



Cornerstone Connection

May 2019



Building Community on the Solid Rock of Jesus Christ

www.cornerstonechurchofjackson.org

WORSHIP

SATURDAYS at 5 PM
SUNDAY at 10 AM

(Sunday School for Children during Sunday worship)

A Message from Reverend Pruner

Cornerstone Church will be on the move as we join with other congregations in the Villages in Partnership Water Walk. Many of our youth and adults will walk to continue the change we are making WITH the Villages in Malawi. Many years ago, I was blessed to travel to Malawi and witnessed firsthand the poverty that the people endure. In Malawi there are 18.5 million people and the annual income is just \$650 per person. Approximately half of the population is severely underweight leaving them vulnerable to disease. One of the most heartbreaking facts is that there are one million children who are orphans. These facts are difficult for us to imagine. We are so blessed and too often take for granted the blessings we have.

The Water Walk is one small way we can connect with what a day in the life of a Malawian is like. Every day the women and children walk miles just to get clean water. Then they carry a bucket on their heads filled with water weighing about 20lbs back to their village. Through our partnership with many of the villages there are now wells with clean water. The villagers work to dig and prepare for the well equipment that VIP provides. What a celebration there is when the water flows!

The woman I met when I was in Malawi seemed to beam with the Spirit of the Lord. These women had been gathering water for their families their entire lives. Most had lost children and husbands. Yet, there was never any time to grieve, water had to be fetched and dinner made over open fires. (continued)

Pastor:

Tory Pruner, 732-691-5825

Director of Music:

Doreen Laskiewicz, 732-740-9086

Administrative Assistant:

Elizabeth Hughes, 732-580-3137

Treasurer:

Tina Kas, 732-928-1778

Nursery Care:

Ashley Moyer & Jackie Leach

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Cornerstone Community



Aaron Beeg, 5/3
David Hekl, 5/4
Jonathan Welch, 5/6
Jackie Leach, 5/7
Paul Sarti, 5/20
Fred VanLooy, 5/20
Madeline Sarti, 5/23
Sharlene Nelson, 5/27
Don Kiefer, 5/27
Courtney Miner, 5/30



Donna & John Rosato, 5/2
David & Debbie LaCross, 5/27

Don't see your special day listed? Please let Elizabeth Hughes know!

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)

Now in their later years, these same women are not resting they are still raising children only it's their grandchildren and orphans. Their parents either have died or simply left. They still must carry babies on their backs, work their field, and pray for God to provide in their time of need. These are the women who greet us when we arrive with singing and dancing. They praise God for the blessing of our support as partners in ministry together. We are an answer to their prayers. Their joy is contagious and the sincerity of their continued prayers us as brothers and sister in faith stirs one's heart deep within. Their strength, resilience and faith is a gift I still treasure. Needless to say, I was so glad when I came to Cornerstone to discover that Villages in Partnership was one of the global missions we supported. We are privilege, I believe, to reach out with God's love, giving from our abundance. Offering up our gifts and prayers for our family in Malawi. I ask that you prayerfully consider joining this year's Water Walk or financially support our walkers, "Team Harmony". Last year our "Team Harmony" raised \$2,400. This year I pray we are able far exceed what we gave financially and last year. I also hope that each one of you will add our brothers and sisters in Malawi to your daily prayers. Thousands of miles apart, yet united in prayer. There is great power in prayer as Jesus said, "Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive." Matthew 21:22



Please pray for:

- Vikki Leach’s mother-in-law with cancer in hospice care
- Reverend Pruner’s sister-in-law Nancy recovering from a stroke



Continued prayers for:

- Bev Kaiser in FountainView Care Center: 527 River Ave, Lakewood, NJ 08701, 732-534-8253
- John Lukacs in Assisted Living Facility in Freehold: Mattison Crossing, 93 Manalapan Avenue, Freehold, NJ 07728
- Our troops around the world and their families

Poetry



By Susan Kornutick

MOTHER

The presence of her warming smile,
Her kiss upon my brow,
The things I took for granted
Are all just memories now.

The hand in which she held mine tight,
as I walked along life’s way;
her strength which led me through
hard times
are memories today.

So on this very special day,
though she’s no longer here,
for all the love she’s given me –
"I thank you, Mother dear!"

**TO MY CHILDREN ON
MOTHERS’ DAY**

God blessed my life with children,
from them, I’ve learned a lot.
They taught me you can smile and
sing
when your heart’s tied in a knot.

I’ve learned that on the darkest day
The light of love will shine.
And when I felt the poorest,
Gods’ riches all were mine.

Because of you, dear children,
I celebrate this day –
with many happy memories
Of things shared on life’s way.



Happy Mothers Day

We are excited to officially welcome Doreen Laskiewicz as our permanent Director of Music!



Doreen Laskiewicz has been acting as our Interim Director of Music since January, after she happened to be visiting Cornerstone on the exact same day in December that we announced that we needed a replacement for our previous music leader. We believe that Doreen was surely a gift from God! She has been active in starting Cornerstone’s first Bell Choir, and has also gotten our Choir singing again. We’re happy to announce that Doreen is now our permanent Director of Music!

Doreen attended Westminster Choir College in Princeton NJ. She played in the Westminster Bell Choir and was a member of the Westminster Symphonic Choir, which performed with the NY Philharmonic, the Vienna Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the NJ Symphony, and the Juilliard Orchestra. After Westminster she started teaching music and hasn’t stopped for the past 27 school years! In addition to teaching Doreen has directed handbell choirs, children’s choirs, adult choirs, and played the organ in Presbyterian churches.

In addition to teaching music, Doreen also teaches STEM and helps to train teachers to use technology and social media in the classroom. She also puts her technological skills to use for her business, Doreen Laskiewicz Photography. She loves photographing landscapes and doing unique portraits that combine images with graphic design elements (her work is amazing—check out @DoreenLphotography on Facebook!).

	ELDERS ON OUR SESSION	BOARD OF DEACONS
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
2021	Mike Pushko Gail Carlson (2019) Laura Stone David LaCross (2019)	Elizabeth Hughes



Congratulations to **Jonathan Hughes** on his performance as Gomez in the Goetz Middle School production of The Addams Family!

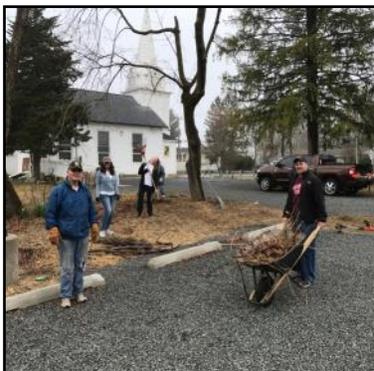
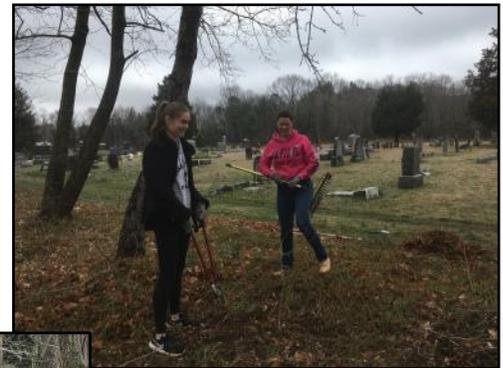


Cornerstone will have a new member class on Sunday, May 5th after 10 AM worship (starting at approximately 11:15). All are welcome to come and learn what it means to be an official church member. If you plan to attend or have questions, please contact Reverend Pruner at 732-691-5825.



SPRING
CLEAN-UP DAY
APRIL 6th

Thanks to all who helped clean things up—inside and out—to help us get ready for spring!



The Women's Bible Study group planned two trips to visit local houses of worship in April.

On April 16th, the group had a tour of Saint Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church in Toms River, followed by afternoon tea at 600 Main. What a great day!



The trip on April 30th was to the Mandir, a Hindu house of worship in Robbinsville. Our group had a tour, and was able to participate in a water pouring ritual and brief prayer service.



Shoe Donations are being collected



for Sydney, a local girl scout working on her Gold Award. Her project is called "R.E.A.C.H. for a Book", which stands for Reading Enhances a Child's Happiness. Her goal is to share her love of

reading, and provide free little libraries in Jackson parks and school busses for children to borrow or swap books, and to start a story time at the Switlik Elementary School after school program. To fund her project, Sydney is collecting new and gently used shoes to repurpose - she will raise money per pound of shoes – her goal is to collect 2500 pairs! Please



help if you can, donations can be placed in the box in the church narthex. Thank you!

Road Cleanup on May 11



We once again have an opportunity to clean a Jackson road, and this time we can earn \$500 for our church! This year, we are required to have a team of 5-8 people. We will meet on May 11th at 9:00 am at

the Jackson Senior Center for a buffet breakfast, a quick orientation, road assignments and clean up supplies. A signup sheet is available in church. Contact Allyson Moyer for more information.

Follow us on Facebook!



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

Buy Shop Rite Cards and Support Cornerstone!

Gift cards are available for you to purchase each Sunday before worship, and 5% of the purchase price goes directly to the church. For many years, Vernice DaConceicao has faithfully sold these gift cards each Sunday. For all who get their groceries at Shop Rite, it's an easy way to help! Thanks to all, we have raised 13,330 for the church!



EASTER FLOWERS

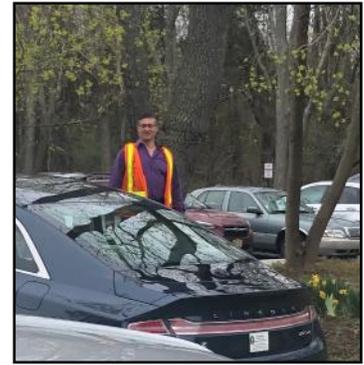


Thank you to everyone who supported our Easter flower fundraiser! Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$273 for our church, and our worship space looked beautiful for Easter worship!

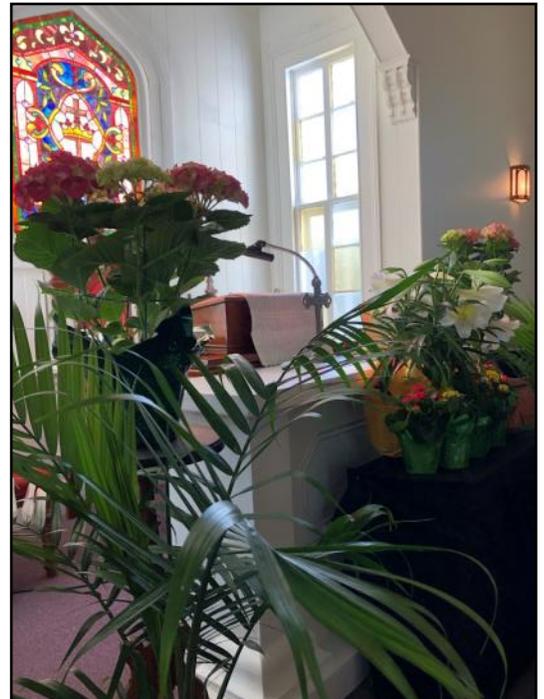
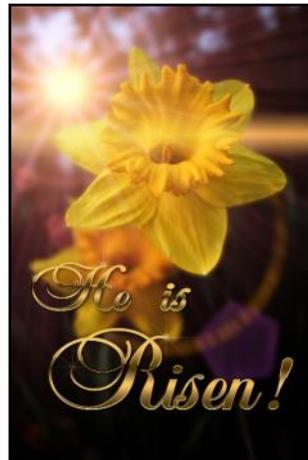
WORSHIP



Palm
Sunday



We are thankful for David LaCross who helps direct the parking on especially busy Sundays!



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 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! :)



May 11th Saturday 9am-11am Clean Communities Road Clean-up, Senior Center
 Calling all Youth...this is a great way to earn your community service hours. Cornerstone will have 2 miles of local road to clean-up and our church will receive \$500. from Jackson Township. Sign up at church or with Allyson Moyer. Meet at the Senior Center at 9am for a light breakfast and then we will be assigned our road and start cleaning. After the clean-up we are invited to Johnson Park for Jackson's Spring Fling Community Event.

May 18th Saturday TBA VIP Water Walk - Allentown

Always a great time for the whole family, with a BBQ, love music and a chance to come together as a community to change the lives of people in need. Villages in Partnership helps our friends in Malawi have access to clean water and 100% of the proceeds raised go directly to help those in need. Visit our team page to join the team or make a donation:

<https://water-walk-2019-nj.everydayhero.com/us/team-harmony>



June 14th Friday 3pm Annual Pool Party, Moyer's

Come celebrate School being out and summer beginning! BBQ and Pool Party. Bring a side to share.

We are always open to ideas and suggestions so please feel free to email or call Allyson to add an event to the calendar.

Don't let needing a ride stop you from attending any event. Carpooling available.

Friends are always welcome!

Please RSVP to Allyson Moyer email allmoyer@gmail.com home (732)961-3192 cell (732)245-6581



Youth versus parents at the Escape Room on April 14th, followed by delicious pizza at Federici's!



The annual Villages in Partnership (VIP) Water Walk is a team fundraising event where, after a symbolic walk through downtown Allentown carrying buckets of water, team members take turns walking around the Allentown High School track. Team members collect pledges to raise money for development projects in Malawi. The Water Walk is a great time for the whole family with a barbecue, live music and the chance to come together as a community to change the lives of people in need.

The VIP Water Walk is the organization’s signature fundraiser. The event is designed to raise awareness and funds for access to safe water for our friends in Malawi. 100% of all funds raised through the Water Walk go directly to the villages for life-changing, sustainable development projects, which help alleviate the daily challenges of survival.

Cornerstone is once again forming a team to walk in this event. We are hoping to form a team of 10 people to walk and each raise \$200. Packets are available for participants, and you can join or sponsor us at our team page:

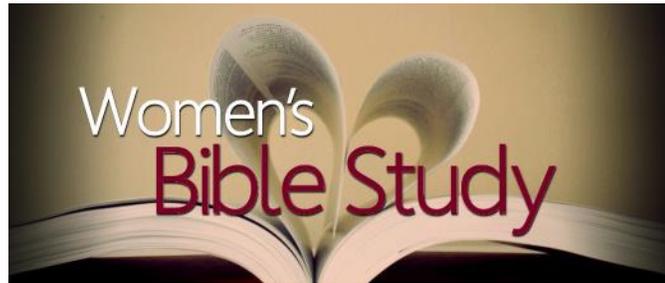
<https://water-walk-2019-nj.everydayhero.com/us/team-harmony>

Whether you can walk, or sponsor a walker, thank you for your support of this mission project!

Team Harmony is walking for Sijaya Makawa.



Sijaya says life has not been going well. She and her 13-year-old daughter both have medical problems. Her daughter was admitted to the hospital recently but was discharged when they ran out of medications that she needed. Her education has not been going well since she can’t go to school when she is sick, and she has been in grade 1 since 2011 from missing so much school. Sijaya has joined a VIP irrigation club to earn some money to buy food. They typically have one meal a day.



The Women's Bible Study typically meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM. Meetings in May will be at Harmony House.

All women are welcome!

- May 7—Discussion of different religions compared to Christianity
- May 14—TBD
- May 21—Music in Ministry, Part 3, led by Reverend Jo Gatto
- May 28—TBD



The Women's Bible Study had a fabulous trip to see "Jesus" at the Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster!



Make a
Joyful noise
Unto the Lord
Psalm 100:1



CHOIR UPDATES

Choir rehearsals for the Cornerstone **RINGERS AND SINGERS** are on Tuesday evenings at Harmony. Bell Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:15 PM, followed by Singing Choir rehearsal starting at 7:15 PM. You are welcome to be a part of one OR BOTH of these programs—no experience necessary! Talk to our Director of Music, Doreen Laskiewicz, for more information.



Thanks to our Ringers and Singers for the beautiful singing on Maundy Thursday and Easter, and the joyful bells on Palm Sunday and Easter!





Our Middle School class has been AWESOME!

Sunday School for Kids During Worship!

Our **PreK-K** Class is using the Whirl curriculum which highlights key Bible stories from both the New and Old Testaments.

The **1st-5th Grade** Class is also using the Whirl Curriculum.

The **6th—12th Grade** Class is using the DVD series *The Story: Getting to the Heart of God's Story*, which teaches our youth how the story of Scripture intersects with the story of their lives.

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, Kayla Fratto, Megan LaFontaine, Ashley Moyer, Jackie Leach.

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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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.***

May 2019 at Cornerstone

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
				National Day of Prayer Service 7 PM Jackson Municipal Building		WORSHIP 5 PM
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
WORSHIP 10 AM Deacon's Meeting New Member Class		Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Bell Choir 6:30 PM Singing Choir 7:15 PM				ROAD CLEANUP 9 AM WORSHIP 5 PM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
WORSHIP 10 AM Mother's Day		Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Bell Choir 6:30 PM Singing Choir 7:15 PM				VIP Water Walk 3:30 PM WORSHIP 5 PM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
WORSHIP 10 AM		Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Bell Choir 6:30 PM Singing Choir 7:15 PM				 WORSHIP 5 PM Communion Served
26	27	28	29	30	31	
 WORSHIP 10 AM Communion Served	memorial DAY	Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Bell Choir 6:30 PM Singing Choir 7:15 PM				