

Sunday Sermon Themes and Scriptures

<p>Date: March 5, 2023 Title: Letting Go (Sermon Series) Theme: Born Anew Main Idea: Those who are “born anew” lock their focus onto the crucified and resurrected Christ who now dwells in us by the Holy Spirit. Old Testament: Ezekiel 36:26-27 New Testament (Epistle): Colossians 1:21-22 New Testament (Gospel): John 3:1-17</p>	<p>Date: March 12, 2023 Title: Letting Go Theme: Set Free from Shame Main Idea: The Samaritan woman arrives at the well as a sinner, but leaves as a saint. Encounters with God will do that to you. Old Testament: Psalm 34:4-8 New Testament: John 4:5-42</p>
<p>Date: March 19, 2023 Title: Letting Go Theme: Clinging to Jesus Main Idea: As Christ followers we must cling to Jesus rather than become like the Pharisees who valued knowing about God more than walking with God. Old Testament: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 New Testament: John 9:1-41</p>	<p>Date: March 26, 2023 Title: Letting Go Theme: Our Greatest Hope Main Idea: The story of Lazarus teaches us that God seldom meets our expectations but instead fulfills our greatest hopes. Old Testament: Psalm 130 New Testament: John 11:1-45</p>

Sunday’s Service Information

Currently, we have switched over to one worship service on Sundays, and it is at 10:00 am.

Church Contacts

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

Email: burtonmemorial@bellsouth.net Pastor: pastor.foote@outlook.com

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 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.

DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!

March Birthdays:

March Anniversaries:

	<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>
Shannon Premaza	6 th	Liz Baker	22 nd		
Lou Ward	14 th	Kyle Gonsalves	23 rd		
Linda Lillo Norman	15 th	Katie Holly	23 rd		
Carlene Jarboe	18 th	Edna Waldorf	24 th		
Rachel DeLaOsa	20 th	Vicky Fay	30 th		
Lawrence Beerkircher	20 th				



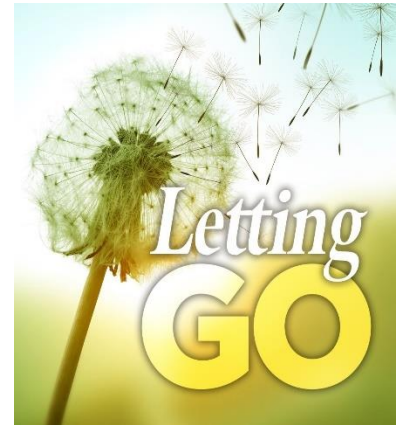
The Beacon

a monthly newsletter publication of Burton Memorial UMC
March 2023

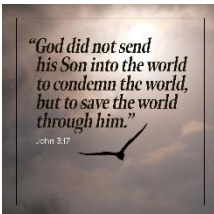
Lenten Sermon Series

The season of Lent is a time for us to assess ourselves and make adjustments. It's a time for us to recalibrate to God's way of living and loving. The purpose of repentance and reflection is not to lay ourselves under condemnation, but to offer ourselves up for salvation. This is very important: "God did not send his Son to condemn the world but to save the world through him" (John 3:17).

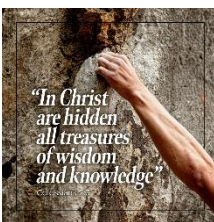
Jesus did not come to condemn us but to save us. He wants to set us free. In Christ, we can let go of the sin and shame that seek to enslave us. Letting Go is an 8-week sermon series that will teach our church Jesus did not come merely to set us free from the consequences of our sins (i.e., offer forgiveness only). He came to set us free from the power of sin.



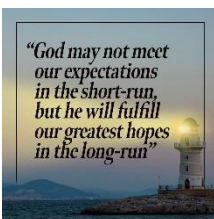
March 5, 2023: Born Anew- Those who are "born anew" lock their focus onto the crucified and resurrected Christ who now dwells in us by the Holy Spirit. Our life starts to look like the life of Jesus: we are daily crucified as we pick up our cross and follow him, but we are also daily resurrected with life, love, and joy. We are immersed ("baptized") into the life of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. When this happens we have "entered the kingdom of God" that Jesus speaks about.



March 12, 2023: Set Free From Shame- The story of the Samaritan woman perfectly illustrates how God sent Jesus not to condemn the world but to save the world through him. Jesus humbles himself, engages the woman in conversation, and sets her free from shame and guilt. She arrives at the well as a sinner, but leaves as a saint. Encounters with God will do that to someone, even YOU!



March 19, 2023: Clinging to Jesus- Jesus heals a blind man starting him on a journey of discovery that will last for eternity. The Pharisees show themselves to be the blind ones, as they were well-versed in their scriptures and their laws but they were far from knowing the God of creation whose heart is full of love and light. As Christ followers we must cling to Jesus rather than become like the Pharisees who valued knowing about God more than walking with God.



March 26, 2023: Our Greatest Hope- The story of Lazarus teaches us that God seldom meets our expectations but instead fulfills our greatest hopes. His timing is not our timing nor are His ways our ways. But He is faithful always, He is worthy to be praised, and He is a safe place for us to put all our hope.

Potluck Luncheon

Burton will be hosting a potluck on **March 5 at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Center** following the 10:00 am service. The theme for this month's potluck will be a **CHILI COOKOFF**. There will be three categories for those that want to throw their gloves into the chili cookoff ring: **The Best Tasting / The Most Unusual / The Most Spicy**. All those in attendance will be asked to **vote on their favorite chili for each category**. The church will provide the chili bar for the toppings that you would like to add. If you are unable to provide a dish, come anyway because we always have leftovers and more than enough food.



Membership and Information Class



Pastor Kerry Foote will host a membership and information class in his office this month on Sunday, March 5, 2023, at 1:00 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 attend. Also, if you would like to become a member of Burton Memorial and will not be able to attend one of the classes provided on Sunday, please **contact Pastor Kerry to set up an appointment**. Call or text him at 305-407-7040 or email him at pastor.foote@outlook.com.

Tuesday Night Fellowship and Adult Bible Study

For the month of March, the Tuesday Night Fellowship and Adult Bible study will be meeting on 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, and 3/28. Those attending are asked to bring a dish to share. This a traveling Bible study and meets at various homes of those attending.

6:00 to 6:30: Food and Fellowship

6:30 to 7:30: Bible Study (In person or on Facebook)

This study will coincide with our current sermon series, **“Letting Go”** Stay tuned for the place and the lesson itself will be emailed out prior to the study according to our church database.



Men's Wednesday Morning Devotional Breakfast

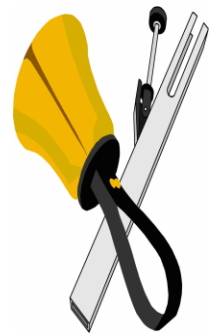


Every Wednesday morning, from 8:00 am to 8:45 am, the Men of Burton Memorial, along with their friends, are invited to attend our Wednesday morning devotional breakfast. We share a hot breakfast with one another and various devotional topics that cover current events of the day. We also provide one another with much needed support and fellowship through prayer, storytelling, and active listening.

Ringling News

Beginner Bell Opportunity! Join us on **Wednesdays at 3:00 pm for Beginner hand chimes in the sanctuary.** Our beginner handbell/chime ministry is looking for a few more new ringers! We would love to have a few more new ringers. **New ringer practice is from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm for chimes every Wednesday in the sanctuary.** Ringing techniques and basic music education are provided. No experience necessary.

The Burton Ringers are rehearsing on Wednesdays at 4:30 pm in the sanctuary. We are always seeking new ringers. If you have handbell and/or music experience, we would love to have you. See any bell choir member or director RaeLeigh Gonsalves for more information.



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, or call the church office at 305-852-2581. We will need the name of the child, grade, and school.

Holly Holly



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. Please call or text Cindi Miller at 786-236-6336 to volunteer, or call the office at 305-852-2581, to get more details or to volunteer.

We are also 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 get more details or to volunteer.

Confirmation Class

Date: April 16th – May 28th (Every Sunday)
Time: 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Place: Fellowship Center

This class will be for youth that are 5th grade and up. Lunch will be provided and please stay tuned for more information. Those eligible are youth that are 5th grade and up. Anyone interested in attending the class, please contact pastor Kerry Foote at 305-407-7040 or pastor.foote@outlook.com.



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	+ / -
5	29-Jan	\$1,702	\$6,052	-4,350	\$11,641	\$30,260	-18,619
6	5-Feb	\$2,908	\$6,052	-3,144	\$14,549	\$36,312	-21,763
7	12-Feb	\$5,335	\$6,052	-717	\$19,884	\$42,364	-22,480
8	19-Feb	\$1,648	\$6,052	-4,404	\$21,532	\$48,416	-26,884

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 and click on **Give Online** in the upper right corner of the home page to set up a payment online.

Palm Crosses

We will be making palm crosses on Saturday, April 1, starting at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Center, to be handed out that Sunday for the Palm Sunday service. If you do not know how to fold Palm crosses, do not worry. We will have “experts” on hand to teach you. Come out and join in the fun and fellowship. Breakfast snacks will be provided.

2023 Apportionments – Global Mission Fellows

Tim Bricker

Our apportionments help to finance the work of missionaries around the world, through the work of the Global Mission Fellows (GMF) program.



GMF takes young adults ages 20-30 out of their home environments and places them in new contexts for mission experience and service. The program has a strong emphasis on faith and justice. Global Mission Fellows become active parts of their new local communities. They connect the church in mission across cultural and geographical boundaries. They grow in personal and social holiness and become strong young leaders working to build just communities in a peaceful world.

One GMF is Adolé Gloria Rébecca Akue , who is engaged in a two-year term of service.

Adolé is a member of Salem Parish Methodist Church of Togo, Lomé. A Sunday school teacher and member of La Voix Divine choir, she serves on the national youth commission and is a host of Gloire à Dieu, the voice of the Methodist Church in Togo. “I teach our hymns to Sunday school children, prepare them for singing performances and teach them how to conduct worship,” she said.

Adolé holds a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from the University of Lomé.

“Growing spiritually,” Adolé said, “requires certain sacrifices and work on oneself.” She prays regularly and studies the Bible, learning “ in every situation (to) give thanks to God.”

“God does everything in His time, and everything works together for those who love God.”

As a Global Mission Fellow, Adolé hopes to enrich her skills in health, nutrition, social services and singing and focus on the rights of women and children.

“Working in mission,” she believes, “will allow me to test my faith even more, see where I am in my journey with Christ and see how far my faith can take me in the face of challenges.”

Prayer Shawl Ministry



To the left are some of the members of the prayer shawl ministry enjoying their time together.

We make prayer shawls for all occasions, hospice, friends, college students, military, cancer children, sickness, new homes and more. We invite you to join us for fun and fellowship Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Joy classroom. We have supplies and we teach. We make prayer shawls for all occasions. For more information, please call Virginia Spear at 305-522-2978.

Easter Egg Stuffing/Festival

Our annual Easter Festival is not that far away, and you know what that means...*Eggs...Lots and Lots of Eggs!* This year we set up “drop off” and “pick up” stations in the narthex of the church on Sunday, March 12, 2023. There are empty eggs that individuals can pick up following the 10:00 am service. There is a drop off station where individuals can bring back their candy-stuffed eggs. *(Please no chocolates or things that can melt).*

If you wish to help with the Festival, there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex starting Sunday, March 19, or you can call the office at 305-852-2581 to volunteer.



Health and Wellness

Debbie Premaza, RN, BSN

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 for all levels of ability. All teachers are volunteers and class costs are by donations to cover the costs of the class locations. 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/>

Introductory Sessions, [Key Largo-Burton Memorial UMC](#), Tue 10:00 am Start anytime.

Introductory Sessions, [Key Largo-Burton Memorial UMC](#), Mon 6:30 pm Start anytime.

“Develop a mind that is dynamic yet clear and calm and a spirit that is resilient yet light and peaceful. *Taoist Tai Chi*® practice is a moving meditation that reduces stress and helps you find joy. Physically it will make you energetic, balanced, strong and supple.

Taoism teaches that health comes when body, mind and spirit work together in harmony. *Taoist Tai Chi*® arts grew from this tradition and are a powerfully beneficial path of ultimate transformation.

The meditative and physical aspects of *Taoist Tai Chi*® arts involve deep stretching with a full range of motion and continuous turning of the spine. They exercise the whole physiology including muscular, skeletal, nervous and circulatory systems, as well as tendons, joints, connective tissue and organs.

This whole body approach has a beneficial effect on many conditions, from [Stress](#) and sore backs to deeper health issues such as [Chronic Pain](#), [Multiple Sclerosis](#), and [Parkinson's disease](#).

The gentle movements create elasticity and open blockages throughout the whole physiology including the musculoskeletal and circulatory systems as well as connective tissue and organs. *Taoist Tai Chi*® practice is also a form of meditation that has a profoundly calming effect on the nervous system and the brain.

Falls are a normal part of life, yet we all know they can be life-altering events. Falls are especially devastating among older adults as they are a leading cause of hospitalization due to injury and a major reason for admission to a residential care facility. Fear of falling can itself affect our lives as we begin to avoid certain situations.

Research into Tai Chi provides excellent evidence of benefit for preventing falls, improving balance, strength, and increasing mobility. With *Taoist Tai Chi*® practice you can feel more stable on your feet, increase your confidence, strength, resilience, and stamina. It helps improve posture, alignment, and balance and allows you to move more freely. With increased flexibility, even if you fall, there is less chance you will have a serious injury. In addition, many people practicing *Taoist Tai Chi*® arts have found a sense of lightness and well-being.”

Falls among adults age ,65 and older are very costly. Each year about \$50 billion is spent on medical costs related to non-fatal fall injuries and \$754 million is spent related to fatal falls. As, the number of Americans age, 65 and older grows, we can expect the number of fall injuries and the cost to treat these injuries to soar. <https://www.cdc.gov/falls/data/fall-cost.html>

Another exercise class “Fit 4 Christ” which meets at 5pm on Mondays at Burton in the fellowship hall that I am sure helps improve balance, strength, and increases our spirits, our mobility, and our energy! **HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

⁸For 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. 1 Timothy 4:8 (NIV)

Questions? Please do not hesitate to contact me at 305-546-6682.



United
Women
in Faith

Thanks to everyone who attended as well as those who participated in any way in our Call to Prayer and Self Denial program and luncheon on Feb. 12. Until Easter Sunday, we will be collecting offerings for this program which benefits racial justice work. Be sure to mark your envelope or your United Women of Faith check with Call to Prayer on the memo line so the funds can be directed to the correct program.

The other major offering, The Thank Bank offering, is collected throughout the year, so any vacationers or winter residents of the Keys who will be leaving soon may leave their offerings in the church office or with any UWF member. We will miss you and appreciate all your contributions to our ministry.

After two months of outdoor brunch meetings, we will be returning to our **Monday evening at 7:00 pm format at Edna Waldorf's house in Key Largo on March 27**. There will be a short Bible study with refreshments accompanying the meeting. Let Mary Lou (305-394-3878) know if you need a ride or directions to Edna's house.

Finally, do not forget all the great books we have in our reading program, located on the shelves in the church narthex. Most of them are truly eye opening, There is a sign out sheet on the shelf. Anyone may sign out a book. Since we do not usually have multiple copies of a book, we ask that newer books from the 2021-23 list be returned in 2-3 weeks if possible so others can read them.

Easter Festival



We are having a celebration, April 9, 2023 and we would like you and your family to attend. There will be food (*\$1.00 per plate*), drinks, music, prizes and **EASTER EGG HUNT**.

12:00 pm to 12:30 pm - Music and Gathering

12:30 pm to 1:00 pm - Easter Egg Hunt Begins

1:00 pm to 1:30 pm - Prizes Given Out

1:00 pm to 2:00 pm - Food & Drinks served (Hotdogs and chips)



There is no charge for the Easter egg hunt or prizes. So, bring your appetite, bring your children, and bring your Easter baskets to celebrate with us! For more information call 305-852-2581.



Palm Sunday and Holy Week Worship Opportunities 2023

Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023, Worship time: 10:00 am

Come and hear about Palm Sunday as told through the Word, song, and prayer and witness the transformation of the sanctuary as we celebrate the triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday

April 6, 2023, Service 7:00 pm



MAUNDY
Thursday

Come on Maundy Thursday for a special Tenebrae Service. Tenebrae (/ˈtɛnəbreɪ, -bri/—Latin for "darkness") is a religious service of Western Christianity held during the four days preceding Easter, and characterized by gradual extinguishing of candles, and by a "strepitus" or "loud noise" taking place in total darkness near the end of the service. *We will also be serving communion during this service.*

Good Friday

April 7, 2023, Worship time: 12:00 pm

We are invited to join our UMC family at Matecumbe UMC for a service on Good Friday. This service of Word, song, and prayer is a wonderful way to prepare your heart for Easter – come and bring a friend. Prior to the service, Spirit and Truth will be undertaking their traditional “Cross Walk”. This is open to any that would like to participate. They will be meeting at Venetian Shores at 9:30 am and will walk the two crosses to Matecumbe UMC for the Good Friday service.



Easter Sunrise

April 9, 2023, Worship time: 6:30 am



Join the Upper Keys community at the best service of the year – Easter sunrise! ***We will meet at Harry Harris Park at MM 93 O/S (follow Burton Drive right to the park) at 6:30 am for an amazing service – see the sunrise and hear the story of God’s gift to us all! Bring a chair and a friend!***

Easter

April 9, 2023, Worship time: 10:00 am

He has risen, He has risen indeed! Celebrate the Resurrection with your family at Burton! ***Experience the Joy of Easter with our Burton Ringers and WOW Band as we ring and sing the Joy of the Gift of Easter!***

Easter Egg Hunt

April 9, 2023, Time: 12:00 pm

And what would Easter be without an Egg hunt? ***Tons of eggs*** will create a carpet of color all over our church campus. The hunt begins in the Sanctuary at noon with the “Resurrection Eggs” Gospel story and ends with hot dogs in the Fellowship Hall. Our eggs each have a Bible verse – children read the verses to get prizes. This is a wonderful community outreach – everyone is invited. Following the hunt, hotdogs and refreshments will be provided as children redeem the scriptures in their eggs for Easter prizes. ***Volunteers are still needed*** – please call the church office for more information.



Holy Week