



Cornerstone Connection March 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

Youth & Children's Ministry Intern:
Abby Cloos, 732-551-8783

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 March begins, so too does the season of Lent. Lent is a time in the life of the church for reflection, abstinence and self-denial, following the example of Jesus Christ. For the first two centuries, this was a preparation for Easter and was for just forty hours remembering the time Jesus was in the tomb. The earliest reference to a forty-day period for Lent is found to be in 325 AD. Today Christians are encouraged to use this as a period of spiritual discipline in which to deepen their union with Jesus Christ. In Mark Buchanan's book, "Your God is Too Safe" he writes "Fasting is meant to humble us, to make us understand how small and frail and needy we really are." Lent can be a time when we rediscover how truly dependent we are on our great God. A God whose heart was so pure with love for his children, despite their disobedience and wanderings, that he sent his son to die for their sins.

As I spend time reflecting on the sins of my own life it seems so overwhelming. How is that as much as I strive to follow the example of Jesus, I fail. A few years ago, I needed to take back my leased Camry. I called a friend of mine and asked for the name of the person that cleans the cars for their business. She said, "You have to see Vaughn, he is the best!" So, I did just that. I made an appointment and was brutally honest with him of how my children, dog and I had really been awful to our car, that it was terribly dirty. Vaughn declared, "I have never met a car I can't bring back to life!"

(continued)

Cornerstone Community



John Rosato, 3/5
Ben Miner, 3/10
Matt Hekl, 3/15
Emily Welch, 3/17
Anthony Maimone, 3/19
Chuck Calhoun, 3/21
Ashley DiGirolamo, 3/23
Doris Pfeiffen, 3/26
Heather DiGirolamo, 3/26
Sue Woolverton, 3/29



Bubba & Sharron Smith, 3/6

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)

I dropped my car off and a few hours later I returned, with very low expectations hoping that it would be "good enough" to return to the dealership. I was amazed, was this my car? Vaughn had indeed brought it back to life. Wouldn't be great if we could have Vaughn "clean-up" us - take our hearts and wash them clean from all their sins. Using his mighty hose in just one day of cleaning we would be clean through and through. Unfortunately, it doesn't work that way- it requires action on our part. We must turn to God to make us clean. Lent is the perfect time to take action, it is a sacred and life transforming season if we are willing to enter into it with our whole heart. May we use this transforming season of Lent to declare to our Risen Lord our unfailing love. May we challenge ourselves to fast and reflect so that God might reveal to us his great calling for our lives!

ELDE	RS 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

Please pray for:

 Reverend Pruner's daughter Bailey and her husband PJ as he has developed blood clots in his legs and lungs and is in a lot of pain; they are expecting their first baby in March



Continued prayers for:

- The family of Anna and Denise Mudalel in Syria
- Bev Kaiser in FountainView Care Center: 527 River Ave, Lakewood, NJ 08701, 732-534-8217
- 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

Cornerstone is Looking For You!

Do you have a heart for mission? Are you one that loves to write stories about the great works and saints of our Church? Or are you more comfortable with a hammer, knowledgeable about caring for buildings? Do you find yourself drawn to ensuring the passing on of the faith to our children and youth? We are searching for you to fill a few open places on our Session Committees. Each committee meets once a month following worship for about one hour. The committees we are seeking members for are the Mission, Stewardship, Building and Christian Education Committees.

As the Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Each of you are vital to Cornerstone and we hope that you will prayerfully consider where you might be being called to serve. If you are interested in being a part of one of these committees, please speak to Reverend Pruner or write her at vappruner@gmail.com.

Session Committee Assignments

<u>Christian Education</u>: 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

<u>Worship</u>: 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**

<u>Building</u>: 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**

<u>Missions</u>: Oversees the mission work of the church, which currently includes Villages in Partnership, Operation Christmas Child. **Chair Needed; Elders: Sharron Smith**

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

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

<u>Church Nominating</u>: Oversees the annual nomination of church officers, including elders and deacons. Chair: Gail Carlson



February 5, 2017



Our youth collected several bags of groceries and \$75 in loose change, which was used to purchase 40 bottles of laundry detergent! Donations were given to the Jackson Food Pantry. Thanks to all who contributed!

Purex Purex

We also celebrated the "Souper Bowl" with our traditional meal of soup and bread after worship!



Anchors Away Christian Summer Camp at Jackson United Methodist Church

Seeking Camp Counselors for this Summer!

For any questions please contact Megan Gallagher @ mgallagher2400@gmail.com

Camp Overview: The summer camp runs for the month of July from July 3^{3rd}- July 28th

- Week 1 (July 3rd July 7th): Olympics Camp
- No camp July 4th
- Week 2 (July 10th July 14th): Science Camp
- Week 3 (July 17th July 21st): Theater Week
- Week 4 (July 24th July 28th): Cooking Week

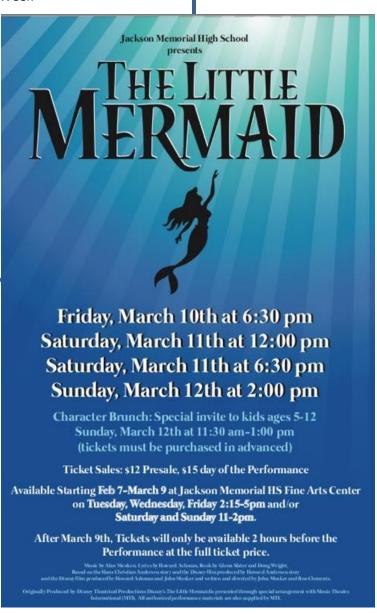
Needed: Counselors for Pre-K-Kindergarten, 1st-2nd Grade, and 3rd-4th Grade Counselors

(contact Elizabeth Hughes for more detailed job descriptions)

Salary: \$10 an hour

Job Experience: Volunteer or work with children, Sunday School Teacher, Teacher, Counselor, Vacation Bible School Volunteer, or Tutoring





Per Capita Offering Continues to be Received

Our Per Capita Offering has been doing well, yet there is still a large portion yet to be paid. The amount not given by the members must be covered by our general budget, taking away from other work and ministry of Cornerstone.

Per capita is an amount of money per member (this year, \$36.00) that our congregation pays to our larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). 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).

Thank you to all of you who have already paid your share of \$36.00. By contributing your portion of per capita, you have freed up dollars in our regular budget for the work of our congregation in this community. If you haven't yet contributed, we hope you will consider doing so. Together is how we have the greatest impact!



Mark your calendars! On Sunday, March 19th we are not able to worship in McAuliffe. Instead, worship will be at Liberty High School that day, in Cafeteria B, at our regular time of 10:00 AM. Liberty

High School is located just down the road at 125 North Hope Chapel Road. From McAuliffe, turn right out of the parking lot, proceed through two traffic lights and the entrance for the high school will be shortly on your right.

Please help us to spread the word!

Daylight Savings begins on Sunday, March 12th! Turns your clocks ahead one hour!



New Text Alert System

Cornerstone has started a new 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 EZDFY94125 <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.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERINGS BRING STORIES OF CHANGE



One Great Hour of Sharing is an offering that makes the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship, and for those who serve them through gifts of money and time. Today, projects are underway in more than 100 countries, including the United States and Canada.

Cornerstone will receive our One Great Share of Offering on Palm Sunday (4/9) and Easter (4/16). However, we encourage members to join with our children and youth in setting aside a bit each day for our brothers and sisters in need. Our children and youth will be given their own bank to save for our offering.

We hope that our offerings and prayers will bring the support that is so needed. Read below how the One Great Hour of Sharing has had such a tremendous impact and how exciting it is to see how things can change when we partner with our great God!



Hofmin Selan in the vegetable garden. Photo: CWS

Our One Great Hour Sharing Offerings worked in cooperation with Church World Services efforts in Indonesia positively impacted 21,212 people in 22 rural communities and one city last year.

When 14 farmers from Fetomone village in West Timor, Indonesia, established their Farmer Group in March 2016, members agreed that they would cultivate corn together on a new plot of land. Unfortunately, due to some mistakes regarding the land's arability and a lack of proper attention paid to the plot, things didn't go as planned. The harvest failed.

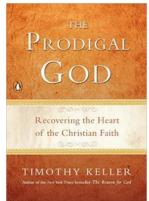
Undeterred, the team decided to learn from their mistakes and try again. They did so with continued support from CWS staff and the local government agriculture extension worker. The group decided to plant vegetables instead, and they had very good results. "The vegetables really help us a lot – when we harvest, our families can eat some and the rest we can sell and share the income among our group members. This additional income means we can buy rice, cooking oil and salt. The money also helps us pay school costs for our children," Hofmin Selan, one group member, said.

With their good results the farmers next decided to start saving as a group with each member contributing 10,000 Rupiah (75 cents) every time they sold some of their vegetables. "Now we have 220,000 Rupiah (\$16.50) as our group savings," explained Hofmin, who is also the Treasurer. "In the future, when we have enough savings, we plan to buy more seeds and more tools to expand our plot, and keep growing our savings group into a loan group, too, which would really help our members. Of course, we know we could not have done all that we have without the support of CWS," added Hofmin, "and we are really grateful for the chance to partner with them."



Lent is the forty day season when we prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of Easter. This year, the first Sunday of Lent is March 5th, and Easter is on April 16th. Join us throughout this period as Reverend Pruner preaches on "The Prodigal God."

The Prodigal God—Lenten Preaching Series and Book Study Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith



Our Lenten Preaching Series and a new book study will be based on the thought provoking book "The Prodigal God" by Timothy Keller. Keller is the pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in NYC and has a gift at revealing the truths of the gospel to both old time church goers and seekers. In this book Keller looks at the parable of the prodigal son. Keller believes that within that parable, Jesus reveals God's prodigal grace toward both the irreligious and the moralistic. This book will challenge both the devout and skeptics to see Christianity in a whole new way. I invite you to come join me in looking more closely at this powerful parable during our weekly worship services. Lent is a time in the life of a Christian when we reflect on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. I believe this series will do just that. I also invite you to read along with me, and we can discuss the book together through a group email book discussion. To sign up you can email me at vappruner@gmail.



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.

16th 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, mozzerella 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.

26th Sunday 12 PM

Youth and Family Bowling at Finnigan's in Lakewood

Everyone's welcome for an afternoon of bowling and pizza. Once we finalize the headcount the cost will be confirmed but approximately \$12.pp for 2 games of bowling, shoe rental, pizza and drinks.

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!

"Beyond Youth Night" at Keswick







Missions Committee—Members Needed!

We are searching for members to serve on the Missions Committee. This involves attending a monthly meeting and assisting to plan various service projects throughout the year, such as the Villages in Partnership (VIP) Water Walk and Operation Christmas Child.

If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please speak to Reverend Pruner or write her at vappruner@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE! VIP WATER WALK—Saturday, May 20th





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 is once again 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!

Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study All Women Welcome!



This group meets on Tuesday mornings at 10 AM at the home of Elizabeth Hughes. The current topic is a Beth Moore 10-session study called "Believing God" Study guides are available – please let Elizabeth Hughes know if you plan to attend. It's never too late!

Description:

Believing God: Experiencing a Fresh Explosion of Faith - Bible Study by Beth

Moore provides a personal study experience five days a week plus group video sessions of this in-depth women's Bible study based on Isaiah 43:10 that explores what it means not only "to believe in God" but "to believe Him." The bride of Jesus Christ in our generation is nearly paralyzed by unbelief. God is calling His bride to a fresh and lavish anointing of faith. Through studying the lives of Abraham, Moses, and others as examples of persons who believed God, Beth encourages women to deepen their own trust in God and receive a fresh word from Him.

"Girl Talk" at Keswick, March 8th at 11 AM (doors open at 10 AM)



Girl Talk: Lunch at America's Keswick
Second Wednesday of Every Month; October - April

Speaker: Jennifer Sands "Letting God Out of the Box."

We often limit God and meet Him on our own terms. Learn how to let go and let God be God. "He is able to do exceedingly, abundantly more than we can think or ask." - Ephesians 3:20

Jennifer Sands is an author of three books

– A Tempered Faith, A Teachable

Faith, and A Treasured Faith. After losing

her husband in the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001, she gave her heart to Christ and has since had a wonderful writing and speaking ministry. You will want to hear what Sands has to share! www.jennifersands.com

Join us for a time of eating, learning and fellowship! The cost is \$12 per person, which includes lunch, and reservations must be made in advance. All women are welcome! If you would like to attend and have not RSVP'd, please talk to Elizabeth Hughes.

Fish banks will be distributed this month for the children to collect change for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Please return the fish banks on April 9th (Palm Sunday) or April 16th (Easter).



The Sunday School made special valentines to send to members!



Sunday School for Kids During Worship!

The **K-3rd Grade** class is using the Witness curriculum as they learn about creation and all the early Heroes of our faith.

The **4th-6th 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 **7th-12th Grade** class is using the Youth Alpha DVD curriculum. Alpha is an indepth series that guides our youth through practical life illustrations leading them to discuss freely how we can live in the world and follow God's word in the Bible.

The **youngest children** will also hear Bibles stories and have fun with our toys, as they are tenderly cared for by our nursery team!

Teachers:

Kathe Morrison, Kellie Pushko, Abby Cloos, Elizabeth Hughes, Dominique Robert, Ashley Moyer, Jackie Leach, and rotating volunteers





St Patrick's Day Word Search



0	6	s	c	i	S	d	r	e	ι	r	b
l	a	i	P	n	y	t	а	X	e	s	t
S	h	u	k	i	Z	p	i	g	P	d	i
P	a	t	r	i	c	k			r	W	m
9	S	i	j	n	q	W	Ь	e	e	Z	h
i	m	h	n	X	c	9	0	9	C	c	b
r	j	6	а	t	i	j	W	n	h	٧	n
6	a	k	r	m	t	p	a	r	a	d	6
ι	f	9	m	a	r	P	0	t	u	k	S
a	a	m	c	9	l	0	v		n	r	f
n	Z	9	0	l	d	d	c	l	b	w	9
d	l	u	c	k	y	b	u	k	w	n	u

emerald gold green ireland
leprechaun lucky parade patrick
pot rainbow saint shamrock



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.

Cornerstone at March 2017

Fri	κ 4	10 11	17 18 nt at 5 PM	25	31
#	N	o o	YOUTH Night at Keswick 6:45 PM	73	30
Wed	4	8 "Girl Talk" at Keswick 10:00 AM	Session Meeting 7:00 PM	22	29
Tue		7 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM	14 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM	Vomen's Bible Study	28 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM
Mon		Q	13	20	27
Sun		വ	12 Deacon Meeting 11 AM	WORSHIP AT LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL 10 AM	26 YOUTH Bowling 12 PM