

# Sunday Sermon Themes and Scriptures

<p><b>Date:</b> November 3, 2024 All Saints Sunday  <b>Sermon Title:</b> Remembering our past saints grow deeply to restore our image of God.  <b>Old Testament:</b> Proverbs 10:7  <b>Old Testament:</b> 1 Samuel 7:7-12  <b>New Testament:</b> 1 Corinthians 11:23-26  <b>New Testament:</b> Luke 2:19</p>	<p><b>Date:</b> November 10, 2024 Veterans  <b>Sermon Series Title:</b> God responds to evil &amp; suffering  <b>Sermon Title:</b> God suffers with us.  <b>Old Testament:</b> Psalm 22:1-2  <b>New Testament:</b> Mark 15:33-34</p>
<p><b>Date:</b> November 17, 2024  <b>Sermon Series Title:</b> God responds to evil &amp; suffering  <b>Sermon Title:</b> God uses evil to defeat evil.  <b>Old Testament:</b> Genesis 50:15-21  <b>New Testament:</b> 1 Corinthians 15:54-56</p>	<p><b>Date:</b> November 24, 2024  <b>Sermon Series Title:</b> Thanksgiving  <b>Sermon Title:</b> Give thanks always so we can love always.  <b>Old Testament:</b> Psalm 100:4  <b>New Testament:</b> 1 Thess. 5:18</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 twentieth 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!*

## November Birthdays:

## November Anniversaries:

<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>	
John Rimmel	1	Marshall Walker	13	George & Delores Leber	20
Alan Ackenhausen	7	Michael Beni	29	Marshall & Debra Walker	20
Lane Franz	8			George & Barbara Stroud	23



# The Beacon

*a monthly newsletter publication of Burton Memorial UMC*  
*November 2024*

Brothers and Sisters,

May God's grace give us the necessary joy, peace, and patience to love our neighbors.

John Wesley, the 18<sup>th</sup> century leader of the Methodist revival, taught a robust and biblically based theology. This theology has three main emphases: 1) Original sin, 2) Saved by grace through faith, and 3) Holiness (both personal & social). Two months ago (September) we learned about original sin. Last month (October) we explored grace. This month (November), we talk about personal holiness. In December, we'll learn about social holiness. So, let's continue with personal holiness!!



In the Old Testament Book of Leviticus, God commands us to be holy:

- Leviticus 11:45 – “I am the LORD who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy.
- Leviticus 19:2 – Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: 'Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy.
- Leviticus 20:7 – Consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am the LORD your God.

In the New Testament, the Apostle Peter refers to Leviticus and tells us to be holy. He says, “...for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.” (1 Peter 1:13-16)

So, “What is holiness?” To answer this question, we must first recognize that there is personal holiness and social holiness. This month, we are talking about personal holiness. Next month, we will talk about social holiness.

By the time Jesus was born, the Jewish religious leaders were teaching a personal holiness that was based upon perfectly following a long list of rules. They focused on the letter of the law rather than the purpose of the law. This was a serious misunderstanding of personal holiness.

Jesus constantly corrected this misunderstanding. For example, when Pharisees accused Him of being unclean for not following the letter of the law, Jesus made the following rebuttals:

- “Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean.' For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. These are what make a man 'unclean'; but eating with unwashed hands does not make him 'unclean’” (Matthew 15:17-20 & Mark 7:17-23).
- “The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks” (Luke 6:45).

According to Jesus, personal holiness is about the condition of our hearts. In other words, personal holiness is about what motivates us. The purpose of the law is what should motivate us and, according to Jesus, the purpose of the law is love. (Matthew 22:37-40). **Personal holiness, therefore, is having a heart that is solely motivated by an unconditional love for God, neighbor, and self.**

Jesus is the perfect example of personal holiness.

- He helped people even when it interrupted his plans (Matthew 15:21-28).
- In the garden of Gethsemane He said, “...Yet not as I will but as you will” (Matthew 26:39).

- He showed love and concern for the lame and hungry (Matthew 9:36, 14:14, 15:32, 20:34; Mark 1:41, 6:34, 8:2).
- While dying on the cross, Jesus forgave his executioners (Luke 23:34).

Here are some examples of personal holiness in everyday life.

- A time when you showered an undeserving person with unconditional love.
- When a person decides not to take advantage of an opportunity to seek revenge but helps the offending person instead.
- Forgiving the person who killed a family member.
- Not having money to do something you enjoy because you gave it to a charity
- Developing a default reaction of love rather than sin in any given situation.

Now remember, we cannot become holy on our own. Our sinful nature will get in the way. Only God's grace can change our hearts so we can become holy. Remember, God's grace is the unconditional love of God made know to us by the Holy Spirit.

As we pray, fast, study Scripture, worship, and serve people, God's grace works to make us holy by changing our hearts.

In Christ,  
Pastor David L. Charlton

### Potluck Luncheon



Burton will be having a potluck for *All Saints Sunday, November 3, at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Center*, following the 10:00 am service. *It's Fall Y'all*. Bring your favorite fall dish or dessert. If you do not cook, just bring yourselves. There is always more than enough food.

### Church Council

Your Church Council will be meeting on *Tuesday, November 5, at 5:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner begins at 5:15 pm. All committee heads are encouraged to attend.



### Annual Christmas Concert

*Save the date!* Our Burton Ringers will be having their *Annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 1, at 5:30 pm in the sanctuary*. A lovely evening of Christmas music – plan to come and bring a friend.

### Campus Ministry



If you would like yourself, your child, grandchild, or great grandchild to be put our "student database," please send your request to [bae\\_bmumc@att.net](mailto:bae_bmumc@att.net), or call the church office at 305-852-2581. We will need the name of the child, grade, and school. *Please also let us know if someone has graduated so we can honor them.*

## The Scariest Hurricane?

Green Team

(Information taken, in part, from the Washington Post's articles on climate)

The scariest of hurricanes is Hurricane Oscar [formed Saturday](#), October 19, in the Caribbean, because it took meteorologists by surprise. Oscar rapidly intensified into an 80-mph hurricane in just over three hours. It was one of the smallest hurricanes ever, only five miles wide, but it foretells the need for rapid evacuations in the future. We know, rapid hurricane formation is alarming as we watched while Hurricane Milton went from a tropical storm to a Category 5 in about a day, ranking as the fifth most intense on record.

Why are these weather events taking the experts by surprise? The cause is the warming of the Oceans and marine heat waves.



Waters in the Gulf of Mexico started to break all-time temperature highs this summer, but recent weeks have seen an extra jolt of warmth — what scientists describe as a “marine heat wave” that provide additional fuel to the storms.

These abnormally warm bouts are among the most important factors when it comes to forecasting hurricane behavior, research shows. They can promote more evaporation of ocean water into the air — propelling storms to grow faster and stronger and drop more rain, as seen in Helene and Milton. The heavy rainfall was obvious with Helene, which dropped up to 20 to 30 inches of rain in the mountains of western North Carolina.

Hurricane frequency [has also increased](#) under “human-caused climate change,” doubling in number in the past four decades. Using computer models, scientists said the record sea surface temperatures in just the past two weeks, the first half of October, were 400 to 800 times more likely as a result of climate change. WOW!

## CDC Visit from Fire Department

Last week, the Monroe County Fire Department visited the CDC school to discuss Fire Safety Awareness. The children had a blast!



## Fit For Christ Exercise Group

*The Fit For Christ weekly group, with support, education, and exercise for all ages, is still on hiatus.* Watch your bulletin or newsletter for an announcement of its return



## Tai Chi Open House Weekly Classes

Strength, Flexibility, and Stillness all in one exercise class? At Burton? Yes, twice a week!



We are blessed that **Tai Chi** is being offered here at Burton in the *Fellowship Center on Tuesdays from 9:45 am to 11:15 am, and on Monday nights from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm*, for all levels of ability. All teachers are volunteers and class costs are by donations to cover the costs of the class location. *You can start any time.* The benefits are amazing and the history is fascinating. I hope you will check out their web site and the classes they have to offer. <https://www.taoisttaichi.org/> Why not start out the new year by joining this group?

## 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 offerings and website collections for September 2024 to date, along with the expenses for the same period. The Year-to-Date totals show our expenses exceed our offerings. The difference is funded by our Child Development Center (CDC) income. The goal going forward is to grow our church, so we are no longer dependent on this income to pay church expenses.



Last Four Weeks					Year to Date		
Week	Date	Offering	Expense	+ / -	Offering	Expense	+ / -
1	1-Sep	\$2,472	\$5,264	<b>-2,792</b>	\$91,018	\$185,713	<b>-94,695</b>
2	8-Sep	\$4,674	\$246*	<b>4428</b>	\$95,692	\$185,959	<b>-90,267</b>
3	15-Sep	\$1,999	\$7,226	<b>-5,227</b>	\$97,691	\$193,185	<b>-95,494</b>
4	22-Sep	\$1,549	\$730	<b>819</b>	\$99,240	\$193,915	<b>-94,675</b>

We are continuing with our Facebook Live services at 10:00 am, with videos posted on Facebook. If you are not able to attend services in person, please help us by either mailing your normal donation by check to Burton Memorial UMC, 93001 Overseas Highway, Tavernier, FL 33070, or go to our website: [bmumc.net](http://bmumc.net) and click on **Give Online** in the upper right corner of the home page to set up a payment online.

\*Note: The balance of 2024 Apportionments were paid in September in the amount of 17,018. This amount is not reflected in the expenses in the chart above.



## Veterans Day Observance

A *Veterans Day* Observance is scheduled for **11:00 am Monday, November 11, in the Murray E. Nelson Government Center.**

## God's Kitchen/Food Pantry

*Burton is still in need of help with our Food Pantry Ministry.* We can use extra hands in the pantry to help with deliveries on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, and to serve our clients Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 am to 12 pm and Thursday evenings from 5 pm to 7 pm. Please call the office at 305-852-2581 to get more details or to volunteer.

*We are still looking for groups or individuals to help with our God's Kitchen Free Dinner on Thursdays,* helping to cook, serve and clean up. If you can help, please call or text Marylou Wilkinson at 305-394-3878, or call the office at 305-852-2581 to help.



## Pumpkin Patch Thank You

On behalf of the entire Pumpkin Patch team – **thank you!** As always, your gifts of service to the pumpkin patch have been a blessing to our church and our community. To those who set and tore down, to those who unloaded pumpkins, to those who help at our Kickoff party, to those who sold pumpkins, to those who Trunk or Treated at Founders and the CDC, **and** to those who fed and entertained at our first parent's night out – your time and talents made this the best patch year it could have been. Mark your calendars for Oct 2025 – the pumpkins will be back!



United  
Women  
in Faith

Dear ladies of the church, I would like to invite you to our **next United Women of Faith meeting November 25 at 7:00 pm**, at Mary Lou's house, 38 E Beach Rd, Harry Harris Park. The program for the night will be "World Thank Offering" by Barbara Koch. She will tell us a little about how it got started years ago. All monies collected from these funds go to helping women, children and youth around the world. We are also gearing up for our annual tea, the theme is "Valentine's," February 16, so mark it on your calendar now to save the date. It is a wonderful event and the food is excellent. So, if you have never gone to any of these please make it your New Year's resolution to give us a try.

Love, Faith and Joy, Mary Louise Wilkinson, President

## Prayer Shawl Ministry



Again, this year our Prayer Shawl Ministry is sending over one hundred hats to cancer children to a Texas Hospital. This is our eighth year making hats for cancer children.





Also, a volunteer at a friend's food pantry in Broward sent us a beautiful prayer shawl she had made for our ministry (left.)

*Please join us on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Joy Classroom to knit or crochet.* We have a fun fellowship together. Invite your neighbor. We have supplies and we can teach. For more information, please call Virginia Spear, 305-522-2978.

## We Receive Joy Through Thanksgiving and Prayers

Brothers and Sisters,

May God's grace give us the necessary joy, peace, and patience to love our neighbors.

High levels of anxiety make it difficult to make good, rational decisions. When worry, fear, jealousy, or hatred snatches control of our hearts, we become selfish and do whatever we feel like doing in the present moment. Dark & sinister forces wash away the desire to take the rational & loving course of action.

In the movie, "Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace," Yoda, the Jedi Master, warned young Anakin Skywalker, "Fear is the path to the dark side. Fear leads to anger; Anger leads to hate; Hate leads to suffering. I sense much fear in you." Yoda proved to be quite the prophet. Young Skywalker grew up to become the evil Darth Vader.

Yoda, however, didn't teach us anything new. He merely reiterated what our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, taught us over 2,000 years ago. Jesus knew that we cannot allow anxiety, fear, anger & hatred to rule our hearts if we are to make rational & loving decisions. (Consider Matthew 5:21-22, 6:34, and 23:25-26.) So, he offers us peace to keep these dark forces from dominating our hearts. (John 14:27, 16:33, and John 20:19-26). With this peace, we can also experience joy. The two go together.

This joy & peace drives out anxiety, fear, anger & hatred. Without these dark forces dominating our hearts, we can calmly think and pray about what we should do in any given situation and take the loving course of action.

We receive this joy and peace through faith in Jesus .

Consider Philippians 4:6-9: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God, And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." We receive God's joy & peace by going to God in prayer, giving thanks to God and presenting God with whatever is causing our anxiety. In other words, we receive joy & peace through thankful prayer!

This is what Thanksgiving is all about. In addition to eating and spending time with family, be sure to give thanks to God. Start by slowly reading Philippians 4:6-9 three or four times. Then make a list of all your blessings and thank God for each one. After that, share all your anxieties with God. You will receive God's joy & peace, and this will enable you to take the rational & loving course of action in every situation.

In Christ,  
Pastor David L. Charlton





### Hangings of the Greens

Want to know what it takes to make our sanctuary beautiful for the holidays? Can you believe it is time to plan for Advent? Your Altar Guild would like to invite you to make our church beautiful for the Advent and Christmas season. We need your help! *We need some volunteers on Sunday, November 24, at 11:30 AM (right after worship) to decorate!* Lunch will be provided. Wear a Christmas t-shirt and get ready to sing along with the holiday music and join us. Merry Christmas!

### Community Thanksgiving Worship Service

Nov. 26, 2024 at 6:30 pm  
Burton Memorial UMC



### Christmas Eve Worship Services

Family worship - Time to be determined  
Candlelight service - 11 pm  
Burton Memorial UMC