



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.*



# Amahl and the Night Visitors

Telling the story through song, the three wise men are on a journey to Bethlehem to see the Christ Child when they seek shelter from a poor widow woman and her crippled son. Originally scripted for the debut of the Hallmark Hall of Fame at NBC Studios, this one act musical will appeal to audiences of every age.

Presented in partnership with the Central Florida Lyric Opera and featuring Sandra Lopez as the Mother and Pip Jackson as Amahl, enjoy the sounds of the Shepherd choir, comprised of members of the New Covenant and St. Timothy choirs. It will be directed by Maestro Bill Doherty, with accompanist Sean Pollock.

- \$20 (Artist Section)
- \$15 (General)
- \$10 (Obstructed View)

A portion of the net proceeds will benefit the Music/Worship Ministries of New Covenant.

**Thursday, January 4**  
**Friday, January 5**  
**7 p.m.**  
**Fellowship Center**

**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
December 31	Revelations 20-22	Revelations 19-22	Sunday: No Reading	Acts 6
January 1	Genesis 1-3	Genesis 1-3	Revelations 22	Matthew 1
January 2	Genesis 4-7	Genesis 4-7	Matthew 1	Matthew 2
January 3	Genesis 8-11	Genesis 8-11	Matthew 2	Matthew 3
January 4	Genesis 12-15	Job 1-5	Matthew 3:1-4:7	Matthew 4
January 5	Genesis 16-18	Job 6-9	Matthew 4:8-5:12	Matthew 5
January 6	Genesis 19-21	Job 10-13	Matthew 5:13-37	Matthew 6
January 7	Genesis 22-24	Job 14-16	Sunday: No Reading	Matthew 7

**Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." (Matthew 2:13)**

Gracious God, just as Joseph, Mary and Jesus had to flee to Egypt, there are moments in modern life when people have to flee. People all over the world and even in our own community have been forced to leave their homes because of persecution, violence or natural disasters; they, like Jesus, have become refugees. On a personal level, we have all had times when we have had to flee to a symbolic Egypt, escaping our own pain, illness or suffering. God, on this day be with those who have had to flee in their lives, but also, God, put people into the path of those who are fleeing to help them, to strengthen them, to be the hands, feet and voice of Jesus Christ to them. Amen.

All Sunday school classes for New Year's Eve have been canceled.

### New Covenant United Methodist Church

Summerhill Contemporary Worship 3470 Woodridge Dr. • The Villages, FL 32162  
 Saturday 5:00 p.m. Phone: 352-750-4529  
 Summerhill Blended Worship Sunday 7:45 • 9:15 • 10:45 a.m. Fax: 352-259-2971  
 Summerhill Children's Orchard Worship Email: ncmuc@newcovenantumc-fl.org  
 Sunday 10:45 a.m. (Classroom 1) Website: www.newcovenantumc-fl.org  
 Lake Deaton Worship (Eisenhower Rec Center) Facebook: New Covenant United Methodist Church ~ A Place to Call Home  
 Sunday 8:30 • 9:45 • 11:00 a.m.

♿ Accessible

Worship Attendance for last week: 3,995

(BEACH) 43 • (Roots) 12  
 (Celebrate Recovery) 64 • (Fresh Expressions) 107 • (Orchard Worship) 29  
 (Saturday Contemporary) 204 • (Sunday Summerhill) 8:30-359 • 10:00-533  
 (Sunday Lake Deaton) 8:30-152 • 9:45-123 • 11:00-111  
 (Christmas Eve Candlelight Services) 4:30-1,192 • 7:00-1,066



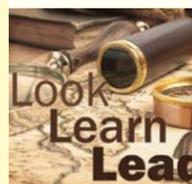
### Altar Flowers

The Altar flowers have been provided by Amy Huckaby in memory of her parents Alice & Philip Graef; and Tom Christoph & children in memory of wife & mother "Bunny" Christoph.



### 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.



### Look, Learn, Lead Study Guides

#### Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph

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, as well as on our website under the "Worship" button, "Sermon Series."

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.



### 30 Hours of Famine

Saturday & Sunday, January 13 & 14 — East and West Narthexes

New Covenant's Youth Ministry will be going hungry for a cause! For 30 hours straight, volunteers and youth group members will fast to fight world hunger. You can also play a proactive part in this weekend-long initiative by generously donating towards the famine. The youth will be accepting donations between weekend Worship Services.

World Vision, a Christian humanitarian organization, created this Christ-centered initiative, to teaming with youth, families, and communities to tackle the causes of poverty and world hunger. By participating in engaging activities, compelling discussion, and local outreach, the youth grow closer to Christ while raising funds to make a real difference. This New Year, help us to give back to those who need us most, and let's feed children across the world!



### "SuperStart" for Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Graders!

Friday & Saturday, January 26 & 27 — Orlando, Florida

Get excited for the awesome overnight, high-energy event where pre-teens learn and grow in their relationships with friends, leaders, and most importantly, God. Registration is open, but availability is limited!

For cost and other trip details, please contact Brianna Jimenez, Children's Minister, at [bjimenez@newcovenantumc-fl.org](mailto:bjimenez@newcovenantumc-fl.org) or Kayla McIntosh, Youth Minister, at [kmcintosh@newcovenantumc-fl.org](mailto:kmcintosh@newcovenantumc-fl.org).

# TidBits



## Update Your Church Photo!

Saturday & Sunday, January 13 & 14 — Cardinal Alcove

If you have been a part of our New Covenant church family for many years and have not recently had your photo taken for a New Member class or had your photo taken as a couple, please take a few minutes to have a new individual photo taken.

Judy Fitzgerald will be in the Cardinal Alcove after each Worship Service to take your photo for our Member Portal.

## Thank You for Your Support of our Ministries

Our fundraising events allow us to transform lives in our church and community.

Concert/Event	Ministry Supported	Proceeds
Youth Car Wash	2018 Youth Mission Trips	\$957
The Four Aces	Lake Deaton Men's Ministry	\$5,479
Villagers for Veterans	Helping Hands Ministry	\$624
Donna Hendren Prayer CDs	The Bertha Fund	\$2,382
Warsaw Concerto	Worship Ministry	\$1,778

# Outreach Ministry

## Bargains & Blessings Monthly Pick-up

January 6 & 7 — West Parking Lot

The first Saturday and Sunday of each month, the Helping Hands Bargains & Blessings truck will be in the church's parking lot to accept your donations. You may drop off your donations before or after Worship Services.

## Seeds of Hope Annual Benefit Concert

February 9 at 7 p.m. — Christian Life Center

The Villages favorites Norman Lee, Billie Thatcher and Chris and Gillian Bolus return in this annual concert. Your donation of cash or non-perishable food items support the Wildwood Food Pantry and the Wildwood Soup Kitchen.

Admission by food or monetary donation at the door.

## Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery is not just for those who struggle with chemical dependency, such as drugs or alcohol. Celebrate Recovery is for **all** of life's issues. We currently have two meetings in two locations to meet your needs and we offer childcare at both sites.

- Wildwood United Methodist Church: Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
- New Covenant United Methodist Church: Fridays at 5:45 p.m.

You do not have to face life's issues alone. For more information, please contact Jill Beck at [jbeck@newcovenantumc-fl.org](mailto:jbeck@newcovenantumc-fl.org) or (352) 750-4529.

In consideration of allergic reactions of some worshippers, please refrain from wearing strong fragrances to Worship Services.

# Making connections



## Facilitator Training Workshop

Wednesdays, January 10 & 17 from 1-3 p.m. — Conference Room

Facilitators are needed for Connect Small Groups in 2018! You are invited to attend a two-session Facilitator Training Workshop to see if Small Group Facilitation is for you.

## Facilitator Appreciation Lunch

Sunday, January 28 at 12:45 p.m. — Fellowship Center

If you currently facilitate a small group, you are invited to a Facilitator Appreciation Luncheon. Bring your spouse or your co-facilitator. Join us to meet other facilitators and **celebrate** what God is doing in the Small Group Ministry.

For more information, or to sign up for this event, please contact Jenny Sweat at [jsweat@newcovenantumc-fl.org](mailto:jsweat@newcovenantumc-fl.org) or (352) 750-4529.



## Discover New Covenant

Saturday, January 13 at 4 p.m. and Sunday, January 14 following each Worship Service — Fellowship Center

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](mailto:khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org). You may also stop at the Discover New Covenant Kiosk in the East Narthex any weekend to learn more about connecting into New Covenant.



## Solo Flight Singles Ministry Meeting

Friday, January 19 from 4-6 p.m. — Chapel

All singles are welcome to join us for a cultural program with Mac Freeman of the "Hau'oli Hula Halau" group, presenting dance and cultural information of Hawaii.

Also to be presented are the functions and roles of Dream Team Members, as well as a discussion of monthly programs and social activities. This will be an opportunity to assist in planning for a most wonderful upcoming year for our ministry. Revised telephone tree listings will be available for those who have yet to receive one. If you have questions, please contact Laura Tomich at (352) 250-0237.

## 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](mailto:khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org) or (352) 750-4529.



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

# Because We Care... Congregational Care Ministries



## Grief Share Support Group

Monday, January 8 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. — Chapel

New Covenant offers this important 13-week, grief support ministry twice a year. If you or someone you know needs to be a part of this, please invite them to come. We all walk this journey of grief at some point in our lives, and it is important to allow others to come alongside you. This is open to anyone who needs to be part of a grief support community.

There is a \$15 registration fee for cost of materials. You can register the first day or in advance. Please contact Congregational Care Ministries at (352) 750-4529.



## Running of the Squares — 5K (3.1 mile) Fun Run

Saturday, January 13 — 8 a.m. start time — Lake Sumter Landing

You can be a part of the New Covenant team either running or walking with our group. You may preregister through January 10 at \$25; registration after January 10, through day of the event, is \$30.

You may register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/TheVillages/RunningtheSquaresLakeSumterLanding>. Be sure to designate NCUMC as your team. For more information, please contact Karen Hughes at [twofortydesign@hotmail.com](mailto:twofortydesign@hotmail.com).



## Health Education Series — Save the Date

Tuesday, January 16 at 6 p.m. — Fellowship Center

We will be offering our second speaker in our Health Education series. Thomas Moore is a former monk, best-selling author, musician, and professor.

His recent work has focused on the world of medicine, speaking to nurses and doctors about the soul and spirit of medical practice. Please join us for an informative and educational experience. This event is free and open to the public.



## Hospital and Health News

It is our blessing to pray for you and walk with you on your health journeys! Please allow us to do that by letting your church know when you have a procedure or surgery scheduled.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. —James 5:13-16



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

Harry Massuch, family and friends on the passing of his wife Phyllis; and the family and friends of Carol Stamulis who passed on December 15.

## New Concerns

Carolyn Battaglia, Larry Brown, Larry Call, Gail DiCuccio, Chuck Folkers, Shannon Jordan, Austin Leahy, Bob Logterman, Debbie Longton, Joanne Miller, Donna Owens, Mickie Savage, Richard Scarberry