



Cornerstone Presbyterian Church

Cornerstone Connection

May 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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cornerstone Community	2-4
Announcements	5
Worship	6
Youth Ministry	7
Music	8
Missions	9
Adult Fellowship	10
Sunday School	11
For Kids	12
Get Connected	13
Calendar	14

A Message from Pastor Tory

On Thursday evening, I will join with fellow clergy and members of the Jackson community to lift our voices in prayer for our nation. I invite you to join us at the Jackson Municipal Building this Thursday, May 4th, at 7pm.

The National Day of Prayer has great significance for us as a nation as it enables us to recall and to teach the way in which our founding fathers sought the wisdom of God when faced with critical decisions. It stands as a call for us to humbly come before God, seeking His guidance for our leaders and His grace upon us as a people. The unanimous passage of the bill establishing the National Day of Prayer as an annual event, signifies that prayer is as important to our nation today as it was in the beginning.

Prayer is central to our faith. Yet, in a busy high tech world it can seem less important than everything else we are doing. I believe when we keep our prayer life vital we find that God works through us in ways we would never have expected. I was reminded of this fact when Nick, my daughter's fiancé, gave me a sign he had found and thought of me. The sign says, "Prayer, the world's greatest wireless connection." The words ring true, long before our wireless world, God created an open line of communication. One that is never offline, unless, unfortunately we choose to go off. As I continued to look at this sign in my kitchen I found myself called to prepare a sermon series on prayer. I will be using the book called the "The Circle Maker" as a jumping off point. Mark Batterson, who wrote the book was inspired by the story of "Honi" which he found in the "Book of Legends," which is part of Jewish teachings passed down by generation to generation. Honi lived in the first century B.C. during a devastating drought. When it seemed as God was nowhere, Honi stilled dared to pray. *(continued)*

Worship at McAuliffe Middle School

35 S. Hope Chapel Road, Jackson

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

Cornerstone Community



Aaron Beeg, 5/3

David Hekl, 5/4

Jonathan Welch, 5/6

Jackie Leach, 5/7

Paul Sarti, 5/20

Fred VanLooy, 5/20

Madeline Sarti, 5/23

Sharlene Nelson, 5/27

Don Kiefer, 5/27

Courtney Miner, 5/30



Donna & John Rosato, 5/2

David & Debbie LaCross, 5/27

Steve & Amy Slusak, 5/27

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)

He drew a circle and prayed for rain. He would not budge until God answered his prayer and showed mercy to his children. Mark's reflections on prayer in the book "The Circle Maker" are both stirring and challenging. One illustration that inspires us to "re-connect" to God through prayer is the following, "There is nothing God loves more than keeping promises, answering prayers, performing miracles, and fulfilling big dreams. That is who He is. That is what He does. And the bigger the circle we draw, the better, because God gets more glory. The greatest moments in life are the miraculous moments when human impotence and divine omnipotence intersect - and they intersect when we draw a circle around the impossible situations in our lives and invite God to intervene." I am so looking forward to how this series on prayer may lead each of us to begin to draw prayer circles around our families, our jobs, our church, our community, our problems, and our dreams. Let us together commit to using "the greatest wireless connection" every day and rediscover the life-changing truth: God is there for YOU!

ELDERS ON OUR SESSION

2017 Vikki Leach
Todd Moyer
Kellie Pushko
Ray Schleckser

2018 Bruce Thompson
Gail Carlson
Laura Stone
David LaCross

2019 Barbara Dougherty
Jim Foster
Tina Kas
Sharron Smith (Clerk)

BOARD OF DEACONS

Lisa Capurso
Lois Fox

Allyson Moyer
Elizabeth Hughes

Nancy Foster
Ann Sarti

Please pray for:

- Ray Schleckser starting radiation treatments for prostate cancer this month
- Nancy Foster recovering from back surgery
- Gail and Dave Carlson's daughter Kathy recovering from a brain injury after falling down a flight of stairs



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

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**

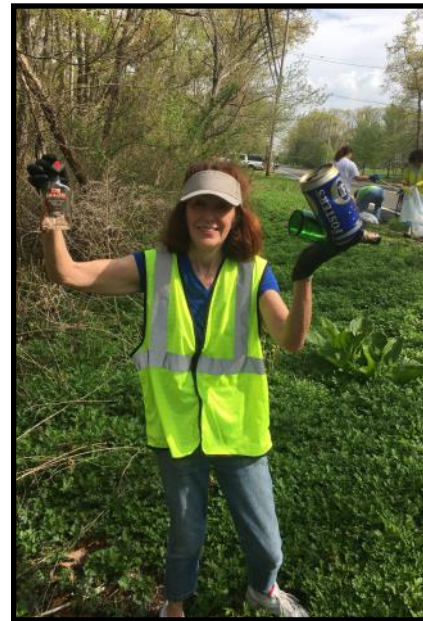
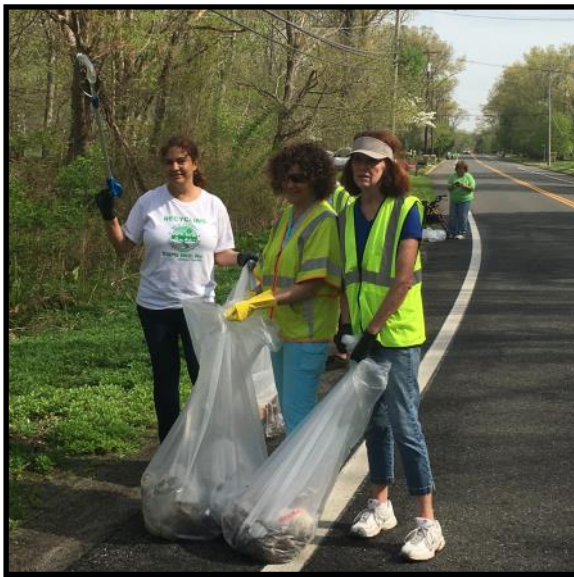
Personnel: Oversees the hiring of staff, planning for reviews and recommending salary changes. **Chair: Todd Moyer; Elders: Laura Stone**

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**

Jackson Street Cleanup

THANK YOU to all who helped clean Diamond Road in April! We picked up many bags of trash and recycling, and also raised \$500 for the church! GREAT JOB!



YOUTH MISSION TRIP

July 7-10, 2017

Information Meeting for parents and youth: May 21st after worship

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.

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).

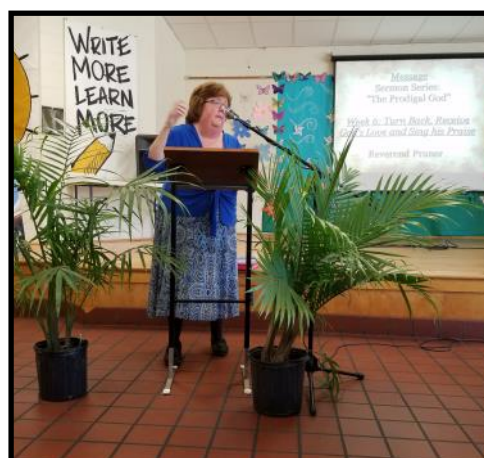
Thank you to all of you who have already paid your share of \$36.00. By contributing your portion of per capita, you have freed up dollars in our regular budget for the work of our congregation in this community. If you haven't yet contributed, we hope you will consider doing so. Together is how we have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



On Sunday, May 7th, Reverend Pruner will begin the sermon series "Prayer, the World's Greatest Wireless Connection." Come and hear about how prayer can enrich your faith and your entire life.

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

On Mother's Day, our children and youth will lead the worship service as we celebrate the gift of mothers! All children and youth are invited to participate in worship this day. Join us for a very special service!



Palm Sunday



Easter Worship



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.



5th Friday 3:00 pm

Ronald McDonald House & Pier Village Boardwalk

Lets make a Taco Dinner and dessert for those families staying at Ronald McDonald House. Anyone wishing to donate Taco Dinner kits and supplies please talk to Allyson or Abby. After we cook dinner we will go to Long Branch Pier Village for Pizza and walk on boardwalk. Meet at Moyers at 3pm (or Allyson can pick up any kids).

18th 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.

20th Saturday 4:00 PM

VIP Water Walk, Allentown, NJ

Join TEAM Cornerstone and walk to raise money for Malawi, Africa thru Villages in Partnership (VIP). The team will meet at Allentown Presbyterian Church and kick the night off with a spaghetti dinner then rotate walking the track with our friends. It's a fun night of music, exercise, friendship and food! All are welcome.



COMING IN JUNE—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!

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).



VIP WATER WALK—Saturday, May 20th

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 11:30 PM with a time of devotion. We are hoping to form a team of 10 people to walk and each raise \$200. Sponsor sheets are available. Whether you can walk, or sponsor a walker, thank you for your support of this mission project!

Donate or join our team:

<https://vip-waterwalk-2017.everydayhero.com/us/team-harmony-cornerstone>

Why do we walk? Here is some information on poverty in Malawi:

- A population of 18.5 million people
- 1 million orphans
- Annual gross national income of \$650 per person
- Almost 50% of the population moderately or severely underweight
- Mother's mean age at first birth: 18
- 85% live as subsistence farmers
- Average life expectancy is 61
- 10% of the adult population living with HIV/AIDS.

Cornerstone has been assigned a vulnerable family in Malawi—the family of Mai Sijaya Makawa. We ask our congregation to pray for them and keep them in mind as we walk.

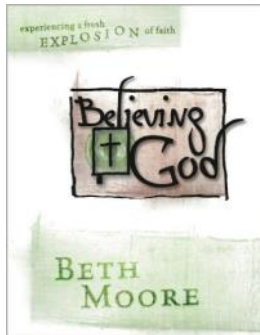
Mai Sijaya Makawa is 44 years old and has 7 children. She has raised them on her own since her husband died in 2010. The only school going child is Mwaiwao – a girl aged 16 who is in standard 5. Mai Sijaya says she can't send the others to school because it is difficult for her to find money for good clothes, uniforms and other school materials. Apart from her children, she is also taking care of an 84 year old incontinent uncle who also suffers from bloody diarrhea.

In a normal year she harvests only 10 to 15 bags of maize, which lasts up to December. She has to do ganyu (day labor) to buy some food for the remaining 3 months. But because of the drought, last year she didn't harvest anything at all. She was only able to get by because of the irrigation project which was able to provide her and her family with green maize. Mai Sijaya wants to join the local VSL (Village Savings and Loan group) so that she can buy a new roof for her house. She says that before VIP came into the village she would just sit and wait, but now she knows that she can't do that anymore. She wants to use the new opportunities to work hard to provide her family with a better life.



Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

All Women Welcome!



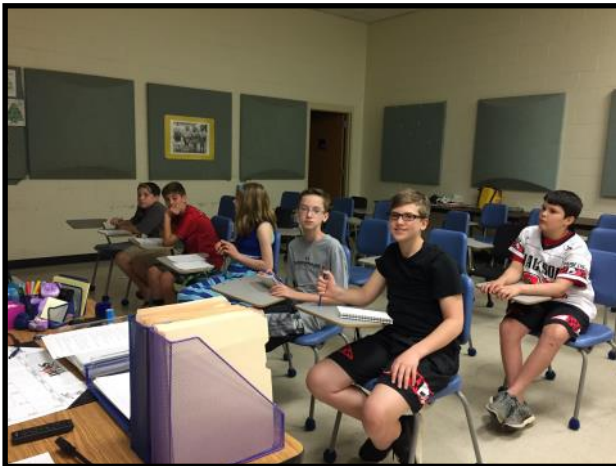
This group meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:15 AM at the home of Elizabeth Hughes. The current topic is a Beth Moore 10-session study called "Believing God" Study guides are available – please let Elizabeth Hughes know if you plan to attend. It's never too late!

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.

Study will conclude on May 23rd! A new study will begin next fall.





End-of-Year Party May 21st

Our 2016-2017 Sunday School year will end on Sunday, May 21st when we finish 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.

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 in-depth 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 Bible stories and have fun with our toys, as they are tenderly cared for by our nursery team!

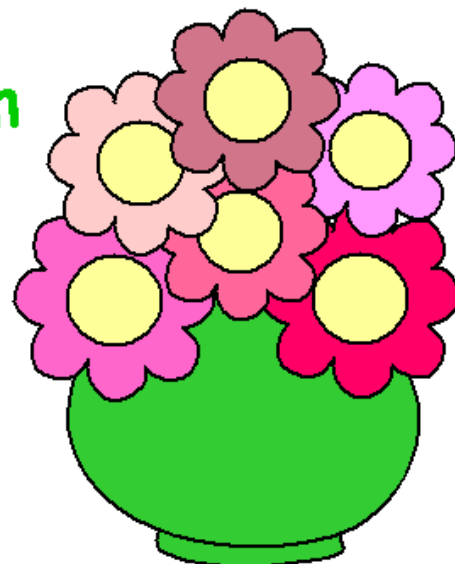
Teachers:

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

Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

Mother's Day Anagram

Hidden Word (circled letters):



vel o

shg u

e s f l o r w

e e m a w s o

l a t e o o c c h

e s s s k i

e e e r a t b c l



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.*

May 2017 at Cornerstone

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Women's Bible Study 10:15 AM	3	4	5 YOUTH Group Ronald McDonald House	6
7 Deacon Meeting 11 AM	8	9 Women's Bible Study 10:15 AM	10 Session Meeting 7:00 PM	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day Children/Youth Service	15	16 Women's Bible Study 10:15 AM	17	18 YOUTH Night at Keswick 6:45 PM	19	20 VIP Water Walk
21 Information Meeting on Youth Mission Trip after worship	22	23 Women's Bible Study 10:15 AM	24	25	26	27
28 Worship Meeting  Communion Served	29	30	31			