



Cornerstone Presbyterian Church

Center Valley, PA

www.cornerstonepres.org

Church Profile

February 2019

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Introduction

Cornerstone PCA is searching for a new assistant pastor to minister to our congregation, with a particular emphasis on youth ministry and assimilation. This position will also oversee either our community groups or outreach and evangelism. The position is open for someone seeking either an assistant pastor position or someone who is seeking a church planting residency of approximately 3 years. We hope that this document gives you more information about our church and this calling. If you would like to pursue this opportunity, please send us a resume and a cover letter that answers the following questions:

1. Why are you interested in this position?
2. How would you summarize your understanding of a gospel-centered approach to life and ministry?
3. What experiences have you had that make you a good candidate for this position?

Please send cover letter, resume, and Ministerial Data Form to the search committee at cornerstonesearchcommittee@gmail.com We look forward to hearing from you.

Church Overview

Vision / Mission / Values

Vision: *We envision Cornerstone Presbyterian Church to be an equipping and worshipping community of believers devoted to moving people towards Christ as we are compelled by grace to proclaim the gospel in word and deed in every aspect of our lives.*

Values: Worship, Grace, Community, and Mission

Devoted to Worship

- Worship is central in the life of the believer and the local church. Worship is not only for Sunday morning, but is integral to the daily life and gathering of the church.
- Biblical worship is theocentric and emphasizes God's character, sovereignty, and redemptive work. The worship service reflects this in its intentional liturgy.
- Cornerstone desires to facilitate authentic corporate and family worship that flows as a response to the grace of God, giving glory, honor and praise to God.

Devoted to Grace

- A true understanding of God's grace and love compels each Christian to obey Christ in fulfilling the Great Commission and in being a conduit of grace and love to others.
- Responding to grace is not about an external sense of duty, but an overflow of gratitude for God's mercy to sinners saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.
- Cornerstone is a place where believers deepen their understanding of their identity in Christ as beloved adopted sons and daughters, and live daily out of that truth.

Devoted to Community

- We believe the Christian life is best lived in community. We are not meant to live in isolation, which is why belonging together and living out the "one anothers" of Scripture is essential to the life of the church.
- At Cornerstone, this means that we desire to see ministry take place through teams, including the session, diaconate, and ministry teams.
- Discipleship in community means that Christians are equipped by the church to do the work of ministry. This means people understand their giftedness and utilize those gifts in the body of Christ.

Devoted to Mission

- Cornerstone seeks to equip each person to understand and share their faith where they live, work, and play.
- Cornerstone desires to impact local communities so they rejoice in our presence because we are active in making the gospel known in the unique contexts God has placed us.
- Cornerstone actively addresses the brokenness of our community and ministers accordingly in Word (what we say) and Deed (what we do).

Church History

Cornerstone began with prayer through the work of the Spirit. In 1998 four couples began praying on a weekly basis to plant a gospel-centered church that brought glory to Jesus and challenged Christians to live out their faith. By the grace of God Cornerstone held its first public worship service in April 2001 led by our first Senior Pastor, John Kinyon. Since then, we have rented space from 3 different religious institutions in the community and have led worship in 6 different locations. Before purchasing our current building in October of 2010, 2 of the 4 original founding members helped plant a sister church in Emmaus, PA. West Valley PCA has been meeting in Emmaus since 2008. We have also assisted in the planting of Bridge Community Church in Easton, PA in 2012.

God's light and grace continues to grow in the Lehigh Valley and we are privileged to be a part of that process. In 2016, our founding pastor left to plant his third church in North Carolina. In August of that year, our new pastor, Doug Tharp, came and began to bring new vision, encouraging us to continue to be a community on mission pointing each other and others toward Christ. Since then, our congregation has grown, averaging about 285 people per week. What is more exciting is that we have seen people profess faith in Christ for the first time and be baptized into the church. We can take no credit for what the Lord is doing in the hearts of people in the valley. "Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever. Amen." (Eph. 3:20, 21)

Senior Pastor – Doug Tharp

Doug Tharp came to Cornerstone Presbyterian in August 2016. Before that, he lived in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he met his wife of ten years, Nicole. They have two energetic boys- Simon, 6, and Jude, 4. Doug attended University of Northern Colorado for his undergrad in secondary education (History), and received his Masters of Divinity from New Geneva Theological Seminary. Prior to Cornerstone, Doug was the Pastor of Young Adult ministry at Village Seven Presbyterian Church for five years, where he oversaw young adult, membership, and adult education ministries.

Doug grew up in an Air Force family and lived all over the world during his childhood before landing in Colorado. Nicole grew up in South Carolina before moving to Colorado after attending school at Covenant College.

Doug enjoys hanging out with friends and neighbors, playing board and card games, and reading. Some of his biggest influences have been Jerry Bridges, Mark Bates (former senior pastor), Jason and Kara Tippetts (church planters), Paul Tripp and Bryan Chapell.

Doug and Nicole are passionate about getting out in their community and living life with the people around them. They understand that people want to be known, and they desire to point them to the One who knows them better than they could ever know themselves. Growing people in their understanding of grace and how it drives them to gospel living is central to the passion Doug and Nicole share for the ministry.

Strengths & Weaknesses

Strengths that we see of Cornerstone:

- Desire to grow in knowledge of God, His Word, and unity with His Son.
- Grace within the body.
- Intentional shepherding plan led by the elders utilizing other leaders in the church.
- Development of new leaders, including officer training, ministry team and community group leaders.
- Community outreach, particularly through our Easter Egg hunt, which reaches almost 500 kids a year.
- Balanced approach to being both an organic and structural church, where elders seek to equip the saints to do ministry, leading through ministry teams.
- High percentage of members and regular attenders are part of a small group, men's or women's ministry.
- Warm and welcoming atmosphere where fellowship is a priority.
- Strong preaching and teaching.
- Broad range of demography with lots of young families.
- Gospel-focused worship with intentional liturgy.

Areas we see as weaknesses:

- Underdeveloped outreach and mercy ministry.
- A burgeoning youth ministry that needs greater intentionality and development.
- Lack of training and recruiting for assimilation, as well as a need for a cohesive plan for integrating and equipping church members.
- Need for physical space, including classrooms for children, bathrooms, office space, and parking.

Challenges & Needs

The most pressing challenges and needs we see as facing Cornerstone are:

- Physical facility – limited space especially classroom space.
- Geographically dispersed congregation.
- Volunteers in various ministry areas, especially related to children.

Assistant Pastor Job Description

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ASSISTANT PASTOR

Cornerstone's Assistant Pastor will be responsible for the healthy growth of youth and welcome ministry. He will also either lead community group ministry or outreach and evangelism ministry, depending on gifting. He will serve full-time as a PCA ordained or ordainable minister. Those seeking a church planting residency are also encouraged to apply. The proposed salary package is commensurate with experience.

1. Oversee Youth Ministry.
 - a. Recruit, train and disciple youth volunteer leadership.
 - b. Coordinate youth community groups, providing shepherding training and support for group leaders.
 - c. Ensure proper planning and execution of youth events, being present at events, teaching when needed, and meeting regularly with youth leadership.
 - d. Provide training and equipping for parents to create a culture of family discipleship.
 - e. Work with other ministry leaders on integrating youth into the life of the church.

2. Oversee welcome process.
 - a. Create a welcome process that covers a holistic approach of enveloping visitors into the life of the church, guiding them into community groups, membership and service in the church.
 - b. Recruit and train a volunteer base to support the welcome process, including Sunday morning greeting/ushering and follow-up beyond Sunday morning.
 - c. Coordinate with ministry leaders to help integrate uninvolved members and regular attenders into the life of the church by identifying giftings and passions and connecting them to ministry and service opportunities.

3. Worship and Shepherding
 - a. Preach, assist in worship leading, and with weekly communion as needed.
 - b. Work with the senior pastor to identify future leaders and oversee their spiritual growth.
 - c. Help with pre-marital counseling and other counseling or shepherding issues as needed.
 - d. Attend session and presbytery meetings.

Additionally, based upon gifting and fit, responsibilities will also include one of the following:

4. Oversee Adult Community Groups and execute Cornerstone shepherding plan.
 - a. Coordinate discipleship and shepherding for community groups through community group leaders.

- b. Ministry of presence, evaluate, coach healthy group dynamics.
 - c. Bring elders and community group leaders together for prayer and training.
 - d. Coordinate the formation of new groups; recruitment of new community group leaders.
 - e. Coach leaders in hospitality and assimilation of new members.
5. Oversee outreach and evangelism efforts by:
- a. Create a mercy team, coordinating with the diaconate, to increase support for and engagement in mercy ministry.
 - b. Continue to develop the equipping of the congregation to share their faith in their unique contexts, both programmatically and organically.
 - c. Build an outreach team, focusing on intentional ways to develop outreach ministries like Christianity Explored to reach the felt and real needs of the lost.

Ministries

Community Groups

Community groups are the main vehicle for shepherding and discipleship outside of Sunday morning. Through community groups, people have an opportunity to get to know each other, study God's Word, share vulnerably, pray together, and grow in their walk with the Lord. Community groups should be a place where people are encouraged to grow in their understanding of worship, grace, community and mission.

Community groups are geographically spread out to allow for people to develop relationships with those who may live nearby. Each group is led by community group leaders, who not only coordinate curriculum and often host, but pray for and shepherd the group under the oversight of an elder and deacon. We currently have 12 community groups and desire to continue to see them multiply.

Women's Ministry

Our Women's Ministry at Cornerstone is committed to helping women lead gospel centered lives, by equipping and encouraging our community to think and live biblically.

The Word of God is at the core of everything we do. Bible study, mentoring, prayer, fellowship events and our annual retreat are all opportunities to grow in our relationship with God and in our relationships with one another by building community through authentic relationships, as we seek to understand our stories in the light of Scripture and keep one another fixed on the cross and God's redemptive work in our lives to His glory.

Men's Ministry (DTY)

DTY is simply the name for men's ministry at our church meaning "Die To Yourself." As we die to ourselves, we do this together. It pushes us out into each other's lives as well as serving and supporting our church and community. Our mission and vision are the same; remembering that "no man walks alone" (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10), we desire that all men at Cornerstone would be closely connected and intentionally walking with someone as we follow Christ together. In DTY, we hope to see this discipling leading to more disciplers who then go and disciple others.

We have 20-25 men that meet regularly with an email list of 50+ men who attend relatively regularly. We meet every other Monday night and usually include times of fellowship, praises/testimony, teaching, sharing/praying. A fall retreat is also planned.

Youth Ministry

Our youth ministry has grown in the last year. Led by a youth leader and a team of adult volunteers, our youth group currently meets on Sunday nights. Through games, fun, food, fellowship, teaching and small group discussion, they seek to point our students to Jesus and grow them in their faith.

Guiding philosophies for the youth strategy, developed by careful research and collaboration with youth leaders:

1. Gospel-based discipleship as opposed to performance-based Christianity.
2. Vibrant faith of the parents, both as they are involved in Cornerstone as well as through training by the youth leadership.
3. Healthy relationships with adults who have a vibrant faith (in addition to parents).
4. Equipped with a biblical worldview.

Children's Ministry

The Lord has blessed Cornerstone with a large number of families with young children, and we are thankful for the wonderful opportunity to touch these children's lives with the gospel. We offer Sunday school classes for children age 30 months through grade 5. A nursery is also provided for our littlest ones. We strive to provide a loving, nurturing atmosphere for our children to be introduced to the truths of scripture. We pray this will lay a foundation that will, by God's grace, form them into worshippers of God, followers of Jesus and participants in His Kingdom work. In recent years the children's ministry team has also hosted special events such as Christmas and valentines parties, summer activities, etc.

Lisa Jackson is our Children's Ministry Director who oversees a team of five volunteer classroom coordinators. We use the *Gospel Project* Curriculum.

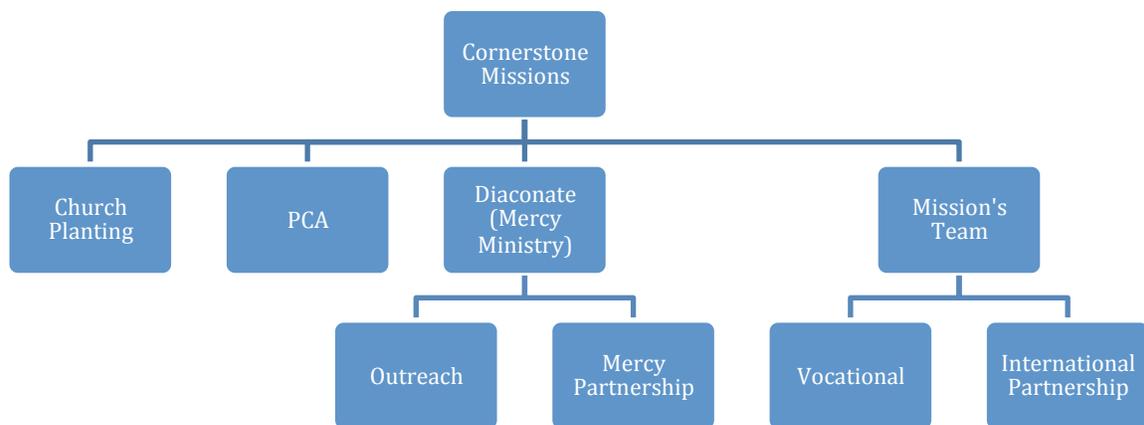
Worship Arts

Cornerstone is blessed with several gifted and talented musicians and is a thriving ministry at Cornerstone. Approximately 20 musicians serve on a rotating basis, and another additional there are 18 volunteers who serve as audio technicians, and PowerPoint operators. The worship team strives to work cohesively and practice diligently, in not just their presentation but also their musicianship, that they might serve the body of Cornerstone in humility and truth. See the attached Worship white paper in the appendix for more.

Missions

Mission Emphases

To directly engage missions, Cornerstone targets three areas of focus (mercy partnerships, vocational ministry, international partnership), allowing us to create a clear target for our resources including time, talent, finances and communication. These areas of direct engagement and the way they tie into the mission's strategy are explained below. In addition to these emphases, Cornerstone is also involved with church planting and denominational involvement through the PCA.



Mercy Partnerships | **Diaconate**

Mercy partnerships include strategic ministry partnerships and service opportunities within the regional scope of Cornerstone. This can include ministries within and outside of Cornerstone. These ministry opportunities are under the authority of the Diaconate, who would oversee a mercy ministry/and or outreach team. The deacon's fund will continue to support mercy ministry independently, whereas money for mercy partnerships will come from the mission's budget.

Mercy partnerships account for approximately 25% of the mission's emphases.

Vocational Ministry | **Missions Team**

Vocational ministry includes region specific ministries that are led by members of Cornerstone, who typically raise their support and work full-time for the ministry. This would include collegiate ministries, like Reformed University Fellowship or Disciple Makers. It can also include other vocational ministries apart from the collegiate ministries. Vocational ministry is funded from the mission budget and is overseen by the mission team, under the oversight of the session.

Vocational ministry accounts for approximately 45% of the mission's emphases.

International Partnership | **Missions Team**

At present, the Missions Team supports educational ministries to support Christian pastors in mostly Muslim areas as well as in China. We are working toward international partnerships.

An international partnership is an intentional, two way relationship to be established with another church outside of the United States. This partnership would allow for mission trip opportunities, training, financial support, and mutual edification. This partnership would help Cornerstone keep her eyes beyond Judea and Samaria, to the ends of the earth. It would be developed by the mission team in conjunction with the session. It would be funded from the mission budget and overseen by the mission team, under the oversight of the session.

This mission emphasis would also include support of missionaries and mission trips sent from Cornerstone, both on long term and short term trips.

International partnership accounts for approximately 30% of the mission's emphases.

Mission Team Structure

The mission team will, like other ministry teams, be approved by the session and follow both ministry team guidelines and adhere to the Mission's Team job description.

Church Planting will be addressed as a key, ongoing aspect of Cornerstone through a separate, church planting strategy.

Denominational Support will be designated by the Cornerstone session through strategic partnerships within the denomination and through the local presbytery.

Church Particulars

Finances

Budgets:

	2017 Budget	2018 Budget	2019 Budget
INCOME			
Total Income	426,000	449,000	490,000
EXPENSES			
Internal Ministry			
Children	4,000	4,000	4,000
Youth	2,150	3,000	3,500
Men's	1,500	1,500	2,000
Women's	3,200	3,200	4,200
Small Groups	400	400	900
Young Adult			500
Worship	4,500	4,500	5,000
Fellowship/Hospitality	4,000	4,000	4,000
Retreat/ Large Group Events	25,000	25,000	25,000
Holiday & Celebration	1,500	1,500	1,500
Vision Dinner			1,000
Sub-total	46,250	47,100	51,600
External Ministry			
Church Planting	3,600	3,600	3,600
Mission/Mercy	37,500	45,000	49,000
Denominational	1,900	3,000	3,000
Benevolence/Other	-	-	-
Community Outreach	500	5,000	5,000
Sub-total	43,500	56,600	60,600
Staff			
Payroll	214,000	229,000	258,000
Payroll Processing	1,000	1,000	1,000
Intern	6,000	6,000	6,000
Leadership Development	1,500	1,500	1,500
Meetings & Conferences	3,000	4,000	4,000

Travel & Entertainment	9,000	15,000	15,000
Sub-total	234,500	256,500	285,500

Building

Mortgage	33,000	33,000	33,000
Building Maintenance & Repairs	18,000	18,000	18,000
Insurance (Property)	3,000	3,000	3,000
Utilities	15,000	15,000	17,190
Sub-total	69,000	69,000	71,190

Office and Administrative

Advertising, Web, Marketing	1,000	1,500	1,500
Background Checks	200	200	200
Bank & Brokerage Charges	400	1,360	3,360
Bookkeeping Service	5,250	5,250	7,250
Books / CD's for Library	400	400	400
Computer Equipment	3,000	3,000	3,000
Copier (Lease, Supplies, Repairs)	1,500	1,500	1,500
Dues & Subscriptions	400	400	400
Office Furniture			
Office Supplies	1,500	1,500	1,500
Postage & Delivery	500	500	500
Professional Services	1,500	1,500	1,500
Sub-total	15,650	17,110	21,110

Non-secured debt

MNA Loan Payback	17,100	3,400	
Sub-total	17,100	3,400	

TOTAL EXPENSES	426,000	449,710	490,000
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Membership/Demographics/Attendance

Cornerstone currently has 216 members. While we have people in every age group, we have a large number of young families. Our average attendance over the last three years is as follows:

2016: 159 adults, 51 children

2017: 193 adults, 60 children

2018: 211 adults, 62 children

Overview of Lehigh Valley

The Lehigh Valley, also known as the Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton area is made up primarily of 2 counties, Lehigh and Northampton. Cornerstone is located in Lehigh County just south of Bethlehem. The Lehigh County was recently reported as one of the fastest growing counties in PA according to the U.S. Census bureau (see links 1 and 2 below). According to an article published in The Morning Call there has been a decline in organized religion across the Lehigh Valley in the past decade (see link 3 for more on this article). The Lehigh Valley was also rated one of the top 8 best places to live in Pennsylvania when affordability, safety, fun and school districts are considered (onlyinyourstate.com). Known for its festivals, parks, and arts (see links 4 and 5), the Lehigh Valley provides plenty of recreational activities for residents and visitors.

1. http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/breaking-news/index.ssf/2015/04/lehigh_county_one_of_pennsylva.html
2. <http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/PST040214/42077>
3. <http://www.mcall.com/news/local/mc-pa-religion-census-charts-tables-htmlstory.html>
4. <http://www.lehighvalleystyle.com/>
5. <http://www.movoto.com/blog/opinions/moving-to-lehigh-valley/>

Elder / Deacon / Staff / Search Committee Bios

Elders:

Dave Borghesani

Dave grew up outside of Philadelphia where he was raised in the Episcopal Church. Shortly after graduating college, he became actively involved in Stony Point PCA in Richmond. As a result of various job transfers, Dave served in several Presbyterian and independent Bible churches. Dave served as an elder in 4 churches, which include the PCUSA, OPC, and PCA churches.

Dave graduated from Reformed Theological Seminary in 2011 with his MAR from the DC campus. Currently, Dave works for Mars Chocolate where he is completing his 33rd year. Dave and his wife of 33 years, Melody, live in Nazareth, PA. They have 2 children, Andy, 31, and Sally, 30.

Eric Johnson

Eric and Jenny Johnson met through the ministry of Young Life in the Lehigh Valley and were married in 1985 at First Presbyterian Church in Bethlehem. Jenny was born in Bethlehem, PA, and Eric moved to the Lehigh Valley in 1980 to be an Electrical

Engineer at AT&T. He began volunteering in Young Life for 5 years. Eric and Jenny served with Young Life for 25 years. During that time they worked with thousands of teenagers and trained hundreds of volunteer leaders. Eric attended Westminster Theological Seminary and graduated with a M.Div. in 1996. He has continued his studies towards a D.Min. He is one of the founding elders of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church and is under care of the denomination.

In 2012 Eric was led to focus his ministry exclusively on the adult community in the Lehigh Valley. He founded the 501(c)3 non-profit ministry “Adult Life” to reach beyond the traditional influences of the church. The ministry provides adult discipleship, evangelism and counseling.

Ron Ridenour

Ron grew up in the Chicago suburbs and has moved many times. He graduated with BS in Food Science and worked both in labs and in sales with food ingredients. He retired in 2005. He has been an elder since 2008. Outside of Cornerstone, he is a group leader with Bible Study Fellowship and has been a member of a small men’s group for 31 years. He has been married to Bonnie for 53 years.

Andrew Ward

Originally from England, Andrew grew up in the Methodist church and later the Church of England where he was a member of Emmanuel Church, Wimbledon. Having moved to the United States in 1989, he first attended Church of the Apostles in Atlanta, and then, on moving to Philadelphia in 1991, joined the PCA at Tenth Presbyterian. From 1993-2003 he was back in Atlanta and a member of Westminster PCA, where he served as a deacon and then from 2003-2009 at Redeemer PCA in Athens, GA where he also served as a deacon. He moved to the Lehigh Valley in 2009 and has been at Cornerstone since that time and an elder since 2012.

Andrew and his wife Sally met in 1995 at a Christian retreat in England, and married in 1996. They have two sons, Samuel, 18, and Thomas, 15. Andrew is a Professor at the College of Business at Lehigh University. Sally is a stay-at-home mom and is on the leadership team of the women’s ministry, Women By Design, at Cornerstone.

Jeff Whitted

Jeff Whitted has been married to his best friend Susan for 37 years and they have 8 children. He and his wife are small business owners of Aslan Interiors. He was raised in the OPC and his family was one of the founding families with Dr. Jack Miller who started the New Life Churches in Jenkintown, PA. He became a Christian at the age of 16 through Dr. Miller’s influence. Being exposed at such a young age to Jack’s teaching on gospel-centered living has made a profound impact on his life, especially his example of

dedication to prayer, moving out into the world with the gospel and being a witness to the lost.

Since that time, he and his wife have been involved in a number of church plants. Their family began attending Cornerstone PCA when it first began in 2001, and Jeff has been on the session since 2005. He has longed for Cornerstone to increasingly become a community of believers that understand what it truly means to live their lives prayerfully in the context of understanding adoption and faith in Jesus.

Diaconate:

Kevin Chamberlin

Kevin Chamberlin has been serving on the Diaconate since 2014. He attended a local community college where he became deeply involved with Campus Crusade for Christ (now known as CRU) before attending Word of Life Bible Institute. Kevin and his wife Rebekah met in 2006 and currently reside in Bethlehem with their children, Natalie, Silas, and Zachary. In their time at Cornerstone over the past 11 years they have been involved in various local mercy ministries as well as working with the youth, worship team and children's ministries.

Kevin has a heart for reaching societal outcasts, and serves on two separate prison ministry groups on a weekly basis. Over the years Kevin has been involved in leading several young adult ministries, and serving on different boards for local ministries and organizations.

Todd Davis

Todd Davis came to faith in 1992 and has been attending Cornerstone since 2006 and serving as a Cornerstone Deacon since 2008. Todd oversees the hospitality area and organizes ushers, greeters, refreshments, and special events.

He previously served as a deacon at Bucks Central Church, serving as recording Treasurer and served on set up crew. Todd is recently divorced and has two sons, Tyler, 24, and Zachary, 21. Todd enjoys reading, traveling, hiking and cooking. He is employed by Sodexo and served as Food Service Director for 15 years, and is currently in the Supply Management Department.

Anthony Gust (Chairman)

After being raised in a household with strict morals but no specific religious beliefs, the Lord called Anthony to Himself during college through the work of Young Life and other campus ministries at Penn State. After college, Anthony and his wife, Jennifer, moved to Charlottesville, VA where they grew in their faith at Trinity Presbyterian Church while

Anthony completed Medical school. Next, they moved to Rochester, NY for Anthony's medical residency.

During this time at a PCA church plant, Anthony was given an opportunity for one-on-one discipleship with the church's pastor. This was an enormous time of growth in his life, where he learned how powerful the body of Christ could be, and grew in his personal relationship with Jesus. Stepping out in faith, Anthony was called to serve as a Deacon at Grace Church in Rochester, NY for a few years before God called them back to the Lehigh Valley. He was again called to serve on the Diaconate of Cornerstone in 2014 and has been challenged and greatly blessed in this role.

Martin McDermott

Martin McDermott began attending Cornerstone church in 2011. Prior to that he would characterize himself as a recovering Catholic. Upon participating in a number of Bible studies and the men's ministry (Die To Yourself – DTY) he desired a more personal and intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. Our previous pastor, John Kinyon, asked him to attend his Theology 101 class that educated Martin in the principles of the Presbyterian Church. Martin discovered the Truth in the Word of God as it is written in the Bible. This has been and continues to be a humbling and revealing journey for him as he looks for Christ at work in his life each day and seeks to join Him. He became a member of the diaconate in 2016 and tries to model servant leadership to the best of his ability. Martin and his wife Nancy were married 13 years ago. They both have two children from previous marriages and are now blessed with five grandchildren.

Pastoral Search Committee:

Matt Prine (Vice-Chair)

Matt lives in Center Valley with his wife Crystal and their two children: Emma (5) and Luke (3). Matt came to Cornerstone, and the Lehigh Valley, by means of Crystal. He has been regularly attending since their engagement in 2011 and became a member in 2015. Matt is actively involved with the DTY Men's Group. Prior to his time at Cornerstone, Matt has been actively involved with First Baptist Church in Reading, PA since childhood. Among other things, he sang in the choir and served on the Boards of Deacons and Trustees, the Budget and Finance Committee, Music Committee (Chairman), and the most recent pastoral search committee.

Matt attended Penn State University and has worked for the past 13 years as a quality engineer. He has also been involved in the Boy Scouts, as a youth and leader, for 28 years, and loves to golf (badly).

Kristin McMahon (Secretary)

Kristin has attended Cornerstone Presbyterian Church since 2004. She has so appreciated the love and growth she has experienced here. She has enjoyed volunteering and getting involved in many ways over the 15 years. She has particularly enjoyed bible study with the Women By Design women's ministry and times she has been in a small group. Kristin grew up in a loving family, with one younger brother, in a suburban New Jersey community, just outside of New York City. She and her family belonged to a Presbyterian church in their town and she became a Christian at age 16 after being disciplined by her pastor.

Kristin met her husband Tom in her freshman year of college, has been married for 34 years, and they have three children. She has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, worked for 11 years in different areas of hospital nursing and now, though she keeps up her license in nursing, is a stay at home Mom. Since getting married she has moved quite a bit. She has had the opportunity to live in Chicago, San Francisco, and Atlanta for career related reasons. This allowed her to experience different church homes along the way. Although this has been broadening and fun, she is happy settling here in the Lehigh Valley near family and amongst this community at Cornerstone.

Rebekah Chamberlin

Rebekah has been attending Cornerstone since 2008. She and her husband, Kevin, have 3 children, Natalie (7), Silas (5), and Zachary (2). Over the last several years, Rebekah has served in the children's ministry as teacher (and currently is again) and classroom coordinator, in the youth ministry as a volunteer leader, and recently stepped down from serving in women's ministry to focus more on the growing needs of her family.

Rebekah enjoyed working for eight years as an ophthalmic assistant but is very grateful to currently be a stay at home mom and is homeschooling her two older children. Her youngest son was born with Spina Bifida and has been an amazing blessing and testimony to God's daily mercies and grace. When not busy, Rebekah enjoys reading, camping, and helping serve people and pointing them to the Savior.

Bonnie Ridenour

Bonnie did not grow up in a Christian home, but her parents sent her to Sunday school and she became very active in church and church activities, such as children's choirs, Nursery helper, teaching Sunday school, etc. It was through a neighbor in Iowa at age 30, that Bonnie put her faith in Jesus and accepted Him as her Savior and Lord of her life and began her personal relationship with Jesus. Bonnie and her husband, Ron, met in high school, were married in 1965 & have moved many times and been in many Presbyterian churches over their 53 + years of marriage. Bonnie has sung in teen and adult choirs, taught Sunday school for many years. She has been a church treasurer, been

in many small groups, been on several committees and involved in several ministries. She was Children's Ministry Director here at Cornerstone for 7 years.

Among other things, Bonnie has been a stay at home mom, receptionist for a chiropractor, assistant preschool teacher for many years, a Children's Leader, Assistant Children's Supervisor and now an adult Group Leader at Bible Study Fellowship, Intl. Day Women's class in Bethlehem and is also currently in a Community Group at Cornerstone and Bonnie and Ron greet, usher, count donations and deposit them one Sunday/month. Bonnie and Ron have been members of Cornerstone since 2004, are parents of 3 adult, married children and grandparents of 7, ranging from 16 to 24 years old. Bonnie loves working with children & enjoys being with her family, having fun with her grandchildren, reading, gardening, hiking, the beach and all the laughs and fun times playing a favorite card game of "Pounce" with her family and friends.

The search committee also includes elder Andrew Ward (Chair) and Todd Davis.

Staff:

Dell Bobier

Dell has been serving as our Administrative Assistant since 2007. Dell has four children, and he and his wife Sharon reside in Center Valley near Wedgewood Golf Course where he enjoys one of his favorite hobbies, golfing. Dell's mission field extends far beyond the Celebrate Recovery group he helped form and lead. Over the last nine years as our administrative assistant Dell has taken several opportunities to travel to Cuba to share the freedom of the Gospel and has his tenth trip to Cuba on slate for October of this year.

Sawyer Whitted

Sawyer has been serving as Cornerstone's Music Director since May 2015. He had been trained in worship leading by Cornerstone's former worship leader for five years prior to taking over his position. He graduated from Cairn University in Langhorne, PA in December with his B.A. in Worship and Music.

Lisa Jackson

Lisa has been serving as our part-time Children's Ministry Director since 2016. She and her husband Rob have 3 children, ages 13-19. During the week, Lisa teaches math and science in a local Christian School, where she also coaches Volleyball and Track. After being in the Middle School all week, Lisa enjoys working with, and coordinating activities for, our younger children on the weekends. Lisa has spent the last 3 summers hosting or coordinating groups of international students who come to learn more about America; they end up learning about the love of Jesus at the same time. She is already making plans for the groups coming this summer.

Rebecca Szarawarski

Rebecca has been serving as an Administrative Assistant since December of 2018. Rebecca and her husband Tom reside in Coopersburg and have been attending Cornerstone since 2013. They have three energetic boys, James (10), Kaden (10) and Kolby (7). Rebecca has been active in the women's Thursday morning bible study since they started to attend in 2013, and has enjoyed helping to plan the women's retreat for the past several years.

Appendices

Worship Style

Worship, Music and the Arts White Paper

Devoted to Worship

- Worship is central in the life of the believer and the local church. Worship is not only for Sunday morning, but is integral to the daily life and gathering of the church.
- Biblical worship is theocentric and emphasizes God’s character, sovereignty, and redemptive work. The worship service reflects this in its intentional liturgy.
- Cornerstone desires to facilitate authentic corporate and family worship that flows as a response to the grace of God, giving glory, honor and praise to God.

The goal in this paper is not to provide a comprehensive treatment of worship, nor is it to settle all the questions that might arise even among Reformed Christians when the subject is discussed. Rather, it is to re-state several of the points which guide our worship life at Cornerstone. As we will see, there are three primary thoughts which shape how we worship God together.

First, we practice the “regulative principle of worship” in our planning and offering of worship to God. This principle simply states that worship that is pleasing to God must be conformed to the “regulations” for worship laid down by God Himself in Scripture. Only the elements of worship which Scripture establishes (and which are summarized so clearly for us in the “Directory of Worship” section of the Book of Church Order) find place in our services on the Lord’s Day. While the discussion will continue as to the proper and best ways to speak and sing in the cultural “language of the people,” the elements themselves will remain the same: reading and preaching the Word, singing the praises of God, offering our prayers and intercessions to the Lord, bringing our gifts to Him to further the Kingdom and help the poor, and receiving the sacraments of baptism and the Lord’s Supper. We believe that theatre and dance have their place in the life of the church, but not as elements of worship as outlined in the New Testament.

- Reading of Scripture (1 Tim 4.13)
- Singing of psalms and hymns (Col 3.16)
- Offering of prayer (1 Tim 2.1ff)
- Preaching of the Word (1 Tim 4.13)
- Presentation of offerings (1 Cor 16.1)
- Confessing the Faith (e.g., 1 Tim 3.15-16)
- Observing the sacraments (Acts 20.7; 1 Cor 11.20, 23-33)
- On special occasions: taking of oaths (e.g., membership, ordination) See 1 Tim 4.14

Second, we practice a gospel pattern or liturgy. Every church is telling a story through the patterns they utilize in worship, whether intentional or not. From beginning to end, every worship service should tell the gospel story. Each service should bring us in and

lead us through a pattern that becomes so familiar in some ways we almost don't notice it, we are in harmony. And yet, in other ways, as we step back we can see the intentionality, we can give attention to each thread of the pattern and see God's glory and faithfulness unfold before our eyes.

Through three simplified sections of the service people are led toward Praise, Renewal, and Commitment. These three areas lead the congregation to the story of who God is, who we are as we are confronted by him, how he has shown us grace in spite of this, and how we are to respond (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Consummation). This liturgy includes:

ADORATION: We open with adoration. Praising the God of the universe. He is God and we are not. He is worthy of all honor and praise.

CONFESSION: The story naturally leads from Adoration to Confession. We confronted with a holy, just, perfect, awesome God of the universe, recognize our inadequacy, our sins, or failing, our fears. This rightly brings us to confession.

ASSURANCE: But we never stay in confession. Because we have a God who is gracious and merciful, we are led into assurance.

THANKSGIVING should flow as a result of God's amazing grace. And so we sing in response to our assurance. We continue to praise God from whom all blessings flow.

In **PETITION**, like the church in Acts 2, we pray. We pray throughout the service, and also intentionally pray for our church family every service.

INSTRUCTION is the preaching of God's Word. The Word of God is central to our service, and reminds us of His character, sovereignty, and redeeming work. It shows us our need to repent, to trust him more, and to grow in grace. Even our sermons tell the gospel in miniature.

The **CHARGE** and **BENEDICTION** close out our service as we are called to go into the world and make disciples of all nations, Ambassadors for Christ. In our benediction, we receive God's word, the blessing of his promises.

Third, we utilize a "trunk and branch" approach to blending our worship. The "trunk" of our worship is rooted in traditional Presbyterian liturgy and theologically rich hymnody. Presbyterian liturgy historically has been marked by simplicity, reverence, and a progression through the elements of worship which emphasize the dialog between God and His people in the service in which He speaks to us through His Word and we respond in praise and prayer, giving and going forth in obedience to what He has shown us during our time with Him. To this "trunk" any number of musical branches may be added, from classical to contemporary, as long as they are consistent with our theological and musical values as a congregation. This mixture of styles has given us great freedom in our worship, while our roots in our theological and liturgical tradition have provided great stability for our growth as worshipers together.

At Cornerstone this blending of worship takes shape through a blending of contemporary worship with intentional hymnody. The baseline for music at Cornerstone is a theological rich hymnody that can include old hymns with old tunes, old hymns with new tunes, and new hymns. In addition to this, contemporary songs that synergize with our values and philosophy of worship deepen our worship. All of our music should be in the language and cultural forms of the worshippers.

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