



CORNERSTONE Connection

Cornerstone's weekly e-newsletter

The Top 5 things to think about this week:

- | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| <p>1
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE – NO 8AM SERVICES
Remember that there are NO 8am worship services for the next 2 weeks. Here is a breakdown of the holiday schedule:
Dec 23 –8am - NO service
- 9:30 – Sunday School
- 10:45 – Worship Service
- 5:30 – NO Big Gathering
Dec 24 – Christmas Eve
- 5:30 – Candlelight Service
Dec 30 –8am - NO service
- 9:30 – <u>NO</u> Sunday School
- 10:45 – Worship Service
- 5:30 – NO Big Gathering
Details...</p> | <p>2
FINANCIAL UPDATE... AND WHY GIVE?
As 2012 comes to a close, Cornerstone's giving is \$28,918 (-8.4%) below our budgeted giving. We are grateful for your generosity and trust the Lord to provide and propel our ministry forward. For tax deductions, giving must be in by December 31, 2012. But why give?
Details...</p> | <p>3
DO YOU USE THE NURSERY?
Attention those who use the nursery: Due to gaps in the schedule, the nursery is NOT going to be provided as it currently is... UNLESS everyone who uses it works in it. Contact Elizabeth Buckingham to reserve your spot.
Elizabethbuckingham@hotmail.com
Details...</p> | <p>4
MISSION TO GUATEMALA
On Jan 16-21, Cornerstone will be sending a team of short term missionaries to Guatemala to visit the "My Special Treasure" orphanage. \$2850 of \$4600 has been raised. Read the many ways you can be a part of this trip.
Details...</p> | <p>5
NEW CLASSES & SMALL GROUPS NEXT SEMESTER
Starting Jan 6, the new classes and small groups will start – at 9:30am: Basic Christianity, Helping Without Hurting, and EMPTY – follow-on to CASKET. At 5:30pm: Sonship and TBD additional small groups.
Details...</p> |
|--|--|--|--|---|

Events & Activities:

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Dec 23 | Worship Service-10:45am, Sunday School-9:30am (NO 8am service or Big Gathering) |
| Dec 24 | Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service, 5:30pm |
| Dec 25 | Christmas |
| Dec 30 | Worship Service-10:45am. (NO 8am service, Sunday School, or Big Gathering) |
| Jan 1 | New Year's Day |
| Jan 4 | Youth Movie Night (High School), 6:30pm @ Cornerstone Youth Room |
| Jan 4-5 | InterVarsity Vision Casting Meeting @ Cornerstone Details Sign up to support |
| Jan 6 | Back to Normal - 8am service, Sunday School, 10:45am service, and Big Gathering |
| Jan 6 | Sonship Small Group Starts, 5:30pm @ Big Gathering Details Register |
| Jan 6-13 | WARM (Homeless Outreach) @ Cornerstone Details Sign up to serve |
| Jan 11 | Youth Movie Night (Middle School), 6:30pm @ Macquilliam's home |
| Jan 16-21 | Guatemala Mission Trip to "My Special Treasure" Orphanage |
| Jan 18-21 | Youth Winter Retreat (High School), Ridgecrest, NC |
| Feb 3 | Ordination Service for Dagan Mayfield, 10:45am @ Cornerstone |
| Feb 15 | Cornerstone Winter Festival, 5:30pm @ Cornerstone |



Recurring Activities (Check our [website](#) for the holiday schedule of these events):

- Sundays: Futsal Pick-up Games, 4-5:30pm @ The Ballroom
"The Big Gathering" (Age 0-101), 5:30-7:30pm, @ Cornerstone

Youth Group (Grades 6-12), 5:30-7:30pm, @ Youth Room
Tuesdays: Boy Scouts, 7pm, @ Youth Room
Fridays: Biblical Counseling, by appt, Tom & Mary Thompson, [Email](#) or (443) 994-2778
Moms and Tots Active Play (Toddlers-5), **9:30-10:30am** @ Ballroom
Adult Basketball Pick-up Games, 7-9pm @ The Ballroom
Saturdays: **3rd – 8th Grade Boys Basketball Clinic**, 10-11:30am @ Ballroom | [Register](#)
3rd Thursdays: Missions Prayer Time, 7pm, @ Church Office

Sign Up For:

Sonship Small Group with Pastor Nilsson – starts Jan 6th! | [Details](#) | [Register](#)
Understanding the Faith – Communicants Class starting Jan 23 | [Details](#) | [Register](#)
Support InterVarsity's Leaders as they do some Vision Casting | [Details](#) | [Sign up to support](#)
Coffee Barista Team | [Sign-Up](#)
Small Groups | [Interested?](#)
Shoulder 2 Shoulder Women's Mentoring: [Sign-Up](#)
Soup Kitchen Serving Team: Victor Dela Cuesta, 240-925-9599. | [Details](#) | [Sign-Up](#)
Ministry Teams: | [Sign-Up](#)

[Website Sign-Ups](#)

Announcements

Sonship Small Group Starts – Jan 6! | [Details](#) | [Register](#)
Support InterVarsity's Leaders as they do some Vision Casting | [Details](#) | [Sign up to support](#)
Understanding the Faith – Communicants Class starting Jan 23 | [Details](#) | [Register](#)
Thank You Notes from the Pastors and Staff
Forming Coffee Barista Team
Nursery workers needed for Christmas Eve service
PREPARE TO HOST OUR HOMELESS – WARM at Cornerstone
Holiday Schedule at Cornerstone
VBS Date Selected – Mark your calendars NOW!
Process for Reserving and Using the Cornerstone Facilities
Weekly Ballroom Activities
Host a Party for Your Neighbors at Cornerstone

Worship Notes:

Hymns for 8am Service
Songs for 10:45 Service
Hymn of the Month

Cornerstone Organization: [Cornerstone Ministry Plan](#) | [Staff & Leaders](#) | [Missionaries](#)

[Adult Discipleship Opportunities](#) – Winter/Spring 2013 | [Facility Room Map](#)

[Resources](#): [Prayer Chain](#) | [Counseling](#) | [Sermon Audio](#) | [iTunes](#) | [Blogs](#) | [Facebook](#)
[Online Facility Request Form](#) [Online Directory](#)

The Top 5 things to think about this week:

1. HOLIDAY SCHEDULE AT CORNERSTONE – NO 8AM SERVICES!



****Remember that there are NO 8am worship services for the next 2 weeks.**

Here is a breakdown of the holiday schedule:

Sunday, Dec 23 –8am - NO service

- 9:30 – Sunday School
- 10:45 – Worship Service
- 5:30 – NO Big Gathering

Monday, Dec 24 – Christmas Eve

- 5:30pm – Candlelight Service

Church Office is CLOSED: Mon-Fri, Dec 24-28

Sunday, Dec 30 –8am - NO service

- 9:30 – **NO Sunday School**
- 10:45 – Worship Service
- 5:30 – NO Big Gathering

Sunday, Jan 6 – Back to normal, including The Big Gathering

(See the website calendar if you have any questions: [Click here.](#))

2. FINANCIAL UPDATE... AND WHY?

As 2012 comes to a close, Cornerstone's giving is \$28,918 (-8.4%) below our budgeted giving. We are grateful for your generosity and are trusting the Lord to provide and propel our ministry forward. For tax deductions, giving must be in by December 31, 2012. Consider catching up on your tithe and regular giving, your commitment to Arise 4.14, and/or giving above and beyond to the Guatemala missions trip (Jan 16-21). Below is a chart depicting our finances for July-November, 2012 – budgeted Giving vs. actual Giving, and budgeted Expenses vs. actual Expenses.

But why give?

What's in Your Journey Sack? At the end of the journey across the 2012 year, what would fall out of the journey sack of your heart? We can think about end of year giving, but if we look deeper – at our hearts – what is flowing? Does our generosity reflect the heart of Christ?



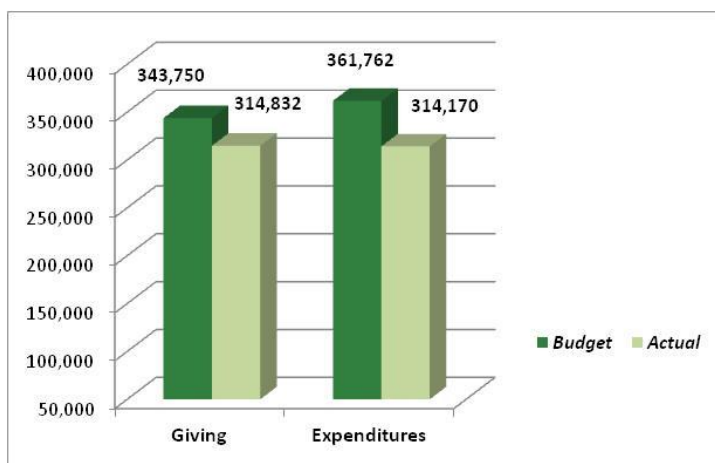
“And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, **they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy**. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and **they fell down and worshiped him**. Then, opening their treasures, **they offered him gifts**, gold and frankincense and myrrh.” – Matthew 2



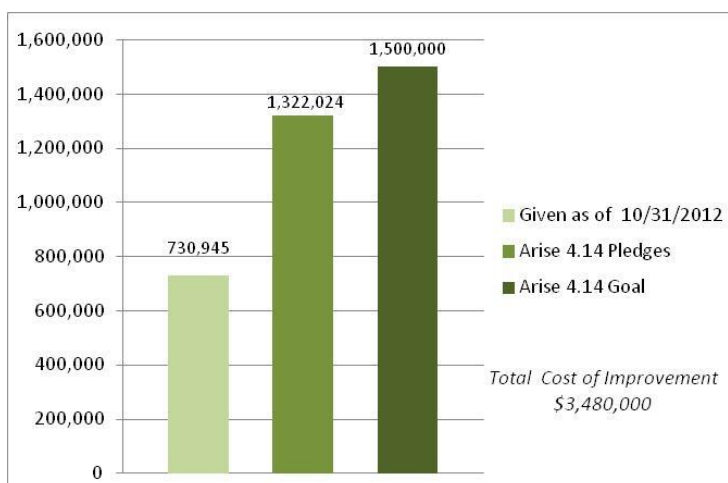
We see in this story of the “Wise Men” that at the end of their journey, a journey that covered a great distance on the backs of camels or some other animal, a journey through desert and other rough country, ... there was **beautiful fruit that fell out of their journey sacks** – fruit that looked like **great joy... worship of Him... gift giving to Him**. They were so grateful to see and worship this baby King – their gifts flowed naturally out of the love in their hearts. And they were genuinely satisfied.

This is similar to the end of another planned journey that ended 33 years later, where our Rescuer gave the greatest gift out of a heart of infinitely-generous love to us.

I pray that after our journeys of the 2012 year, the fruit that falls out of our journey sacks are hearts of generous love like His, and that our lifestyles reflect this generosity, and that we experience the ultimate satisfaction as we experience His ultimate love.



**Five Months
Ended 11/30/2012**



3. DO YOU USE THE NURSERY?

Due to shortages in people to work in the nurseries, the nursery will not be able to operate as it has been provided... UNLESS everyone who uses it works in it. This includes those that currently serve in other ministries, since we fortunately have many who serve in different ministries. We could also use some fathers in there, too – don't feel like this job can only be done by mom's! There is equal opportunity provided!

Contact Elizabeth Buckingham to reserve your spot on the schedule! Elizabethbuckingham@hotmail.com



4. MISSION TO GUATEMALA – JAN 16-21

On Jan 16-21, Cornerstone will be sending a team of short term missionaries to Guatemala to visit the "My Special Treasure" orphanage. But even if you are not going, there are many ways you can be a part of this trip. You can start praying now and continue throughout the trip. You can write cards for the girls and house parents/orphanage directors – Carol and Cesar. They especially enjoy pictures and artwork, so go crazy with your kids and create some drawings and "artistic encouragements"! They could also use spiritual encouragement, so some nice letters that share your own Gospel-centered spiritual journeys and insights would be very much appreciated. And of course, you can give above your normal tithe to support the trip. So far, we are very thankful that \$2850 of \$4600 has been raised.

5. NEW CLASSES & SMALL GROUPS NEXT SEMESTER –STARTING JAN 6

Starting Jan 6, the new Adult Sunday morning classes and small groups for the new semester will start. Below is a description of each. If you are interested in leading an additional class or small group, talk to Pastor Nilsson, who has a 3 year list of topics and courses to choose from.

Christian Education Classes

Sunday Mornings at 9:30AM

Visitors' and New Members' Class

Want to learn more about Cornerstone? To understand what we believe and why we believe it, what we do and why we do it? The 13-lesson revolving-course format allows you to begin any week as you explore making Cornerstone your church home.

Meets just off of the lobby, next to the coffee bar, in room #120. Led by Pastors Terry Baxley and Walt Nilsson.



Helping Without Hurting!

How to alleviate poverty without hurting the poor...and yourself.

This class will work through the book, "When Helping Hurts", in order to improve our local and global outreach efforts. While this book exposes past and current development efforts that churches have engaged in which unintentionally undermine the people they're trying to help, its central point is to provide proven strategies that challenge Christians to help the poor empower

themselves. Focusing on both North American and Majority World contexts, When Helping Hurts catalyzes the idea that sustainable change for people living in poverty comes not from the outside-in, but from the inside-out.

We will come to a better understanding of the broken world in which we live, the gospel, and how that can transform people (including ourselves) to step out of poverty.

This class is highly encouraged (possibly required) for those who would like to be members of TMT, H2O, or the Missions Committee.

Meets just off of the lobby, next to the coffee bar, in rooms #118 and 119. Led by Dave Perrin and Brian Baller.



Basic Christianity

Named a "Book of the Century" by Christianity Today "If Jesus was not God in human flesh, Christianity is exploded," writes John Stott. "We are left with just another religion with some beautiful ideas and noble ethics; its unique distinction has gone." Who is Jesus Christ? If he is not who he said he was, and if he did not do what he said he had come to do, the whole superstructure of Christianity crumbles in ruin. Is it plausible that Jesus was truly divine? And what would that mean for us? John Stott's clear, classic book examines the historical facts on which Christianity stands. Here is a sound, sensible guide for all who seek an intellectually satisfying explanation of the Christian faith.

Meets off of the sanctuary foyer in room #203. Led by Steve Brandt.

casket EMPTY:

God's story of redemption through time

Did you know that there is one overarching story in the Bible? Most Christians know a few Bible stories, but don't know that they fit into one big story, taking place in numerous lands, with different cultures, over thousands of years. What is that story? In a word, it's "Redemption." This is the story of God loving, creating, and saving his rebel children through the Messiah. So how do you get a handle on all of the individual events, timelines, characters, relationships, and sub-stories? We will be using a study and learning tool called "CASKET EMPTY" as a framework to make the big story of the Bible clear. CASKET is an acronym for the story of the Old Testament (Creation, Abraham, Sinai, Kings, Exile, Temple) and EMPTY for the New Testament (Expectations, Messiah, Pentecost, Teachings, Yet-to-Come). The Story doesn't stop on the pages of scripture, but continues today. We will use this group to understand not only the unity of God's story in scripture, but also its relevance to the story God is writing in you. We will spend time sharing our stories with each other, enjoying refreshments together, and finding opportunities to connect our stories outside of Sunday morning through fellowship and service.

Meets off of the sanctuary foyer in room #202. Led by Adam Scott.



Small Group Studies at The Big Gathering

Sunday Evenings 5:30-7:30PM at Cornerstone.

Youth and children's ministries provided concurrently.



Sonship

Many of us understand the faith intellectually, but our hearts have not quite kept up with our heads. Sonship is designed to help you take some of the glorious theological truths of the gospel - truths that you may know in your head - and apply them to the nitty gritty reality of daily life. You'll find that as the gospel re-makes you, there is greater joy and desire to share the wonderful news of God's lovingkindness with others.

Meets off of the sanctuary foyer in room #203. Led by Pr. Walt Nilsson and Carl & Pam Fahrner.

Minor Prophets Small Group –

A discussion oriented Bible study of the Minor Prophets with practical application to our lives along with prayer for one another, food and fellowship. Meets just off of the lobby in room #119. Led by Pr. Terry Baxley (301-737-1920).

Military Support Small Group

Provided in partnership with Officers' Christian Fellowship, we will strive to unite Christian officers for biblical fellowship and outreach, and to equip and encourage them to minister effectively in the military society. We consider authentic biblical fellowship essential for individual growth and the advancement of God's Kingdom within the military. If you are connected to the military, past or present, consider joining us.

Meets across the hall from the Ballroom in room #117. Contact Steve Brandt (719-491-0761) or Christa Dittmar (301-690-2483).

Small Group Studies throughout the week

A Praying Life

We will learn how to connect the broken pieces of your life and allow prayer—even poorly delivered—to fill the gaps with meaning and substance. This down-to-earth approach and the practical nature of this study invite you into a deeper relationship with God grow and stronger communication with Him.

Meets Wednesday nights at 7PM at the Prucha's home. Contact Gerry Murphy (410-326-1232) for more information.



Young Adult Ministry of Southern Maryland (YAMS) Small Group

Starting off in your career? Join us as we study God's Word and enjoy life together.

Meets Tuesday nights near Leonardtown. Contact Elizabeth Fahrner (240-298-2162) for more information.

Women's Study: The Promised One

Join us as we grow together by supporting one another and studying how the book of Genesis points forward to Jesus. This study provides a fresh look at the book of Genesis, leading readers in discovering how its stories, symbols, people, and promises point to Christ.

Meets Wednesdays starting September 19th from 9:30-11:00AM just off of the lobby in room #120. Childcare is provided. Contact the church office for more information.

The Essential 100

The Essential 100 is a carefully selected list of short Bible passages: 50 from the Old Testament and 50 from the New Testament. Most are about 1-2 chapters in length, just the right amount for a busy person to read in a few minutes. Over the course of the year, we will be reading these passages and meeting together for discussion, encouragement, prayer, and fellowship. Interspersed with the weekly studies will be occasional nights with an opportunity for food and fellowship.

Meets Friday nights at the Faidley's home. Contact Frank Heinsohn (240-237-8542) or Sandy Black (240-237-8400) for more information.

Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands: People in Need of Change Helping People in Need of Change

The paradigm is simple: When God calls you to himself, he also calls you to be a servant, an instrument in his redeeming hands. All of his children are called into ministry, and each of them needs the daily intervention this ministry provides. That is what this study is about: how God uses people, who are themselves in need of change, as instruments of the same kind of change in others. Meets Friday nights at the Reeds' home. Contact Chad & Keri Reed (240-256-5014) for more information.

Sign-Up for:

- **Soup Kitchen Serving Team: We are creating a more robust structure for our volunteer force.** Multiple teams of at least 4 people need to be established, preferably 6 people each. Each team would consist of 1 team leader, 1 cook, and 2-4 helpers. These teams would serve on a rotating basis, but would commit to serving one meal at least 3 times during the year. [Click here to join the Soup Kitchen Team online or contact Victor Dela Cuesta, 240-925-9599.](#)
- **Forming Coffee Barista Team! CALLING ALL COFFEE LOVERS!** The new Bunn Coffee Brewer is working and the new Air-pots are here! Now it is time to call in all the coffee lovers to help with the Sunday morning Coffee Blessing. Those of us who enjoy coffee or tea during SS are blessed with our new kitchen and the capabilities it holds. If you would like to serve in the capacity of providing this blessing, please sign up with the Body Builders (formerly Team Connect) to either help set up or clean up. Training will be provided. [Click here](#) to sign up online. Joan Heinsohn is currently the POC.

Announcements:

- **SONSHIP STARTS! – JAN 6**

Many of us understand the faith intellectually, but our hearts have not quite kept up with our heads. Sonship is designed to help you take some of the glorious theological truths of the gospel - truths that you may know in your head - and apply them to the nitty-gritty reality of daily life. You'll find that as the gospel re-makes you, there is greater joy and desire to share the wonderful news of God's loving-kindness with others.

Pastor Nilsson will be leading this small group at the Big Gathering – Sunday evenings, 5:30-7:30pm. [Click here](#) to register.

- **SUPPORT INTERVARSITY AT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE – VISION IS FORMING FOR SPRING SEMESTER:**

Here is a request from Esrael Seyum, Campus Staff for IV at St. Mary's College and a member of Cornerstone:

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at St. Mary's College of Maryland will be doing our first **vision casting meeting on January 4th and 5th**. I will be inviting six student leaders and we will spend the 24 hours praying and casting the vision for the spring semester.

For this meeting, we are looking for partners who are willing to prepare meals and snacks over the 24 hours. The needs are:

We have one vegetarian student in the group.

Lunch for the 4th and 5th.

Dinner on the 4th.

Breakfast on the 5th

And snacks for the meetings

We have plenty of drinks!

I will soon be sending out an email to all the other churches, but I wanted to give Cornerstone a chance first. If you are interested in providing for one or more of these needs, please [click here](#).

- **NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

Bless our Cornerstone children and especially first time visitors on Christmas Eve by serving in the Infant or Toddler-4 year old nursery. Both adults and teens needed. Please let Elizabeth Buckingham know if you are interested. Thank you! Elizabethbuckingham@hotmail.com .



TOP



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• **THANK YOU NOTES FROM THE PASTORS AND STAFF**

THANK YOU

Dear Cornerstone Family,
Beth and I were deeply moved by your very gracious notes of encouragement and gifts of appreciation that you gave us for Pastors Appreciation last Sunday. We have been very blessed to serve this congregation for the past 21 years, even though in a more limited capacity over the past three years. Thank you for the way you have cared for us so generously at a time when I am no longer able to serve vocationally. I am so thankful that God has raised up Walt, Dave, Dagan and all of our support staff to provide the leadership to continue to grow God's church here in Southern Maryland. It gives us such joy to see Cornerstone bearing the fruit of the gospel in our community and around the world. We are glad to continue to play some small part in it.

Love,
Terry & Beth

THANK YOU

Dear Cornerstone Family,
Thank you for you the love and generosity you showed to us through your gifts and the notes of encouragement. It is a great privilege for us to serve our Lord together with you here in SOMD! I am regularly encouraged by the many ways you love our family and even more so by the ways you live out your faith here in our community. We are delighted to take part in the great work the Lord is doing here through Cornerstone and are greatly appreciative of you and your partnership in the gospel. Thank you again.

Love,
Walt and Holly

THANK YOU

Dear Families of Cornerstone,
Thank you very much for the outpouring of love and generosity you showed us by your gifts and notes. I was very much encouraged and energized by your thoughts and actions! You clearly care for us and it was amazing to see it expressed in this way. The Lord is sustaining and uplifting Jen and I through your prayers and love for us. I am delighted that I get to do the job that I do here, especially while receiving your unexpected blessing on top of it. Praise the Lord!

Blessings,
Dagan and Jen Mayfield

THANK YOU

Dear Cornerstone Families,
Thanks so much for your surprise gift last Sunday. The gift, the cards, and the kind words mean a lot to Tracie and I. It has been just over 1 year since you have called me to this new job, and I am still lovin' it. It is an honor and privilege to work at Cornerstone. I am in a position to see many of the ways that God is working thru YOU as he transforms your hearts and leads you in acts of love and service to each other and to our community. I'm psyched to see what God will do this next year. Thanks again for the gift, but also for your gifts of affirmation throughout the year.

We love you!
Dave and Tracie Perrin



- **HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

Between Thanksgiving and New Year's our schedules get a bit crazy, and that includes our Cornerstone schedule. Here is a list of the special events and also times when normal events are NOT taking place. (See the website calendar if you have any questions: [Click here.](#))



Summary of Everything:

Dec 16 8am & 10:45am service, Sunday School at 9:30am, TBD Big Gathering
Dec 23 Worship Service-10:45am, Sunday School-9:30am (**NO** 8am service or Big Gathering)
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service, 5:30pm
Dec 25 Christmas
Dec 30 Worship Service-10:45am. (**NO** 8am service, Sunday School, or Big Gathering)
Jan 1 New Year's Day
Jan 6 Back to Normal - 8am service, Sunday School, 10:45am service, and Big Gathering
Jan 6-13 WARM (Homeless Outreach) @ Cornerstone

Sunday School and 8:00am Worship Service Schedule:

Dec 23 – NO 8am service but there **will** be Sunday School
Dec 30 – NO 8am service and NO Sunday School

The Big Gathering Schedule:

Dec 23 – Christmas Weekend – **NO** Big Gathering
Dec 30 – New Year's Weekend – **NO** Big Gathering
Jan 6 – The Big Gathering

- **PREPARE TO HOST OUR HOMELESS – WARM at Cornerstone:**

Share God's love and provisions some of our St. Mary's county homeless neighbors through the "WARM Program" – Wrapping Arms 'Round Many. Cornerstone will host up to 25 WARM guests from **6-13 January 2013** in the new ballroom/gymnasium. WARM is a St Mary's county faith based volunteer organization to provide overflow housing for the local homeless shelters/transitional housing (such as Three Oaks) during the winter months (November – March). Cornerstone will provide a safe and warm place to sleep for up to 25 homeless people, typically adults (men and women) only, for 7 consecutive nights in addition to breakfast & dinner. You can help us realize this blessing by volunteering your services and talents.



This is a great opportunity for **small groups and families to minister together.** Contact Tony Bowie for more information. [Click here.](#)

WARM Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Overnight Monitors** - There will be at least one man and one woman on duty per shift X two shifts per night X seven nights = 28 slots for monitors. First shift is 7 pm to 1 am, and

Second shift is 1 am to 7 am. The Overnight Monitors supervise all WARM guests and MUST REMAIN AWAKE during their 6 hr shift.



- **Alongsider / Activities** - We are looking for friendly people (individual or family) to share a meal or activity/game with our WARM guests and engage them in conversation.
- **Bible Study Leader** - Lead a Bible study (1 or 2 total) for any interested WARM guests. Recommended duration is approximately 30-45 minutes. Bible study night preference at the discretion of Bible study leader.
- **Food Service** - PREPARE and/or SERVE breakfast and/or dinner to WARM guests and any Cornerstone volunteers.
- **Inclement Weather Crew** - To provide guest transportation, if necessary, during inclement weather. Also, looking for volunteers to remove snow & ice from the Cornerstone grounds, if necessary.
- **Cleaning** - Cornerstone facility (ballroom/gymnasium, kitchen, bathrooms); bed sheets; towels; blankets; cots.
- **Supplies Set-Up or Transport** - Set-up (cots/tables/chairs) and/or transport supplies (cots/plastic supply bins) from Cornerstone to the next WARM host site.

- **VBS DATE SELECTED – MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! JULY 29 - AUGUST 2**

The Children's Ministry team has set the date for VBS – this is the earliest the date has ever been set – a new record! Please put this on your calendar and take it into consideration when you are planning family vacations and summer camps this year. This is the week right after swim team ends....July 29-August 2 from 9am-12 pm. Thanks!!

- **WANT TO USE THE BALLROOM OR A CLASSROOM?** There is a new process:

In order to be good stewards of the great facility that God has given us, and to make this facility as accessible as possible with accountability, we are putting the following process into place if you want to use the facility.

1. Facility Request: First, fill out a [Facility Request](#). This is available online now, with tools to let you check if the rooms you want are available, and a map of the facility with room numbers. Fill out the online form, and Vicky or I (Dave Perrin) will respond with an email to let you know that you have the room reserved. (Remember that the office is open Monday – Thursday each week.)
 - i. The online form is available via the website – look for the “resources” menu option on the home page, then “Facility Request”... (check it out now – [click here](#))
2. Key Checkout: To get into the building, you will need a key. Plan to pick up your key if you don't already have one .
3. Opening: There are instructions to assist with lights, heating/AC, etc. Also note if you notice damage or a mess so that you are not held responsible.
4. CLEANING & Closing: There will be a checklist to complete each time the facility is used, and you will need to sign this when you have finished. This will also give us a record of who is using the facility.





- ii. These checklists are kept on 3 clipboards – one for each major area of the facility: Ballroom, Sanctuary building, and new building Classrooms. These are hung in the Janitor’s closet for the respective building – i.e. the clipboards for the Ballroom and new building Classrooms are in the Janitor’s closet next to the kitchen, and the clipboard for the Sanctuary building is in the Janitor’s closet next to the women’s restroom in the Sanctuary building.
 - iii. Return chairs and equipment (and the clipboards) to the location that you found them, if you have moved them.
5. Key Return: The key should be returned immediately after the event before you leave the facility, unless the key has been assigned for a longer period of time (recurring event, etc).

I know that these steps are common for most facilities, and similar to our unwritten process that we’ve used. But we are formalizing them as the facility has grown and more people will want to use it. We will strive to remain flexible for spontaneous events that pop up – we want the facility to be used for as much ministry as possible. At the same time we want to keep it clean for the next group using it, so be sure to complete and sign the Cleaning & Closing checklist when you are done!

- **WEEKLY BALLROOM ACTIVITIES: OUR BALLROOM IS GETTING A WORKOUT!** It is getting used more and more. Read about the weekly activities below.
 - **Tuesday Men’s Indoor Soccer, 5:30-7pm:** Stop by after work and have some fun competition. Talk to **Dave Eby** if you have questions.
 - **Friday Night Adult Basketball: 7-9 pm.** Whether you like to shoot around and play horse or play competitively, please join in the fun! It is a wonderful opportunity to meet new people, get some exercise, as well as invite friends and neighbors to a non-intimidating gathering at church. Please contact **Beth Baxley** for additional information.
 - **Futsal Pick-up Games:** 4-5:30pm, Cornerstone’s Ballroom will be open for competitive Futsal, which is a form of indoor soccer. Contact Drew Savarese if you have questions.
 - **Moms & Tots playtime:** Moms of little ones, are you interested in an opportunity to get your kids (and yourself!) out and active through the coming cold weather? Or maybe you're just looking for a time of fun and connection with other moms with children. You are welcome to join us in the Ballroom (the new gym) on **Friday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30** for Active Play. This informal, interactive time will be focused on moms with their preschoolers and toddlers who would like to participate together in having fun, expending energy, and getting the little ones ready for an afternoon nap! Activities could range from learning basic sports ideas, to one-on-one catch with a Nerf ball, to a game of Duck-Duck-Goose. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact **Jen Neubert at frneubert@juno.com or 808.220.2218.**
 - **Boys Basketball Clinic starts On Saturday, Dec 1 weekly from 10-11:30am in the Ballroom. For boys in grades 3-8, this is a low commitment chance to learn basic skills and have a great time.**





- **Who:** All boys in Third through Eighth grade
- **Dates:** Saturdays, beginning December 1st.
- **Time:** 10 to 11:30 AM
- **Where:** New Cornerstone Gym!
- **Why:** Exercise, learn some B-ball skills, teamwork, and fun!
- **Cost:** Free!
- **Coach:** Tom Cavallaro and others.
- Preregistration is not required, but if you know you are bringing your children please [sign up online](#) or send Tom Cavallaro an email tbcavallaro@gmail.com. Please also let Tom know if you are willing to help coach.

- **HOST A PARTY FOR YOUR NEIGHBORS AT CORNERSTONE!**

God has given us a great new facility and we want YOU to use it as you love your neighbor! Reserve the gym, kitchen, and Youth Room for a movie, snack/potluck and game night for your neighborhood. Here are some options for games and/or activities:

Games:

- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Dodge ball with real dodge balls
- Four Square
- Futsal / Indoor Soccer
- Ping Pong
- Wrestling – on nice wrestling mats
- Foosball
- Darts
- Indoor Kickball
- Indoor Ultimate Frisbee

Other Activities:

- Watch a movie in the Youth Room – 65” TV’s with surround sound!
- Cook Popcorn or warm pizza in the kitchen
- Board Games



Worship notes:

Hymns for 8am Service

NO 8AM SERVICE – Dec 23 and Dec 30!!!

Songs for 10:45 Service

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

Trinity Hymnal #218 By: Henry Thomas Smart & James Montgomeryⁱ

“While by the Sheep We Watched at Night”

Trinity Hymnal #215 Arranged by: Hugo Jungstⁱⁱ

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

Trinity Hymnal #226 By: William Chatterton Dix and Conrad Kocherⁱⁱⁱ

“O Holy Night”

By: Chris Tomlin, John S. Dwight, Placide Cappeau, 2009^{iv}

“Joy to the World”

By: Watts, Handel, Mason, 1742^v



Profession of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism Question #22

How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.

Hymn of the Month – None for December – enjoy the Christmas Carols!!



Cornerstone Organization:

MINISTRY PLAN FOR CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Purpose and Vision

At Cornerstone, our purpose is to glorify and enjoy God by growing a loving body of faithful disciples that is redeeming Southern Maryland and the world for Christ.

Mission

We accomplish our vision by:

- Worshipping the triune God
- Growing a loving body
- Multiplying mature and equipped disciples
- Redeeming Southern Maryland and world for Jesus Christ
- Leading others in Christ's kingdom

Core Values

As a church of Jesus Christ, we are a:

- **Gospel-centered.** The gospel, as revealed in God's Word, is the center of who we are and all that we do. It is the truth that through faith in Jesus Christ alone, all of our guilt, shame and unrighteousness is removed and replaced with all of Jesus' beauty and righteousness. Growth in the Christian life occurs the same way that it began: through believing the gospel.
- **Prayer-inspired.** Prayer is essential to the life of a Christian and to the life of a church. Through prayer we commune with God, express our need and dependence upon, align ourselves with God's work, and become empowered by God's Spirit.
- **Kingdom-driven.** God's kingdom has entered history in the person of Jesus Christ to renew the whole world and reconcile all things to himself. The church is God's principle instrument of making the fullness of his coming kingdom a present reality.
- **Incarnate.** God incarnated himself in the person of Jesus so that the world could be reconciled to God and one another. As a church we model the incarnation in manifesting the love and truth of Jesus Christ to Southern Maryland and wherever we serve.
- **Authentic community.** This is a community where Jesus Christ is experienced in his presence and power, where lives are transformed by the gospel through mutual ministry. In gospel-centered community, people come to know and experience his presence in a way that cannot happen individually. This is a community where it is safe to be broken without fear of condemnation, where there is gospel inspired transparency and accountability, and where there is a fertile context for the Holy Spirit to transform lives.

Our Denomination

Cornerstone is a member of the Presbyterian Church in America, an evangelical and Reformed denomination committed to the Lordship of Christ and the proclamation of the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Our Firm Foundation

Our beliefs are founded on the authoritative Word of God and are expressed in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms. These ancient truths, articulated in the 16th century Reformation, continue to transform lives today.



TOP



TOP

OUR OFFICE STAFF

- Senior Pastor Walter Nilsson
- Pastor Emeritus Terry Baxley
- Director of Youth Dagan Mayfield
- Director of Ministry Development Dave Perrin
- Director of Children's Ministry Beth Baxley
- Director of Music Kristin Ashby
- Biblical Counselor Tom Thompson
- Treasurer Paul Mitchel
- Accountant Joan Heinsohn
- Secretary Vicky Travis



OUR SESSION

- Walter Nilsson, Session Moderator
- Pat Shields, Clerk of Session
- Rich Buckingham
- Carl Fahrner
- Chad Reed
- Frank Heinsohn

OUR DEACONS

- Scott Hoffman, Chairman
- Dave Eby
- Jonathan Griffith
- Tim Singley

Adult Discipleship Opportunities – Winter/Spring 2013

How Can I Grow as a Disciple?

We offer many opportunities for you to grow as a follower of Jesus.

Click here if you want to let us know you are interested in any of these offerings.



TOP

Christian Education Classes

On Sunday mornings between 9:30 and 10:30, Cornerstone offers classes for all ages. There are multiple classes for adults, focused on growth in understanding the Word of God, the teachings of the Bible, Christian Living, and service as Christian Leaders. The classes for this semester are listed in the next section.

Small Groups

Throughout the week and throughout St. Mary's County, a wide variety of Cornerstone Small Groups meet. These are a great way to grow in Christian community, in applying God's Word to daily living, and in loving our neighbors. This semester's Small Group offerings are listed in the last section.

Journey Groups

Journey Groups are single-gender life-on-life discipleship groups that meet weekly for a year on various nights or mornings. Their purpose is to transfer spiritual life from one person to another in the context of small groups of people such that people grow as disciples from unbelief to belief, from belief to maturity, and from maturity to ministry multiplication. Journey Groups begin each September and continue through May. Contact Fred Neubert (808-220-2257) if interested.

Micro Groups

These are single-gender prayer and accountability groups of no more than four who gather two to three times per month to share their lives with each other, to hold each other accountable as Christ's disciples, and to pray for one another. These groups are perfect for people who want to grow in their relationship with Jesus but their schedules or seasons of life preclude participation in a small group. Contact Jason Thomas (240-434-6115) for more information.

Shoulder to Shoulder

These are mentoring relationships for women designed to help them grow together in faith, love, and maturity. The program is designed to serve as a means for connecting women across generations or spiritual maturity levels who may not have other opportunities to meet one another. Contact Rachel Harmon (443-786-1804) for more information. Click here to let us know how you are interested.

Retreats/Seminars

This year we have several retreats and seminars to equip and encourage you in a more focused setting. Save the dates:

Men's Retreat: October TBD, 2013

Cornerstone Missions Conference: March 9-17, 2013.

Women's Retreat: April 5-7, 2013



TOP

Christian Education Classes

Sunday Mornings at 9:30AM

Visitors' and New Members' Class

Want to learn more about Cornerstone? To understand what we believe and why we believe it, what we do and why we do it? The 13-lesson revolving-course format allows you to begin any week as you explore making Cornerstone your church home.

Meets just off of the lobby, next to the coffee bar, in room #120. Led by Pastors Terry Baxley and Walt Nilsson.



Helping Without Hurting!

How to alleviate poverty without hurting the poor...and yourself.

This class will work through the book, "When Helping Hurts", in order to improve our local and global outreach efforts. While this book exposes past and current development efforts that churches have engaged in which unintentionally undermine the people they're trying to help, its central point is to provide proven strategies that challenge Christians to help the poor empower themselves. Focusing on both North American and Majority World contexts, When Helping Hurts catalyzes the idea that sustainable change for people living in poverty comes not from the outside-in, but from the inside-out.

We will come to a better understanding of the broken world in which we live, the gospel, and how that can transform people (including ourselves) to step out of poverty.

This class is highly encouraged (possibly required) for those who would like to be members of TMT, H2O, or the Missions Committee.

Meets just off of the lobby, next to the coffee bar, in rooms #118 and 119. Led by Dave Perrin and Brian Baller.

Basic Christianity

Named a "Book of the Century" by Christianity Today "If Jesus was not God in human flesh, Christianity is exploded," writes John Stott. "We are left with just another religion with some beautiful ideas and noble ethics; its unique distinction has gone." Who is Jesus Christ? If he is not who he said he was, and if he did not do what he said he had come to do, the whole superstructure of Christianity crumbles in ruin. Is it plausible that Jesus was truly divine? And what would that mean for us? John Stott's clear, classic book examines the historical facts on which Christianity stands. Here is a sound, sensible guide for all who seek an intellectually satisfying explanation of the Christian faith.

Meets off of the sanctuary foyer in room #203. Led by Steve Brandt.

casket EMPTY:

God's story of redemption through time

Did you know that there is one overarching story in the Bible? Most Christians know a few Bible stories, but don't know that they fit into one big story, taking place in numerous lands, with different cultures, over thousands of years. What is that story? In a word, it's "Redemption." This is the story of God loving, creating, and saving his rebel children through the Messiah. So how do you





get a handle on all of the individual events, timelines, characters, relationships, and sub-stories? We will be using a study and learning tool called “CASKET EMPTY” as a framework to make the big story of the Bible clear. CASKET is an acronym for the story of the Old Testament (Creation, Abraham, Sinai, Kings, Exile, Temple) and EMPTY for the New Testament (Expectations, Messiah, Pentecost, Teachings, Yet-to-Come). The Story doesn’t stop on the pages of scripture, but continues today. We will use this group to understand not only the unity of God’s story in scripture, but also its relevance to the story God is writing in you. We will spend time sharing our stories with each other, enjoying refreshments together, and finding opportunities to connect our stories outside of Sunday morning through fellowship and service.

Meets off of the sanctuary foyer in room #202. Led by Adam Scott.

[Click here](#) if you want to let us know you are interested in any of these offerings.

Small Group Studies at The Big Gathering

Sunday Evenings 5:30-7:30PM at Cornerstone.

Youth and children’s ministries provided concurrently.

Sonship

Many of us understand the faith intellectually, but our hearts have not quite kept up with our heads. Sonship is designed to help you take some of the glorious theological truths of the gospel - truths that you may know in your head - and apply them to the nitty gritty reality of daily life. You'll find that as the gospel re-makes you, there is greater joy and desire to share the wonderful news of God's lovingkindness with others.

Meets off of the sanctuary foyer in room #203. Led by Pr. Walt Nilsson and Carl & Pam Fahrner.

Minor Prophets Small Group –

A discussion oriented Bible study of the Minor Prophets with practical application to our lives along with prayer for one another, food and fellowship. Meets just off of the lobby in room #119. Led by Pr. Terry Baxley (301-737-1920).

Military Support Small Group

Provided in partnership with Officers’ Christian Fellowship, we will strive to unite Christian officers for biblical fellowship and outreach, and to equip and encourage them to minister effectively in the military society. We consider authentic biblical fellowship essential for individual growth and the advancement of God's Kingdom within the military. If you are connected to the military, past or present, consider joining us.

Meets across the hall from the Ballroom in room #117. Contact Steve Brandt (719-491-0761) or Christa Dittmar (301-690-2483).



[Click here](#) if you want to let us know you are interested in any of these offerings.

Small Group Studies throughout the week

A Praying Life

We will learn how to connect the broken pieces of your life and allow prayer—even poorly delivered—to fill the gaps with meaning and substance. This down-to-earth approach and the practical nature of this study invite you into a deeper relationship with God grow and stronger communication with Him.

Meets Wednesday nights at 7PM at the Prucha's home. Contact Gerry Murphy (410-326-1232) for more information.

Young Adult Ministry of Southern Maryland (YAMS) Small Group

Starting off in your career? Join us as we study God's Word and enjoy life together.

Meets Tuesday nights near Leonardtown. Contact Elizabeth Fahrner (240-298-2162) for more information.

Women's Study: The Promised One

Join us as we grow together by supporting one another and studying how the book of Genesis points forward to Jesus. This study provides a fresh look at the book of Genesis, leading readers in discovering how its stories, symbols, people, and promises point to Christ.

Meets Wednesdays starting September 19th from 9:30-11:00AM just off of the lobby in room #120. Childcare is provided. Contact the church office for more information.

The Essential 100

The Essential 100 is a carefully selected list of short Bible passages: 50 from the Old Testament and 50 from the New Testament. Most are about 1-2 chapters in length, just the right amount for a busy person to read in a few minutes. Over the course of the year, we will be reading these passages and meeting together for discussion, encouragement, prayer, and fellowship. Interspersed with the weekly studies will be occasional nights with an opportunity for food and fellowship.

Meets Friday nights at the Faidley's home. Contact Frank Heinsohn (240-237-8542) or Sandy Black (240-237-8400) for more information.

Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands: People in Need of Change Helping People in Need of Change

The paradigm is simple: When God calls you to himself, he also calls you to be a servant, an instrument in his redeeming hands. All of his children are called into ministry, and each of them needs the daily intervention this ministry provides. That is what this study is about: how God uses people, who are themselves in need of change, as instruments of the same kind of change in others.

Meets Friday nights at the Reeds' home. Contact Chad & Keri Reed (240-256-5014) for more information.

[Click here](#) if you want to let us know you are interested in any of these offerings.

[Click here](#) to see a **floor map of the church facility**.

MINISTRIES



Redeeming Southern Maryland through Deeds:

Transformational Ministries Team (TMT)	Tim Singley	301 863 4504
English as a Second Language (ESL)	Sarah Black	240 237 8400
St. Mary's Caring Soup Kitchen	Victor DelaCuesta	301 862 4386
Three Oaks Homeless Shelter	Walt Nilsson	301 862 5016
WARM	Tony Bowie	301 848 1088
H2O Foster Care/Adoptive Support	Dave Perrin	301 373 0207
HOPE of Southern MD	Dave Eby	301 994 9660
Christmas in April	Wil Ridley	301 863 9103
Pregnancy Care Center	Lee Mason	301 863 2606

Redeeming Southern Maryland, Potomac Presbytery, and the World

Living Hope 2 Orphans (H2O)	Steve Brandt	301 475 8420
Missions Committee	Jen Neubert	808 220 2218

missionscommittee@cornerstonepca.org

Redeeming Southern Maryland through the Word:

Gideons	Pat Shields	301 994 0746
InterVarsity	Esrael Seyum	egseyum@gmail.com

Multiplying Mature & Equipped Disciples

Small Group Ministry	Carl Fahrner	301 862 5235
Journey Groups	Fred Neubert	808 220 2257
Men's Discipleship Ministries	Jason Thomas	240 434-5892
Women's Ministry Team (WMT)	Holly Nilsson	240 431 9235
Youth Ministry Team	Dagan Mayfield	301 862 5016
Children Ministry Team	Beth Baxley	301 737 1920
Nursery Ministry Team	Elizabeth Buckingham	240 317 5749
Poiema Academy (Homeschool)	Rich Prevatt	301-863-2606

Growing a Loving Body

Body Builders (Fellowship)	Frank and Joan Heinsohn	240 237 8542
Prayer Ministry Team	Rich Buckingham	301 994 1951
Prayer Chain	Sue Singley	301 863 4504
Visitor Hospitality	Heather Harris	240 237 8223
Congregational Care / Meals:		
New Moms	Barb Buckingham	301 994 1951
Sick	Sue Dugan	301 373-5566

Worshipping the Triune God

Director of Music Ministry	Kristin Ashby	301 862 4384
Worship Service Operations	Dave Perrin	301 373 0207
Communion Coordinator	Julie Woods	240 538 8360
Beautification Team	Flora Woodward	301 373 6951
Sunday Refreshments/Fellowship	Lucy Stevenson	301 862 2660
Greeter Ministry	Gretchen Thomas	240 434 6165

Master Plan / Building Committee

Facilities	Scott Hoffman	301 862 1603
	Dave Eby	301 994 9660



MISSIONARIES

These are the missionaries that we support as a church. Please pray for them, contact them, and let them know you are thinking about them.

Esrael Seyum (Intervarsity)

egseyum@gmail.com

Chris Garriott (RUF - University of Maryland)

cgarriott@ruf.org

Tito & Kim Padilla

manuelpadilla@beamm.org

Eric & Annette Phillips

eaphil2@gmail.com

Phillips website: www.citywideredeemer.com

Cheryl Crocker

crock54@hotmail.com

Richard & Angelica Ramsay

rbramsay@bellsouth.net

Roberta Brown

robertamtw@aol.com

Asia Church Planters (Information removed for their protection – pray more for them!)

Resources:

Prayer Chain:

Send prayer requests to prayer@cornerstonepca.org

Biblical Counseling:

Tom & Mary Thompson Email or (443) 994-2778

Online Facility Request Form:

<http://www.cornerstonepca.org/resources/facility-request.html>

Online Directory:

<http://www.cornerstonepca.org/resources/cornerstone-directory.html>

Sermon Audio Files:

<http://www.cornerstonepca.org/resources/index.html>

iTunes link podcast:

itunes://sermon.net/cornerstonepcasomd/rss/

Website:

<http://www.cornerstonepca.org/>

Cornerstone Update Blog:

<http://cornerstonepca.blogspot.com/>

Youth Group Blog and News:

<http://cornerstoneyouthpage.blogspot.com/>

Like us on Facebook!



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CORNERSTONE

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Ryan House Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)/CCLI # 5607039