

Rev. Harold Hendren, Senior Pastor  
 Rev. Jim Divine, Lake Deaton Pastor  
 Rev. Marilyn Anell, Care Pastor

**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."*



**Sandi Patty in Concert at New Covenant**

**Thursday, September 17 at 6 p.m. in the Christian Life Center**  
 Sandi is the most awarded female vocalist in contemporary Christian music history, with 40 Dove Awards. "I am grateful for the many opportunities God has given in my life and for how He has allowed me to spread my wings," says Sandi. "Singing is my way to tell my story of hope, life, and love."

Tickets are available at The Villages Box Offices.  
 • Artist Circle \$40 • Reserved Seating \$35 / \$30 / \$25



**The Kramers Concert at New Covenant**

**Sunday, October 11 at 6 p.m.**  
 People are uplifted by this family's genuine passion for the LORD, for the Word of God and for others to know true freedom in Christ. The Kramers are multi-instrumentalists as well as accomplished vocalists.

The Kramers will share their music during our Sunday morning Worship Services at the Summerhill Campus on October 11. Later that evening, they will present a concert for our enjoyment. The concert is free and open to the public. A love offering will be accepted.



**Women's Ministry Returns!**

**Thursday, September 17 at 10 a.m. in the Worship Center**  
 More details to come!

**Women of Faith Farewell Tour, September 18-19**  
 We are working to get a group together to participate in the final tour in Orlando. If you are interested, please contact Risé Segur at [rsegur@gmail.com](mailto:rsegur@gmail.com), **ASAP!**

**Your Scripture for this Week**

	Genesis to Revelation	As events occurred Chronologically	New Testament	The Gospels
August 30	Ezekiel 1-4	Ezekiel 13-15	Sunday: No Reading	Luke 18
August 31	Ezekiel 5-8	Ezekiel 16-17	1 Corinthians 2:1-3:17	Luke 19
September 1	Ezekiel 9-12	Ezekiel 18-19	1 Corinthians 3:18-4:21	Luke 20
September 2	Ezekiel 13-15	Ezekiel 20-21	1 Corinthians 5:1-6:11	Luke 21
September 3	Ezekiel 16-17	Ezekiel 22-23	1 Corinthians 6:12-7:16	Luke 22
September 4	Ezekiel 18-20	Ezekiel 24-27	1 Corinthians 7:17-40	Luke 23
September 5	Ezekiel 21-22	Ezekiel 28-31	1 Corinthians 8:1-9:18	Luke 24
September 6	Ezekiel 23-24	Ezekiel 32-34	Sunday: No Reading	John 1

*"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; but apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)*

*Lord,* let us never lose hope. Let us always remain connected to you. Remind us daily, Lord, as long as we are attached, we always have hope. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**Saturday Christian Education Classes**

3:45 p.m.	Wired Word	Not meeting again until September 12	
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**Sunday Christian Education Classes**

7:45 a.m.	Early Risers	Book of James — Developing a Faith that Works	Chapel
9:15 a.m.	Childcare	Children ages birth to 5 years old	Nursery
9:15 a.m.	Faith Bible Class	The Gospel According to Mark	Classroom 2
9:15 a.m.	Pathfinders Class	Psalms and Proverbs	Classroom 11
9:15 a.m.	Faith Finders	Book of James — Developing a Faith that Works	Classrooms 6/7
9:15 a.m.	ANEW	God's Prophets Demand Justice	Chapel
10:30 a.m.	FaithLink	Emotions and Faith	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	Psalms and Proverbs	Classroom 11

**New Covenant United Methodist Church**

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

Worship attendance for last week: 1,936  
 (BEACH) 68 • (Celebrate Recovery) 111 • (Youth) 20 • (Orchard Worship) 19  
 (Saturday Contemporary) 214 • (Sunday) 7:45-179 • 9:15-644 • 10:45-467  
 (Lake Deaton) 9:30-214



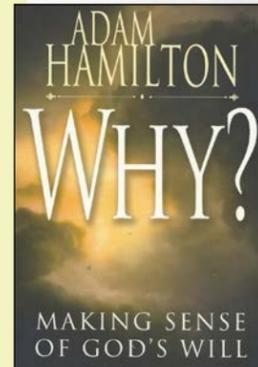
We are a large, dynamic, multicultural, intergenerational congregation growing in our relationship with one another and with Jesus Christ to be His hands, feet, and voice in the world.

**why?**

**Making Sense of God's Will**

How can God allow tragedy and suffering?

Why do prayers go unanswered?



Adam Hamilton is a gifted preacher, teacher, leader, and writer. One of his recent books addresses a pivotal question, *Why?* We all have asked the question "Why?" when crisis, calamity, or tragedy has passed our way. Perhaps we have or haven't questioned God because of the difficult situation, but for many of us we just want to make sense out of it. We want a simple explanation.

I believe life presents us many situations for which we might not ever receive a definitive answer, but we can seek a better understanding of "God's Will" in this event. In his book *Why?*, Adam leads the reader through the process of *Making Sense of God's Will*.

In this upcoming series, we will use Adam Hamilton's book as a guide as we all contemplate our own "Whys" — and try to make sense out of some of life's darkest hours.

I invite you to come worship with us over the next four weeks as we try to come to a better understanding of God's role in the midst of life's most difficult circumstances. I believe Adam can shed some light on this subject, and that he can help us make sense of God's will. Perhaps if you have a friend who is struggling with some of these questions, you might personally invite him or her to come to church with you over the next four weeks.

**The Sermon Series (the book) will be broken down into these categories:**

- September 6**  
*Why do the Innocent Suffer?* (Genesis 1:27-28)
- September 13**  
*Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered?* (Luke 22:42)
- September 20**  
*Why Can't I See God's Will for My Life?* (Romans 12:1-2)
- September 27**  
*Why God's Love Prevails* (Romans 8:28, 35, 37-39)

**Adam Hamilton is the Senior Pastor of The Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, Kansas. He serves the largest United Methodist Church in America.**

**Upcoming Shelby System Conversion**

We are updating our database system at the church to make your online giving, registering for events, and membership directory viewing easier and more user friendly. More information will be available in the weeks to come.

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

# Bible Studies Ministries

**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 may join after completing your "gateway" class, to be followed with enrichment classes throughout the year.

To register for the next class, visit the Welcome Center in the Narthex or via our website at [www.newcovenantumc-fl.org](http://www.newcovenantumc-fl.org). If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Hudak Yoakum at (352) 750-4529 or [khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org](mailto:khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org).

**What On Earth Am I Here For?**  
*Bible Study and Sermon Series Coming the end of September*  
 New Covenant will begin a new sermon series and church-wide small group study. This six-week study will follow Pastor Harold's sermons each week enhanced by Rick Warren's book, study guide, and videos.

We will provide many opportunities to view the DVD portion of the study and to meet as small groups. Not in a small group? We can help with that too!

If you have any questions, please visit our website at [www.newcovenantumc-fl.org](http://www.newcovenantumc-fl.org), or contact Kathy Hudak Yoakum at 750-4529 or [khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org](mailto:khudak@newcovenantumc-fl.org).

**Discerning the Voice of God**  
*How to Recognize When God Speaks*, a study by Priscilla Shirer  
 The cost for materials is \$15. There are two classes/times offered:

- Mondays (September 14–October 26) from 10–11:30 a.m.
- Tuesdays (September 15–October 27) from 6–7:30 p.m.

Sign up this weekend at the kiosk in the Narthex!

**Disciple Bible Studies**  
 This fall two of our classes are being offered in a shortened 1½ hours format.

- Disciple I (24 weeks): begins Sunday, September 27 at 9 a.m.
- Disciple II (24 weeks): begins Thursday, September 27 at 9 a.m.
- Invitation to John (13 weeks): begins Friday, September 25 at 10 a.m.

For more information, please contact Coordinator George de Jager at (352) 430-2738 or [georgedejager@comcast.net](mailto:georgedejager@comcast.net).

**Let's Get Connected!**  
 Feeling disconnected? Want to be involved? Want to know more about our ministries? Please visit the Connecting Ministry kiosk in the Summerhill Narthex. You will receive a Connecting Ministry booklet with information on the many ministries at New Covenant, along with a list of contacts.

# Worship

**Altar Flowers**  
*Todays flowers are provided by:* Jim and Carolyn Hernandez in celebration of their 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The Altar Flower Sign-Up Book is located at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. A \$40 donation will reserve your preferred date in honor or in memory of your special person or event.

To guarantee publishing, please be sure to sign up no later than 10 days prior to your requested date. The sign-up sheet is removed the Monday morning prior to publication.

**Worship Volunteers Needed**  
 We are looking for Ushers for the 7:45 a.m. Worship Service. If you are interested, please contact Lou and Jerry Emmert at (352) 350-2090.

**Hospitality Ministry Needs Your Help**  
 If you can smile, welcome a stranger, shake a hand, and are willing to serve before or after your Worship Service — we need you. Please contact Linda Fabing at (352) 446-8371 or [fabrinric@aol.com](mailto:fabrinric@aol.com).

# Outreach Ministry

**Special Helping Hands Invitation!**  
*Sunday, August 30 at 6 p.m. in the Worship Center*  
 Helping Hands Outreach Ministry has experienced tremendous growth over the last year and we want to celebrate! Join us as we kick off a new phase of our Helping Hands Outreach Ministry.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.newcovenantumc-fl.org](http://www.newcovenantumc-fl.org) or pick up an invitation at the Welcome Center. Everyone is invited. See you there!

**Bargains & Blessings Monthly Pick-up**  
 On the first Saturday and Sunday of each month, the Bargains & Blessings truck will be in the church parking lot to accept your donations. You may drop off your donations before or after Worship Services.

**Operation Christmas Shoe Box**  
 It's not too early to be planning for Operation Christmas Shoe Boxes. Back-to-school sales are the perfect time to buy things for your Christmas Shoe Boxes. We will have the boxes available beginning in October!

# Pastoral Care

**GriefShare® Returns September 14**  
*Mondays at 10 a.m. in the Chapel*  
 GriefShare® is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. Workbooks are \$15, and scholarships are available.

For more information about GriefShare®, please visit the website at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).

To register for the next session, please call the Care office at (352) 750-4529, or come a few minutes early on September 14.

**Sharpen the Mind!**  
*Tuesday, September 8 from 3–4:30 p.m. in Classroom 3*  
 Sharpen the Mind returns the second Tuesday of each month. If you've ever wanted to increase your brain power while having lots of fun, this is for you! You will enjoy brain exercises and games at every session.

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

**PrimeTime**  
*Thursday, September 10 from 10–11:30 a.m. with lunch following*  
 Join us in the Worship Center as Rose Luehrsen shares her award-winning quilts. We will also enjoy fellowship, devotional, singing, and chair exercises, followed by a light lunch for \$5. Reservations are requested by Tuesday, September 8.

Call the church office at (352) 750-4529, and indicate if you need transportation.

**Volunteer Opportunities within Care**

- *Flower Delivery* on Sunday to our homebound residents in long-term or other medical facilities. Volunteers rotate to deliver this act of cheer to our shut-ins.
- *Toby's Encouragers* visit residents of assisted living facilities and rehab centers in our area weekly or monthly
- *Helen's Helpers* provide primary caregivers a break from a loved one with mild to moderate disabilities.

For more information on these Visitation Ministries or any of our caring ministries, please call the Care office at (352) 750-4529.

**The Gift of Prayer**  
 The prayer quilt on the altar rail is for Lisa Leonard who is undergoing a new treatment for multiple sclerosis. Prayers are requested for peace, comfort, hope, and healing. Please come to the prayer rail during prayer time, or between Worship Services, and offer a prayer.

*This Week's Prayer Concerns:*

Byron	Bill Carlyle	Sharon Cook	Charlotte Daniels	Lloyd Hartman	Barb Hinebaugh
Bette Jones	Ken Konstanty	Lisa Leonard	Ken & Tobie Martin	Diane McClain	Jeff McCracken
Ninia McMurty	Carolyn Monaghan	Laura Olson	Casey Quinn	Carol Sexton	Barbara & John Solon
Roger Soukup	Francis Welsch	Mary Wilcox	Becky Haines		