



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

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World.

Our Vision: To be a thriving body of Christ by being His hands, feet, and voice in the World.

Our Core Values: Spiritual Growth
 ~ Hospitality ~ Generosity ~
 Community ~ Invitational
 ~ Service ~ Caring



A Strong Partnership

New Covenant is the designated evacuation zone for the entire Charter School system...

- We work together to ensure the safety and well-being of the students and faculty in the event a situation occurs resulting in students being evacuated to our campus.
- We have conducted evacuation drills with the Administration and Resource Officers of the school and our staff members.

During exam time at the High School, students who are exempt from exams volunteer in various ministries of New Covenant...

- Serving at the Food Pantry
- Working at Bargains & Blessings
- Helping to prepare children's programs
- Working on Helping Hands houses

New Covenant is honored to work closely with The Villages Charter School system in a variety of areas.

Also, we...

- Are invited to participate in the annual Veterans Day program at the Primary School.
- Host the Baccalaureate Service.
- Provides space for violin recitals each spring and their annual winter program.

Looking Ahead to a New Joint Venture...

On March 19, The Villages Band, under the direction of Linda Quinn, will join The Villages Concert Band, directed by New Covenant's Jean Butler, in presenting a concert of musicians spanning generations. This concert is sure to make a lasting impression, not only on the performers, but on the audience members as well.

Tickets are \$15, with a portion of the proceeds supporting the The Villages High School Band. Please support these musicians as we continue to build on our relationship with the youth of our school system.

Your Scripture for this Week

	Genesis to Revelation	As events occurred Chronologically	New Testament	The Gospels
March 18	Judges 1-2	Deuteronomy 21-23	Sunday: No Reading	John 9
March 19	Judges 3-5	Deuteronomy 24-27	Mark 14:32-52	John 10
March 20	Judges 6-7	Deuteronomy 28-29	Mark 14:53-15:14	John 11
March 21	Judges 8-9	Deuteronomy 30-31	Mark 15:15-41	John 12
March 22	Judges 10-12	Deuteronomy 32-34; Psalm 91	Mark 15:42-16:20	John 13
March 23	Judges 13-15	Joshua 1-4	Luke 1:1-25	John 14
March 24	Judges 16-18	Joshua 5-8	Luke 1:26-56	John 15
March 25	Judges 19-21	Joshua 9-11	Sunday: No Reading	John 16

Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee." Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will." Matthew 26: 31-33

Lord, time and time again, we dig ourselves into a hole by our thoughts, words, and deeds. We mean well, but we are tripped up and stumble over the holes we leave behind holes. Holes that leave our souls and your kingdom empty. Forgive us, Jesus. Show us a better way, so that when you ask us, "Do you love me," we can say without question, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

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.

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	Prayer	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	Acknowledging God	Chapel
10:30 a.m.	FaithLink	Youth Calling for Change	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
 Fax: 352-259-2971

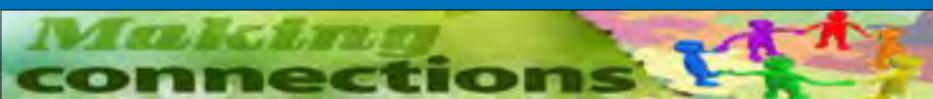
Summerhill Blended Worship
 Sunday 7:45 • 9:15 • 10:45 a.m.
 Email: ncumc@newcovenantumc-fl.org

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



Worship Attendance for last week: 2,858
 (BEACH) 49 • (Roots) 18 • (Orchard Worship) 9 • (Grounded Youth Group) 21
 (Celebrate Recovery) 67 • (Fresh Expressions) 35
 (Saturday Contemporary) 312 • (Sunday Summerhill) 7:45-234 • 9:15-872 • 10:45-705
 (Sunday Lake Deaton) 8:30-169 • 9:45-230 • 11:00-137



Connect Small Groups
 Ecclesiastes 4:12 says, *By yourself you're unprotected. With a friend you can face the worst.* A "crowd" can't support you, but a "Connect Small Group" can. Your group knows when you're sick or when you're having a tough time.

You can share your goals, your successes and failures, and they will rejoice with you and encourage you to keep going. We all need spiritual connection in our lives. When we are authentic and connected with a small group of people, we can experience God's grace and love coming through others, which leads to freedom and transformation.

To get "connected," please contact Jenny Sweat at jsweat@newcovenantumc-fl.org or call (352) 750-4529.

Table Talk Dinner Groups
 Openings Now Available for April-June

Table Talk is a fun way to meet new people in a small group setting. Six people will meet once a month for dinner for three months. It can be in the home, at a restaurant, or a combination. If you are interested, please complete a form located at the Welcome Center in the East Narthex, and drop it in the box.

Please contact Patty Halstead at patty.charlie@comcast.net or 633-2470 with questions.



The Lake Deaton Wish List
 The Lake Deaton building project is proceeding on schedule. We hope to be in the building by Thanksgiving. As we did when we built the Christian Life Center, we have distributed to the Lake Deaton congregation a "Wish List" to help furnish and accent the building. One of the items on that list is 1,000 chairs at a cost of \$40 per chair.

How about if we at Summerhill provide the chairs for our brothers and sisters at Lake Deaton as a way of affirming our ministry together — *"We are One Church, Two Campuses!"* A card and envelope is in your bulletin for your use to make a contribution. Please place your envelope in the offering plate, or you may return it to the Administration Office.

If you would like to see the entire "Wish List," copies are available at the Welcome Center. Thank you for your consideration and continued support.

Running of the Squares

Saturday, March 31 at 8 a.m. — Spanish Springs
 Spend a fun morning with our New Covenant community at the Running of the Squares. This is the third and final race of the Villages 2017-18 5K race series. Walk OR run — join "Team "New Covenant UMC." At 7:30 a.m. on race day, our team will meet in front of The Sharon for a group photo.

Register: <https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/LadyLake/RunningtheSquaresSpanishSprings>

Entry Fees: (all fees are non-refundable) \$25 through March 28 • \$30 after March 28

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.



Easter Flowers

This is your last chance to order one of the live potted flowers for Easter Sunday. You can donate a flower in honor or memory of a loved one. Sign up at a kiosk in the East Narthex.

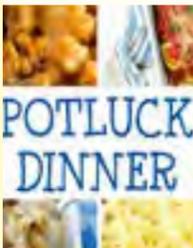
The cost for each plant is \$10 cash or check (payable to NCUMC), which will be accepted when you sign up. Plants you purchase will be available for you to take home following the 10:45 Worship Service on Easter Sunday, April 1.



“Come Just as You Are” — Prayer and Anointing

Wednesdays, through March 28 from 8:30–9 a.m. — Chapel

Please feel free to stop by and join Pastor Marilyn Anell this week for individual prayer on Wednesday morning during the Lenten season.

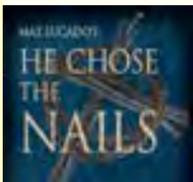


Potluck Dinner — Food, Fellowship & Fun!

Saturday, March 24, following Worship Service — Fellowship Center

Enjoy meeting and connecting with your fellow worshipers at our first “Saturday Night Potluck Dinner.” Please bring a dish to share. Volunteers will meet you as you arrive for Worship Service to place your dish in the refrigerator or warmer, as needed. Beverages and all paper products will be provided.

Suggested menu requests are based on the beginning letter of your last name, as follows: (A–H) Main Dish; (I–O) Salad/Vegetables/Fruit; (P–Z) Dessert



Max Lucado’s “He Choose the Nails”

Holy Thursday, March 29 at 6 p.m. — Christian Life Center

A worship experience led by Rev. Jim Divine. This performance features the Summerhill Praise Band, guest vocalist David Rowan, classical guitarist Jay Shepherd, and special guest Kim Hill.



A Walk Through Holy Week: A Family Experience

Easter Sunday, April 1 before 9:15 a.m.–12p.m. — Fellowship Center

During Holy Week, families come to gather and visit from all over. This Easter Sunday, we will have a walk-through experience of Holy Week. To make this event as special as it can be, we need supplies!

These items may be something you have in your home.

- Artificial potted flowers
- Ceramic jar with lid
- Chalices/goblets (12)
- Crates
- Crutches
- Glass bottles of various sizes
- Large- and medium-sized greenery (large palms/trees)
- Rooster
- Sword or spears

If you are able to loan supplies, please contact Brianna Jimenez, Children’s Minister, at (352) 750-4529, or drop off supplies outside of the Children’s Room. Please attach your name and phone number to your supplies. They can be picked up in Classroom 1 after Easter.



Look, Learn, Lead Study Guides

“In the Garden” — Lenten 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.



Helping Hands/Bargains & Blessings Volunteers

Sunday, March 18 at 4 p.m. — Chapel

All Helping Hands and Bargains & Blessings current volunteers — and any individuals interested in volunteering — are invited to this general meeting. Hear the latest happenings at B & B, the upcoming home construction, and any questions or suggestions you may have.

Spring Food Drive for the Wildwood Food Pantry

Our Food Drive is quickly approaching. Help us defeat hunger in the Wildwood area by donating non-perishable food items. After Worship Services today, you will find a grocery bag on your car or golf cart with an attached list of food items. Please take your bag home, fill it with items from the list, and bring your bag back to church next weekend.

No time to shop, rather give cash? Write a check payable to the “Wildwood Food Pantry” and hand it to one of the many volunteers that will be collecting bags that weekend.

Volunteers Needed for College Connection!

We are searching for volunteers to write a monthly note or card, and/or send our college students an occasional “care package.”

We want to let them know we are supporting and thinking about them during the school year. It does not need to be fancy or expensive, just an occasional reminder that they are still connected with New Covenant.

For more information, please contact Kayla McIntosh, Youth Minister, at (352) 750-4529 or kmcintosh@newcovenantumc-fl.org. Be creative, caring, and connecting!

Going North for the Summer or on Vacation?

Let church volunteers secure your home in the event of a disaster. Simply complete the “Homeowner Release of Liability” form found on the church website. Select the “Resources” button and click on “Forms.” Complete the form and return it to the church.

These forms are also available in the Administration Office for your convenience. In the event of an emergency, repairs will be made to your home to keep it safe. If you have any questions, please call Larry Frum at (352) 638-0533.

Helping Hands Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday, April 21 — Eagle Ridge Golf Club (Spruce Creek Del Webb)

The tournament fee is \$85 (golf cart included). The Banquet and Silent Auction will be Sunday, April 22 in the Fellowship Center. Additional banquet tickets may be purchased for \$25.

Register at a kiosk in the East Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact John Kelley at (352) 259-6380.

Early Response/Disaster Relief Team Training

Monday & Tuesday, April 23 & 24

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the New Covenant Early Response/Disaster Relief Team is invited to attend a one and a half day workshop. Monday will be a full-day class (7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.) of training at New Covenant and Tuesday will be a half-day class (8 a.m.–12 p.m.) of hands-on activities at Camp Willis in Fruitland Park.

There is no cost for the class — all expenses are covered by the Early Response Team. To enroll in class, go to www.flumc.org/training-schedule. The registration deadline is April 1. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Watson at (352) 205-8553.



Health Education Speaker Series

Tuesday, March 20 at 6 p.m. — Fellowship Center

We welcome Dr. David Casper, locally renown dermatologist and member of our community of faith. Dr. Casper will present *Aging Gracefully: Common Skin Conditions and How to Fix Them*. This event is free and open to the public.

“In Their Sandals” (An Easter Prayer Experience)

Thursday, March 29 from 8 a.m.–8 p.m., and Friday, March 30 from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. — Chapel

This year, on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, you will have the opportunity to participate in prayer stations, as you did for the National Day of Prayer.

The prayer stations for the Easter season are designed so you can “put yourself in the sandals” of some of the individuals, including Jesus, who played a part in His journey to the cross. You will have time to reflect on the relationship they had with Jesus, and then, take time to pray about how that particular part of Jesus’ journey has meaning for you.

Those who attended the prayer stations last May found them powerful and meaningful. We encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors to come and have time to reflect and meditate as we pray and walk with Judas, Peter, Jesus, and more.

Learn How to Pray Out Loud

Wednesday, April 11 from 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. — Chapel

This workshop offered by Rev. Marilyn Anell is always well attended, and it is back by popular demand! There is no cost or reservation needed. If you want to learn how to pray out loud for someone, and get rid of the fear and anxiety about it, Pastor Marilyn can help you!

Toby’s Encouragers

Toby’s Encouragers is looking for a few good men (and women)! This Visitation Ministry visits shut-ins in area assisted living, nursing homes, and memory care facilities that may not receive a visit otherwise. This team sees the same person each time, and develops a relationship with that person.

Toby’s needs men to be involved to visit other men, and also a few women to help balance out their team. For more information about Toby’s Encouragers, contact Carolyn Merryman at 753-7778 or ckmjem@comcast.net.

The Gift of Prayer

The prayer quilts on the altar rail are for: Kim Wilson who has breast cancer which has spread to her liver; Dixie Clark who has breast cancer; Donna Vergils who has breast cancer; Paula Nicholas for comfort and freedom from pain; and Phyllis Yagle who has a broken hip. Prayers are requested for peace, comfort, hope, and healing.

Our Christian Love and Sympathy are Extended to...

Rose Luehrsen, family and friends on the passing of her mother Inez Caswell; Charlotte Ullmer on the passing of her husband Galen; and the family and friends of Bob Collison on his passing.

New Concerns

Joyce Andrew, Wayne Bierman, Terry Croft, Don Davis, Pia Drown, Tag Greene, Jerry Grutzmacher, Mary Ann & Bob Hayward, Jim McClure, Irma Meyer, Vern Phillips, Donn Poole, Joe & Pat Santosuosso, Robert Stone, Shari Street, Ollie & Loretta Valentine