

NewSong Fellowship Church

Church

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The purpose of NewSong Fellowship Church is to be a Biblical community of God's servants going into all the world reaching the unbelieving, the unchurched, and the unconnected and nurturing each other to become reproducing Christ-followers.



The purpose of Ascend is to identify and cultivate worship leaders who plan & prepare to facilitate the corporate celebration of God's people in His presence.

October-December Schedule Complete!

There are a couple new things to notice on this schedule. First, the camera schedule is now broken up into "Camera1" & "Camera2" columns. Camera1 refers to first service and Camera 2 to second.

Also, there is now a "Sub List" at the bottom of the page. These people should be the first ones called any time someone needs to substitute. However, be careful not to call a drummer to sub for a soprano. This might make for an "interesting" worship service!

Something to Think About

Ponder this quote I read on Bob Kaufin's blog, www.worshipmatters.com.

This is another quote from Harold Best, this time from his book, *Unceasing Worship*. He is helping us to distinguish between music as an act of worship and music as an aid to worship.

We make and offer art because we worship; we should not make it to lead us into worship. We can carry [this concept] into the weekly corporate gathering. Since Christians come to such gatherings as continuous worshippers, it should now be obvious that it is erroneous to assume that the arts, and especially music, are to be depended on to lead us to worship or that they are aids to worship or tools for worship. If we think this way, we fuel and stop, and worse, music or some other artistic or human device bears the responsibility for doing the starting or the facilitating...Music and the arts have a kind of power in themselves that can be falsely related to or equated with Spirit power, so much so that the presence of God seems all the more guaranteed and the worshiper sees this union of artistic power and Spirit power as normal, even anticipated. This thinking lies behind comments of this kind: "the Lord seemed so near during worship time." "Your music really helped me worship." And to the contrary: "I could not worship because of the music." Senior pastors, ministers of worship and worship teams must do everything to correct them. If we are not careful, music will be added to the list of sacraments and perhaps with some Christians become another kind of transubstantiation, turned into the Lord's presence. Then the music, not the Holy Spirit, becomes the paraclete and advocate. God is reduced to god and music is raised to Music. Thrones are exchanged, lordship reverts to its fallen hierarchy, and conditioned reflex replaces faith. (p. 119)

In other words, music is never to be the ultimate means by which we worship God. Only Jesus, working through the Holy Spirit, can fulfill that role.

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Ascend Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

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Fall is Here!!!

Usually spring is thought of as a time of new beginnings, but, at NewSong, the fall is generally where that idea best applies. Along with the start of school, pro football, and leaves changing colors comes the start of a number of new ministry ventures in just about every ministry of the church including, of course, the Ascend ministry.

In the midst of all the beginnings and newness of the year, it is a wonderful reminder of the newness of life that we have in Jesus Christ. Not only does Scripture extol him as the Almighty Creator,

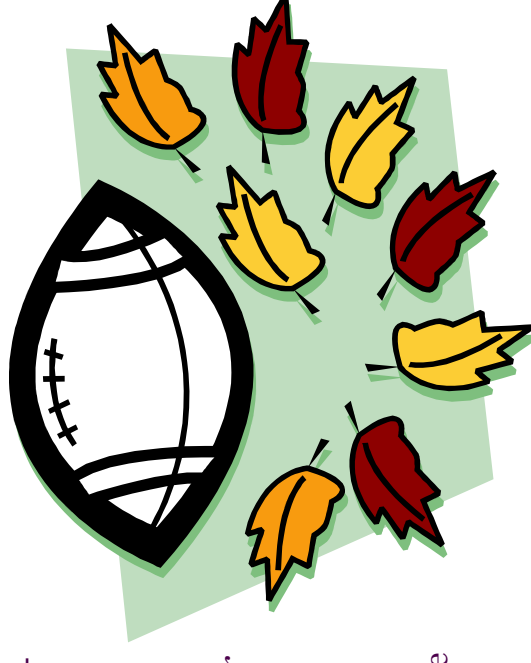
(For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.—Col. 1:16),

but He is also the Gracious Re-Creator of those He redeems

(Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature.—2 Cor. 5:17).

In Him the old has passed away and the new has come. We no longer have to wallow in our past regrets, sins, and shortcomings. And we no longer have the inability to overcome sin. And we no longer have to live for the meaningless purposes the world tries to sell to us. We get to labor for and build an everlasting Kingdom, and we will one day reign with Him.

It refreshes my soul to think about all Jesus has done for us in making us new. It also fuels my worship. Let us not forget that as we sing, play, and work for him during this new ministry season!



Fall Schedule of Events

Chorale Dates

- Oct. 1—Anniversary Chorale
- Rehearsals—Now to Sept 27
- Oct. 22—Global Impact Festival Chorale
- Rehearsals—Sept 20 to Oct 18
- Dec. 24—Christmas Chorale (Sunday morning & Christmas Eve)
- Rehearsals—Nov 1 to Dec 20

Children's Choir

- **Rehearsals:**
- Sept 20
- Oct 4, 18
- Nov 1, 15, 29
- Dec 2, 13, 20
- **Performances:**
- One song on Dec 17
- Two songs on Dec 24 (Christmas Eve Services)

Christmas Tale

- **Rehearsals:**
- Sun, Sept 17—1:00- 2:30 (run through script)
- Mon, Oct 2—7:00 - 9:00pm
- Thurs, Oct 5—7-9
- Tues, Oct 10—7-9
- Mon, Oct 16—7-9
- Thurs, Oct 19—7-9
- Sun, Oct 29—1:30-4:30
- Thurs, Nov 2—7-9
- Mon, Nov 6—7-9
- Sat, Nov 11—9:00-12:00
- Tue, Nov 14—7-9
- Sun, Nov 19—1:30-4:30—**BAND AT REHEARSALS** from now on
- Tues, Nov 28—7-9
- Fri, Dec 1—7-9
- Mon, Dec 4—7-9
- Thurs, Dec 7—7-9
- Sun, Dec 10—1:00—Stage & Tech setup
- Sun, Dec 10—6:00 - 9:00—Tech Rehearsal
- Mon, Dec 11— Dress Rehearsal—7-9
- Tues, Dec 12—Dress Rehearsal—7-9
- **Performances:**
- Thurs, Dec 14
- Fri, Dec 15 (cast party)
- Sat, Dec 16 (2 performances)
- Sun, Dec 17 (2 performances)

New Super Saturday Format: New Music Preview

One of the things that has been difficult in the past has been learning new music. Singers hear the new song exactly 11 days before they have to sing it in church, and instrumentalists only hear it 4 days in advance. We usually pull it together, but I know we would be able to do a better job with some advanced notice.

So, the plan for future Super Saturday meetings is to have a **new music review**. We will listen to recordings of some new congregational music, and then each different worship team that is present will take turns playing the new songs. It will not only be a good time of worshipping together, but it will help us to play together better and get a head start on some new stuff.

All that said, it is really important that all singers, instrumentalists, sound, and computer volunteers be there so we can pull it off. If people are missing, the time will not have the full impact it should.

So when you see those Ministry Community Super Saturdays on the calendar in the future, make sure you plan ahead to be there!



Children's Choir: Accompanist Needed!!!

We're really excited about the Children's Choir that is starting this Wednesday, Sept 20th! Julie Stone will be leading the kids and teaching them not only the songs they'll be singing for Christmas, but she'll help them in learning some foundational musical skills like music reading and proper singing. Laura Funk has also volunteered to help, so these ladies deserve a big THANK YOU!!!

If you would be interested in helping to be an accompanist for the Children's Choir, or know of someone who plays who is not already over-committed, please talk to Julie or Brett and we'd love to ask them to help!



Wednesday Nights are Changing!

Starting on November 1st, the Wednesday night schedule will change. The new schedule will be similar to the current, but will look like this:

- 6:30—Worship Singers rehearsal
- 7:00—Chorale rehearsal in Children's Area below Sanctuary
- 7:00—Worship Band rehearsal in Sanctuary
- 8:00—Worship Singers & Band rehearsal

"Lord willing, we'll be able to be out before 9:00!!!"

The benefit of this new schedule will be a more concentrated rehearsal for the instrumentalists, and a shorter rehearsal for the Worship Singers, not to mention a better result for the Sunday gathering. Lord willing, we'll be able to be out before 9:00, too!!!