

# CORNERSTONE CHURCH

## A United Methodist Congregation

***Loving God ~ Loving Others ~ Proclaiming Christ***

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**The office will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30.**

Dear Loved Ones,

It is with mixed emotions that I announce that I am accepting the appointment of the Court Street United Methodist Church in Rockford, Illinois, to serve them as senior pastor. This statement is issued with a profound sense of grief and sorrow, as well as trust in God's ultimate plan of salvation for us all. This appointment begins July 1, 2011.

I am happy to say that I am leaving on good terms. Over the course of our shared ministry, thirteen plus years, we have through the grace of God accomplished many wonderful things. Most of all we have said, "God be with you until we meet again" to many wonderful servants of Christ who have gone on to their reward, but not before enriching all of us with their lives of discipleship and service.

Change is a constant in life, but it is always unsettling. I remind you that Jesus said that the foxes had dens and the birds of the air had nests but that he had no place to lay his head. There is something of that itinerant nature to the ministry as well. No matter how long we stay in one place, eventually most of us pastors move on.

I find myself nowadays reminiscing on my first sermon here with you, my first visitation, my first funeral, as well as my first potluck dinner! My family has grown in love and spirit here in your care. As we come around to the time when we will be a little more distant in space from you, we know from past experience that we will remain close in heart and spirit. We will still be concerned about your lives and trust you will remain interested in us as well. And we will never fail to uphold all of you in prayer.

In the days ahead, I will be cherishing every moment I have with you. I know you will love and care for one another in my absence. Remember, "We love because he first loved us."

Love and blessings to you all!

*Pastor Cal*

Pastor Cal

**Cornerstone Family –**

To celebrate Pastor Cal and his family's ministry at Cornerstone, there will be a celebration on June 26<sup>th</sup> following the second worship service. A letter will be arriving in your mail box in the next week with more information about the party, about a love gift to the Culpepper's, and other information to let you show your appreciation.

God bless you all, Cornerstone Personnel Team and Pastor Lisa

## Nursery Attendants Needed Job Opening at Cornerstone

The Ministry Council has passed to hire one or two individuals to staff the crib nursery during the worship times every Sunday (as well as during other special services). Applicants must be willing to have a background check completed. The two shifts are: 8:45 – 10:15 and 10:15 – 11:45. If you are interested, please stop in the office for a job description and application packet. These will be available Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Applications need to be turned in by Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

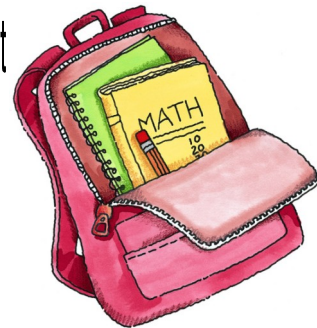
VBS Registration is open.  
Sign up your children and/  
or volunteer.

[www.groupvbspro.com/  
vbs/ez/cornerstoneelgin11](http://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/cornerstoneelgin11)

## Backpack Collection

Cornerstone will be collecting  
new and gently used back packs  
through the month of July

Backpacks will be distributed in August  
by local schools  
to children in need



## WISDOM KEEPERS

Wednesday, May 18th    Lunch at Noon    Cost is \$5/person

This month's activity will be a picnic/cook-out here at Cornerstone followed by games and such.  
Come enjoy the beautiful weather!

Joan Pelletier (847) 741-6097 \* Marlene Shales (847) 742-8904 \* Eileen Leschke (847) 888-3702

## Japan Emergency Fund

On March 11, a 9.0 magnitude earthquake devastated much of northern Japan. A tsunami roared to shore minutes later, furiously sweeping away entire towns. And now, a nuclear emergency is fueling very real fears of radiation. As of March 18, the death toll exceeded 6,900. More than 10,300 people are reported missing, and many are homeless.

The Reverend Cynthia Fierro Harvey, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Deputy General Secretary, posted a letter reporting on the progress being made by UMCOR thanks to the generosity of United Methodists.

The Advance to support the people of Japan has been renamed "Japan Emergency". Donations can be made by placing a check in the offering made out to Cornerstone and marked "Japan Emergency" or directly to UMCOR:

Japan Emergency, UMCOR Advance 3021317

## Membership news

### Member Notes:

- \* Next Baptism Sunday will be Mother's Day, May 8th. Please contact Pastor Lisa, Pastor Cal, or Linda Lowery if you are planning a baptism in your family!
- \* Summer Blood Drive—Sunday, July 17. 8am—12pm. Cornerstone parking lot.
- \* Welcome to the world and to the Cornerstone Family. Thank God for your safe arrival.
  - ◇ Alexander Ray, born April 3rd, to Ryan and Steve Johnson. Welcomed home by big sister Madisyn.

### *May Anniversaries*

John & Tami Pasholk	5/7/1983
Geoffrey & Lisa Kruse-Safford	5/8/1993
David & Nancy Gathman	5/9/1964
Anthony & Nan Maretti	5/12/1984
Rod & Valerie	5/20/1994
Andy & Karen Minehart	5/23/1987
Stephen & Barbara Johnson	5/24/1970
Jason & Kim Walter	5/24/2003
Rick & Sue Spinnato	5/25/1991
Bill & Ruth Werst	5/27/1967
Dick & Suzanne Shiloh	5/30/1992

### Coffee Chat

If you are new to Cornerstone we invite you to visit with us on May 4th at 6:33pm. Get to know Cornerstone and some of the people who make Cornerstone their church home.

Coffee Chat will be held each month on the 1st Wednesday. Please call the office at 847-464-4673 if you have any questions..

### May Birthdays

1 Cody Balk	15 Lilah Tilkian
2 Randy Schneider	16 Ally Anderson
3 Lucas Hayes	16 Sadie Svendsen
3 Alec Strohmaier	17 Cal Culpepper
4 Howard Copley	17 Sam Pasholk
4 Michael Metz	17 Mark Toppel
5 Wendy Collins	18 Jane Crocetti
5 Christopher Hyman	18 Brenda Graf
7 Stephanie Ross	18 Christine Rodewald
7 Soraya Walikonis	20 Samantha Gruner
8 Donald Beatty	21 Larry Nelson
8 Camren Horton	21 Jennifer Walikonis
8 Teresa Krog	23 Diana Horton
8 Jordan Maretti	23 Kevin Lindquist
8 Jacob Neisendorf	24 Julia Johnson
8 Tony Tummillo	25 Mariah Ausbury
9 Spencer Henrikson	25 Nancy Gathman
9 Tyler Wagner	27 Jamie Ballew
9 Kim Walter	30 Sandy Brandes
10 Robert Gramley	30 Kassi Gaylord
10 Samantha Woodruff	30 Dick Kostka
12 Katie Hinkle	30 Gloria Woodruff
13 Molly King	31 Max Jensen
15 Ellie Soosloff	31 Laurel Vollman



### Children's Tag Sale

May 19th—May 21st

Clothing, Toys and other  
gently used children's  
items

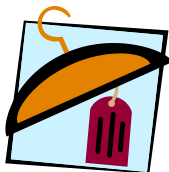
## Cornerstone Quilters

In May, the Cornerstone Quilters will be meeting in the youth room on Wednesday, May 25, starting at 6:00 pm. Please note this is on a different week than our normal schedule due to the Tag Sale sponsored by Stepping Stones. Come join us, no experience is necessary and this is a great time to learn a new skill and share in the fellowship quilters always enjoy.

The Quilters were pleased to be able to donate many quilts to ChildServ and to Dr. Jennifer Schening's Pediatric Practice following their dedication on Sunday, May 1. These quilts will give joy and comfort to children needing the comfort and security their own quilt can give. Questions call Susie Kostka, 847-697-0639 or email: [sukostka@comcast.net](mailto:sukostka@comcast.net).



## Stepping Stones Tag Sale



Stepping Stones Early Childcare Program is holding it's annual tag sale Thursday, May 19 from 12:30-3 PM, Friday, May 20 from 9-3 PM, and Saturday May 21 from 9-3PM.

Items for sale include infant and children's clothing up to size 14, maternity clothes, toys, games, and other child related items.

For information regarding selling items or to donate items for the sale, please contact:

Val Ciccione at [ciccionechix4@yahoo.com](mailto:ciccionechix4@yahoo.com) or 847-343-6003 or Tricia Hutchcroft at [ehutchcrof@aol.com](mailto:ehutchcrof@aol.com) or 630-365-5896.

A percentage of the sale money goes to the Stepping Stones program to purchase additional curriculum books, teaching tools, and craft material to enhance our program.



## Cornerstone Community Garden Taking Root.

Planting will begin sometime around the middle of May. Volunteers may sign-up now for planting, weeding and watering. Keep a look out for the volunteer calendar! Anyone who wants to donate plants please contact Rod Ciccione at (847) 683-7807. Also please contact him with any questions.



## RECYCLING OF POP CANS

Please use the blue covered trailer parked in the back of the church parking lot.

Thanks!



## Major Retailers Want To Give Our Church Money!

Orders are placed the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.

It's through the fundraising program that works while you shop. It's called "scrip!"

Scrip is simply a word that means "substitute money" – in other words, scrip is gift cards from national and local retailers. They're the same gift cards that you buy at the store. Many popular retailers participate in our scrip program including Meijer, Panera, Shell, Chili's, Speedway, American Airlines, Disney and many, many others. There are over 680 retailers to choose from.

You're probably asking yourself how these stores help us raise money. It's simple... here's how it works:

You purchase gift cards for places where you plan to shop and use those cards instead of cash or credit. Scrip participating retailers agree to sell gift cards to our non-profit organization at a discount. Families like yours buy the gift cards for full face value, they redeem them for full face value, and our church keeps the difference as revenue. Instead of making a fundraising company rich, we can keep that money within our church. As an added benefit, many scrip users find that they become smarter shoppers by using the gift cards and planning ahead for every purchase.

And scrip is exciting, because everybody wins:

The retailer gets cash up front and repeat business...

You get a powerful fundraising alternative that involves *no selling*...

Our church gets a regular source of revenue.

The beauty of scrip is that you put your regular household shopping dollars to work. You earn money for our church without spending a single additional penny. Just spend your regular shopping dollars to purchase scrip! Gift cards can be used for just about any household purchase including food, clothing, entertainment, gasoline and even dining. The Cornerstone Scrip Program promises to be a simple and effective fundraising program. Order forms and a complete list of retailers can be found in the entryway of the church. They are located near the large white cross which displays the variety of cards that we have on-hand for you to purchase each Sunday.

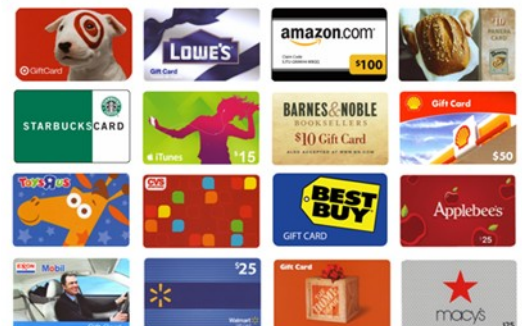
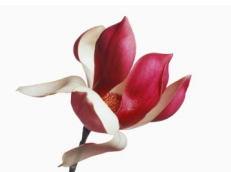
Profit in in last two months of 2010 was \$356.43.

This year's profit is \$285.36. Monies collected benefit the Pastor Al Family Crisis Fund. This fund helps Cornerstone be the Hands and Feet of Christ to those in a crisis situation.

Orders are taken on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday's of the month. Our next order dates are May 8 and 22.

If you have *any* questions about the program and how it works, do not hesitate to call Marie Johnson at 847-697-8624, or via email at [mrjohnson52@yahoo.com](mailto:mrjohnson52@yahoo.com)

Thanks for your support!



## MISSION OF THE MONTH May 2011

### *2011 Youth Summer Mission Trip*

sponsored by Group Workcamps

The city where God is calling us to meet the needs of others is **Barnesville, Minnesota** (576 miles from Elgin). **Sunday July 24<sup>th</sup> – Saturday July 30<sup>th</sup>** is the time God will put us to use. This interactive mission trip has several facets of transformation embedded in the experience i.e. needs are being met, lives are being changed and God is being praised. Therefore I want to sincerely thank Our Cornerstone family for contributing to the **“2011 Youth Summer Workcamp Mission Trip,”** where members of our Youth Group and adults who journey with them do so in order to assist people in need.

This year we have been blessed to partner with a sister church in our United Methodist Connection (Stevensville UMC) located in Stevensville, Michigan. Their Youth Pastor is Nicholas Lesch, the son-in-law of Bill and Carolyn Brandes. They will journey here Saturday July 23<sup>rd</sup> and join us on our bus to Barnesville.

Each year lives are changed by a journey of mission, and this year is no exception. Not only have our youth learned the importance of God's call to help 'the least, last and the lost,' but they have also learned that 'in giving, we receive. **Your participation and donations have become the venue and context for these learning's and the growth of our youth. They would not have learned and grown without you.** Upon their return, they will each begin to realize the change that has taken place in their lives. After giving them a few weeks, we will invite them to share with us about their mission trip challenges and joys.

Thank you!

In His Steps,  
Pastor Cal

### [Upcoming Meeting](#)

May 22nd @ 12pm -  
Workcamp Meeting



### Spring Cleaning?

The Youth Group would like to help. For a donation toward this summer's mission trip to Barnesville, MN you can get help around the house, yard, garage, etc., anywhere you need a helping hand.

Please call the Cornerstone Office to schedule your teen today!  
847-464-4673



## Adventure With the Word

Cornerstone Sunday School Program - Sundays at 9:00 am and 10:30 am  
For ages 2 through 5th grade

*Happy Birthday to you! Happy Birthday to you! Happy  
Birthday dear church! Happy Birthday to you!*

Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the church.

It was on the morning of Pentecost that a noise like a mighty wind filled the house where the disciples were gathered. Each of them appeared to be touched by a tongue of fire. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in many different languages. The Good News about Jesus was preached in the languages of the people present there that day. Those who traveled from areas around Italy, Greece, Crete, Asia Minor, the Middle East, Asia and Northern Africa could all hear and understand the Good News about Jesus being preached in their own languages.

On that day three thousand people believed and were baptized. The church was born!

Come join us for Adventure With The Word from May 1 to June 5 as we learn about the day **3000 More** became believers and were baptized.



### MEMORY VERSE:

“The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and help you remember all that I have told you.”

John 14:26  
adapted



### ARE YOU READY FOR SOME PANDAMANIA?

Vacation Bible School begins July 11<sup>th</sup>!

It isn't too early to reserve your spot at this year's VBS. Children 4 years old to those who have just finished 5<sup>th</sup> grade can visit the Cornerstone website and sign up today.

Anyone older than 5<sup>th</sup> grade can get in on the fun too. Just sign up as a volunteer. Helpers are needed in several different areas. To sign up, go to the Cornerstone web site or contact Nancy Hoke, phone (847)741-0187 or email [nghoke@aol.com](mailto:nghoke@aol.com).



## A New Woman of Faith Study

**Begins Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:15pm – 8:45pm**

### **“POWER THOUGHTS”** **By Joyce Meyer**

Do you want to improve your life? “Change your mind,” says Meyer! Sharing 12 “power thoughts” to help retrain your brain, Joyce Meyer shows us how to achieve success by getting your mind to work for you, not against you. Focus on “God loves me unconditionally,” “I am disciplined,” and other life changing phrases to experience the life you’ve always wanted!

Bestselling author and TV preacher Meyer takes a step beyond her bestseller *Battlefield of the Mind*. She offers a 12-step program to help readers conquer the negativity that naturally plagues the mind, leaving readers free to enjoy life and pursue their goals. Using themes from other books in her ample catalogue—worry, perseverance, managing emotions—Meyer breaks her suggestions into several digestible lists, backed by a “Power Pack” of Bible verses at the end of each chapter. She offers enthusiastic encouragement, but also requires action, here in the form of practice, discipline, and continual meditation on the 12 motivational thoughts.

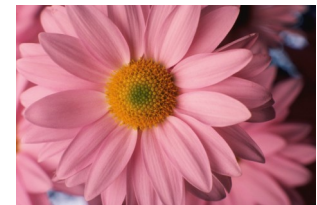
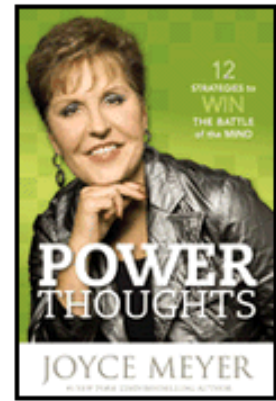
A follow up to her bestselling book, *Battlefield of the Mind*, her new book, *Power Thoughts* is a practical, workbook-style program that compels readers to actively choose positive, empowering thoughts through written exercises, thought prompts, and targeted scriptural “Power Packs” for week-by-week progress. Along the way, readers will learn how to renew their minds and achieve personal goals through the diligent study of God’s Word and careful, guided reflection of the 12 Power Thoughts detailed in this book.

This will be a 12 week study split up in two 6 week study sessions. [Spring and Fall Sessions). We encourage & welcome all women to participate in either one or both sessions of this Joyce Meyer “Power Thoughts” bible study. Please feel free to bring a friend(s). To register please sign-up on the sheet located on the table toward the back of the Worship room; or contact Sue McCullough via phone @ 630-336-5906 or email @ [suemc52@wowway.com](mailto:suemc52@wowway.com)

I look forward to seeing all of you on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm. We will be meeting in the Discipleship room.

Yours in Christ,

Sue McCullough, WOF Study Group Leader  
 Cornerstone UMC



**Book Fee is \$13.00 per person. Payment is appreciated no later than Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup>, so Cornerstone can order the books.**

If you are paying by check, please make your check payable to Cornerstone UMC and note in Memo section: **“WOF Study Book.”** Payments may also be put into Sunday’s offering plate, marked “WOF.”

### **Wisdom Seekers**

Our next night out will be May 13th @ 7pm.

Try your hand at Uno Attack or break out your cue stick

**Bring your favorite game and appetizer or dessert to share!**

Come for a night of fun and laughter!

Contact:

Valerie Ciccione 847.343.6003 or Patti Peschke 847.464.2488

Childcare provided.

