

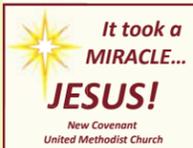
Lake Deaton
information is available at the
Welcome Center each week.

“Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Son of God. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. Please forgive my sins and give me the gift of eternal life. I ask you into my life and heart to be my Lord and Savior. I want to serve you always.”



Altar Flowers

Today's flowers are provided by Nancy McLaughlin in memory of her husband Richard.



Evangelism Yard Signs

“It Took a MIRACLE... Jesus!”

For a \$5 suggested donation, signs are available for purchase at a kiosk in the Summerhill Narthex this weekend. They will also be available before the WOW Dinner on Wednesday, December 16.



Dinner and Fellowship

Wednesday, December 16 at 4:45 p.m. — Summerhill Worship Center
 “Christmas Devotion” by Gary Cantrell.

- **Menu:** Loaded Potato Soup with Cheddar & Bacon, Winter Green Salad Bowl, Honey-glazed Ham with Raisin Sauce, Candied Yams, Key Largo Blend Vegetables, Rolls, and Bread Pudding with Vanilla Sauce.

Following the December 16 WOW Dinner, we will take a break through the holiday season. The next WOW Dinner will be January 13. Please join us for an evening with Dr. Brian Russell, Dean, School of Urban Ministries and Professor of Biblical Studies at Asbury Theological Seminary, and author of *Invitation Bible Study*.



Connecting our Covenant Community (C3 Ministry)

How would you like to feel “connected” and in touch? Perhaps you were away for a while and nobody contacted you? Were you hospitalized and nobody called? Were you hurting and the phone didn’t ring? We have an answer! This ministry will provide ongoing communication and connection among congregates.

All who want to be included, regardless of membership status and geographic location, will be given an opportunity to be connected with each other and make their needs known. We want to be intentional about caring for each other. Volunteers in this ministry will communicate with our congregates on a monthly basis. Those who wish to participate may volunteer to make phone calls and/or receive a phone call each month. Our C3 Ministry will be a blessing to each of you! **Get Connected!!!** Stop at the CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES kiosk in the Narthex to find out more!



Giving in the Spirit – REMINDER

If you have any *Giving in the Spirit* donations that have not been turned in, please put your envelope in the collection plate during Worship Services this weekend. If you have any questions, please call Mary and Henry Goldberg, *Giving in the Spirit* Coordinators, at (352) 751-7687.

Your Scripture for this Week

	Genesis to Revelation	As events occurred Chronologically	New Testament	The Gospels
December 13	1 Thessalonians 1-5	Acts 24-26	Sunday: No Reading	John 9
December 14	2 Thessalonians 1-3	Acts 27-28	Jude	John 10
December 15	1 Timothy 1-6	Colossians; Philemon	Revelations 1:1–2:7	John 11
December 16	2 Timothy 1-4	Ephesians	Revelations 2:8–3:6	John 12
December 17	Titus / Philemon	Philippians 1-4	Revelations 3:7–4:11	John 13
December 18	Hebrews 1-6	1 Timothy	Revelations 5–6	John 14
December 19	Hebrews 7-10	Titus	Revelations 7–8	John 15
December 20	Hebrews 11-13	1 Peter	Sunday: No Reading	John 16

Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people; to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. (Luke 2:10)

Lord, each time during this Advent season we hear or read, “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means, ‘God is with us.’” ... let us be amazed, astounded, and astonished by your grace. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Saturday Christian Education Classes

3:45 p.m.	Wired Word	Christian group discussion based on current topics	Classroom 3
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Sunday Christian Education Classes

7:45 a.m.	Early Risers	Book of James — Developing a Faith that Works	Chapel
9 a.m.	Disciple II	Into the Word Into the World	Classroom 3
9 a.m.	Childcare	Children ages birth to 5 years old	Nursery
9:15 a.m.	Faith Bible Class	Claiming Our Scriptural Ancestors	Classroom 2
9:15 a.m.	Pathfinders Class	Faith As Wesley Lived It	Classroom 11
9:15 a.m.	Faith Finders	Book of James — Developing a Faith that Works	Classrooms 6/7
9:15 a.m.	ANEW	What We Bring to God	Chapel
10:30 a.m.	FaithLink	Gods Creation: Caring for Our Common Home	Classroom 14
10:30 a.m.	The Searchers	Book of James — Developing a Faith that Works	Classrooms 6/7
10:45 a.m.	Wesley Class	Faith As Wesley Lived It	Classroom 11

New Covenant United Methodist Church

Contemporary Worship
 Saturday 5:00 p.m.
 Blended Worship
 Sunday 7:45 • 9:15 • 10:45 a.m.
 Children's Orchard Worship
 Saturday 5:00 p.m. • Sunday 10:45 a.m.
 Lake Deaton Worship (Eisenhower Rec Center)
 Sunday 9:15 • 10:45 a.m.
 (Beginning December 27,
 our times will change to 8:30 and 10:00.)

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 New Covenant United Methodist Church ~
 A Place to Call Home

Worship attendance for last week: 2,644
 (BEACH) 60 • (Celebrate Recovery) 102 • (Youth) 27 • (Orchard Worship) 27
 (Saturday Contemporary) 273 • (Sunday) 7:45–241 • 9:15–837 • 10:45–714
 (Lake Deaton) 9:15–185 • 10:45–108 • (Hope & Healing Service) 70



Our Vision: We are a large, dynamic, multicultural, intergenerational congregation growing in our relationship with one another and with Jesus Christ to be His hands, feet, and voice in the world.



Giving the Best Christmas Gift

Blood donations save people's lives. This is why we call it the perfect Christmas gift.
 As we take communion, we remember that Jesus Christ gave his blood — his life for all of us. Now is your chance to give your best Christmas gift by “donating the gift of life” at New Covenant’s Holiday Blood Drive on Monday, December 21 from 2–8 p.m. Step away from shopping, decorating, and other holiday activities and share in this life-saving action.

Blood donations are down during the holiday season! Florida One Blood (provider of blood to all the hospitals in our area plus more than 70 health care facilities including military and VA hospitals throughout Florida) will bring two buses to us for the donations. Teenagers (age 16 and 17) are welcome as donors, but need to bring authorization showing parental consent. All persons need to bring a photo ID and drink plenty of fluids before donating.

Only five percent of our eligible population in Florida donates. How is your “gift” used? One out of three people need blood sometime during their life; some examples are:

- Accident victims
- Cancer patients
- Open-heart and other surgery patients
- Sickle-cell anemia patients
- Premature babies
- Burn victims

Please call One Blood at 1-888-9Donate with any specific questions about donation, but most importantly, to schedule your appointment. You may also make an appointment at www.oneblood.org. Walk-ins are welcome! Other questions may be directed to Barbara Hays, New Covenant Congregational Health Team Leader, at 753-8877.

2016 Winter Health Education Series

January 11	5–6 p.m.	<i>Nutrition: What Foods Are Best For Us?</i>	Jeff Wittman
	6:15-7:15 p.m.	<i>Cremation and Funeral Planning</i>	Lisa High, Heirs Baxley
January 25	5–6 p.m.	<i>Namaste: Yoga For Health</i>	Karen Lambert Hughes
	6:15-7:15 pm	<i>When and How Do We Choose a Health Facility</i>	Jackie Damron
February 1	5–6 p.m.	<i>Alzheimer's Update</i>	Rochelle Holcombe
	6:15-7:15 pm	<i>What You Always Wanted to Know about New Covenant Doing a Funeral but Never Asked</i>	Pastor Marilyn Anell
February 8	5–6 p.m.	<i>New Technology to Help Those with Hearing Loss</i>	Danielle Rosier & David Ketch
	6:15-7:00 pm	<i>Wills and Trusts</i>	JoAnn Waterfield, Esq.
February 15	5–6 p.m.	<i>Healthy Lifestyles</i>	Karen Lambert Hughes

There is NO registration fee. All programs are held in the Summerhill Chapel. Healthy snacks are served between sessions. Participants may choose to attend one or both lectures on any evening.

Our Purpose: To come to know the love of Christ and to make His love known to others for the transformation of the world

TidBits



Thank You, Volunteers!

Special thanks are sent to those who have exemplified the true meaning of Christmas during this holiday season.

- Terri Ward and her "helpers and elves" for the Christmas Wish Trees ministry
- Mary and Henry Goldberg and team for the Giving in the Spirit ministry
- Larry and Mary Taylor and their team for the Shoe Box ministry
- Paula Nicholas and her team for the beautiful Christmas decorations



On behalf of our staff, I want to thank you for your gracious Christmas gift that you have extended to each one of us. We all felt blessed by your gracious generosity extended to us during this season of giving. We are honored to serve you, and with you, in the Name of Jesus Christ. —Pastor Harold

2016 Giving Envelopes

In 2015 we upgraded our financial systems so we no longer have the need to track contributions by envelope number. We now have the ability to scan your check, which provides the necessary information to properly reflect your contributions. If a cash contribution is made, simply write your name legibly on the envelope and we will record it accordingly. We will no longer be incurring the expense of printing boxed envelopes, however, you will find single envelopes at the Welcome Center or in the attendance pads.

Beginning in January, New Covenant will combine our operating budget and mortgage payments together into one operating budget. Therefore, you can combine both of those payments into one total sum on your checks and not have to separate the payment amounts. Giving to Debt Elimination and Lake Deaton Pre-Build will continue to be tracked separately since it was a capital campaign pledge, so please note that payment separately on the memo line of your check.

If you have any questions, please call Katherine Poole or Dianne Letch at 750-4529.

Next New Member Classes

We have updated our membership path to consist of one "gateway" class offered four times a year. In this gateway class, you will hear about our vision of membership at New Covenant. You will join after completing your "gateway" class to be followed with enrichment classes throughout the year.

Lake Deaton Campus: Sunday, January 24 from 12–2 p.m.

Summerhill Campus: Monday, January 25 from 6–8 p.m.

Please pick up a New Member registration at the Welcome Center in both Narthexes, or contact Kathy Hudak Yoakum at khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org or (352) 750-4529.



Women's Ministry December Gathering

Thursday, December 17 at 10 a.m. — Summerhill Worship Center
Come and celebrate the "reason for the season." Join us for the *Twelve Days of Christmas*, an inspirational version of the beloved song.

Please RSVP by Monday, December 14 to Rise Segur at rsegur@gmail.com or (352) 350-6370. Please indicate lunch or no lunch and if you need gluten-free.



MOAMI Class of 2016

Thursday, January 7 from 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Thursdays, January 14–March 10 from 1-3 p.m.

This is a faith-based program open to all women regardless of religious denomination or affiliation. You will make new Christian friends and learn more about moving through the changes and transitions of life.

Register before Worship Services at a kiosk in the Summerhill Narthex or the Lake Deaton Ministry Center, and weekdays in the Care Office.

Summerhill Campus Contact

- Kathy Herrick: taklherrick@gmail.com or (616) 836-0675
- Roberta Hays: rkhays@comcast.net or (410) 836-5215 or (443) 417-5160
- Lake Deaton Campus Contact (St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Wildwood)**
- Karen Kelroy: fkkelroy@gmail.com or (262) 497-8697
- Karen Caliendo: karenkcal@comcast.net or (352) 633-2239 or (860) 916-5894



The Villages Orchestra Concert

Thursday, December 17 at 6 p.m. — Summerhill Worship Center
Join us as the Villages Orchestra, conducted by Kenneth Hay, presents "A Joyous Holiday Concert."

Guest soloist Mary Jo Vitale will lead the audience in a sing-along. Tickets are \$15 and are available at the Ticket Kiosk in the Summerhill West Narthex and on our website at www.newcovenantumc-fl.org. Net proceeds benefit our Helping Hands Ministry.



Solo Flight Singles Ministry December Gathering

Friday, December 18 at 4:30 p.m. — Summerhill Chapel

All singles are invited to share in a special Christmas Celebration of music and fellowship.



Garden State Guys

Thursday, January 7 at 7 p.m. — Summerhill Christian Life Center

A Frankie Valli tribute group presents timeless music enjoyable for all ages. Net proceeds benefit the Jean Kelly Backpacks for Kids Program.

Tickets are available at The Villages Box Office. Our website has a link to The Villages Box Office on our "Concerts and Special Events" page. Click the "Event Tickets" tab at the top of our website (www.newcovenantumc-fl.org).



Hope for Hurting Parents

Monday, December 21 at 6 p.m. — Summerhill Classroom 1
NO meeting on Thursday, December 24

Our support groups meet the first and third Mondays each month at 6 p.m. in Classroom 1, and the second and fourth Thursdays each month at 2 p.m. in Classroom 2.

If you are a parent or grandparent who has a child struggling with addiction, incarceration, mental illness, estrangement, and other life altering events, please join this group to find comfort and spiritual encouragement. Our two groups are welcoming and are here to help. For more information, please call the Care office at 750-4529.



Helen's Helpers

Want to do something to help others? Have you experienced being a primary caregiver? Helen's Helpers provides volunteers to stay with loved ones while on short excursions out of the home for the primary caregiver. Volunteers are trained before we send them out, and provide respite care for those who are mildly- to moderately-disabled.

We are currently serving only those within our congregation and our Alzheimer's Support group. If you want to volunteer or to request a Helen's Helper for your loved one, please contact the Care Office at 750-4529.



GriefShare®

Begins Monday, January 4 at 10 a.m. — Summerhill Chapel

If you or someone you know has suffered the loss of a loved one or someone struggling with grief, please join us for GriefShare. For more information, please contact the Care Office at 750-4529.

Our Christian love and sympathy are extended to:

- Ruth Bryan, family and friends on the passing of her husband John (Memorial Service was Saturday, December 12 at 1 p.m.).
- Jane Meyer, family and friends on the passing of her husband Russ.
- Joyce Edmonds, family and friends on the passing of her husband Ralph.
- Shirley Lundy and family on the loss of her sister Mary Faith Vowells.

This Week's Prayer Concerns:

Mary Alaspa	Ivette Bauers	Kathleen Bradwell	Monte Edinger	Barb Danielson	Christopher Diamond
Trudy McCarthy	Glen Parker	Clarine Norris	Palmetto Medical Initiative Team	Rick, Ron, Steven Richards	
Cheryl Rothrock	Al Spillman	Char Williamson	Unsaved Family Members	Robert Vipario	

A Love Offering will be collected on Christmas Eve at all services that will go towards a scholarship program for our Wildwood Middle High School Mentees. We currently have 32 eighth and ninth graders in our program who work with 32 volunteer Mentors from New Covenant and Wildwood UMC. Our dream is that as each of our Mentees graduates, they will be given a scholarship of \$1,000 to be used towards their continued education and training. Your generosity will help seed these scholarships so when our first class graduates in 2019, we have the funds to support their scholarships.