

Sunday Sermon Themes and Scriptures

<p>Date: April 3, 2022 Title: Geared Up for Jesus Theme: Filled with the Fragrance Purpose: Like Mary, we can pour out in blessing praise and worship as we gather. We can offer something precious as we approach the one who loves us more than his own life. Old Testament: Isaiah 43:16-21 New Testament (Epistle): Philippians 3:4b-14 New Testament (Gospel): John 12:1-8</p>	<p>Date: April 10, 2022 Title: Geared Up For Jesus Theme: The Lord Needs It Purpose: We are on the brink of the remembrance of the central event of our faith. Holy Week and Easter shape our understanding of who we are as followers of Jesus Christ more than any other single event. Old Testament: Isaiah 50:4-9a New Testament (Epistle): Philippians 2:5-11 New Testament (Gospel): Luke 19:28-40</p>
<p>Date: April 17, 2022 Title: We Are Witnesses Theme: God Raised Him Purpose: And everything changed in that moment. Moment? Event, perhaps. Everything changed with that event. Easter is a new start, a new creation. Acts of the Apostles: Acts 10:34-43 New Testament (Epistle): 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 New Testament (Gospel): John 20:1-18</p>	<p>Date: April 24, 2022 Title: We Are Witnesses Theme: We Are Witnesses Purpose: Now we consider how we will live as the church in the new reality that Easter brings. Acts of the Apostles: Acts 5:27-32 New Testament (Prophecy): Revelation 1:4-8 New Testament (Gospel): John 20:19-31</p>

Sunday's Service Information

Currently, we have switched over to one worship service on Sunday's and it is at 10:00 a.m.

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 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!

April Birthdays:

April Anniversaries:

	<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>
John Baxter	1	Susan Hulsbeck	19	Sharon & Larry Albury	21
Anita Simpson	16	Doratheia Tewes	20		
Claude Bullock	17	Anne Dunn	24		



The Beacon

a monthly newsletter publication of Burton Memorial UMC

April 2022



We Are Witnesses

EASTER SEASON WORSHIP SERIES

This Easter season series dips into the Acts of the Apostles as a way of examining the witness of the one who first experienced the Resurrection. Their story, as they struggled to find a way to live out the implications of this amazing news, this gospel event, becomes our story as we too seek to bear witness to the Risen Christ and to live that witness daily.

The season after Easter is where we consider what it means to walk with Jesus into eternity. But it is not about life after death, or rather not only about life after death. It is very much about life before death, life in the face of death. It is about life and about bearing witness to a life that resembles a kin-dom existence right here and right now. It is this life, this justice and righteousness, this hope and this glory to which we can say with confidence, “We are witnesses.”



April 17, 2022: Let our prayers be prayers of celebration of the gift that Easter is, but also for the strength to live into the promise of new life. Let there be a call to new life and new living. And that life is lived out loud in as public a way as possible. And the light and life of Easter invites us to see all that is still of death in our world—not just in our individual hearts, but in our community and in our world. We give witness to new possibilities and new hope because of Easter. We give witness to the end of hate, the end of war, the end of division, and the end of injustice. Because of Easter, we are witnesses to a new kin-dom—because God raised Jesus from the dead.



April 24, 2022: Peter declares in his defense, “We are witnesses.” They told him that he wasn’t supposed to teach in the name of the crucified one, and yet he did it. So, what is the defense? We are witnesses. He says we saw something, and we have to talk about it. We participated in something, and we have to talk about it. More than that, he says we became something and there is nothing we can do but be proclaimers of this word. “We are witnesses” does not simply mean they are telling what they saw or what happened to them. It also means they have now become something new, something more, and they have to live out that proclamation every day of their lives. With every word, every encounter, every action, they are witnessing to that which defines their lives in a new and profound way.

Potluck Luncheon

Burton will be hosting its third potluck of the year on *April 3 at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Center* following the 10:00 am service (One Great Service). Pastor Kerry Foote will be providing the main meat, and we will be asking others that are attending to bring a dish to share. If you are unable to provide a dish, come anyway because we always have leftover and more than enough food.



Tuesday Night Adult Bible Study

We will continue to host a Tuesday Night Bible study based on *“The Shack.”* The evening starts at 6:00 pm, alternating between the parsonage and Edna Waldorf’s home, with a fellowship meal. The meat will be provided by the host, and those attending are asked to bring a side dish to share.

The Bible Study will begin at 6:30 pm and end at 7:30 pm. Those that are uncomfortable meeting in person can attend the Bible Study via Zoom. Invites for the Zoom meeting will go out every Sunday afternoon via e-mail.

If you have any questions, you can call Pastor Kerry at 305-407-7040.

Membership and Information Class

Pastor Kerry Foote will host a membership and information class in his office this month on Sunday, April 3, 2022, 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.



Ringling News

New beginner bell opportunity! Join us on Wednesdays at 3:00 pm for beginner hand chimes. Our beginner handbell/chime ministry is looking for a few more new ringers. We would love to have a few more. Beginner ringer practice from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm for chimes 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, our advanced handbell choir, is rehearsing on Wednesdays starting at 4:30 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.

Our Burton Belles will be playing for Palm Sunday, and our Burton Ringers will play for Easter – come out and support our hand chime and bell choir and bring a friend!

Altar Flowers

The Flower Calendar for 2022 is ready for you! Please consider placing an 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 2022 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

Please contact the church office at 305-852-2581 to include a student in the College Ministry. If you would like to help with this ministry, please contact Pastor Kerry at 305-407-7040.



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 and to 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 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.

Encouraging Corporate Responsibility

The Green Team

Did you know that 100 cities in the United States and 100+ corporations have already committed to moving to 100% renewable energy? The links below tell how your financial investments can lead to a green future:

- [Wespath](#) - This is the company that invests for the United Methodist Church in a way that honors the mission and principles of the United Methodist Church.
- [Ceres](#) - A company that provides the Ceres Roadmap to 2030, a ten-year plan for sustainable business leadership.
- [ICCR Proxy Resolutions and Voting Guide Executive Summary](#) - The Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility tells how to use your investments to influence corporate responsibility.



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	+ / -
9	27-Feb	\$2,593	\$3,310	-717	\$29,366	\$29,790	-424
10	6-Mar	\$2,486	\$3,310	-824	\$31,852	\$33,100	-1,248
11	13-Mar	\$4,595	\$3,310	1,285	\$36,447	\$36,410	-37
12	20-Mar	\$1,441	\$3,310	-1,869	37,888	\$39,720	-1,832

While our services have reopened, we are continuing with our Facebook Live service at 10:00 am, with videos posted on Facebook. If you do not feel safe at this time to come to the church, 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 and click on Give Online to set up a payment online.



Health and Wellness

Debbie Premaza, RN, BSN

It's April, and Easter is right around the corner, which makes me reflect on new beginnings. So, naturally I check myself and my motivations to be healthy. Asking why? Maybe you are in this very place.

“Why Should Christians Be Healthy?”

<https://www.faithandhealthconnection.org/why-should-christians-be-healthy/> June 29, 2011, by Dale Fletcher

What should motivate Christians to be healthy? Why does God desire that we be healthy? Here are two excerpts from the book **Faith and Health**, written by Charles Reynolds Brown (past Dean of the Yale Divinity School) and published in 1910.

“The Lord of Love is seeking to banish fear, to bestow confidence, to increase faith, to promote healing. He too is desirous that you should gain peace, develop strength, obtain happiness and enter into his rest which remains for the people of God. While you are working out your own salvation by systematic, persistent effort, God is working with you and for you to accomplish his good pleasure.” “The Church of Jesus Christ ought to ‘teach health,’ not as its chief business, but as a leaf on the tree of its main purpose, which, as already indicated, is to produce the good fruit of Christian character and service.”



Why Should Christians Be Healthy? To Bear Fruit in Our Lives

God wants us to be healthy so that we can experience the good “fruit” he has in store for us. The more fruit we have in our life the more glory God receives.

What kind of fruit does God desire us to experience and have a part in?

- Winning souls to Christ. **Romans 1:13**
- Sharing what we have with those in need. **Romans 15:25-28**
- Developing Christ-like character – the fruit of the Spirit. **Galatians 5:22-23**
- Praising God and giving thanks. **Hebrews 13:15**

John says that there is no greater **joy** for those who win souls. **3 John 3-4** The believer also has great **happiness** when they share their possessions with others – “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” **Acts 20:35** In this verse, the word blessed can be translated “oh how very happy,” so there is a greater happiness in giving than receiving. When we give, we can also experience great **peace**. **Philippians 4:6-7** says that we can have the kind of peace which surpasses all understanding. These three emotions of joy, happiness and peace are a few key ingredients which foster good health.

But good health should not be desired as an end in and of itself. God desires us to have good health, and the emotional and physical energy typically associated with it, because this better enables us to have more fruit in our lives and to better use the gifts and talents that he has given to us to serve others and to serve him. When these things happen, we are in God’s will. When we’re in God’s will, he is glorified. This is why God desires a Christian to be healthy.

*“Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.” **3 John 1:2***

Questions to Reflect On:

What is your motivation to be healthy and well?

Is it your experience that the healthier you are the better enabled you are to serve God and others with the gifts he’s given you?



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Not sure about you but this winter has flown by. Can't believe some of you are getting ready to leave and haven't even gotten to visit that much this winter. Hopefully next year we will see some of you in person more as things start to return to "some kind of normal." 🙏😊 We will miss those that are leaving, but the rest of us that are here we will keep meeting during the summer months. For where and at what time remember to read the Beacon to find out. Next month we won't be having a formal meeting. Instead, we are doing a program, "A Call to Prayer and Self Denial," after the regular 10:00 am service on April 24. Kim Youngblood and Barbara Koch will be doing the program. We will be serving ham bean soup, assorted sandwiches and desserts while the ladies conduct the program. Everyone is invited to come, men included, for this wonderful fellowship. There will be a special donation collected after the meeting. We hope you will come, and if you can't, your donations are always welcome. After that, who knows. We do like to change it up and keep it interesting as well. So, if you are interested in joining us, please do. Coming does not commit you to joining, just a visit. We have a diverse group of ladies. Some knit 🧶 or crochet shawls here at the church on Thursday night. Some play the handbells. Some make prayer beads, and one helps God's kitchen run smoothly. So, if any one of these other activities interest you, please come to one of our meetings to find out more about the rest of what we do in our spare time. We are an active group of ladies that love the church and helping out. So please come.

Blessings to all,

Mary Lou Wilkinson, President of UMW

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is so happy to welcome High School Student Isabella – see the picture to the left. She learned to crochet when she was 9 years old. She joins our knitters and crocheters Thursday nights at 7:00 pm in the Joy classroom. You are invited to join us for fellowship, to knit or crochet, to learn or teach. We would love to have you join us even if you are here only for the winter. We have supplies, yarn and needles. For more information, please call Virginia Spear 305-522-2978.



Florida United Methodist Children's Home Update

We have the end of year giving information for 2021 for our Methodist Children's Home. Our financial goal for the year was \$1,908.00 (159 members at \$12 per member). For 2021, we gave \$8,047.00 to the Children's Home; so, we gave 422% of 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 2022 our goal of \$12.00 per member will remain the same as it was in 2021. We have four Fifth Sunday offerings this year to help us meet our goal – January 30, May 29, July 31, and October 30.

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. 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.

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

Confirmation Class

We started a youth confirmation class on Sunday, March 13, which will continue thru Sunday, May 29. The confirmation class is for youth from 5th grade and up. It begins in the Fellowship Center at 11:30 am with lunch, and then meets in the pastor's office.

There is also a Confirmation Class for adults, titled Christianity 101, that meets on the same Sundays, at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Center. This will be the kickoff of our Adult Sunday School classes.



Palm Crosses

We will be making palm crosses on Saturday, April 9, starting at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Center, to be handed out the following 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.

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 20, 2022. There were empty eggs that individuals picked 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 27, or call the office at 305-852-2581 to volunteer.



Easter Festival

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



- 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 2022

Palm Sunday

April 10, 2022, 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 14, 2022, 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 having a live drama for this special service.*

Good Friday

April 15, 2022, 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 17, 2022, Worship time: 6:45 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 6:45 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 17, 2022, 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 17, 2022, 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