

Sermon Themes and Scriptures

<p>Date: March 3, 2019 Title: "See All The People Worship Series: The Astounded Crowd" Theme: Prayer Purpose: In Jesus, we are reminded to trust in the essential directions we have been provided to pray, listen, and care for the holistic needs of people. Old Testament: Exodus 34:29-35 New Testament (Epistle): 2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2 New Testament (Gospel): Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)</p>	<p>Date: March 10, 2019 Title: "With All Your Heart Worship Series: God's Generous Heart" Theme: Lent (First Sunday) Purpose: We are standing on the edge of the wilderness, looking with great anticipation toward the Promised Land. Old Testament: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 New Testament (Epistle): Romans 10:8b-13 New Testament (Gospel): Luke 4:1-13</p>
<p>Date: March 17, 2019 Title: "With All Your Heart Worship Series: Imitating" Theme: Lent (2nd Sunday) Purpose: This week, we turn our gaze upward, aspiring to imitate our Creator, the source of our promise, our dreams, and our guiding star along our Lenten pathway. Old Testament: Genesis 15:1-2, 17-18 New Testament (Epistle): Philippians 3:14-4:1 New Testament (Gospel): Luke 13:31-35</p>	<p>Date: March 24, 2019 Title: With All Your Heart Worship Series: Repenting Theme: Lent (3rd Sunday) Purpose: Tradition compels us to think of Lent as a time of self-denial and intense introspection and contemplation. Old Testament: Isaiah 55:1-9 New Testament (Epistle): 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 New Testament (Gospel): Luke 13:1-9</p>
<p>Date: March 31, 2019 Title: With All Your Heart Worship Series: Coming Together Theme: Lent (4th Sunday) Purpose: Embracing transformation, new possibilities, and new life is what our journey is all about. Old Testament: Joshua 5:9-12 New Testament (Epistle): 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 New Testament (Gospel): Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32</p>	<p><u>Sunday's Service Information</u> 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.</p>

Church Contacts

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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

DON'T MISS
THE DEADLINE!

March Birthdays:

March Anniversaries:

<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>	
Sharon Plezia	5 th	Liz Baker	22 nd	Debbie Grove	20 th
Shannon Premaza	6 th	Kyle Gonsalves	23 rd	Vincent & Jeri Hansen	20 th
Lou Ward	14 th	Katie Holly	23 rd		
Linda Lillo Norman	15 th	Edna Waldorf	24 th		
Carlene Jarboe	18 th	Shirley Faye Albury	26 th		
Lawrence Beerkircher	20 th				

The Beacon

a monthly newsletter publication of Burton Memorial UMC
March 2019



Kerry's Corner

The special General Conference of The United Methodist Church concluded late on February 26, 2019 in St Louis, Missouri. 864 United Methodist delegates from around the world were called into session to address the issue of human sexuality; specifically, the *ordination of clergy* and the *officiating and hosting* of weddings for those that identify as LGBTQ+.



In its final plenary session, the General Conference took final action on the two major plans advanced for a way forward. **The One Church Plan** was defeated by a vote of 45 percent for and 55 percent against. A version of the **Traditional Plan** was adopted by a vote of 53 percent for and 47 percent against. An **exit path** was adopted by a vote of 52 percent to 48 percent.

So, what does this mean? Alex Shanks (*Assistant to the Bishop of the Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church*) has provided the best summary of what this means regarding the doctrine of the Methodist Church and our book of discipline. I would like to share it with you.

- 1). Wespath (*clergy pensions*) petitions passed. Exiting churches must pay their fair share of pension liability. Exiting clergy retain their pension but it is converted to limit further liability to the conference.
- 2). Current language around sexuality and restrictions on same-sex weddings and ordination of self-avowed practicing homosexuals is retained.
- 3). The Traditional Plan passed except for the main petition. This means there will be no required certification by annual conferences and bishops that they will follow the Discipline and no method for annual conferences to leave the denomination.
- 4). Eight parts of the Traditional Plan passed and have previously been ruled constitutional by the Judicial Council. The Judicial Council will consider their constitutionality again in April but are not likely to reverse their decision.

This means that the definition of self-avowed practicing homosexual now includes those who are in a same-sex marriage. Bishops cannot commission or ordain lesbian or gay pastors or consecrate them as bishops. Boards of ordained ministry must do a full examination of clergy candidates including whether they are a self-avowed practicing homosexual.

Pastors who perform weddings and are convicted by trial will have minimum penalties of suspension (1st offense) and surrender of credentials (2nd offense). Bishops can only dismiss complaints for reasons of law or fact. Just Resolutions must acknowledge all harm done and be agreed to by the person bringing the complaint. The church can appeal a decision for egregious errors of law.

5). One part of the Traditional Plan passed but it may or may not be constitutional and awaits the decision of the Judicial Council. It would require all members of the board of ordained ministry to certify they will follow the Discipline.

6). An amended exit plan for churches passed but it may or may not be constitutional. It would allow for local churches to exit with their property and assets if 2/3 of the members vote to do so and they care for pension liabilities and one year of apportionments.

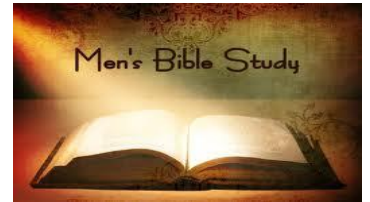
So now we wait for the results of the Judicial Council. Legislation is not official church law until January 1, 2020. We will elect delegates to the 2020 General Conference at annual conference in June.

I am praying for all. This has been quite a personal journey for me. I have had a front row seat to this whole journey. I am grateful for the opportunity. I am still processing all of this. God is with us. Thanks be to God. – Alex Shanks

If there any individuals in the church (member or not) that would like to set up a time to talk to me regarding the recent special general conference, I am available. Please contact Betsy Edwards (Administrative Assistant) to schedule an appointment at 305-852-2581. I will be going to a special clergy session on March 7th in Tampa that is hosted by the Bishop and will have more information when I arrive back from there. Please continue to lift up the Methodist church in prayer.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

All men are invited to meet in the Burton Fellowship Hall every Wednesday for fellowship and breakfast from 8:00 am to 9:00 am. Pastor Kerry is the facilitator and selects pertinent topics, videos, and scriptures for discussion. Opportunities are provided for prayer requests and events of interest (football, etc.). Breakfast favorites are provided by the men and/or their wives.



Women's Bible Study Group



The Wednesday Women's Bible Study Group has moved to Tuesdays at 9:30 am in the Joy classroom. We will be studying the book, *Cast of Characters: Common People in the Hands of an Uncommon God* by Max Lucado. For more information or a ride, please call Virginia Spear at 305-852-7757. All ladies are invited to attend.

Membership and Information Class

On Sunday, March 10, we will have a membership and information class in the Pastor's Office at 2:00 pm. 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 just show up. If after the class, you would like to become a member of Burton Memorial United Methodist Church, we can make that happen.



Flower Calendar



The Flower Calendar for 2019 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 2019 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.

Choir News

Whether you have a gift or a talent to sing, come join the chancel choir for fun and for service to the church. The chancel choir sings once a month and we practice on Wednesdays at 7:15 pm. We are always looking for any new singers. No experience is necessary, no tryouts, just good fun and good service to the church. Our next performance is March 24, so if you can help us out, please come at 7:15 pm on Wednesday after the hand bell choir practices. Singing is always good for the soul and helps with lung capacity; in other words it is good for the body, mind and spirit. If you need more information, please call me at 301-655-0522 or email me at dcjarboe@gmail.com. Thanks again.



Passionate Worship Committee



We are always looking for people to help the church out in any way they feel comfortable. So if you can spare some time, we are in need of volunteers in the following areas: Acolytes, Children's Church, Greeters & Ushers, Liturgists, help with the Altar Guild, and any singers and/or ringers are welcome and needed. *Watch the announcements for our next meeting date.*

Ringin' News

New beginner bell opportunities: join us on Tuesdays at 3:00 pm for Beginner handbells (New Group) or at 6:45 pm for Beginner chimes. Our beginner handbell/chime ministry is looking for a few more new ringers. New ringer practice is from 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm for handbells and from 6:45 pm to 7:30 pm for chimes every Tuesday 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 are rehearsing on Wednesdays at 6:00 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 is chiming out this month. We will see you all for April and Easter. Thanks to all the great chimers for their hard work and dedication. We are so excited about all our Children's Arts Ministries!

God's Kitchen

As we all know, the tradition of Thursday night's God's Kitchen meals are an important service to our community that Burton performs. Many thanks to the volunteers over the last few months. *We are still looking for someone to cook on the fourth Thursday of the month. If you would like to help out, please call the office at 305-852-2581.*



Publix Food For All

Many thanks to Publix for their generous donations throughout the year to our Food Pantry. Recently Pastor Kerry was invited to a luncheon in Miami where we received a check in the amount of \$6,500.00 to Burton Memorial that will help us help the less fortunate in our community.

Rummage Ramble

The BMUMC annual Rummage Ramble will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2019 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Center. You may drop off your donations March 11 through March 15 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Center. Please make sure all donations are in working order and clothing is clean.

We also need help pricing and organizing the items for the Rummage Ramble and will be working every day from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, March 11 through March 15. *We also need help the day of the sale, March 16.* If you have any questions or would like to help please contact the church office at 305-852-2581.



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.*

Mardi Gras Service

The Tabernacle Ministry of Burton Memorial United Methodist Church is hosting a Mardi Gras service at Key Largo Chocolates, 100470 Overseas Hwy., this Tuesday, March 5, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. What better way to prepare for Lent than a celebration by singing some songs, eating some chocolate, and enjoying some rich fellowship. We hope you will join us in this day of celebration as we attempt to reclaim its Christian roots.



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 March 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm** in the sanctuary of Burton Memorial UMC. We will have the imposition of ashes and if the weather permits, we will be releasing Chinese lanterns with the items that we are giving up for Lent written on them.

College Ministry

by Barbara Koch, College Ministry Coordinator

The academic term is well underway with responsibilities piling up. Please keep the following students in your prayers:

Joshua Waits – Univ. of North Carolina

Sara Waits – Regent Univ.

Jenna Johnson – Christopher Newport Univ.

Lee Bowman – Birmingham Southern College

Ryan Bowman – Florida Gulf Coast Univ.

Brooke Peacock – Florida State U.

Daniel Walker – Florida State U.

Makenzie Wright – Univ. of S. Florida

Kayla Lynn de Vroedt – Miami Dade Community College

James Kirkman – FKCC

Kyrie Foote – Valencia Community College

Rebecca Fernandez – Univ. of Arizona



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 \$2,040.00 (170 members at \$12.00 per member). ***For 2018, we gave \$6,799.70 to the Children's Home; so we gave 333% 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 2019 our goal of \$12.00 per member will remain the same as it was in 2018. 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 31, June 30, September 29 and December 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.

Every four years, several districts within the Florida Conference are especially invited to attend an exciting Day on Campus at the Children's Home in Enterprise, FL. ***On March 16, 2019, representatives from churches in the Atlantic Central and Southeast districts will spend a great day at the Children's Home in Enterprise, FL.*** The Children's Home will host a special program on that day. 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. This year, new breakout sessions will be offered in the morning 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 by March 7, 2019 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

Deep Gratitude to the Burton Congregation

We wish to express a deep gratitude to everyone for their love and concern shown to our family during the sudden illness and loss of our beloved son, brother, and uncle.

We thank you, our church family and Pastor, for your prayers and ministering unto us with calls, cards, and visits. Because of you, you proved His Word when He said, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

With love, thanksgiving and joy, we remember you and that special place in our hearts will always be there for all.

Thank you for loving us,
Alberta, Julie, and the family of Danny Albury.

Health and Wellness & Biggest Loser Challenge

Debbie Premaza, RN, BSN

There is still time left! Two more months to a healthier you! “Biggest losers” “Godly winners”, “Fit for Christ” ...Reminder: the challenge ends April 28, 2019 with the final weigh in. ***Weigh in on Sundays between 9:45 am and 10:30 am in the Joy Classroom.***

Matthew 19:26 (GNT) Jesus looked straight at them and answered, "This is impossible for human beings, but for God everything is possible."

Need encouragement? Need a kick start? Faithful workout by Michele Spadafora suggests SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE: Lasting, healthy change happens from the inside out. A - Ask God for Help. B – Believe. C - Check Your Motives. It makes a huge difference when you put God at the center of your fitness plan. God wants you to live life to the fullest. He wants you to have the strength and energy to go and love and serve others. I am thrilled to see the trend to incorporate spirituality in our everyday health and fitness across the USA.

Christianity Today Nov 2017 issue: “For most people, [working out] is either punishment or drudgery,” said Heather Johnson, an instructor and the ministry’s director of culture. “Some people really enjoy working out, but for most people, it’s not something they realize they can do unto the Lord. It’s not a punishment for eating poorly the day before. It’s making sure our bodies are healthy and whole so we can serve well and love him.” Revelation Wellness’ slogan sums up the appeal of Christian fitness for many believers: “Love God. Get healthy. Be whole. Love others.” With that perspective, fitness isn’t self-centered. “When people say, ‘I want to lose weight,’ I say, ‘Okay, but get ready. It’s going to cost you your comfort. You can’t keep doing the same thing. You can’t keep thinking the same thoughts,’” she said, noting that the work of sanctification and healing requires sacrifice.

Hate Exercise? 5 Tips That May Change Your Mind by American Heart Association 2017:

You don’t have to be a gym hero to get enough physical activity to improve your health. There are a lot of ways to make regular activity part of your life, which can help you have more energy, handle stress better, reduce your risk of illness and disease, and look and feel good! It’s pretty much a no-brainer. But most of us (about 80 percent of Americans) don’t make exercise a regular habit. And many say it’s because they just don’t like it. So how can you stop being a hater and get over exercise aversion? Here are some tips to help you add physical activity to your life – and maybe even learn to like it! Find what fits you: Instead of forcing yourself to do something you don’t enjoy, find ways to exercise that fit your personality. If you’re a social person, do something that engages you socially. Take a group dance class, join a recreational sports team, or start a walking group with friends. If you’re more of a lone wolf, running or swimming might be a better fit. Give it time. It can take a while for a new behavior to become a habit, so give yourself time to get into a regular routine. One way is to try to be active around the same time each day. Exercise can become addictive in a good way. Once it becomes a habit, you’ll notice when you aren’t doing it. Build it in. Build activity into your schedule and lifestyle so it doesn’t feel like a chore. There are many ways to fit exercise into your life, and it doesn’t mean you have to give up something else, like time with family and friends. Get active together as a family and friends. You’ll all benefit. Break it up. It’s OK to fit in physical activity when you can. The American Heart Association recommends a total of ***at least 150 minutes of moderate activity a week***. If that sounds overwhelming, try adding two or three short activity sessions most days of the week. It all adds up! Keep going: If you miss a day or a workout, don’t worry about it. Everybody struggles once in a while. Just make sure you hit it again the next day. And if what you’re doing just isn’t working for you, revisit this list. You may need to try a different activity or a different time of day. Don’t give up!

Hope to see you on Monday evenings in Burton’s Fellowship Center from 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm for fellowship, education, and support then from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm for exercise that fits all levels of ability. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 305-546-6682.



Blood Drive



There will be a blood drive in the church parking lot on Sunday, March 31, from 9:15 am to 12:30 pm. All donors will receive a Free OneBlood T-Shirt and a wellness checkup.

Message from the Green Team - Ways to Care for Creation

by the Creation Care Ministries of the United Methodist Church

Eat your left-overs:

A great way to be a steward to the Earth is to consume your food. Did you know that Americans throw away 25% of the food they buy? Not only is this a waste of money but it is also harmful to the environment. Producing food takes land, water, and heavy machinery. By eating your left-overs you are not only saving money but also preventing energy waste from food production. Not to mention you are keeping them from taking up space in a landfill.



Wash your laundry in cold water:

Use cold water when washing clothes to reduce energy use. Energy is needed to heat water. You can also opt for a shorter wash cycle.

Do your dishes less often:

Instead of after every meal, consider only running the dishwasher when you have a full load or sink. This reduces your water use and saves you money on your water bill.

Shorten your showers:

Cut five minutes off your shower to save water. According to a study done by Harvard the average American shower uses 2.5 gallons per minute. You will save 12.5 gallons of water if you shorten by just 5 minutes. Or, consider turning the water off while you lather up and only turn it on to rinse.

Find out more about how you can #CareForCreation at www.creationjustice.org.

United Methodist Women's Sunday Thank You



Thank you to all the people who made our United Methodist Women's Sunday a meaningful and enjoyable day. We especially thank Dr. Charles Bigger whose presentation broadened our minds and inspired us to seek those things that the brave people in mission sought: God's love for all through Christ Jesus.





**United
Methodist
Women**
Faith • Hope • Love in Action



Burton Memorial United Methodist Women is a group of women, most of whom are members of Burton Memorial UMC, gathering together “to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand the concepts of mission through the global ministries of the church.” We invite the women of our church and community to our up-coming events.

March 3, 2019 - Annual Tea, Burton UMC, Tavernier

March 25, 2019 - General Meeting, Edna Waldorf's home

March 30, 2019 - South East District Day Apart, Cason UMC, Delray Beach

Mark Your Calendars: July 11-14, 2019 - Mission u, Florida Southern College, Lakeland

For more information or transportation,
call 305-852-9259, or text to 305-363-8392.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

In addition to making Prayer Shawls, our ministry is knitting and crocheting "Project Linus" blankets for children of serving military personnel and veterans that suffered a traumatic event. This is part of the Gary Sinese Foundation. The blankets should be 40"x60", 36"x36" or 30" x 30". Please use 100% washable acrylic yarns. Blankets will be sent to Orlando the middle of March. For information call Virginia 305-522-2978.

Project ♥ Linus



Prayer Bead Ministry

Our Prayer Bead Mission at Burton has gone “global”! On United Methodist Women Sunday, a family of six lovely people from Denmark came into the sanctuary between the two services to see our church. Although only one spoke English, they all stood smiling and gesturing their pleasure at being in our church and in our community.

As they left the church, they turned back and glanced at our display of prayer beads and continued on their way. How can they be reminded of our joy in having them come to our church? How can we express our feelings without words? Of course, by giving a handmade string of prayer beads to take with them on their journey.

We have entered the mission field through our prayer beads and our love for all in the world! Do you have someone who you want to speak to without words? If you are interested in purchasing or learning to string your own prayer beads please call or text Linda Norman at 305-393-2589 or email her at lindalillonorman@gmail.com to make arrangements.

