

GraceVine



January 2022 VOL. 47, No. 1

**A NEW YEAR. A FRESH START.
A NEW BEGINNING
WITH GOD.**

**Buckingham Presbyterian Church
4241 Buckingham Road, Fort Myers, FL 33905
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[Click here for streaming service](#)

10:00 am Worship Service

11:00 am Fellowship

Sharing God's Love through Fellowship, Ministry and Worship

Newsletter deadline is the 20th of every month. Items may be sent to Editor,
LeeAnn Burt: leeinkc@hotmail.com or deposited in the GraceVine mail slot in the office.

Pastor's Corner



Epiphany

As I write this brief piece it is the fourth day of Christmas and I have seen nary a calling (or colly) bird, French hen, or turtledove, much less a partridge in an pear tree. But the day is still young.

We often hear about a “Christianized” way to understand that popular song. According to the story the partridge is Jesus, the two turtle doves represent the Old and New Testaments and, well, if you want to know the rest you will just have to go to the web. But a search of some sites on the internet reveals that this religious interpretation of the song, though clever, is probably wrong. It appears to be an idea which has popped up in the last 25 years or so.

By the way, according to Fortune magazine’s web site, today the gifts given in the song (364 in all as the gifts are cumulative: 1 partridge each day for 12 days, 2 turtle doves each day for 11 days and so on) would set one back a whopping \$179,454.19! But enough about that.

On the night of January 5 Karin and I will turn on our white window lights and the white outside lights around the house one last time for the year. You see, the following day is January 6, Epiphany Day. When the clock strikes midnight on that morning the liturgical season of Christmas is over.

An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 94-95) reads:

Epiphany is the celebration of God’s manifestation or self-revelation to the world in Jesus Christ. In particular, we celebrate the revelation of God’s promise and purpose to the nations of the world, as the magi came from the East to worship to the Christ child, and God’s covenant of grace is extended to all who believe the good news of Christ Jesus. The symbolism of light is important: not only because of the star that guided the magi, but as it relates to the bright dawning of God’s self-revelation in Christ.

From our denomination’s web site we learn that the word “epiphany” means “appearance” or “manifestation” of God. It has roots in the word for sunrise or dawn. In ancient times, an epiphany meant either a visible manifestation of a god or the solemn visit of a ruler venerated as a god.

For Christians, Christmas marks the coming of God to us while Epiphany celebrates the appearance of the Lord in the midst of humanity. The Christmas stories of the birth of Emmanuel declare the divine entry and Epiphany extols the revelation of God to the world in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

In our celebrations of Christmas and Epiphany we rejoice in the appearance of light in darkness. Epiphany not only discloses the Savior to the world, but it also calls believers to be witnesses to God’s tree light.

The Lord be with you ...

All Military Overseas
& Home
All 1st Responders
All Educators
Pastor, Church
& Officers
Dawn Hart Branch
Rick Burton
Paul & Betty Carlisle
Beth Day
Kathleen Ellis
Dave & Pat Farmer
Leslie Fox
Joe Garcia
Iris Guy
Lois Hagen
Mark Harris
Larry Ickes
Ryan
The Lehman family
David Smith
DJ Smith
Tony & Sue Tiso



Names will remain on the prayer list for one month, unless requested for longer. Please call the church office 239-694-2444 if you wish to add or delete a name.

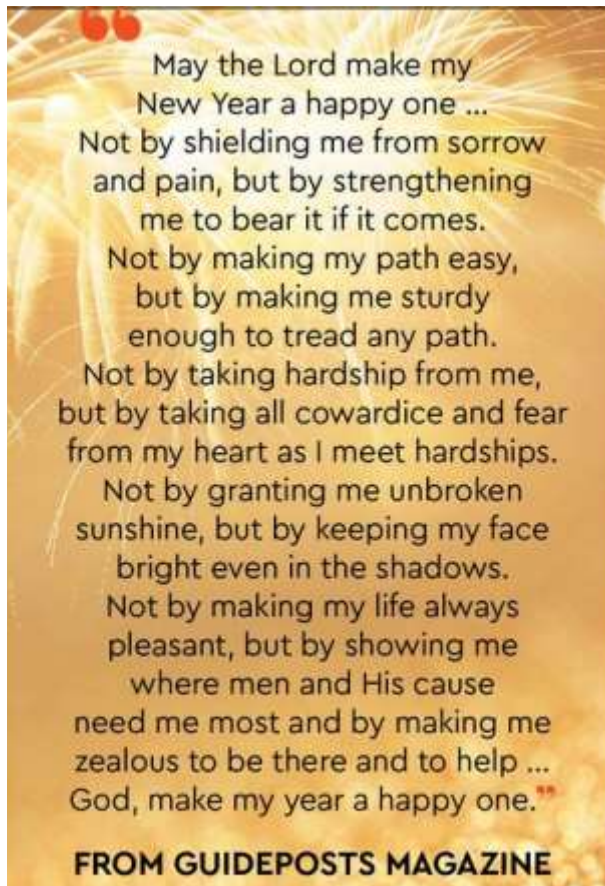


JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

JAN 3 KATHY SMITH
JAN 6 PAUL ZEMAITIS
JAN 8 VICKI MCWHORTER
JAN 20 KATHIE SAUM
JAN 21 JUDY HUMBARGER
JAN 22 CAROLE KERR
JAN 26 RANDY ARNOLD
JAN 28 WILLIAM PATTON
JAN 29 CANDACE SUNDBY
JAN 30 DAVID ZEMAITIS

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

JAN 3 IAN & RACHEL MICHEL
JAN 10 RANDY & KATHY ARNOLD



SAVE THE DATES!

Sundays at 11:00 am — Fellowship follows each worship service (sometimes there isn't room on the calendar for it). All these yummy treats pictured were homemade by our members. Please come and join us!



Wednesday, January 5, at 6:00 pm — Wednesday Night Connection, final study on the Lord's Prayer.

Wednesdays, January 12, 19 and 26 at 6:00 pm — Wednesday Night Connection, new study series, *"The Gospel According to Andy, Barney, Opie, and Aunt Bea."*

LOOKING FOR WAYS TO SERVE?

We are always looking for additional members for our committees to contribute to many tasks. If you are interested, please reach out to any Session Member and they can help you determine your best fit based on your interests, talents, gifts and abilities.

MEMBERSHIP AT BPC

Are you interested in becoming a member of Buckingham Presbyterian Church?

Please notify Pastor Tim and he will meet with you to discuss.

**NEXT
STEPS**

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:45 Choir 10:00 Worship 2nd Sunday of Christmas	3	4	5 9:30 -11:00 R&R 11:00 Mission Committee Meeting 6:00 Connection	6 Epiphany of the Lord 9:00 L&L 9:00 Stitch 'N Stuff	7	8
9 8:45 Choir 10:00 Worship & Fellowship Baptism of the Lord	10	11	12 9:30 -11:00 R&R 6:00 Wednesday Night Connection	13 9:00 Labor & Landscape 9:00 Stitch 'N Stuff	14	15
16 8:45 Choir 10:00 Worship 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	17 Martin Luther King Day	18	19 9:30 -11:00 R&R 6:00 Wednesday Night Connection	20 9:00 Labor & Landscape 9:00 Stitch 'N Stuff	21	22
23 8:45 Choir 10:00 Worship 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	24	25	26 9:30 -11:00 R&R 6:00 Wednesday Night Connection	27 9:00 Labor & Landscape 9:00 Stitch 'N Stuff	28	29
30 8:45 Choir 10:00 Worship 4th Sunday after Epiphany	31					

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

A big welcome to our newest members who joined our church in December. We are happy you have chosen to worship with us.



John & Kelly Graham



Helen Williams



Doreen Deock



**Robert Yuille & Marion
Ishimoto-Yuille**

**Accept what's
happening in your
life right now, put
what has happened
behind you, let it
all go and have faith
that good things
are coming
your way.**



10 Ways to Make Your Life Worth Living

Sometimes when we are alone in bed, we may look up at the blank ceiling and ask ourselves a simple question, "What is my life's purpose?" It is pretty common for people to think of such existentialist questions. You may even experience that feeling of coming home to your house every night, eat the same food every day, or do the same routines the next day. It may leave an empty feeling in your heart and make you question if you are really living a life that is worthy. No one knows how to exactly live a worthy life because it is up to you and your definition of worthy, but it never hurts to take some pointers from others!

Session Members

Class of 2022

Mary Edmonds
Margaret Elyard
John Jones
Roy Lipsett

Class of 2023

Rodney Burt
Rodney Green
Kathie Saum
Dave Sundby

Class of 2024

Cal Brown
Grace Johnston
Vicki McWhorter
Bob Peterson

Vicki McWhorter,
Session Clerk

1. Do what you love and love what you do.
2. Always strive for happiness.
3. Take inspiration from the world.
4. Do something that you have always wanted to do.
5. Help others in need.
6. Work with passion.
7. Do not be afraid to make mistakes.
8. Be the reason that someone smiles today.
9. Try out different things.
10. Live your life to its fullest potential.



BECAUSE OF YOU!

ANGEL TREE

Thank you to everyone who bought gifts for the 48 children at Tice Elementary! For some of them it was their only Christmas! You guys are amazing!

THANK YOU!



Stitch N' Stuff



"You will guide me all of my life with your wisdom and counsel." Psalm 73:24

Michelangelo worked on 44 statues in his lifetime, but only completed 14 of them. To mention a few of his most notable ... David in Florence Square, Pietà and Moses.

Sometimes the worst of times, like COVID 19, are the best of times if you have a positive attitude. Find something you can give your heart and your soul to and you'll live a high energy level.

This year we made a total of 9,715 items benefiting: Gulf Coast Hospital, Healthy Start, Homeless, Hope Hospice, Mission, Shady Rest and Tice School. It has been years since we have done that many items! You are welcome to come visit us at work. We do finish our items, unlike some of Michelangelo's work.

We will be back again on Thursday, January 6 from 9:00 - 11:00 am in Clayton Hall. If you have any questions, please call Betty Carlisle at 239-728-1101. Happy New Year!

Online Giving Now Available

Online giving offers multiple methods and accepts most common forms of payments, making it easier than ever to keep current with your pledges, tithes, and special offerings.

Scan the QR code below to give an online offering from your web browser now or you can add the Give+ App to your Apple or Android phone. You can set up for one-time or recurring offerings from your checking account, credit card or debit card. You can also go to our church web site anytime and access the online giving web page from there – buckinghampc.org. If you have any questions, please email or call our Technology Committee members:

Rodney Burt
rfburt@gmail.com
816-260-7767

John Jones
john.jones.2009@comcast.net
863-342-8091



Nursery Attendant On-Call

December 26- Vicki McWhorter
January 2 - Alexis Brown
January 9- Kathie Saum
January 16 - Susie Green
January 23 - Mary Edmonds



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17

OUR VERY THANKFUL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH



**A great big thank you to everyone who organized,
cooked, cleaned up and participated.**

What a success!



Wednesday Night Connection

WNC is a Wednesday night study that meets for shortened, specific topics off and on throughout the year. The evening begins with dinner (dessert too) and fellowship and continues with a study led by Pastor Tim. Our final class on the Lord's Prayer will be January 5, 2022. Our new study, *"The Gospel According to Andy, Barney, Opie, and Aunt Bea"* begins January 12. Joining for dinner is optional. For a \$5.00 donation you will receive a Fellowship meal prepared by volunteers. The meal begins at 6:00 pm. If you prefer, you can come for just the study which begins at 6:30 pm. For more information, please check the upcoming Sunday Bulletin or speak with Pastor Tim, Vicki, or the church office.



READING THE ENTIRE BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

Someone figured out that if you read 3 chapters a day and 4 on Sundays that you can get through the Bible in a year. The readings are close to equal length. Suggestion, do not end one book and start another on any given day. The Old Testament can be read in the span between Easter and Christmas; the New Testament can be read between Christmas and Easter. That's an approximation. Easter's adjustable date influences how that works out. For a different approach, check out this method: [How to Read the Entire Bible in One Year - \(douglasdecelle.net\)](http://douglasdecelle.net)



I am the vine
you are the branches
John 15:5

BUCKINGHAM
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4241 Buckingham Road
Fort Myers, Florida 33905

*May the Lord bless our
coming year with
spiritual growth, love for
people, and many
opportunities to spread
the Gospel of Life.*