



## Cornerstone Connection

May 2020



*Building Community on the Solid Rock of Jesus Christ*

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

### WORSHIP

**VIRTUAL on FACEBOOK**  
**SUNDAYS at 10 AM**

**Pastor:**

Tory Pruner, 732-691-5825

**Director of Music:**

Doreen Laskiewicz, 732-740-9086

**Assistant Director of Music:**

Will Vanderburg

**Administrative Assistant:**

Elizabeth Hughes, 732-580-3137

**Treasurer:**

Tina Kas, 732-928-1778

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cornerstone Community	2-6
Announcements	7-10
Worship	11
Adult Fellowship	12
Youth Group	13
Get Connected	14
Calendar	15

### A Message from Reverend Pruner

Cornerstone Church Friends,

March 15th was the last time we were able to join together for worship in the Sanctuary and to say the words “I miss you” are just not strong enough! These past seven weeks have been challenging in so many ways. I feel confident that your hearts have broken hearing of the suffering of so many of our friends and neighbors, just as mine has. In the midst of this crisis however, has emerged many blessings. We have been blessed by the countless who continue to care for us. The doctors, nurses, health care workers, first responders, police, mail carriers, grocery workers, pharmacy workers, gas stations and convenience store workers. We have also been blessed with technology that has allowed us to stay connected.

When life is forced onto a new path, like the path we are on now, we can find ourselves concentrating on the negatives. We can become overwhelmingly frightened and stressed out. Although we may feel like we are the first to walk a difficult path, history reveals we are not. The Bible illustrates how the faithful of the past also struggled. They teach us how we can survive and in many ways thrive. This is why I will be preaching a sermon series entitled, “Prayer, the Greatest Wireless Connection.” Each week we will learn and begin to commit to memory one verse of psalm 23. We will focus on the need for prayer every day, on good days and tough days. When the psalmist was spiraling down into despair, he went in prayer to “the sanctuary of God; then I understand “(Psalm 73:17). Through our conversations with God we come to a deeper understanding of life and a closer relationship with the Lord who knows us better than we know ourselves. When we put our focus on God’s word and follow with meditation and prayer we are led to a life-giving vision. In Timothy Keller’s book on pray he writes, “Through prayer, which brings heaven into the ordinary, we see the world differently, even in the most menial and trivial tasks. Prayer changes us.”

*(continued)*

# 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 Petrocelli, 5/30



Donna & John Rosato, 5/2  
David & Debbie LaCross, 5/27

*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)*

Indeed, prayer does change us.

I challenge you to join me to recommit to Prayer. I know there are too many times I allow "life" to distract me from even a brief moment of prayer. The snooze button steals the morning prayer time and before you know it exhaustion steals evening time with God. Prayer is our best defense against the challenges and struggles of life and opens to us the greatest gift God has for us his very presence and guidance.

May God bless us as we together turn more faithfully to the Lord who loves us and never abandons us!

Blessings,

Tory



THANK YOU to Meg Milligan and Laura Stone for planting last year's Easter flowers—they look great! They have offered to plant any you may have leftover from this year—please drop off at the church by the side door!

*Please pray for:*

- All suffering from coronavirus and those who are mourning loved ones
- All workers in the healthcare and service industries who are risking their own health to provide us services
- All who are mentally ill, homeless, in nursing homes, suffering from isolation and loneliness
- JOY of a new grandchild for Bob and MaryAnn White
- Ashley Moyer with health concerns, JOY that she will be starting a new program at Children's Hospital



*Continued prayers for:*

- Steve DeLuca recovering from heart surgery
- Ray Schleckser with back pain
- 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**

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

2020 Vikki Leach  
Allyson Moyer  
Denise Mudalel  
Ray Schleckser

Lisa Capurso  
Kathe Morrison

2021 Mike Pushko  
Megan LaFontaine  
Laura Stone

Gail Carlson  
Diane DeLuca

2022 Jim Foster  
Deborah LaCross  
Fred VanLooy  
Linda Van Melis

MaryAnn White  
Kellie Pushko



## Easter Fun!

To share in fellowship over Holy Week, we encouraged people to share a picture of an Easter memory—thanks to all who posted, it was so much fun to see everyone's photos!



Doreen Laskiewicz, Easter 1974



Elizabeth Hughes, Easter 1975



Megan LaFontaine, Easter 1988



Kayla Pruner Fratto, Easter 2010



Meg and Bill Milligan, 1963



Kayla and Ashley Moyer



Ryan and Sean Kas



Elise and McKenna Brady, and guess who is the Easter bunny? TINA KAS!

*Hosanna  
in the highest!*

So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!" John 12:13

**SPECIAL DELIVERY**

With love and prayers from  
**CORNERSTONE Presbyterian Church**



## Special Delivery!

On the day before Palm Sunday, several volunteers drove around Jackson and beyond and delivered palms (and a few goodies) to many of our Cornerstone families. We also had palms outside the church for anyone who wanted to stop by and pick some up.

**Hosanna in the highest!**





# No Stigma Network, Inc.



One of our elders, Linda VanMelis, is on the Board of an organization called No Stigma Network (NSN), a nonprofit that offers support to young adults, ages 18-39, with mental health challenges. During this time of quarantine, they are offering Zoom support meetings several times a week. There is an all-men's group, sign language instruction and practice, and social discussion groups. Meetings are geared to the needs of young adults who battle the challenges of depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, PTSD, OCD, and high-functioning autism (Asperger's).

If you or anyone you know can benefit from this important service, please contact Linda:  
[linda4nsn@optimum.net](mailto:linda4nsn@optimum.net), 732-939-2092.

## Our Mission

No Stigma Network, Inc. is dedicated to eliminating stigma and bias associated with mental illness through support, advocacy, education, and outreach.

## Our Vision

No Stigma Network, Inc. envisions a society where individuals with mental illness can live a healthy, happy, independent, stable and productive life through self-advocacy, education, and support. It is our dream that society will gain knowledge and understanding of mental illness, which will allow all persons to be treated as equals in every aspect of life.



## Helping Friends in Need

We are continuing to collect for the Jackson Food Pantry. During Lent we were collecting diapers of sizes 4,5 & 6, fruit and condiments. Now the Food Pantry would welcome any donations including diapers but especially need canned meats and fruits. If you have donations you can drop them off to the church Wednesday between 1:30-3:00 or text Tory 732 691 5825 or Elizabeth 732 580 3137 that you are dropping off donations by the side door. Then we will make sure the donations get to the Food Pantry. Let's remember those who are struggling in so many ways and show them God's love!



### Follow us on Facebook!



[www.facebook.com/cpcjacksonnj](http://www.facebook.com/cpcjacksonnj)

### Buy Shop Rite Cards and Support Cornerstone!

Gift cards are available for you to purchase, 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 13,880 for the church!

Vernice has gift cards and you can call her if you'd like to pick some up!  
Call Vernice at 732-833-7493!



### "OPERATION APPRECIATION"

Let's Say  
**THANK YOU**

Reverend Pruner has asked us to write "Thank You" notes to our friends in Jackson who have been there for us. Our health care professionals have been given much

appreciation however, the people who work at the gas stations, the eateries, convenience stores and grocery stores have also gone to work every day, doing extra shifts to serve us. It's important to let them know how much we appreciate their commitment to our community. If you are willing to participate in "Operation Appreciation" simply write a note similar to the one below and drop it off at church on Wednesday between 1:30- 3:00 or Mail it to the church. We will then hand deliver them to our Jackson friends. Let's spread the light of our Lord through "Operation Appreciation"!!!

Dear Friend,

I am writing you to let you know just how much we appreciate you "being there for us". Every day available to serve our needs. How can we thank you enough! Please know that our church is praying for you and your family. We hope and pray too, that life gets back to "normal" soon.

Your Neighbor and Friend,  
Jane  
Cornerstone Presbyterian Church  
569 Harmony Road  
Jackson



The Water Walk is an annual fundraiser for Villages in Partnership to raise funds for bringing clean water to the remote villages in Malawi, Africa. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> year that Cornerstone has had a team! Instead of a gathering in Allentown, NJ, this year's event will be a national **Livestream Event on May 16 from 7-9 PM** offering powerful messages, musical guests, reflections on the work on VIP, and an opportunity to change people's lives. You can watch the Livestream on Facebook and YouTube (links to be provided, or go to <https://villagesinpartnership.org/water-walk/>).

## Please join or support Team Harmony!

<https://waterwalk2020.everydayhero.com/us/cornerstone-team-harmony-1>

## Since the event is virtual, what does it mean to be a team member?

- Join the team and make a personal fundraising page using the link above
- Reach out to your network of friends and family to raise funds – our goal is to raise \$2000 as a team!
- If you want to - participate in the Water Walk challenge starting on May 4<sup>th</sup>.\*
- Attend and invite your network to the Water Walk Livestream event on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 7PM - 9PM

*\* **Optional Water Walk Challenge** – May 4<sup>th</sup> is the kickoff to the “walking challenge” – from this date until May 16 we will each keep track of miles walked, and the winning team wins a prize! If possible we'd love for everyone to walk a lap in your neighborhood on May 4<sup>th</sup> with a bucket of water on your head and take photos! Then keep track of the miles you walk through May 16<sup>th</sup>. I will touch base with team members about how to log your miles.*

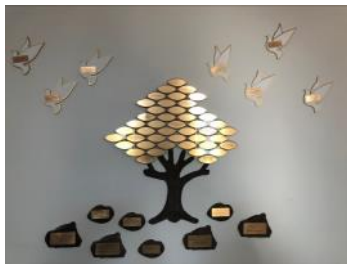
Thank you in advance for your support of this event! We hope that all can experience the joy of coming together (even while apart) with a common purpose of improving lives in Malawi.





## **BUS TRIP TO SEE QUEEN ESTHER at Sight and Sound POSTPONED until August 25!**

**We are planning a Cornerstone trip to see Queen Esther at the Sight and Sound Theater on August 25th!** 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. *Payment will be refunded if the trip is cancelled.*



## **"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.

## **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, \$40.00) 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. The total amount due is over \$4,000, last year approximately half was paid out of the operating budget, taking away from the ministry of Cornerstone.

The Per Capita Offering is one way we work together with Presbyterians from 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. One great example of how Per Capita supports the local church ministry is through the funding of the preparation, administration, and grading of standard ordination examinations for seminary students. This is one way we help 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 \$40.00 per member, even if it is made in small increments throughout the year. By contributing your portion of per capita, you will free up funds in our operating 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!

## Generosity Abounds!

On behalf of the Session I want to thank you so much for your generosity. So many of you have been able to keep up with you tithes and offerings. We recognize that some of you have been laid off, we want to assure you that the church understands and does not want you to worry. God always provides. One of the great blessings of putting our worship service on Facebook is that we have increased our attendance to an average of close to 285 people! This is just one source that may help us through this crisis. We also have received a small business loan from the federal government for approximately \$6,000. Evidence that **God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good!**

Rev. Tory Pruner

**While we are not meeting for regular worship, there are still several options available for giving to the church.**

- Offerings can be mailed to Cornerstone at 569 Harmony Road, Jackson, NJ 08527
- Set up [online giving](#) for recurring donations through bank transfer or credit card
- Download the [Give+](#) mobile app to make a one-time or recurring donation from your mobile device
- Make a donation via [PayPal](#)



## Update on CHILDREN'S Sunday School

We are connecting with our elementary-aged children for **Sunday School** lessons to continue during this time. The **older kids (grades 3-5)** will meet on Zoom on Sunday afternoons. For the **younger children (PreK-2nd grade)** there will be a video posted on Facebook to tell the story for the week, and the craft materials for that lesson will be delivered to the child's home. If you would like for your child to participate, please contact Kathe Morrison or Megan LaFontaine.

# WORSHIP



Virtual Worship will take place on Sundays at 10 AM via our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/cpcjacksonnj/>

Thank you to all who have participated in our weekly services!

While we are practicing social distancing by being physically apart, we will stand together as a church throughout this challenging time! Please reach out if you are in need of special assistance, and send prayer requests to Pastor Tory via text or phone call 732 691 5825), or email to: [pastor@cornerstonechurchofjackson.org](mailto:pastor@cornerstonechurchofjackson.org).

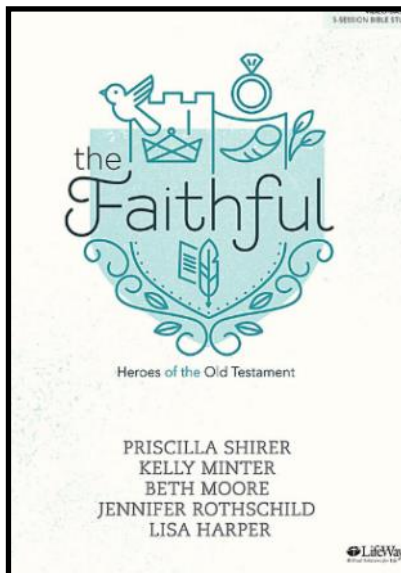


New sermon series starting on April 26th: "Prayer : The World's Greatest Wireless Connection"



## Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

### Tuesdays, 10:30 AM



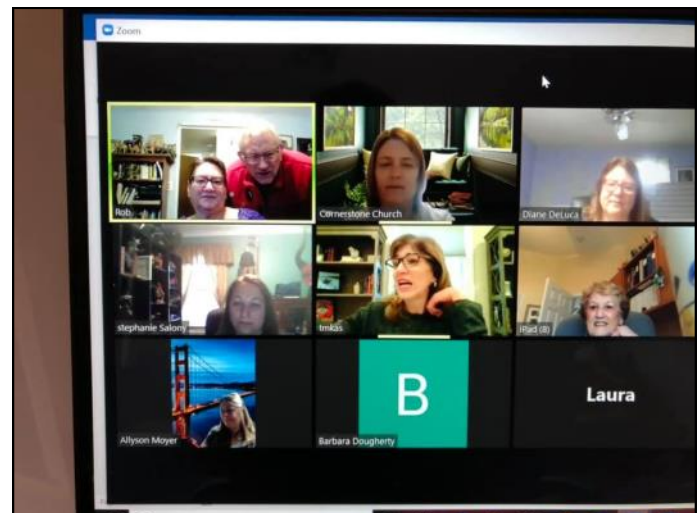
The Women's Bible Study group is currently meeting on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM using ZOOM. The group is doing a five week study of "The Faithful", published by Lifeway. We invite all women to join us, even if you just want to get on Zoom and say hello! Contact Elizabeth Hughes for information on how to join the meeting.

#### ***The Faithful: Heroes from the Old Testament***

Borrowing from best-selling studies by Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer, Lisa Harper, Kelly Minter, and Jennifer Rothschild, this 5-session study explores crucial moments in the lives of five Old Testament figures—Esther, Gideon, Malachi, Nehemiah, and Hosea. Through their stories, discover how God uses the lives of ordinary people for His glory and the good of His people. Strengthen your faith as you walk alongside these larger-than-life figures who all chose to obey God no matter the circumstances.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

- 5/5: Discussion of Session 2—Nehemiah
- 5/12: Discussion of Session 3—Esther
- 5/19: Discussion of Session 4—Hosea
- 5/26: Session 5—Malachi



# YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group is meeting via ZOOM at 11:30 AM on Sundays after the virtual worship service. All youth are encouraged to join for a time of fellowship to connect with their friends!

Each meeting, there is a time of discussion/lesson and followed by a fun virtual game! We hope all kids in middle school and high school will participate! Contact [Allyson Moyer](#) for information on how to join.



**YOUTH GROUP ZOOM GET TOGETHER**

**SUNDAY 4/19/20 - 11:30am**

Let's get together virtually and watch a video and have discussion on **ANXIETY & FEAR**

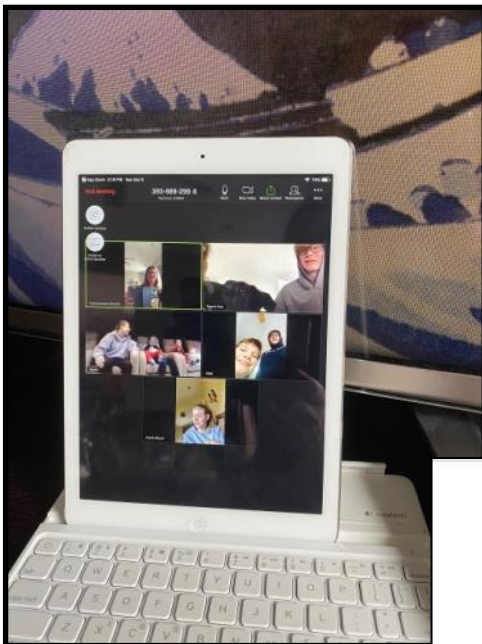
After we will play a **FUN, INTERACTIVE, GAME.**

**JOIN THE ZOOM MEETING**

<https://zoom.us/j/99218693628?pwd=TVZ3Z2NyblhHU3YxMzRTOUZyamt3UT09>

Meeting ID: 992 1869 3628  
Password: 616381

**Cornerstone**  
Presbyterian Church  
Harmony Rd, Jackson, NJ  
[www.cornerstonechurchofjackson.org](http://www.cornerstonechurchofjackson.org)



## Building Routines

- Spiritually
- Physically
- Relationally
- Mentally

Cornerstone Youth Group Session  
Sunday 11:30am

Join Zoom Meeting Link  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89847679539?pwd=OTZBMkZlcU4yMkVhZUJ3YxMzRTOUZyamt3UT09>

Meeting ID: 898 4767 9539  
Password: 313016



## 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



life-changing SKINCARE

Let me help you love your skin and lashes! We have products for all skin types and issues (acne, sensitive skin, anti-aging, scars).

### **Meg Milligan**

732-928-8117

[www.clowningbymac.com](http://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.

### ***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.***

# May 2020 at Cornerstone

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 YOUTH Group Zoom 11:30 AM	4	5 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM over ZOOM	6	7	8	9
10 HAPPY Mother's DAY YOUTH Group Zoom 11:30 AM	11	12 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM over ZOOM	13	14	15	16 2020 Water Walk
17 YOUTH Group Zoom 11:30 AM Session Meeting over ZOOM	18	19 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM over ZOOM	20	21	22	23
24 YOUTH Group Zoom 11:30 AM	25 memorial DAY	26 Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM over ZOOM	27	28	29	30
31 YOUTH Group Zoom 11:30 AM						