

Sunday Sermon Themes and Scriptures

Date: November 5, 2023 Sermon Series Title: All Saints Sunday Sermon Title: Remembering the past saints Old Testament: Psalm 116:15 New Testament: Hebrews 12:1-2	Date: November 12, 2023 Sermon Series Title: Wesleyan Theological Emphasis Sermon Title: Original Sin Old Testament: Exodus 20:12-13 New Testament: Matthew 5:21-26
Date: November 19, 2023 Sermon Series Title: Wesleyan Theological Emphasis Sermon Title: Saved by grace through faith Old Testament: Psalm 103:1-12 New Testament: Romans 3:21-24	Date: November 26, 2023 Sermon Series Title: Wesleyan Theological Emphasis Sermon Title: Holiness, (Both personal & social holiness) Old Testament: Leviticus 11:45, 19:2, 20:7 New Testament: 1 Peter 1:13-16 New Testament: Mark 1:15
<p align="center"><u>Sunday's Service Information</u> Come worship with us on Sundays at 10:00 am.</p>	

Church Contacts

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

Pastor: pastordavidc12@yahoo.com

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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.

*DON'T MISS
THE DEADLINE!*

November Birthdays:

November Anniversaries:

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



The Beacon

a monthly newsletter publication of Burton Memorial UMC
November 2023

Brothers and Sisters,

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

This comic is amusing but not quite right. Yes, the church is a hospital for sinners, but the pastor is not the physician. Jesus is the physician. The pastor is more like the receptionist or nurse who directs people to the Great Physician.

Welcome to part one of the four-part series, "The Four Ways to Understand Church." In part one, we look at the church as a hospital for sinners. Next month, we will look at the church as a holy family, then, in January, we will look at the church as a non-violent army. We will end the series in February by looking at the church as a worshipping community. To effectively obey the two great commandments (Matthew 22:37-40, Mark 12:28-34 & Luke 10:25-28) and great commission (Matthew 28:18-20), the local congregation must look upon itself as a hospital for sinners, a holy family, a non-violent army, **and** a worshipping community.



When the religious leaders asked Jesus why He was spending time with tax collectors and sinners, what we might call the dregs of society, Jesus replied, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor but the sick." (Matthew 9:12, Mark 2:17 & Luke 5:31) Whether we admit it or not, we all need to be healed of a sinful nature. If you ever had an unloving thought, uttered an unloving word, or committed an unloving act, you have sinned and are infected with a sinful nature. We go to church to be healed of this sinful nature by Jesus.

This healing is a process. Just as it takes several doses of chemotherapy to heal a person of cancer, it takes a lifetime of being in a relationship with Jesus to be healed of our sinful nature. As we develop our friendship with the Lord Jesus, our sinful nature fades away. As time goes by, we discover that the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control) dominates our hearts more and more and things like hatred, racism, greed and selfishness dominate our hearts less and less. This is the sanctification process whereby the Holy Spirit changes our hearts, so we become more loving like Christ. The Holy Spirit changes our hearts through the 'Means of Grace' (Bible study, prayer, worship, fasting, serving others.)

So, a local congregation that thinks of itself as a hospital for sinners would emphasize evangelism and discipleship. Evangelism occurs when people tell their stories about how Jesus changed their lives. Inviting people to church so they can meet Jesus is also part of evangelism. Discipleship provides the opportunity for people to develop a deeper relationship with Christ. A discipleship program consists of Bible studies, small groups, worship services, prayer gatherings, and opportunities to serve. A local congregation that thinks of itself as a hospital for sinners emphasizes evangelism and discipleship because everyone needs to be healed by the Great Physician Jesus.

To be a hospital for sinners, the local congregation must welcome all people. Like the emergency room in a medical hospital, the church must care for any person in need. However, unlike the emergency room, the church must provide its best care to both the insured and uninsured. Remember James 2:9, "But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers."

To be a hospital for sinners, the members of the local congregation must also practice patience with each other. Since we are all in the process of being healed of our sinful nature, we still might mistreat one another. When this happens, we must repent, forgive, and patiently pray for each other. This is why the first word to describe love in 1 Corinthians 13:4 is patient.

So, for us to be an uncommon church for common people, we must be a hospital for sinners. We must also be a holy family. I will write about that in December's Beacon Article.

In Christ Jesus,

David L. Charlton
Pastor



Potluck Luncheon

Burton will be having a potluck on ***Communion Sunday, November 5***, at ***11:30 am in the Fellowship Center***, following the 10:00 am service. Food will be provided. Please bring food items suitable for the backpacks we will be stuffing after lunch.

Annual Christmas Concert

Save the date! Our Burton Ringers will be having their ***Annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 3, at 5:30 pm in the sanctuary***. A lovely evening of Christmas music – plan to come and bring a friend.



Christmas Tea Fundraiser

The Altar Guild will host their ***second annual Christmas Tea on Sunday, December 17, in the Fellowship Hall***. This year's theme is "White Christmas" and we will be showing the movie. Join us for an afternoon of Christmas cheer, friends, delicious food, and scrumptious tea. Attendees are encouraged to wear their Christmas finery and bring a friend! Seating is limited – tickets will be sold starting in early November. All funds raised will go towards repairing our current banners and completing our Keys banner series begun for our 125th anniversary. If you want to make something for our tea table, please Carol Albury Johnson, Sue Peacock, Lisa Wetzel, or RaeLeigh Gonsalves. We cannot wait to share Christmas Tea with you!



Hanging 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 Friday, December 1, at 3:00 pm in the fellowship hall*** to help fluff, organize, iron, straighten, and haul around our Advent decorations for the 2023 Advent season. Then on ***Saturday at 2:00 pm we will decorate!*** Christmas snack items will be provided for Saturday. Wear a Christmas t-shirt, and get ready to sing along with the holiday music and join us. Merry Christmas!

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. Please also let us know if someone has graduated so we can honor them here.



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.

Clean Water

Sierra Cox, Burton Green Team

"...Worship Him who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and the springs of waters!" **Revelations 14:7b**

Collectively 100,000 petitions have been signed for Florida Right to Clean Water. This is noteworthy in the trying times we endure. It is a spark now, however. It is something that could change the tides for generations to come. It is an initiative that could help contribute to bringing God's Kingdom a reality here.

We have so many ways in which we can help contribute to the betterment of, not only our fellow brothers and sisters, but of creation as well.



See the United Methodist Church Book of Resolutions, [1029 \(Protection of Water\)](#) and [1033 \(Caring for Creation: Our Call to Stewardship and Justice\)](#)



Veterans Day Observance

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

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/>

Fit For Christ Exercise Group

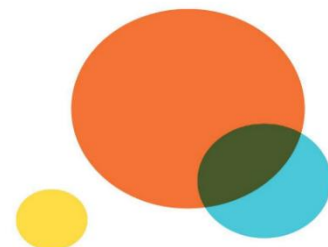


The Fit For Christ weekly group, with support, education, and exercise for all ages, continues to **meet on Mondays from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm in Burton's Fellowship Center**. Exercise will help improve your balance, mobility and strength, and increase your spirits and your energy!

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 the past four services, along with the expenses for the same four weeks. The Year-to-Date totals show our expenses far exceed our offerings. The difference is being funded by our Child Development Center (CDC) income.

Last Four Weeks					Year to Date		
Week	Date	Offering	Expense	+ / -	Offering	Expense	+ / -
40	1-Oct	\$2,065	\$5,943	-3,878	\$82,161	\$227,475	--145,314
41	8-Oct	\$2,230	\$536	1,694	\$84,381	\$232,498	-148,117
42	15-Oct	\$1,849	\$7,048	-5,199	\$86,033	\$234,313	-148,280
43	22-Oct	\$706	\$55	651	\$87,227	\$239,891	-152,664



I Like Giving.

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.



United
Women
in Faith

President's Message:

My article for the Beacon is late this month as I am away at my annual family reunion. We have been gathering for years at my oldest brother's house in Brooksville Florida for years. It is the one time we all come together to talk about when we were all growing up and the things we did. The United Women of Faith group is kind of like that. We meet monthly to talk about spiritual growth and try to inspire each other with the diverse talents we all bring to the group.

Over the years that I have been attending these meetings we have never gossiped about anyone, that is not why we meet. We want to learn more about God and what we can do here and now to make others feel his love for them and from us. We try to follow an agenda, but it does not always go that way and we are fine with that. Being together and telling each other's problems and joys we can give support to one another and help if necessary.

We have some wonderful programs given by incredibly talented ladies (I am not one of them) and we so look forward to them when we can get them to do one. This month Betty Ann Gear is doing our program and no matter what topic she might pick from our Resource Magazine it will be wonderful and inspiring. Then if Barbara Koch does a program or book review from our reading program, we know we are in for a special treat. We are all so different and have so many talented ladies, but we come together to support one another and learn.

We are also planning for our annual tea, which will be in March, with all the proceeds going to missions here and around the world. We donate money to our local Wesley house and they in turn help so many families pay for the day care here at our Burton.

So, if you think this group is for you, ***we are meeting on November 20 at 7:00 pm at my house, 38 E Beach Rd. Harry Harris Park at 7:00 pm.*** We would love to have you, there is no commitment and if you need a ride, please contact me (Mary Lou 305-394-3878) and I will see that you get one. Please 🙏 come and enjoy the fellowship and gospel learning at one of these meetings.

In Love, Joy and Peace,
Mary Lou Wilkinson, President

Prayer Shawl Ministry

What a beautiful white wedding prayer shawl. The couple will kneel at the altar during their ceremony with the shawl over their shoulders.

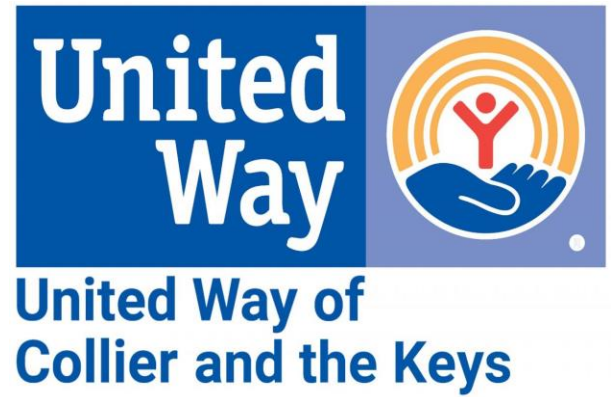
Prayer shawls are made for all occasions. Join us for fellowship ***Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Joy classroom.*** We have supplies and we teach. For more information call Virginia Spear 305-532-5657.



Be Like Mike Day Food Drive

Thanks to the United Way of Collier and the Keys for arranging a week of creative ways to honor one of our most caring individuals, “Mangrove” Mike Forster. For years, Mike supplied dinners for God’s Kitchen on the first Thursday of each month.

The week culminated Friday, October 20, in a keys-wide food drive. Burton served as the drop off point for food donated by individuals, organizations, and businesses throughout the Upper Keys. Below are pictures of the event taken at Burton, showing just a fraction of the food we received and the volunteers that gave of their time to take in and sort all the food that was donated. Our pantry shelves were full for a whole week with no shopping trips!



Mike Forster’s sister, Joann, joined us that day. She is the one wearing the ball cap. There was an incredible turnout, and she was so touched.



Church Council Retreat

A church council retreat is scheduled for November 18 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the sanctuary. Lunch will be provided in the Fellowship Center.

We will set 1 or 2 church goals and plan major events for 2024. **ALL ARE WELCOME! Please attend.**

In preparation for the church council retreat, please answer the following questions:

- 1) How can we, as a congregation, participate in a way of life that reflects God's grace, both when we are gathered as a church and when we are dispersed into various circumstances?
- 2) How can our congregational way of life be truly life-giving in and for the sake of the Keys, Florida, United States, and the world?
- 3) Of the four ways of understanding a local congregation, which one(s) should Burton Memorial UMC emphasize? *

Please email your answers to me (pastordavidc12@yahoo.com) before November 18. We will review the answers at the church council retreat.

God bless.

Pastor David Charlton

*The four ways of understanding a local church are:

- As a hospital for sinners. Help people become more holy & loving like Christ. Emphasizes discipleship & evangelism.
- As a holy family. Provides a close-knit community that meets people's emotional & relational needs. Emphasizes fellowship.
- As a non-violent army. Stand-up for justice, combat oppression and alleviate the social effects of sin (poverty, homelessness, violence etc.) Emphasizes outreach ministries.
- As a worshipping community. This is the vital center for all church activity. Emphasizes the worship services.



THE CHOSEN – Bible Study and episodes

Please join us on *Sundays, starting October 1, at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary, for the Chosen Bible Study* and episode viewing at Burton Memorial UMC, 93001 Overseas Highway.

