

Cornerstone Connection

August 2019



Building Community on the Solid Rock of Jesus Christ

www.cornerstonechurchofjackson.org

WORSHIP

SATURDAYS at 5 PM

SUNDAY at 10 AM

(Sunday School for Children
during Sunday worship)

Pastor:

Tory Pruner, 732-691-5825

Director of Music:

Doreen Laskiewicz, 732-740-9086

Administrative Assistant:

Elizabeth Hughes, 732-580-3137

Treasurer:

Tina Kas, 732-928-1778

Nursery Care:

Ashley Moyer & Jackie Leach

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cornerstone Community	2-6
Announcements	7
Worship	8-9
Missions	10-11
Youth Ministry	12
Sunday School	13
Vacation Bible School	14
Music	15
Get Connected	16
Calendar	17

A Message from Reverend Pruner



On Tuesday, following the weekend of heinous acts of violence in El Paso and Dayton, I drove down the main road where I live, and I was struck by the large flag in front of an auto dealer. The enormous flag that I have seen fly high in the wind, now was flying at half mast in mourning. As the wind blew it was as if no gust would be great enough to lift it high. In a real sense the flag represented the breaking hearts of those in El Paso, Dayton, and our entire nation. For me, I also saw it as a representation of just how heavy God's heart was as he looked upon his people so broken. After such horrific events like this past weekend, we are ready to look more closely at the brokenness within our country, our groups, individuals and yes, even ourselves. Many have thoughts, reasons and even solutions. However, time passes and for most it is back to life as usual. What is life as usual? Our lives are filled with busy agendas, overbooked calendars, and family commitments which are squeezed in when possible. Too often there is not enough time for one another and certainly not enough time for God. The result is many of us suffer from overwhelming anxiety. We worry no matter whether we are young or old, rich or poor. We worry about our health, our jobs, our school, our relationships, the unknown. However, many psychologists say we are driven more by our fear of rejection. According to John Amodeo, PhD:

"The fear of rejection is one of our deepest human fears. Biologically wired with a longing to belong, we fear being seen in a critical way. We're anxious about the prospect of being cut off, demeaned, or isolated. We fear being alone. We dread change.

(continued)

Cornerstone Community



Constantine Osiakwan, 8/2

Kellie Pushko, 8/2

Nicholas Hughes, 8/4

Barbara Dougherty, 8/6

Ed Breuninger, 8/6

Ricardo Robert, 8/6

Jim Bainbridge, 8/7

Stephen Slusak, 8/9

Lisa Capurso, 8/10

Andrew Tomczak, 8/10

Marcus Floyd, 8/11

Okoro Okparaekwe, 8/11

Ann Sarti, 8/13

Patti Miller, 8/16

Jason Smith, 8/19

Russ Jones, 8/24



Keith & Tina Kas, 8/3

Gail & David Carlson, 8/8

*Don't see your special day listed?
Please let Elizabeth Hughes know!*

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)

In a cognitive level, we may be afraid that rejection confirms our worst fear — perhaps that we're unlovable, or that we're destined to be alone, or that we have little worth or value. When these fear-based thoughts keep spinning in our mind, we may become agitated, anxious, or depressed."

So much of what we do is dictated by whether people will affirm us. We can become unbelievably anxious when we think we are not being accepted. Yet, as hard as we work to assuage our fears, we will never succeed. There is an emptiness, a gaping hole that we try to fill with distractions. Things like work, games, possessions, etc but the emptiness remains. This emptiness and our fears of rejection can lead to isolation, envy anger and rage. On our own the hole remains, but with God at our center the hole is filled.

In Psalm 139:7-12 David writes: *Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.*

David discovered there is nowhere we can flee that God is not there, that in our darkest days God is there. That it is only in knowing God that we can find peace.

God's heart is perhaps so heavy as he sees, we his people, so broken knowing that he has provided for us, his children a pathway for our peace through Jesus Christ. Jesus is a living witness of our God's love for us. God who will stop at nothing to reach out to us through space and time to embrace us.

When we finally let go of "living our lives for the approval of others" and instead live our lives for the glory of God, the hole within us vanishes. We come to know again the God who made us, loves us and who will never abandon us. Hope lives even and especially when our hearts break and the days are dark.

Please pray for:

- Ray Schleckser recovering from injuries after a fall
- Vikki Leach's mother-in-law with cancer in hospice care
- Denise Mudalel's cousin's husband Jimmy being treated for leukemia



Continued prayers for:

- Bev Kaiser in FountainView Care Center: 527 River Ave, Lakewood, NJ 08701, 732-534-8253
- John Lukacs in Assisted Living Facility in Freehold: Mattison Crossing, 93 Manalapan Avenue, Freehold, NJ 07728
- Our troops around the world and their families

Our new landscaping looks great! Thanks to all who have helped us keep it watered over the hot summer months!



Poetry



By Susan Kornutick

A FAITHFUL FRIEND

A faithful friend is God, indeed!
 He knows our every single need.
 He wraps us snug, in his embrace
 when we can't find a friendly face.
 But when we need to wander free,
 He lets us go, and let's us be.
 He hears our calls when we're distressed,
 and weariness lays on our breast.
 His sigh of sorrow fills the air
 when we forget that He is there.
 And even when we lay the blame;
 neglecting Him on some false claim,
 He know our hearts beat strong with love
 for Him our Father, up above.

ELDERS ON OUR SESSION

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

2020 Vikki Leach
Allyson Moyer
Denise Mudalel
Ray Schleckser

2021 Mike Pushko
Gail Carlson (2019)
Laura Stone
David LaCross (2019)

BOARD OF DEACONS

Nancy Foster
Ann Sarti

Lisa Capurso
Kathe Morrison

Elizabeth Hughes



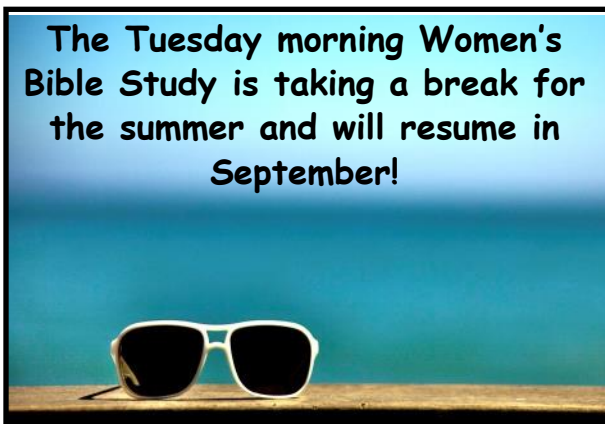
Thomas Laskiewicz graduated from Jackson Memorial High School, and will be heading to York College in PA this fall to study Graphic Design.

Congratulations Graduates!



Ben Leach, Jack Amyot and Jonathan Hughes graduated from 8th grade at Goetz Middle School and are heading to Jackson Memorial this fall!

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



Flowers to celebrate the 93rd birthday of Pam Shaw's mother Mildred—it was a joy to have her in worship!



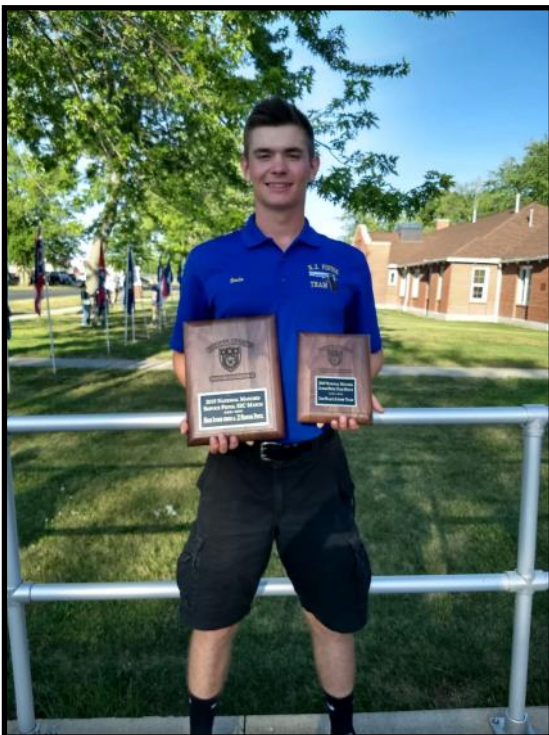
The Women's Bible Study visited Princeton Theological Seminary on June 4th, with a tour given by Rev Rob Morrison! It was a beautiful day!



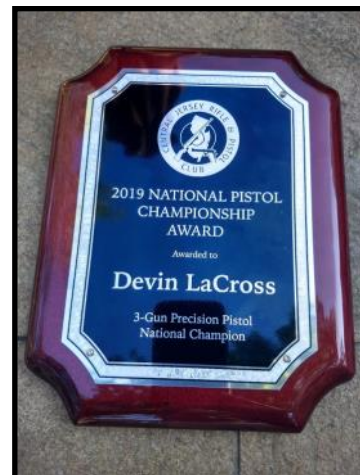
We also had a chance to celebrate Jo Gatto's birthday!



Kayla Moyer and **Julia Capurso** attended the Presbyterian Youth Triennium July 16-20th at Purdue University! We're so proud of them for representing Cornerstone, growing in their faith and learning to become leaders and role models for their generation of young people!



Congratulations to **Devin LaCross**, who won the 2019 National Championship Award for precision pistol shooting (and other team awards) at the National Championship in Camp Perry, Ohio in July. Way to go, Devin!





Join the Cornerstone Bucket Brigade on Monday, August 5th from 6-8 PM at Laurita Winery in New Egypt!

This is an opportunity for us to raise funds for the church AND help build Castle Laurita, the World's Tallest Sandcastle (setting the Guinness Book World Record)! All youth and young at heart are encouraged to come join in the fun – sponsor sheets are available, and all money raised will go directly to the church. The Moyers are hosting a Youth swim party and ice cream social at their home afterwards – please RSVP to Allyson or Todd.

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 13,330 for the church!



Follow us on Facebook!



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



Did you know Cornerstone offers electronic giving? It's a simple and convenient way to give. Cornerstone relies on the financial support of the congregation, and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis without having to remember an envelope or a check. Forms are available in the church foyer. For more information, contact Elizabeth Hughes.



Cornerstone is offering a new opportunity for the congregation to donate flower arrangements for the communion table, with a

memorial or honorarium dedication in the bulletin. The cost is \$30 and proceeds will be used for a Cornerstone Flower Fund to allow us to purchase other special arrangements as needed throughout the year. Please see Elizabeth Hughes to sign up for any Sunday in 2019 or sign up through the link on the homepage of our website cornerstonechurchofjackson.org.

WORSHIP



Thanks to our youth for leading worship, singing, and acting out "The Good Samaritan" - great job!





Kayla Moyer and Julia Capurso before leaving for Youth Triennium



Laying of hands as **Elizabeth and Annabel Hughes** were commissioned for their trip to Malawi.



Exciting to see Cornerstone friends **Sean Beeg** and **Rev Mark Plunkett** in worship while they were visiting New Jersey in July!



We were blessed to have **Rev Jim Pruner** fill in while Pastor Tory took some much-deserved vacation—with help from their granddaughter Annalise!



SAVE THE DATE!

*Meet the Malawian Guests at Cornerstone!
Saturday, September 28th at 5 PM Worship
(meal and fellowship to follow worship)*

On Saturday, September 28th we will welcome 8 visitors from Malawi to our 5 PM worship service! The group will perform as a choir, and there will be a meal and time of fellowship after worship. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet Malawians involved in Villages in Partnership and show them how we support them and their mission!

MISSIONS

across the street & around the world

CORNERSTONE Presbyterian Church



CHRISTMAS GIFT DRIVE

To benefit the children of Roselle Preschool Center at the First Presbyterian Church in Roselle, NJ.

Donations needed to create gift bags for approximately 70 low income children between the ages of 0-5.

A project that will begin this fall is a Christmas Gift Collection for the children of Roselle Preschool Center at the First Presbyterian Church in Roselle, NJ where Mary-Lynn Morrison is the pastor. We will collect items to make up gift bags for approximately 70 low income children, ages 0-5. **NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME to shop for school supplies** while they are on sale at stores like Target, Walmart and Staples to get items like crayons, colored pencils, markers, paint sets, glue, scissors, pencil cases, erasers, etc.

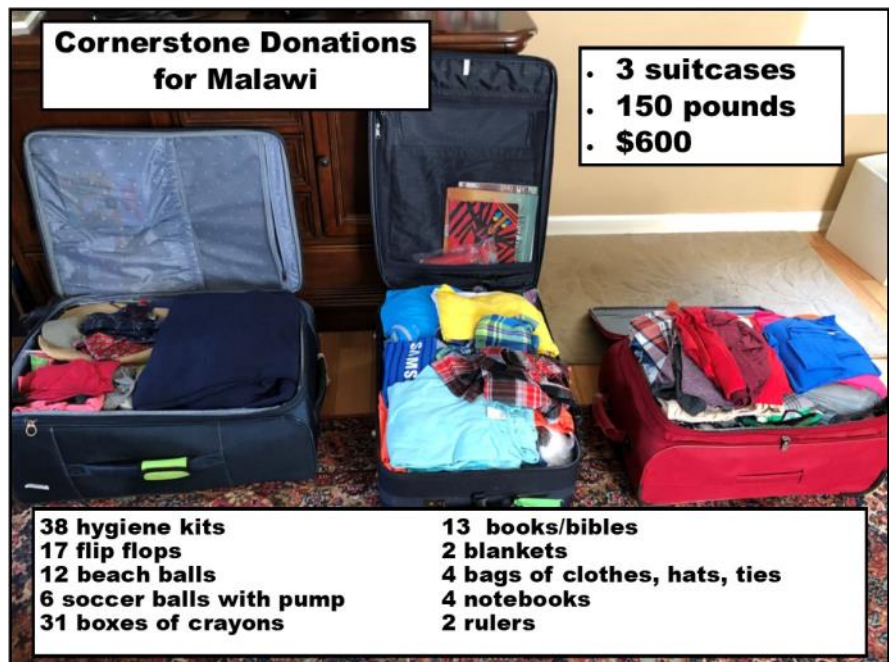
Other suggested items would be: baby items, small toys and games for preschoolers, playdough, arts and crafts supplies, t-shirts, socks, hats, toothbrushes.

THANK YOU for your generosity and support of this local mission project for Christmas!

Thank you for the generous donations for Malawi!



Cornerstone Donations for Malawi



- 3 suitcases
- 150 pounds
- \$600

38 hygiene kits
17 flip flops
12 beach balls
6 soccer balls with pump
31 boxes of crayons

13 books/bibles
2 blankets
4 bags of clothes, hats, ties
4 notebooks
2 rulers



VIP Friendship Trip to Malawi July 9-17, 2019

Elizabeth and Annabel Hughes were blessed to travel to Malawi with Villages in Partnership in July. It was an incredible opportunity to witness firsthand the life-changing projects that VIP has implemented in a true partnership with 26 villages in Malawi, impacting approximately 25,000 people in one of the most poverty-stricken areas of the world. They found that despite hardships, the people they met were filled with smiles, joy, and a deep love of God!



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! :)

Join the Cornerstone Bucket Brigade at Laurita Winery!

Date: Monday, Aug 5th

Time: 6pm-8pm Castle building – Ice Cream Social, snacks and pool party to follow at the Moyer's House (families are welcome after too!!)

Location: Laurita's Winery, 85 Archertown Rd, New Egypt, - back parking lot



Youth Volunteers are welcome to help with Vacation Bible School, August 19-23rd from 9:00—11:30 AM each day! Helpers are needed for snacks, crafts, music and acting! Earn volunteer hours and have fun too! Talk to Reverend Pruner if you can help! (See page 11)

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 home (732)961-3192 cell (732)245-6581



Thank you to the Moyers for hosting another fun day!



During the summer months, we have movies and activities for children elementary-age and younger in Harmony House after the Time for Children.

Nursery care is available for kids 2 and younger!

Our 2019-2020 Sunday School year will begin on Sunday, October 6th!



The Cornerstone Christian Education Committee is currently looking for Sunday School teachers to begin in October.

Volunteering can be on a rotating basis, so that there is not a commitment for every Sunday.

Please see Allyson Moyer or Reverend Pruner if you're interested in helping!





Vacation Bible School 2019

August 19-23, 9:00-11:30 AM

**Who Is My Neighbor?
Learning to love like Jesus**

Who is my neighbor? Neighbors are more than people who live next door. Neighbors are more than people in our families or communities. Through five carefully chosen Bible stories, *Who Is My Neighbor?* VBS leads children on a journey to discover more about God's great love. From looking at how to be a neighbor to diving into what it means to live out our faith, this interactive VBS series will lead children deeply into Bible stories focused on God's care and compassion for neighbors close at hand and around the world. Join us as we discover neighbors near and far!

Children ages 2 years old (by April 2019) through 5th grade graduates are welcome to this time of fun, music, games, crafts, snacks, and incredible Bible stories. *Who Is My Neighbor?* VBS will take place at Cornerstone Presbyterian Church, 569 Harmony Road, Jackson. The registration fee is \$5 per child, which helps us to offset the cost of the VBS curriculum and supplies for our week together. **We also ask that each child bring a white, cotton T-Shirt.** Our older children will be tie dying them and all the children will wear them for our closing program on Friday at 11 AM.

Please use the registration form available in church or register online through our website cornerstonechurchofjackson.org!

Come enjoy one of the last weeks of the summer with us as we have fun together and help our neighbors!

LOOKING FOR ADULT VOLUNTEERS! We will need help setting up on Sunday, August 18th, and also helpers throughout the week—registration, crafts, snacks, acting and music, cleanup on Friday. Let Reverend Pruner know if you can help, or you can also use the online registration form on our website (just select “0” for number of kids to register).



CHOIR UPDATES

Our choirs are currently taking a break for the summer!

Thank you to our Director of Music, Doreen Laskiewicz, and the Cornerstone **RINGERS AND SINGERS** for providing a joyful noise during worship! If anyone would like to share their gifts and musical talents during worship over the summer, please coordinate with Doreen!

If you are interested in joining our singing choir or bell choir, rehearsals will resume this fall! Talk to Doreen for more information. No experience necessary, all are welcome!

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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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.

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.*

August 2019 at Cornerstone

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 WORSHIP 5 PM
4 WORSHIP 10 AM	5 Sand Castle Event at Laurita 6-8 PM	6	7	8	9	10 WORSHIP 5 PM
11 WORSHIP 10 AM Deacon's Meeting 11:15 AM	12	13	14	15	16	17 WORSHIP 5 PM
18 WORSHIP 10 AM	19	20	21 Session Meeting 7 PM	22	23	24 WORSHIP 5 PM
			Vacation Bible School 9:00 AM—11:30 AM			
25 Communion Served WORSHIP 10 AM	26 	27	28	29	30	31 Communion Served WORSHIP 5 PM