

# TidBits



## Today's Altar Flowers are Provided by...

Rick & Karen Smith in celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



## 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. Your Staff Parish Relations Team has placed a "Thank You" Love Offering envelope in your bulletin. Thank you for remembering those who work so lovingly for you all year long.

Please place your envelope in the offering plate or take to the office by Monday, December 12. A check may be made payable to NCUMC with "Staff Gift" on the memo line. The total amount received will be divided equally among all the staff members.



## 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, January 30 from 6-8 p.m. — Worship Center** (coffee & cookies provided)

You may join the church the following weekend, February 4/5. Please pick up and fill out a New Member Registration form today. They may be found at the Connections Ministry kiosk in the Narthex, at the Welcome Center, or contact Kathy Hudak Yoakum at [khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org](mailto:khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org) or (352) 750-4529.



## 2016 Contribution Statement

In keeping with the policy of being good stewards of church finances, we will send your 2016 Contribution Statement via email in January. Please be sure New Covenant has your current email address. If you don't have email, a paper copy of your statement will be mailed to you.

**You can update your email with the church in one of two ways...**

- Email the church at [ncumc@newcovenantumc-fl.org](mailto:ncumc@newcovenantumc-fl.org)
- Log into your account at <https://ncumcweb.myshelby.org/>  
Click "You are not logged in. Click here to login" (in blue).  
Click "My Personal Information" and enter your current information.  
Click "Submit" (in blue).



## REVEAL Survey

We want to thank the 467 people who participated in our REVEAL survey. After we review the results, we will provide you with the details after the beginning of the new year.

## Lake Deaton New Construction Update

So far we have received \$1,366,994 in pledges.

Thank you for your support as we continue to grow our church and Christ's Kingdom!

## Your Scripture for this Week

	Genesis to Revelation	As events occurred Chronologically	New Testament	The Gospels
December 4	2 Corinthians 1-4	2 Corinthians 1-4	Sunday: No Reading	Luke 24
December 5	2 Corinthians 5-9	2 Corinthians 5-9	2 Peter 2:12-3:18	John 1
December 6	2 Corinthians 10-13	2 Corinthians 10-13	1 John 1:1-2:2	John 2
December 7	Galatians 1-3	Acts 20:1-3; Romans 1-3	1 John 2:3-17	John 3
December 8	Galatians 4-6	Romans 4-7	1 John 2:18-3:9	John 4
December 9	Ephesians 1-3	Romans 8-10	1 John 3:10-4:11	John 5
December 10	Ephesians 4-6	Romans 11-13	1 John 4:12-5:21	John 6
December 11	Philippians 1-4	Romans 14-16	Sunday: No Reading	John 7

*So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! (2 Corinthians 5:17)*

*Lord, during this Advent season, let us open our hearts to you and those around us. Help us to realize the power of your love when we allow you to create a new creation in our souls. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

## Saturday Christian Education Classes

3:45 p.m.	Wired Word	Christian group discussion based on current topics	Classroom 2
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## Sunday Christian Education Classes

7:45 a.m.	Early Risers	1 Peter: Living God's Way	Chapel
9:15 a.m.	Childcare	Children ages birth to 5 years old	Nursery
9:15 a.m.	Faith Bible Class	Come Ye Thankful People, Come	Classroom 2
9:15 a.m.	Pathfinders Class	Advent — The Whole Story	Classroom 11
9:15 a.m.	Faith Finders	1 Peter: Living God's Way	Classrooms 6/7
9:15 a.m.	ANEW	The Savior Has Been Born	Chapel
10:30 a.m.	FaithLink	Standing Rock	Classroom 14
10:30 a.m.	The Searchers	1 Peter: Living God's Way	Classrooms 6/7
10:45 a.m.	Wesley Class	Advent — The Whole Story	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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Facebook:  
New Covenant United Methodist Church ~  
A Place to Call Home

Worship attendance for last week: 1,992

(Fresh Expressions) 40 • (Celebrate Recovery) 84  
(Saturday Contemporary) 258 • (Orchard Worship) 17  
(Sunday Summerhill) 7:45-187 • 9:15-530 • 10:45-545  
(Sunday Lake Deaton) 8:30-151 • 10:00-180



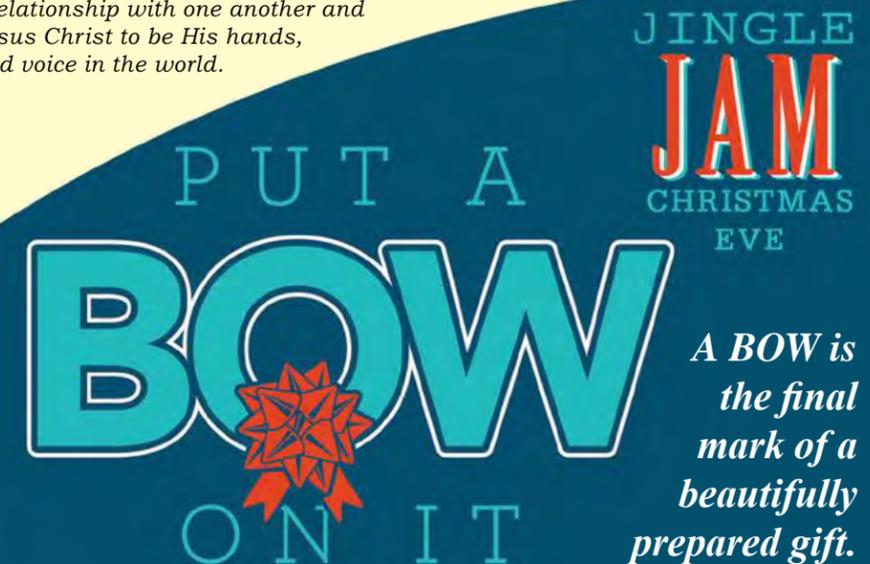
*Our Vision: We are a large, dynamic, multicultural, intergenerational congregation growing in our relationship with one another and with Jesus Christ to be His hands, feet, and voice in the world.*

Rev. Harold Hendren, Senior Pastor

Rev. Jim Divine, Lake Deaton Pastor

Rev. Kristyne Young, Pastor of  
Congregational Life

Rev. Marilyn Anell, Visitation Pastor



*A BOW is the final mark of a beautifully prepared gift.*

When you take the time to put a bow on a present for someone, it means you care; you've prepared something for them, and you want them to open it. It was on the first Christmas that God gave us His Son, Jesus. It was a gift He had been preparing since the beginning of time. Jesus is a gift for you. He is the reason that no matter what is going on in your life, you can have joy because you know that God forgives you, loves you, and wants you to be with Him forever.

Jingle Jam is a great way for families to hear the Christmas story, and to let them know that Jesus is the reason we have Joy in our lives. This worship experience centers around families knowing that whatever they are going through, they can think of Jesus as the bow on the greatest present ever given. This Christmas, we hope families — no matter what they are going through — are reminded to "put a bow on it!" This is an interactive family worship experience which includes candlelight.

We encourage you to come as a family to worship as we create a memorable experience that will keep you laughing and inspire you to keep your eyes open to the needs of others.

## Summerhill Campus

**Christmas Eve Service • Saturday, December 24**

4:30 and 7 p.m. • Christian Life Center

Jingle Jam: "Put a Bow On It"  
4:30 p.m. • Worship Center

Communion & Silent Meditation  
5:30-6:30 p.m. • Chapel

**Christmas Day Service • Sunday, December 25**

10 a.m. • Christian Life Center

## Lake Deaton Campus

**Bonfire • Sunday, December 11**

4:30 p.m. • The Lake Deaton Property

**Christmas Eve Service • Saturday, December 24**

5:30 p.m. • The Lake Deaton Property

**Christmas Day Service • Sunday, December 25**

10 a.m. • The Lake Deaton Property

The Lake Deaton Property is located on CR 44A —  
one mile east of Brownwood Paddock Square

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



**Stars Shine for an á Capella Christmas**  
**Sunday, December 4 at 6 p.m. — Christian Life Center**  
 Presenting music at its finest for this holiday concert. The Heart of Florida Chorus, under the direction of New Covenant's Scott Werner, welcomes award-winning guests The Tampa *Heralds of Harmony* and *Voctave*, an a Capella group from Central Florida who has performed worldwide.

Tickets are \$20 and \$25 and are available at the door the night of the concert.



**Tuba Christmas**

**Saturday, December 10 at 2 p.m. — Worship Center**

Under the direction of New Covenant's Jean Butler, Tuba Christmas is a student outreach project of the "Bands of the Villages." A fun event for the family.

**FREE!** No ticket is required.



**Annual Lake Deaton Christmas Bonfire**

**Sunday, December 11 at 4:30 p.m. — Lake Deaton Property**

Come One, Come All and BRING A FRIEND, a chair and a flashlight. Of course, what is a party without food? We will have hot dogs, chips, drinks, and S'MORES!

- 4:30 to dusk — Santa arrives in his Florida "sleigh" for "sleigh/hay" rides
- 5 p.m. — Christmas Caroling

*The Lake Deaton Property is located on CR 44A, one mile east of Brownwood Town Square.*



**Choralettes Christmas Around the World**

**Tuesday, December 13 at 6 p.m. — Worship Center**

Directed by New Covenant's Janie Berry, join the Choralettes as they "travel around the world" in this musical presentation. Special guest appearance by the PeAr KIDS.

A Love Offering will be accepted to benefit Helping Hands Ministry.



**Women's Ministry Monthly Gathering**

**Thursday, December 15 from 10–11:30 a.m. — Worship Center**

"Do You Hear What I Hear?" Join us and hear the same jubilant message the angels announced on that Holy Night.

Lunch Tickets are \$6 (cash or check) or \$7.29 (credit card) and are available on our website at [www.newcovenantumc-fl.org](http://www.newcovenantumc-fl.org), or at the Ticket Kiosk in the West Narthex between Worship Services. "FREE" tickets are available for the program only. **Tickets sales conclude Monday, December 12 at noon.** No tickets (including the FREE, program-only tickets) will be available after the cut-off date.



**Volunteers: We Need Your Help!**

Please visit the Connecting Ministry Kiosk in the East Narthex. Volunteers are needed for various jobs during the holidays, including, but not limited to...

[Memorial Service Ushers & Greeters](#)

[Special Events Greeters](#)

[Sunday Ushers](#)

[Ticket Sales \(email Candy Ginns at cginns@aol.com\)](mailto:cginns@aol.com)



**Evangelism Yard Signs**

"It Took a MIRACLE ... Jesus!"

Christmas signs are available between Worship Services at the kiosk in the East Narthex, this weekend and next weekend, for a suggested donation of \$5. They are also available in the Administration Office.



**Giving in the Spirit**

*The Deadline to Return Your Form is this Weekend*

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.

If you have any questions, please call *Giving in the Spirit* Coordinators Mary and Henry Goldberg at (352) 751-7687.



**Residents Encounter Christ**

Please be in prayer the "residents," team members, and jail staff this weekend as our Jail Ministry brings the message of Jesus to the Sumter County Jail.

If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please contact the church office at (352) 750-4529.



**New Covenant Food Drive**

*Thanks to Everyone who Participated in the Fall Food Drive!*

Thanks to those who placed bags and who helped pick up bags. A great big thanks to the 35 volunteers who came out on Monday to sort and box the donated food. Thanks also to the Lake Deaton congregation for filling three pickup truck loads and the Summerhill congregation for their four trailer loads of donations.

We hit an all-time record of serving 235 families (620 people). This generous response will help the Wildwood Food Pantry through the holiday season. Overall this year, New Covenant has collected nearly 250,000 pounds of food!



**Wonderful Wednesday Dinner**

**December 7 at 4:30 p.m. — Worship Center**

Please join us for a special Christmas presentation at 5:45 p.m. by the SoZo Kids, the children of the Ocala National Forest.

- **Tickets:** Wonderful Wednesday dinners are \$8 cash or check (\$9.39 credit card) per person. Tickets are available anytime before noon on Monday, December 5, between Worship Services at the Ticket Kiosk in the West Narthex, at each Wonderful Wednesday dinner (for the following week), and on our website.
- **Menu:** Mulligatawny Soup, Fresh Spinach Salad, Mustard-maple Roast Ham, Parsley Potatoes, Baked Walnut-stuffed Apple, Dinner rolls, and Chocolate Silk Pie

Next week, join us for dinner followed by our Christmas tradition of "Christmas Caroling with New Covenant JOY! Singers". Wonderful Wednesday dinners will then take a winter break. Plan ahead to join us for a very special "Key West Dinner Theater" event on January 18. Dinner Theater tickets are \$12. Watch for details.



**PrimeTime**

**Thursday, December 8 from 10–11:30 a.m. — Worship Center**

Join us for a PrimeTime Christmas program. We will enjoy outstanding music, worship, and an inspirational a devotional by Pastor Jim Divine. A luncheon will follow as our gift to you, however, reservations are required.

To make a reservation, call the office at (352) 750-4529 by Monday, December 5 and indicate if you need transportation.



**Service of Hope & Healing**

**Sunday, December 11 at 3 p.m. — Chapel**

We welcome you to this contemplative service and pray for God's peace to surround you and to comfort you.



**Give the Life-Giving Gift of Blood**

**Monday, December 19 from 2-7 p.m. — West Narthex**

We have a crisis need for blood donations. OneBlood will be in the West Narthex for registrations and the bus will be in the West Parking Lot. You must be age 16 and up, otherwise guardian permission will be required. A small gift will be given to those who donate.

If you would be interested in volunteering to assist with the blood drive, please contact Barbara Hays at (352) 753-8877 or [barbarachays@aol.com](mailto:barbarachays@aol.com).



**Fresh Expressions**

**Hugs!** is a Fresh Expression to reach seniors who feel left out, alone and abandoned. We need volunteers with musical talents, those who love to sing and those who have a passion to reach out and love others, give a hug or a kind word. We are at The Willows at Wildwood, Buffalo Crossings and The Carriage House.

Already we've seen people come to know the love of Jesus in a powerful way! To learn how you can get involved with **Hugs!**, please contact Christine Webb at (352) 750-4529.



**Hospital Visitation**

If you or a loved one enters the hospital, please inform the Care office at 750-4529. The ministers visit often and offer their support with prayer and encouragement to patient and family — a little bit of their medicine can be just what the doctor ordered.



**The Gift of Prayer**

The prayer quilt on the altar rail is for Roberta and Bill Whitmore who have multiple health issues. Prayers are requested for peace, comfort, hope, and healing.

**Our Christian Love and Sympathy are Extended to...**

Judy and Tammy Deal, family and friends on the passing of husband and father Bill; Joanne Tracy, family and friends on the passing of her fiancée Ken Hedden; and Jean Jones and Peggy Dresser, family and friends on the passing of husband and brother Morgan Jones.

***This Week's Prayer Concerns***

Luanne & Ken Cooper, Kitty Dagele, Ron Di Irio, Dale, John Falb, Tom Hansen, Brittany Hynes, Vanessa Hejhal, Janet Kellar, Kim, Gayle Le Britton, Debbie Miller, John Molesky, Denny Segur