

Sunday Sermon Themes and Scriptures

Date: October 5, 2025 Sermon Series Title: We live as citizens of the Kingdom of God Sermon Title: The Beloved Community (Kingdom of God on Earth). Old Testament: Isaiah 11:5-10 New Testament: Luke 6:27, 37, & 43-45	Date: October 12, 2025 Sermon Title: Generosity sermon. Old Testament: Malachi 3:6-12 New Testament: 2Corinthians 9:6-9
Date: October 19, 2025 Sermon Series Title: The Christian living in a secular society Sermon Title: Receiving God's message through the Written Word of God. Old Testament: Psalm 119:105 New Testament: 2 Timothy 3:15-17	Date: October 26, 2025 Sermon Series Title: The Christian living in a secular society Sermon Title: Holiness: Loving hearts and just societies. Old Testament: Leviticus 11:45, 19:2 & 20:7 New Testament: Leviticus 11:45, 19:2 & 20:7

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.

*DON'T MISS
THE DEADLINE!*

October Birthdays:

October Anniversaries:

	<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>		<u>DAY</u>
Ann Hickman	5	Little Jessica	27	Patrick & Elizabeth Frampton-Hickman	14
Gordon Quanbeck	6	Jack Grove	29	Normand & RaeLeigh Gonsalves	16
RaeLeigh Gonsalves	18				



The Beacon

a monthly newsletter publication of Burton Memorial UMC
October 2025

Brothers and Sisters,
May God's grace give us peace, joy, patience & courage so we can 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 who directs people to the Great Physician.

Welcome to part 1 of the 4-part series, "The 4 Ways to be Church." In part one, we look at the church as a hospital for sinners. Next month (November), we'll look at the church as a holy family, then, in December, we'll look at the church as a non-violent army. We'll end the series in January 2026 by looking at the church as a worshipping community. To effectively obey the great commandment (Matthew 22:37-40, Mark 12:28-34 & Luke 10:25-28), fulfill the great commission (Matthew 28:18-20), and meet the great expectation (Micah 6:6-8, Isaiah 1:17), the local congregation must look upon itself as a hospital for sinners, holy family, non-violent army, and worshipping community.

When the religious leaders asked Jesus why He was spending time with tax collectors & 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 for Jesus to heal us.

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 & self-control) dominates our hearts more and more and things like hatred, racism, greed & 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.

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 through Bible studies, small groups, worship, prayer, & service.

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.

Also, to be a hospital for sinners, the congregants must 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. Hence, the 1st word to describe love in 1 Cor. 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'll write about that in November's Beacon.

In Christ Jesus, David L. Charlton, Pastor



Church Council

We will have a church council meeting on **Tuesday, October 7**, in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner will begin at 5:15 pm with the meeting called to order at 5:30 pm.



Church Council Meeting



Burton will be having a potluck for **World Communion Sunday, October 5**, at **11:30 am in the Fellowship Center**, following the 10:00 am service. Bring your favorite dish or dessert from any country around the world that celebrates communion. If you do not cook, just bring yourselves. There is always more than enough food.

Potluck Luncheon

Ringing News

We are always looking for new ringers. If you are interested in joining our handbell choir, please see any ringer for more information.



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.**

Campus Ministry

Men's Bible Study

The next meeting of the United Methodist Men will be on Thursday, October 23 at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact me at 443-623-8554 or email me at famrem5@aol.com.

John Rimmel



We are encouraging all leadership and members of the church to attend our annual **Church Charge Conference on Tuesday, October 28, at 6:00 pm** in the sanctuary. It will be a time of worship, prayer, communion, the Word, and looking at what God has in store for us in 2026.

Green Team Report

Our home in the Florida Keys is unquestionably impacted by the dramatic and rapid changes in global climate. We owe it to ourselves to understand the conundrum humankind faces. This book by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson guides us through solutions and possibilities at the nexus of science, policy, culture, justice and faith. Through clear-eyed essays and vibrant conversations, infused with data, poetry, and art, visionary farmers and financiers, architects and advocates, help us conjure a flourishing future, one worth the effort it will take—from all of us, with whatever we have to offer—to create. If you haven't yet been able to picture a transformed and replenished world—or see yourself, your loved ones, and your community in it—this book is for you. If you haven't yet found your role in shaping this new world, or you're not sure how we can actually get there, this book is for you. With grace, humor, and humanity, Ayana invites readers to ask and answer this ultimate question, What if we get it right?

Jack Grove, Green Team



Pumpkin Patch is Coming Soon



We need a small crew to show up the week before the pumpkins arrive, on Saturday, September 27, at 8:00 am, to help set out the pallets for the pumpkin to be placed on and to decorate the patch.

The pumpkins will arrive on **Saturday, October 4 at 3:00 pm**. We will need a lot of volunteers on this day to help unload around 1,000 pumpkins from the back of a semi-trailer and onto the church grounds. Those who help participate in this event will get a free pumpkin to take home to their family.

On Saturday, October 25, from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm at Founders Park, Burton will be decorating a trunk for Trunk or Treat. If you would like to help with this, please let Pastor David know.

The Fall Festival will be on Sunday, October 26, from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. There will be food, games, a pumpkin carving contest, and a pumpkin pie baking contest.

We are also participating in the TRUNK OR TREAT for our CDC on October 31 at 3:30 pm in the parking lot. We are asking for you to park and decorate your truck or truck bed and pass out treats for the trick or treating CDC kids. Please arrive by 2:30 pm to decorate your trunk. The picture to the right is from a previous year's event.



Finally, *there is a sign-up board located in the Narthex*, in which families and individuals can sign up to *sell pumpkins in the patch from October 5 through October 31*.

Pumpkin clean-up will be Saturday, November 1, at 8:00 am.

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?

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 making bags and general cleanup on Mondays, and to serve our clients 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 Mary Lou Wilkinson at 305-394-3878, or call the office, 305-852-2581.



Pastor Appreciation

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This is the time when the United Methodist Churches recognize pastors for their service. Burton Memorial UMC will be celebrating Pastor Appreciation on Sunday, October 19, at our 10 am service.

Pastor David will have been with the church for 27 months. We want to recognize him and his family with words of encouragement, written or spoken and with a gift. The Staff Parish Committee will be presenting him and his family with a gift. You may include a monetary gift if you like as well. Checks should be made payable to Burton Memorial UMC with a note in the memo line that this is for Pastor Appreciation. Also cash may be put in one of the church pew envelopes with the notation that this is for Pastor Appreciation.

As we approach the Christmas season we pray that David and his family will be encouraged by our words and gifts.

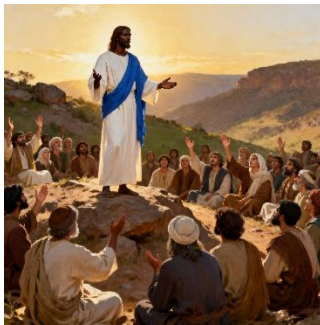
Blessings and thanks from your Staff Parish Relations Committee.

Marshall Walker, Chair

Bible Study Starting Monday. October 6

Brothers and Sisters,

May God's grace give us peace, joy, patience & courage so we can love our neighbors.



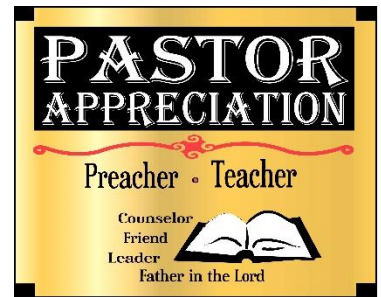
A new and exciting Bible Study is starting October 6, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Thereafter, it will meet every Monday at 7:00 pm. If you miss the first few classes, you can always join us.

We will take an in-depth look at the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) and Sermon on the Plain (Luke 6:17-49). After reading a part of these sermons, we'll read some of John Wesley's sermons to see what he thought of them. (John Wesley was the leader of the 18th century Methodist revival in England.)

The Sermon on the Mount and Sermon on the Plain are Jesus' most complete teachings on what it means to live as citizens of the Kingdom of God (Also known as Kingdom of Heaven).

In Christ Jesus,

David L. Charlton
Pastor





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 **August 2025**, 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	27-Jul	\$1,166	\$864	302	\$74,031	\$116,886	-42,855
2	3-Aug	\$1,206	\$6,411	-5,205	\$75,237	\$123,297	-48,060
3	10-Aug	\$1,465	\$642	823	\$76,702	\$123,939	-47,237
4	17-Aug	\$2,059	\$7,276	-5,217	\$78,761	\$131,215	-52,454

The above YTD expenses do not include our insurance and workman's compensation payments to the District of \$53,635, paid in March. It does reflect our first apportionment payment for 2025 of \$5,000. 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** in the upper right corner of the home page to set up a payment online.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We are currently crocheting pumpkins to sell at our church pumpkin patch. All money will be given to the church. We are also knitting and crocheting hats for two cancer children's hospitals. They will be mailed in early November. Join us Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Joy classroom for fun and fellowship. We have supplies, and we teach. For more information, please call Virginia Spear, 305-522-2978.



United
Women
in Faith

Dear United Women of Faith,

This message is going out early, so I won't know what kind of turnout we had for Edna, but it doesn't matter as long as we remember Edna Waldorf. She did so much for the United Women of Faith. For years we meet at her house, she would decorate a table for the tea, and she always was a gracious hostess. Her parties were well planned with a theme and food to match. I will miss not going up after church to eat lunch with her and the ladies that came as well. We always had a good time, and she always had a smile on when we would show up. We will truly miss her.

Our next meeting will be held on October 26 at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. I will be in Brooksville at my family reunion, so I hope to get another lady to run the meeting while I am gone. Hopefully, it will be just like always: bring your own lunch and a drink and after church there will be a meeting of UWF. If that doesn't work out, we will go to plan B and that will be announced later.

Life is definitely busy at my house and on that note, I'll close this announcement.

Love, peace and fellowship,
Mary Lou Wilkinson, President

Edna Waldorf Remembrance

Edna passed on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at approximately 4:00 pm. No service will be held per her request. Her ashes will be spread on the plants in her yard. Her love for God, family, friends, the Garden club, DAR and church was a way to define Edna's interest of life here on Earth. She will be missed.

There will be a remembrance of Edna Waldorf during the monthly meeting of the United Women of Faith in the Fellowship Hall after services on Sunday, September 28. Please come and share your stories.

If you wish to send cards to the family, below is the contact information for her closest members.

DJ Rankin (daughter)

6328 SW 39 St., Miami, FL 33155

Bradley and Brian Rankin (sons)

29304 SW 178 Ave, Homestead, FL 33030

Marion Whitehurst (sister)

PO Box 47, Clemson, SC 29633

Carmen, Christopher, and Steve Shell

2800 Biscayne Dr, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410



3/24/1937 to 9/18/2025

CDC Playing and Learning, Learning and Playing

The CDC children are busy learning new things with the teachers (see Ms. Barbara bottom left and Ms. Alma bottom middle), and playing in between.



Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. Since 1993, more than 232 million shoe box gifts have been delivered to children in some 130 nations. Through evangelistic materials and follow-up discipleship programs, millions of children and family members have heard the Gospel for the first time and many have made life changing decisions for Jesus Christ.

This is the twenty-sixth year that our church family here at Burton has participated in this wonderful ministry, which is a project of Samaritan's Purse. (Samaritan's Purse is a worldwide Christian relief organization headed by Rev. Franklin Graham.) Last year, we gave 86 gift-filled and love-filled shoe boxes. Here is how you can make a difference in the lives of these children.

Pray. Please pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives a shoe box gift and that He will bring many Children and families to faith in Christ.

Pack a gift. Pack a gift-filled shoe box and bring it to the church by the *deadline, Sunday, November 16.*

Give. Please remember to give \$10.00 per box to cover shipping costs. If you need a brochure, shoe box or more information, please see Julie Ratliff at church on Sundays or call her at 305-747-6870.

