

Your Scripture for this Week

	Genesis to Revelation	As events occurred Chronologically	New Testament	The Gospels
November 26	Romans 8-10	Acts 17-18:18	Sunday: No Reading	Luke 16
November 27	Romans 11-13	1/2 Thessalonians	James 3	Luke 17
November 28	Romans 14-16	Acts 18:19-19:41	James 4	Luke 18
November 29	1 Corinthians 1-4	1 Corinthians 1-4	James 5	Luke 19
November 30	1 Corinthians 5-8	1 Corinthians 5-8	1 Peter 1:1-2:10	Luke 20
December 1	1 Corinthians 9-11	1 Corinthians 9-11	1 Peter 2:11-3:17	Luke 21
December 2	1 Corinthians 12-14	1 Corinthians 12-14	1 Peter 3:18-5:14	Luke 22
December 3	1 Corinthians 15-16	1 Corinthians 15-16	Sunday: No Reading	Luke 23

And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them. (Luke 2:6-7)

Lord God, as we prepare for the season of Advent, direct our hearts to focus on you so that we can celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Sunday Christian Education Classes			
7:45 a.m.	Early Risers	The Lord's Prayer: Connecting with God	Chapel
9:15 a.m.	Childcare	Children ages newborn to 5 years old	Children's Room
9:15 a.m.	Faith Bible Class	Psalms +	Classroom 2
9:15 a.m.	Pathfinders Class	Joshua	Classroom 11
9:15 a.m.	Faith Finders	The Lord's Prayer: Connecting with God	Classrooms 6/7
9:15 a.m.	ANEW	Covenants with God	Chapel
10:30 a.m.	FaithLink	Freedom of the Press	Classroom 14
10:30 a.m.	The Searchers	The Lord's Prayer: Connecting with God	Classrooms 6/7
10:30 a.m.	Spirited Singles	Christian group discussion	Classroom 3
10:45 a.m.	Wesley Class	Joshua	Classroom 11

New Covenant United Methodist Church

Summerhill Contemporary Worship
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
3470 Woodridge Dr. • The Villages, FL 32162
Phone: 352-750-4529

Summerhill Blended Worship
Sunday 7:45 • 9:15 • 10:45 a.m.
Fax: 352-259-2971
Email: ncumc@newcovenantumc-fl.org

Summerhill Children's Orchard Worship
Sunday 10:45 a.m. (Classroom 1)
Website: www.newcovenantumc-fl.org

Lake Deaton Worship (Eisenhower Rec Center)
Sunday 8:30 • 9:45 • 11:00 a.m.
Facebook: New Covenant United Methodist Church ~ A Place to Call Home

♿ Accessible

Worship Attendance for last week: 2,818

(BEACH) 60 • (Roots) 21 • (Grounded Youth Group) 18
(Celebrate Recovery) 70 • (Fresh Expressions) 73 • (Orchard Worship) 16
(Saturday Contemporary) 274 • (Sunday Summerhill) 7:45-271 • 9:15-919 • 10:45-650
(Sunday Lake Deaton) 8:30-161 • 9:45-176 • 11:00-109



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.



JOINING JESUS & JOSEPH AT THE CHRISTMAS JUNCTION

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

Advent is coming and we anticipate worshipping the coming of Christ. The Christmas season warms our hearts and the season speaks truth into our lives. God's willingness to be "with us" and arrive in such a humble fashion says much about who we worship weekly. Only a loving God would do such a thing.

We begin a new Advent series entitled Joining Jesus and Joseph at the Christmas Junction. This season we are going to be looking at the Christmas story through Joseph's eyes. Quite often we put a great deal of emphasis on seeing this story through Mary's eyes. Her devotion to God's calling to birth the Savior of the world is amazing, especially when you consider she was probably in her early teens. However, Joseph plays a unique and pivotal role in the story, and his obedience to God should not be underestimated, ignored or overshadowed. Most importantly, we hope to bring Jesus to the forefront and Joseph into the light. Here are the upcoming messages we look forward to bringing to you...

- December 2/3: *A Carpenter Named Joseph*
- December 9/10: *Whose Child is This?*
- December 16/17: *Raising a Child Not Your Own*
- December 23/24: *A Journey to Bethlehem*
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: *A Bridge Over Troubled Water*
- December 30/31: *Joseph and The Power of Adapting*

Christmas is a wonderful time to invite friends and neighbors to worship. I hope you will take the time and initiative to do so. Let's worship the Lord! — Pastor Harold

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



REMINDER: Please take your weekly bulletin home as you leave today. Use it as a prayer guide for the scheduled activities and the ministries of our church.



Altar Flowers

The Altar flowers have been provided by: Dick & Carol Clark in celebration of their anniversary; and the Lee Garrard, Eric Garrard, Bill Firman, Michael Isaacs, and Cary Macy Families in memory of Shelly Garrard Macy.

Beginning in January, the cost for an arrangement of flowers to grace the altar of the sanctuary will be \$50. The sign-up book, located at the Welcome Center in the East Narthex, contains instructions for payment, as well as space for you to designate how the flowers should be recorded in the bulletin.

Arrangements may be donated to our Congregational Care Department's Flower Ministry for delivery to our congregates who are hospitalized or home-bound. If you choose to take your arrangement home, please pick it up following the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service.



The Best Christmas Pageant Ever (Time Change)

Sunday, December 3 at 4 p.m. — Christian Life Center

This presentation will be part of our "Hanging of the Greens" service. Please join the children of PeAr (Performing Arts after-school program) for their performance of this fun play.

Following the children's performance, everyone may participate with the "Hanging of the Greens" (decorating the church). You will be assigned a specific task. Join the FUN!



Communion Assistance Needed

If you are available to assist with preparing the communion elements or serving communion on the first Sunday of each month, please contact Jill or Lesan Van Syckle at (352) 751-7447 for more details or to sign-up.

Christmas at New Covenant • Christian Life Center
Sunday, December 17 • 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

"Gloria"

The New Covenant Choirs

The Praise Ringers
Jean Butler, conductor

The Celebration Brass Band
Jill Van Syckle, conductor

The Villages Charter High School Music Dept.
Wesley Smith, director

Featuring

Angie Rose, mezzo-soprano
Devon Eatmon, tenor
Sean Pollock, piano
Ed Starnier, organ

Robert M. McBain, conductor

"Free" tickets are available at a kiosk in the East Narthex

Outreach Ministry



Giving in the Spirit — REMINDER

Please complete the form on the inside back cover of the catalog and insert it, along with your donation, in the envelope provided in your book. Then place the envelope in the collection plate during Worship Services. The deadline to return your form is December 10.

If you did not receive a booklet, you can pick one up at the Welcome Centers. If you have any questions, please call *Giving in the Spirit* Coordinators Mary and Henry Goldberg at (352) 751-7687.



Another Opportunity to Help a Child in Need

We are offering Christmas Wish List and Christmas stocking stuffer ideas for the teenage residents of our Florida United Methodist Children's Home. You may choose to "stuff a stocking" or "bring a bag" of gifts to share with children who have been abused, abandoned, or neglected. Volunteers are in both Narthexes at the Christmas Wish Trees with a two-sided handout which is full of easy-to-find, affordable items.



Gifts need to be returned to one of the Christmas Wish Tree volunteers by **December 3**.



Christmas Wish Trees

Between Worship Services, tags are still available on the Christmas Wish Trees in both the East and West Narthexes through the end of November. We are supporting children from the Wildwood Mentor Program, Voices for Children, and Kids Central, Inc.

Look for the volunteers in red, green, and purple aprons to get a tag or return a gift you have purchased. If you enjoy shopping, select a tag from one of the Christmas trees — or, if you would like to support this ministry financially, select a monetary gift card.

Gifts need to be returned to one of the Christmas Wish Tree volunteers by **December 3**.

TidBits



Shop AmazonSmile and Donate to New Covenant!

Christmas shopping is almost here! Did you know that you can shop and contribute to New Covenant? AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support New Covenant every time you shop, at no cost to you.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5 percent of the purchase price from your eligible smile.amazon.com purchases.

Instructions on how you can sign up are located at the Welcome Center. If you have any questions or need assistance signing up, please contact Jo Jones at (352) 750-4529 or jjones@newcovenantumc-fl.org.



Staff Appreciation Love Offering

Christmas is fast approaching. It is our custom at this time to show appreciation to our pastors and staff for all the fine work they do. Next weekend, you will find a Love Offering envelope in your bulletin.

Making connections



Connect with a Small Group

Love God! Love Others! Together is Better!
We are THANKFUL for Connect Small Groups and their facilitators! God is blessing the ministry of Connect Small Groups here at New Covenant! Groups of five to twelve are building authentic relationships with each other and growing in Christ as they study, learn, care, share, and support each other!

To find a group that fits you or to start one of your own, please contact Jenny Sweat at (352) 750-4529 or jsweat@newcovenantumc-fl.org.



New Covenant Mugs

Your last chance to purchase your very own coffee mug! This special 2017 series mug is the same mug given to our first-time visitors. For a \$10 donation, you will receive your mug. In addition, you will also be supporting the hospitality shown to our first-time visitors.

Visit the kiosk in the East Narthex this weekend, or December 2/3 or 9/10 to get your mug.

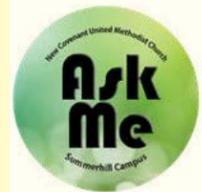


Discover New Covenant

December 9 & 10 following each Worship Service — Fellowship Center

We meet once a month following Worship Services. Visitors, nonmembers, and members are encouraged to attend to learn more about New Covenant. Get answers to questions about connecting to service opportunities, Bible studies, Connect Small Groups, and membership.

If you would like more information, please contact Kathy Hudak Yoakum at (352) 750-4529 or khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org.



"Ask Me" Ministry

Would you like help people to get connected to New Covenant? We continue to expand our team that meets with people while they are here for weekend Worship Services and Sunday School classes. Help people find answers to questions about New Covenant, and help newcomers feel at home.

If you would like to join our team or would like more information, please contact Kathy Hudak Yoakum at (352) 750-4529 or khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org.



New Member Classes

Lake Deaton Campus: Sunday, February 11 from 12:15–1:45 p.m.

Summerhill Campus: Monday, February 12 from 6–7:30 p.m.

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.

Please pick up a New Member Registration form at the Welcome Center or contact Kathy Hudak Yoakum at khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org or (352) 750-4529.



Look, Learn, Lead Study Guides

"Savior's Soup for the Soul" Sermon Series

If you would like a "Look, Learn, Lead" study guide, they are available at the Welcome Center, a kiosk, and a table in the East Narthex.

All weekly guides are also available on our website — just click the "Worship" button and select "Sermon Series." Choose whichever series you wish to download.

Because We Care... Congregational Care Ministries



Christmas at Prime Time!

Thursday, December 7 from 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. — Fellowship Center
New Covenant members, attendees, and friends, please join us for a special Christmas program and menu!

Our program will be followed by a time of fellowship and lunch. Lunch is \$6 payable at the door. To make a reservation, please call the office at (352) 750-4529 by Monday, December 4 and indicate if you need transportation.



Save the Date: Service of Hope and Healing

Sunday, December 10 at 5 p.m. — Chapel

This is our annual service to remember and reflect on loved ones who have gone before us.



Hope for Hurting Parents

Thursdays at 2 p.m. — Classroom 14

If you have a child or loved one struggling with addiction, mental illness, incarceration, or other life-altering events, we offer support and encouragement for you — the parent or grandparent.

We cannot solve the problems of your loved one, but we can assist you in how you respond to them. We are here to provide support for you, the parent or grandparent. We welcome all in our community who need this support; it is not just for members.

For more information, please call the Congregational Care office at (352) 750-4529.



Congregational Health Team

We need people who have a medical background or just a desire to live life to the fullest health! We would love to have you join us as we work to live healthy lives! This team plans and sponsors the Health Education Speaker Series, Running of the Squares, Yoga, and so much more!

For more information, please contact Karen Hughest at twofortydesign@yahoo.com, or the Congregational Care office at (352) 750-4529.

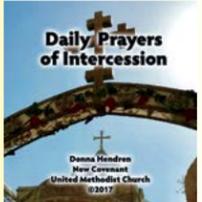


Yoga at New Covenant

Mondays from 4–6 p.m. — Christian Life Center

Join us on Mondays for Yoga. Bring your mat and plenty of water. A \$3 donation for Children's Ministry is appreciated.

- 4–5 p.m. — Intermediate Yoga/ West Coast Pilates
 - 5–6 p.m. — Beginners Yoga
- For more information, please email Karen Hughes at twofortydesign@hotmail.com.



Prayer CD Available Now

Please stop by the Church Administration or Congregational Care offices to get your copy of these 31-day prayer CDs recorded by Donna Hendren. Designed to assist you with your daily prayer life, 100 percent of the proceeds will support The Bertha Fund, a scholarship program for persons requesting financial assistance for Christian counseling.

New Concerns
Vivian Braddock, Michael Excell, Debbie Gentry, Joseph Herstein, Sharon Jones, Raymond Klupal, Dorothy Phillipi, Meghan Price, Holly Spanagel, Linda Woodruff