

#### **Cornerstone Presbyterian Church**

#### Cornerstone Connection April 2014

Building Community on the Solid Rock of Jesus Christ

#### www.cornerstonechurchofjackson.org

#### A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

Spring is Here and Winter is Past

In this part of the country, we have had a challenging winter with snow, ice, and cold temperatures. Storm after storm descended upon us and for many it proved a test of our souls to keep hopeful for Spring. In the midst of the weather and the storms, the cold and ice seem to bare the truth behind difficulties each is struggling with in day to day life. Some are dealing with troubled relationships, job losses or demands which have led to imbalanced lives, some are grieving the one they loved too much to lose, and still others suffer from illnesses of body or mind that seem to monopolize all energy and strength. Perhaps we could say that many feel as if they have been buried in frozen ground.

If we remember back to what is told to us through Ash Wednesday we remember that in Genesis it says that God took from the earth and breathed life into the dust and formed humanity as we know it. And, as we are aware of our own mortality we also know that to dust we shall return. This imagery of being buried in frozen ground could be the challenge that we face in hoping for new life and for spring.

The Easter Story teaches us a sacred understanding of what it means to be buried and to find new life. Jesus says in John 12:24: "Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds." We have the promise that as we join Jesus in death, we join him in new life. We are given an opportunity through Jesus' life, sacrifice, death, and life to know the promise of God that eternal life is the gift. In Christ, we are able to come up from being buried under frozen ground to find new life and second chances for all areas of our lives. Spring is Here in the message and Good News of The Gospel and Winter is Past. Come and journey with us into God's greatest gift - LIFE! Jesus is not dead but He is RISEN!

I hope you will plan to be with us for our services leading up to Easter. We will have Palm Sunday on April 13 and observe Maundy Thursday with Jackson United Methodist on Thursday, April 17 at 7 PM and Easter will be at 10 AM at Christa McAuliffe. We are also invited to attend Good Friday Service at Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville. (see notice later in the newsletter).

My friends I am blessed to be your pastor and to have survived the winter with you and look forward to celebrating the thawing and the arrival of Spring! Jesus Christ loves us and breaks us free from frozen ground.

Hallelujah! Amen!

- Pastor Courtney

Worship at McAuliffe Middle School 35 S. Hope Chapel Road, Jackson Mailing address: P.O. Box 140, Jackson, NJ 08527

	SUNDAY	WORSHIP		
	Sunday School for Adults (childcare available		ו	
	Fellowship	9:45 - 10:00a	m	
	Worship (Sunday School for	10:00am kids during wo	orship)	
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Se An Yo	minary Student hony Maimone uth Director:	:: e, 732-722-	8006	
Adı Eliz Tre	ry Gardiner, 70 ministrative Se zabeth Hughes asurer:	<mark>cretary</mark> : , 732-833-6		
Dir Kri: Nu	a Kas, 732-928 ector of Christia sten DiGirolam rsery Care: urtney Miner	an Educatio		
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#### SUNDAY WORSHIP

#### **Cornerstone** Community



Joseph Maimone, 4/1 Michele Welch, 4/3 Bob Wegner, 4/4 Ian Rosato, 4/4 Seraphim Osiakwan, 4/14 Maggie Varrelmann, 4/18 Joan Daniels, 4/18 Betty Corio, 4/20 Kathie Hekl, 4/22 Vikki Leach, 4/24 Sara Miller, 4/24 Malachi Hekl, 4/26 Ryan Pushko, 4/30



Michele & Chuck Calhoun, 4/10

#### **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.

ELDE	RS ON OUR SESSION	BOARD OF DEACONS
2014	Dominique Robert Bruce Thompson Kellie Pushko Todd Moyer	David Carlson Sueli Paes de Barros
2015	Lisa Capurso Wendy Barone Gail Carlson David LaCross	Laura Stone Laurie Wegner
2016	Tina Kas Rosanna Maimone Patti Miller Sharron Smith (Clerk)	Betty Thompson Donna Rosato

Prayer. Please pray for:

- New baby Sebastian born to Vanessa Smith, grandson of Sharron and Bubba Smith
- Sharron Smith recovering from knee surgery
- Laura Tunis having another procedure on her knee
- Bobbi Prato recovering from surgery
- Robert Barone going through a difficult time

#### Continued prayers for:

- Joan Mallison undergoing cancer treatments
- John Lukacs in Fountain View Rehab Center
- Bev Kaiser recovering from arm surgery and in rehab
- Our troops at home and around the world, and their families

**Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of every month.** If you have something for the newsletter, please email to Elizabeth Hughes at: administrative@cornerstonechurchofjackson.org





**CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY** 



Congratulations to Vanessa Smith and Dane Revay and big brother Jason after the birth of Sebastian on 3/11. Congratulations also to proud grandparents Sharron and Bubba Smith!



Elders **Patti Miller, David LaCross** and **Wendy Barone** at the March Presbytery Meeting at the First Presbyterian Church of Lakewood



Christine Tegeder was ordained on March 16th at the Presbyterian Church of Toms River. Our

Pastor Courtney and Bob Wegner were a part of her Ordination Service.

Our prayers go with her in her new ministry in Utah. Her mailing address is:

Rev. Christine Myers-Tegeder First Presbyterian Church 12 C Street Salt Lake City, UT 84103



Laura Stone is a member of the Pinelands Photography Club, and this photo (left) will be one of hers on display at the Toms River branch of

the Ocean County Library on April 5th as part of Pinelands Day from 11-3.

Congratulations to the Jackson Memorial Jaguar Marching Band for a great performance in the St.

Patrick's Day Parade in New York City! We are proud of our Cornerstone Jaguars: Madeleine Welch, Courtney Miner, Madeline Sarti, Shavonne Osiakwan, and Nicholas Hughes!







Congratulations to **Corey and Matty Pushko** who both came in first place in the District Pinewood Derby!



The District "Museum Night" Exhibit at the Liberty High School in March featured

artwork by Madeleine Welch and Annabel Hughes.



In March, **Shavonne** Osiakwan and Madeleine Welch were part of the stage crew

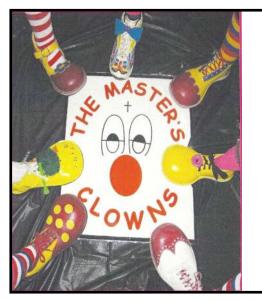
at Jackson Memorial High School's amazing performance of Les Miserables. Excellent work!

The "Dinner for 8" on March 22nd was a big success! Thank you to Karen Panarielo for hosting!









#### Feb 2014

#### Dear Courtney,

On behalf of the Master's Clowns, I want to thank you for your generous love donation. It will help us to continue to share our unique gift to others.

We hope your congregation was touched by our ministry.

Peace, "Lulu"

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



#### One Great Hour of Sharing

This year's One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on Sunday, April 13 (Palm

Sunday) and Sunday, April 20 (Easter). One Great Hour of Sharing is a special offering of the Presbyterian Church USA. The money donated to the One Great Hour of Sharing Program is distributed to three different areas for people in need: The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, The Presbyterian Hunger Program and The Self -Development of People. Your contributions make a huge difference in the lives of others! Please donate as you are able.

#### EASTER FLOWER ORDERS



Orders are being taken for Easter flowers until April 6th. Flowers must be prepaid and will be used to decorate our worship space on Easter, and available to take home after the service. Please see Pastor Courtney or Elizabeth Hughes for more information. Forms are available in this newsletter, on our website, and in church! Thank you!

#### Memorial Service 4/27



There will be a brief service following worship on April 27 to honor the life and resurrection of Rodney's mother who passed away a bit

ago. Please join in supporting Rodney in his grief and loss and in celebrating with him the hope of Resurrection. There will be an internment of ashes immediately following.

#### Applebee's Fundraiser 6/14

#### SAVE THE DATE for a Cornerstone fundraiser at

**Applebee's** in Howell on Saturday, June 14 from 8-10 AM. Tickets are \$10 each and must be purchased in advance - forms are available in this newsletter, on our website, and at church. Invite your friends and neighbors, enjoy fellowship and a delicious breakfast served by our Youth, AND help us raise funds for our church!

#### "Church Women in Leadership" Workshop 4/26

This workshop is sponsored by the Presbyterian Women of Monmouth Presbytery on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM, at the First Presbyterian Church of Manasquan. All women elders, deacons and group leaders are welcome. You must register by 4/21 – send a check for \$5 (made out to Monmouth PW) for registration and lunch before Monday, April 21 to Anne Post, Treasurer, 49 Stockton Lake Blvd, Manasquan, NJ 08736.

### EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

Every year, Cornerstone Presbyterian Church offers it's congregation the opportunity to purchase beautiful Easter flowers as Memorials or Honorariums to decorate the worship space on Easter Sunday. To place your order for this year's flowers, fill out the form below.





The plant selection and prices are shown on the form below. The deadline for your order is April 6th. You may fill out this form and mail it to Cornerstone (P.O. Box 140, Jackson, NJ 08527) or return the form to Elizabeth Hughes or Pastor Courtney on Sundays. Your check should accompany your order and be made out to "Cornerstone" with "Easter Flowers" written in the memo field. You may take your plant(s) home after worship on Easter Sunday.

	4" pot (\$5 each)	6" pot (\$10.00 each)	8" pot (\$18.00 each)	10" pot (\$25.00-lily
	(indicate quantity)	(indicate quantity)	(indicate quantity)	\$35.00—hydrangea) (indicate quantity)
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#### DON'T WAIT-ORDER YOUR TICKETS TODAY!



Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast to support

#### **Cornerstone Presbyterian Church**

#### June 14, 2014 8 AM-10 AM

at Applebee's, 4721 US Hwy 9N, Howell

Tickets are \$10 per person (breakfast includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage and beverage)

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Fill out the information below and return to Cornerstone Presbyterian Church along with your cash or check (made out to Cornerstone).

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number

Email

Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed (tickets are \$10 each):

Please contact Tina Kas with any questions: 732-928-1778 or tmkas@aol.com

Cornerstone Presbyterian Church • P.O. Box 140, Jackson, NJ 08527 • (732) 928-2424 • www.cornerstonechurchofjackson.org

#### **April Services:**

**April 6**: **5th Sunday of Lent**; "Confronted by the Cross—Pontius Pilate"

April 13:Palm Sunday, 6th Sunday of Lent; "Loud Hosannas"

**April 17**: **Maundy Thursday**; service at JUMC, a drama of the 12 disciples

April 20: Easter Sunday "The Empty Tomb"

WORSHIP

**April 27**: "Let's Go Fishing," Communion will be served.





Worship at JUMC, 3/5





Join us for a Maundy Thursday service at Jackson United Methodist Church (66 Bennetts Mills Road) on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. This special service is a Cornerstone tradition and all

are invited and encouraged to attend!

Cornerstone is also invited to attend a "Gospel Blues" Good Friday service at the Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville (2688 Main Street) on Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 PM.

#### GOOD FRIDAY GOSPEL & BLUES SERVICE

Friday, April 18th 12:15-1:15 pm Luncheon Following

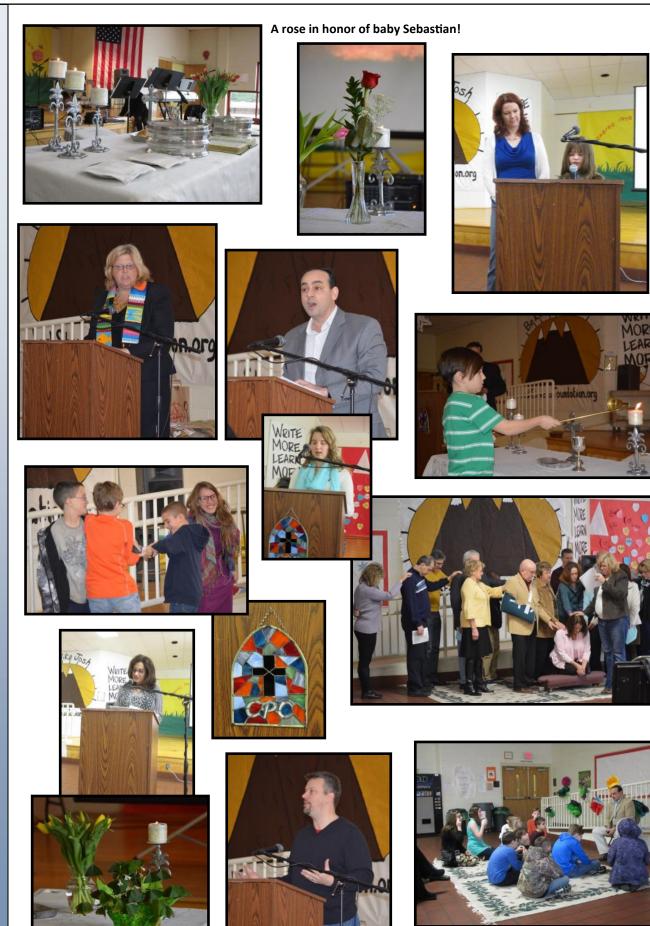
he Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville 2688 Main St. (Rt. 206) (609) 896-1212











WORSHIP

The Cornerstone Connection

#### Youth Activities with Cornerstone Youth Ministry Open to all middle school and high school youth. Talk to Youth Director Mary Gardiner or Pastor Courtney for more information on Youth Group!







Games & Gospel: Play-doh representations of what's important in worship.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

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April 6: Service at
Oceans Harbor
House, 1-4pm

at Cornerstone Pres

April 13: Six Flags!, 12-6pm

April 20: Easter, NO G&G

April 26: Jackson Clean-up Day

April 27: Games & Gospel, 1:30-3

May 2-3: VIP Water Walk

May 4: Prep for Youth Sunday, 12-2

May 11: Youth Sunday!

May 16-17: CAMPING at Allaire State Park, 5pm Fri - 3pm Sat

May 18: No G&G

May 25: Bike Trip

SUN

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#### Cornerstone Children's Ministry & The DeBows Wesley Club 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays, 6-7:30 PM Meets at DeBows United Methodist Church , 509 Monmouth Road, Jackson, NJ

This group meets on the Second and Fourth Thursday of the month, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm., unless otherwise noted. It is for children in Kindergarten through Sixth Grade, and is led by Pastor Courtney, Anthony Maimone, and Pastor Betty. Each month there will be a Missions theme with an associated craft or trip. A fun evening of Christian fellowship through bible lessons, crafts, holiday plays, games, snacks, and field trips.

Winter and Spring lessons will be on the Psalms of the Bible and favorite New Testament Passages. The Psalms are collected songs and poems that represent centuries worth of praises and prayers to God on a number of themes and circumstances. The Psalms are impassioned, vivid and concrete; they are rich in images, similes and metaphor.

#### **Upcoming meetings:**

Friday April 4th: LATE NIGHT FUN at DEBOWS from 7:00–11:30 PM! Thursday April 10th: Easter Lesson (Resurrection), 6:00-7:30 PM Saturday April 26th: Trip to Popcorn Park Zoo (bring lunch)

Mission: Children will make Easter cards



# SUNDAY SCHOOL



#### **Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

The egg hunt will take place after worship on Sunday, April 13th (Palm Sunday).

#### Please return the fish banks for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on April 13th (Palm Sunday) or April 20th (Easter).



#### **Sunday School for Kids!**



The **Elementary** children are studying a We Believe series called "Encountering Jesus." The focus is on Jesus as found in John, Matthew and Acts.

The **Middle School and High School Youth** will be continuing a survey of the Bible, continuing a New Testament study called "The People Jesus Knew and Taught," including the stories of Nicodemus, Mary & Martha, Zacchaeus, and Lazarus.



Teachers:

Nursery: Courtney Miner

Elementary: Allyson Moyer and Kellie Pushko

Middle & High School: Elizabeth Hughes, Kristen DiGirolamo, Dominique Robert

# MUSIC





#### **Cornerstone Choir News**

### The Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings at Debows United Methodist Church (509 Monmouth Road, Jackson) at 7:15 PM.

Choir rehearsals begin with a bible verse and prayer, warm ups of the voice, and then the rehearsing of anthems. 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. If you are interested in joining us consider stopping by one Thursday evening or contact Susan (srplus3@comcast.net).







#### **Cornerstone Missions Committee**

The Missions Committee plans monthly service projects for Cornerstone. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, speak to Committee Chair, Elder Wendy Barone.

#### Collection for Tent City on 4/6 and 4/27

**Items will be collected for Tent City** at church on April 6th and April 27th. The items they need the most are water and protein (frozen chicken, hot dogs, burgers, veggie burgers, etc.) We will also collect Shop Rite gift cards (buy them from Vernice!), as well as any of the previously requested items (hygiene products, canned foods, clothing, paper products, etc). Please talk to Wendy Barone if you can help deliver on 4/6 or 4/27!



Please Pray and Correspond with our Two Adopted Missionaries! If you are computer savvy, you may subscribe to their blogs and/or read letters at the PC(USA) website.

Kay Day – Missionary Worker in Malawi Email: <u>kay.day@pcusa.org</u> Blog/Website: <u>http://kaydaysdiary.blogspot.com/</u> PCUSA Website for Kay: <u>http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/missionconnections/day-mary-</u> <u>catherine/</u> Birthday: August 9

Dennis and Maribel Smith—Missionary Workers in Argentina Emails: <u>dennis.smith@pcusa.org</u>, <u>maribel.smith@pcusa.org</u>

Pcusa website: <u>http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/missionconnections/smith-dennis-and-maribel/</u> Office address: Sucre 2855, 3°, 1428, Buenos Aires, Argentina Office phone: +54 11 4787 0436;

#### Jackson Clean Communities Spring Street Clean-up:



#### April 26, 2014

On April 26<sup>th</sup> Cornerstone will participate in the 2014 Clean Communities Spring clean-up program, giving us an opportunity to earn \$300 for our church while also making a valuable contribution to our community! **We will meet at the Jackson Senior Center at 10:00 AM**—all must be present to sign in at this time. A small breakfast will be served including bagels, danish, fruit salad, breakfast bars, juices, water, coffee and tea. Each participant will receive a new Clean Communities t-shirt. They will also give away five (5) door prizes which are the three park 2014 season passes to SFGA. We will proceed to our assigned road for clean up at approximately 11:30 AM.

Please contact Wendy Barone or Elizabeth Hughes if you are able to help! A sign up sheet will be available in church.

#### VIP Water Walk: May 2-3, 2013



Water Walk - "Walk A Mile In Their Shoes"

The Village Water Walk event is designed to raise awareness of the need for access to safe water and the struggle to survive that our friends in Malawi, Africa face every day, and to raise funds for Villages in Partnership's efforts to provide life-changing, sustainable development projects that help alleviate those burdens. This year, teams of participants will walk continuously for 12 hours in and throughout the Allentown community.

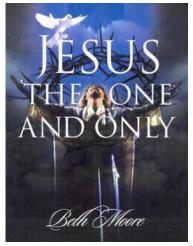
Cornerstone is currently forming a team to participate! This year, our plan is to meet as a team for the dinner at 6:00 PM at the First Presbyterian Church of Allentown on Friday, May 2nd, and then walk all together for the first hour, from 7-8 PM. Our goal is for our team to raise a total of \$2000, so we ask each team member to raise funds through sponsors. A sponsor sheet is available on the next page of this newsletter. Please contact Denise Mudalel or Pastor Courtney for more information!

	villages in pa	rtnership	
Vill	age Water Walk—"Wall	k A Mile In Their Shoes	
	Friday, May 2—Satu	rday, May 3, 2014	
Name of Participant:	Email A	Address:	
Signature/Consent	(Parent or adult signature if under 18 y	ears old)	
Team you're walking fo			
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#### Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

#### **All Women Welcome!**

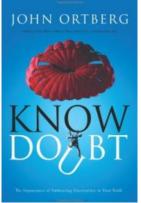
The Women's Bible Study takes place on Tuesday mornings, led by Pastor Courtney at the home of Elizabeth Hughes from 10:30 AM— 12:15 PM. The women are doing a DVD study called **Jesus the One and Only**, by Beth Moore. This in-depth women's Bible study is on the life of Jesus based on the book of Luke. Come along with Beth Moore and some wonderful Christian women at Cornerstone on a life-changing journey which will lead you through the hills of Galilee with the Teacher, across the lake with the Master, and finally, on the road toward the cross with the Savior. Get to know Jesus intimately ... as though you had walked with Him during His days of earthly ministry. This 10week, in-depth Bible study includes weekly personal assignments and 11 video sessions taped on location in Jerusalem and throughout Israel.





Women's Bible Study field trip to breakfast and to the movies to see "Son of God."

#### ADULT BOOK STUDY-MONDAY EVENINGS



## The Adult Book Study meets on Mondays and has started a new study on the book *Know Doubt: The Importance of Embracing Uncertainty in Your Faith* by John Ortberg.

This group meets at 6:30 PM at the home of Bob & Laurie Wegner. All adults are encouraged and welcome! Description: Without a doubt Ever 'stumbled' in your faith? Wrestled with uncertainty? Wondered if you're a true believer? If the answer is yes to any of these questions---and it probably is---you have reason to celebrate. In this candid book based on his own struggle with doubt, John Ortberg traces the line between belief and unbelief and finds that it's less a dividing line between hostile camps than a razor's edge that

runs through every soul. His findings point toward the relief of being totally honest. Doubt ... Questions ... Honest faith ... Outrageous hope ... It's a chain reaction that can actually strengthen our relationship with God, and that, says Ortberg, is cause for celebration.

#### **Financial Report for April**

- Total Offerings\* = \$9437
  - (Weekly: 3/2=\$1801, 3/9=\$1364, 3/16=\$2597, 3/23=\$2006, 3/30=\$1669)
- Per Capita offering = \$75 + \$37.20
- Foundation Fund = \$100 (Shop Rite)
- Gifts from other churches = \$0
- Special Offerings = \$2066 (intern scholarship)
- Miscellaneous income = \$42 (Applebee's fundraiser)

\* Our 2014 budget includes \$2105 per week in offerings. Please prayerfully consider your offering each week.

#### Per Capita

Officially "Per capita is an opportunity for all members of the Presbyterian church through the governing bodies to participate equally, responsibly, and interdependently by sharing the cost of coordination and evaluation of mission; and of performing ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions that identify a Reformed Church, while at the same time strengthening the sense of community among all Presbyterians" (GA Minutes, Part I, 1995). In essence: "Per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (USA). Every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC (USA)'s system of government, so every Presbyterian is asked to share the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system."

The annual per capita amount is a combined request from a congregation's Presbytery, Synod, and the General Assembly. The 2013 General Assembly budget determines the individual capita rate that provides:

- Expenses for bringing commissioners and advisory delegates to a General Assembly -The cost of bringing together Presbytery and Synod church leaders for training events, as well as those who serve on permanent GA committees -Tools to develop and administer ordination exams -Travel expenses of the Moderator and Vice Moderator of the GA -The call system and other work that helps all Presbyterians discern their vocation

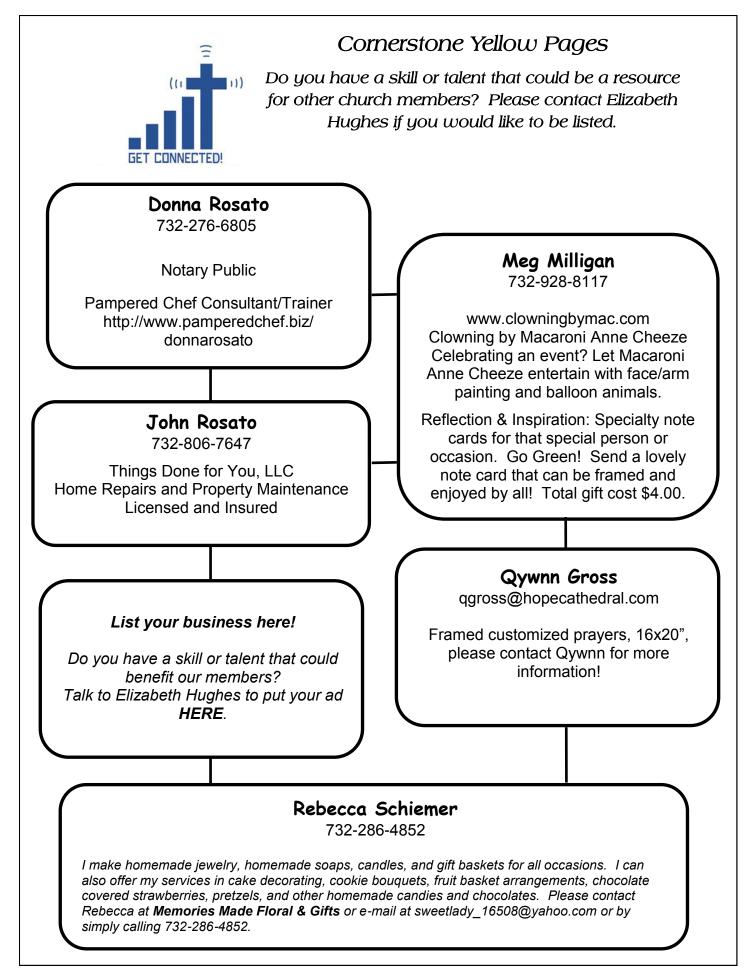
- Information, advice, and council to Presbyteries and pastors about immigration issues -The Presbyterian Historical Society -The production and distribution of the Book of Order, Book of Confessions, and other GA publications.

A Presbyterian presence at ecumenical groups and gatherings in the United States and worldwide. The 2014 total per capita is \$35.20 per member. Please give as you are able and consider sponsoring someone else who might not have the means at the moment. Blessings!

Our thanks to the Finance Committee for their hard work (Dominique Robert, Tina Kas, Okoro Okparaeke, and Denise Mudalel).

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7. 8-3-8-17			
8. 13-5-22-22-18-9	)		
women tomb	stone rolled	away living	crucified raised

19



at Cornerstone **April 2014** 

Sun	Mon	Tue	Ked	ł	Ξ	Sat
		1 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM	0	3 Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM	4 Children's Ministry "Late Night!" 7-11:30 PM	۵
ω	7 Adult Book Study 6:30 PM	8 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM	9 Session Meeting 7:20 PM	10 Children's Ministry 6:00-7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM	11	12
13 Blue Jean Sunday Palm Sunday EGG HUNT!	14 Adult Book Study 6:30 PM	15	16 Deacon's Meeting 7:00 PM	17 Maundy Thursday Service JUMC 7:00 PM	18	19
20 Celebrate the resurrection of Grappy EASTER	21 Adult Book Study 6:30 PM	22	23	24 Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM	25	26 Jackson Road Cleanup 10 AM Children's Ministry Trip to Popcorn Park Zoo
27	28 Adult Book Study 6:30 PM	29 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM	30			