

Weekly Word

New Covenant United Methodist Church

MESSAGE IN A MINUTE



Spiritual Reflection

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.”

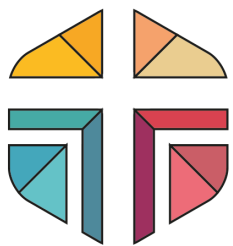
ISAIAH 9:2

Register to save your seat for this weekend's services!

Saturday @ 5PM

Sunday @ 9AM

Sunday @ 11AM



Ministry Spotlight

Click the title to give to the ministry highlighted below!

MENTEE SCHOLARSHIP

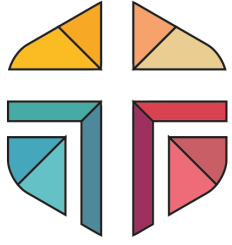
The Love Offering collected during our Carols & Candlelight services will be used towards a scholarship program established for our Wildwood Middle High School Mentees. Established in 2014, mentors from New Covenant UMC and the community are matched with incoming 8th graders at WMHS. These mentors visit their mentees weekly during the school year and provide ongoing support for their students. The mentors “move up” with their mentees each year for a total of five years.

The goal of our program has been to create a partnership between local churches and students at Wildwood Middle High School by providing a Mentor Program for identified students, which provides ongoing encouragement, support, and love.

This school year, we will have our third group of mentees graduating. These students have been within the mentor program for the past four or five years. Your generosity is funding scholarships for each graduating class. We are proud of our upcoming graduates and their commitment to their education. Some of our previous mentees are currently enrolled at Lake Sumter State College, Withlacoochee Technical Center, and Lake Technical; additionally, we’ve had a student who received her certification in Phlebotomy!

We are always in need of mentors. For more information on this program, please contact Anne Foote Hill, Director of Administration and Mentor Program, by clicking the title.





Announcements

Below are the key announcements for the week!

[Click here to register for Carols & Candlelight Services!](#)

CAROLS & CANDLELIGHT

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, December 22 at 4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 23 at 4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

[Click here to register for in-person services!](#)

VIRTUAL

Thursday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m.



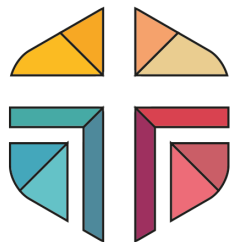
THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who are working hard to make The Story of Christmas: a Drive-Through Experience a success! We are so thankful for everyone who provided their gifts and talents in preparation for this presentation to so elaborately serve our great God. We pray that all who participate, serve, or attend are blessed enormously. Merry Christmas!

NEW SERMON SERIES

Beginning in the New Year, Pastor Harold will start a new sermon series titled, "Follow the Signs You are Headed in the Right Direction." Following the book "You are Never Alone" by Max Lucado, Pastor Harold will delve into Christ's seven signs/miracles. If you are looking for a sign of hope, a new direction, or an opportunity to learn more, please join us. All sermons will be available in-person and virtually.





Missions

Please click the title for all mission opportunities.



B&B UPDATE

Bargains & Blessings store ministry is very thankful for all of the generosity of so many people. Your donations have been used to help those in need of God's love. Due to the overwhelming volume of donations B&B has received recently, the store will not be taking any drop-off donations **beginning Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020 through Monday, Jan. 4, 2021**. Also, there will not be any pick-up donations during the last week of December. Please see our holiday hours below:

- Dec. 24 - 26 B&B closed
- Dec. 29 - 30 B&B open
- Dec. 31 - Jan. 2 B&B closed

GIVING IN THE SPIRIT

Giving in the Spirit is a unique opportunity for us to give a very special gift at Christmas. The catalog can be picked up at any of the kiosks in the church building. You may also click the title to give.





STEWARDSHIP

Find the JOY of Generosity

We have all heard the Bible verse:

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matt. 6:21

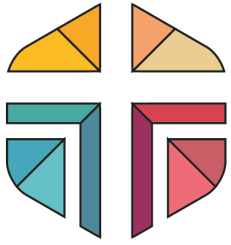
So where is your heart? Is it here at New Covenant?

The simple statements of “I love my church” or “My church will be here when I need it” helps us to realize how important our church is in our lives.

A basic orientation of Christianity is generosity. God is generous. Life, itself, is His gift to us. What is our gift to Him?

So where is your heart? As we near 2021, consider your giving to New Covenant for next year and find the JOY of generosity.

-Charles Stuart, Chair, Finance Committee



Discipleship

Please click the title to access all Discipleship opportunities.

WOMEN'S GATHERING CANCELLED

The Women's Ministry at New Covenant will not be hosting a January 2021 Gathering. Please keep an eye on the WeeklyWord for details on February's drive-through event. Remember to save your new or nearly new shoes for donation in February.

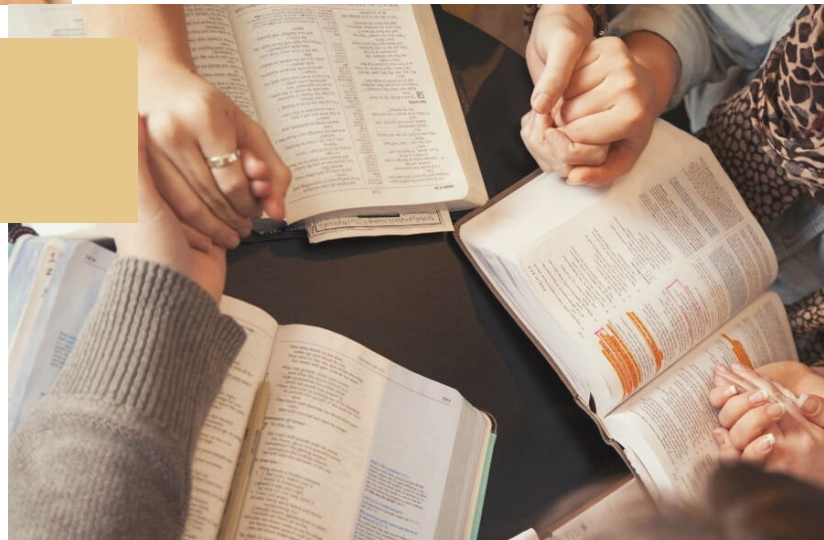


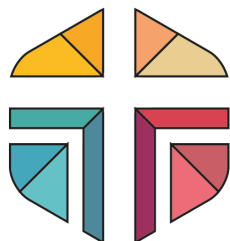
VIRTUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Please continue to check the church website for virtual study opportunities, daily devotions, and our Sacred Trilogy. Click the title to explore!

SMALL GROUPS

"Love God! Love Others! Together is Better!"
During these difficult times, it is sometimes hard to feel a part of things. Our small groups are meeting - some in person and some virtually. Click the title for more information or to join a small group.





Congregational Care

Please click the title to access Care.



GRIEFSHARE

Beginning Mondays, Jan. 11 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. If you think that learning to live through grief and receiving support from others who understand would be of help, please plan to attend our winter session. There is a \$15 registration fee for cost of materials. For more information, call the Care Office at (352) 750-4529.

CARE CARDS

Unless you share, we cannot care! You are invited to submit prayer request cards. Care Cards are located at the Welcome Center, in the West Narthex, and at each entrance to the CLC. Click the title to submit a virtual prayer request. All cards are prayed over!



[Click here for the current list of Weekly Prayer Concerns.](#)

NEW CONCERNS



Barbara Abbott Rev. Blake Langston
Janet Bishop Warner Nelson
Diana Blosser Gwen Phillips
Martine Boudreaux's Family Eric Puryear
Bob Farrell Karen Tilton
Judy & Roger Flickinger Laura Tomich
Pat Frost Joseph Valentino
Greg Gerstner Yuka Walters

OUR LOVE & SYMPATHY ARE EXTENDED TO...

Family and friends on the passing of,
Donald Efremoff.



[Click here to access Celebration of Life services.](#)

Viewing for Weekend Services from December 5 & 6
total **2,373**

VIRTUAL

Worship 1,854

IN-PERSON

Sat 5PM 134 | Sun 9AM 178 | Sun 11AM 191 | Youth 16

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.