	(5,926.13)	
Transfers to operating fund	(26,112.74)	(32,900.00)
<b>Total Investment Disbursements</b>	<b>(36,038.87)</b>	<b>(34,900.00)</b>
<b>Net Investment Income</b>	<b>117,610.51</b>	<b>80,231.00</b>
<b>Food Pantry</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Grants	10,592.66	
Contributions	57,596.78	23,513.00
Donations - In Kind	266.73	
<b>Total for Food Pantry Income</b>	<b>68,456.17</b>	<b>23,513.00</b>
<b>Food Pantry Expenditures</b>		
Building Use Expense	(1,235.00)	
Building Use Expense - Internal	(2,965.00)	(4,200.00)
Food	(48,028.68)	(20,059.00)
Hygeine Products	(4,451.80)	
Miscellaneous	(26.87)	
<b>Total for Food Pantry Expenditures</b>	<b>(56,707.35)</b>	<b>(24,259.00)</b>
<b>Total for Food Pantry</b>	<b>11,748.82</b>	<b>(746.00)</b>

	Total 2025	Total 2024
<b>Thrift Store</b>		
Income		
Sales Revenue	49,845.55	45,796.00
Clothing Donation Box Revenue (Blue Bin)	563.80	
<b>Total for Thrift Store Income</b>	<b>50,409.35</b>	<b>45,796.00</b>
Expenses		
Bank Fees	(516.68)	
Building Use Expense - Internal	(6,000.00)	(4,200.00)
Salary - Summer Lunch Coordinator	(3,336.00)	
Payroll Taxes	(325.25)	
Supplies	(1,108.41)	
Scholarship - Camp	(5,940.00)	
United Methodist Charitable Causes (Outreach)	(25,791.73)	(45,131.00)
Other Charitable Causes	(10,191.78)	
<b>Total for Expenses</b>	<b>(53,209.85)</b>	<b>(49,331.00)</b>
<b>Total for Thrift Store</b>	<b>(2,800.50)</b>	<b>(3,535.00)</b>
Other Non-Operating Income		
Memorial Donations	255.00	422.00
<b>Total for Other Non-Operating Income</b>	<b>255.00</b>	<b>422.00</b>
Extrodinary Repairs	(27,060.00)	(46,288.00)
<b>Total for Other Expenses</b>	<b>(27,060.00)</b>	<b>(50,513.00)</b>
<b>Net Non Operating Income</b>	<b>101,326.20</b>	<b>25,493.00</b>
<b>Total Net Income</b>	<b>72,432.48</b>	<b>16,161.00</b>

See pages 23-25 for details on how these funds were given away!



A merry crew on this year's tropical-themed Christmas parade float.

## Stewarding our Resources

### Trustee Report

BY NEIL LAW

In 2025, the Board was co-chaired by Bruce Wright and Neil Law; Janet Sand and Jeff Foote served as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Having just organized for 2026, Bruce Wright and Neil Law remain as co-chairs, while Jeff Foote is adding the mantle of Treasurer to his secretarial duties. The CUMC Trustees would like to thank trustees who served faithfully and have rotated off of the board at the end of 2025: Janet Sand and Alicia VanZandt. The Trustees welcome incoming members Doris Leverett and Bill Toohey for 2026 and beyond. The other members of your CUMC Board of Trustees from 2025 (and for 2026) are: Tristan Peterson, John Price, Loren Schaff, and Will VanDeValk.

The members of the CUMC Trustees are elected at the annual Charge Conference, which took place in November 2025. The CUMC Trustees are custodians of all church assets. These assets are held in trust for the Upper New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. The church endowments, physical church, parsonage, their contents, and vacant land are all monitored by your elected trustee board.

The CUMC Trustees keep up with the regular maintenance of the Cobleskill UMC facility. The heating system, organ maintenance, grounds, electrical, fire alarm system, and parsonage are among the common topics at Trustee meetings. On top of the day-to-day aspects of the facility, there were also a variety of projects slated throughout 2025. In 2024, construction work on the rear of the church (just off the Fellowship Hall) was begun, and noted in last year's report. This year, that work continued, with reconstruction on the exit and a new storage shed that will, for example, house the church's garbage containers.

*Rainbow flags decorate the Catalpa Tree in full bloom at the end of June.*

In 2025, two major projects saw the upgrade of the electrical service panel just inside the yellow doors, and an upgrade to the way the heating system provided better air flow. Perhaps you've noticed a quieter Social Hall? There were also the unexpected tasks, for example the mid-year discovery of a leaking water pipe in the heating system under the floor of the Food Pantry. (It has been repaired). Another change in 2025 was related to our church grounds. The CUMC Trustees sent out a request for proposals and then entered into a new contract for snow removal and lawn care late in 2025. As part of being an inclusive congregation, discussion about upgrades to the accessible door and the provision of funds for a new hearing assistance system were on the Trustees' 2025 agenda.

On the fiduciary side, the CUMC Trustees continued to care for the endowment and various related funds. For many years, the CUMC Trustees have contributed to the church's operating budget. For the 2025 fiscal year, the Trustees committed \$10,000 to the CUMC annual operating budget and eventually needed to contribute an additional \$20,000. The goal (shared with the Finance Committee) remains to keep the future overall financial health of CUMC in mind. With this in mind, we look toward annually reducing this operational draw. The Trustees also had the pleasure of voting to disburse funds for scholarships to the members of our congregation who are currently pursuing their undergraduate college education. Four scholarships of \$500 each were given out in January 2025 for upcoming year. Three scholarships of \$1000 were given out in December 2025/January 2026 for the upcoming year.

The CUMC Trustees look forward to working on behalf of our congregation throughout 2026. If you have any thoughts or comments, please do not hesitate to let one of the members know! This is especially true as we enter into a time of pastoral transition during 2026.

Major Expenditures in 2025 included:

- Shed, entryway at church rear and related work \$19,300.00
- Plumbing & heating \$9,192.55
- Fire Alarm System \$5,427.72
- Landscaping \$1,750.00
- Organ Maintenance \$ 910.00

### Trustee Managed Fund Balances as of December 31, 2025

#### Trustee Bank Account Balances

Bank of Richmondville (Checking) .....	\$ 11,942.69
NBT Bank (Accessibility) .....	<del>\$0.00</del> (closed out)
NBT (Memorial funds) .....	\$6,185.33
<b>Total Trustee Bank Accounts .....</b>	<b>\$18,128.02</b>

#### Trustee Investment Fund Balances

*The principals (P) in the below accounts are to remain and the dividends are used to fund the designated ministries.*

Lily Vedder Scholarship Fund (\$10,000 P) .....	\$11,423.86
Jones Altar, Flower & Landscaping (\$10,000 P).....	11,394.87
Student Awards Fund (\$40,000 P) .....	55,868.49
Decker Camp Scholarships (\$20,000 P).....	31,104.55
Regular Undesignated.....	1,156,649.35
<b>Total Trustee Investment Accounts .....</b>	<b>\$1,266,441.12</b>

# Be loved.

## Community-focused Radical Hospitality

BY NAOMI PETERSON

Our Special Events Team worked hard in 2025 to pull off some amazing lay-led projects. We solidified a core team to work on the "Beloved" pieces of our church's mission with the overarching goal of lessening this burden on our pastor. For each event, a Lead Volunteer was identified and, with support of the committee, they coordinated planning and day-of volunteer efforts.

In 2025, we hosted our first ever SOUPer Bowl on Superbowl Sunday. This consisted of a HUGE buffet of soups and sides, with a special offering to benefit "Living for Others," a UMC mission in Tanzania connected with our church. Other events included our Ash Wednesday Pancake Dinner, Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch, Block Party (with a GIANT potluck and live music), Halloween Hollow (836 attendees), Eco-Advent Festival, and tropical-themed float in the Cobleskill "December to Remember" Christmas Parade where we were able to share joy (and goodies!) with 750 people!!

It was a joy to welcome the entire community to our November Friendsgiving Potluck, especially as SNAP benefits were in limbo. Gathering around tables with friends and neighbors was an amazing moment of radical hospitality.

At the beginning of 2025, our team decided we wanted to be "the church that has the most fun," and have channeled this energy into hosting fun, safe spaces for the community. We host these events as an opportunity for folks to get to know our church and values, but to also serve as a reminder that we are ALL beloved children of God.



Cindy Barton and Naomi Peterson at the Ash Wednesday Pancake Dinner.



Doris Leverett at the community art station at the Block Party.



Our November Potluck turned in a community-wide Friendsgiving. Here are Luke Walsh and Theresa Ciccio enjoying food and fellowship.



The Block Party organizing team!

# Belong.

## *Small Group Ministry Report*

BY LISA CARDILLI

Small groups at CUMC continue to have an impact on the life and health of our church. With this goal in mind, Pastor Anna brought together a dedicated team to support the growth of the ministry. This new Belong Ministry team includes Rev. Tom Carney, Beth Cash, Ginger Mason, Denise Smith, and me.

The fall was busy with many groups starting or restarting after a summer hiatus. Sunday School kicked off the new school year in early September. Beth Cash and I are lead teachers this year with assistance from Ann Marie Frank and Michelle Arrowwood. Sunday School meets most Sundays from 9:15 am to 10:15 am. Children in grades K-5 are welcome to join.

Lots of wonderful developments for the Youth group---The newly branded, "Suddenly Sunday" youth group includes youth from both CUMC and Esperance Sloansville United Methodist church. This group meets twice per month on Sunday afternoons. Pastor Anna is also holding a monthly confirmation class for youth.

Bible study continues on Tuesday mornings with Rev. Tom Carney leading the group. New this year is a Zoom bible study that meets one evening per week as well. Another wonderful group meeting weekly by Zoom is the prayer group. The Fellowship groups reorganized and pledged to meet at least once per month through the end of the year. Small social groups are meeting at various times and days throughout the month.

It is the third year of the Covenant Discipleship group. Each year the membership of the group changes, but the goal remains the same--to talk about their faith journey and shared goals for stronger discipleship.

New this year is a monthly grief group. Led by Beth Cash, members use discussion and art to process and discuss topics around grief. The Sunday Parents group continued to meet on Sunday morning before worship.

Thanks to everyone who's been involved—you're making a real difference in our community!



# Be the Difference.

## Outreach Report

BY LORI LASHER

In April, the Be the Difference Committee (formerly known as Outreach) voted to have the Outreach finances be in a separate bank account under the umbrella of church accounts. This enables us to have a treasurer from our committee take on some of the duties of the church treasurer. Laurie Pracher joined our team and was willing to take on this role. She assists in mailing all of our allocations and keeping track of our budget. We still transfer money to support many events for our church, but this alleviates some of the extra details for the church treasurer.

This past summer we sent thirteen campers to Skye Farm Camp!! What a wonderful opportunity for children to experience God's love in this outdoor ministry full of nature, fun, activities and fellowship with peers.

Our church also hosts the Joshua Project's Summer Lunch Program in our Fellowship Hall for the months of July and August. We provide numerous volunteers every day to prepare and serve the meals to our guests. This past summer we also provided a salary for the Summer Lunch Coordinator in order to provide consistent leadership and organization. This past summer we served a total of 2,525 meals, averaging 316 lunches per week.

We also support Special Sundays with extra mile giving through our United Methodist Connection. This provides an opportunity for the congregations to donate to specific funds for further impact around the country and world.

- Human Relations Sunday - \$100
- United Methodist Committee on Relief Sunday - \$1,415.92
- Native American Ministries Sunday- \$367
- Peace with Justice Sunday - \$443
- World Communion Sunday- \$206
- United Methodist Student Day - \$100

Thanks to all who volunteer, donate items, donate time and donate money to all of the missions of this church. Together we can make a difference in our church congregation, in our local community, and in our global community.

The Youth Group helps to fill Christmas Baskets for Food Pantry Clients



Summer Lunch in action!



Campers at Skye Farm camp in the Adirondacks.

### Be the Difference Ministry Allocation

Local Mission	2024 Allocations	2025 Allocations
<b>Catholic Charities/Caring Connection:</b> In the past, pastors and secretaries were being asked by those who were coming into the church for donations for needs. There was no way to properly vet such requests and pastors frequently were at a loss as to how to help these needy persons best. Catholic Charities is able to vet the requests and provide assistance to those in need. Specifically, they give assistance in housing, items needed for automobiles (e.g., repairs, insurance), personal needs, transportation, utilities, etc. This is money well spent and we are grateful to have an organization we can send people in need to and have their needs met.	\$3,500	\$3,500
<b>Venison Donation Coalition:</b> This is an organization that allows hunters and farmers to donate properly field-dressed deer for processing into meat packages. Venison packages are then donated to Food Pantries like ours for distribution. This cost offsets the costs of processing.	\$150	\$150
<b>Hospice (Helios Care):</b> Helios Care provides symptom management, pain relief, family and grief support for individuals and families experiencing serious medical conditions.	\$500	\$500
<b>Sunshine Fair Bike Donation:</b> Every year bikes are maintained, fixed, and given away to children at the fair. This covers the cost of five bicycles.	\$400	\$500
<b>Mosaic Mission Fund:</b> We are a part of a dynamic, collaborative effort on the part of local United Methodist Churches to work together and solve common issues in our valley. Mosaic members from churches across our region volunteer regularly in the thrift store. This fund also contributes to Operation: Home Repair, a skilled team of Mosaic volunteers who work with Schoharie County residents in need of home repair.	\$6,000	\$2,000
<b>Neighborhood Outreach/Halloween:</b> Since 2020, we have welcomed local families to a fun, safe, outdoor Halloween experience dubbed the "Halloween Hollow." It has been a great hit, and we look forward to continuing this tradition!	\$225	\$450
<b>Emergency Assistance Funds:</b> (Families in need, natural disasters, flood buckets, etc.)	\$200	Carry over
<b>Block Party:</b> For many years we have funded a community block party in early September. Members of the community have been invited to join the fun!	\$2,000	Carry over
<b>Backpack Program CRCS:</b> Cobleskill/Richmondville Central School. Many of the children who attend CRCS experience food vulnerability on the weekends. The Backpack program provides them with food so that they are able to eat on the weekends.	\$1,500	\$1,500
<b>The Skye Farm Foundation:</b> We believe that camp brings great value and experiences to our kids, teens, and adults. We continue to support this United Methodist camp that has made an impact on so many members of our congregation.	\$2,000	\$1,000
<b>Animal Shelter of Schoharie Valley:</b> Because animals are part of God's creation, too!	\$500	\$750
<b>Jail Ministry:</b> The Schoharie County Jail Ministry serves those who are incarcerated in our own county now that the new jail has been built.	\$250	\$250

<b>Schoharie County Community Action Program:</b> Among its many programs, SCCAP supports veterans in our region. Our donation will specifically aid their work with veterans in Cobleskill.	\$250	\$250
<b>American Legion:</b> The American Legion is a non-partisan organization that works to enhance the well being of America’s veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by a devotion to mutual helpfulness.	\$250	\$250
<b>Neighborhood Presence:</b> We will continue to fund new and creative church efforts to engage with our community.	\$1,000	\$2,500
<b>Warming Station Hot Food at Warnerville UMC:</b> This money will supplement a newly established fund to help provide hot meals to the guests staying at the Warnerville Warming Station during the winter months.	\$1,000	\$1,500
<b>Refugee and Immigration Support Services of Emmaus (RISSE):</b> This money will help them advance their mission of supporting refugees and immigrants to build new lives and thrive in the Capital District. Together we are realizing a vision of our community being a model for welcoming, supporting, and celebrating our neighbors.	\$500	\$1,000
<b>Gathering Place:</b> This donation will provide a senior adult the support of a Medical Alert Program for a year. This enables safety and peace of mind.	n/a	\$360
<b>Food Pantry Hygiene Products:</b> This money helps meet the needs of families within our community that encounter food insecurity by enabling us to also offer hygiene products. This has been a steadily increasing need.	\$6,300	\$3,500
<b>Summer Lunch Program:</b> This monetary support enabled the summer program to have a paid manager to provide consistency for the 10 week program.	\$4,000	\$4200
<b>Schoharie County Pride:</b> A newly developing non-profit organization dedicated to providing services to the LGBTQIA+ community of Schoharie County. Our church is a sponsor for their non-profit status as well as committing to financial support.	n/a	\$2,000
<b>Adopt-a-Family:</b> During the holidays we supplied money to purchase the last few gifts needed for a family.	n/a	\$91.78
<b>LOCAL MISSION TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,525</b>	<b>\$26,251.78</b>
<b>Internal Ministries</b>		
<b>Cobleskill UMC Camp Scholarships:</b> We fund 100% of the need for camp scholarships. The committee strongly feels that nurturing children’s faith as they attend and experience camp is essential to growing their faith.	\$4,244	\$6,000
<b>Spirit Broadcasting:</b> Spirit Broadcasting, in conjunction with SCHOPEG, has allowed our church services to be broadcast for free across a wide viewing area in Schoharie County. However, they incur expenses and we believe it is important to support them so that this mission can be continued in the future.	\$300	\$300
<b>Monthly Use of Building:</b> \$500/month of 2025 earnings will be donated from Road to Jubilee proceeds to cover operational expenses associated with the store including energy costs, cleaning and operational staff, and responsible care for our building as we serve our neighbors within the community.	\$6,000	\$6,000
<b>Volunteer Luncheon:</b> We give thanks for all of our amazing volunteers in the Road to Jubilee Thrift Store and our Food Pantry. Our volunteers put in countless hours for the	\$350	\$1000

good of others. The luncheon is a small token of our appreciation, without them these wonderful ministries would be next to impossible.		
<b>Volunteer Recognition:</b> We decided to honor our volunteers in Road to Jubilee and the Food Pantry with t-shirts this year. They will all be identified as a volunteer by wearing their shirt while working. Many thanks to each of you!!!!	n/a	\$500
<b>Thrift Store Supplies</b>		\$800
<b>INTERNAL MINISTRIES TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,894</b>	<b>\$14,600</b>
<b>Global Mission</b>		
<b>UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief):</b> UMCOR Global Ministries is the worldwide mission, relief and development agency of the United Methodist Church. It provides funding for disaster relief, education, global health initiatives, hunger and poverty initiatives, water and sanitation, services for women and children, migration, and sustainable development.	\$500	\$500
<b>Mission Trip/Pilgrimage:</b> Mission Trip Scholarships are meant to support people should they choose to provide mission work. For example, a youth may be selected to participate in a foreign mission effort and would require financial support. This allows that person, once they apply, to receive that support.	Carry over	\$1,000
<b>Special Sundays Support Fund</b>	\$250	\$250
<b>CROP Walk:</b> CROP Hunger Walks raise funds to support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. Twenty five percent of the funds raised are returned to the host community to support local hunger fighting efforts.	\$500	\$300
<b>Living for Others:</b> This donation will be used to pay for the education of a student enrolled in school in Tanzania in the program directed by Anna Migera who came and spoke to our congregation.	\$1,000	\$1,000
<b>Africa University Direct Scholarship Fund:</b> This money will help the university provide students with an excellent education and a good quality of life while on campus. In 2026 we are giving directly to helping build female housing on the campus as well.	\$1,500	\$1,500
<b>The Innocence Project:</b> The Innocence project assists in exonerating those who have been wrongly convicted through DNA testing and challenges the criminal justice system to reform to prevent future injustice.	\$500	\$500
<b>Reconciling Ministries Network:</b> This advocacy network supports the United Methodist Church's work for full inclusion of our LGBTQIA siblings in all aspects of church life. As a Reconciling Church we support RMN's work on the denominational level.	\$1,000	\$1,000
<b>GLOBAL MISSION TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,250</b>	<b>\$6,050</b>

# Filling the Shelves

## Food Pantry Report

BY LOREN SCHAFF

I would like to thank all of the volunteers who help throughout the week to inventory, order, pack and deliver food to our neighbors who are food insecure. In 2025 we served 1,623 households and 3,858 family members, which is a significant increase over last year. In addition, this year we provided Christmas dinners to 65 families and included stockings for all the children in those families. We continued to meet the needs of members of our community who are unable to drive by offering food delivery to home bound and medically fragile consumers, averaging 8 deliveries per week by our wonderful volunteer drivers John Jarvis and Sue Lockwood.

In November, when SNAP benefits were temporarily halted, our pantry rallied to the cause and offered extended hours on Sunday afternoon to try and reach working families who were effected by this freeze. Thank you to the additional church volunteers who stepped up to help us with these extra hours. Thank you also for the tremendous financial support from our congregation and community, which has allowed us to meet both the increasing cost of purchasing food, and the increased usage by our neighbors.

The CUMC Food Pantry participates in the Feeding America network, which works to get nourishing food from farmers, manufacturers, and retailers to people in need via regional food banks and local pantries. Hunger affects people from all walks of life, and many Americans are just one job loss or medical crisis away from food insecurity. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## 2025 Food Pantry Usage

MONTH	HOUSEHOLDS	ADULTS	CHILDREN	SENIORS	TOTAL INDIVIDUALS SERVED
January	151	156	55	56	267
February	105	137	72	47	256
March	116	161	90	58	309
April	111	150	73	62	285
May	144	215	114	55	384
June	109	152	70	49	271
July	96	141	78	49	268
August	136	191	77	88	356
September	117	170	80	59	309
October	170	260	147	73	480
November	142	192	150	51	393
December	226	143	92	45	280
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1623</b>	<b>2068</b>	<b>1098</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>3858</b>
<b>2025 Monthly Average</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>322</b>
2024 Monthly Average	109	146	67	56	264
	<i>24% increase</i>				<i>22% increase</i>

*Our choir sings with joy for a Sunday worship service in February.*



# Worship & Music Ministry Report

BY LENNA DARBIN ANDREWS AND PASTOR ANNA BLINN COLE

Many people work together to make our worship of God creative and beautiful including our children, musicians and our pastor and staff. This year we featured several different worship series including Wintering: The Power of Rest and Renewal in Difficult Times (Epiphany), Everything In Between (Lent/Easter), Believing Into Christ (spring), Ways We Encounter God (summer), The Power of Invitation (fall), A Generous Life (fall), Free to Be You and Me (fall), Enough (November), and What Do You Fear? (Advent/Christmas). We also celebrated several special Sundays including a Heritage Sunday with special guest George Change (grandson of George Ryder), an outdoor worship with our Mosaic family at Landis Arboretum, and an Iona Sunday put on by our pilgrimage crew.

Musically, 2025 began with a small group of singers and a new director, Lenna Darbin Andrews. The choir grew to 16 members by Good Friday. We welcomed both returning and new members, focusing on building community and trust within the ensemble. The music program expanded to include various instrumentalists alongside our piano and organ accompaniment, featuring percussionists, flute players, brass, and cello. In addition, we had a Bluegrass ensemble play a few times during the year. Throughout July and August, the summer special music program offered diverse weekly performances and provided opportunities for singers to perform in small groups. Additionally, the Handbell Choir performed at Easter, Christmas, and the Community Christmas Concert.

The Community Christmas Concert featured both sacred and secular music for the public. The choir showed great commitment, attending extra weekly rehearsals from mid-October through early December to prepare. During the event, children visited with Santa and received small gifts, while the audience enjoyed homemade cookies provided by choir members. The concert successfully raised funds for new choir folders and the local food pantry. We project this will become an annual tradition to support charitable organizations and serve the community.

*Avery Scholl-Hess  
and Maggie Agen  
bounce balloons  
around on  
Pentecost.*



## Learning the Way of Christ

### *Children's Ministry Report*

BY BETH CASH

Cobleskill United Methodist Church views children as precious and worthy of coming close to God. The ministries for them are undertaken with great care and love.

Compassion Camp ran from June 30-July 3. The theme was, "Blanketed in Belovedness" and saw a return of the beloved church mouse, Squeakers. Camp had four activity sections. A drama section involved each age group preparing and presenting a skit, an art section with activities that corresponded to Bible scripture, a sewing section where each child created a quilted pillow and a games section. There were many helping hands. There were instructors, adults who traveled with the groups, and junior assistants. There were 30 plus children each of the four days. Each day included an opening and a closing and building blanket forts.

Weekly Sunday School began in September with instructors Lisa Cardilli, Beth Cash and Hilary Taylor, and assistants Ann-Marie Frank and Michelle Arrowood, and musical specialist, Teri Hammond. Lesson topics included The Story of Jesus and the Children, Talk with the Teachers, Stewardship, Advent, Methodism 101 and Lent. The sessions include prayer, snack, an activity and finish with music in the Little Chapel. In November, the two classes were combined into one class to make the program most effective and to meet the needs of the children. The class will continue as one until the end of the year.

Children enjoy coming up during worship for a special time of spiritual curiosity with the pastor where they investigate changes in the colors and decorations, tell stories, and listen for what God might be saying.

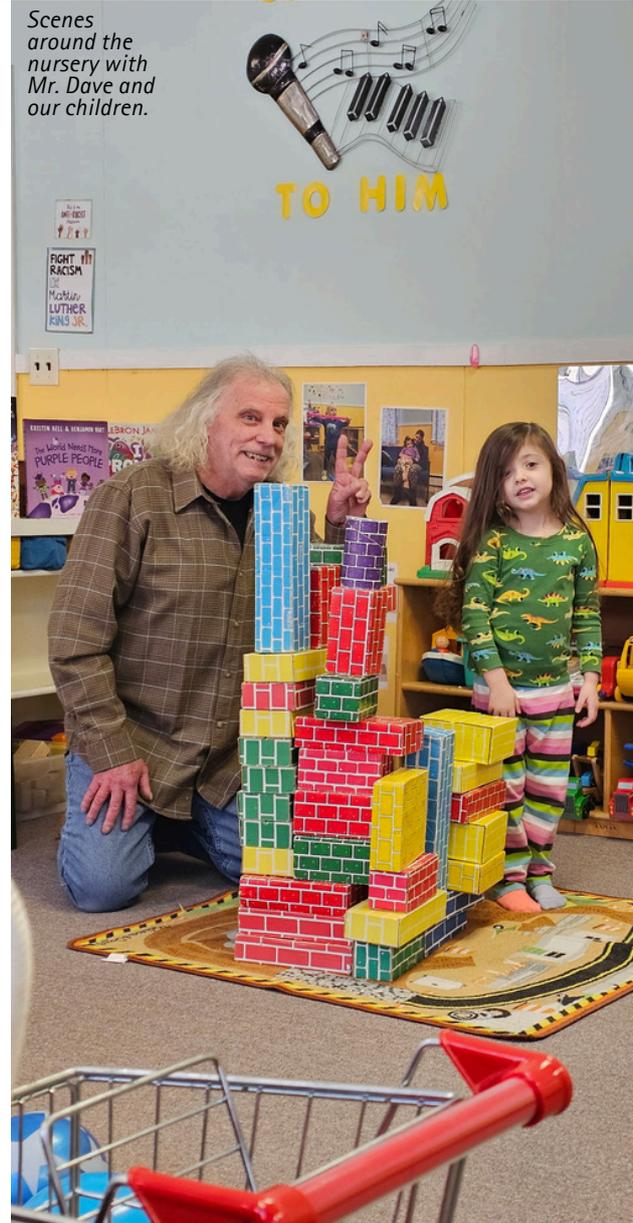
# Little Ones Gather

## Nursery Care Report

BY HILARY TAYLOR (SHE/THEY)

2025 was another year of fun, faith, inclusion and imagination. We made our annual Martin Luther King banner and made Jean-Michel Basquiat crowns to celebrate Black History Month. For Native American Ministries Sunday, Dave brought in a variety of wild game feathers, along with authentic Iroquois beads and bells that we used to make jewelry. During AANHPI month we made polka-dot art in the style of Yayoi Kusama, and when Pride Month began we decorated and hung our annual welcome banner! It is always a joy to watch our little ones explore and celebrate our beautiful diverse world, and see what their imaginations can do. Though at times, the world can be a scary place for little ones, we continue to strive to be a place where children can process their worries and develop an understanding of justice. When we look to the future, we dream of a nursery that can serve as a place for full-time income-based childcare, helping to provide resources to families in need. We thank all of our families for letting your little ones grow with us!

Scenes around the nursery with Mr. Dave and our children.





The youth group plays "knots" outside.

## Bringing the energy, bringing the fun

*youth Ministry Report*  
BY YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

Our youth group continues to be a very vibrant part of life at Cobleskill UMC. We meet every other week for youth group and we focus those gatherings on service projects, table conversation, discussion of Biblical stories, dinner, and games. The youth group has been a consistent help in taking styrofoam recycling to Oneonta (with roller skating!) and carving pumpkins for our Halloween Hollow. When fall began we pivoted to be a more intentionally a Mosaic-centered youth group as there are youth across our Mosaic churches that engage. With the help of Pastor Alisyn from Esperance-Sloansville and Delanson UMCs, we began to rotate our location and leadership of youth group. We've enjoyed seeing even more involvement from youth across Mosaic as we move between Cobleskill and Esperance every other gathering.

This year also marked the beginning of a new confirmation cohort. Eleven youth in grades 7-9 from Cobleskill, Esperance-Sloansville and Delanson have been meeting monthly to learn about our faith and United Methodism. Pastors Anna and Alisyn are leading the group.



Closing blessing after youth group.



Youth group carving 40+ pumpkins for Halloween.



Youth carrying in the cross for the Good Friday service.



Table conversation among our middle schoolers.



# Around the Connection

## Schoharie Mosaic and the wider United Methodist Church

BY PAIGE BULMER

The United Methodist Church is a system of "connections," ways in which we hold shared values and support each other to achieve the greatest good as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. This connection is witnessed on a local level through our Mosaic Cooperative Ministry, as well as on a conference, national and even global scale.

At the beginning of 2025, I was able to be a part of the global connection of the United Methodist Church when I joined Bishop Hector Burgos Nunez and 30 others from the UNY Conference on a pilgrimage to Africa University in Zimbabwe. We spent a week meeting with and learning about the amazing work that the faculty and students at Africa University are doing every day to create the future leaders of their home countries. The students' deep faith, rooted in the United Methodist Church, was evident in all that they did, and it was an honor to be welcomed by them.

In May, as part of the larger conference connection, our church was well represented at the UNY Annual Conference by Pastor Anna, Neil Law and myself, as well as members of several other Mosaic congregations. Important business of the Church was addressed, and we embraced the new UMC guiding vision to "Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully and Lead Courageously."

A big focus of our Mosaic connection is "Operation: Home Repair" which for the past 4 years has provided no-cost critical home repairs to low income homeowners in our county. All work is done by church volunteers and the cost of materials is covered through funds raised throughout the year by each church. In 2025, 15 homeowners had much needed work done on their homes and experienced our volunteers truly being "the hands and feet of Christ." Loving our neighbors and providing an opportunity for deeper connection between members of Mosaic congregations and beyond continues to be a tremendous blessing for everyone involved.



100 Flood Buckets filled by Mosaic churches.



A Mosaic meeting at an ice cream stand in Middleburgh.



Paige Bulmer on her mission trip to Zimbabwe.



Upper New York Annual Conference in May.

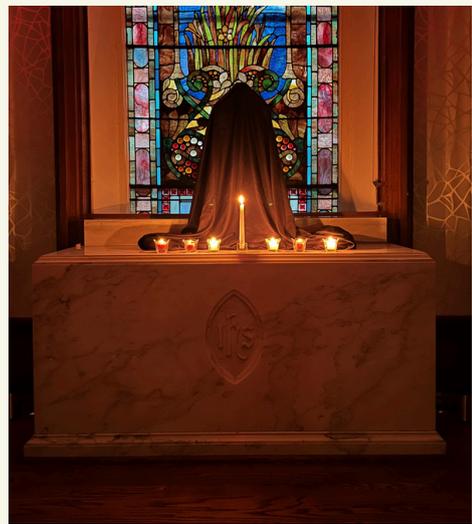


Operation: Home Repair 2025.



The combined Mosaic worship in August at Landis Arboretum.

# More Photos From 2025



2025 began Star Words at Epiphany and meaningful worship at our interactive Ash Wednesday service, Paige presented on her trip to Africa University and we had a super first-annual SOUPER-bowl lunch. Several meaningful moments during Holy Week included a painting prophetic rocks on Palm Sunday, a Maundy Thursday Dinner Church, an evocative Good Friday service and a bright and cheery Easter up in the cemetery at sunrise and in the sanctuary after brunch.



In the late spring and early summer, we said goodbye to our graduating seniors Alex Smith and Tyler Smith. Alex was a faithful servant running our Audio-Visual booth regularly. Beautiful sunsets and bubbles grace our church. The choir celebrated a joyful end to their season with a party at Doris and Dave Leverett's house. A contingent from our church went to Albany Pride for the first time. We hosted George Chang, grandson of George Ryder on our Heritage Sunday. Children met an earthworm friend during a worship series on creation elements and June Cole and Avery Scholl-Hess helped at our church clean-up day.





Summertime brought a blanket-fort themed Compassion Camp led by a fantastic group of laity. Eleven folks from CUMC including Pastor Anna journeyed to Iona, Scotland for a spiritual pilgrimage. They spent time climbing hills, worshipping in the ancient abbey and growing together. Back at home the summer lunch program was in the capable hands of Jessica Capeci and the Block Party was another big hit!





December is always a festive month at CUMC. With the Eco-Advent Festival, Christmas Parade, Christmas Concert, Confirmants meeting their mentors, youth pageant, parsonage open house, our three different Christmas Eve services and our Christmastide Brunch Church, it was a full and beautiful season.