



Rev. Harold Hendren, Senior Pastor
 Rev. Jim Divine, Lake Deaton Pastor
 Rev. Kristyne Young, Pastor of Congregational Life
 Rev. Marilyn Anell, Visitation Pastor

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.



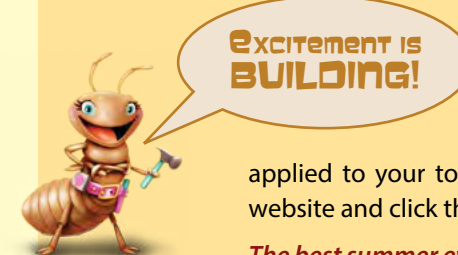
Your Children's Ministry Team is pleased to announce our theme for VBS 2017...

Maker Fun Factory, Created by God, Built for a Purpose!

At Maker Fun Factory, kids discover that God made them for a purpose! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of God's love, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they can take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called "God Sightings." Each day concludes with the "Funshop Finale" that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned.

We Can't Do This Without You!

We are anticipating over 150 kids this year and we need your help! We need station leaders, crew leaders, and registration helpers. Please visit the kiosk in the East Narthex between Worship Services to volunteer, or contact Children's Minister Brianna Jimenez in the church office at (352) 750-4529 or bjimenez@newcovenantumc-fl.org.



Summer Camp Registration Opens April 12!
 We're launching online registrations this year. You can sign up for multiple camps and pay online! (A convenience charge of \$3.50 will be applied to your total for online registration.) Simply visit our church website and click the "Summer" banner at the top of the page.

The best summer ever is coming to New Covenant UMC!

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

Your Scripture for this Week

	Genesis to Revelation	As events occurred Chronologically	New Testament	The Gospels
March 26	Ruth	Joshua 12-15	Sunday: No Reading	John 17
March 27	1 Samuel 1-3	Joshua 16-18	Luke 2:1-20	John 18
March 28	1 Samuel 4-8	Joshua 19-21	Luke 2:21-52	John 19
March 29	1 Samuel 9-12	Joshua 22-24	Luke 3:1-20	John 20
March 30	1 Samuel 13-14	Judges 1-2	Luke 3:21-38	John 21
March 31	1 Samuel 15-17	Judges 3-5	Luke 4:1-30	Acts 1:1-14
April 1	1 Samuel 18-20	Judges 6-7	Luke 4:31-5:15	Matthew 1
April 2	1 Samuel 21-24	Judges 8-9	Sunday: No Reading	Matthew 2

Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or, how can you say to your neighbor, "Let me take the speck out of your eye," while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye. (Matthew 7:3-5)

Lord, forgive me when I have been judgmental of others. Forgive me of my self-righteous attitude. Help me to "see" the "nobodies" of the world as people of sacred worth. After all, you said you are worth everything, even my life, when you died on the cross for me. 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	God Can Change Our Lives (1 Thessalonians)	Chapel
9:15 a.m.	Childcare	Children ages newborn to 5 years old	Nursery
9:15 a.m.	Faith Bible Class	Grace Alone	Classroom 2
9:15 a.m.	Pathfinders Class	Half Truths by Adam Hamilton	Classroom 11
9:15 a.m.	Faith Finders	God Can Change Our Lives (1 Thessalonians)	Classrooms 6/7
9:15 a.m.	ANEW	God Loves Us	Chapel
10:30 a.m.	FaithLink	Life in Another Solar System	Classroom 14
10:30 a.m.	The Searchers	God Can Change Our Lives (1 Thessalonians)	Classrooms 6/7
10:30 a.m.	Spirited Singles	Christian group discussion	Classroom 3
10:45 a.m.	Wesley Class	Half Truths by Adam Hamilton	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
 Sunday 10:45 a.m. (Classroom 1)

Lake Deaton Worship (Eisenhower Rec Center)
 Sunday 8:30 • 10:00 a.m.

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www.newcovenantumc-fl.org

Facebook:
 New Covenant United Methodist Church ~
 A Place to Call Home

Worship Attendance for Last Week: 2,835

(Orchard Worship) 10 • (Teen Twilight) 20 • (Spring Break: no BEACH or Roots)
 (Fresh Expressions) 28 • (Celebrate Recovery) 99 • (Saturday Contemporary) 284
 (Sunday Summerhill) 7:45-232 • 9:15-989 • 10:45-761
 (Sunday Lake Deaton) 8:30-176 • 10:00-236



Saviour: The Story of God's Passion for His People

Friday, April 7 and Sunday, April 9 at 6 p.m. — Christian Life Center

Join the New Covenant Choir and Orchestra and special guests on Palm Sunday weekend for this presentation of Greg Nelson and Bob Farrell's modern oratorio, *Saviour*. The musical tells the story of the creation to the resurrection, detailing how God pursues relationships with His children. This is a special Easter production not to be missed!

- Stuart Neil, tenor
- Philip Himebook, tenor
- Tony Canty, baritone
- Angela Wiswesser, mezzo-soprano
- Rachel Himebook, ballet
- Sean Pollock, conductor

Admission is free, however, tickets are required! Tickets are available at a kiosk in the East Narthex following Worship Services.



Easter Flowers

On Easter Sunday, the Chancel Guild will have live potted plants on the Altar in the Christian Life Center. You can help by donating a plant in memory or in honor of a loved one.

Sign up at the kiosk in the East Narthex. Each Plant is \$10 and you may pay by cash or check when you sign up. For more information, please call Angie Wiswesser in the church office at (352) 750-4529.

Easter at New Covenant UMC

"Saviour" Easter Production

Friday, April 7 & Sunday, April 9 at 6 p.m.
 Summerhill Christian Life Center

"Beneath the Upper Room" *

Maundy Thursday, April 13 at 6 p.m.
 Summerhill Christian Life Center

Good Friday Worship Service *

Friday, April 14 at 12 p.m.
 Summerhill Christian Life Center

Contemporary Worship Service

Saturday, April 15 at 5 p.m.
 Summerhill Christian Life Center

Sunrise Worship Service

Sunday, April 16 at 6:30 a.m.
 Summerhill East Parking Lot
 (golf carts welcome or bring a lawn chair)

Easter Sunday Worship Services (SH)

Sunday, April 16 at 7:45 • 9:15* • 10:45 a.m.*
 Summerhill Christian Life Center

Orchard Worship for Children

Sunday, April 16 at 10:45 a.m.
 Summerhill Classroom 1

Easter Sunday Worship Services (LD)

Sunday, April 16 at 8:30 • 10:00* • 11:30 a.m.
 Eisenhower Rec Center

*The Nursery is available for children newborn to five years old.



Upcoming Lent Series: The Gospel of the Nobodies (Luke)

During Lent, we are going to look at Luke's version of those people who in their day would be considered as "nobodies," but Jesus reveals to all the "nobodies" that they are actually "somebodies." It's amazing how God does the same for all of us too! Join us during Lent as we all learn, grow and explore what it means to be a "Somebody" in Christ's eyes.

- April 1/2: *The Homeless and the Beggars*
- April 8/9, Palm Sunday weekend: *The Thief on the Cross*
- April 13, Maundy Thursday: *Beneath the Upper Room* (with Holy Communion – 6 p.m.)
- April 14, Good Friday: *Hope in the Shadows* (meditations and music – 12 p.m.)
- April 15/16, Easter weekend: *The Last Thing is Not the Worst Thing*

If you would like a "Look, Learn, Lead" study guide for weeks three and four, they are available at: the Welcome Center; a kiosk; and a table in the East Narthex. All weeks are available on our website; just click the "Discipleship" button.

Outreach Ministry

13,628 Going

From the Steeple to the Streets

April 7-9 — In Your Community!

Just how do we go From the Steeple to the Streets? (See bulletin insert.) We encourage you to go where you normally go, but here are a few places you could try:

- Bowling Alley
- Coffee Shop
- Golf Course
- Pickleball Course
- Publix
- Rec Center
- Restaurants
- Softball Field
- Town Square

Stop by the kiosk in the East Narthex to sign up! Let's go *From the Steeple to the Streets!* For additional information, contact Pastor Jim Divine at (352) 750-4529 or jddivine@new-covenantumc-fl.org.

Spring Food Drive

April 1-2 and April 8-9 — Both Campuses

Our semi-annual food drive for the Wildwood Food Pantry is quickly approaching. Help us defeat hunger in the Wildwood area by donating nonperishable food items for our Spring Food Drive. Grocery bags will be placed on your car/golf cart next weekend. Please use the flyer attached to the bag to fill it with groceries and return it to church the following weekend.

No time to shop — would you prefer to donate cash? Just write a check payable to the Wildwood Food Pantry and give it to one of the volunteers collecting bags on April 8/9.

Helping Hands Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday, April 22 — Eagle Ridge Golf Club-Spruce Creek Del Webb

The tournament fee is \$85 (golf cart included) and is limited to 200 registrants. The Banquet and Silent Auction will be Sunday, April 23 in the Worship Center. Additional banquet tickets may be purchased for \$25.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact John Kelley at (352) 259-6380 or Buddy Acton at (352) 425-4457.

TidBits

Altar Flowers

Today's flowers are provided by Thomas & Marjorie Allen in celebration of their 67th anniversary, and Sharon Rieve in memory of her husband Hap on the third anniversary of his passing.

The Story of Moses

Saturday, April 1 at 7:30 p.m. — Wauchula, FL

Experience this live presentation of the life of Moses and the Ten Commandments. A delicious sit-down dinner (with your choice of steak, pork chop, chicken, grouper, or pasta) is included. All dinner choices include soup, salad, and one side dish, plus coffee, tea, or soft drink.

Deluxe motor coach transportation is provided. The bus will depart from the Summerhill Campus at 2 p.m. and will return by 1 a.m.

Tickets are on sale this weekend at a kiosk in the East Narthex. The cost per ticket is \$79, which includes all taxes and gratuities. For more information, please contact Mitch or Marie at (352) 259-9230.

The Word of God is alive and active! Hebrews 4:12

Bible Studies Small Groups



Wonderful Wednesday Dinner Dance

March 29: Swing Band Dinner Dance at 4:30 p.m. — Worship Center
Music from the *Great American Songbook*, featuring The Villages Swing Band and guest vocalist Angie Wiswesser, plus a gourmet dinner.

Menu: Arugula Salad w/Goat Cheese and Marinated Asparagus Tips, Roast Beef Tenderloin w/Sauce Bernaise, Baked Crab-stuffed Lobster Tail, Duchess Potatoes, Carrot Bouquet, Petite Dinner Rolls, and Orange Blossom Layer Cake.

Dinner Dance Tickets: \$15 per person. Tickets are available on our website (credit card fees apply), and at the Ticket Kiosk in the West Narthex between Worship Services. You must purchase a ticket by noon on Monday, March 27.



New Member Classes

Did you know there are different types of church memberships? You may choose to retain your membership with another United Methodist Church (Affiliate membership), or church of another denomination (Associate membership), or Full membership.

Monday, March 27 from 6-8 p.m. — Worship Center (coffee & cookies provided)

You may join the church the following weekend, April 1 or 2, at the Worship Service of your choice. Please pick up and fill out a New Member Registration form today. They may be found at the Connections Ministry kiosk in the East Narthex and at the Welcome Center, or contact Kathy Hudak Yoakum at khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org or 750-4529.



Connectional Ministry

Discover New Covenant! Whether you are new to our congregation or a long-time member, visit the Connectional Ministry kiosk in the East Narthex and find out how to get involved and connected — to a caring community, to service, or to membership.

We are located at the west end of the East Narthex (by the cookies!)



Discover New Covenant!

Sunday, April 9 — Worship Center

We meet once a month following each Worship Service. Visitors, non-members, and members are encouraged to attend. Learn more about New Covenant, and get answers to questions regarding membership and connecting to service opportunities, Bible Study and Connect Small Groups.

Discover New Covenant will be held the second Sunday of every month — plan ahead.

For more information, contact Kathy Hudak Yoakum at (352) 750-4529 or khudak@new-covenantumc-fl.org.



Connect with a Small Group

Love God! Love Others! Together is Better!

Make a connection with others that are looking to connect in Small Groups. For more information on how you can get connected to a Small Group, please contact Jenny Sweat at (352) 750-4529 or jsweat@newcovenantumc-fl.org.

REMINDER

In order to welcome any visitors to our Worship Services, please remember to park in the East Parking Lot to allow our visitors to park in the West Parking Lot. Thank you.

Because We Care... Congregational Care Ministries

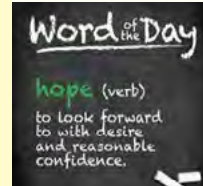


Give the Life-Giving Gift of Blood

Monday, March 27 from 2-7 p.m. — West Narthex

OneBlood will be in the West Narthex for registrations and the bus will be in the parking lot outside the entrance to the West Narthex.

You must be at least age 16 to donate. Anyone who is 16 years old needs permission from a parent or guardian (bring this to the registration area).



Hope for Hurting Parents

Thursday, March 30 at 2 p.m. — Chapel

We are pleased to welcome back Tom and Dena Yohe. Tom and Dena are the authors and developers of *Hope for Hurting Parents* and will be here to share their story.

Hope for Hurting Parents is for parents of adult children with addiction, incarceration, mental health issues, and other life-altering events. This event is free and open to the public.



New Cancer Ministry

Friday, March 31 at 12 p.m. — Worship Center

Are you a cancer survivor? Currently battling cancer? Congregational Care is working on a cancer support ministry to be led by Rev. Donn and Katherine Poole. Our first meeting will include lunch and is FREE.

So that we have a count for lunch, you must have a "free" ticket. Free tickets are available on our website at www.newcovenantumc-fl.org or at the Ticket Kiosk in the West Narthex following Worship Services.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please call the Care office.



Prayer Crafting Ministries

Prayers & Squares and *Happy Hands* are grateful for donations of fabric, thread, and yarn. You may drop off any donations in the Congregational Care office.



Hospital Visitation

Please let us know if you or a loved one enters the hospital. This is the only way we know to call or visit. We are not able to call or go into a facility and ask if anyone from New Covenant is there (due to HIPPA privacy laws).

New Concerns

Jackson & Michelle Aubry, Jodi & John Baum, Madison Brenton, Elinor Casucci, Tracy Nelson Dye, Gary Hilbert, Bre Hinson, Eugene Huggins, Jarrod James, Martin Luizzi, Russ Marshall, Norman, Mason Parham, Helen Reed, Chris Sinclair, Diane Garrett Smith, Taylor Wagner, Marilyn Wood



Women's Ministry April Gathering

Thursday, April 20 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. — Worship Center

What a great day when the Lord taught us all to pray! Come and celebrate that special prayer as a group of women in Christ. We know we can all say it — today we'll FEEL it! Lunch tickets are \$6.

Tickets are available on our website (credit card fees will be applied) and at the Ticket Kiosk in the West Narthex between Worship Services. "FREE" tickets are available for the program only. Tickets sales conclude Monday, April 17 at noon. No tickets (including the FREE, program-only tickets) will be available after the cut-off date.

Mark Your



upcoming concerts



The Villages Quilt Guild

Tuesday, March 28 from 9:15 a.m.–3 p.m. — Christian Life Center

The Villages Quilting Guild presents Alex Anderson. Alex was chosen as the 2008 Silver Star Award winner given annually by the International Quilt Festival to a quilter “whose work and influence has made — and continues to make — a sizable and positive impact on the quilting industry and community.”

For many years she has appeared on the HGTV program *Simply Quilts*. Now she is seen on *TheQuiltShow.com*, an interactive online video/web TV program she founded with Ricky Timms. Enjoy three interactive talks: *Beautifully Quilted*; *Scrap Quilting-Stash Attack*; and *Studio Solutions*. Alex will also have a book signing! For more information, visit AlexAndersonQuilts.com and QGOTV.org.

Tickets are available at The Villages Box Office.



Villages Wind Ensemble

Sunday, April 2 at 6 p.m. — Worship Center

Join Jill Van Syckle as she conducts the Wind Ensemble in “Mostly Sousa,” a concert of the various composition styles of Sousa.

You will recognize several members of this group who perform regularly at New Covenant. A portion of the net proceeds benefits our Youth Ministry Summer Mission Trips.

Tickets: \$15. Tickets are available on our website at www.newcovenantumc-fl.org or at the Ticket Kiosk in the West Narthex following Worship Services.



Choralettes

Thursday, April 20 at 6 p.m. — Worship Center

“Gifts of Love” is the theme of the Spring Concert of the Choralettes. Directed by our own Janie Berry, this concert includes guest violinists, sacred dancers and a special guest soloist.

A portion of the net proceeds benefits our Youth Ministry Summer Mission Trips.

A Love Offering will be accepted.



David Phelps: Freedom Tour

Friday, May 19 at 7 p.m. — Christian Life Center

Outside advertising begins March 30 — Don’t miss your opportunity to get your preferred seats!

David Phelps is blessed with a vocal instrument unlike any other artist performing today. His latest work, *Freedom*, showcases his talents as a singer, song-writer, arranger and producer. The highlight of the New Covenant Concert Series, this will be a full production event you will not want to miss. Net proceeds benefit our Music / Worship Ministry.

Tickets: \$20 (General Admission) • \$30 (Artist Circle)

Tickets are available only at a Villages Box Office or www.thevillagesentertainment.com.



Bach with a Beat

Thursday, April 6 at 6 p.m. — Worship Center

Sounds of Joy, under the direction of Marilyn McLean, enjoy a variety of genres and harmonies featuring Bach with a Beat’s signature classical renditions of a BACH minuet and Prelude along with Beethoven’s *Ode to Joy*, complemented by contemporary hits, such as Gershwin’s *I’ve Got Rhythm*, Fifth Dimension’s *Up, Up and Away*, a dance interpretation, an instrumental quartet, a vocal octet, and Broadway excerpts from *Rent*, *Mikado*, and *Phantom of the Opera*. Also included is a special performance by our local High School scholarship winners.

Tickets available at The Villages Box Office