



Cornerstone Connection

February 2020



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

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A Message from Reverend Pruner Planting the Seeds of Faith, Hope and Love

January 2020 started off with exciting and challenging news. The Session received word from a family of the church that they would be donating a significant gift to the Building Fund. This "Seed" money is such a blessing and it challenges us as a church to move forward on our plans to build a Fellowship Hall.

The need for our Fellowship Hall is evident by our growing youth involvement as well as the church school who has had several new regular attendees. Our Harmony House was bursting at the edges before we had issues with the trailer. Just imagine the ways we can better welcome new youth and children who come to visit! We will also be able to have a dedicated space for adults to gather in Bible study, no more wondering where the meeting will gather. One of the foundations our faith is to be nurtured by God's word through study and prayer. Our new fellowship hall will allow us to flourish and grow together in the Lord.

Cornerstone has always had a heart for supporting our neighbors in need. We have found ways through the Jackson Food Pantry and other projects to give hope to those challenged by "life circumstances." Yet we have always wanted to do more. Our Fellowship Hall will give us the opportunity to offer space to support groups meet perhaps or to begin new projects and groups to bring hope. One of the lessons we learn from Jesus' ministry is that he was always offering hope and healing to those in need. How great it would be to offer that same hope to our friends in need once we have the space.

When we finally moved into our wonderful Sanctuary we knew we only had so much time with our agreement with Jackson. More importantly we only had so much time before we would have growing pains. On "Souper Bowl Sunday" we had an almost full Sanctuary of members who stayed following worship to enjoy great food and warm fellowship.
(continued)

Cornerstone Community



Donna Rosato, 2/6
Devin LaCross, 2/10
Melissa Floyd, 2/11
Beverly Kaiser, 2/16
John Pushko, 2/16
Michael Pushko, 2/16
Anna Hekl, 2/18
Sean DiGirolamo, 2/18
Tory Pruner, 2/23
Debbie LaCross, 2/27
Rob Morrison 2/27
Landon Fratto 2/29



Frank & Lisa Capurso, 2/29

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)

Cornerstone has always been known for its hospitality and welcome. Although it was great being together for "Souper Bowl Sunday" the pews didn't provide the same atmosphere as tables. Although the young children enjoyed running through the pews during clean up it isn't ideal. Throughout the ministry of Jesus there are moments when he gathered with his followers around a table. During their meal they shared more than food, they found support and love. The same is true today when we gather for times of fellowship. Our times together so often give us the nourishment we need to have to grow spiritually.

Our Cornerstone Presbyterian Church is named Cornerstone because without the cornerstone, the building has no value. Jesus is the Cornerstone on which God builds his kingdom. We strive "to ground our lives on the solid rock of Jesus Christ. We want to build up each other in love through prayer, words, and deeds, and create God's community in Jackson and beyond." In the coming months I ask that you begin to discern how you can help Cornerstone plant the vital seeds of "faith, hope and love" by building our Fellowship Hall. There will be opportunities for you to volunteer as we have small group gatherings to look over our plans for the building. We also will be looking for volunteers to sign up for our Prayer Team. Then of course there will be a time of celebration when our commitments to the building fund are received, which means food and hospitality, one of Cornerstone's greatest gifts.

This space that, with God's help, we will be building will require sacrifice. However, the seeds planted will bring children, youth and adults to deeper faith, and offer hope to those in need within our community, as well as provide a place where the seeds of love will be germinated in our times of fellowship! Our new fellowship hall will allow us to flourish and grow together in the Lord. Let us praise God for the challenge to plant these Seeds of Faith, Hope, and Love!!!

Follow us on Facebook!



www.facebook.com/cpcjacksonnj

Please pray for:

- Kayla and Nick Fratto and their new baby born on January 31st! See below.
- Rodney Puig and family after the passing of his father in January

Continued prayers for:

- Ray Schleckser with back pain
- Donnette Hubert recovering from a fall
- 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



ELDERS ON OUR SESSION

2020 Vikki Leach
Allyson Moyer
Denise Mudalel
Ray Schleckser

2021 Mike Pushko
Megan LaFontaine
Laura Stone

2022 Jim Foster
Deborah LaCross
Fred VanLooy
Linda Van Melis

BOARD OF DEACONS

Lisa Capurso
Kathe Morrison

Gail Carlson
Diane DeLuca

MaryAnn White
Kellie Pushko

Send a Birthday Card to Bev!



One of our longtime Cornerstone members, Beverly Kaiser is in a nursing home. She will be celebrating her birthday on February 16th, and she loves to hear from her Cornerstone family. If you can take the time to brighten her day, please send her a card:

Beverly Kaiser
FountainView Care Center
527 River Ave
Lakewood, NJ 08701



**What a JOY to celebrate
John Bestenheider's
104th birthday on
January 11th!**



**Congratulations to Kayla
and Nick Fratto, big
brother Landon, and
new grandparents Tory
and Jim Pruner, after
the birth of Sylvester
Fox on January 31st!**

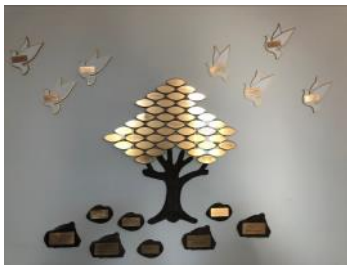


"Souper Bowl" Celebration

February 2, 2020

Save the date for a time of fellowship and sandwiches after worship on Super Bowl Sunday, when our youth will also collect donations for the Jackson Food Pantry for the "Souper Bowl of Caring." Food and drinks will be provided! In addition to monetary donations, we invite you to bring canned items to donate to the Jackson Food Pantry that day.

The Souper Bowl of Caring is a way for our young people to lead the way in tackling hunger and homelessness within our community. The statistics are disturbing, yet what brings us hope is that since Souper Bowl of Caring started, youth have raised over 110 million and 100 percent has gone directly to those in need. Let's make this Souper Bowl of Caring outstanding by bringing in canned goods and financial donations on February 2nd.



"Come Grow With Us" Donor Tree Campaign

We have a beautiful new tree hanging on the wall of the church sanctuary that will allow our members and friends an opportunity to support the church and make a lasting impression in our new church home. By making a donation, you can choose a leaf, dove, or rock with the engraving of your choice to recognize your family name, or in honor or memory of a loved one.

The order form is available at church or to download from our [website](#)!

We hope you will consider contributing to the "Come Grow With Us" Donor Tree Campaign and be recognized with a permanent reminder of your part in Cornerstone history! Orders will be placed on an ongoing basis as they are received.

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 13,680 for the church!

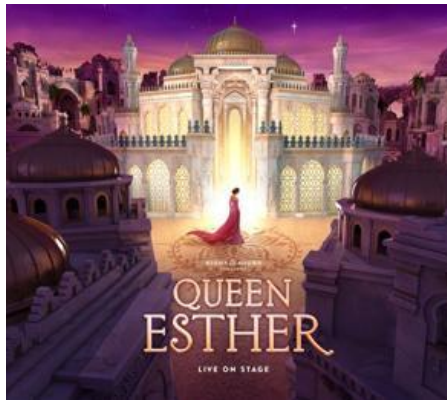
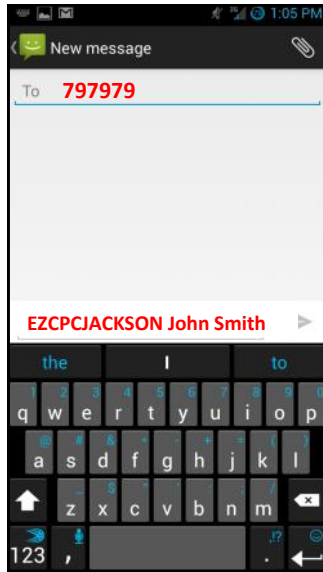


Cornerstone offers an opportunity for the congregation to donate flower arrangements for the communion table, with a

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.

Text Alert System

Cornerstone has a 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 **EZCPCJACKSON** <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.



BUS TRIP TO SEE QUEEN ESTHER at Sight and Sound April 22, 2020

We are planning a Cornerstone trip to see **Queen Esther at the Sight and Sound Theater on April 22nd**! The cost is \$129 and includes round trip bus transportation from Jackson, lunch at the Shady Maple buffet, theater seats, and all gratuities. You can register [online](#) or speak to Elizabeth Hughes or Allyson Moyer. Please register ASAP as it will fill up quickly!

Per Capita Offering for 2020

Our Per Capita Offering is now being collected for 2020. Per capita is an amount of money per member (this year, \$42.00) that our congregation pays to our larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The amount not given by the members must be covered by our general budget, taking away from other work and ministry of Cornerstone.

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).

We encourage all members to pay your share of \$42.00 per member, even if it is made in small increments throughout the year. By contributing your portion of per capita, you will free up dollars in our regular budget for the work of our congregation in this community. We hope you will make this contribution at your earliest convenience. Together is how we have the greatest impact!



Lent is the forty day season when we prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of Easter. This year, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26th, and Easter is on April 12th. Join us throughout this period as we reflect and prepare for the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**SPECIAL
SERVICES
DURING
LENT**

- † Ash Wednesday, Feb 26 at 7 PM
- † Palm Sunday, April 5 at 10 AM
- † Maundy Thursday, April 9 at 7 PM
- † Good Friday, April 10 at 12 PM
- † Easter Sunday, April 12 at 8:30 & 10 AM

CORNERSTONE

Presbyterian Church

569 Harmony Road, Jackson, NJ

www.cornerstonechurchofjackson.org

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Three kings brought gifts to baby Jesus as we celebrated Epiphany on January 5th



MISSIONS

across the street & around the world



Our first team in 2012!

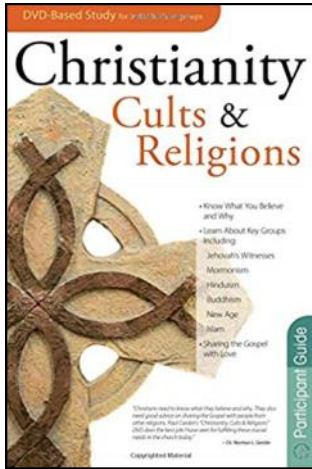


Cornerstone will once again have a team in the VIP Water Walk on May 16th from 4-9 PM in Allentown, NJ. We will be raising money for Villages in Partnership, an organization whose mission is to build partnerships between villages in the developed world and villages in Malawi to bring about life-changing development for all. This is our *ninth* year participating in the walk, and its an extra special year as we had an opportunity to meet four people from Malawi in September! Please mark your calendars so we can make this our best Water Walk yet! More information will be coming soon.

Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM

The Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, January 14th at 10:30 AM at the home of Elizabeth Hughes to begin a 6-week study of ***Christianity, Cults, and Religions***. All women are welcome to attend! Talk to Elizabeth about getting a study guide.



The *Christianity, Cults & Religions* DVD-based study helps Christians know what they believe and why. By comparing Christianity with groups such as Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses, people have a better grasp about what the Bible says about who Jesus is and the message of the Gospel. This six session study simply explains the history, background, and beliefs of the most common world religions and cultic groups: Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses and other groups.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- **Feb 4:** Eastern religions
- **Feb 11:** Islam
- **Feb 18:** Discussion of **"Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths"** by Bruce Feiler, which examines Abraham's role as the shared ancestor of Jews, Christians, and Muslims
- **Feb 25:** Begin Study of Esther (Tentative)

UPDATE on Harmony House

In October, we discovered a soft part of the flooring in Harmony House and began the process of having it repaired, soon to discover that there was a leak that had rotted the subfloor and that mold was present. For the health and safety of everyone, especially our children, we have spent some time figuring out how best to fix the leak, make the repairs, and remediate the mold. After many consultations, estimates, and discussions, the process is well underway and we expect to be back in Harmony House for Sunday School, Youth Group, and other activities this month!



Sunday School for Kids During Sunday Worship!

Sunday School for elementary and younger is currently taking place in the church foyer during worship. Our regular program will resume once repairs are completed in Harmony House!

Our **PreK-K** Class is using the Whirl curriculum which highlights key Bible stories from both the New and Old Testaments.

The **1st-5th Grade** Class is also using the Whirl Curriculum.

The **6th—12th Grade** Class is using the a video series called Switch—Identity, loaded with fast-paced worship, activities, and video teachings to address real issues that students face each day.

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, Allyson Moyer, Megan LaFontaine, Ashley Moyer, Jackie Leach, and rotating volunteers

Nursery Care Always Available!



Can you spare some change?

The Cornerstone Sunday School kids will be collecting loose change each Sunday to help local families going through hard times. When the jar is full, we will provide a meal for a local family to brighten their day and let them know they are in our prayers. Collection jars are in Harmony House and the church foyer.

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 morning 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.



“Souper Bowl “ on February 2nd! Youth will collect coins and canned goods on this date. See page 5 for more info.

Questions and suggestions on things to do are always welcome!

Contact Allyson Moyer email allymoyer@gmail.com

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

Youth Group Bowling and Bubbakoo's on January 26th



Make a
Joyful noise
Unto The
Lord!



CHOIR UPDATES

Thank you to our Director of Music, Doreen Laskiewicz, and the Cornerstone **RINGERS AND SINGERS** for providing a joyful noise during worship!

Rehearsals for our bell choir and singing choir are on Tuesday evenings—come check it out!

Bell Choir: 6-7 PM

Singing Choir: 7-8 PM

Talk to Doreen for more information. No experience necessary, all are welcome!



Come check out the music at the Saturday 5 PM worship service!

Most Saturdays feature the talents of Will Vanderburg on piano and Rev Jim Pruner on the drums. Come early for the pre-worship concert—and yes, they take requests!

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

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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.*

February 2020 at Cornerstone

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 WORSHIP 5 PM
2 WORSHIP 10 AM 	3 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Bell Choir 6-7 PM Singing Choir 7-8 PM	4	5	6	7	8 WORSHIP 5 PM
9 WORSHIP 10 AM Deacon Meeting 11:15	10 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Bell Choir 6-7 PM Singing Choir 7-8 PM	11	12	13	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>	15 WORSHIP 5 PM
16 WORSHIP 10 AM	17 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Bell Choir 6-7 PM Singing Choir 7-8 PM	18	19 Session Meeting 7 PM	20	21	22 WORSHIP 5 PM
23 WORSHIP 10 AM  Communion Served	24 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Bell Choir 6-7 PM Singing Choir 7-8 PM	25	26  ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 7 PM	27	28	29 WORSHIP 5 PM  Communion Served