

Weekly Word

New Covenant United Methodist Church

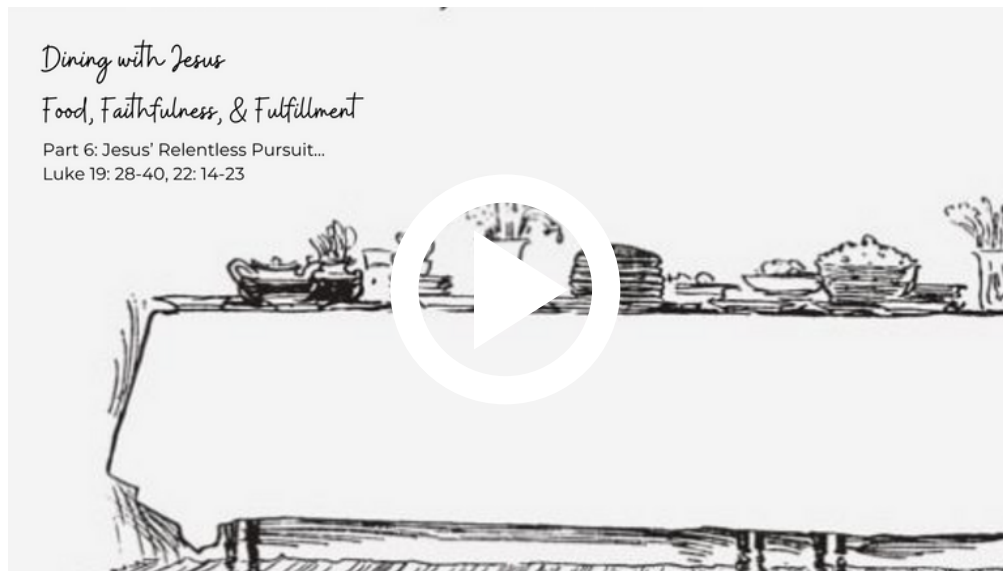
MESSAGE IN A MINUTE



Dining with Jesus

Food, Faithfulness, & Fulfillment

Part 6: Jesus' Relentless Pursuit...
Luke 19: 28-40, 22: 14-23



Spiritual Reflection

"Jesus – the real Jesus, the living Jesus, the Jesus who dwells in heaven and rules over earth as well, the Jesus who has brought God's future into the present – wants not just to influence us, but to rescue us; not just to inform us, but to heal us; not just to give us something to think about, but to feed us, and to feed us with himself. That's what [communion] is all about."

N.T. WRIGHT

WORSHIP



We continue to strive to provide worship opportunities in person and virtually each weekend that are engaging, informative, and exalt Jesus Christ. The last year has had its challenges, but we have managed to reach people in numerous ways. March 2020, we had to discontinue gathering and only meet virtually. Holy Week and Easter activities were cancelled, as well as all other gatherings. Remarkably, our worship services continued to grow through our virtual offerings.

In the Fall, we began regathering to a limited capacity which continues, but we have worked to continue adding seating while finding ways to follow safety protocols. Many have shared the virtual services with their friends across the U.S. This prompted us to create a new type of membership, a Virtual Member. Our Worship staff, volunteers, and music leaders work diligently to offer the very best worship opportunities possible under the current restrictions, while keeping congregants and staff safe. We were able to celebrate Christmas with special Candlelight Services and The Christmas Drive-Through. We remembered our own mortality on Ash Wednesday. We will have a great Holy Week and Easter Celebration of the Resurrected Christ!

This week, our bishop, Ken Carter, has reminded us that the Florida Conference continues to follow the latest guidance from the CDC which requires us to:

- Maintain at least six feet of distance between family units
- Masks or cloth face coverings are required
- Outside activities are preferred over inside activities

Bishop Carter continued, "We appreciate your perseverance. We are a people of HOPE who continue to press on as we remain On Mission Together."



B&B TRUCK

Bargains & Blessings truck will be here the second weekend of the month, **April 10 and 11.**

THANK YOU!

The Wildwood Food Pantry would like to express their thanks for the donations of food and money during last weekend's Spring Food Drive. There are always Food Pantry bins available at the west entrance of the church for your donations throughout the week.



PRAYER STATIONS

We all have times when we feel "broken." Jesus came to forgive our sins, to mend us, to bring us peace and joy. **Hallelujah!** Join us during Holy Week as we set up our own Virtual Prayer Station in our homes, and navigate Jesus' journey to the cross through prayer, meditation, and devotion. Lynn VanVeelen has blessed us with these beautifully written Prayer Station Devotions for Holy Week. We'll be posting a talk-through of how to setup your prayer station on New Covenant's website, as well as on our church's Facebook pages.



STEWARDSHIP

Gaining for God

Gilbert Shaw, an Anglo-Irish Church of England priest, once said, "Whatever we hold to ourselves is loss. Whatever we give to God is gain." Giving to God should not be out of obligation or duty but out of our love for God. "...God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

Your giving continues to help our church have a significant impact on our community and our world. We continue to gain ground and move His Kingdom forward. **Thank you for helping us gain for God.**

-Charles Stuart, Chair, Finance Committee





EASTER FLOWERS

Help The Guild adorn our worship spaces for the celebration of Easter! A beautiful variety of plants are available for pickup after the worship services on April 4. **All plants are \$15** and a memorial list will be made available for all tributes, honorariums, or memoriums. Click the title to purchase.

YOUTH CAR WASH

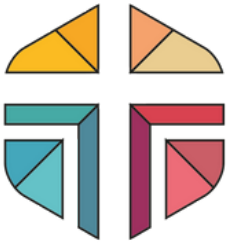
Our Youth Ministry's Semi-Annual Car Wash is coming up on **Saturday, April 17 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Only \$5 per car or golf cart. Funds raised will go towards New Covenant's 2021 Youth Summer Mission Trips. Come on out with your vehicle for a Spring cleaning!



BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

New Covenant's Youth and Children's ministries are looking for volunteer bus drivers! **Drivers are required to get their CDL with a passenger endorsement. They also are required to pass a written & driving test along with a physical.** New Covenant reimburses expenses for those who pass the CDL examination and drive for us. If you'd like to volunteer, have questions, or want more information, please contact Kayla DeSimone by clicking the title.





Discipleship

Please click the title to access all Discipleship opportunities.

COFFEE AT THE COLUMBARIUM

Please join the New Covenant Men's Ministry for "Coffee at the Columbarium" on **April 20 starting at 8:00 a.m.** Bring your coffee and bring a chair, as we enjoy socially-distanced fellowship. No registration required.



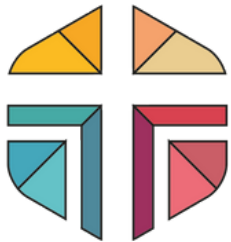
VIRTUAL NEW MEMBER CLASS

This class will be an overview of our history and an information session on the programs of our church. **This online class will allow you to enroll as new members.** Each person that registers will get a packet of information sent to them. It will include a video to watch, a short list of questions to answer, and a registration form to complete. The class can be done at the participant's leisure. Once you have completed the course, we will have you join on a Sunday. Click the title for more information.



APRIL WOMEN'S GATHERING

You Rock! On Thursday, April 15 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the CLC. Come and join us for this women's gathering that focuses on God, "Our Rock" and how we can be ROCK-strong women of faith. You must register for this event and wear a mask. All safety protocols for in-person worship services will be in place at this event. Click the title to register.



Missions

Please click the title for all mission opportunities.

EARLY RESPONSE TEAM

Early Response Teams (ERT) are **specialty trained, self-contained teams who enter a disaster zone at the invitation of local emergency management officials, the local church, or other recognized agencies requesting assistance.** Registration is now open for the Basic ERT Certification course, which is a requirement for deployment in the field during a disaster. Class size is limited, register early to reserve your seat. Please click on the title for more information.



FLUMCH

Please be sure to take the virtual tour of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home this **Saturday, March 27**. Click the title to subscribe to their YouTube channel to stream on Saturday.



Congregational Care

Please click the title to access Care.

HOPE FOR HURTING PARENTS

Please join us on **Thursdays at 2:00 p.m.**, if you have a child, grandchild or loved one struggling with addiction, mental illness, incarceration, or other life-altering events. We offer support and encouragement for you. We welcome all in our community who need this support; it is not just for members. For more information, call the Care Office at (352) 750-4529



Weekly Prayer
Concerns

Prayer
Request

Quilt
Request

NEW CONCERNS



Irene Benac

Kevin Kronenberger

Carol & Family

Jack McGill

Arlyne Ferrara

Ben Moore

Dr. Sammy Gilbreath

Bob Ratliffe

Judy Hilderbrand

Ron

Marlene & Don Huggins

Jan Soukup Family

Tiffany Johnson

Phil Van Amerongen

Joan Kirkpatrick

Robert Vogelsang

OUR LOVE & SYMPATHY ARE EXTENDED TO...

Bev Diaz on the passing
of brother, William "Bill" Maxwell.

Dottie Rogers on the passing
of husband, William "Bill" Rogers.



[Click here to view Celebrations of Life.](#)

Your prayers are requested for our virtual prayer quilts. If you have Facebook, please click on each quilt, pray, and then "like" the picture to symbolize the tying of a knot. Knots will be physically tied by staff as a tangible representation of all the prayers and love offered on behalf of those in need. Even if you do not have Facebook, you can still pray for those receiving the quilts.



Marie is in the ICU suffering from COVID-19.



David is in the ICU suffering from COVID-19.

Viewing for Weekend Services from March 13 & 14
total **2,353**

VIRTUAL	Worship 1,741
IN-PERSON	Sat 5PM 167 Sun 9AM 229 Sun 11AM 206 Youth 10

PHONE
(352) 750-4529

EMAIL
ncumc@ncumcfl.com



WEBSITE
ncumcfl.com

OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Thurs 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.