

Sermon Themes and Scriptures

Date: February 2, 2020 Title: "Who Do You Think You Are?" Theme: Considering Our Call Purpose: To win through surrender. To conquer enemies by loving them. To transform our world through humility. To lead by serving all. Old Testament: Micah 6:1-8 New Testament (Epistle): 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 New Testament (Gospel): Matthew 5:1-12	Date: February 9, 2020 Title: The Princess Gospels Theme: Adoption into God's Kingdom Purpose: To use popular princesses as an illustration for what it means to be children of the King. Old Testament: Psalm 68:5-6 New Testament (epistle): Galatians 4:3-7 New Testament (gospel): John 1:11-13
Date: February 16, 2020 Title: "I Believe" Theme: Apostle's Creed Purpose: To gain a better understanding of how the Apostle's Creed defines our basic faith in Christianity. Old Testament: Deuteronomy 6:4-9 New Testament (Epistle): Philippians 2:6-11 New Testament (Gospel): Matthew 22:34-40	Date: February 23, 2020 Title: "Listen to Him" Theme: Transfiguration Sunday Purpose: To recapture the awe and wonder of following Jesus Christ. Old Testament: Exodus 24:12-18 New Testament (Epistle): 2 Peter 1:16-21 New Testament (Gospel): Matthew 17:1-9

Sunday's Service Information

Traditional Service – For those that love that "Old Time Religion", we have a traditional worship service that meets every Sunday at 8:30 am.

Blended Service – Not too bold, not too mild...just right. Our Blended service combines the best of our traditional and contemporary worship services. The Blended service is every Sunday at 10:30 am. There is also Children's Church available for kids K through 5th grade and a nursery for infants and toddlers.

Church Contacts

Phone: 305-852-2581, **Fax:** 305-852-4917

Email: burtonmemorial@bellsouth.net **Pastor:** kmf_bmumc@bellsouth.net

Administrative Assistant: bae_bmumc@att.net **Web Site:** www.BMUMC.net

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Friday – Office Closed.

Newsletter and Bulletin Deadlines

We have a lot of ministries and events going on at Burton and it is important to get the word out regarding them. So, please remember the *deadline for getting information into the weekly bulletin is on Wednesdays. The deadline for monthly Beacon articles is the 20 of each month.* Please send all information that you want placed in the bulletin or in the Beacon to the office at bae_bmumc@att.net.

February Birthdays:

	<u>DAY</u>	
Lucy Given	2 nd	Mark Hulsbeck
James Kirkman	3 rd	Melba Benson
Janet Atkin	4 th	Debbie Grove
Susan Gabler	4 th	

February Anniversaries:

	<u>DAY</u>
Vicki & Richard O'Meara Gassaway	2 nd
Rene & Shirley Held	27 th
Ken & Nancy Mills	27 th



Alberta's 90 Birthday

Alberta Albury celebrated her 90 birthday Sunday, January 26, 2020. Family and friends joined the celebration at Settlers Park in Tavernier.

The Beacon

a monthly newsletter publication of Burton Memorial UMC
February 2020

Kerry's Corner

In the January Beacon, I shared with the congregation the “possible” split that may be coming to the United Methodist denomination over disagreements of biblical interpretation regarding LGBTQ ordination and weddings. I will keep you up to date with information as soon as I get it. As of right now, the whole denomination appears to be in a holding pattern until the 2020 General Conference that will be held in May.

During this time, I want to remind you that nothing has changed at Burton Memorial and we are and will be about ministry to the community and the making of disciples for the transformation of the world. I would like to provide you with a letter that I think is very timely and one that will provide you comfort during these times. It was written by Gary E. Mueller, the Bishop of the Arkansas Annual Conference

The letter is from I am ready to admit something I've been in denial about for a long time. Even though I've invested a great deal of blood, sweat and tears trying, I simply cannot fix what's broken in the United Methodist Church. I can't fix the polarization that now imprisons us. I can't fix the outcome of this May's General Conference. And I can't fix the uncertainty we face as a church.



Even more significantly, the Holy Spirit has helped me realize I don't have to fix the church. It belongs to Jesus, and he's got it covered. This doesn't mean I'm stepping back, shrugging my shoulders and saying, "It's going to be what it's going to be." Rather, I will be focusing on what Jesus is calling every United Methodist congregation in Arkansas to do – becoming the most Jesus loving, disciple-making and sharing Jesus' love church you can be.

I love the United Methodist Church and the way of being Christian it shares. But ultimately, local congregations matter more than denominations – even our beloved United Methodist denomination. People need your local church, not a denomination. Your community needs your local church, not a denomination. And most importantly, Jesus needs your local church, not a denomination.

This means the single most pressing task is enabling your church that has a unique location, is filled with a unique group of people and possesses a unique history to become the church Jesus wants you to be – a vital congregation that makes disciples of Jesus Christ, who make disciples equipped and sent to transform lives, communities and the world.

Embrace your identity. Your church is literally the Body of Christ. So act like it! Love Jesus, follow Jesus, grow in Jesus, be transformed in Jesus and share Jesus in ways that make it clear whose you are. Get serious about investing in those things that form you as the Body of Christ: prayer, Bible study, involving people in intentional discipling groups and reaching out to your neighborhood in ways that touch real people in real ways with real love.

Live out your purpose. Jesus uses your church, and the disciples in it, to continue his mission of making disciples, forming disciples, and equipping and sending disciples to transform lives, communities and the world. Help people discover their spiritual gifts, bless them and then unleash them in your congregation and into the mission field that begins right outside the doors of your sanctuary.

Demonstrate the difference Jesus makes. Almost every congregation has figured out how to thrive with a diverse group of people who have perspectives that are diametrically opposed. Don't see this as a problem; see it as a wonderful opportunity to show how Jesus brings together people who normally wouldn't give each other the time of day. Keep people worshipping together on the same pew, praying together, studying together, serving together and caring for each other.

I want to be absolutely clear about something that some people may consider to be a scandalous idea. Yet I am convicted of its truth. The future of your church is not dependent upon what happens in the United Methodist Church. Don't let the uncertainty, or brokenness, paralyze you. Move ahead boldly and confidently. Your church will still be part of the Body of Christ. Your church will still make disciples of Jesus Christ. Your church will still form deeper disciples. And your church will still equip and send disciples to transform lives, communities and the world.

The painful reality is that we United Methodist Christians face an uncertain future. As Jesus leads us toward it, I want you to know something. I consider it an honor and a privilege to walk with you. I believe in you. I trust you. And, most importantly, I love you.

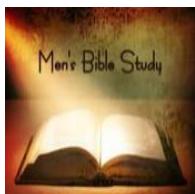
Monday Morning Prayer Time

Be still, and know that I am God. The only way you can be silent around God is if you're comfortable in His presence. OR if you want to LEARN to be comfortable in His presence. You see, the way to learn to be truly comfortable around God is to start practicing being quiet in His presence.

We want to invite you to start the practice of being still before God. Every Monday from 8:00 am to 10:00 am we are opening up the sanctuary for a time of prayer and silent meditation. Consider it a way to kick off the work week putting God first and seeking God's direction.



Bible Study Groups



The Men's Bible Study Group meets on Wednesday mornings at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Center. This is a time of fellowship, study, and ***breakfast.*** We cover current topics in light of Biblical understanding and truth. ***The Women's Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am in the Joy Classroom, studying "Making God Smile."***



Membership and Information Class

If you would like to discover more about Burton Memorial United Methodist Church and what it means to be a member of the United Methodist Church, ***please contact Pastor Kerry to set up an appointment.*** Call or text him at 305-407-7040 or email him at kmf_bmumc@bellsouth.net.

Choir News

It is not too late to join the choir. It is a great time to add a new habit that benefits you and others. There is plenty of scientific proof that singing is good for your body and spirit. Just ask anyone in the chancel choir how much we enjoy our time together. We are one small, happy choir family. We always have room for more so please consider joining us in the fun and service to the church. Our next performance will be February 9. We sing once a month. ***If you would like to join our choir family, we practice on Wednesdays at 7:15 pm.*** No experience is necessary, no tryouts, just come and enjoy! If you need more information, please call me at 301-655-0522 or email me at dcjarboe@gmail.com.

Carlene Jarboe



Join us on Wednesdays at 4:45 pm for BEGINNER bells. The Baby Belles of Burton are looking for a few more new ringers! We currently have eight ringers practicing but we would love to have a few more. Ringing techniques and basic music education are provided. No experience necessary. God offers the BEST benefit package around! Come and join the bell choir.

The BURTON RINGERS are rehearsing on Wednesdays at 5:30pm in the sanctuary. We are always seeking new ringers. If you have handbell/music experience we would love to have you. See any bell choir member or director RaeLeigh Gonsalves for more information.

Ringin' News

Flower Calendar

The Flower Calendar for 2020 is ready for you. Please consider placing a flower arrangement or orchid on the altar in memory of a loved one, in honor of someone or something (such as a ministry or event) or to the Glory of God. In 2020 we will not have altar flowers on Communion Sundays – the Sacrament will be our focus. The year is completely open so sign up. Cost is \$20.00 per arrangement. The calendar is in the Narthex or you can contact the church office. Please, only two arrangements per Sunday.



College Ministry

by Barbara Koch, College Ministry Coordinator

The following students are currently enrolled for this college term: James and Jacob Kirkman, Kyrie Foote, Makenzie Wright, Kayla Lynn de Vroedt, Daniel Walker and Brooke Peacock. Please keep them in your prayers as well as Christian Foote who is enrolled in the College of Life, otherwise known as military basic training.

Status of Offerings

Please remember that the weekly offerings pay the expenses of our worship services, as well as contributing to the various church ministries. Below are the offering and website collections for the past four services.

Last Four Weeks					Year to Date		
Week	Date	Offering	Plan	+ / -	Offering	Plan	+ / -
1	5-Jan	\$4,069	\$3,310	759	\$4,069	\$3,310	759
2	12-Jan	\$3,575	\$3,310	265	\$7,644	\$6,620	1,024
3	19-Jan	\$2,408	\$3,310	-902	\$10,052	\$9,930	122
4	26-Jan	\$2,627	\$3,310	-683	\$12,679	\$13,240	-561



God's Kitchen



We are still looking for groups or individuals to help with our God's Kitchen Free Dinner, helping to cook, serve and clean up on Thursdays.

If you need more information or would like to help out, please call Marylou Wilkinson at 305-394-3878 or the church office at 305-852-2581.

Florida United Methodist Children's Home Update

We have the end of year giving information for 2018 for our Methodist Children's Home. Our financial goal for the year was \$2,076.00 (173 members at \$12.00 per member). For 2019, we gave \$7,041.41 to the Children's Home; so we gave 339% of our goal! We give God the glory as we thank you, each and every one of our Burton family, for your love, your prayers, and your stewardship in this mission.

In 2020 our goal of \$12.00 per member will remain the same as it was in 2019. Since the Children's Home is an extension of the United Methodist churches in Florida, the goal of giving is set each year at the Florida Annual Conference in Lakeland. We have four Fifth Sunday offerings this year to help us meet our goal – March 29, May 31, August 30 and November 29. Also, each Sunday that we partake in communion (the first Sunday of the month), the "Penny Jug" gladly accepts your pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters.



One of the favorite events each year at the Children's Home is the Day on Campus, which will take place on Saturday, March 28, 2020. The day will provide an opportunity for guests to see the breadth of the Children's Home ministry and to learn about the many ways your Children's Home is serving children and families in need. The purpose of the event is to thank all of the individuals and churches who continue to support and empower the ministry being done through the Children's Home.

There will be a special program, and informative campus tours will be continuous from 9:30 am to 11:00 am and from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm. Delicious refreshments and a hearty picnic lunch under a big-top tent will be provided. Breakout sessions will be offered in the morning (by RSVP only) to better educate about the services the Children's Home provides. In short, this is a wonderful day to be on the campus of the Children's Home.

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP as soon as possible to the church office or call Julie Ratliff at 305-747-6870.

Thank you all for your ongoing support. It is truly an honor and a blessing to serve as your local church representative for our Children's Home. – Julie Ratliff

Contribution Statements

Your giving statements will be mailed, or emailed if we have your email address, by the middle of February. If you do not receive them by the end of February, please call Betsy at the church office, 305-852-2581, or email her at bae_bmumc@att.net.

Health and Wellness

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Debbie Premaza and Barbara Koch will be offering a bereavement support group to be held at the church on Fridays, beginning February 7 and running for 4-6 weeks.

These sessions are open to anyone in the community who has experienced a loss and who would like to explore ways that a support group might be of help. Everyone grieves in different ways but people who are grieving can often help each other by sharing their experiences. The tentative meeting time is scheduled for 10:00 am but is open to some negotiation if that is not a convenient time for people. Please call Debbie (305-546-6682) or Barbara (716-913-1061) if you or someone you know might be interested. And please spread the word to anyone you might know of who could benefit from a support group. Tell them to feel free to come to just one session to see if it is helpful.

Debbie Premaza, RN, BSN



FIT FOR CHRIST EXERCISE AND WELLNESS GROUP

This group meets every Monday from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm on Monday nights in Burton's Fellowship Center. It is open to all adults. We spend about 30 minutes in fellowship as a group sharing health topics, resources, and supporting each other in our wellness journeys. We will be having guest speakers on various health and wellness topics to help us become more knowledgeable in improving our health. The second half of the time, from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm, is spent doing stretching and aerobic exercise which is designed for all levels and all ages. This is a 2-mile faith based walk utilizing Leslie Sansone's "Walk by Faith Series" DVD in the comfort of our Burton fellowship hall (AC and no mosquitoes). We do not do any floor or mat exercises. You will be amazed how much more energized you feel!

As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend. Proverbs 27:17 NLT



Free Blood Pressure Checks

Every Sunday Monroe County Fire Rescue Department will be providing *free blood pressure checks in the Fellowship Center after the 10:30 am service.*



Sharon's Day

The Children's Daycare Center (CDC) declared Thursdays as Sharon's Day in memory of her "reading time" with the CDC children. For the years past, Sharon volunteered to come on a Thursday each week to read books to the children. She is missed by the children, staff, and administration! We love Sharon!

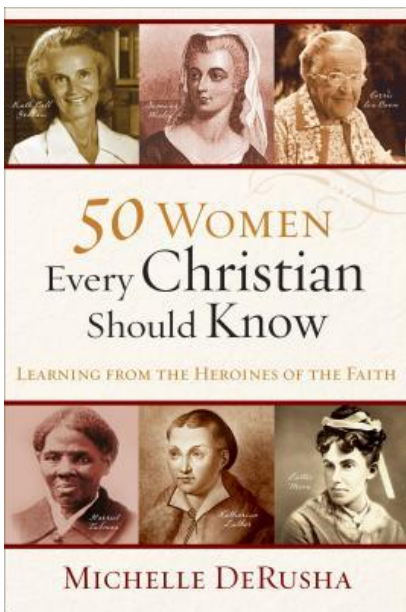
Rummage Ramble

The BMUMC annual Rummage Ramble is looking for volunteers to receive, sort, price and sell donated items. RaeLeigh Gonsalves has graciously stepped forward to chair this team. If you are interested in helping RaeLeigh, please contact the church at 305-852-2581. The day of the sale will be **Saturday, February 29 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** We will be taking donations for the rummage ramble February 24 (Monday) through February 28 (Friday) from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m.



Thanks to everyone who helped with our UMW Sunday on January 19. It is our hope that all members of Burton Church have a better understanding of exactly what it is that the United Methodist Women organization does.

Our pledge service was held on January 27 with members filling out their pledge cards for the year. Any women of the church who would like to make a financial pledge to support mission work with women and children can find pledge cards in the narthex of the church on the UMW book shelves. Last year our unit sent \$4,127 for mission work and we hope to be able to send even more this year. Any woman attending our church can be considered to be a UMW member whether she attends meetings or not. We are happy to welcome all you financial angels.



Our 4 part book discussion of “Fifty Women Every Christian Should Know” by Michelle de Rusha will conclude on Saturday, February 15, in the Joy Classroom at church from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. If you do not have the book or time to read it, you are still welcome to this stimulating discussion. Barbara Koch, discussion leader, will give a brief synopsis of each person to be discussed. It is hoped that all of us can find something to learn from these incredible women. The discussion will cover chapters 39-50, all contemporary women.

Our book discussion for next month will be held on Saturday, March 21, at church from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. The book to be discussed is “Boundless: What Global Expressions of Faith Teach Us About Following Jesus” by Bryan Bishop. This is a mind blowing book about new ways of evangelizing in Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim communities overseas. After this discussion, most good UMW members will be decorating their tea tables for our fundraising tea, which will be held the next day.

The UMW program for February is the Call to Prayer and Self Denial program which will be held on Feb. 16 at 9:45 am in the fellowship hall between the two services. Refreshments will be served. The offering this year is for 8 regional missionaries in the Caribbean, Latin America, Africa, and the Asia –Pacific area. Everyone will receive an offering envelope which they can give that day or keep throughout the Lenten period to be turned in at Easter time.

There will be an optional meeting on February 24 at 7:00 pm at the church which will be led by our Tea Chairman, Betty Ann Gear, to get organized for this year’s tea, which will be held on March 22.

Tickets for this year’s tea will be \$20 and will be available during the month of February from tea table hostesses.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

This month the Prayer Shawl Ministry is still busy creating prayer shawls and also collecting items for the Women's Prison Correctional Institution in Brooksville, Florida. Classes are given to 35 inmates and their crocheted items are then given to charity. Items needed - plastic crochet hooks of any size, plastic sewing needles, plastic round knitting needles (only), worsted weight or sport weight yarn. We will deliver the first week in March. ***Come join us on Thursdays 7:00 pm in the Joy Classroom.*** We teach, and we have supplies. For more information, please call Virginia Spear at 305-522-2978.



Prayer Bead Ministry



How better to express your love on Valentine's than through giving Protestant Prayer Beads to your loved ones! Candies are here today and gone tomorrow, but the gift of Prayer Beads will last a lifetime! Our handcrafted Prayer Beads, made by United Methodist Women, sell for \$15.00 each. Your purchase will raise funds for our local community needs.

If you are interested in purchasing or learning to string your own prayer beads please contact Linda Norman at 305-393-2589. Please feel free to call or text or email to lindalillonorman@gmail.com to make arrangements.

Green Team "Are We There Yet?"

Tim Bricker

That was the question that served as the theme for Pastor Kerry's Advent sermon series. A question born of curiosity, anticipation, and anxious expectancy that precedes a life altering event. When will we get there? How much longer do I have to wait?

Life is full of longing anticipation, great expectations, and hope for the future. But what if the forecast for the future is dire? What if the future holds overwhelming challenges?

As a Green team member, I am concerned about the future, not my own, but a more distant future. I am concerned about predictable circumstances and foreseeable impacts that will have little or no effect on me during my own mortal life. My concern is for the future of our planet, which is currently experiencing a measurable and increasing decline in environmental quality on so many fronts. "Climate change" or "global warming" is a fact attested to by an overwhelming majority of climate scientists.

I know, some climate scientists say that it isn't as bad as all the others are saying (it's "cyclical"). But, would I take the word of one doctor who disagrees with the concurrent diagnosis of nine other doctors? Even if I preferred to believe the one doctor who told me it was okay to continue smoking my cigarillos, should I ignore the consensus of nine other experts?

It's easier to deny that anything I am doing is having a negative effect on the environment, as to admit otherwise is overwhelming. It seems there is so little I can do to stop harming our environment, or even more impossible to reverse the seemingly insurmountable, and exponentially expanding consequences of what is occurring. Can I cut back on eating meat? Sure. Can I fly on one less jet this year? Of course. But, can I drive fewer miles in my truck? Whoa! Hold on a minute. How can I do that and still go where I need to go? Maybe it really is hopeless. Maybe I should just give up. Maybe I should just deny that there is a problem.



Maybe not. There are two things we all can do as individuals that could have a significant, positive impact on a depressingly negative situation: 1) we can contact our representatives, at all levels of government, and urge them to do anything and everything they can do to keep our water clean, assure that our air is breathable, and protect the creation over which God gave us dominion; and 2) we can pray.

With faith in action, we are nearly there.

Burton Care Ministry

Mission Statement: We are the eyes, the ears, and the hands of Burton, reaching out to those in need in our community

Advisory Board: Debbie Premaza, Barry Gabler, and Barbara Koch

We are currently in the process of developing a list of resource persons in our church for various problems.

Barry Gabler – drug and alcohol resource person; Debbie Premaza – medical resource person; and Barbara Koch – bereavement. We are currently looking for others who might know about resources for people experiencing financial, legal, or social problems.

Please contact any member of the advisory board if you have any problems or if you want to volunteer your expertise as a resource/referral person. Since this is a brand-new ministry, we would like input from as many church members as possible especially with regard to what avenues we should pursue.



The current plan is to offer an 8-week bereavement support group beginning Feb. 7th under the leadership of Debbie Premaza and Barbara Koch. Depending upon response, we would like in the future to offer support groups for caregivers, chronic illness, and major life changes. Or any areas that the congregation identifies are needed.



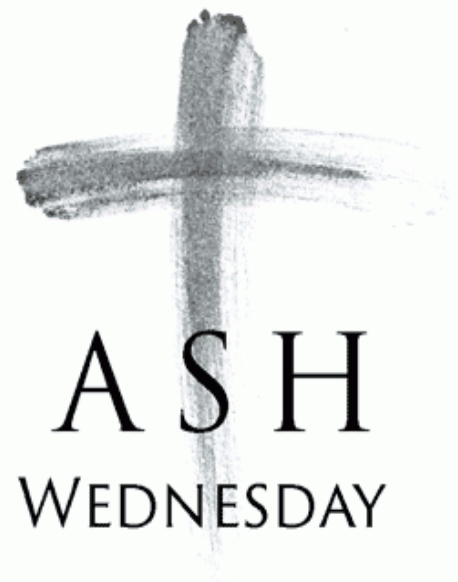
Possible services that we are also considering are as follows: Caregiver relief (2-3 hours); Meals to shut ins or those recovering from illness or surgery; Shopping; Yard work or help with things like hurricane shutters; Child care (2-3 hours) – scheduled or emergency; Driving individuals to doctors' appointments, etc.

Thank you for your consideration of this ministry and your prayerful support. We hope in this way to honor the wonderful work of Sharon Plezia Biggers as well as offering some small respite for our beloved pastor, Kerry Foote.

Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday is a Christian holy day of prayer, fasting, and repentance. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras) and falls on the first day of Lent, the six weeks of penitence before Easter. We will be having an **Ash Wednesday Service** on **February 26th at 7:00 pm** in the sanctuary of Burton Memorial UMC.

We will have the imposition of ashes in the sanctuary. Ashes are imposed on the heads of participants in the Ash Wednesday service as a sign of mortality and penitence. The ashes are imposed with the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (BCP, p. 265). Ashes are typically imposed by inscribing a cross on the forehead. The imposition of ashes has been practiced on Ash Wednesday since the ninth century.





Event: **Mardi Gras Party & Dessert Pot-Luck**
Date: **February 25, 2020**
Time: **6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**
Place: **Burton Memorial UMC**
93001 Overseas Hwy.
Tavernier, FL 33070

Mardi Gras, Carnival, Shrove Tuesday / Fat Tuesday: whatever you call it, it's one of the biggest parties of the year. Practically every culture has some kind of celebration before **Lent**. And while it seems as if the festivities are a way to party and get wild, there actually is a purpose to the celebrations. *Mardi Gras has its roots in Christian traditions.*

Why Is It Called Shrove Tuesday in most churches?

The word “shrove” comes from the word “shrive,” which means to absolve. Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday, which marks the Lenten season.

The night before Ash Wednesday, the house had to be cleared out of luxurious foods, such as butter, fat, chocolate, sugar and eggs. Christians would turn those items into pancakes, fudge, cakes, pies, etc. to use them up. Over time, the day became known as Pancake Tuesday in many churches.

Almost every culture makes some kind of rich pastries for Shrove Tuesday, whether you call them pancakes, malasadas (Portuguese fried dough) or king cake, the idea is the same.

On Tuesday, February 25th from 6:00 to 8:00 Burton Memorial will be hosting a Mardi Gras party with **LIVE MUSIC** and a **DESSERT POTLUCK**. We will be asking members of the congregation to bring their favorite sweet desserts to share with others. **Those attending will be asked to judge the dessert giving beads to the top tasting delicacies.** *Free beads will be provided to all who attend.*

