

# **New Song United Methodist Church**

## **Community Garden Guidelines and Application**

7450 Colts Neck Road, Mechanicsville, Virginia 23111

Phone: 804-559-6064 or Email: [CommunityGarden@newsongumc.org](mailto:CommunityGarden@newsongumc.org)

### **Community Garden Guidelines:**

1. One 4' x 8' plot per gardener/family. Plots are free of charge and are assigned on a first come, first serve basis.
2. The Community Garden will open Saturday, May 16th for planting.
3. Produce must be harvested, and the plots cleaned by Saturday, October 31st. This includes the removal of everything brought into the garden. Uncleared plots will lose the privilege of using a plot next season.
4. Garden hours are from dawn until dusk, seven days a week.
5. Gardeners are responsible for providing their own tools, seeds and plants.
6. Water, hose(s), and nozzle(s) will be available at the garden. Watering is the responsibility of the gardener and the gardener is requested to stay on-site while they are using the water
7. All gardeners are responsible for controlling the weeds at the beginning of and throughout the growing season as well as preventing them from spreading to other gardens.
8. Please use only established paths for going to and from plots and keep them clear.
9. Pesticides and herbicides are prohibited.
10. All trash that is not organic and biodegradable must be removed from the site by the gardener (e.g. bags, seed packets, etc.) and placed in the dumpster behind the church.
11. Community Garden space is at a premium. Please honor the spirit of community by tending to your garden on a regular basis. If the committee deems that you have abandoned your plot, two warning notices will be given over a 2-week period. After this time, the plot will be cleared, and you will be unable to use a plot the following year.
12. Children must be supervised during the garden visits. Pets are not allowed.
13. Vegetables and annual flowers may be planted. Corn and other tall crops are prohibited in the Community Garden as they may shade a neighboring plot.
14. If assistance is needed to care for the plot, please contact a committee member or fellow gardener who will assist you in finding care for the period needed (example, out of town, medical issues, etc.).
15. Gardeners are responsible to inform guests, family members and other invitees of the Guidelines.
16. New Song Church supports several local food outreach programs that accept fresh vegetables, including FeedMore, Hanover Evangelical Friends Church, and MCEF. Place any produce you would like to contribute in the marked bin inside the playground and we are happy to deliver it weekly along with our contributions.
17. New Song United Methodist Church is not liable in case of accident, theft, or vandalism.
18. All gardeners are encouraged to get to know one another and share in the wealth of their crops.