

Weekly Word

New Covenant United Methodist Church

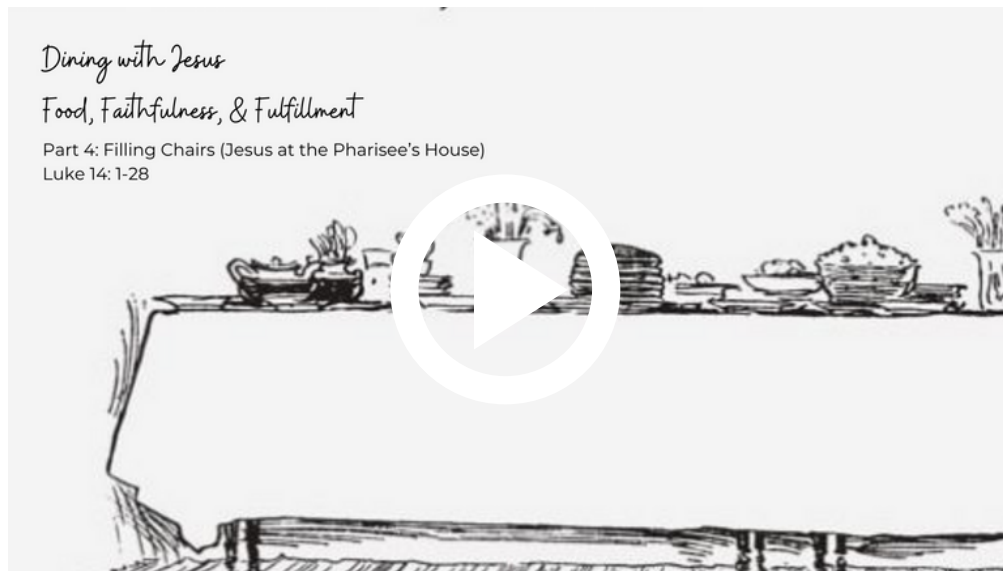
MESSAGE IN A MINUTE



Dining with Jesus

Food, Faithfulness, & Fulfillment

Part 4: Filling Chairs (Jesus at the Pharisee's House)
Luke 14: 1-28



Spiritual Reflection

"To be a soul winner is the happiest thing in the world. And with every soul you bring to Jesus Christ, you seem to get a new heaven here upon earth."

CHARLES H. SPURGEON

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is less than a month away. We are excited to be able to celebrate in-person and virtually this year. New Covenant has many services planned!

- **Palm Sunday Weekend:** On March 27 beginning at 5:00 p.m. and March 28 at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Pastor Harold will begin Holy Week! These services are offered in-person and virtually. Following the service on March 28 beginning at 12:30 p.m. the children of New Covenant are invited to join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. The Easter Egg Hunt is for children in Pre-K through 5th grade.
- **Holy Thursday:** April 1 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the CLC New Covenant is celebrating Holy Thursday. Pastor Harold and the Worship Band will lead observance of The Last Supper through song, scripture, and Holy Communion.
- **Good Friday:** On April 2 beginning at 12:00 p.m. "Lord of the Dance," a worship service of contemplation in observance of Good Friday with music, scripture, and word by Pastor Ellen Pollock.
- **Holy Saturday:** Join us on April 3 beginning at 5:00 p.m. Pastor Harold will preach on Saturday evening.
- **Easter Sunday:** April 4 is Easter Sunday! We are offering a few services to celebrate Jesus being risen. Beginning at 7:00 a.m. join us in your golf cart or car for the outdoor sunrise service. No registration is required. Please note, this service will not be offered virtually. Then at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the CLC, traditional worship with hymns, organ, and brass ensemble and Pastor Harold Hendren preaching. In order to accommodate more people, we have added both a 9:30 a.m and 11:30 a.m praise worship service in the Fellowship Center, led by our Worship Band, Pastor Ellen Pollock leading liturgy, and Pastor Harold Hendren preaching virtually. We are safely welcoming our children back to Orchard Worship Easter morning, beginning at 11:00 a.m. There will be fun, worship, crafts, activities, a special Easter Bible lesson, and more!

For all in-person activities (excluding Easter Sunday outdoor sunrise service) a mask and registration are required. If you are not comfortable attending in-person we encourage you to join us virtually. All registrations will be live March 18.





SPRING FOOD DRIVE

The Wildwood Food Pantry Spring Food Drive will take place on **Saturday, March 20 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., & Sunday, March 21 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** Due to COVID-19 restrictions, it will be a “Drive and Drop.” The pantry trailer will be positioned at the entrance of the West parking lot, and volunteers will be there to receive your donations. Thank you in advance for helping us provide food supplements to food-insecure families in Sumter County. Click the title for needs.

DISCIPLESHIP SURVEY

We need your feedback! Now a full year into the pandemic we have done everything different from worship to bible studies. New Covenant wants to continue to offer Discipleship opportunities. **By answering a few questions we can better serve you.** Click the title above to take the survey.





REMINDER

Please continue to register for in-person worship. We are reaching full capacity and want to make sure everyone has a safe seat.

Also, we are celebrating with those who have received their full vaccination but continue to ask that you wear your mask when attending worship. Not everyone has been vaccinated and we strive to provide a safe environment for all. Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP

Time in a Bottle

How many times have each of us said “no” to working on a church project because we think it will take too much of our time? We all have the same limited amount of time, 24 hours in a day, 60 minutes in an hour. As Villagers many of us have a quickly shortening time to live on this earth before God says, “it’s time.”

In the Jim Croce song 'Time in a Bottle' the first line of the chorus reads “But there never seems to be enough time to do the things you want to do, ...” Doesn’t that sound like many of us? Never enough time? If you could save time

in a bottle and use it at will, would you spend more time volunteering?

The Lord has given us work to do. Let’s take the time to enjoy doing it.

-Charles Stuart, Chair, Finance Committee





NEW NCUMC TEXT

We are excited to announce a new and exciting feature here at New Covenant. In an effort to stay connected, **Pastor Harold will now be sending out weekly text messages to our congregants.** Pastor Harold's thoughts of the week, and more, will now be easily accessible on your mobile device. Sign up today by clicking the title!

CONNECTING

We miss you! Staff and volunteers will be calling to connect with you, see how you are doing, let you know about events going on, and ensure you are receiving the WeeklyWord. Last year we made 7,000 calls during the height of the pandemic. This year as we move forward we want to make sure you continue to be connected.





GENERAL CONFERENCE

Due to COVID-19, the originally scheduled **2020 General Conference has now been postponed to August of 2022**. We recognize that you are interested in how future decisions at the General Conference may impact New Covenant United Methodist. Our Wesleyan theology, doctrine, mission and vision at New Covenant has not changed. We continue to follow the current Discipline of the United Methodist Church and the policy and procedures adopted by our SALT leadership at New Covenant. Please click the title for more information.

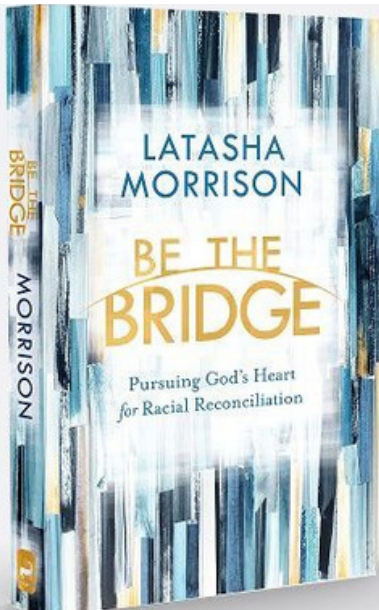


Discipleship

Please click the title to access all Discipleship opportunities.

APRIL WOMEN'S GATHERING

You Rock! On Thursday, April 15 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the CLC. Did you know that God/Jesus is compared to a Rock more than 40 times in the Bible? 1 Samuel says, "There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no ROCK like our God." 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. Registration will be live March 13. Click the title to register.



CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES

Christian Perspectives on Racial Justice Study Group is a Zoom book study and discussion group to understand race issues and promote social justice on **Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. from April 6 - June 8.** You will need to purchase the book "Be the Bridge" by Latasha Morrison (see picture). Please click the title to join this group.

GLEANNING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help unload a truckload of food boxes to be given to local food pantries and soup kitchens on Monday, March 15, here at NCUMC from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The Gleaners will travel to Zellwood on Thursday, March 18 to harvest cabbage. [Click here for more information.](#)



Congregational Care

Please click the title to access Care.

PRAYING TOGETHER

More now than ever, we need to pray. Our prayer team gathers each week to pray for each congregant who is in the hospital or rehab, has an upcoming test or procedure, and each prayer request that has been submitted, by phone, email, online, or through a prayer card.

Maybe you have the Spiritual Gift of prayer and would like to join our Praying Together Team. If so, call the Care Office at (352) 750-4529.



**Weekly Prayer
Concerns**

**Prayer
Request**

**Quilt
Request**

NEW CONCERNS

David Appleby	George Nicklas
Bruce Bonebrake	Betty Ramsdale
Amy Campos	Gary & Deborah Seyler
Norma Cantrell	Angela Scott
Sharon Clark	Steve Shiffler
Jan Edmondson	Ron Smith
Ann Field	Joan Palmer-Steward
Art Galish	Janice Bruce-Swartz
Lori & Gary Green	Lois Thompson
Alan Gurka	Marie Thomas
Mitch Hagmaier	Antone Weiler
Judy Hilderbrand	Witherbee Family
Eddie Mui	

OUR LOVE & SYMPATHY ARE EXTENDED TO...

Betty Callahan on the passing
of son, Shawn Callahan.

Pat & Jerry May on the passing
of brother, Dennis "Denny" Wilson.



[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.



Bob is suffering from heart issues.



Jennifer in memory of dad who died from COVID-19.

**Viewing for Weekend Services from February 27 & 28
total 2,324**

VIRTUAL	Worship 1,750
IN-PERSON	Sat 5PM 164 Sun 9AM 204 Sun 11AM 206

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.