



Cornerstone Presbyterian Church

Cornerstone Connection

June 2017

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 this newsletter, the week has been filled with moments of cloudy foggy mornings with breaking sun in the later morning, to clouds rolling in again and some sprinkles and even some downpours, with the late day bringing a beautiful sun setting against a blue sky. As I reflected about these days it made me think of my life, that sometimes there are moments where it seems as though the fog will never lift. That the black cloud seems to be always overhead. And when the sun shines, it is brief and you're always looking for when the clouds will roll in again. Unfortunately, I fear I am not alone. Many of us live with our eyes on the clouds instead of on the SON. Our faith waivers in the face of the challenges and disappointments of life. What can we do to change your focus? How can we live our lives with hope even in the midst of the frustrations of life? For me and many others we are able to through the connections we find in the stories of faith revealed in the Bible and through our time with God in prayer. During the last few weeks in worship we have been focusing on prayer and using Mark Batterson's book, "The Circle Maker" to help us. Mark writes, "We often view prayer and Scripture reading as two distinct spiritual disciplines without much overlap, but what if they were meant to be hyperlinked? What if reading became a form of praying and praying became a form of reading? Prayer was never meant to be a monologue; it was meant to be a dialogue. Think of scripture as God's part of the script; prayer is our part. The paradigm shift happens when you realize that the Bible wasn't meant to be read through; the Bible was meant to be prayed through." I believe Mark helps us to understand that as we read of those great heroes of the faith, we find they had their share of what we would consider "black cloud" days. Noah building an ark in the desert, Moses walking around in circles for 40 years with a group of grumblers following, and David being laughed at as he approached Goliath. Yet, each hero knew God was with them. They believed in the promises of God. Their faith was strong.

Too often we think, "Where are the heroes of faith now?" in our cloud-covered world, filled with cynics challenging us to defend our faith. Are we able to witness the heroes of faith today? They come from many different places and positions. A couple of weeks ago in worship I told about a young woman named Autumn. Autumn has become a new friend of my daughter Lorna. They met at a fellowship group for people with disabilities. Autumn was born with a rare chromosomal disorder leaving her deaf and mute. This

Worship at McAuliffe Middle School

35 S. Hope Chapel Road, Jackson

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

Cornerstone Community



Kayla Moyer, 6/1
Ike Okparaek, 6/3
Annabel Hughes, 6/5
Jacob Welch, 6/6
Marissa Tunis, 6/7
Tyler Pushko, 6/8
Alex LaFontaine, 6/11
Amy Slusak, 6/15
Don Welch, 6/17
Mary Gardiner, 6/19
Allyson Moyer, 6/20
Sara Floyd, 6/23
Joan Breuninger, 6/27
Marissa Rosato, 6/29
Betty Thompson, 6/30



Ed & Joan Breuninger, 6/6
Elizabeth & James Hughes, 6/6
Rob & Kathe Morrison, 6/19
Bruce & Betty Thompson, 6/22

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.

makes it so much more challenging for Lorna and Autumn to communicate. Yet, with some help they are doing well. Lorna learned that Autumn loved baseball and with Kayla's fiancé now working at Blue Claws we thought it would be wonderful to invite Autumn and her family to a game. Why I tell you about this game is because of what Autumn wanted: like every young person, her dream was to get and catch one of the balls that went into the stands. But after each inning as another boy was tossed a ball Autumn would show her disappointment by stamping her feet and making a face, but did she sit down - no, she remained standing five innings straight. She knew there was a ball for her, and nothing was going to deter her. I myself had given up hope as I sat right alongside her. Then down the row there was a gentleman who saw Autumn's determination and wanted to honor it. He got the attention of one of the ball players, a ballplayer everyone wanted to talk to, Tim Tebow. He explained about Autumn's dream and determination. The next thing I know a ball is being given to Autumn and with that there was a display of overwhelming joy as Autumn held up the ball and danced around. Everyone in the stands around us cheered along with her, perhaps louder than they cheered for anything that whole night. What gave Autumn the ability to believe, the skeptics would say because she was naïve, but I believe that it was the faith she has found in a God that has not abandoned her.

That brings us to the one who made the moment possible: Tim Tebow. Tim is a man who knows the cheers and honors of success, as well as the searing comments of skeptics. Individuals that are sure of Tim's failure in baseball is a certainty. In an article in Sports Illustrated by Tim Rohan, it explains how Tim is able to hold his head up high even the midst of the dark clouds around him. "Tebow doesn't fear failure. He puts his trust in God. He believes God has a plan for him - a good plan, a big plan - and he believes everything in his life, good or bad, unfolds according to the plan." "We get to some places sometimes," Tebow says, "where we think; 'Well, God, I know better than you, and what should've happened was, I should've won a couple of superbows by now, and I should be starting quarterback for this team.' And God's like, Wait, wait, wait- I gotcha. I love you, and I've got a better plan than you can possibly imagine." With baseball, Tebow says, "failure isn't striking out or not making the majors; failure would be not trying in the first place." Now that he is trying, he's going to try as hard as he can, until he figures out where baseball fits into the ultimate "plan."

As we try to see past the clouds, to see the light, it requires faith in the Son. There are frustrations and disappointments both in our individual lives and our lives as a Church family. Moments when we are just done waiting, yet when we know God as Autumn and Tebow do, waiting is just the time before God shows us his great plan. Keeping the words of the prophet Jeremiah as a part of prayers, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."

The Session of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church calls for a Congregational Meeting on Sunday June 18, 2017 after the 10 AM worship service for the purpose of approving the loan application to the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program for a \$ 50,000 loan, to be used for renovation costs to the Harmony Road Church. The loan will be repaid upon the sale of the church property on Route 571. The terms of the loan and an update on the progress of work on Harmony Road renovations will be presented. Please make time to come to this important meeting.



Proud parents Dominique and Sueli with their son Ricardo, who graduated in May with an MBA. Congratulations Ricardo!

Please pray for:

- Nancy Foster recovering from back surgery
- Donnette Hubert recovering after a recent hospital stay for heart issues
- Pastor Tory's daughter Lorna having tests done
- The LaCross family after the passing of David's mother



Continued prayers for:

- Ray Schleckser receiving radiation treatments for prostate cancer
- 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
- Cornerstone as we continue our renovations at the church on Harmony Road
- Our troops around the world and their families

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

Session Committee Assignments

Christian Education: Oversees the planning and implementation of the Christian Education for Cornerstone. **Chair: Kellie Pushko**

Finance: Works with the treasurer in keeping track of the church's finances. **Chair: Tina Kas**

Worship: Oversees the planning of worship, working closely with the pastor and minister of music, including recommending times for communion and baptism. **Chair: Vikki Leach; Elders: Barbara Dougherty, Ray Schleckser**

Building: Oversees the renovation of the Harmony Road Church and in the future to plan the maintenance of the building. Continues to make plans to sell the property and oversee the future building. **Chair: Bruce Thompson; Elders: Dave LaCross**

Missions: Oversees the mission work of the church, which currently includes Villages in Partnership, Operation Christmas Child. **Chair: Dominique Robert; Elders: Sharron Smith**

Personnel: Oversees the hiring of staff, planning for reviews and recommending salary changes. **Chair: Todd Moyer; Elders: Laura Stone**

Stewardship: Oversees the planning of the annual stewardship campaign and lifting up ways to give of themselves. **Chair: Jim Foster**

Church Nominating: Oversees the annual nomination of church officers, including elders and deacons. **Chair: Gail Carlson**

Updates on some of our Cornerstone Friends!



Our former pastor, Courtney Cromie, will start a new position as pastor of the Frenchtown Presbyterian Church on July 1st. Congratulations to Courtney, we wish her all our best!

Reverend Dr. Robert "Rev Rob" Morrison, our retired Pastor Emeritus, has accepted a call to be the full time interim pastor of the Woodstown Presbyterian Church, Woodstown NJ. Kathe will continue as a member of Cornerstone, helping with Christian Education. Our prayers and gratitude are with them both!



A recent article on our former intern, Anthony Maimone

Tuckerton Leader

First Presbyterian Church of Tuckerton Has Uptick in Parishioners

Apr 07, 2017



Photo by: Pat Johnson

The Rev. Anthony Maimone in his office at the First Presbyterian Church of Tuckerton.

While many churches are struggling to fill their pews, the First Presbyterian Church of Tuckerton has seen an increase of new and returning visitors since their new minister, the Rev. Anthony Maimone, has taken over the lectern. In the past six months, "our attendance has steadily grown, and we may be considering two Sunday services down the road," he said.

The soft-spoken minister with the big smile says it's because the congregation is loving and warm. "I truly believe our church members are a living witness to the life and love of Jesus Christ in their desire to be a comfort to others. Many people have said that they feel this sense of welcoming and compassion when they first walk in."

Maimone, a part-time pastor, also recently resigned from his secular job as the chief compliance officer of International School Services, where he worked for over eight years, so that he could pursue ministry full-time. He also recently accepted a part-time chaplain position at Ocean Medical Center in Brick.

(Continued)

(Continued from previous page)



angel

Enlarge...

Maimone noted that he's getting a lot of positive feedback from various colleagues regarding his recent job transition. Many have begun to ask themselves, he said, "What's *my* dream? What's *my* calling?" It's very daring in some sense – yet what better role model can we be for our children when we pursue our calling; i.e., what makes us happy, where our gifts and talents lie? We can, therefore, be authentic to the purposes that God designed us to be."

As the church prepares for Holy Week, Maimone is leading his congregation in spiritual disciplines including prayer, scripture reading, repentance, fasting and acts of service and love.

"Each week we touch on these disciplines of our faith that help us to reflect on the history of our own salvation as it was manifested by the passion, suffering and endurances of Jesus Christ. When you say someone is passionate about something, it means they are willing to suffer and endure for what they are passionate about: God is so passionate about us that God was willing to give Jesus' life for us."

In his Lenten prayer services, Maimone focuses on the human experiences of the Lord, "as in the garden when he suffered mental anguish knowing he would soon be separated from his disciples, while his best friends, Peter and John, could not stay awake. This must have crushed our Lord," he said. "We look back on the experiences of the passion to help us identify the sacrifices modeled for us by Christ, as we also look forward to the ecstasy, when he rose from the dead so that ultimately we could live, too. It's a bitter-sweet time and a time for us to focus on what's important in daily living in comparison to what we believe is our eternal future."

Thanks to the growing congregation, this Easter, the church will hold two services, at 9 and 10:30 a.m., with fellowship in between, including an Easter egg hunt for the children.

The next major project for the church is to expand its children's and adult Christian education program. "We are refurbishing our children and nursery meeting spaces, and we'll have a big cleanup on April 22 and 23, shortly after Easter. This commitment demonstrates the importance of our children to the continued growth of our beloved church."

As part of its service to the community, the Presbyterian church holds a free community dinner on the second Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall to which all are invited.

And, as the choir has recently purchased new hymnals, the churchwomen (Krafty Krafters) have put the old ones to use by crafting beautiful angels out of them. These are for sale in fellowship hall for a gift of \$25 by calling the church office at 609-296-8894.

— Pat Johnson

YOUTH MISSION TRIP

July 7-10, 2017

All kids ages 12+ are invited to come along on a Group mission trip to Roanoke, Virginia. The cost is \$299 per person.



This is an amazing opportunity for our youth to serve real people in need while working on projects like...

- Building wheelchair ramps and handrails
- Weatherizing homes and trailers
- Reconstructing sagging porches
- Significant painting projects
- Interior and exterior carpentry
- Other home repair projects that the homeowner cannot otherwise complete

The residents of Roanoke are truly grateful, and in great need of the help. Youth will meet people that they'll never forget – people whose lives will be forever changed because of the love and hope they bring.

And in the process, their lives will be transformed by the people of the town and the presence of Jesus.



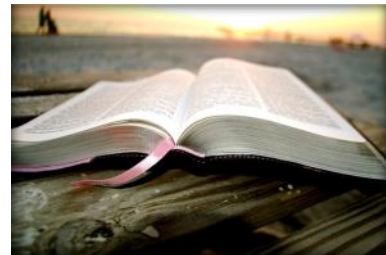
amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Cornerstone can now benefit from YOUR online Amazon purchases! From the website 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.

The Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study is taking a break for the summer and will resume in September!



BEACH BIBLE STUDY IN OCEAN GROVE—TUESDAYS IN JULY



It's time once again for Reverend David Cotton's Beach Bible Study, on the beach in Ocean Grove, just south of the Beach Office at Embury Avenue, from 7-8 PM, on July 11, 18, and 25th. Bring your beach chair and a bible!

Children & Youth Mother's Day Service May 14, 2017



"Allelu, Allelu" led by Macaroni Anne Cheeze

Baptism of
Avery Louise LaFontaine
May 21, 2017



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.



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

Saturdays 9:00

Jackson Food Pantry

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 service hours.

15th Thursday 6:45 pm

Beyond Youth Night at Keswick – Whiting, NJ

Join many young teens from the area for a night of music and worship. Devotional lead by one of our local Youth Pastors, -FREE TIME in our Activity Center- Indoor pool (*one piece bathing suits only*), organized games, and a snack shop which serves Ice Cream, Milk Shakes and French Fries so bring a few dollars if you'd like to purchase.

COMING SOON—DATE TBD—POOL PARTY AT THE MOYER'S!

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!

Thanks to our Youth for making
a meal at Ronald McDonald
House on May 5th!



RONALD McDONALD HOUSE OF CENTRAL & NORTHERN NEW JERSEY



www.rmhc-nj.org

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May 10, 2017

Cornerstone Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 140
Jackson, NJ 08527

Attn: Ally Moyer


Dear Ally & Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff of the Ronald McDonald House of Central & Northern New Jersey, I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank you for providing a meal for our families on 05/05/2017. Your willingness to participate in this meaningful volunteer program has a profound impact on the emotional, mental and physical well-being of our families.

The challenge of dealing with a critically ill child is an ordeal that no one should have to face. However, there are those whose daily reality involves spending many hours at the hospital, juggling doctor's appointments, work and/or school, while at the same time meeting the needs of other family members. The staff and volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House try to relieve some of the burden by providing a welcoming, calm home environment for families during what has been described by many as a stressful time that is filled with a great deal of uncertainty.

The Caring Cook Volunteer Program enables families to come Home and enjoy good food, connect with other families and bond over shared experiences. Thank you for offering your time and resources in support of our mission.

Sincerely,


Natalie Stewart
House Manager

Make a
Joyful noise
Unto the Lord
Psalm 100:1



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).



Youth and children on
Mother's Day playing the bells



VIP WATER WALK—Saturday, May 20th

THANK YOU to all who participated in The Villages in Partnership (VIP) Water Walk!

Cornerstone's "Team Harmony" raised \$3345 (a new Cornerstone record, far exceeding our goal of \$2000!), which will help our friends in Malawi, Africa to have safe water sources, food, and medical care as they struggle every day to survive. Thank you ALL for your support – whether you walked, sponsored our team, or said a prayer! Special thanks to Denise Mudalel for leading our team!

From the VIP Facebook page: Over \$69,500!!! That is how much money Villages in Partnership has raised, to date for the 2016 Walk. The whole VIP team is beyond grateful for the astounding generosity of our brothers and sisters from near and far. This will have a profound impact on the lives of our Malawian family, bringing them many wells and boreholes for access to clean water. And we had so much fun!!



Way to go Team
Harmony!



Villages in Partnership

4 hrs · 🌐

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the 2017 Water Walk! We have raised over \$66,000 and the checks are still coming in! The money raised at the Water Walk will have an incredible impact on the lives of thousands of people struggling in extreme poverty, and we have our amazing participants, sponsors and volunteers to thank for that. You are all changing lives!



End-of-Year Party May 21st

Our 2016-2017 Sunday School year ended on Sunday, May 21st when we finished the year with an outdoor celebration!

During the summer months, all children are encouraged to stay in worship. We will have activities to help keep the kids busy and entertained in worship.

Nursery care will still be available for children 0-4! For more information, please talk to Kellie Pushko, Kathe Morrison, or Elizabeth Hughes.



FATHER'S DAY WORD SEARCH

Happy Father's Day!



Celebrate
Relaxation
Inspiration
Appreciate
Grandfather
Devoted

Gift
Son
Wise
Laugh
Kiss
Card

Home
Hugs
Sunday
Happy
Fun
Cake

Caring
Holiday
Giving
Love
Family
Strong

Honor
Hero
Daddy
Loyal
Friend
Father

Daughter
Gentleman
Children
Encourager
Provider
Greatest



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

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.*

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!

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.*

June 2017 at Cornerstone

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Deacon Meeting 11 AM	12	13	14	15 YOUTH Night at Keswick 6:45 PM	16	17
18 Father's Day Congregational Meeting	19	20	21 Session Meeting 7:00 PM	22	23	24
25 Worship Meeting  Communion Served	26	27	28	29	30	