

## New Song News

**Psalm 103:1–5, 20-22 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! <sup>2</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, <sup>3</sup>who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, <sup>4</sup>who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, <sup>5</sup>who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

<sup>20</sup>Bless the Lord, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word! <sup>21</sup>Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will! <sup>22</sup>Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

**1 Corinthians 15:17–20 (ESV)** And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup>If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. <sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

### Today

- ✓ 9:00am, Sunday school for children.
- ✓ "Gifting the Resource Center" continues. See bulletin insert.
- ✓ Deadline to purchase gift cards in December.

### This Week

- ✓ Daily Bible Readings, "Interactions with God":  
*Mon. John 4:1-15; Tues. John 4:16-30; Wed. John 4:46-54*  
*Thurs. John 7:53-8:11; Fri. John 13:1-20; Sat/Sun. Proverbs 24:1-34*
- ✓ Wednesday, Women's Bible Study
- ✓ Thursday, ??? Learning Community???, 7pm in person & Zoom.
- ✓ Friday, 10am, Women's Bible Study, New Song HQ, see Ginger Rogers
- ✓ Friday, ???Learning Community???, 1pm in person & Zoom.
- ✓ Saturday, 7am, Men's Alliance at fire ring. See Dave Sabo for info.
- ✓ Sunday - Children's Advent Presentation and All-Church Potluck.

### Looking Ahead

- ✓ Dec. 17, Christ Birthday Offering. This is our annual gift to Jesus that goes to spread the Gospel around the world. Pastor Herb's challenge: give as much to Jesus as you give to the most expensive person on your gift list.
- ✓ Dec. 24, usual worship at 10am, then Christmas Eve worship at 6pm.
- ✓ Feb. 3, 2024, No Regrets Men's Conference, 8:30am-2:30pm, at New Song.
- ✓ Submit Prayer Requests: email or text [newsongpittsburgh@gmail.com](mailto:newsongpittsburgh@gmail.com).
- ✓ New Song FB Live link:  
<https://www.facebook.com/NewSongPittsburgh/>.
- ✓ Sunday sermons, outlines & other studies can be found on New Song YouTube Channel & Spotify. Use the QR code to access



Gen. Offering	Budget	Family Assistance	Children of Promise	Building Fund
11/26/2023 \$ 1,506.50	\$ 3,114.71	11/26/2023 \$ 0.00	11/26/2023 \$ 3.00	11/26/2023 \$ 0.00
To Date \$ 155,171.69	\$ 149,506.15	Balance: \$ 3,622.77	Month Total \$ 16.25	To Date \$ 3,750.00
So you can receive credit for your giving, please print your name & amount on the offering envelope.				

## New Song Notes,

Pastor Herb Shaffer

## God's Offer: "Hope Against Hope"

December 3, 2023

First Advent Sunday

**Isaiah 9:6** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **Isaiah 9:6 (ESV)**

### Items of Note

- ✓ Thank you for praying and giving to the Morgan family.
- ✓ Next Sunday – Children's Presentation in worship,  
 All-church potluck following worship.
- ✓ Gifting the Pregnancy Resource Center Outreach  
 1. Take a tag. 2. Purchase the item. 3. Pray for the family who will receive the item. 4. Bring it in by Dec. 17.
- ✓ The ripples continue from prayer with fasting...  
 Continue to pray daily for **Revival** and **Spiritual Awakening**

**Romans 4:18a (ESV)** In hope he believed against hope,

*What it means to live true, Biblical Hope all the time in every way*

### † Hope is...

*"an expectation or belief in the fulfillment of something desired."*  
 (Tyndale Bible Dictionary)

*"to look forward with confidence to that which is good"*  
 (Greek Interlinear New Testament, 1993)

### † Hope is lived in two co-existing realities

1. Earthly Realm/ Seen Reality/ Live by Sight

2. Heavenly Realm/ Unseen Reality/ Live by Faith (trust)

**2 Corinthians 4:16–18 (ESV)** (pew Bible page 966)

**2 Corinthians 5:6–7 (ESV)** (pew Bible page 966)

**Ephesians 2:4–6 (ESV)** <sup>4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

† **Living true, Biblical Hope means “hoping against hope”**  
choosing the Unseen Heavenly Reality over the Seen Earthly Reality

➔ The hard challenge in the nitty gritty of life...

**Romans 4:18 (ESV)** <sup>18</sup>In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.”

➔ Abraham’s example of living true Biblical hope

**Romans 4:17–21 (ESV)** (pew Bible page 941)

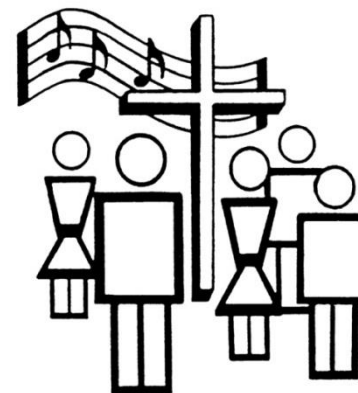
† **Hopelessness and Hope at Jesus’ advent (and now)**

**1 Peter 1:3–9 (ESV)** (pew Bible page 1014)

**1 Timothy 4:10 (ESV)** For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.

*What do we do with this?*

- ☒ What stuck out to you?
- ☒ What is God saying about what stuck out?
- ☒ What do you need to do in response?



*New Song*  
Community Church

## Living Our Utmost for His Highest

*“with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.”* Philippians 1:20a (ESV)

† **Pay Attention**  
around us and what God says about it

† **Be Ready**  
developing God’s skill-set and mind-set

† **Soldiering Together**  
rejoicing, weeping and sharpening TOGETHER