



# HARVEST TIMES

HARVEST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 14305 Covenant Way, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202 941-907-7333 | NOVEMBER 2017

Birth, death, and the life that is lived in between—all life involves some sort of suffering. In the middle of loss, we gain an unwanted companion, grief. In the month of November, we will take a meaningful look at grief in our preaching series, *GOOD GRIEF! Life, Loss, and Hope*.

On November 5, All Saints Sunday, we remember those whom we have said goodbye to over the past year; the saints of our lives—those we have loved and lost. We will mark this milestone with a sacred ritual involving remembering and candle lighting. In this moment we say, “I remember you and your life made a difference in this world.” Reverend Rick Howell, Executive Director of *Samaritan Counseling Services of the Gulf Coast*, will be preaching. In addition, a special offering will be collected to be contributed to Samaritan Counseling Services as they do important work, providing much needed mental health services to our community.

*GOOD GRIEF!* will continue on November 12 and 19. We’ll be using clips from Disney Pixar films to help illustrate and teach us something about grief—our unwanted companion at different life stages—as well as how to be a friend to someone experiencing grief.

For those of you who want to get your hands on some additional resources, here you go:

*The Cure for Sorrow: A Book of Blessings for Times of Grief* by Jan Richardson

Option B: *Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy* by Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant

It is interesting to note that both books were birthed out of the journey through the sudden and unexpected loss of a spouse.

We encourage you to join us in worship in November. We’re looking forward to journeying this path together.

*Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. –Romans 12:15*

Katie

Pastor Katie



## WORSHIP AT HARVEST

14305 Covenant Way  
Lakewood Ranch

Sunday 9 AM  
Traditional Worship

Sunday 10:30 AM  
Contemporary Worship

Sunday 5 PM  
Harvest Youth Group

We are called by Christ to offer hope by graciously welcoming people, intentionally growing disciples, and generously serving others locally, regionally, and around the globe.

## WANT MORE?

 [facebook.com/harvestumc](https://facebook.com/harvestumc)

 [harvestumc](https://instagram.com/harvestumc)

 [harvestumc](https://twitter.com/harvestumc)

 [welcometoharvest.org](https://welcometoharvest.org)

 [info@welcometoharvest.org](mailto:info@welcometoharvest.org)

# HARVEST TEAM

Rev. Michael Pestel  
Lead Pastor

Rev. Katie Pestel  
Pastor

Rev. Jennifer Potter Buff  
Pastor

Jillanne Conelias  
Sprouts CDC Associate Director

Reed Conley  
Director of Worship Arts

Terry Cox  
Executive Assistant to the Pastors

Carin Doddroe  
Facilities and Guest Readiness Director

Dan Funk  
Comptroller

Alan Hensley  
Custodial Manager

Mike Kennedy  
Director of Discipleship

Molly Lawson  
Director of Community Engagement

Dave Lewis  
Choral Music Director

Logan Lundstrom  
Accompanist

Steve Maldonado  
Tech Booth Coordinator

Bonnie McElravy  
Children's Minister

Ginny Scott  
Youth Minister

Cindee Shevlin  
Sprouts CDC Director

Paul Tassler  
Communications Director

Dan Whissell  
Associate Worship Leader

# HARVEST YOUTH

## THANKSGIVING DINNER

Sunday, November 19

Visit [hyfive.org/meals](http://hyfive.org/meals) and sign up to provide a Thanksgiving food item.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 17

No Youth Group

December 24 & 31



Samaritan Counseling Services of the Gulf Coast

## ADVENT Dinner



Thursday, December 7 ~ 6:30 PM  
info & registration  
[welcometoharvest.org/samaritan](http://welcometoharvest.org/samaritan)



Falkner  
Farm



Christmas Party

Staff can be reached via email at  
[firstname.lastname@welcometoharvest.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@welcometoharvest.org)  
(example: [jdoe@welcometoharvest.org](mailto:jdoe@welcometoharvest.org))

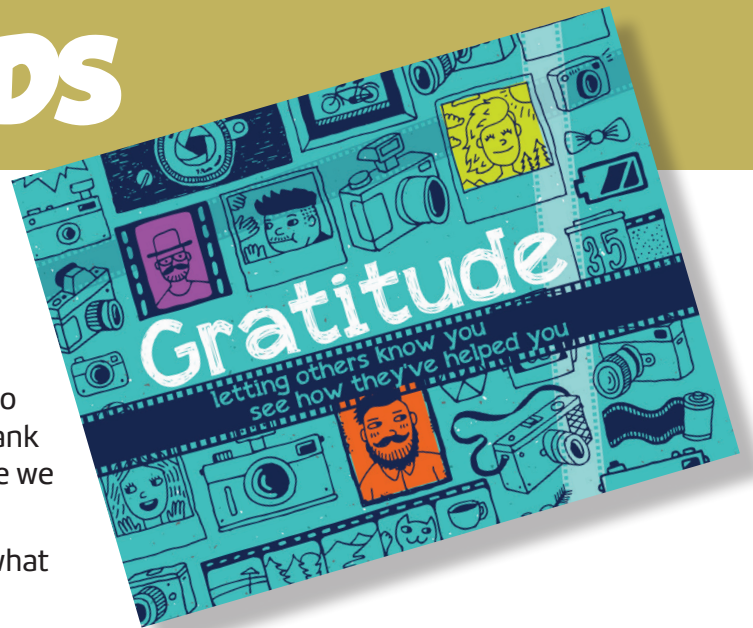
# HARVEST KIDS

## November BIG IDEA

We are reminded to be grateful in this season of Thanksgiving. We are thankful for all kinds of things. In Harvest Kids this month we will be reminded to re-focus; to know where to look when it comes to showing our gratitude. We want to celebrate what God has done, remember to say thank you, and always be grateful. Gratitude is an attitude we need to live in every day—not just at Thanksgiving.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, “Give thanks no matter what happens. God wants you to thank him because you believe in Jesus Christ.”

Harvest Kids wants to challenge you to practice gratitude this month by writing down something every day that you are thankful for and share it with others. Say a prayer around the dinner table as a family to thank God for all the ways that God has helped you.



# HARVESTERS ICE! THINGS UP

## Wednesday, December 13

In December the Harvesters will travel by chartered motor coach to the Gaylord Palms Resort in Orlando. The Gaylord Palms goes all out at Christmastime—with more than 2 million twinkling lights, an amazing 60-foot-tall Christmas tree, heartwarming visits with Santa, and the captivating *Cirque Dreams Unwrapped* show. There's no better way to celebrate the season than with a visit to ICE!

*Christmas Around the World*. The cost for this Christmastime visit to the Gaylord Palms is just \$50/person. Register by November 20 at [welcometoharvest.org/events](http://welcometoharvest.org/events).



- Share the joy of Christmas with the families of Falkner Farm—Sunday, December 10 from 2:30–4:30 PM
- Volunteer as gift wrappers, shopping escorts, crafters, card makers, game facilitators, and food servers
- Angel Trees are in the lobby with tags on them listing the gifts to buy for Falkner families
- You can also donate funds to help support the meal and activities for the party
- Go to [welcometoharvest.org/give](http://welcometoharvest.org/give) to give online
- Sign Up to serve or donate at Hospitality Hub 1—through December 3

More information is at [welcometoharvest.org/falknerfarm](http://welcometoharvest.org/falknerfarm). If you have questions or want to share an idea on how to enhance the party, contact Missions Team leader Diane McCoy at [mccoyds@cs.com](mailto:mccoyds@cs.com) or 941-504-4875.

# GOOD GRIEF!

Life, Loss, and Hope

NEW MESSAGE SERIES | NOVEMBER 5, 12, & 19

## BAYSHORE MINISTRY



**Saturday, November 11 // 9 AM–12 PM**

Our November 11 event will be a block party **for local residents only.**

For the latest about future 2ND SATURDAYS at Bayshore, contact Marilyn Potter at 941-737-1421 or by email at [keywestconch@me.com](mailto:keywestconch@me.com), or check out [welcometoharvest.org/bayshore](http://welcometoharvest.org/bayshore).

## VITAL SIGNS

The people of Harvest are sowing seeds of faith,  
growing together in Christ

- < Food Sunday collections in September & October fully stocked the Samoset pantry
- < \$20,000+ of financial and material donations were collected for hurricane relief
- < An average of 550 per week worshiped at Harvest in October
- < 60 people are regularly volunteering at Samoset Elementary
- < 131 Samoset Elementary students are served weekly by Pack-a-Sack food ministry
- < 20 Harvest children completed the *Learning To Use My Bible* course, receiving Bibles.

People are giving generously! You can see our financial picture at [welcometoharvest.org](http://welcometoharvest.org).

For a full report of our Missional Vital Signs, go to [tools.flumc.org/yearly.asp](http://tools.flumc.org/yearly.asp).