

new song

***Making disciples of
Jesus Christ by:***

expectantly praying

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*And suddenly there was with
the angel a multitude of the
heavenly host praising God,
and saying, Glory to God in
the highest, and on earth
peace, good will toward men.*

Luke 2:13-14

***Merry Christmas
New Song!!!***



New Birth

EXPECTANTLY PRAYING

What does it mean to give birth? I really couldn't tell you because I have never experienced it myself. My wife and I have been blessed with two beautiful children. I remember the first time that I found out about Gabriel. I wanted to find out as much information as I could to help Tiffany have the best pregnancy possible. I learned about many of the aspects of pregnancy and even went as far as to figure out what she might be going through emotionally, hormonally, physically, and spiritually as she waited for our little one to come. What did I learn? Well, I learned that information was not as important as being there when she needed a back rub, getting food she craved, and standing beside her when she was going through the pains of labor.

I also learned a few things that we can

apply to our spiritual journeys as well. New birth is not easy...

It requires us to wait patiently. For new life and new birth to take place, we must wait for the Lord to do what God wants to do. Waiting for us can be tough when we hardly have time to wait for fast food anymore.

It requires us to adjust to the changes. During pregnancy, a woman goes through many changes. Some of these changes take some getting used to and some are just not fun at all. New birth requires that we accept the changes and learn that they are helping us take care of what is to come, just like a woman's body is being prepared to take care of her new child.

Finally, it is going to hurt in places. We will

or may go through pain like we have never felt before. But just as God has designed the woman to be able to handle the pain, God has designed the Church to do the same.

These past years have been painful for many of you. You have waited patiently for what God is going to do. In 2017, we are going to celebrate what God is going to do in and through New Song.

Get ready, for New Song is about to emerge as something completely new. For God makes all things new! We are going to look back and say...God did that!!!

Christmas shares with us that New Birth is possible in all of us. It shares that hope can be found in places unexpected.

~PJ~

hydrate

Student Ministries



Hydrate has been “going” strong this year through various changes in schedule and leadership. We have a great group of teenagers who share their faith and even give opportunity for questions in their faith.

Pilgrimage 2016

This year, Hydrate went on a retreat to Fayetteville, NC, to an even called Pilgrimage.

The main speaker was Romal Tune, who wrote a book called, *God's Graffiti*, and also wrote a devotion book to go along with the book.

The main message that Romal shared with us in his testimony and his sermon was that **we are all God's masterpiece.**

Our teenagers have many questions in life and often these questions come because they listen to the wrong voices. Romal shared that the world can seem to tell you all the bad things about you, while God actually made you into the perfect creation. God doesn't make mistakes.

Romal went on to share about his struggles with self-esteem, neglect, and even talked about how to forgive those people who hurt him most.

He shared that one of the most powerful things we can do is forgive.

Our group was even a part of a Guinness Book of World Records challenge of most teens tearing paper at the same time.

Hydrate also participated in Stop Hunger Now, in which they helped package 40,000 meals for people who are dying of starvation in the world. Our group (along with other youth groups) helped package over 4000 during our work session.

We thank everyone for the opportunity to go on this trip and connect with God.

Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

John 4:10

What does it mean to give Generously?

I often wonder what can be done with a widow's mite. I mean I know what Jesus is saying when he shares that **people who give as much as they possibly can (and then some) give more than a rich person giving the bare minimum.** I want to share with Jesus that I work with a budget and sometimes the bigger gifts are what we need.

But then I realized that I am missing the point. Giving generously is not about rich or poor or even middle class. It is about giving as much as we can give. So, when we give, we give our time, talents, gifts, money, and anything else to the best that we can.

I really believe that it is about sacrifice at the heart of giving.

2 Corinthians 8:9-15 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

I am encouraged by our New Song congregation. You all are generous in many ways and show your pastor what a truly sacrificial attitude and life looks like.

This year I pray that we can all continue to give and live into the sacrificial life full of joy and grace that Christ longs for us to have.

Grace and peace,

~PJ~

HUMBLY SERVING

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Matthew 20:28



Our Hydrate Students helped package 40,000 meals during the weekend at Pilgrimage. They worked with **Stop hunger now.**

Outreach Ministries

We are planning a trip to Lumberton, NC to work with that area that has been hit really hard by Hurricane Matthew. Our plan is working with Gary Locklear, who is the disaster relief coordinator in that area. January is our projected month to begin working with them.

New Song gave 67 Agape Boxes and almost the same number to Samaritan's Purse for Operation Christmas Child. Many children will be blessed with the Gospel through our efforts.

Serving



Worship



Greeting New Song Worshipers. We are so excited about what God is doing with the worship and media team at New Song Church. Back in April 2016 I came back on board to serve as the Worship Pastor with welcome arms and loyal servants ready and willing to go into battle with the worship arts. In this cultivation process we have had many moments of grace and clarity. Starting in the spring we had a time of fellowship at Kristi Gordan's home on Brices Creek, bringing the whole team together creating a unified group through authentic relationship building. We ate, we laughed, the kids played in the kayaks, and spent quality time together.



Since then we have hit the ground running with Sunday worship services and Wednesday rehearsals. We have done some much needed cleaning and rerouting to our awesome sound system with the professional assistance of Scott Johnson, Audio Engineer and his wife Allison Johnson local servants to many in the greater New Bern area. Scott and Allison along with a team of other worship team members on a Saturday in September helped to totally overhaul and reset the sound system. Scott has also agreed to help train those who will be working with the sound/audio.

The worship and media team are within itself a family that support one another.

Through countless prayers, emails, text messages, social media posts, and other forms of communication we have shared challenges and successes. Just in this short time span we have celebrated health miracles and great health challenges in addition to life's constant ups and downs. As we gather for our Wednesday rehearsals and worship services we check in with prayer concerns and praise updates. We can surely say we have seen God work in and through this faithful group of worship leaders.



Worship Outreach

In the areas of outreach the New Song worship team leaders have reached out into the community in several areas of ministry and partnership. One of



these partnerships has been through New Bern Civic Theater (NBCT) with them providing stage props for our ever changing sermon series. NBCT also utilized New Song for rehearsal space for Mary Poppins Cast and Crew back in

October. Some of the NBCT Mary Poppins cast came in Oct. and performed in our dinner theater fund raiser featuring outstanding local performers.

The New Song praise band members since April have been helping with the Celebrate Recovery(CR) services at Temple Baptist Church (TBC)...

every 2nd & 3rd Monday evening with the Praise & Worship Music.



Celebrate Recovery is a 12 Step Christian Based ministry that serves

anyone with Hurts, Hangup, or Habits through a weekly support group based program. There are currently 4 CR programs in the New Bern area that serve many who struggle with addiction to many of life's hurts, habits, and hangups. New Song has also providing space for other worship team members as space to rehearse and prepare for these CR services at TBC and Antioch FWB in Bridgeton.

We are still growing and developing the Worship and Media Ministry at New Song Church. God is always bringing the purpose and mission into a tighter focus for where He is leading us next...

With a strong united front with authentic relationships and purpose we will serve and be served. My family especially appreciates all the love and support we feel from this awesome body of Christ. May we all be the hands and feet of our creator and keep our eyes on the Kingdom. The 2017 new year ahead of us looks very bright and prosperous. God is on the move, Alleluia and He is on the move in a mighty way.



The New Song Worship and Media Team thank you all for your prayers and loving support in this awesome time and season. Let us move forward in our new mission statement and build the Kingdom Now, Amen!

Sam Lewis,

Worship Pastor

Connect to New Song

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW SONG UPCOMING MINISTRIES

Children's Polar Express Night

Sunday, Dec 11th at 5:30pm

All kids are invited to a polar express night on December 11th at 5:30pm. We will have a wonderful night of fun and faith. Please share with people you know.

Tacky Christmas Sweater Sunday - December 18th!

You are welcome to join in with some fun on Sunday, December 18th at 10:30am for our worship service. It is a Tacky Christmas sweater Sunday. Contest winner will receive a prize.

Hydrate Christmas Party

Sunday, Dec 18th at 6:00pm

Come out for a night of fun and games at our Hydrate Christmas Party. Tacky Christmas outfit contest and sneaky Santa game. Please bring \$5.00 gifts for sneaky Santa.

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24th at 7:00pm

Christmas Eve worship service with candlelight. Come celebrate the Christ child on a beautiful night of worship.

Christmas In Your PJ's -

December 25th at 9:30am

Sunday, December 25th, we will have a simple worship service to share in the celebration of the coming of Christ into the World. Come in your PJ's (of course with some discretion). Please note the time difference.

New Emerging Ministries

BEER AND A BIBLE - Jesus Christ went everywhere to share the Gospel. His crew was motley (not the band) and he was often called a drunkard because he was at many parties and celebrated life. After prayerful consideration, Pastor Joseph will be leading a new Bible study beginning in January. Beer and a Bible will be as simple as studying the Gospel of Jesus Christ at a local pub. This type of study is certainly not for everyone, but pastor Joseph hopes that new people will come to faith through this outreach Bible Study.

MORNING CAFE DE JESUS - Beginning in January, Pastor Joseph will be hosting a Bible Study with coffee at the local Dunkin Donuts in James City.