


# Sermon Themes and Scriptures

**Date:** January 5, 2020  
**Title:** "Are We There Yet?"  
**Theme:** Epiphany Sunday  
**Purpose:** Like the Wisemen, we too are on a journey to worship the King of Kings.  
**Old Testament:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
**New Testament (Epistle):** Ephesians 3:1-12  
**New Testament (Gospel):** Matthew 2:1-12

**Date:** January 12, 2020  
**Title:** "Well Pleased"  
**Theme:** Baptism  
**Purpose:** Teach us to live like those who have accepted the obligation, the responsibilities of baptized believers.  
**Old Testament:** Isaiah 42:1-9  
**New Testament (Epistle):** Acts 10:34-43  
**New Testament (Gospel):** Matthew 3:13-17

**Date:** January 19, 2020



**United Methodist Women**

Our very own United Methodist Women's group will be responsible for all aspects of the service. Come and enjoy.

**Date:** January 26, 2020  
**Title:** Same Mind and Same Purpose  
**Theme:** Unity  
**Purpose:** To evaluate the divisions and some of the sources of it within the church of today.  
**Old Testament:** Isaiah 9:1-4  
**New Testament (Epistle):** 1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
**New Testament (Gospel):** Matthew 4:12-23

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> grade and a nursery for infants and toddlers.

## Church Contacts

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

**Email:** [burtonmemorial@bellsouth.net](mailto:burtonmemorial@bellsouth.net) **Pastor:** [kmf\\_bmumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:kmf_bmumc@bellsouth.net)

**Administrative Assistant:** [bae\\_bmumc@att.net](mailto:bae_bmumc@att.net) **Web Site:** [www.BMUMC.net](http://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](mailto:bae_bmumc@att.net).

*DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!*

## January Birthdays:

## January Anniversaries:

	<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>
Jeff Bishoff	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Edith Bricker	18 <sup>th</sup>	Jack & Melba Benson	24 <sup>th</sup>
Terri Cummings	6 <sup>th</sup>	Cynthia Miller	24 <sup>th</sup>		
Debbie Premaza	7 <sup>th</sup>	Alberta Albury	26 <sup>th</sup>		
Christian Foote	12 <sup>th</sup>	Kerri Foote	26 <sup>th</sup>		
Makenzie Wright	15 <sup>th</sup>	Nancy Lancaster	31 <sup>s</sup>		
Eddie Holly	16 <sup>th</sup>	Daniel Walker	31 <sup>s</sup>		

# The Beacon

*a monthly newsletter publication of Burton Memorial UMC*

*January 2020*

## **A Letter from our Bishop – Rev. Ken Carter**

January 03, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Florida Conference,

Grace and Peace to you, in the name and spirit of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, in these first days of a new year. I write to commend to you the fruit of a mediation process undertaken by sixteen United Methodists, entitled “**A Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation.**”

The Protocol is offered in service to the delegates who will gather four short months from now in Minneapolis for the 2020 General Conference. It is not perfect, no mediation is, but it gives a great deal to each of these different streams, more than I could have imagined at the beginning. All of this has been done — and the word I hear from many is that it is something of a miracle — without harming these persons. I attribute this to the work of the Holy Spirit.

The protocol was unanimously affirmed and signed by the sixteen participants.

Key features of the mediation protocol and proposed legislation that will follow are:

- The ongoing existence of The United Methodist Church.
- A gracious way of departure for a traditionalist conservative Methodist Church, with a financial settlement.
- The creation of four regional conferences—Africa, U.S., Europe, Philippines—each with its own ability to adapt the Book of Discipline.
- The removal of restrictive language related to LGBTQ identity and practice in the U.S. post-separation United Methodist Church immediately following the May General Conference.
- Holding in abeyance any administrative or judicial processes regarding restrictions in the Book of Discipline related to LGBTQ persons, as of January 1, 2020.
- Creation of a fund to strengthen the Black Church and ministries with and among marginalized persons.
- No annual conference or local church is required to vote on departure from the United Methodist Church.
- No one is asked to leave or separate from the church.
- Annual Conferences and local churches may vote to depart from The United Methodist Church with their property in order to participate in another Methodist expression.

Note: *This brief summary is not intended to be a substitute for the actual reading of the protocol. You Can read the actual 8-page document by accessing our conference website: [www.flumc.org](http://www.flumc.org)*

Church, I am just coming off a much-needed vacation and it appears I stepped into a hornets nest coming back. Stay tuned, we will be providing a special mid-month newsletter giving us a path forward considering this news. I need some time to talk to the leadership of the church before I give dates and times for meetings. I am sorry that I can not give you more information at this present time. Believe me when I say that I have received numerous calls and e-mails given that this topic has been all over the public news sources. – Rev Kerry Foote



## 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.



## Men's Devotion Breakfast



*The Men's Devotion Breakfast meets at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Center* of Burton Memorial UMC. This is a time of fellowship, study, and *breakfast*. We cover current topics in light of Biblical understanding and truth.

## 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](mailto:kmf_bmumc@bellsouth.net).

## Choir News

Carlene Jarboe

Happy New Year to all! 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 January 5. 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](mailto:dcjarboe@gmail.com).



## Ringin' News

Join us on Wednesday, January 8, at 4:45 pm for BEGINNER bells! The Baby Belles of Burton are looking for a few more new ringers. We currently have five ringers practicing but we would love to have a few more! New ringer practice is from 4:45 pm to 5:30 pm every Wednesday in the sanctuary. 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 will restart rehearsals on Wednesday, January 8, at 5:30 pm 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!

## KIDSRING Choir

The KIDSRING CHOIR will start kids' chimes again in February. We are so excited about all our CHILDREN'S ARTS MINISTRIES – with a new one beginning in 2020! See you then.



## 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

After their Christmas holiday break, our college students will be entering a new academic term later this month. Please keep the following students in your thoughts and prayers:

Kayla Lynn de Vroedt – Miami Dade Community College; James Kirkman – Miami Dade Community College; Brooke Peacock – Florida State University; Daniel Walker – Florida State University; Makenzie Wright – University of Southern Florida; and Kyrie Foote – Valencia Community College.

## 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	Needed	+ / -	Offering	Needed	+ / -
48	1-Dec	\$3,152	\$2,154	998	\$125,751	\$117,639	8,112
49	8-Dec	\$1,871	\$2,154	-283	\$127,622	\$119,792	7,830
50	15-Dec	\$1,733	\$3,004	-1,271	\$129,355	\$122,797	6,558
51	22-Dec	\$2,675	\$3,004	-329	\$132,030	\$125,801	6,229



## Operation Christmas Child

*Through your love and support we were able to send 108 shoebox gifts to hurting children around the world.* They will be a part of the 12 million shoe box gifts that are being distributed. Thank you for your generosity and love for all God's Children! Please continue to pray for the millions of boys and girls who will be receiving gift-filled shoe boxes and gospel literature telling the story of God's love, and for the ministry partners as they distribute the shoe box gifts and share God's love with the children and their families. Your prayers are appreciated.

## God's Kitchen

**Burton is still in need of some help with our Food Pantry Ministry.** This month, since many of our volunteers are off visiting with family and friends, we could use a few extra hands in the pantry to help serve our clients. **We are also 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.



## Green Team Article



a message from The Green Team

In the popular "reduce, reuse and recycle" slogan that Americans adhere to, "refuse" should be added to the phrase as habits of consumption play a significant role in the waste that is affecting the environment. The United Methodist Women are committed to caring for God's creation. Just like we pledge our prayers, time and gifts to the global ministries supported by the UMWomen, we pledge to protect our environment. In an easy, ongoing effort to apply this simple practice, we encourage all that pass through the church doors to donate reusable bags so that Burton Memorial's food pantry can distribute food in an environmentally pleasing way to recipients. We would like to begin this effort ASAP. This project will replace the recycling of pill bottles. The Church on the Curve will soon Refuse to use one-time use grocery bags that are detrimental to our recycling centers and our environment.



## **Health and Wellness**

Debbie Premaza, RN, BSN

**Question: "What sort of New Year's resolution should a Christian make?"**

**Answer:** The practice of making New Year's resolutions goes back over 3,000 years to the ancient Babylonians. There is just something about the start of a new year that gives us the feeling of a fresh start and a new beginning. In reality, there is no difference between December 31 and January 1. Nothing mystical occurs at midnight on December 31. The Bible does not speak for or against the concept of New Year's resolutions. However, if a Christian determines to make a New Year's resolution, what kind of resolution should he or she make?

Common New Year's resolutions are commitments to quit smoking, to stop drinking, to manage money more wisely, and to spend more time with family. By far, the most common New Year's resolution is to lose weight, in conjunction with exercising more and eating more healthily. These are all good goals to set. However, [1 Timothy 4:8](#) instructs us to keep exercise in perspective: "For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." The vast majority of New Year's resolutions, even among Christians, are in relation to physical things. This should not be.

Many Christians make New Year's resolutions to pray more, to read the Bible every day, and to attend church more regularly. These are fantastic goals. However, these New Year's resolutions fail just as often as the non-spiritual resolutions, because there is no power in a New Year's resolution. Resolving to start or stop doing a certain activity has no value unless you have the proper motivation for stopping or starting that activity. For example, why do you want to read the Bible every day? Is it to honor God and grow spiritually, or is it because you have just heard that it is a good thing to do? Why do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God with your body, or is it for vanity, to honor yourself?

[Philippians 4:13](#) tells us, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." [John 15:5](#) declares, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." If God is the center of your New Year's resolution, it has chance for success, depending on your commitment to it. If it is God's will for something to be fulfilled, He will enable you to fulfill it. If a resolution is not God-honoring and/or is not in agreement with God's Word, we will not receive God's help in fulfilling the resolution.

So, what sort of New Year's resolution should a Christian make? Here are some suggestions: (1) pray to the Lord for wisdom ([James 1:5](#)) regarding what resolutions, if any, He would have you make; (2) pray for wisdom as to how to fulfill the goals God gives you; (3) rely on God's strength to help you; (4) find an accountability partner who will help you and encourage you; (5) don't become discouraged with occasional failures; instead, allow them to motivate you further; (6) don't become proud or vain, but give God the glory. [Psalm 37:5-6](#) says, "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."

<https://www.gotquestions.org/new-years-resolution.html>

***The Fit for Christ group will continue to meet on Mondays at 5:30 pm in Burton's Fellowship Center for fellowship and exercise.***

### **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.***

### **The Tour**

From January 11–19, Franklin Graham will embark on a six-city Florida tour. One-night prayer and evangelism events are scheduled to take place in Jacksonville Beach, Plant City, Panama City Beach, Key West, Boca Raton and Fort Myers. Franklin Graham will share the Good News of Jesus Christ at each stop, calling the lost into a life-changing relationship with Christ—and encouraging Christians to boldly live out their faith. He will be joined throughout the tour by singer/songwriter Jeremy Camp. For more information check out the website: <https://fl.billygraham.org/about/>

January is a busy month for the Burton UMW.

On January 18 we are hosting a women's book discussion at the church (See separate article).

On January 19, we are celebrating UMW Sunday and our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an organization at both the 8:30 am and 10:30 am worship services. Between the services we will be providing refreshments.

On Monday, January 27, we will have our monthly meeting at 7:00 pm at Edna Waldorf's house. Anyone interested in attending or needing a ride should call Barbara Koch at 305-852-7997. United Methodist Women programs are open to any women in our community whether they are Methodist or not. Visitors who are only in the Keys for a short time are welcome as well. Part of our mission statement is to provide a creative, supportive fellowship for everyone.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Thank you to all who have knitted and crocheted for our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Many have been sent around the world as well given here in the Keys and also to Hospice. Hats have been sent for cancer children and blankets for "Project Patriot" children of active military, as well as scarfs and hats to college students. We can always use donations for yarn, labels to sew on the shawls and plastic bags. ***To donate, please make sure to write "Prayer Shawls" on the envelope or on your check's memo line.***



***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**

Is it too late to add something else to your list of resolutions? How about learning a new craft that brings love and prayerful joy to your loved ones or comfort to a stranger in pain or sorrow? Why not learn how to make prayer beads? The United Methodist Women have produced many over the last few years and we can attest the joy that they have brought to others and the great satisfaction we have received by making them. To begin the New Year, ***we are offering a lesson on Thursday, January 16 at 7:00 pm in the Joy Classroom for anyone interested in learning.*** If there is a good response, we will begin to offer additional classes on future Thursday evenings.

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 [lindalillnorman@gmail.com](mailto:lindalillnorman@gmail.com) so that we have enough kits available for those who want to learn.



### **United Methodist Women Book Discussion**

***The United Methodist Women will host the third of a series of four book discussions on the book, "50 Women Every Christian Should Know" by Michelle DeRusha on Saturday, January 18, at 9:00 am at Burton Church.*** This discussion will feature chapters 27-38 (pgs. 186-272). All women are welcome. It is not necessary to be a member of the UMW or of Burton Church to attend these discussions. Ladies who do not have time to finish the reading assignment may still enjoy the discussion because the facilitator gives a brief synopsis of each woman before opening the floor for discussion. Ladies featured in this discussion lived in the years from 1829 to 1968 so quite an interesting historical range. Despite living in times far different from our own, these exceptional women have much to teach us today. The final 12 chapters of the book will be in our concluding discussion on Feb. 15. Sometimes there are books available for loan on the UMW shelves in the narthex. If none are available, books are available for purchase on Amazon.

# SOUTH EAST FLORIDA VISION DAY

JANUARY 25, 2020

9:00AM - 3:30PM

HOLLYWOOD HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
400 N. 35TH AVENUE  
HOLLYWOOD, FL 33021



A Vision Day is a one-day training event that provides an opportunity to discover what it means to be the Church in new and creative ways, hear from Fresh Expressions practitioners, learn how to renew existing congregations through fresh expressions of church, and discern what this could mean for your region, community, or neighborhood. There is active discussion as well as opportunity to build networks and relationships among those in your area.

## REGISTER TODAY:

[FreshExpressionsUS.org/event/VisionDaySouthEastFlorida](https://FreshExpressionsUS.org/event/VisionDaySouthEastFlorida)

\$20/person for General Admission  
- lunch is included

## Become a VITA Superhero!

*Is your schedule flexible? Would you enjoy helping make our community more affordable for everyone? Do you want to be a **SUPERHERO** to some of your hard-working friends and neighbors?*

Become a volunteer during our upcoming VITA tax preparation season! Volunteers work as IRS certified tax prep assistants or greeters. Bilingual volunteers are needed as tax prep assistants, greeters or translators.



VITA volunteers provide free tax preparation service to residents earning \$56,000 or less annually, helping them maximize their returns.

- FREE one day, hands-on training in early January.
- Tax preparation events are scheduled regularly throughout the Keys, January - April.
- No tax preparation experience needed--just a willingness to learn, grow, and serve.

### Join our Volunteer Team!

Contact us at [VITA@KeysUnitedWay.org](mailto:VITA@KeysUnitedWay.org)  
Or 305-735-1929



[KeysUnitedWay.org](https://KeysUnitedWay.org)







**Navigating**  
**FamilySearch:** A Genealogy Workshop with **Dr. Duay**

**Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**from 11am to 12:30pm**

at the Key West Public Library  
and

**Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**from 10:30am to 12pm**

at the Islamorada Public Library



**Find your family.  
Discover yourself.**

Come learn FamilySearch's newly revised research site. In 2017, FamilySearch discontinued its microfilm circulation services with its commitment to make billions of documents accessible digitally. Monroe County Public Library, as an affiliated library with FamilySearch, has advanced research capabilities over the home version of their site.

"Debbie Duay received her Ph.D. in Adult Education from Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in 2007. She has 20 years of experience in genealogy, and she has taught numerous workshops throughout the United States on researching early American ancestry.

Debbie is the Florida State Society DAR First Vice Regent and a State Co-

Chairman of the Lineage Research Committee.

Debbie has helped over 450 people join the DAR, and her websites receive more than 500 visitors each day." –From Debbie Duay's Lineage Research Corner website.

[www.learnwebskills.com/lineage/index.htm](http://www.learnwebskills.com/lineage/index.htm)

*This workshop is free and open to the public. Seating is limited.*

*DAR contact: [floridakeysdar@yahoo.com](mailto:floridakeysdar@yahoo.com)*



FLORIDA KEYS - SINCE 1892