



Cornerstone Connection

February 2016

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:

Sueli Paes de Barros

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A Message from Pastor Tory

As I write to you the Groundhog has not seen his shadow, which means two things. One, spring will come early! Which means work on Harmony Road will get back underway sooner. Two, it means I am late giving my newsletter to Elizabeth. Thank goodness Elizabeth has the patience of a saint, she is the best.

During February, in the Christian church, we begin the season called Lent. On February 10th, Ash Wednesday Lent begins and continues for forty days. Lent is a time of reflection and prayer. This Lent I am personally encouraging you to sign up for our Lenten Bible Study. We are going to use the series called "Glory Days". Glory Days is written by Max Lucado who is an accessible yet brilliant Christian writer and preacher. The book *Glory Day, living your promised land now*, looks at the book of Joshua. Max helps us wrestle with the question, "Why did God's chosen people wander 40 years in the wilderness and then suddenly have everything change as they entered the Promised Land." Through this video based discussion lead by Max we discover some insights into how this miracle came to be. Together over the six sessions we will discuss how God brings us out of the difficulties of our past, if we are able to let go of our "can't do" attitude. We, like the Israelites, must choose to believe in God who fulfills promises. That the land flowing with milk and honey is calling. Glory Days for you and I are for the taking. Yet, too often as miserable as we might be in our wilderness it is what we know. To enter "Jericho" seems too risky. Perhaps your Jericho is a new job because the job your in is a dead end. Maybe your marriage has become like week old bread, a little stale. Yet who has the time to work on it, nobody wants to rock the boat. Perhaps there is a dream for your life not yet realized. A dream that is quickly fading as years past. Max, in his book, reveals the good news we were made for Glory Days. Max invites us to read the words below, this holy declaration, to let it settle deep into our hearts as we walk forward into God's will for our lives.

*These days are Glory days. My past is past, my future is bright,
God's promises are true and his word is sure. With God as my helper, I will be all
he wants me to be,
Do all he wants me to do, and receive all he wants me to receive. These are the
Glory Days.*

I hope each of you will prayerfully consider joining one of our Bible Study opportunities. As we read his book and watch the video I know we will grow in our faith as well as come closer to one another as a church family. Three different sessions will be offered—please see page 10 for details.

Worship at McAuliffe Middle School

35 S. Hope Chapel Road, Jackson

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

Cornerstone Community



Donna Rosato, 2/6
 Sydney Slusak, 2/6
 Devin LaCross, 2/10
 Melissa Floyd, 2/11
 Jaimee Bainbridge, 2/15
 Beverly Kaiser, 2/16
 John Pushko, 2/16
 Michael Pushko, 2/16
 Anna Hekl, 2/18
 Sean DiGirolamo, 2/18
 Tory Pruner, 2/23
 Frank Fowler, 2/23
 Zoe Welch, 2/23
 Alice Jones, 2/24
 Debbie LaCross, 2/27
 Rob Morrison 2/27



Manny & Vernice DaConceicao, 2/19
 Frank & Lisa Capurso, 2/29

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.

ELDERS ON OUR SESSION

2016 Tina Kas
 Patti Miller
 Sharron Smith (Clerk)
 Bob Wegner

2017 Vikki Leach
 Todd Moyer
 Kellie Pushko
 Ray Schleckser

2018 Bruce Thompson
 Gail Carlson
 Laura Stone
 David LaCross

BOARD OF DEACONS

Betty Thompson
 Barbara Dougherty

Lisa Capurso
 Wendy Barone

Allyson Moyer
 Elizabeth Hughes



Please pray for:

- Joan Mallison as she has been admitted into hospice care after a long battle with cancer
- Bev Kaiser who has been moved into a care facility where she will need to remain permanently. Prayers for her during a difficult transition. Her address is: Fountain View Care Center, 527 River Ave, Lakewood, NJ 08701
- The Wegner family as they go through a difficult time
- Safe travels for the Morrisons as they travel to Florida for a few weeks

Continued prayers for:

- Bubba Smith recovering at home from back surgery
- John Lukacs in Brookside Assisted Living Facility in Freehold: Brookside Assisted Living, 93 Manalapan Avenue, Freehold, NJ 07728
- Cornerstone as we continue our renovations at the church on Harmony Road
- Laura Tunis with continued knee problems after a second knee replacement surgery
- Our troops 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



What a JOY it was to celebrate **John Bestenheider's** 100th birthday in church on January 10th! HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOHN!



The photo above was framed and presented to John as a gift. This flag was given to the church by John, and was hung in the foyer of the Harmony Road Church in his honor.

Member Update!

Alice and Russ Jones moved to Bernalillo, New Mexico in July, near Albuquerque. Our thoughts and prayers



will always be with them as part of our Cornerstone family!

Contact information:

Alice & Russ Jones
906 Prairie Zinnia Drive
Bernalillo, NM 87004

Russ: rrj5783@gmail.com
Alice: 3puppyhearts@gmail.com



Congratulations to **Marissa Tunis** for making the Dean's List in her first semester at Stockton University!



Souper Bowl of Caring February 7th

Souper Bowl of Caring is a way for our young people to lead the way in tackling hunger and homelessness within our community. Over the month of January, they will be finding ways to remind you of a special day, Souper Bowl. Yes, it happens on the same day as Super Bowl but this Souper Bowl will have a more lasting impact. 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 7th.

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

Saturday, February 13, 2016

9 AM—3:30 PM

(postponed from 1/23 due to snow)

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! The event is free; cost for hot buffet lunch \$12; lunch reservations will be taken through noon on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. Walk-ins welcome—just bring your own lunch!

Contact Elizabeth Hughes for registration information.

Per Capita

Per Capita is a set amount of money per member that is given to the larger Presbyterian Church. The 2016 per capita is \$36 per member. This offering supports the work of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. We are connected in many ways to Presbyterians near and far by the giving of our per capita offering. As one of the Presbyterian Churches of Monmouth Presbytery when you or I do not pay our per capita we let down not only our fellow Presbyterian churches, we fail to fulfill our faith commitment as a connectional church. We ask that you give your per capita in the "Per Capita" envelope in your envelope packet (also available at church). If you need to spread out your per capita payments over several months that is fine. Just remember per capita comes just once a year! Thank you for your support!



In this new year of 2016, consider signing up for electronic giving. Cornerstone relies on the financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. It also provides a much needed consistency in the donations that our church receives. It's easy to sign up—automatic donations can be made using a credit card or directly from your checking account. To set up a recurring giving schedule, visit our [website](#) to download our authorization form. Our website also offers the opportunity to make a donation through PayPal. Please speak to Elizabeth Hughes for more information.



Lent is the forty day season when we prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of Easter. The following services are planned:

February 10: Ash Wednesday Service at Jackson United Methodist Church (JUMC), led by Pastor Joe, 7:00 PM

February 14: 1st Sunday of Lent "Reaching our Glory Days" -Week One – "Is This as Good as it Gets?"

February 21: 2nd Sunday of Lent; "Reaching our Glory Days" - Week Two - "Our Inheritance Awaits"

February 28: 3rd Sunday of Lent; "Reaching our Glory Days" -Week Three – "Marching in Circles"

March 6: 4th Sunday of Lent; "Reaching our Glory Days" – Week Four – "Be Bold in Prayer"

March 13: 5th Sunday of Lent; "Reaching our glory Days" – Week Five – "Crossroads of Faith"

March 20: Palm Sunday, 6th Sunday of Lent; "Reaching our Glory Days" – Week Six - Perfect Love Casts Out Fear"

March 24: Maundy Thursday; service at JUMC, Traditional Tenebrae Service, led by Pastor Tory, 7:00 PM

March 27: Easter Sunday "Living in the Resurrection Light"



On January 10th, new elder (Ray Schleckser) was installed, and new deacons Lisa Capurso, Allyson Moyer, and Elizabeth Hughes were ordained and installed. We also welcome Wendy Barone as a new deacon!



Cornerstone Children's Ministry & The DeBows Wesley Club 2nd and 4th 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 Donna Ridge from DeBows and Elizabeth Hughes from Cornerstone. A fun evening of Christian fellowship through bible lessons, crafts, games, snacks, and occasional field trips.

Upcoming lessons will be on the Fruit of the Spirit and Easter.



Upcoming Meetings for Fall/Winter:

- Thursday, February 11: Fruit of the Spirit—Peace & Kindness
- Thursday, February 25: Good Friday & Palm Sunday Lesson
- Thursday, March 10: Easter Lesson
- Thursday, March 24: No Lesson—HAPPY EASTER
- Thursday, April 14: Fruit of the Spirit—Goodness & Faithfulness
- Thursday, April 28: Fruit of the Spirit—Gentleness & Self-Control

May/June: Make a meal at Ronald McDonald House & Pool Party! Dates TBD.



After learning about the Fruit of the Spirit "Love," the kids made valentines for shut-ins and other church members

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.



5th Friday 7:30pm **Ice Skating, Howell Ice World**



Join your friends for a fun evening of ice skating. Admission: Adults (13+) \$8.00, Child(12-) \$7.00 Skate rentals \$4.00 per person. snack bar available. Rink closes at 10pm.

7th Sunday 10:00am **Souper Bowl of Caring!**



Youth will collect coins and canned goods at worship to help end hunger in our local community.

18th Thursday 6:45 pm **Beyond Youth Night at Keswick – Whiting, NJ**

Join many young teens from the area for a night of music, games, swimming and snack bar. Items include ice cream, mozzarella sticks, french fries and more.\$3-4./item. [Visit the website](#) for more information. This is an open event for all youth and costs only \$10 for our entire group to attend.

21st Sunday 12pm **Soup Kitchen at All Saints Episcopal Church, Lakewood, NJ**



Cornerstone is committed to help the local families by serving hot meal the 3rd Sunday of every month. Two youth and one adult are needed each month—**we need one more volunteer for February!** Time commitment is less than 2 hours and you will definitely leave feeling fulfilled and blessed.

Meet at 12pm at All Saint Episcopal Church, Rt 9, Lakewood.

Don't let needing a ride stop you from attending any event. Carpooling available. Friends are always welcome!

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

Questions and suggestions on things to do are always welcome!

Cornerstone Confirmation January—May 2016



Cornerstone is very excited to be offering Confirmation to our youth in grades 7th grade and up! Classes began on January 31st, and will continue through May. This class is a time for youth to confirm the love that God has expressed for each of us in Jesus Christ. It is important that both the youth and the family are involved in this journey!

If a youth decides they are ready to join our church after the confirmation process, they will have an opportunity to join the church on Sunday, May 15th! Classes will be taught by Pastor Tory with some assistance from adult mentors. **Adult mentors are needed!** If you can be a mentor, please talk to Pastor Tory.

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

(classes at McAuliffe after worship unless otherwise noted)

January 31 st -	Created for a Purpose: What am I doing Here?
February 10	Who is Jesus Christ? <i>(at the Hughes's home, 6:00 PM)</i>
February 14	Church Visit -Mentor Day
February 21 st	Sin and Forgiveness: What does God Expect of Me?
February 28 th	Holy Spirit and a Relationship with Christ: How can I know God?
March 3 rd	Cornerstone Youth Group -Movie <i>(at the Moyer's)</i>
March 6 th	The Church and Its Mission
March 13 th	Sacraments and the Lord's Prayer
March 20 th	Church Visit – Mentor Day
March 27 th	Easter – No Confirmation
April 3 rd	Developing a Rule of Life
April 10 th	Being Presbyterian – Being a Member of Cornerstone!
April 17 th	Statement of Faith Review
April 24 th	No Confirmation Class – Submit final Statement of Faith to Elizabeth by April 27 th
May 1 st	Session Examination
May 15 th	Confirmation!

SAVE THE DATE!

VIP WATER WALK—Saturday, May 7



villages in partnership



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.

Cornerstone will once again be forming a team to walk in this event. This year the walk will be held on a Saturday at Allentown Presbyterian Church starting at 4:00 PM. Our team will take shifts walking throughout the evening, with the event ending at 10 PM with a time of devotion. We are hoping to form a team of 10 people to walk and each raise \$200. Sponsor sheets will be available soon. Whether you can walk, or sponsor a walker, thank you for your support of this mission project! Please contact Elizabeth Hughes for more information!

Clothing Drive for DeBows Methodist Church



DeBows Methodist Church is conducting a clothing drive through February 28, 2016. The items accepted are as follows: men, women and children's clothing, shoes, hats, belts, ties, handbags, coats, jackets, bed linens and stuffed animals.

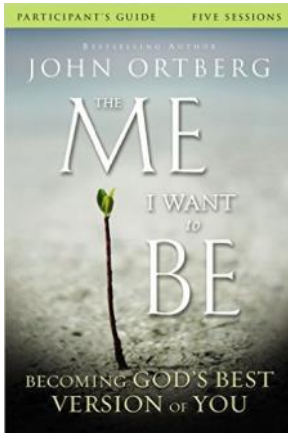
All items should be clean and in reasonably good shape. The clothes are not shredded for rags and are intended to be distributed and used by people in need.

If you would like to donate items in support of this drive, you can give them to Elizabeth Hughes prior to 2/25 and she will deliver the items to DeBows. Thank you!

Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

All Women Welcome!

This group meets on Tuesday mornings from 10:30-12 at the home of Elizabeth Hughes. On January 12th, the women will begin a John Ortberg 5-week study called "The Me I Want to Be." This study will conclude on February 9th, and the group will begin the "Glory Days" study described below for the 6 weeks of Lent starting on Tuesday, February 16th.

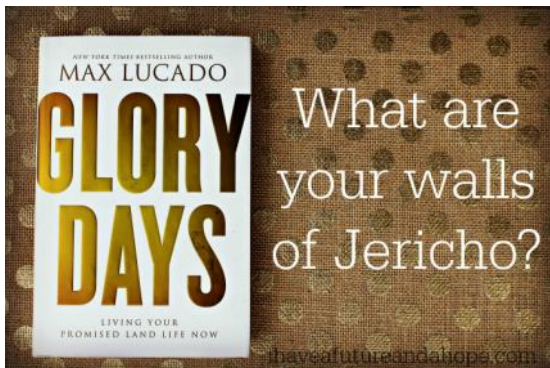


Description: "The Me I Want to Be" small group Bible study is a powerful look at becoming the unique, fully alive, flourishing person God intended. Pastor and author John Ortberg teaches through five sessions how you can move toward becoming God's best version of you in four specific areas: your mind, your time, your relationships, and your experiences.

Schedule:

Session 1—January 12th—Discovering the Spirit
 Session 2—January 19th—Renewing My Mind
 Session 3—January 26th—Redeeming My Time
 Session 4—February 2nd—Deepening My Relationships
 Session 5—February 9th—Transforming My Experience

Lenten Study "Glory Days" by Max Lucado



Cornerstone will be holding a special Bible Study throughout Lent that we encourage the entire congregation to participate in. The six-week study is by Max Lucado and is called "Glory Days."

Description: Often we go through situations where challenge seems so much greater than our strength. We can find hope and inspiration from the story of Joshua. God had called Joshua to take over from Moses and lead the Israelites into a paradigm shift from wilderness wandering to promise-believing.

God had a Promised Land in store for them, but they had to grasp that reality, change their mindsets, and take action to receive it. The same is true for us today. God is telling us that our best days—our "glory days"—are still ahead of us. We only need to grasp that truth and live in faith to realize this promise.

Three study opportunities are available throughout the week—please let Pastor Tory know of your interest and availability!

- **Evening Group—Thursday evenings at 6:30 PM**

Starts 2/11, led by Pastor Tory Pruner at Jackson United Methodist Church

- **Sunday Morning Group—Sundays before worship at 8:45 AM**

Starts 2/14, led by Pastor Tory Pruner at the McAuliffe Middle School

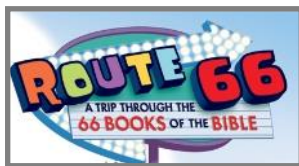
- **Tuesday Morning Group—Tuesdays at 10:30 AM**

Starts 2/16, led by Elizabeth Hughes at her home

The K-6th graders had fun with lessons on Epiphany and the journey to Egypt, with special guests Mary & baby Jesus, King Herod, and the Pharaoh.



Sunday School for Kids!



The **K-6th Grade** class will continue their study of "Route 66: A Trip Through the 66 Books of the Bible." This curriculum is designed to take children on a life-changing journey through each of the 66 books of the Bible, introducing them to more of the wonders of the Word and the adventures that can be found in a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Each week, Route 66 will introduce children to a different book or group of books in the Bible. They'll learn about the author, the time frame, the key people and the book's purpose, while creating a souvenir scrapbook that will serve as a way to remember all of the different stops and to celebrate the journey.

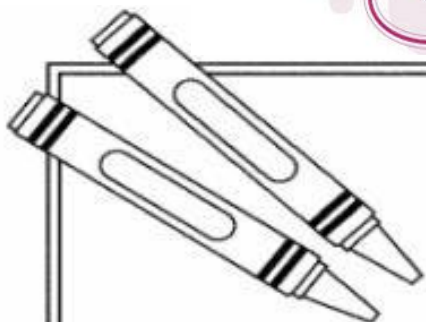
The **7th-12th Grade** class is continuing a new style of class focused on the NOOMA DVD series and discussion.

Teachers:

Nursery: Sueli Paes de Barros

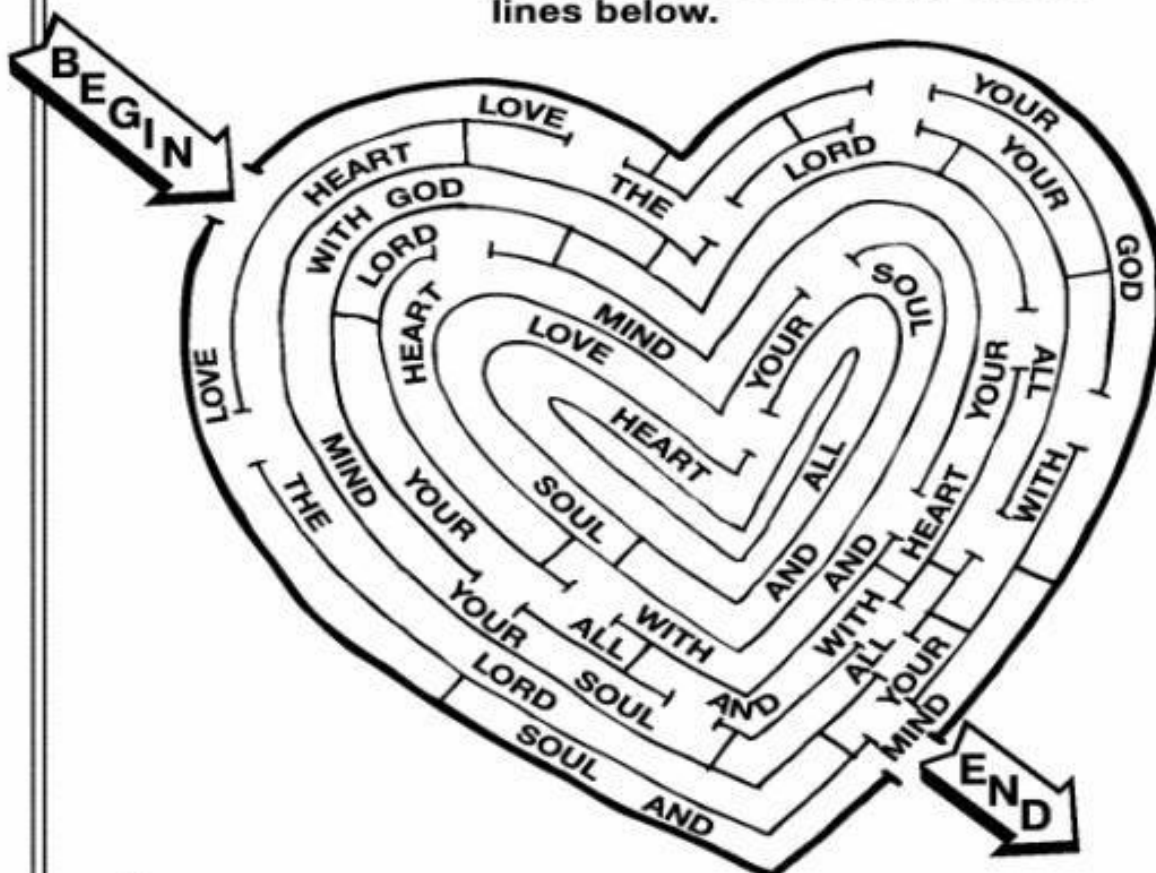
Elementary: Kellie Pushko, Lisa Monday, Kathe Morrison & rotating teachers

Middle & High School: Elizabeth Hughes, Dominique Robert



Just for KIDS

Find the correct path through the heart below. Write the words in order, as you find them, on the lines below.



“ _____

 _____.” Matthew 22:37



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.

Donna Rosato

732-276-6805

Notary Public

John Rosato

732-806-7647

Things Done for You, LLC
Home Repairs and Property Maintenance
Licensed and Insured

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.

Qywnn Gross

qgross@hopecathedral.com

Framed customized prayers, 16x20", please contact Qywnn for more information!

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.*

Rebecca Schiemer

732-286-4852

*I make homemade jewelry, homemade soaps, candles, and gift baskets for all occasions. I can also offer my services in cake decorating, cookie bouquets, fruit basket arrangements, chocolate covered strawberries, pretzels, and other homemade candies and chocolates. Please contact Rebecca at **Memories Made Floral & Gifts** or e-mail at sweetlady_16508@yahoo.com or by simply calling 732-286-4852.*

February 2016 at Cornerstone

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM	3	4	5 Youth Ice Skating 7:30 PM	6
7 Soup & Bread after worship	8	9 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM	10 Confirmation Meeting 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service JUMC 7 PM	11 Children's Ministry 6-7:30 PM	12	13 Equipping the Saints workshop at Princeton Seminary
14 Deacons Meeting 11:15 AM <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>	15	16 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM	17 Session Meeting 7:00 PM	18 Youth Night at Keswick 6:45 PM	19	20
21 Confirmation Meeting 11:15 AM	22	23 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM	24	25 Children's Ministry 6-7:30 PM	26	27
28 Confirmation Meeting 11:15 AM 	29					
Communion Served						