



## Cornerstone Presbyterian Church

### Cornerstone Connection

June 2018

*Building Community on the Solid Rock of Jesus Christ*

[www.cornerstonechurchofjackson.org](http://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:**

Ashley Moyer & Jackie Leach

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#### A Message from Pastor Tory

Many years ago, while meeting with a young couple preparing to get married, the young man shared how his mother did not want him to marry his fiancée. He explained that all three of his brothers faced the same pressure not to marry. I asked what happened and he said, "They got married and my mother never would see them again." This mother loved her family just the way it was, no one was good enough for her sons. Instead of opening her heart and accepting the blessings of a growing family she lived a very lonely existence. We have a way of making our relationships so complicated. Whether it be our individual relationships or family of faith relationships, so much heartache could be avoided if we would follow the words of Jesus in Matthew 22:37-40 " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Jesus teaches us that by loving God and one another we find life in abundance.

As we prepare to "Ready, Set, Move!" into the Harmony Road Church this summer we must begin to look for how we will reflect God's love to our new friends. How as a Church Family will we follow Jesus' teachings to "love one another." In preparation to do just that our leaders will be offering many ways for you to volunteer to welcome newcomers.

*(continued)*

*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 Okparaekke, 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 Nickel, 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.

*(continued from previous page)*

Our Celebration Committee has been preparing for two celebrations. When we are ready to open our doors to the Harmony Road Church we will have a Dedication Worship service followed by a reception and tours. Later that same Saturday we will host an "Open House Celebration" for neighbors and friends. This will include food, games, bake sale, face painting and most importantly moments of sharing about our Lord and the church we love so much. The following day we will have our Celebration Worship Service, praising God for our new church home. There will be many opportunities to volunteer, to in a very real way to be God's welcoming arms. I pray you will find where God is calling you to serve.

I believe God has called us to the Harmony Road Church, to be a place where those who are seeking may discover the love of God. How very exciting to be a part of Cornerstone Church at this very time as we receive God's gift of a church home and discover the new ways God will call us to serve him and the world around us!

## ELDERS ON OUR SESSION

## BOARD OF DEACONS

2018 Mike Pushko  
 Gail Carlson  
 Laura Stone  
 David LaCross

Marye Barbagallo  
 Elizabeth Hughes

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

Nancy Foster  
 Ann Sarti

2020 Vikki Leach  
 Allyson Moyer  
 Denise Mudalel  
 Ray Schleckser

Lisa Capurso  
 Kathe Morrison

# Cornerstone Community

## Progress on the new front porch at Harmony



**Bev Kaiser** has all the cards she receives hanging on her wall! She loves to hear from her friends at Cornerstone. (Her address is in the prayer requests below if you'd like to write to her!)



The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study had a great time enjoying breakfast and the movie Jesus Christ Superstar! Tina had fun with a maple tree helicopter! :)



### *Please pray for:*

- Doris Pfeiffen recovering from hip surgery
- Laura Stone and family after her brother Fred passed away

### *Continued prayers for:*

- Dave Carlson recovering from surgery
- Arne Ildsgaard continue to recover from damage to his kidneys and receiving dialysis
- 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
- Our troops around the world and their families
- Cornerstone as we move forward to complete renovations—hoping to begin worshipping this summer!





villages in partnership  
**Water Walk**

**May 19, 2018**

THANK YOU to all who participated in The Villages in Partnership (VIP) Water Walk! Cornerstone's "Team Harmony" raised over \$2400, which will help our friends in Malawi, Africa to have safe water sources, food, and medical care as they struggle every day to survive. Despite the rainy weather, we had 19 people participate from Cornerstone and it was a fun and inspiring night!

Thank you ALL for your support – whether you walked, sponsored our team, or said a prayer!

**As of May 21st, VIP raised \$73,580 with donations still coming in!**



This is Lucius Phiri who graduated from the University of Malawi this year. His family had exhausted their resources trying to pay his college tuition. VIP provided a scholarship for Lucius to attend the university and complete his degree. Lucius will now intern with VIP on agricultural projects in Malawi.



## Work Day and Youth Group Gardening at Harmony



There will be a work day and Youth gardening at Harmony planned for some time soon when the construction ongoing at the front of the church

allows it - stay tuned for the exact date and time! The Youth Group will meet for some outdoors spring cleanup and gardening, and there are a variety of other jobs to complete! Please come and help if you are able! Please speak to Allyson Moyer for more information about Youth Group, or Fred VanLooy for more information about the Work Day.

**Follow us on Facebook!**



<https://www.facebook.com/cpcjacksonnj>

### Buy Shop Rite Cards and Support Cornerstone!

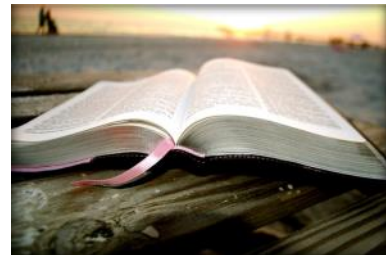
Gift cards are available for you to purchase each Sunday before worship, and 5% of the purchase price goes directly to the church. For many years, Vernice DaConceicao has faithfully sold these gift cards each Sunday. For all who get their groceries at Shop Rite, it's an easy way to help! Thanks to all, we have raised \$13.025 for the Building Fund.



**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 3, 10, 17 and 24th. Bring your Bible, beach chair or blanket, and a friend!



**Children & Youth  
Mother's Day Service  
May 13, 2018**



**Recognition of our Confirmation Students**



**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.



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 hours! :)



**10<sup>th</sup> Sunday 12:15-2pm Soup Kitchen - All Saints Episcopal Church, Lakewood**  
Cornerstone is committed to help the local families by serving a hot meal. Two youth and one adult are needed to help wrap silverware, prepare the meal and then serve/clean-up. Time commitment is less than two hours and we promise you will leave feeling very fulfilled and blessed!

**21st Thursday 6:45pm Beyond Youth Night at Keswick - Whiting, NJ**  
Join many young teens from the area for a night of music and worship. Ice Breaker/Game, Worship Time/Student Testimony, Devotional lead by one of our local Youth Pastors, -FREE TIME in our Activity Center- Indoor pool (*one-piece bathing suits only*), Indoor hot tub, Basketball, Racquetball, Volleyball, Gaga, Ping-Pong, and they always have some organized games like free ball, Nine square or a tournament happening! They also offer 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!**

We are always open to ideas and suggestions so please feel free to email or call Allyson to add an event to the calendar.

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](mailto:allymoyer@gmail.com) home (732)961-3192 cell (732)245-6581



**Ashley and Kayla volunteering at the Soup Kitchen in May.**





Confirmation classes for our 2018 youth have been completed! We look forward to the 7 youth officially joining our church sometime this fall once we are settled into the new church on Harmony Road. The confirmation students prepared their statements of faith and shared them in worship on May 13th (see below). They were also examined by the Session on May 6th. We are so proud—they are an amazing group of kids!



Ryan Kas

Statement of Faith

Doing charity work is something that I've always loved to do, but without the church I wouldn't have had that opportunity. This I believe was led by God. And I believe that it will only be further led by him. I've been told that life is hard but a life led by God is easy, in my experience that can only be true.

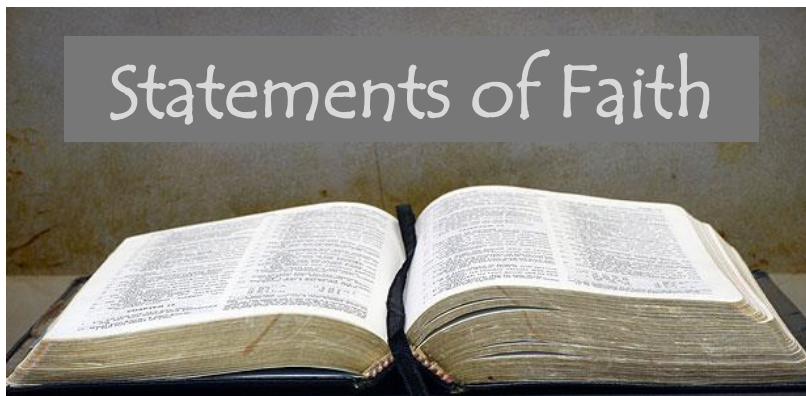
To me the church is not the only holy place, a holy place can be any place anywhere. It is what you make it. I don't think you need the help of the church to do anything, it is a luxury that allows you to be able to communicate with other followers of God. All you need is oneself and the guidance of God. I don't believe God will ever tell me what to do, instead he will give me the opportunity to commit to the right thing.

I don't see God as much of anything, the only way I can describe him is holy perfect, when you see him it looks like the light at the end of the tunnel. It is not a hard path to get to the end of that tunnel, the guidance is there in the Bible written for you, it is your choice.

I don't find anything wrong in the goal of money or a happy family on a farm, just as long as you follow God's teachings. I would say God thinks the same way. As money is not evil, it has no emotions or a voice to speak with, it is man's sin that creates evil. But Jesus died on the cross for our sins, so eventually we are all forgiven. For this, my faith is strong in knowing that God is watching over me and guiding me wherever I go.



# Statements of Faith



Sean Kas

Statement of Faith

I feel that without God I would not have been able to do a lot of the things I have accomplished today with the church and all the people I have helped. God has helped me by guiding my family to a nice friendly church. The church has helped me realize how great it is help other people in the way of the Lord. From going to the soup kitchen to Ronald Mcdonald house it has always been great helping people and seeing the joy on their face.

I think that Jesus is one of the easiest ways to learn about god and help you understand him better. I feel this way because Jesus was a human just like all of us. I have trouble believing in a couple of the stories that talk about how he made people able to walk on water but that is why he is unique. Although some of those stories I question, I think they are meant to show us that if we have faith, Jesus can guide us through hard times. Although it might not always seem like it, Jesus is always there to help guide us through the toughest situations.

The bible has some questionable stories but I have always thought they were a type of challenge to test our faith. It is okay to question the bible which I do quite often, I would like to continue my journey in learning more about God and helping other people.



**Kayla Moyer**  
**Statement of Faith**

My goal in life is to help others and give back. Through God this is possible because he will guide me. Church gives me many possibilities to help other with all my close friends. This summer I had the opportunity to go on a Mission trip to Roanoke Virginia. I got to work with some amazing people and make great friends. I also got to see Christ through the people we were helping. It was so rewarding to see the happy looks across their faces and that's how I knew that giving back was the best thing ever. I'm truly blessed to be a part of the youth in this congregation and I really want to start bringing more of my personality to the church.

I've always pictured heaven a place filled with music and laughter at times, but also solemn and peaceful. A place where people aren't afraid of being who they are. There's no fighting or hatred just support and love for one another. A place where talking to God is an everyday experience and worship is a routine. Sometimes I don't always do the right thing but when I sin I ask for forgiveness. Sometimes I don't even notice I have sinned until it's too late. God gives me the opportunity to overcome my sins. This is called redemption. In heaven I believe there is a place for everyone, the good and the bad, we just have to be willing to have faith.



**Jonathan Hughes**  
**Statement of Faith**

I believe that God is the creator of everything in the universe. The Trinity is the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God is all three of these things. Redemption is being forgiven for your sins. God will always forgive us for our sins because he loves us and looks to us from heaven. I think that heaven is a place where you see Jesus and watch over the people you love. But before going to heaven, we live our lives on Earth. Here, God watches over you, and when you pray he steers you in directions that affect your life. Predestination is Jesus creating a path for you. It means that everything is already figured out for you. Though I don't think that it completely works like this, I do believe that everything happens for a reason, and that everything that happens is important in some way in your life. Jesus is the son of God. He is like us because he loves us and he's one with us. He walked on this earth and lived as a man, so he understands what that is like. He is unique because he is God's son and has never sinned. He saved us and died on the cross for us. People are under his protection from heaven, even if bad things may happen to us, they are for a reason. We worship to be closer to God and to be connected with all of the people in the church who are like our family. My role as a member of the church is to help others and be kind to everyone. In the future, I think that God is calling me to continue attending church and help people who have less than I do. I would like to continue doing things like making meals at the Ronald McDonald House, helping at the soup kitchen, and going on mission trips with youth group. And, I hope to find even more ways to help people in the future.





### **Julia Capurso-Statement of Faith**

God is the maker and creator of heaven and earth. God to me is the creator of my life, my joy in life and someone I love to pray to and worship. I believe sin is something you do wrong and you should later have redemption. When you sin you should always try to make sure that you will use all of your power not to do it again. Sin interrupts our relationship with God with wrongdoing and it is a red flag, but God always has forgiveness. I believe the church is where you go to worship God with the people around you and hear his word through the Bible. Becoming a member of the church, I believe means that it is my responsibility to get more active with the church, and learn much more about God. My goal is to do more things to help others by helping out at the soup kitchen, mission trips, walks, etc. I believe Heaven is a wonderful place that you will experience with God and others. I believe God is calling me to be someone who helps people in the future. I always have this feeling that God wants me to help other people reach their goals. When I am older I want to help children in need. When my dad was growing he didn't have the best place to live, where there was violence and hard times. He later joined the Fresh Air Program, where kids who are not growing up in the best home would go to stay with a family in the summer. My dad became so close with the family he stayed with and that made a huge impact in his life. I want to do that for kids in need. I also want to be a dance teacher and help young dancers reach their goals. With God helping me and leading me through life I believe I can achieve these goals.



**Ben Leach**

**Statement of Faith**

We can know that God exists because we always hear these stories of people going to heaven and back, seeing a beautiful place behind large gates, and seeing God, our creator, greatest believer, and the paver of our paths. I personally think of god as a glowing, large man with white hair, white clothes, and a long white beard, with a crown on top. The Holy Trinity is the Father (God), the Son (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit. Sin is an evil violation against God's trust, but redemption is when you turn around, gaining God's forgiveness and his trust back. The church is a place of worship, but also the people in it, so that somebody can go there and worship God. As a member of the church, my role is to worship the Trinity and spread God's name and word, and we worship to verify to God that we believe in him and understand him. I think that in the future, God is calling me to spread his word as far as I can, and to be an active member of a church. I myself can spread God's word and Jesus' teachings by telling my friends about church, helping Christian bands on their way, and making films with Jonny about Christianity. As well as that, I can keep my faith strong by attending church and praying as much as I can for as long as I can.

## Statements of Faith



Ryan Pushko  
Statement of Faith

Many people seek Christianity to find answers to questions like "Who is God". God is a caring, all-knowing being, like a father. He helps those who ask in prayer while He seeks and saves the lost. Like God, Jesus is all-powerful and divine. However, He is fully human and feels emotions the way we do. This is proven by His death on the cross, where He felt the pain of all the world's sins to save those who believe in Him. The Holy Spirit can be compared to our conscious; it is sent by God and His son, Jesus, to guide us and help us throughout our lives, whether it be decision making or something simpler. The Holy Spirit is like a guidance counselor, assisting us in solving problems and planning for the future. These three beings make up the Trinity, the Father Son and Holy Spirit. Although they are separate, they are of one mind and work together. A way to visualize this is an egg; one part is the yolk, another is the egg white, and the third is the shell. Although they are three different parts, they make up one single egg.

To have a relationship with God, you need to try your best not to sin, and ask God for forgiveness when you do. Sin is anything against what God says to do, from being unkind to the worst thing imaginable. God cannot be in the presence of sin because of how holy He is, causing our relationship with God to be interrupted when we sin. When you confess your sins, however, your relationship with God grows and becomes stronger. With this kind of bond, you will not truly die when you leave this Earth. Instead, you will enter Heaven and live an everlasting life in God's presence. I always imagined Heaven as a place where you walk on clouds and everything is golden and beautiful. Since I'm not there yet, it's hard to think of all the possibilities, but Heaven could really be anything.

As we all know here, the church is much more than a building. The church is a place where all sorts of people come to worship God and learn about Him. In addition, it is a place to see others who share your beliefs and values. The church is a dwelling place of God, as long as two or more are gathered in His name. It's purpose was made clear in the beginning of Acts: go out and share the gospel, help others to see the truth about Jesus and what that means for us.

Although I am still young, I know God is calling me to a lot in the future. I want to continue doing mission work and helping at the soup kitchen. I also want to help people in any way I can with my abilities, no matter how small it might seem. There is a lot that could happen in the future, and I'm looking forward to see what God has planned.





Make a  
*Joyful noise*  
Unto the Lord  
Psalm 100:1

**Our choir will take a break for the summer starting in June.**

Thank you to our faithful choir members and our Directory of Music, Susan Rovira! If anyone would like to share their gifts and musical talents during worship over the summer, please coordinate with Susan (srplus3@comcast.net).



Our 2017-2018 Sunday School year ended on Sunday, May 27th. 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.



**Gifts for Mother's Day!**



## 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.

### Vikki Leach

609-802-1143

Vleach@verizon.net

Vikkileach.myrandf.com



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### Meg Milligan

732-928-8117

www.clowningbymac.com

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### 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.***



† LOVE NEVER FAILS  
Reverend Jo Gatto



**Jo Jo's Java Beans LLC**  
Gourmet Coffee

Website: Jojosjavabeans.com  
Email: Jojosjavabeans3@gmail.com

Fundraising Available



# June 2018 at Cornerstone

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