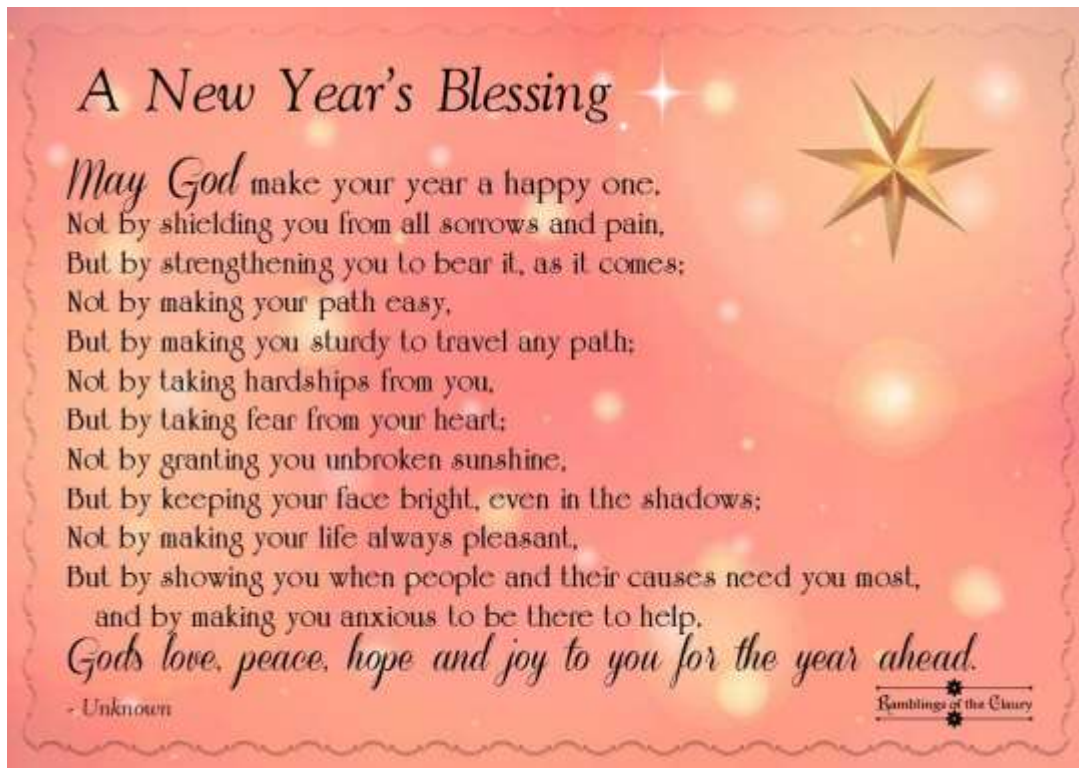


GraceVine



January, 2023 VOL. 50, No. 1



Buckingham Presbyterian Church
4241 Buckingham Road, Fort Myers, FL 33905
Phone: 239-694-2444
www.buckinghampc.org
E-Mail: BuckinghamPresbyterian@gmail.com

[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 it is the fourth day of Christmas and I have seen nary a calling bird, French hen, turtledove, or a partridge in a pear tree. But the day is still young.

We often hear about a “Christianized” way to understand that popular song. According to it 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 information on the internet (so it must be true) 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 \$194,951.59! But enough about that.

Thursday night Karin and I will turn on our white outside lights around the house one last night. You see, the next day is January 6, Epiphany Day. When the clock strikes midnight that night 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; Epiphany celebrates the appearance of the Lord in the midst of humanity. The Christmas stories of the birth of Emmanuel declare the divine entry; 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 true light. Happy Epiphany of the Lord!


The Lord be with you ...

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

All Military Overseas & at Home
 All 1st Responders
 All Educators
 Pastor, Church & Officers
 All Victims of Hurricane Ian
 Debbie Anderson
 Lenny Barshinger
 Dixie Battin
 Debbie Bill
 Bourdeau Family
 Harriet Brandt
 Betty Carlisle
 Daughtry Family
 Jeff East
 Scott Gallaway
 Joe Garcia
 Cliff Gridley
 Grace Johnston
 John & Betty Jones
 Phyllis Larranaga
 Lehman Family
 Gerald Marsh
 Katherine Nolen
 Nolen Family
 John Smith
 Sherry Wilmer


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 8	VICKI MCWHORTER
JAN 20	KATHIE SAUM
JAN 21	JUDY HUMBARGER
JAN 22	CAROLE KERR
JAN 28	JOE GARCIA
JAN 28	WILLIAM PATTON
JAN 29	CANDACE SUNDBY





SAVE THE DATES!

Sundays at 11:00 am — Fellowship follows each worship service. Please come and join us!

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm—Wednesday Night Connection

Happy
New
Year



Rejoice & Renew
Christmas Luncheon

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
A SERVICE OF WINESS TO
THE RESURRECTION IN MEMORY OF
PAUL CARLISLE
MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2023
11:00 AM
BUCKINGHAM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LUNCHEON TO FOLLOW



Cheers to a
new year and
another
chance for us
to get it right.

January 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 New Year's Day 10:00 Worship 1st Sunday after Christmas	2	3	4 9:30 -11:00 R&R 11:00 Mission Committee Mtg 4:00 Choir 6:00 Connection	5 9:00 Labor & Landscape	6 Epiphany of the Lord	7
8 10:00 Worship Baptism of the Lord	9	10	11 9:30 -11:00 R&R 4:00 Choir 6:00 Connection	12 9:00 Labor & Landscape 9:00 Stitch 'N Stuff	13	14
15 10:00 Worship 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	16 11:00 Service for Paul Carlisle 6:00 Session Mtg	17	18 9:30 -11:00 R&R 4:00 Choir 6:00 Connection	19 9:00 Labor & Landscape	20	21
22 10:00 Worship 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	23	24	25 9:30 -11:00 R&R 4:00 Choir 6:00 Connection	26 9:00 Labor & Landscape 9:00 Stitch 'N Stuff	27	28
29 10:00 Worship 4th Sunday after Epiphany	30	31				



Angel Tree



You guys did it again! Thank you so much for providing the kids at Tice Elementary gifts for Christmas. The joy that you brought to these children is what the Christmas spirit is all about!



THANK YOU!



Stitch N' Stuff

You can dream to make tomorrow even better than today.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped us out this year with the Poly-fil stuffing for pillows to go to Hope Hospice and Gulf Coast Hospital.

“Don’t do something great, only do something that excels.” Excellence produces excitement.

Now is the time to visit on Thursday mornings in Clayton Hall from 9:00—11:00 am to see the results of your donations, Thank you, you are appreciated by the workers of Stitch N’ Stuff sewing circle and the people who receive our pillows.

Hope to see you in the New Year on Thursday, January 12, 2023. If you have any questions please call Betty Carlisle at 239-691-0486.



Fish Fry

Don't forget to come support our fish fry on Friday, January 6, 2023. Drive-thru service begins at 4:30 pm and continues until we run out of food. The cost is \$13 per person or \$25 for two. It includes a fish filet, Cole slaw, salt potatoes, roll, and a cookie or brownie.

Session Members

Class of 2023

Rodney Burt
Mary Edmonds
John Graham
Rodney Green

Class of 2024

Cal Brown
Vicki McWhorter
Bob Peterman
Janell Webb

Class of 2025

Sue Barshinger
Roy Lipsett
Wayne Nichols
Bob Yuille

Vicki McWhorter,
Session Clerk



Delivery Day. My friend, Sandi and I delivered about 225 bracelets to teachers at Tice Elementary School and Buckingham Exceptional Student Center. I called Tice later than usual. They said, "We were just talking about you. We were wondering if you would show up with bracelets for year #5." We are a Christmas tradition there. Makes it worth the work! Joanne Lamb

A Note from your Stewardship Chair:

- If you have not already done so, please complete your pledges as soon as possible.
- If you want to save on your tax bill next year, plan on making your pledge donations next year using a tax free donation from your IRA or Brokerage account.
- Please remember your church when updating your Trust or Will.

Contact Rodney Burt or Roy Lipsett if you have questions or want to learn more.

Nursery Attendants

January 01 - Margaret Elyard

January 08 - Mary Edmonds

January 15 - Susie Green

January 22 - Vicki McWhorter

January 29 - Janell Webb



Thank You For Using AmazonSmile!

Your contributions through AmazonSmile for our 2022 third quarter total \$48.03.

Please remember this is an excellent way to contribute to BPC if you aren't already doing so. You can use the Amazon Shopping app on your mobile phone to sign up for AmazonSmile and select "Buckingham Presbyterian Church" as your favorite charity.

Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "Buckingham Presbyterian Church" as your charity. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

From your Phone -

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone.
2. Select the menu (3 bars in lower right corner) scroll down to bottom and select "Settings" select "AmazonSmile."
3. Select "Buckingham Presbyterian Church" as your charity.

From your PC browser - just type smile.Amazon.com, log on to Amazon account as usual and select box that says choose your charity then select Buckingham Presbyterian Church.



Random Acts of Kindness

Kindness conveys the spirit of Jesus, who is the reason for the season.

Hilary Spinks was hugely looking forward to her trip to Yorkshire but when she missed the bus after getting off the ferry from the Isle of Wight, where she lives, she went back to the ferry in tears to go home. When concerned staff saw her, Mark Mitchell offered to drive her himself - a 500-mile round trip! He said: "I thought of how my elderly relatives would be disappointed if it happened to them, and wanted to put things right for her." What an absolute star Mark Mitchell is. The ferry worker drove a pensioner he didn't even know 250 miles after she missed her bus that was taking her on her Christmas holiday.



Hero Credit: WalesOnline



A big thank you to our outgoing session members. These individuals have served our Church well and given of their time and talents throughout their tenure:

Margaret Elyard
Grace Johnston
John Jones
Kathie Saum

The other day I was hangin' out with a friend. This friend is a Christian but doesn't always act like one. Some days she's in line with God's Word, and some days life's struggles get the best of her.

As our eyes met I really wanted to say something about it but decided to let The Lord speak to her heart knowing nothing I could say would have the same impact as her Father's Words.

So I prayed with her.

And after some time passed,

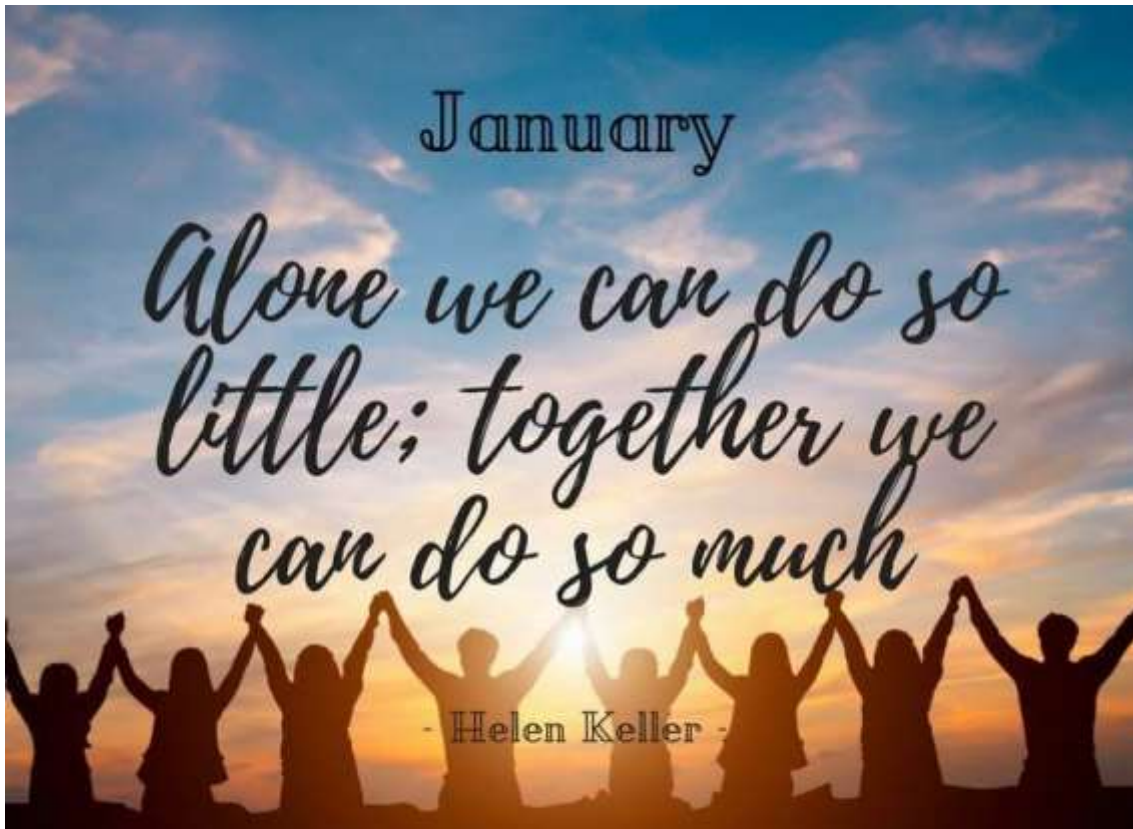
I winked at her....

and walked away from the mirror.



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

BUCKINGHAM
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4241 Buckingham Road
Fort Myers, Florida 33905



January

*Alone we can do so
little; together we
can do so much*

- Helen Keller -