



Memo: Coronavirus, Update #4
March 16, 2020
From the Desk of Pastor Chad

To view our livestream worship from 03.15.2020, simply click this link:
www.facebook.com/growingnewsong

To donate/give to New Song's ministries and community efforts, go to:
www.newsongumc.org/give

You can also do so through your phone via our app:
Text: [newsongchurch](https://www.newsongchurch.com) to this number: [77977](tel:77977) (and follow the prompts)

You can complete an E-Connect Card via our website at:
www.newsongumc.org/connect-card

1. **Worship:** Live Stream, 3/22
2. **Online Giving**
3. **Small Groups**
4. **Visits/Congregational Care**
5. **Office Hours/Facility Use**
6. **Backpack/MCEF Food Collection**
7. **Mission Possible 5K & Festival**
8. **Executive Ministry Team**

Drive-Thru 5K Packet Pick-up is this Friday (3/20) from 4:30-6:30pm!

We're also hosting a Drive-Thru Non-Perishable Food Collection same time, same place!

Greetings, New Song Church!

In our series on Jeremiah, we've learned he's also the author of Lamentations where we read, *"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."*

This is **Good News** for days when we wake up not entirely sure of what the headlines might bring: stock markets go up and then down, local areas are confirming additional cases (Charlottesville), the reality of schools not being in session has officially hit home... there are many reminders of CHANGE in all directions. But *with* change, our God *goes before*.

Yesterday, we gathered with many of our closest & newest friends via Livestream worship. It was great to see so many popping in for song, prayer, Scripture, message and a time to "be together," even if not in the same room. Truly, the church has never been "just" a building. We exist in all places, from living rooms to phones and, of course, in person.

Bishop Sharma D. Lewis has confirmed **services in all Virginia United Methodist Churches will again be suspended for this coming Sunday** for in-person, large-group worship services. As such, on Sunday, March 22, I will join our worship & tech teams for a **10am livestream**. We will be appropriately spaced apart and will broadcast live. As always, don't forget to fill out an **E-CONNECT CARD** for prayers, questions & concerns AND to **GIVE** of your tithes and offerings!

A few more things:

1). Worship:

This week is #5 of a 5-part message series on ***FAIL: what to do when things go wrong***, a study by Matt Miofsky. This week, the topic is: **ON THE OTHER SIDE OF EXILE**. Join & let us know where you're worshipping (maybe even with a pic?)!

2). Giving/Offerings/Expenses

As was said last week, it's true to share: ***we still have expenses to pay***. These priorities include ministries, charities, missions, staff, curriculum, subscriptions, etc. In order to provide to all responsibilities the Church sustains, we rely heavily upon God's people honoring the call to be generous and tithe.

Our PushPay App is available on your phone. Text: [newsongchurch](#) to this number: [77977](#) (and follow the prompts) It's that easy!

You can also make a financial contribution to the Church via our website: www.newsongumc.org/give (Credit card, bank account, transfers and electronic check options are all available.)

Checks can be mailed to the Church, as well. We have many who choose to give offerings through their bank, directly. Our Finance & Leadership Teams continue to meet and oversee the ministry operations of the church via email and online tools that equip us for such a time as this. Our work demands and appreciates your assistance in this way!

3). Small Groups

Please feel free to refer to Update #3's "Considerations" for whether to meet as a small group; these gatherings are not to take place at the Church facility: if this change in spaces raise questions, please let me know.

- Online, ZOOM, FaceTime, Email and text options do exist, as well.
- You can also refer to our FREE RightNow Media account at: www.newsongumc.org/rightnow-media

4). Visits, Meals, Prayer, SonShine Baskets, etc.

If you need any care, we want to be there for you and will do all we can in any number of scenarios: let us know if you are in need of prayer, care, a run to the stores or pharmacy, etc. The best way to do this is to use our E-Connect Card, email or phone: www.newsongumc.org/connect-card | info@newsongumc.org | 804.559.6064

Our staff will be checking voicemail remotely; all calls should be returned no later than 24 hours.

5). Office Hours/Facility Use

We are doing all that we can to abide by the Governor's and Bishop's expectations. **Therefore, our main campus is closed until March 27, 2020**, as we sanitize and aim to have our facility at its best for when we are allowed to return. Facility use remains ill-advised and discouraged. Staff are working remotely during this time of precaution.

6). Backpack Ministry

Many have asked: HOW CAN I HELP? We have a way!

This Friday night, March 20, from 4:30-6:30pm, we are hosting a Community-Wide Non-Perishable Food Drive. We'd love to see our gloved volunteers fill up every backpack & bag of groceries we can and get them into the community via the Backpack Ministry & through MCEF (Mechanicsville Churches Emergency Functions): www.facebook.com/4mcef

If you would like to volunteer to help, please let us know: www.newsongumc.org/connect-card

7). Mission Possible 5K & Festival

- **A drive-thru packet pick up will be held at the Church's front loop on Friday, March 20, 4:30-6:30pm.** All registered participants will be able to get their t-shirts and swag bags in this drive-thru experience!
- The first 59 vehicles/participants to come through the drive-thru will get to draw a **gift certificate** from Dick's Sporting Goods, ranging in value from \$5 - \$50: don't miss out!
- **Don't let Social Distancing stop you from being social! Just do it differently and run or walk your own Virtual 5K!**
- Wear your 5K t-shirt and run or walk on your own, then do the following:
 - #1: **Take a picture of yourself in your race t-shirt!**
 - #2: Tag **#NSMP5K20** on social media and at: facebook.com/growingnewsong
 - Not on social media?
 - #3: Email us your photo to: 5K@newsongumc.org

We appreciate your grace with this change of plans, and we value your support of our next international mission trip serving Haitians scheduled for summer of 2021.

If you'd rather defer your registration fee to the MISSION POSSIBLE 5K & Festival for March 2021 (date TBD), we completely understand and regret we weren't able to provide everything you signed up for.

Simply email us at: 5K@newsongumc.org by March 31st to defer your registration fee.
(Keep this year's t-shirt and swag with our compliments!)

SUNNY days are ahead!

Join us on Sunday, May 31 (or **May 3.1 - 5K Day!**) at New Song Church; wear your race t-shirt and join us for Worship at 9 or 10:30am. We're planning to celebrate our 5K participants and sponsors and share stories about our international mission trips – don't miss out! All are invited!

A **Blood Drive** is also scheduled for May 31 through the American Red Cross. Stay tuned for how to sign-up for this additional opportunity on how to be someone's hero!

8). Executive Ministry Team

On March 8, the Simplified Board Structure was presented for our new **Executive Ministry Team**. The presentation, job description for members, and an application can all be found at: www.newsongumc.org/church-leadership Feel free to read the attachments, pray and discern, and if God is leading YOU to join, fill out an application today!!

Please be in touch, directly, should you have any concerns or questions.

Only the best; will see you very soon!

Faithfully,

Pastor Chad<><

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