



# Cornerstone Connection

December 2017

*Building Community on the Solid Rock of Jesus Christ*

[www.cornerstonechurchofjackson.org](http://www.cornerstonechurchofjackson.org)

## SUNDAY WORSHIP at 10 AM

(Sunday School for Children during worship)

**Pastor:**

Tory Pruner, 732-691-5825

**Director of Music:**

Susan Rovira, 609-371-1473

**Administrative Assistant:**

Elizabeth Hughes, 732-833-6857

**Treasurer:**

Tina Kas, 732-928-1778

**Nursery Care:**

Ashley Moyer & Jackie Leach

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cornerstone Community	2-4
Announcements	5
Worship	6
Youth Ministry	7
Music	8
Adult Fellowship	9
Sunday School	10
Get Connected	11
Calendar	12

## A Message from Pastor Tory

As Christmas approaches many of us are in the midst of purchasing the "perfect" gift for our loved ones. Making lists and checking them twice. There are others among us who will wait until the last minute. Yet all of us hope to give a gift that will be treasured. We will search high and low whether it be on the Internet, or diligently through every store until we find the gift our loved one wants. Some even brave the "Black Friday" sales to ensure getting a gift of a larger amount than they normally would be able to afford. Too often this leads to a great amount of stress. However, on Christmas morning, when the presents are open, miraculously the stress melts away and we experience the joy of giving.

When I was a child I must admit every Christmas I was spoiled. This started when I was very young. There is the photo of me receiving my precious baby doll "Ann." Ann was with me even as a baby, dolls came and went, she was the one I always had close by. I remember as a teenager my mother suggested that we get rid of Ann who was now ragged and old looking. I just couldn't do it. I refused to put her in the garbage. The next Christmas my mother surprised me by having Ann repaired and cleaned up by a "Doll Doctor." She was beautiful once again. Unfortunately, I must tell you she's old and ragged once again. I allowed my children to play with her. I had to let my girls share in the gift of love that was given to me by my parents, my good friend "Ann," a gift that brought me great joy.

Christmas is a time when we bring joy to the ones we love. We make sacrifices, so we might express the love we feel for the people in our lives. We follow the lead of our amazing God. God loved his children so much. *(continued)*

*Worship at McAuliffe Middle School  
35 S. Hope Chapel Road, Jackson*

*Mailing address: P.O. Box 140, Jackson, NJ 08527*

# Cornerstone Community



Brandon Capurso, 12/1

Denise Mudalel, 12/3

Ryan Calhoun, 12/10

Tyler Capurso, 12/14

John Lukacs, 12/23

Michael DiGirolamo, 12/27

Sharron Smith, 12/27

Nicholas Tedeschi, 12/28

Lori Miller, 12/29

Sami Miner, 12/31



Sueli & Dominique Robert, 12/26

## MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of Cornerstone are a part of God's Grand Adventure to: ground our lives on the solid rock of Jesus Christ, build up each other in love through prayer, words and deeds, and to create God's community in Jackson and beyond.

*(continued from previous page)*

He saw their wayward tendencies, he saw the sin and darkness they dwelt in and his heart ached. God sent us Jesus, his only son, as the ultimate gift. The gift that shows God's love, brings us joy and gives us life! No gift can compare, not even "Ann." Yet, like my doll, every gift so precious should be shared. I pray that this Christmas you might share the good news that the greatest gift has been given to us by God, Jesus his son. Live out the joy of knowing Jesus so that his bright light might shine through, leading the world to come and worship the newborn king!

## ELDERS ON OUR SESSION

## BOARD OF DEACONS

2017 Vikki Leach

Todd Moyer

Kellie Pushko

Ray Schleckser

Lisa Capurso

Lois Fox

2018 Bruce Thompson

Gail Carlson

Laura Stone

David LaCross

Allyson Moyer

Elizabeth Hughes

2019 Barbara Dougherty

Jim Foster

Tina Kas

Sharron Smith (Clerk)

Nancy Foster

Ann Sarti

**The new elder and deacon nominations for 2018** were presented to the congregation and approved at the congregational meeting on November 19th.

We are excited to announce the following new elders:

- Denise Mudalel and Allyson Moyer (3 year terms)
- Mike Pushko (1 year term)

and deacons:

- Kathe Morrison (3 year term)
- Marye Barbagallo (1 year term)

New elders and deacons will be installed during worship on January 7th. Thank you to all who have stepped up to serve, and we also give our thanks to departing elders Todd Moyer, Kellie Pushko, Bruce Thompson, and Deacon Lois Fox for your service to our church.



The Jackson Memorial High School Marching Band won the title of National Champions in Allentown, PA on November 4th! Congratulations to our Jackson Jaguars: **Marissa Rosato, Devin LaCross**



The Wegner family celebrated two JOYS in November—the birth of their grandson, Henry Cole Thompson, and the baptism of their daughter Casey at Manasquan Presbyterian Church. Congratulations Bob and Laurie!



Harmony Road birdhouse gift for Bruce and Betty



In worship on November 5th, we recognized **Bruce and Betty Thompson** for their many years of dedication to Cornerstone and their hard work in preparing our new home on Harmony Road. Our gratitude and prayers go with them as they settle into their new home in Pennsylvania. They will be missed!



Thank you to everyone who supported Operation Christmas Child this year! We filled a total of 87 boxes for gifts shipped to children in need! Stay tuned for information on where our shoeboxes were shipped!





Thanks to Fred VanLooy and his son for painting the front porch of the church—it looks awesome!

*Please pray for:*

- David Carlson recovering from a bacterial infection and surgery to remove his gallbladder
- Sharron Smith and family after the passing of her father on Thanksgiving
- Ray Schleckser recovering from back surgery on 11/28
- A new grandson born to Bob and Laurie Wegner
- Bruce and Betty Thompson as they have moved out of Jackson and are preparing to move into a new home in PA
- Cornerstone as we move forward to complete renovations—hoping to begin worshipping there very soon!



*Continued prayers for:*

- Bev Kaiser in FountainView Care Center: 527 River Ave, Lakewood, NJ 08701, 732-534-8217
- John Lukacs in Brookside Assisted Living Facility in Freehold: Brookside Assisted Living, 93 Manalapan Avenue, Freehold, NJ 07728
- Our troops around the world and their families

**We Need Your Pledge!**

This is the season of Stewardship, when we prayerfully consider pledging our time, treasure, and talents for 2018. If you would like to make a financial commitment to Cornerstone for next year to assist us in planning our 2018 budget, pledge cards are available in church and can be turned into the offering plate during worship any Sunday. Pledge cards will continue to be available on our [website](#) and in worship.



## Christmas Joy Offering



A cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Because Advent and Christmas shine a light not only on our world's greatest hope but also on our world's greatest need, the PC(USA) provides this timely opportunity for congregations to support causes specifically designed to bring "good news of great joy" (Luke 2:10) to the poor in circumstance or spirit. Alongside the message of promise and fulfillment in Luke's Gospel, we also hear the clear call to God's people to respond in faith as Christ calls us: "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded" (Luke 12:48).

**The Christmas Joy Offering** will be accepted throughout the month of December with a special collection on December 17th and 24th. Envelopes are available if needed, or mark your check "Joy offering." Gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering will be distributed equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to support student scholarships at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Thank you for your support!

### Support us when you shop this holiday season

Buy your gifts and holiday essentials at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). You shop. Amazon donates.

amazon smile

Cornerstone can benefit from YOUR online Amazon purchases! From the website [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you simply select Cornerstone as your nonprofit of choice, and then shop as usual on Amazon! See Elizabeth Hughes with any questions.

## Bake Sale 12/17



As a fundraiser for Cornerstone, the Deacons will host a bake sale on Sunday, December 17th. Please support this fundraiser by donating baked good, or come and shop for some holiday treats! Any contributions would be much appreciated! Please



## Helping Others in Need

**We will once again be participating in the Adopt a Family program** through the Jackson Food Pantry! Please visit our angel tree if you would like to participate and help make the Christmas holiday brighter for Jackson families in need. **Wrapped gifts should be returned to church on December 10th!** Thank you!

## Follow us on Facebook!



<https://www.facebook.com/cpcjacksonj>



There will be one nativity and communion service with candlelight FOR ALL at 4:30 PM. Join us to hear the Story of Christmas and the miracle of Jesus's birth, and share in Communion as we gather together for this very special worship service in celebration of the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ.

*There will be NO 10 AM service on the morning of Christmas Eve! Please spread the word.*



87 boxes packed for Operation Christmas Child were dedicated during the service on November 5th.



On November 19th we were blessed to celebrate the baptism of Bo Carson Rosenfeld, son of Jenna and Michael Rosenfeld.

**Cornerstone Youth Group is for kids in Middle School and High School!** Our thanks to Allyson Moyer for volunteering to coordinate Youth activities—please contact her with any questions.



Every Saturday morning from 9am to 11am the High School Youth are asked to help stock the shelves and sort donations at the Jackson Food Pantry. Youth must be 14 and older as per the township rule. If you are interested in helping please talk to Allyson. It's a great way to earn community hours.



**UGLY SWEATER PARTY**

**Sunday, December 10th, 4 PM**

The Youth Christmas party will be at the Moyer's home (7 Kindling Way). **FOOD, GAMES, AND FUN!** Pizza and drinks will be provided, bring a dessert to share and a \$5 wrapped gift for a gift exchange. Be sure to wear your ugliest Christmas sweater! RSVP to Allyson Moyer.

**Youth Group collection for the Thanksgiving food drive—items were dropped off at the Jackson Food Pantry. Thanks to all who donated!**





**The Cornerstone Choir rehearses before worship on Sundays at 9:00 AM.**

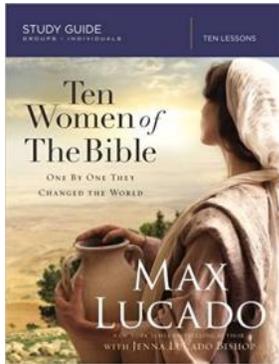
Rehearsals are low key and fun! We are always looking for new members and hope that you will prayerfully consider joining this awesome group of singers. Singing is another way that we can pray. Think about trying something new – your voice in a choir. If you are interested in joining us consider stopping by or contact Susan ([srplus3@comcast.net](mailto:srplus3@comcast.net)).



## Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

### All Women Welcome!

Meets Tuesdays 10:30 AM—Noon at the home of Elizabeth Hughes



The Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 10:30 AM at the home of Elizabeth Hughes. The group is doing a 10-week study of the book "Ten Women of the Bible: One by One They Changed the World" by Max Lucado. It's never too late to join - please speak to Elizabeth for more information. All women are welcome!

**Description:** We don't even know all their names. Some are referred to only by their nationality. Some are known only by the place where they lived. Some would become queens, while others would live on the fringes of society. One would give birth to a nation, and one would give birth to the Messiah. Their culture often overlooked or discounted the contributions of women, yet the writers of Scripture found these women and the role they played remarkable to the telling of God's story.

As we study the lives of the women in the Bible, we find important truths that God wants us to grasp. They lived in a different world than our own, but we find ourselves facing the same issues they faced. Yet even more, these women show us there is a God who sees us where we are and loves us for who we are. He is the one who hovers over all the pages of the Bible, shaping lives, rescuing hearts, healing sicknesses, raising what was dead to life, and assigning high callings to those who choose to follow him and have faith in him.

#### Schedule:

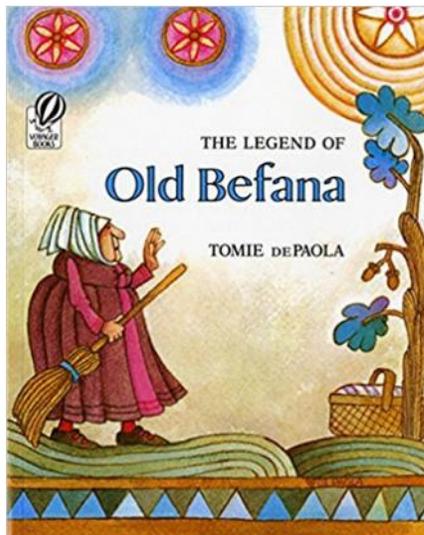
- December 5: **Mary Magdalene**
- December 12: **Sapphira**

**A NEW STUDY WILL BEGIN IN JANUARY—STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS!**

## "The Legend of Old Befana"

Sunday School Epiphany Play—January 7, 2018

During the month of December, the children will be filming this year's Christmas play based on the book by Tomie de Paola called *The Legend of Old Befana*. The video will be shown during worship on Epiphany Sunday, 1/7/18. This is a delightful story of a favorite Italian Christmas story about an eccentric old woman and her never-ending search for the Baby King.



### Sunday School for Kids During Worship!

The **K-5th Grade** class is using the Whirl curriculum which highlights key Bible stories from both the New and Old Testaments.

The **6th-8th Grade** class is using the Nooma series. Nooma is a great DVD series that helps children to begin to discuss and understand that each of us have a unique purpose in God's eyes.

The **youngest children** will also hear Bible stories and have fun with our toys, as they are tenderly cared for by our nursery team!

#### Teachers:

Kathe Morrison, Kellie Pushko, Allyson Moyer, Elizabeth Hughes, Ashley Moyer, Jackie Leach, and rotating volunteers

**Nursery Care Always Available!**

## Cornerstone Yellow Pages



Do you have a skill or talent that could be a resource for other church members? Please contact Elizabeth Hughes if you would like to be listed.

### **Vikki Leach**

609-802-1143

Vleach@verizon.net

Vikkileach.myrandf.com



life-changing SKINCARE

Let me help you love your skin and lashes! We have products for all skin types and issues (acne, sensitive skin, anti-aging, scars).

### **Meg Milligan**

732-928-8117

www.clowningbymac.com

Clowning by Macaroni Anne Cheeze  
Celebrating an event? Let Macaroni Anne Cheeze entertain with face/arm painting and balloon animals.

Reflection & Inspiration: Specialty note cards for that special person or occasion. Go Green! Send a lovely note card that can be framed and enjoyed by all! Total gift cost \$4.00.

### ***List your business here!***

*Do you have a skill or talent that could benefit our members?*

*Talk to Elizabeth Hughes to put your ad **HERE.***

# December 2017 at Cornerstone

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM	6 Session Meeting 7:00 PM	7	8	9
10 Deacon Meeting 11 AM Youth Christmas Party 4 PM	11	12 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM	13	14	15	16
17 	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve Worship at McAuliffe 4:30 PM (no 10 AM service)	25  MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26	27	28	29	30
31						