



**:: Worship – Sundays 10:30 am ::
(July & August – 9:30 am)**

Church Office: 518-235-3851

Church Office Hours

Sunday & Monday - Closed

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

Saturday - Closed

Email: office@cornerstoneccl.org

Web: www.cornerstoneccl.org

June 2011 Newsletter

Special This Month

Page 2 - Children's Day / Summer Worship Schedule

Page 3 - Scholarship Recipients!

CHILDREN'S DAY

Children's Day will be observed on Pentecost Sunday, June 12th (10:30am).

Following worship (weather permitting), we will have a Family/Fun Picnic in Frear Park. Please bring a covered dish to share and a lawn chair. Hot dogs and beverages will be provided. In the event of bad weather we will picnic in Fellowship Hall. This event is for everyone, not just for those with children in Sunday School. We hope you will be able to join us for this traditional end-of-the-season picnic.

WELCOME! TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

On Sunday, May 1, 2011 we welcomed into our Cornerstone Family as Professing Members:

- Darlene Malick and Michael Horton by Profession of Faith;
- Debbie Constable by transfer of membership from Trinity Presbyterian Church in Scotia;
- Mary Friedel by transfer from Charlton Freehold Church in Ballston Spa.

We also celebrated the baptism of Michaela and Ayden Horton and we welcome both to our Baptized Membership..

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE – 9:30 am during July & August

During July and August we will be worshipping at 9:30 am with the congregation of First United Presbyterian, Troy.

The Rev. Jackie Pinkowski is their interim pastor.

July 3, 10, 17 & 24 – Cornerstone Community

July 31, August 7, 14 & 21 – First United Presbyterian

August 28 – Worship at the Frear Park Pagoda.

Have you remembered Cornerstone Community in your will?

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

We are pleased to announce that Alicia Wolf is the 2011 recipient of our Lois Brown scholarship. Alicia is planning on attending Unity College in Maine. She intends on a double major of Captive Wildlife Care and Education/Wildlife Biology.

Scott Langlais will be the recipient of a second-year scholarship. He is enrolled at Hudson Valley and is studying in the Electrical Construction and Maintenance Program.

STEWARDSHIP NOTES

Thank you for all who contributed to the emergency drive. To date we have received pledges (new as well as increases to current pledges) and one time donations of approximately \$7,000.00.

We will continue to accept donations so you can still contribute. A downloadable pledge form is available at www.cornerstoneccl.org, or call the church office (235-3851).

An exciting new idea actively in the development stage is a "Next to New" Thrift Shop within our church facility. This would be an asset to many families in the surrounding community as well as added income for the congregation.

Look for some new fund-raising events being planned for the summer months and throughout the fall.

Terry Kostenblatt, Stewardship Chair.

THE RUMMAGE SALE

Thank you to all who helped make our Spring Rummage Sale a success. We realized about \$850.00.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP AT CORNERSTONE?

We are expecting to receive new members in the near future. If you are not presently a member of the Cornerstone Congregation, and would like to explore becoming a member, please see Pastor Siebold following worship.

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP HOUR

After Children's Day (June 12), we will be changing our refreshment menu for Fellowship time. We will be serving lemonade and ice tea – assuming that warm weather will be here by then! Yes, there will be some hot coffee for the die-hard coffee drinkers among us!

In an effort to keep things simple, we are suggesting the above drinks be accompanied by cookies. If everyone could (or would) pick up a package or two of cookies and bring them to church, we will see that a variety of cookies are available each week. This will make for easy preparation and clean up.

SO..... will **you** bring in some cookies ??

CHURCH LIFE AND OUTREACH/ MEMBER CARE TEAM

Cornerstone Clean Up Day: On Saturday, April 30 several Scouts (girls and boys) and their parents helped in our Annual Clean-Up Day. In just under two hours we collected two huge garbage cans of litter and trash from a 4 block radius around our church grounds. At least for a little while, the neighborhood looks litter free. Thank you to all those who helped!!

CHURCH COUNCIL

The next meeting of Cornerstone's Church Council will be Tuesday, June 14 at 6:30 pm. All elected members are encouraged to attend. Any member of the congregation is welcome to participate.

SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

Summer Church Camp brochures are available in the Church Office for the Summer Music Camp at First United Presbyterian Church, Troy; Holmes Summer Camp; and Skye Farm Summer Camp.

These brochures are full of activities for nearly every age level and interest.

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 \$180.00 – whichever is less.

To apply, we need a copy of your completed Camp Application Form. The initial camp deposit must be paid by the family when you send in your completed form to the camp.

The deadline for applying for a Summer Camp Scholarship is Sunday, June 12. Applications for scholarships received after that date will be considered on a first-come first-serve basis as funds are available. We already have youth going to Skye Farm and the Summer Music Camp at First United.

Sign up now... these camps are very popular and tend to fill-up quickly!

CORNERSTONE UNITED WOMEN

The Cornerstone ladies of our congregation, along with several women from the Waterford Methodist UMW held a successful ladies night out at Trader Ed's in Lansingburgh the beginning of May. A total of 15 were present. Our next meeting will be sometime in the Fall (not yet scheduled).

This page (6) contains the monthly calendar in the print edition

Please visit www.cornerstoneccl.org for calendar updates

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LOOKING AHEAD AT WORSHIP

Worship during June will be at 10:30 am.
July & August worship will be at 9:30 am.

During June and July, our Sunday loose offering will be devoted to our Fall *Elementary School Backpack and Supplies Project*. Last fall we were able to supply backpacks and supplies to 25 local elementary school students through the Lansingburgh Boys & Girls Club.

June 5 – 7th Sunday of Easter

Celebration of Holy Communion

Food Offering: Non-perishable items for the food basket

Scripture: Luke 24:44-53 – “...*repentance and forgiveness... is to be proclaimed...you are witnesses to these things...*”

June 12 – Pentecost Sunday / Children’s Day

Scripture: Acts 2:1-12 – “*When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place...*”

Following worship (weather permitting), we will have a Family/Fun Picnic in Frear Park. Details can be found in the *Children’s Day* notice on page 2.

June 19 – 1st Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20 – “*Go therefore and make disciples...*”

Laity-led worship:

Larry Moss - music

Gary Miller - meditation

Karl Eden - liturgist



June 26 – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Al Siegel will be preaching

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

We have email addresses for 73 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@cornerstoneccl.org.

SPECIAL BASKET OFFERINGS REPORT FOR MAY

The Basket Offerings for May were:

May 1 – TAUM CROP Hunger Walk.

\$200.00 was received on May 1 for the TAUM (Troy Area United Ministries) CROP Hunger Walk, and 5 members of the congregation walked (that I counted)... and one more was pushed in her baby stroller.

May 15 – CWS Heifer Project To End Hunger & Poverty
The Heifer International project received \$96.00.

JUNE BASKET OFFERINGS

June 12, Pentecost Day, we will receive a Basket Offering for the *Pentecost Offering*. This offering benefits programs and ministries for children at risk and ministries with youth and young adults. Cornerstone is eligible to retain 40% of this day's offering for our own programs and ministries to children at risk. For additional information please go to www.pcusa.org/pentecost.

On June 26 we receive an offering toward our support of the basic programs of the Troy Area United Ministries (TAUM).

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL?

44 Monthly Newsletters are being 'mailed' out each month by email. It's simple to change your 'subscription' from the paper Newsletter to a convenient digital version – just send an email to pastor@cornerstoneccl.org requesting this service. The newsletter will be sent to you as an Adobe (.PDF) file.

FOOD PANTRY

The **FIRST** Sunday of each month is designated as Food Pantry Sunday. We're asking the congregation to bring in a non-perishable item and place it in the large basket in the Narthex. This will be an ongoing project throughout the year.

Thank you to all who have donated to our Food Pantry. At the present time we need: cold cereals, spaghetti & pasta sauces, jams & jellies, dinners in a can and canned or boxed potatoes.

We are helping 1-2 families a week thanks to your support! Thank you!!

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT AUTOMATIC GIVING?....

Whether it is called 'Bill Pay', or 'Payment Manager', or even 'iPay', you can automatically have your weekly or monthly offering sent to Cornerstone Church by mail. No hassle to you, easy for us. You never have to worry about forgetting your checkbook some Sunday, or leaving your envelope at home. Your envelope number is your 'account' number. The 'Payee' is Cornerstone Community Church, and the address is PO Box 386, Troy, NY 12182. If you don't have an envelope number, or can't remember it, please call the church office (235-3851) and we can have it looked up and sent to you.

Four of you have already set this up... it's the green thing to do!

LITURGISTS WANTED

Would you like to be a Liturgist on a Sunday morning? We are always looking for new people to assist in worship. If you would like to give it a try, please speak to Connie Goodwin any Sunday morning before or after church.

JUNE BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARIES:

Birthday and Wedding anniversaries are removed from the on-line edition for privacy concerns.

JUNE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

DEATHS

Our Condolences to the family and many friends of Tyler Jarosz, who passed away on April 30, 2011.

Condolences also to Irv and Barb Walters on the death of Irv's brother Russell.

(From the Pastor...continued from page 12)...

I would very much like your ideas. A mid-week service? A different summer schedule other than 9:30am? Facebook? A Pastor's Blog? An enhanced website? An expanded newsletter? What? How? How can we best stay in touch with you and you with us? Not just for the summer, but year round. Sitting and worshiping together as part of a community is the best, but when the best isn't available ... what's second best? How can we best "do church" together? How can we remain connected to each other as part of the Cornerstone Community – but even more – how can we help you remain connected to God in the midst of all that goes on in your daily life?

For me this isn't idle speculation. I think it's about whom we are as a Community - what does it mean to be part of the Church?

See you in Church!

Pastor Allen

FROM THE PASTOR

Church Office phone: 518-235-3851 Email: Pastor@CornerstoneCCL.org

Well, summer seems to be upon us. I can tell... but not because of the weather - although the weather certainly feels like summer. And not because the United Methodist Annual Conference is looming - that is a certain sign as well.

I can tell because our Sunday attendance has begun to drop, sag, plummet, belly-flop, slip, tumble, pot-hole, suffer the fate of Icarus (a Thesaurus in my hands can be a dangerous thing!).



So here I am ready to give my traditional and annual speech about just how important worship is to your lives, and to the life of the Community we are part of. My fingers begin to type out words such as "we should not neglect God through the summer months", and "what do you mean you have better things to do than sit in a hot sanctuary listening to the preacher?" – although I usually delete that last one before publication.

But....I stop – you've heard similar words for years.

Then the thought came to me – how can we, as the Cornerstone Community, do things a little differently? Instead of YOU staying in touch with us (which would still be nice!), how can WE stay in touch with each other - at your camp, traveling, or even while still at home, AND at Sunday worship?

This is actually not just a summer issue. Many of you have to work on Sunday mornings throughout the year and can't join for worship. Right now our traditional "you must be present to win" doesn't always work, because many of you can't be present many Sundays even if you wanted to. How can we, as a Community, support you in your need to be part of a spiritual community when you cannot be physically present?

....(Continued on page 11)...