

# FORWARD

**Phase II Expansion:  
Ministries + Facilities**



# **FORWARD**

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At New Song Church, we seek to  
Love God, love others, and serve all.

Everything we do is ultimately to accomplish the goal of introducing people to Christ and seeing lives transformed through faith. God has placed us in this specific mission field to reach more people, impact more lives, and be more effective for God's work in the Kingdom. Since first opening in 1997, New Song has become a place of connection and hope as we invite others to love, and be loved by, Jesus Christ.

The God-sized mission our church has been challenged to accomplish requires us to move **FORWARD** as a unified congregation doing abundantly more than all we have dared to dream before. By way of physical space, **FORWARD** calls us to increase our square footage for discipleship and outreach ministries. We will have more room for hospitality as guests enter our lobby, along with increased space for children, parking, enhanced exterior spaces, additional restrooms, and an administrative suite.

**FORWARD** makes several bold claims about our ministries.

Imagine having space for more small groups and community engagement, along with new opportunities for those who seek to encounter Christ. Each meeting, gathering, worship service, event, and festival serves as an invitation to grow in faith and service to Christ across our region.

We believe God is calling us to go beyond our walls and move **FORWARD** as God transforms lives and calls us to reach even more people. During the months of April, May, and June, many invitations will be offered around the topics of Prayer, Gratitude, New Song's Ministries, and more. We can't wait to share this GOOD news with everyone in our community.

In order to live in this **FORWARD** momentum, we are focusing on the topics of faith, generosity, and service to all. Successful results will require everyone to work together in a unified way. We are one church. We have one mission. To financially support this powerful goal, we are proposing a "One Fund" approach. Our total ministry investment over the next two years is close to 2 million dollars for increased ministry opportunities and additional square footage. A "One Fund" will bring everyone together under a united purpose and common direction.

We believe that **FORWARD** will be a defining moment in our church's story.

In addition to enhanced facilities, **FORWARD** will also enlarge the scope of our ministries for years to come. United in purpose and faith, the goal of this booklet is to help capture our vision as we pray:

let's move **FORWARD**, together.

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# Our Story

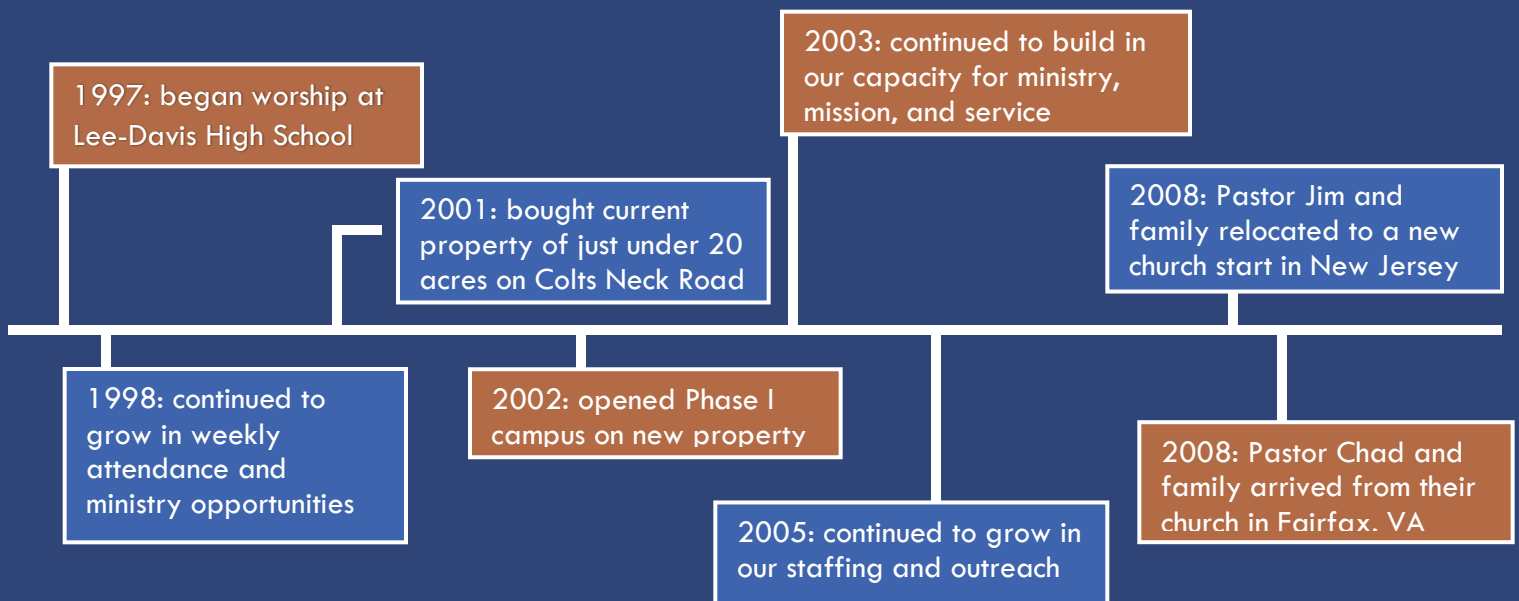
Twenty-five years ago, a young adult small group sat in the Aldersgate United Methodist Church social hall. Pastor Jim Chandler, playing the theme from Mission Impossible, shared the idea of launching a new church. As this group began praying about launching an opportunity in Mechanicsville, they saw the pieces of the puzzle come together around starting a new type of service at the former Lee-Davis High School on Sunday mornings.

Those early days involved setting up speakers, music stands, and portable ministries for children and youth in library and classroom corners. Every event imaginable was included: Easter Egg Hunts at homes and parks, cookouts, small groups, Christmas gatherings, and, of course, weekly worship.

The foresight of these dreamers paid off. Through hard work and a steadfast commitment to the vision God had given them, the church they once prayed for became a reality. Now we're all part of that inspired dream that began in prayer a generation ago.

As a brand new journey begins anew, we're focusing on understanding God's will for New Song. We're working hard to discern the best way to expand our impact locally, regionally, and globally. We want to feed people through backpack ministries and food pantries, but even more, we want to invite people to hunger and thirst for all God offers. We find that this type of goal is accomplished through a fresh understanding of all God is calling us to do through prayer, faith, connections, and relationships.

With all our hearts, the prayer of this movement is to raise up even more generations who are in love with God and willing to engage the world in heart, mind, soul, and strength. As Christ's disciples, we are ready to take on the mission of living for Christ anywhere and at any time. We are calling this initiative **FORWARD**.



# What is the *FORWARD* Initiative?

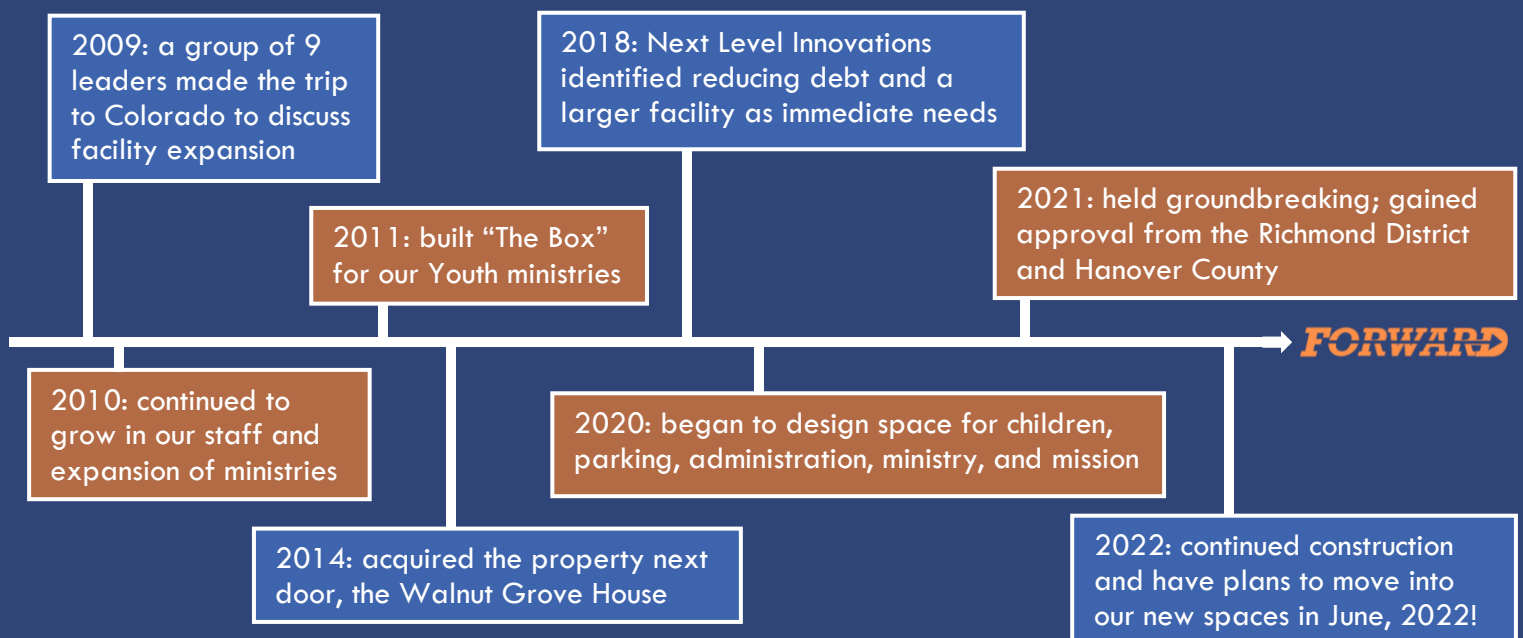
*FORWARD* is the direction God is calling our church to go!

In the past, we have heard that there are too many programs, collections, and emphases at any one time. With a crowded line of sight to our vision, we have unintentionally run the risk of veering off track or heading sideways. In hindsight, clarifying our priorities would have helped in our prayers, ministries, finances, and initiatives.

Placing the whole picture of New Song's ministries into full view requires us to both know where we have come from and where we are headed. With laser-like precision, God is revealing how as ONE church, we can generate momentum and turn dreams into reality much more efficiently. We recognize that most members of our church never see the budgets of the church. While we appreciate the trust this represents, we want everyone to have access and transparency to the impact God is bringing about every single day.

With changing times and practices in the church comes an opportunity to refine our ways and improve our outcomes. The piecemeal approach we have used in the past where we talk about everything in random fashion makes it virtually impossible to see clearly what God is doing through our church in the important areas of mission and ministry.

As a result of having too many scattered pieces to our ministry puzzle, the directional signage connected to our ministries has been much less focused than first desired. Instead of being a squiggly line running here and there, we see where God is now leading us to pull together as ONE. When God's people experience forward progress in ONE direction, momentum ensues. With momentum, a movement emerges. Within a movement, major challenges are met and God's dreams are transformed into reality!



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## What is *FORWARD*, cont.

This *FORWARD* initiative is a plan to ensure that everyone has a way to move ahead in a unified way. For every dollar tithed or contributed to New Song, we are immediately able to represent where these funds are being applied.

*FORWARD* also allows us to have resources go out immediately. Many of our members may be surprised to know that we have had as many as 93 designated accounts along the way. We “house” significant, difference-making funds in our larger checking account that, sadly, never get used because of how restrictive the designation was at the time the donation was made. We feel there is a better way.

In the One Fund, we will be able to take these scattered pieces and pull them together in a coherent, thoughtful way. Essentially, a One Fund is a 2-year Ministry Plan that accounts for the church’s ministries, missions, special initiatives, and events. We also include contingencies in each area for those unforeseen questions. Nothing we have supported to date will end up being decreased in its funding.

- 1) Each week, we will hear a new celebration of what our giving has allowed the One Fund to accomplish
- 2) We will no longer need to make special appeals and pleas from the front for various needs and causes

As everyone gives faithfully to the One Fund, we are all working as ONE to provide for each need the Lord has lifted to our attention. These needs include the basics: utilities, mortgage payments, staff salaries, ministry expenses, and even coffee for Sunday mornings. The One Fund also includes support for the many outreach opportunities we support and various natural disasters before they even strike. The One Fund takes into account the major and more obvious expenses a church needs to provide, along with an intentional eye on future growth and opportunities.

Instead of multiple budgets, special offerings and appeals, and asking to give to so many causes, we boil it down to ONE. This one, single ministry plan is supported with every dollar you contribute. For every dollar given, you are helping the full scope of ministries we dare to accomplish – it is that clear. We discern that the gifts and abilities God has given to you are on purpose. How you use your time, talent, and treasures are a blessing not only to New Song, but all that God is cultivating in your faith and witness.

Our ministries exist with more harmony when strategically organized as part of a unified, easy-to-understand giving process that invites all to participate. Weekly celebrations will help keep everyone informed of what was accomplished each week. We will immediately see how our dollars have been able to make a difference.

Each contribution immediately makes an impact for the entire ministry. The Bible refers to us as being one body with one faith. We are all moving *FORWARD*, together, as one in this way!

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# 2-YEAR TOTAL FOR THE ONE FUND

## FACILITIES: \$420,000

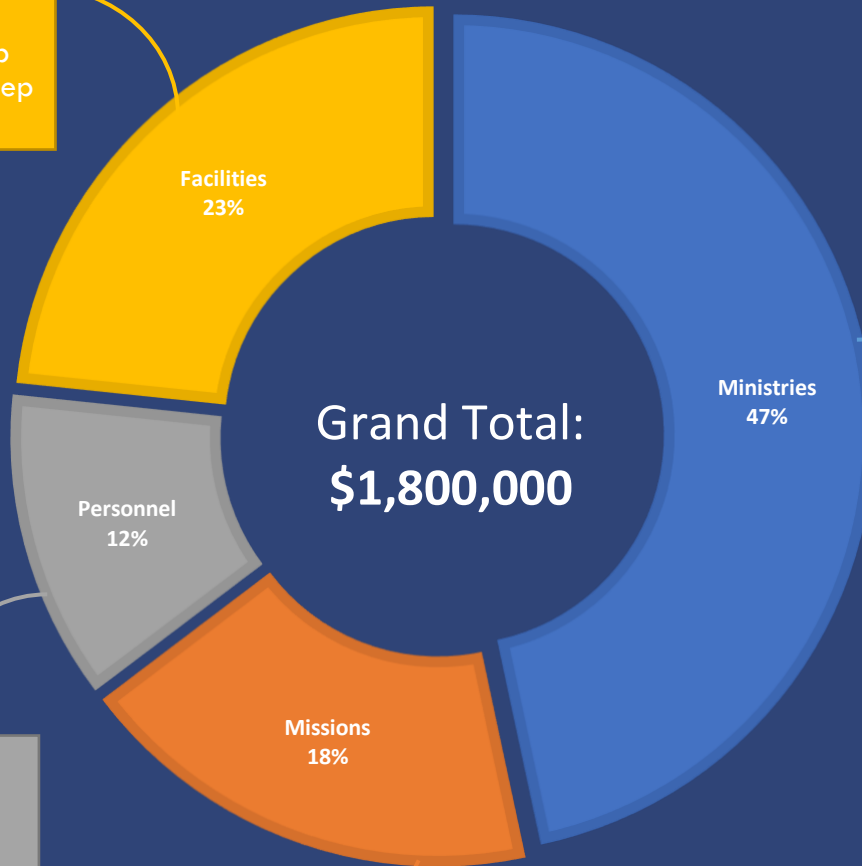
Includes:

- Phase II Mortgage
- Utilities
- Insurance
- Repairs
- Parsonage upkeep
- Walnut Grove upkeep
- Contingencies

## MINISTRIES: \$840,000

Includes:

- Children
- Youth
- Young Adults
- Small Groups
- Connections
- Counseling
- Worship
- Communications



## PERSONNEL:

**\$215,000**

Includes:

- Staff Support
- Administration Benefits
- Miscellaneous

## MISSIONS: \$325,000

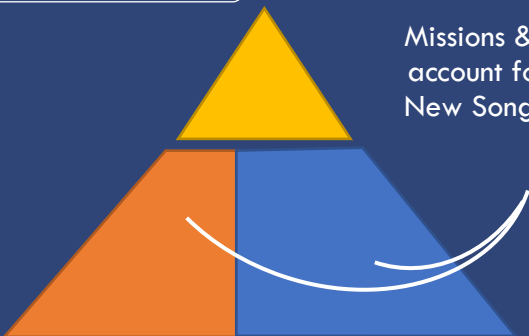
-Includes: Denominational Apportionments

- Outreach Ministries
- 5k & Community Festival
- International Mission Trip
- Meal Packaging Event
- Christmas Offering, Easter Offering
- Backpack Ministry
- Natural Disaster Response
- Financial Assistance Fund
- Youth Missions
- Unspecified Missions

\*\* Collections and on-site projects continue for:  
Operation Christmas Child, Backpack Ministry,  
FeedMore, Our Shepherds Way, Christmas  
Giving Tree, CARITAS, and 6 annual Blood Drives

## Did you know...?

Missions & Ministries  
account for **65%** of  
New Song's budget!



# FAQ's

What is my financial commitment to *FORWARD* all about?

Together, our congregation is pledging to support New Song's full ministries and mission. *FORWARD*'s budget is an all-inclusive approach that contains everything from our ministries to construction and even our special offerings typically received in a year. Because it includes everything, we are asking you and your family to prayerfully set a goal for your tithes, support, and building asking God to empower

What about our special offerings and commitments?

this amount in perfect alignment with God's will for your journey.

special offerings, mission funds as ONE. We are each household to calculate

Major offerings and our included in *FORWARD*. receive a special offering

How does *FORWARD* change our budget process?

benevolence cause, but that will be an exception. Every known need is designed to be covered by the One Fund. You will hear about these celebrations every single week as we celebrate God's gracious provision.

mission emphases are all On occasion, we may for a specific

How long will my commitment to *FORWARD* last?

Our fiscal year will now begin July 1 each year. We are now building a 2-year budget instead of just the 1-year cycle. Our Executive Ministry Team will put much of the same work we have always used into the budget: each ministry will have input and our monthly meetings will cover a significant review of the church's financials.

What if we raise more than we need...?

This prayerful commitment for *FORWARD* is considered a 2-year goal: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024.

A new staffing position could be considered (ex. Family Ministries Director), we can pay down additional principle on the mortgage, or even enhance existing and create new ministries. The options are unlimited!



### Additional Questions?

Please feel free to reach out to Pastor Chad or our Campaign Chair, Kathy Emond (Jr.) for more information. Remember, we want you to have all the information you need to make a prayerful, well-informed decision.

## GENEROSITY

### How do I decide how much to commit?

The prayerful discernment required to answer the question of “how much” is very personal in nature. No one can make that decision for you, and we genuinely interpret the scriptures around this topic to say: God will lead you through the power of the Holy Spirit. As you approach this monumental decision, we encourage you to:



#### Reach out to God

Prayerfully seek God’s guidance as you make your commitment decision.



#### Evaluate your Resources

Truly consider everything God has put under your stewardship.



#### Nail Down the Specifics

Determine specifically how your resources can be used to compile a generous contribution.



#### Walk by Faith

Determine your best commitment and trust God to help you successfully fulfill it.



#### Educate Yourself

Consider “out of the box” ways that you can increase your contribution.



#### Get out of Debt

Work on paying off your personal debt so that you are able to give even more.



### **Redirect Present Expenditures**

Some families have short-term expenditures or loans that will soon be settled. Once these funds are paid off, the funds, which are already part of the budget, can be directed to *FORWARD*.

## **PRACTICAL strategies to FOLLOW**



### **Practice Priority Budgeting**

Many families may choose to rearrange their financial priorities. By identifying “unnecessary” or “less important” expenses that are currently in the budget, the family may free up funds that can become part of their One Fund commitment.



### **Donate Assets**

Some families may have stocks, bonds, or other securities that have appreciated in value. These assets can be included in their commitment. There are practical tax advantages to this type of transaction, but there are also potential penalties. Therefore, before making a contribution of this type, we encourage you to consult a CPA, tax attorney, or financial advisor.



### **Legacy Giving**

None of us will escape the realities of experiencing our last breath. Many elect to never discuss their wishes with their loved ones, let alone set up a will or plans for what is to happen to their estate. We have had many throughout the years who have included the church’s ministries in their will either through investments, stocks, direct donations, etc. These funds have been incredible blessings and continue to make a tremendous difference.

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## WHEN we get CREATIVE

In reading the previous page, some suggestions may not apply to everyone. If you are seeking more creative ways of securing funds to include in your commitment, why not try some of these recommendations?

- Sell some collectibles that you've had for a while and donate the proceeds.
- Postpone a large family vacation or a remodeling project and contribute what you would have spent.
- Get a part-time job and contribute your income from that position.
- Turn a hobby into a sales venue and contribute the profits.
- Put down a latte here and there or just order water next time you're dining out.
- Join with neighbors and host a yard sale with the proceeds going to *FORWARD*.

## ONE last CONSIDERATION

Making a contribution to a campaign is not primarily about **giving money to the church**. It is actually taking a huge step in faith and prayerfully working to understand God's plans for your life even better. Being part of *FORWARD* is about making an offering that reflects God's direct ask of you – one that reveals how God has empowered you to participate. Before your final decision is made, evaluate the commitment you are planning by considering these questions:

- Does the amount I am giving require me to trust God?
- Does the amount I am giving represent genuine sacrifice to God?
- Does the amount I am giving express my level of gratitude for the way Jesus and the Church have blessed my life?

## TAKE the next STEP

Once you have determined where you are in this journey, take the next step!  
In an all-in way, we encourage you to mark down where God is calling you to set your 2-year Faith Goal.



## WAYS of GIVING

**Step 5: Extravagant**  
*"I go beyond my tithe."*

**Step 4: Tithing**  
*"I faithfully give 10% of my income."*

**Step 3: Intentional**  
*"I give consistently but less than 10% of my income."*

**Step 2: Occasional**  
*"I give but not consistently."*

**Step 1: First Time**  
*"I have never given but today is my first step!"*

## WAYS to GIVE



**Online:**  
[www.newsongumc.org/give](http://www.newsongumc.org/give)



**Text:**  
 Text 'NEWSONGCHURCH'  
 To 833-251-0111



**App:**  
 Search "New Song UMC"



**In-person:**

Joy Boxes or Offering Basket

**Mail:**

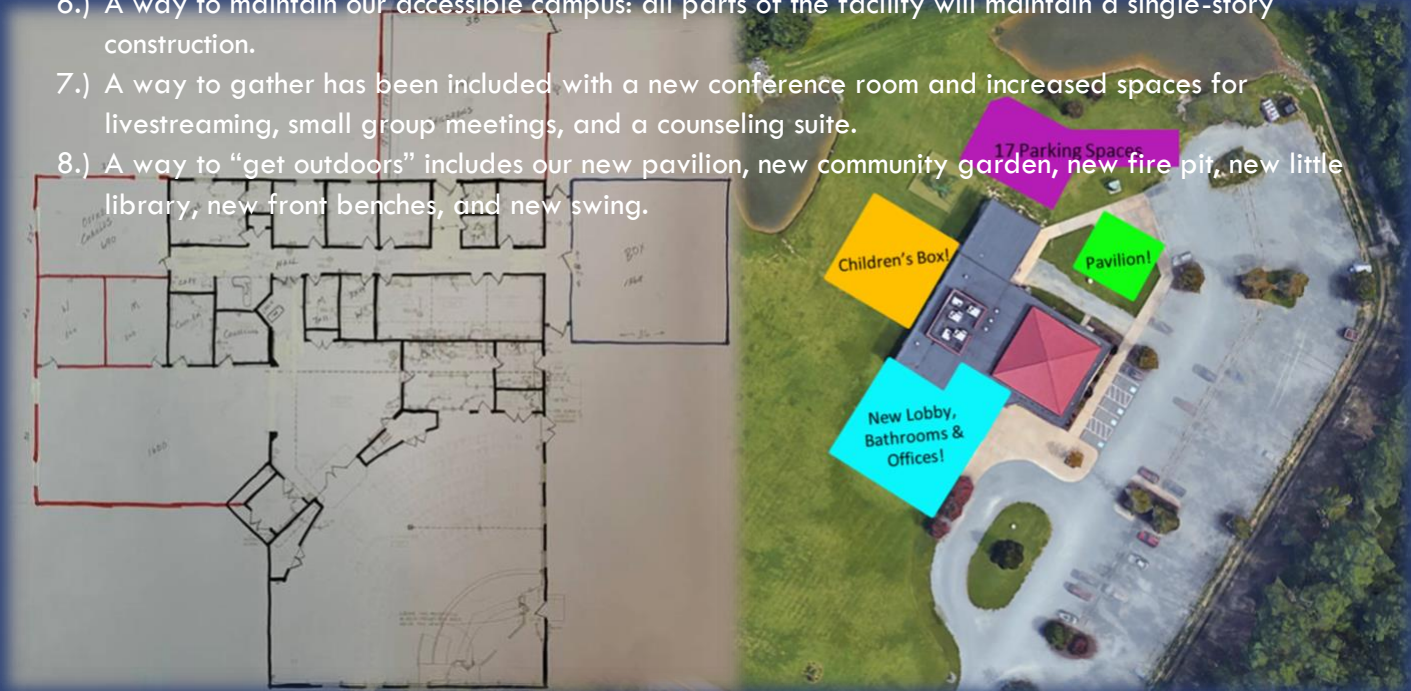
Secure Mailbox: 7450 Colt's Neck Road, Mech., VA 23111

**Securities:**

Contribute stocks, bonds, or other securities.

# WHAT will be built as part of FORWARD?

- 1.) A way to provide more room for our Children's Ministry: our children will now have their own "Box" very similar in size to the "Youth Box." The entire children's and youth wing will now be secured with its own restrooms and entrances.
- 2.) A way to allow for greater accessibility into our facilities and room for our First Impressions Ministries: an enlarged lobby and welcoming environment. This expanded space will assist in relieving our frequent over-crowding.
- 3.) A way to afford more parking places within close proximity to our main entrance: 20 new spaces will be positioned near the ponds.
- 4.) A way to provide more restrooms: just off of our new lobby, you will see extra "necessity rooms!"
- 5.) A way to have room for our staff to expand and have work stations to work collaboratively.
- 6.) A way to maintain our accessible campus: all parts of the facility will maintain a single-story construction.
- 7.) A way to gather has been included with a new conference room and increased spaces for livestreaming, small group meetings, and a counseling suite.
- 8.) A way to "get outdoors" includes our new pavilion, new community garden, new fire pit, new little library, new front benches, and new swing.



# CONNECTING people to God and OTHERS



We invite you to consider the dreams of God and how we can work together to bring such goals into fruition. We have several God-sized dreams for you to begin praying about already as a result of looking *FORWARD*.

### **Community Outreach**

Let us join together to reach out and serve our neighbors: Hearts & Hands weekends, mission projects, helping local agencies who benefit the homeless and underserved in our region through their feeding ministries and clothing closets.

### **School Partnership**

We continue to work on ways where we can bless Cold Harbor Elementary School: their families, staff, administration, and any needs they may hold throughout the year.

### **Discipleship**

What would happen if everyone at New Song began to take the opportunity to reach ONE more for Christ each and every day? What if we remained open to conversations with relatives, colleagues, friends, and even strangers about where we are seeing God at work? What if we were to invite others into our small group, Sunday worship, or service project? We have so many ways to celebrate God's invitations in our lives!

### **Onward and Outward**

We have begun dreaming of a Parent's Day Out ministry here at New Song that would allow us to influence families in entirely new ways for Christ. We have also been dreaming about a new outreach opportunity to our east where many families are currently underserved by way of new faith communities. What if we were to start home churches and intentional small groups in this area? What if we more intentionally began partnerships with local agencies, congregations, and even more close to home: our Scouts, the ballfields, or local subdivisions?

# **FORWARD**

- SERMON SERIES STUDY GUIDE -

*“Let your eyes look directly **FORWARD**,  
and set your eyes on what lies before you.”  
(Proverbs 4:25)*

**Weekly Prayer Focus for *FORWARD***



Sunday, April 24  
Our Church Staff & Leadership

Sunday, May 1  
Our Ministries

Sunday, May 8  
Our Faith

Sunday, May 15  
For Moving **FORWARD** in our Faith

Sunday, May 22  
Our Families

Sunday, May 29  
Our Relationships

Sunday, June 5  
Our Generosity & Discernment

Sunday, June 12  
Our Graduates & Teachers

Sunday, June 19  
“Lord, what is it that You want to do through me?”

Sunday, June 26  
For those we’ve yet to meet & ministries we’ve yet to launch

Sunday, July 3-17  
Prayers of Praise & Thanksgiving!

Sundays, April 3-17, 2022

# PRAYER through signs and WONDERS

After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.

(Acts 4:31, NLT)

I used to have the news on as I would get ready in the mornings. They would sometime feature a spot called "The Good Stuff," and it was sponsored by a particular brand of cookie that is chocolate with a cream filling on the inside. I notice sometimes that people just want the "good stuff" about God... almost as if God's a magician. I know many who call orders out to the Lord as if God is some sort of short order cook at a diner: "I'll have money for the bills and an extra side of promotion for the career." Oh, if only life would just respond already to the orders we bark out!

That's not the love story found in the pages of MY Bible. My Bible is gut-wrenching and edge of your seat. Don't get me wrong: there's a LOT of Good News in the Good Book. But it's sandwiched not between cookies... it's intermingled between all kinds of adventures and loop-de-loops. Just like in life, we are encouraged to buckle up, hold tight, and trust. Often, I see wayward children far more than well-behaved. I see shattered marriages, busted finances, battered health reports, and patience that's about to snap. Our world can leave us wanting and longing for more. I submit prayer is my best go-to response. Prayer has changed things: major things. Situations that make us all stop and praise God from the core of our being. Prayer is one of the great ingredients we all need. Prayer can move mountains; prayer can move us.

## Points to Ponder:

- + Is there anything you feel led to pray for today?
- + What breaks your heart as you consider both the physical and spiritual needs of others?
- + Are you willing to ask God to disquiet your spirit and provoke you into some form of action?

## Action Steps:

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Sunday, April 24, 2022

# GRATITUDE and PERSPECTIVE

*One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan.*  
**(Luke 17:15-16, NLT)**

I allowed  
of their parking

Short Pump. I waved them on, and slowly they backed out... oh, so very slowly. About the time they cleared their turn to leave, a young employee at the nearby store whipped their car in "my" spot. I was disproportionately upset at first. I was the nice guy who let the slow driver back up: "how could you take "my" spot?" That night, this weird scene of give-and-take came to mind. What a first-world problem: in a lot full of empty spaces, I was upset that someone had stolen something that wasn't even mine in the first place. I turned on the news and saw some of the headlines about the Russian occupation of Ukraine. A hospital had been bombed, no less, along with untold scenes of utter destruction. A tremendous series of emotions came over my life: guilt, shame, sadness, and even embarrassment (at having been upset over a parking place) all flooded my eyes. I have friends in Poland and Ukraine: they are helping others and are safe. I saw stories of heroism and boldness. I saw countries coming together in a show of unity. It all culminated in a weird sense of gratitude: in the brokenness of our day, from the trivial to the surreal: I saw the hand of God at work, even as nothing else made any sense whatsoever.

someone to back out  
spot not long ago in

### **Points to Ponder:**

- + In thinking about your journey, who's been there to show you kindness and mercy, even if undeserved?
- + In thinking about Jesus, how have mercy and grace changed your life?
- + As you consider these acts of kindness, in what ways might you be able to express your gratitude?
- + How can showing gratitude be a game-changer for you, your family, or even your church?

### **Action Steps:**

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Sunday, May 1, 2022

# MINISTRY builds BRIDGES

*She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, and they have come to tell you how to be saved.” This went on day after day until Paul got so exasperated that he turned and said to the demon within her, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And instantly it left her.*  
**(Acts 16:17-18, NLT)**

This week’s theme is **about ministry,** despite the implication of exorcisms and the like. Notice what Paul does here: he allows something to build until he just cannot take it any longer and then he... ACTS! He takes action! He does something! The text says that Paul was *exasperated*. (It seems as though I know many who are exasperated!) We have all heard of stories where major agencies were launched. Something got under the skin of the inventor and a need to fix a problem just took over. Before long, we are able to report about these wonderful outcomes, but something was that spark that launched an entire wave of responses. I recently read about Clara Barton starting the American Red Cross. Maybe you have seen other agencies and organizations with similar originations? Sara and I have a favorite coffee shop who only hires employees with special needs because he wanted to “provide a life like others” for all. You name it, and someone has seen a need and chosen to act.

Too often, we forget to see needs in today’s times. We’ve become so polarized, but what if it didn’t have to be that way? What if people still saw needs and said, “It shouldn’t be this hard: I’m going to fix this.” These types of adventures take courage and involve risk, but look at what can happen when we choose to not turn a blind eye and, instead, act. What prompts you into action?

### Action Steps:

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### Points to Ponder:

- + In thinking about your life, what seems to be tugging at your heartstrings and asking you to help?
- + What changes if no one ever receives the nudge to help change the outcome?
- + What changes if everyone assumes “it’s someone else’s job” or always says they have no time?

# **BOLDLY going in FAITH**

*Then Jesus told him, "Go back home. Your son will live!" And the man believed what Jesus said and started home. While the man was on his way, some of his servants met him with the news that his son was alive and well. He asked them when the boy had begun to get better, and they replied, "Yesterday afternoon at one o'clock his fever suddenly disappeared!" Then the father realized that that was the very time Jesus had told him, "Your son will live." And he and his entire household believed in Jesus.*

**(John 4:50-53, NLT)**

Faith is the strength that can move mountains. For those who find great notoriety from worldly means, even they often come face-to-face with weakness when presented with great challenge. Even those thought to be powerful or mighty can discover that we all have conditions only God can resolve. Those who are able to step forward in faith can discover a whole new world of opportunity.

## **Action Steps:**

### **Points to Ponder:**

- + How does your faith, or lack of faith, affect your family and your church?
- + What bold steps of faith do you need to take today in order to see greater blessings in your life, family, job, or church?
- + How has God already been at work equipping you for what you are facing?
- + This week, what might God reveal to you? What bold next step might you take?

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# **COMMITMENT connects us to one ANOTHER**

*They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity — all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.*

**(Acts 2:46-47, NLT)**

Today could easily be called GENEROSITY Sunday or CELEBRATION Sunday or even COMMITMENT Sunday. However you end up defining it, we ultimately are saying loudly, “Thank you, God!” It’s not every day that we include these types of words in our planning... generosity, celebration, and commitment. I read a t-shirt recently that said, “Drink coffee and act like you know what you’re doing.” It made me laugh because so many of us have been trying to *act like we know what we’re doing* when in reality: we’ve all felt overwhelmed by the last two years as never before. No amount of coffee – not even a whistle or a clipboard – could make us feel like we “know what we’re doing.”

On Commitment Sunday, I celebrate that reality: through everything we’ve tried to do, we’ve had one solid reality behind us no matter our planning: *God is ultimately in charge*. Days like today remind us that God ultimately knows all that’s to be known. God knows what matters, what creates energy and how to help us in the best possible way. Today is a day about our discernment and our next steps, but in all honesty? Yes, today is a joyous day about all that’s to come in the life of our church. We will rejoice and be glad in it, as the scriptures say. Let us not miss the irrefutable fact we all have in common: God is ultimately in control. We can each rest easier knowing God is never taken by surprise.

### **Points to Ponder:**

- + God is at work at New Song Church! As you consider what the Lord is doing, what are you most grateful for in the life of your faith and this church?
- + What step of faith is God calling you to take to be part of an ever-growing vision of reaching our community and wider world for Christ?
- + The people of the early church made a commitment to see the cause of Christ advance boldly. What bold step is God calling you and your family to make?

### **Action Steps:**


# IMPORTANT dates for moving *FORWARD*

April 3:  
Weekly Prayer Emphases  
Began

April 24:  
*FORWARD* in Gratitude

May 1:  
*FORWARD* in Ministry

May 6-7:  
24-hour Prayer Vigil

May 8:  
*FORWARD* in Faith

May 15:  
*FORWARD* in Commitment:  
Distribute Generosity  
Cards

May 22 – June 19:  
**Big Give Month!**  
Receive Generosity Cards

June 26:  
**CELEBRATION Sunday!**

July 3-17:  
**Moving *FORWARD*:**  
**Announcement Sundays!**  
(VBS KICKOFF – July 17)

## WHY practice GENEROSITY?

### 1. God has been generous to us.

In Deuteronomy 7:13-14a, Moses shares, “He will love you and bless you and increase your numbers. He will bless the fruit of your womb, the crops of your land – your grain, new wine and oil – calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks in the land that he swore to your forefathers to give you. You will be blessed more than any other people...”

We practice generosity because God has generously blessed us in every way. Our generous giving is a response to God’s outrageous goodness.

### 2. We give generously to be a blessing to others.

In Acts 2:35, Paul shares, “In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus himself and said: It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

We practice generosity in order to share the blessings of God with those who are in need of every kind. Our generous giving provides a place for worship, food, shelter, medicine, clothing, comfort, and hope.

### 3. We give generously to share God’s Good News.

In Matthew 6:25a & 33, Jesus shares, “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life... But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you, as well.”

Our generous gifts empower our ministry of sharing the Good News of God’s love for all people as we work for justice, righteousness, and peace.

### 4. We give generously to discover true and lasting joy.

In II Corinthians 9:6-7, Paul shares, “Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

When we learn the lessons of generosity and practice them in our lives, we discover new joy and cheerfulness. Generosity brings JOY!

## **MORE about GENEROSITY**

What will it take for us to accomplish our goal of \$1.8 million over two year?

Yes, we pray for large gifts or grants – the sky’s the limit!

However, we must also consider how “little is much when it comes to God.”

Imagine small changes in our lives and how they might all add up!

Imagine how small sacrifices can culminate into having a large impact!

Here are just a few examples of how a small change could become very large when we are all ONE in this effort.

ACTIVITY PER WEEK	AVG. COST	X 104 WEEKS	X 100 FAMILIES
1 CUP OF COFFEE	\$4	\$416	\$41,600
1 FAST FOOD MEAL FOR FAMILY	\$25	\$2,600	\$260,000
1 ROUND OF GOLF OR MANI/PEDI	\$30	\$3,120	\$312,000
1 MOVIE FOR FAMILY	\$50	\$5,200	\$520,000

Obviously, not everyone experiences these specific expenses on a weekly basis, particularly in a pandemic.

These are reference points only and help emphasize: every little change can make a big difference!

Working together as a church family, we can reach this goal and equip New Song to carry out God’s plan for our ministry! As you pray over your commitment to the **FORWARD** initiative, take a look at this chart to see where you and your family might fit.

Gifts Needed	Gift Level	Monthly Gift (24 months)	Gift Level Total
1	\$180,000	\$7,500	\$ 480,000
1	\$96,000	\$4,000	\$ 96,000
1	\$72,000	\$3,000	\$ 72,000
3	\$48,000	\$2,000	\$ 96,000
3	\$36,000	\$1,500	\$ 108,000
4	\$24,000	\$1,000	\$ 96,000
6	\$19,200	\$800	\$ 115,200
8	\$14,400	\$600	\$ 115,200
10	\$9,600	\$400	\$ 96,000
14	\$7,200	\$300	\$ 100,800
18	\$6,000	\$250	\$ 108,000
20	\$4,800	\$200	\$ 96,000
Many	\$2,400	\$100	\$ 220,800
<b>Total Gift Goal</b>			<b>\$ 1,800,000</b>



# MY generosity WORKSHEET

What I normally give in ONE YEAR to...	Additional Gifts I Feel Led to Contribute...
\$ _____ Tithe/Offering (General Fund)	\$ _____ One-Time BIG GIVE Offering (Sunday, June 26)
\$ _____ Above & Beyond Tithing	\$ _____ Stocks
\$ _____ Building Fund/Mortgage	\$ _____ QCD (Qualified Charitable Distribution)
\$ _____ Missions/Outreach	\$ _____ DAF (Donor Advised Funds)
+\$ _____ Other	+\$ _____ Other
= \$ _____ Total for ONE YEAR	= \$ _____ Total for Additional Gifts
x2 = \$ _____	

**TOTAL GENEROSITY TO *FORWARD* FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS  
(July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024)**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 2-Year *FORWARD* Goal

Our 2-year goal (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024)  
for our Ministry Outreach is a total of \$1,800,000.

Please prayerfully consider how you will live into the *FORWARD* future  
that God has placed before us.

My commitment to *FORWARD* over the next two years:

ANNUAL GIVING (x2)	\$ _____
PLUS: SPECIAL GIFT	\$ _____
TOTAL TWO-YEAR COMMITMENT	\$ _____

**FORWARD**

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# FORWARD

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