



Quarterly Report from our Executive Director

Visit our Website



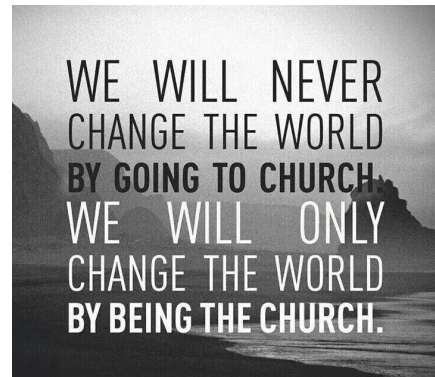
Our hearts and hands are focused on reflecting Christ's love by reaching out, inviting in, and serving others.

"We all need somebody to lean on..." (Feel free to [sing along!](#))

*"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping."
-Fred Rogers*

We are living in a different world right now. The Fred Rogers' quote above has always been a favorite of mine and it describes our New Song family perfectly-- especially this past month.

As soon as the coronavirus became imminent for our nation, our congregation stepped up! We were flooded with emails, phone calls, text messages, and Facebook requests offering to help! You volunteered to run errands, pick up groceries, collect prescriptions from local pharmacies, donate your food/toiletries, etc. I could go on and on! You put your worries and your own needs aside because you wanted to do everything you could for your neighbor. YOU were the helpers. YOU were showing the love of Christ. YOU were BEING the church! You still are and it is an amazing thing to witness!



Church has looked different these past few weeks. We have adjusted to live-streaming our sermons with the help of our incredible staff and volunteers. We have sent in e-connection cards with needs and prayer requests. Some of us have officially transitioned our method of tithing to Pushpay. To quote Pastor Chad, *"Our expenses for staff, utilities, mortgage, and more remain in place. Your support for our ministries remains a critical piece to how we are able to respond to the needs in our community."* We have had to get creative to continue our mission all while following guidelines from the CDC, national, state, and local governments.

We still have work to do! We have trying times ahead and the uncertainty of tomorrow, but friends, **God is with us**. He never leaves us. He never forsakes us. Deuteronomy 31:8 tells us *"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."* Rest in that truth.

We are here for you. If you need something or maybe just a listening ear, reach out to us! How can we help you? We're all in this together and we will get through this together.

Blessings,
[Katie Payne](#)

Facility Updates

We have had a few updates to mention over the last quarter. We have installed new thermostats throughout the building to allow all units to work together instead of against one



another. This will cut down on our electricity costs moving forward.

With the help of our our tech team and volunteers, we have upgraded to LiveStream.com. This new platform allows us to broadcast to YouTube, Facebook Live and Vimeo. This was an improvement we had on our radar, but COVID-19 pushed up our timeline.

We can also report that our new security camera system is up and running. A huge thank you to Drew for spearheading this project for us!

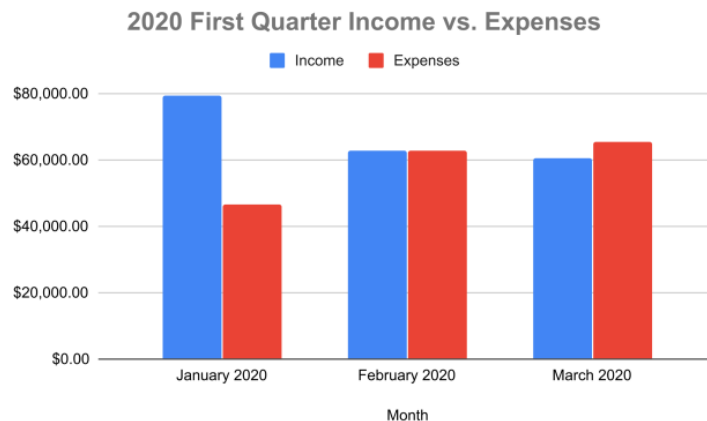
Our team is still hard at work to bring New Song's dream of a pavilion to fruition! We have had a few snags in regards to permitting and approvals, but we are well on our way of adding this new structure to our facility! Our timeline may be extended, but it is still a work in progress!

Financial Updates

We were off to a record breaking start to 2020! Below is a look at the last three months income vs. expenditures. In light of our current reality, New Song has made some changes that, while implemented in March, will not show a savings until April or later. We wanted to keep you apprised of the many ways that we are striving to be good stewards of the financial tithes and offerings you have given to New Song.

- All HVAC settings have been adjusted to reflect an empty building
- Our staff and leaders remain under a spending freeze
- We have returned all previously purchased items for events that have since been canceled
- We have reduced postage costs by transitioning many of our mailing needs to digital methods
- We have delayed all major purchasing until the fall
- We have reduced our electric/power bills
- We are making use of saved credit card reward points to pay subscriptions and services
- We have continued to creatively suspend normal operating expenses

If you have ideas on further ways that New Song can be saving money or "cutting back", please feel free to contact me directly by [clicking here](#).



If you would like to contribute New Song financially, we have many options for you!

- Check out our website at www.newsongumc.org/give
- Text the word **newsongchurch** to the number 77977
- Download our church app- search New Song UMC
- Mail us a check
- Visit our new locked, outdoor **JOY BOX** (also known as our mailbox)

To view our previous reported financial statements, budgets and newsletters, please [click here](#).

Food Collection and the Backpack Ministry- March 20th

COVID-19 has had a devastating impact to many in our community. Many are without jobs, food, and basic necessities. Social distancing remains in effect, but many of our neighbors need us now more than ever. New Song held a food collection on Friday, March 20th from 4:30 PM until 6:30 PM. Our community was asked to donate non-perishable food by way of a drive-thru! Our volunteers went car to car to collect your donations.



During those two hours, we were able to collect **over 400 items** for the local food pantry & Backpack Ministry!

Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness in the midst of uncertainty.

Virtual Town Hall- April 5th



Church-Wide Virtual Town Hall
(zoom) Sunday, April 5, 4pm

Join us for a Virtual Town Hall on Sunday, April 5th at 4:00PM.

We want to "check-in," answer any questions that would be helpful about our Church's ongoing ministry and COVID-19 response, and for an update on our Executive Ministry Team/Simplified Board Structure.

We'll take about 30-40 minutes and then get you back to quarantining. Open to all parts of our church - feel free to join by clicking this link:

[Virtual Town Hall on Zoom](#)

Hearts, Hands and Feet Sunday- April 5th



Due to the stay-at-home order, this event has gone **digital!**

- Gift cards can be dropped in our JOY BOX (mailbox), mailed or ordered online
- Gently used shoes will be collected at a later date
- Food items will be delivered to our local food bank directly, and
- Our kid's Easter Packets will now be available online

We anticipate extra requests for our Financial Assistance Fund in the coming weeks. You can support this cause by going to: www.newsongumc.org/give Please select *Financial Assistance* from the drop down menu on the donation page.

For those who prefer to give without leaving your house, gift cards can be sent to the Church directly via certain websites. For example, Kroger (which helps with both food and gas) is one example. To purchase a Kroger gift card now, [click here](#).

These efforts will immediately make their way back into the community as we support local residents in need.

Remember: NO drive-thru collections will be happening this Sunday, but please help us share the word of how to help virtually and online with your assistance!

SOLES4SOULS

Turning shoes and clothing into opportunity

In conjunction with our Mission Possible 5k, we wanted to support Soles4Souls. Soles4Souls collects new and gently used shoes to send to entrepreneurs in developing countries, providing relief, creating jobs and empowering people to break the cycle of poverty.

In just a few short weeks, New Song has collected **over 75 pairs** of shoes that will be sent to Soles4Souls for distribution where they are needed most.

If you are doing some spring cleaning, don't forget to save your gently used shoes! All styles are welcome. We anticipate continuing this effort when we are back together again soon-- **VERY** soon.

Executive Ministry Team (EMT)



Beginning on May 1, 2020, our church will be transitioning to a Simplified Board Structure. In doing so, we will be creating an Executive Ministry Team (EMT). The EMT will be a small group of church members that will meet monthly to discuss and evaluate all aspects of our church to make sure we are listening to God's direction as we move forward.

How can you help?

- PRAY! Pray for our leaders, our staff, our Pastor, and our church during this transition.
- Get involved! Our EMT will be guiding our church, but we still need everyone to pitch in. Task Teams will be created as needs arise and we will be asking for your expertise.
 - Do you enjoy building maintenance? We will have a team for you!
 - Do you enjoy numbers and auditing? We will have a team for you!
 - Do you want to be a part of growing our church and a building campaign? We will have a team for you!

To find out more about how to get connected or if you would like to share any feedback, please visit our website [here](#) or [email us](#).

National Day of Prayer- May 7th



We observe the National Day of Prayer annually on the first Thursday of May. People of all faiths are invited to be in prayer for our nation and its leaders.

To view the 2020 National Prayer for America [click here](#).

To view resources and guided prayer maps, please [click here](#).

"Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (MSG)
