

New Song News



BROWN COUNTY, INDIANA • FALL/WINTER 2013

A FREE PUBLICATION OF NEW SONG MISSION

God's Continued Faithfulness

The past year has been filled with many wonderful blessings for New Song! We'd like to reflect on the Lord's favor and faithfulness all along this past year's journey.

Our vision of rebuilding children's lives through the love of Christ has taken some significant strides forward in 2013. The family-like environment we are creating together, by the grace of God, will be a wonderful refuge for fatherless and impoverished kids of Indiana.

Challenges and setbacks are also a part of this journey. And we are thankful for those times because they have given us the opportunity to learn lessons and experience God's love as He works things out for His glory.

"...we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character hope." -Romans 5:3-4

We praise God for His faithfulness and blessings this year! And we are grateful to all of our financial supporters and volunteers for all they've contributed toward our progress. Here are some of the most significant accomplishments that occurred in 2013:

Occupancy permit for Home B granted!

In late November we were given an occupancy permit for our second campus home, which is quite a milestone for the ministry. Having not just one, but two campus homes open and ready to receive children moves us closer to developing a campus community. The culture we are striving to create is that of a community environment where several families living on campus will provide the kids with plenty of healthy exposure to other children and loving, nurturing adults. The completion of this home positions us to be able to hire two

sets of houseparents and fill both homes with children who are in need!

Exciting progress on the campus grounds!

This fall we began construction on the new campus recreational park. We know that this park will be loved by every child who comes to live at New Song and will include a kickball/softball field, climbing hill, basketball court, and large playground. All the excavation work for the park is completed, and a large playground set has been ordered and will be installed early next spring. Along with the progress on the park, a beach area and deck are under construction on the northwest side of the pond, and there are now trails that run throughout the woods on campus. Each of these campus additions will enrich the lives and experiences for children as they grow up.

Overall giving up \$200,000! Not only has the faithfulness of the Lord been seen through the moving of dirt and toiling of hands on New Song's campus, but we have also felt the Lord's blessings through the outpouring of love in the form of financial gifts through you, our ministry friends. Overall giving for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 2013 was \$566,000, which is up by \$200,000 compared to the same time period the year before. These funds have not only helped us finish the construction of Home B and begin building the recreational park, they have also readied us for houseparents through the purchase of a 12 passenger van, classroom furnishings and supplies, and building a reserve for home operational expenses.

98 monthly sponsors! Every New Song home needs 108 monthly sponsors whose gifts will provide for the physical, educational, spiritual, and emotional needs



Home B occupancy permit received!

of the children living in the home. We are very excited that more than 60 new home sponsors have joined the ministry since January of 2013, making 98 total. This important monthly support from our Safe & Sound sponsors plays a significant role in providing homes in which New Song children will grow up feeling loved and valued. (To learn more about Safe & Sound please visit: www.NewSongMission.org/Safe&Sound) With the recent resignation of our houseparents, gifts to the Safe & Sound fund will remain in an account designated for Home A's operations.

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Home A classroom ready for learning!

**Rebuilding the lives of children,
through the love of Christ Jesus.**

From *the Heart*

A message from the Director

Did you know that the words “Do not fear” are written more than 200 times in the Bible? This fact was pointed out in a sermon I recently heard online.

Throughout the history of New Song there have been mountain-sized challenges that we’ve had to overcome. While these events could have brought on fear or anxiety, instead, the grace of God has sustained and even encouraged us.

That’s because Lisa and I have done our best to trust that God will equip us “...with everything good for doing His will...” (Heb 13:21) We’ve always believed deep within our hearts that the Lord wants the New Song campus built and that He will provide the means to get it established and fill the campus with children. We’ve not always known how it will happen, and we certainly haven’t known when, but we’ve always felt assured that it will occur. (Heb 11:1)

It’s God Himself that gives all of us that hope, isn’t it? The Bible declares that God is a “father to the fatherless” and a “protector of the weak.” In Psalm 12:5 the Lord says “*Because of the devastation of the afflicted, because of the groaning of the needy, I will now arise...I will set him in the safety for*

which he longs.” We believe the Lord IS arising at New Song. He’s arising through hundreds and hundreds of financial supporters and volunteers. And one day He will set children—brokenhearted, vulnerable children—in the safety for which they long at New Song.

The sudden resignation of our first houseparents in October was probably discouraging to some. It was a sad time for all of us. But over the past few weeks we’ve gained some good perspective and learned much from the experience. The ministry has already been strengthened in some important ways since then.

One of my goals is to provide steady leadership to New Song, by the grace of God, even during difficult challenges. My hope is to always approach situations with a calmness and gentleness, while fixing my eyes upon Jesus, the Lord of heaven and earth. By God’s grace and through the wonderful support and guidance of New Song’s board of directors, we will work through all ministry challenges with faith and perseverance.

Let’s continue to run this good race together, without fear, pushing through



Bob Schloss
Founder/Executive Director

the finish line with a unique strength. Remember how God has provided for the ministry in the past—finding land, making land payments, obtaining zoning, bringing together volunteers and building materials, and many others—and **let’s open not just one, but two campus homes in the near future, with a third one on the way!** As you and I know so well, the kids we strive to serve are worth every prayer prayed, every tear shed, every gift given...and every trial overcome.

For Christ and kids,

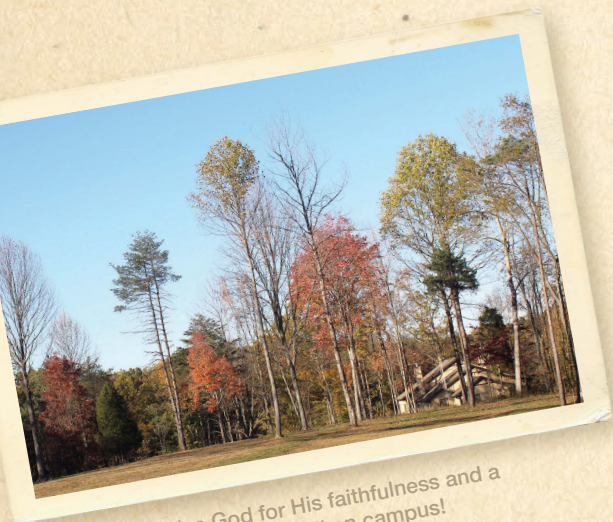
Robert P. Schloss, JD
Founder/Executive Director

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Houseparent training program established! While our first houseparents were on campus, we had the opportunity to implement our houseparent training program. This comprehensive 40-hour training program is now in place for all future houseparents and direct care staff members. It includes pre-service orientation and training on topics such as child development milestones and the impacts of abuse, parenting and discipline, and CPR, as well as in-service training on attachment issues and the effects of fatherlessness. With this training program established, and the development of additional policies to add better structure to campus life in support of our houseparents, New Song has been considerably strengthened.

Each of the above examples is an indication of our continued growth and progress, as well as evidence of God’s faithfulness. We hope you are blessed and encouraged to hear of these achievements. With the reassurance of the Lord’s continued provision to the ministry, we wait in hope and look forward with great expectation and anticipation of all that He will do at New Song Mission for the cause of kids in the name of Christ.

“We wait in hope for the Lord, He is our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His holy name. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in you!”
—Psalm 33:20-22



Praise God for His faithfulness and a beautiful fall on campus!

DID YOU KNOW?

Each year more than 1,200 children in south-central Indiana are abused and neglected.

\$20,000 Match Received!

A few months ago New Song was challenged by three ministry friends who wanted to help New Song expand its support base. We loved the challenge, which was this: The three friends would provide a combined \$20,000 matching gift if New Song received \$20,000 worth of gifts from either new ministry supporters or new monthly givers.

We are very excited to share that 28 new donor friends gave \$14,635 and an additional 44 new monthly home sponsors signed up averaging \$56 a month in response to the match. Over a 12 month period the monthly givers' gifts will amount to

\$29,730! All told, the matching gift helped to generate \$64,365 (\$14,635 + \$29,730 + \$20,000), and most of our monthly givers will hopefully continue giving on into future years, making the power of the matching gift worth even more!

We are incredibly thankful for the donor friends who challenged us through the matching gift, and are equally thrilled by the strong response of our new, generous giving friends. Praise God!

If you would like to make a similar matching gift here at the end of the year, please contact our office at (812) 372-1004.

Recreational Park Advances

Thanks to several generous ministry supporters, ground was broken this fall on New Song's recreational park. The park will be a beautiful addition to the campus and will provide children with a fun place to enjoy, while also providing much needed therapeutic benefits to the kids we will serve. The park will include a kickball area, a basketball/pickleball court, a small climbing hill, a gigantic playground set, and a very special memorial/honorarium brick walk. Nearly \$40,000 has been received so far for the \$78,000 park project!



Appliances help to complete Home B!

Appliance Goal Met!

Thanks to the generosity of ministry supporters, New Song was able to purchase all of the kitchen appliances needed for Home B! When we announced the need to raise \$3,500 for the appliances, friends of New Song responded immediately with gifts of more than \$5,500! The \$2,000 excess will be used to furnish this second home. As Home B is being readied for houseparents and kids, we are very grateful to those who were able to help us take this important step forward!

Gifts of Appreciated Stock Can Fuel New Song Mission

Over the past 12 months the Dow Jones Industrial Average has risen from around 12,800 to its current level of more than 15,500 (as of the writing of this newsletter). Most stocks have appreciated in value during this time, including stocks held by New Song ministry supporters.

According to the National Christian Foundation, gifts of appreciated stock or mutual funds "make for an extremely

smart charitable gift...you could tap into an incredible opportunity to pay less tax, give more, improve your personal cash flow, and simplify the process of supporting your favorite ministries."

Gifts of appreciated stock to New Song are tremendously helpful and will give us a great start as we head into 2014. Home B needs furnished, Home C needs completed, the basketball court in the recreational park needs to be built in the

spring, and two sets of houseparents and other staff will need to be hired.

Please consider a generous year-end gift of appreciated stock to New Song. To make a gift or learn more, please contact New Song's Executive Director, Bob Schloss, at RSchloss@NewSongMission.org or at 812-343-6763.

To support our first home, visit
www.NewSongMission.org/SafeandSound

HOME
SPONSORSHIP



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Check us out on...



New Song Mission is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit ministry, which is solely supported through the generosity of ministry friends—thanks for helping us rebuild children's lives!



Volunteers hard at work on campus!

New Song is continually blessed by the dedication and hard work of the many volunteers who come to serve with the ministry, both on and off campus. Volunteers are very important to New Song and we are extremely grateful for each one! Thanks to the sacrifice of individuals giving of their time and talents to the ministry, New Song has been able to make great advancements this year.

Throughout this year work teams have visited New Song's 100-acre campus in Brown County to pour out their love for fatherless children through labor. Major volunteer efforts and work projects have helped us complete Home B and prepare it for children and a family. Projects to complete Home B included laying the hardwood floor throughout the main floor of the home, masonry work on the house exterior, countertop installation, electrical work,

We are thankful for our **faithful** volunteers!

painting, finish carpentry work, cabinetry, sidewalk installation, plumbing, carpet installation, thorough home cleaning, and the installation of kitchen appliances. Significant work has also been done on the campus grounds to prepare the way for children, including major excavation work on the recreational park, cutting more than a mile of trails through the campus woods, building a beach and shelter on the north side of the pond, erosion control measures, and many hours of groundskeeping work.

Not only have volunteers greatly helped move us forward in progress toward an open campus, but they have also been instrumental in ministry operations. Volunteers faithfully helped this year by providing exceptional and regular help with bookkeeping and other administrative functions, putting together large mailings, as well as office cleaning. Volunteers have also been important in raising awareness about New Song by being liaisons for us at local churches, serving on our advisory councils, and advocating for New Song in the community.

New Song is incredibly grateful for each volunteer and the gracious way they have served the ministry. Praise God for His faithfulness in bringing volunteers to New Song!

Please Pray For:

- Kids who are suffering
- Children who will come to New Song
- The right houseparent couples and their needs
- The funds to furnish four children's bedrooms in Home B
- More Safe & Sound monthly home sponsors to support the operations of our first two campus homes
- \$15,000 to build a basketball/activity court next spring
- Our current and new church, business, and individual ministry partners
- Our first campus teacher
- God's continued faithfulness and provision to New Song
- God to be glorified through New Song

Ministry Needs:

- New or gently used 12-passenger van for Home B (\$20,000)
- iPads for classroom
- Classroom projector and screen
- Construction materials for Home C
- Washers and dryers for Home B
- Snow plow blade
- Metal rakes

GET INVOLVED

visit www.NewSongMission.org