



Cornerstone Connection

January 2018

Building Community on the Solid Rock of Jesus Christ

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	2-3
Announcements	4-5
Worship	6
Youth Ministry	7
Music	8
Adult Fellowship	9
Sunday School	10
Get Connected	11
Calendar	12

A Message from Pastor Tory

Happy New Year!

As most of you know as 2017 came to a close with my husband Jim after experiencing indigestion and mild pressure in his chest being admitted to the hospital on December 23rd. After much testing and a transfer to Beth Israel Hospital in Newark, he had successful quintuple bypass surgery on December 29th!

One never knows what a new year holds. Yet, one thing is for sure, we often have great expectations. "This year I will get back in shape", "I am going to loose that weight I put on", "this time I am going to eat more healthy," "I am going to take time with family", and so on and so on.

When my family was together at my sister's house there was a moment with my two grandchildren. The room was filled with toys, barely a place to take a step. Landon went past the dinning room and took a fork off the table, only to drop it in the living room. Annalise surrounded by toys begins to crawl as fast as she can to the fork. Watching her made me think about how we so often go for that which not good for us. This is not new to humanity. We need only to look at The book of Genesis. God creates Adam and Eve and gives them a beautiful garden to live in. A place where they didn't half to toil or reap their food, it was just there for the taking. There was however one condition, they should never eat of the tree in the middle of the garden. Now we all know the story it didn't take long before they were eating of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden. Many of us can blame the serpent, evil however I believe there's a little bit of Adam and Eve in all of us or should I say a little bit of Landon and Annalise. *(continued)*

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

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

Cornerstone Community



Kristen DiGirolamo, 1/6

Amity Mamola, 1/7

Tim Woolverton, 1/10

John Bestenheider, 1/10

Megan LaFontaine, 1/11

Dylan Nelson, 1/18

Sean Slusak, 1/18

Glenn Tunis, 1/19

Marlene Kiefer, 1/21

Laura Stone, 1/23

Ben Leach, 1/26

Sam Hekl, 1/28

Leah Hekl, 1/28

Shavonne Osiakwan, 1/30

Anna Mudalel, 1/31

John Hekl, 1/31

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)

We want the very thing that is not good for us despite the fact that we know better and we say we desire better. Yet, when the day comes to an end, too often we have given up on the diet, we recognize we haven't exercised today again, and we realize we haven't reached out to our family.

Is this because we have set too high expectations for ourselves instead of being more realistic? I believe so, but I also think that we are focusing on the "fork" rather than on the One who can help us to achieve not only our goals but his great goals for us as one of his children. My prayer for all of us for 2018, may we keep our focus on our amazing Lord who calls us his own and is ready to lead us to greater achievements than we can even imagine!!!

ELDERS ON OUR SESSION

BOARD OF DEACONS

2018 Mike Pushko
Gail Carlson
Laura Stone
David LaCross

Marye Barbagallo
Elizabeth Hughes

2019 Barbara Dougherty
Jim Foster
Tina Kas
Sharron Smith (Clerk)

Nancy Foster
Ann Sarti

2020 Vikki Leach
Allyson Moyer
Denise Mudalel
Ray Schleckser

Lisa Capurso
Kathe Morrison

Please pray for:

- Jim Pruner and the Pruner family as he recovers from quintuple bypass surgery on Dec. 29th.
- The Mallison family after the passing of Fred Mallison (husband of Joan) on December 26th.
- 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, 732-534-8253
- 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

Cornerstone Helping Local People in Need



THANK YOU to all who participated in the Adopt-a-Family program this year. We were able to provide many gifts to a Jackson family in need. Thank you for your generosity in spreading the spirit of Christmas and sharing your blessings with some who are less fortunate!



Thank you to everyone who supported our bake sale in December! A total of \$235 was raised for our building fund. Whether you donated baked goods or bought delicious treats, we appreciate your support!



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! **UPDATE!** Our boxes were shipped in December to Colombia. Thanks to all!



Soup & Bread Celebration & Souper Bowl of Caring

February 4, 2018

Save the date for a meal of soup and bread after worship on Super Bowl Sunday, when our youth will also collect donations for the Jackson Food Pantry for the "Souper Bowl of Caring." Signup sheets will be available in worship if you are able to bring a soup or bread to share that day!

Souper Bowl of Caring is a way for our young people to lead the way in tackling hunger and homelessness within our community. Below are statistics that are disturbing. Yet what brings us hope is that since Souper Bowl of Caring started, youth have raised over 110 million and 100 percent has gone directly to those in need. Let's make this Souper Bowl of Caring outstanding by bringing in canned goods and financial donations on February 4th.

Did you know?

- 48 million Americans live in poverty?
- 1 in 7 Americans face hunger every day?
- More than 630,000 people in the United States are homeless?
- 23% of those struggling went to college?
- Or that 16 million children live in food insecure households?

Equipping the Saints: Leadership Training Day for Church Elders, Deacons, Clerks, and other Leaders

Offered through the partnership of the educational ministries of Princeton Theological Seminary, the Presbyteries of Elizabeth, Monmouth and New Brunswick, and the Synod of the Northeast (PC(USA)).

Saturday, January 20, 2018 9 AM—3:00 PM

Stuart Hall, Princeton Theological Seminary

64 Mercer St., Princeton, NJ 08524

Equipping the Saints is a day of workshops, worship, resources and fellowship planned especially to support and equip church members in their ministries. This day is for new and ongoing church officers, pastors, worship leaders, educators, and any interested others. Workshops are led—almost exclusively—by volunteer experts in their fields. All are welcome to attend! \$10 per individual or \$25 per congregation. To register a group or by phone, please call Ilene Black, (609) 882-9521. Box Lunches are available for \$12.75 advance purchase.

To register online, please [visit](#):

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eevnyqde737d0d7&llr=ohvd8ljab>

For a detailed flyer with list of workshops visit [here](#):

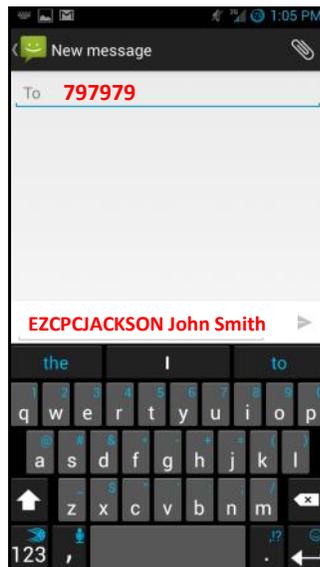
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There will be an information meeting on Sunday, January 21st immediately after worship for all youth in grades 6 and above and their parents!

Text Alert System

Cornerstone has a text alert system to notify our congregation of important announcements (such as church closings due to weather) via text. Important information will also continue to be emailed, posted on our website, or shared with phone calls for those without computer access. But if you would like to receive alerts via text, then text **EZCPCJACKSON <your name>** to the phone number 797979. If you are successful, you will get back a message saying "Welcome to the Cornerstone text list." Talk to Elizabeth Hughes if you have any questions.



Follow us on Facebook!



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

Per Capita Offering for 2018

Our Per Capita Offering is now being collected for 2018. Per capita is an amount of money per member (this year, \$37.00) that our congregation pays to our larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The amount not given by the members must be covered by our general budget, taking away from other work and ministry of Cornerstone.

The Per Capita Offering is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. It enables us to work with other Presbyterian churches in our presbytery and across the country. When we give our offering, it allows us to work with other churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world. Per Capita also funds the preparation, administration, and grading of standard ordination examinations for seminary students. Helping to prepare future ministers to faithfully answer their call from God. As Presbyterians, we believe that we need each other as we work together to and discern the mind of Christ for the PC (USA).

We encourage all members to pay your share of \$37.00 per member, even if it is made in small increments throughout the year. By contributing your portion of per capita, you will free up dollars in our regular budget for the work of our congregation in this community. We hope you will make this contribution at your earliest convenience. Together is how we have the greatest impact!

WORSHIP



Christmas Eve Worship



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.



“Souper Bowl “ coming on February 4th! Youth will collect coins and canned goods on this date. See page 4 for more info.

Youth Winter Calendar of Activities Coming Soon!

Questions and suggestions on things to do are always welcome!

Contact Allyson Moyer email allymoyer@gmail.com

home (732)961-3192 cell (732)245-6581

**Youth Christmas Party
at the Moyer's
December 10th**





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).

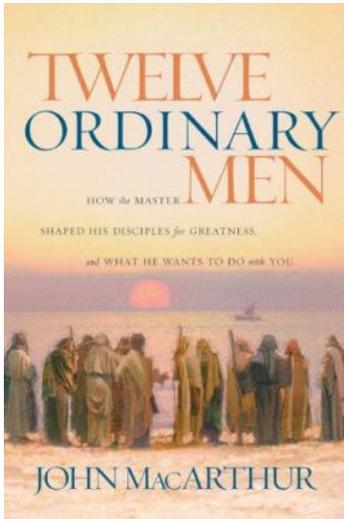


Adult Bible Study

New Studies Starting 1/9—All Welcome!

Women's Bible Study Meets Tuesdays 10:30 AM—Noon at the home of Elizabeth Hughes

NEW Adult Evening Study Meets Tuesday 6:30-8 PM (first meeting 1/9 at the Jackson Library in the upper room)



We have two bible study groups starting a 10-week study of the book “Twelve Ordinary Men” by John MacArthur. On January 9th It’s never too late to join - please speak to Elizabeth Hughes for more information. All are welcome!

Description: Contrary to popular belief, we do not have to be perfect to do God's work. Look no further than the twelve disciples whose many weaknesses are forever preserved throughout the pages of the New Testament. Jesus chose ordinary men - fisherman, tax collectors, political zealots - and turned their weakness into strength, producing greatness from utter uselessness. MacArthur draws principles from Christ's careful, hands-on training of the original twelve disciples for

today's modern disciple - you.

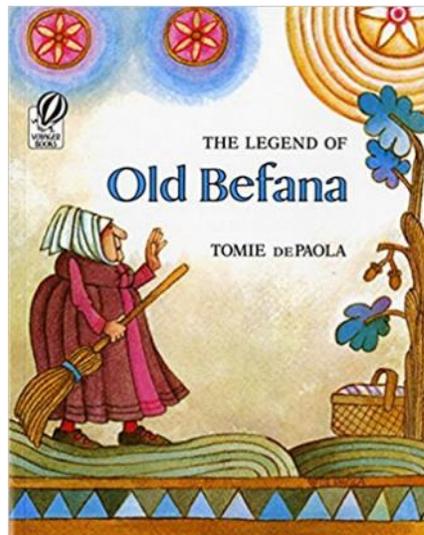
Tentative Schedule:

- January 9: Common Men, Uncommon Calling
- January 16: Peter—The Apostle with the Foot-shaped Mouth
- January 23: Andrew—The Apostle of Small Things
- January 30: James—The Apostle of Passion
- February 6: Philip—The Bean Counter
- February 13: Nathanael—The Guileless One
- February 20: Matthew—The Tax Collector and Thomas—The Twin
- February 27: James—The Less; Simon—The Zealot; and Judas (not Iscariot) - The Apostle with Three Names
- March 6: Judas—The Traitor

"The Legend of Old Befana"

Sunday School Epiphany Play—January 7, 2018

During the month of December, the children filmed 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



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Meg Milligan

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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.***

January 2018 at Cornerstone

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Session & Deacon Meeting 11:00 AM	8	9 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Adult Study 6:30 PM	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Adult Study 6:30 PM	17	18	19	20 Equipping the Saints Leadership Training at Princeton Seminary
21 Confirmation Informational Meeting 11:00 AM	22	23 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Adult Study 6:30 PM	24	25	26	27
28 Comunion Served 	29	30 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Adult Study 6:30 PM	31			