



:: Worship – Sundays 10:30 am ::

Church Office: 518-235-3851

Church Office Hours

Sunday & Monday - Closed

Tuesday-Friday - 9:00am - 12:00noon

Saturday - Closed

Email: office@cornerstonecl.org

Web: www.cornerstonecl.org

June 2010 Newsletter

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PERSONNEL MINISTRY TEAM

Church Treasurer Bill Jarosz has announced his intention to leave that position at the end of 2010. The Stewardship and Personnel committees held a joint meeting on May 25, and will be recommending to the Church Council on June 8, that a Volunteer Job Announcement be posted to select a successor. When finalized, the job posting will be widely distributed to members of the congregation, posted in the church, and posted on the church's website. Job duties are likely to include:

- paying the general bills and liabilities of the congregation;
- handling all aspects of payroll in a timely manner;
- preparing written monthly financial reports for the Church Council;
- attending meetings of the Stewardship Ministry Team to assist with preparation of the annual church budget;
- reconciling bank statements;
- and filing quarterly tax reports.

The Church Treasurer is a member of the Church Staff and an ex-officio member of the Church Council. The successful candidate should have the ability to use standard financial computer software and be eligible to be bonded. If you are interested in being considered for this unpaid position, please contact the Church Office for more information after the June 8th Church Council meeting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Annual Children's Day Program will be Sunday, June 6th during worship. Following worship we will have our Spring picnic at Frear Park (near the playground). Please bring your own place setting, lawn chair, and a dish to share (family size). There will be games, fun and fellowship for all. We hope you can come and join us for this annual event.

SUMMER IS COMING – Promise!

Sunday Worship Schedule – 9:30 am worship begins July 4.

Troy Larger Parish Summer Worship

July 25 – Oakwood Ave Presbyterian Church

August 1 – First United Presbyterian Church

Celebration of Holy Communion

August 8 – First United Presbyterian Church

August 15 – Cornerstone Community

August 22 – Cornerstone Community

August 29 – Frear Park Pagoda (bring lawn chairs, etc.)

Vacation Bible School Schedule:

This year the VBS schedule is a little unusual and flexible...

June 28, 29, 30 and July 1 – 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

at St. John's Episcopal Church, Troy

AND/OR

June 28, July 5, 12, and 19 – 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

at Oakwood Ave Presbyterian Church

*Four nights in a row, and/or four Mondays in a row.

Additional details will follow.

FOOD PANTRY

Our Food Pantry has become slightly depleted. Presently we are in need of:

- cold cereals (non-sugar coated),
- pastas (spaghetti, elbows and other types good for macaroni salads),
- mac n' cheese,
- canned meat dinners
- and canned fruits and veggies.

Thank you.

SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

We have distributed Skye Farm Summer Camp brochures through the Sunday School, and they are available in the Church Office.

They are full of activities for nearly every age level and interest. As we receive notice of other Summer Camps relevant to our children and youth, we will make them available as well.

For many years the Cornerstone Community has been able to help our families with camp fee scholarship assistance — and because of the generosity of so many, we can do so again!

The maximum scholarship per camper will be ½ of the Summer Camp Fee OR \$170.00 – whichever is less.

To apply, please copy the completed Camp Application you've sent (with your deposit) in to Skye Farm, and drop it (the copy) off at the Church Office. Note: the initial camp deposit must be paid by the family.

The deadline for applying for a Summer Camp Scholarship is Sunday, June 20. Applications for scholarships received after that date will be considered on a first-come first-serve basis as funds are available.

Sign up now... these camps are very popular and tend to fill-up fast! An adventure awaits you this summer... Enjoy!

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Special Offerings for June:

June 6 – Children's Day - Heifer Project

June 20 – Ahana House of Waterford

May Special Offerings receipts:

May 2 – T.A.U.M.: *CROP Walk* Offering –

May 23 – Pentecost Offering – \$154.00

CHURCH LIFE AND OUTREACH

SUMMER BACKPACK AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Once again, we are working with the Lansingburgh Boys' and Girls' Club in a effort to furnish backpacks and back to school supplies for area students. During the months of June and July the loose offering will be used to purchase backpacks. There will be a bin in the rear of the Sanctuary for school supply items. We are being asked to purchase any of the following:

- loose leaf paper
- 70 sheet spiral notebooks
- pencils
- pens
- markers
- crayons (16 or 24 per box)
- kids safety scissors
- rulers (metric on one side)
- and/or folders.

Last year we purchased and filled 26 backpacks for Lansingburgh students. The staff of the Club are aware of which families are most in need of assistance and will distribute them on our behalf in August.

We ask that you get your donations to the church by August 1.

MEDITATION GARDEN BRICKS

Some of you may have missed out on the original opportunity to place a brick memorializing a loved one in the Meditation Garden on the north side of our Church building.

If you would like to now purchase a brick to be placed in the garden, you will have another chance. Additional engraved bricks may be purchased for \$20.00. If you are interested, please contact Julie Sproat (or the Church Office, 235-3851) for specific information. We will need a minimum of 10 bricks in order to place an order.

Visit www.cornerstoneccl.org
for the
Monthly Calendar

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

During the summer months we will still be having a Fellowship Hour following worship, but we will not have a sign-up sheet. If you plan on attending church and would like to bring some refreshments please feel free to do so. We will be serving coffee, ice tea and lemonade.

LOOKING AHEAD AT WORSHIP

Challenge: Pastor Siebold will take requests for sermon topics during June, July and August. Do you have a scripture passage you want to hear about? Write it down and pass it along to Pastor Siebold. The scriptures below are tentative pending any 'challenge' scriptures.

June 6 – The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Day

Celebration of Holy Communion

Celebration of the Baptism of Karson John Rasmussen,
born 8/11/2009 to Melissa (Higgins) and Timothy Rasmussen

Special Offering: The Heifer Project (see pg. 9)

June 13 – The Third Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 17:1-24 – *The Widow of Zaraphath*

June 20 – The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Special Offering: Ahana House, Waterford

Scripture: Luke 7:36-8:3 – *A sinful woman forgiven*

June 27 – The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Preacher: the Rev. Dick Welkley

Many thanks to the Worship & Music crew who 'birthed' all the butterflies and led a very meaningful worship service on May 16 during Pastor Siebold's absence. The butterflies will be in place until after the Children's Day service on June 6.

GIVE HOPE WITH HEIFER'S FUND-A-PROJECT

This year, we're offering you a special way to help entire communities – with a selection of Heifer projects from around the world!

When you Fund a Project, you decide how to invest your gift. You pick the projects that are most important to you, and you decide how you'd like to change the world for the better.

This is a very small portion of the available list:

Honduras - Sustainable Food Systems

This project will assist 2,058 families in 43 communities in the Copán and Lempira departments of Honduras. In addition to providing animals and extensive training on ecological farming, as part of this project Heifer will work with community organizations to increase their ability to develop the local economy and indigenous leaders.

Laos - Promoting Women's Education and Self-Esteem

In the mountainous area of Vientiane province, an area with high rates of landmine accidents, Heifer will be partnering with local non-profits to promote sustainable community development. This project will build the capacity of poor women to participate and lead in their communities.

Thailand - Empowering Marginalized Communities

This project will assist 1,170 minority families in nine poor communities in Northern Thailand. Participants will form 55 communities, 20 percent of which will be women-only groups. In addition to animals and resources, this project will create and manage a mill for production of swine feed.

Rwanda - Sustainable Dairy Enterprise Development

Over 90% of this area of Rwanda engages in subsistence agriculture due to the use of rudimentary agriculture tools. This is one of many problems families face in this region. This project's goal is to ensure food and income security at the household level for 1,200 farm families.

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

At this time, we have email addresses for 68 members/families of the congregation. Periodically we send out brief meditations, calendar updates, etc. If you would like to share your email with the church office, please send an email to pastor@cornerstonecl.org. This will insure we have it correctly. Thank you!

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL?

36 people now receive and read their monthly Newsletter by email. It's simple to change your 'subscription' from the paper Newsletter to a convenient digital version – send an email to pastor@cornerstonecl.org requesting this service. As soon as the Newsletter is 'published' it will be sent to you as an Adobe (.PDF) file – the bonus is that you will usually receive YOUR copy before the paper copies are even brought to the Post Office! Another bonus is that YOUR digital version doesn't cost the congregation \$.44 postage each and every month (not that you're not worth it!). Sign up now!

COUNCIL & MINISTRY TEAM MEETINGS

Church Council	Tues., June 8	6:30 pm	Fellowship Hall
Worship & Music			none scheduled in June
Trustees	Tues., June 22	6:30 pm	Lounge
Church Life/ Member Care			none scheduled in June
Education			none scheduled in June
Personnel			none scheduled in June
Stewardship			none scheduled in June

FATHER'S DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Boy Scout Troop #611 will once again be holding their traditional Father's Day Pancake Breakfast on June 20 in Cornerstone's Fellowship Hall. Plan now to enjoy an excellent breakfast before or after worship.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Birth and Anniversary dates
have been removed for
privacy concerns

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

MAY BAPTISM

During worship on May 23, 2010, Charlotte Marilyn Anderson, daughter of Virginia & Christopher Anderson and granddaughter of Pat & Barney Decker, was welcomed into the life of the Church through Baptism.

If you would like to have your birthday and/or your anniversary listed in the Newsletter, please write the information on a piece of paper and hand it to Connie Goodwin any Sunday morning.



FROM THE PASTOR

Church Office phone: 235-3851 / Email: Pastor@CornerstoneCCL.org

I was just listening to a news/commentary program. They've, of course, been 'reviewing' the ongoing catastrophe in the Gulf of Mexico. At the moment of this writing, 'company spokespersons' say that they may have finally found, and are implementing, yet another solution to cap the well. It is still a wait-and-see time – maybe it'll work, maybe it won't. Problem is, if it doesn't work, it could make it even worse. Interestingly, they showed vintage news footage from 1979 which showed about the same thing! An explosion, leaking oil, pollution of the Gulf... and an inability to cap the well to stop the leaking. They were drilling in 200' of water, today it's in about a mile. The 1979 news account speaks of exactly the same methods being used ... caps, shoving junk into the well head, inserting heavy mud down... the same attempts, the same results. That catastrophe lasted 9 months. They didn't know how to fix it then, and they still don't know how to fix it – they had some educated guesses then, and they are trying the exact same educated guesses now.

But this isn't really about how to drill wells, or how to stop leaks. And it's not just about oil companies... but they do make an excellent target right now. It's really all about how we see ourselves.

In Genesis (Genesis 11:1-9) we read the story of the Tower of Babel. "Then they said, 'Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves....'" Let us build 'ourselves' a city. Let us make a name for 'ourselves'.

Human pride is as old as life itself. It's all about us. We must look out for ourselves. Profit above public welfare. We're number 1!

But is this what God intends for us? Is this how God expects us to treat the gift of creation? Is it truly all about 'us'?

From the Day of Pentecost our scriptural focus will be on what it means to be Church in this world. What is it God expects of us? Or hopes for us?

Hint: It's all about our relationships - with God and each other – it isn't all about our selves.

However we ignore the fact... everything we do, whether as a corporation, or as an individual, is about how we care (love!) one another. When we fail to follow that basic teaching of God...it's quite the slimy mess isn't it? And it's hard to clean up!

See you in Church!

Pastor Allen