

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Cornerstone Church

Cornerstone Church is a family of Multi-Planting churches that make disciples of Jesus who will live on mission for the glory of God.

March Street Campus
411 March Street
Easton, PA 18042

Second Street Campus
34 S. 2nd Street
Easton, PA 18042



**2023 Annual Report
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Lead Pastor's Report

“Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.” Psalm 133:1–3

You can take almost any U.S. coin and find it written, *E Pluribus Unum* which is a Latin phrase that means, *out of many, one*. A law was passed in 1873 that required this phrase to appear on all new designs of U.S. coins. The phrase was as ubiquitous as money, but we have discovered as a country that unity is much easier to engrave on a coin than it is on hearts. Wouldn't it be nice if I could insert here... *'But not so the church, for we have no problem with unity!'* As we all know, unity is not only a challenge for the world, it is a challenge in the church as well. In fact, it was King David who wrote Psalm 133, and he experienced civil war toward the latter part of his reign, a war brought about by his own son! Furthermore, he had no idea that shortly after his death, the kingdom he ruled would split into two. Unity, even among God's own people, is certainly a challenge to maintain.

David gives us two pictures to describe the unity God's people *can* enjoy. In both, the unity flows downward, from God down to us. God is the gracious giver of unity, we the undeserving receivers. In the first picture we have oil, but specifically the oil used to anoint the high priest of Israel mixed from four spices. We often see the Holy Spirit alluded to when the Bible talks of oil, and it is so here. Unity among God's people is due to the pervasive presence and power of the Holy Spirit, so come Spirit, pour out your unity on us! In the second picture we have the high peaks of Mount Hermon collecting its dew drops into a stream, gathering in the Jordan River to eventually make its way to Mount Zion. Both pictures show us that this beautiful unity pours down from on high and is refreshing, aromatic, pleasant and good. But the entire Psalm ends with this: this unity is to be enjoyed most as God's people gather to worship. ***'For there [in Zion, or Jerusalem, where God dwelled in the temple] the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.'*** 133:3b. Psalm 133 was a *Song of Ascent*, sung by communities of God's people traveling up Mount Zion to Jerusalem to worship God. In short, unity's greatest purpose is that we might worship God *together!*

Which of course leads to some poignant observations for us. First, I would have you know that our Board of Elders and Deacons is experiencing this blessing of the Holy Spirit. I have long believed and taught that *as goes the Board, so goes the church*. It is not accidental that David's first picture of the blessing of unity involves the high priest of Israel, the foremost spiritual leader of God's people who represented all the spiritual leaders of God's people. Praise God for the gift and blessing of His unity to our Board.

Second, that unity is streaming to the congregation as well. Several in our congregation this past year approached various elders with a desire that we be one church, not two disparate campuses. We took that to the Lord in fasting and prayer and came out in agreement. We are one church, with family members meeting at two locations. We have a pastor caring for people at each, with one women's and men's ministry, children's ministry, student ministry and one young adult ministry. I don't believe that I am overstepping by saying that if we had a building large enough, we would meet in one location. Yet so far, God has not provided that.

Along with this renewed unity, we are in the process of simplifying the numbers of ministries we have, shifting each of them so that they are engaged in disciple-making, with the plan to spread churches to areas that have few or no Christ-centered, bible preaching places of worship. There is an urgency in us as we sense our world growing spiritually darker. There is a spiritual famine in our land, and Christian, God has given us a responsibility to be salt and light and declare the good news of salvation to all who are trapped in that darkness. Jesus has sent us into the world to make disciples, and nowhere has he told us to gather behind the walls of a church building and wait for the world to come to us.

And that leads us to the end of Psalm 133 once again. Unity is only experienced *together*. Yet since the pandemic, churches all over the world are experiencing challenges in this. Now, many who identify as Christians bounce around between churches, oftentimes involved in several churches at the same time. More than any time in memory, church attenders up and leave without warning at the slightest whim. More than ever in modern history, church attenders go infrequently to church, and for many, it is the norm to *not* get involved in serving or in a Community Group. While the devil will wage war against the church but never vanquish her, she is being weakened from within by God's own people. Yet Psalm 133 tells us that God '**has commanded the blessing, life forevermore**', and this blessing is experienced wherever His people come together to worship Him.

Cornerstone, will you take this Psalm into your heart? Would those of you who attend irregularly start to come together weekly to worship our God together? Those of you who are not involved, would you start serving together? Those of you not in a Community Group, won't you join one? You will only truly know the beauty of unity that pours down like anointing oil and life-giving dew when you come to worship our great God together!

Blessings Cornerstone Family,
Tim Ackley

Annual Meeting Agenda – June 25, 2023

- I. **Opening Prayer**
- II. **Call to Order**
- III. **Membership Renewal**
- IV. **Confirmation of Quorum**
- V. **Motion to Approve 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes**
- VI. **Vote on Board Candidates**
- VII. **Budget Overview**
- VIII. **Motion & Vote on the 2023/2024 Budget**
- IX. **Results of Vote on Board Candidates**
- X. **Q&A**
- XI. **Motion to Adjourn**
- XII. **Closing Prayer**

Annual Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2022

I. Opening Prayer

Chris opens in prayer at 1:33 PM

II. Call to Order

John Stecz calls the meeting to order, thanks the three pastors (Tim, Kyle, and Johnny) and prays over them. (1:35 PM)

Presentation of Cornerstone's Vision

Pastor Tim talks reads through a passage in Psalms 145. Pastor Tim briefly does a summary of the vision of Cornerstone but encourages everyone to listen to his sermon series on the vision of the church and talk to an elder. He implores everyone to be patient as we work through changes from the vision.

He talks about the membership covenant and how we had some people last year that did not hold faithfully to it. He implores the congregation to reaffirm our membership covenant and that if we have an issue with one another or with himself to talk to that person.

Membership Renewal Kyle Manning (Slides are on the screen)

Pastor Kyle reads through the slides of the Membership Covenant. The congregation repeats is as the members stand.

**Meanwhile Dan and the Deacons are counting the members in attendance for the quorum ('A quorum consists of fifteen percent of the membership. Items will be passed with a majority vote of the quorum unless otherwise noted in the Bylaws.' 2019 By Laws). We have 257 members - 15% of that is 39 members needed for quorum*

Chris Funari and Dan Cook count 75 members present which is enough for a quorum.

Motion to Approve 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes

These were included in the Annual Report...

John Stecz make a motion to accept the Annual Meeting Minutes from the 2021 Annual Meeting.

Jayden 2nds it.

Everyone save for one abstention votes to approve the minutes.

Confirmation of Quorum (1:45 PM)

Daniel Cook confirms that we have enough for a quorum. We have 75 members at the time of the count.

Vote on Board Candidates

John Stecz calls for everyone who is a member to fill out their paper ballots. Pastor Kyle and Chris Funari collect them with baskets. Chris Funari counts all of the ballots.

Here are the nominees for each board.

Deacons:

- ✓ Dennis Bishop (1st Term)
- ✓ Ralph Sorsch (1st Term but returning after a year off)
- ✓ Matt Thornton (1st Term)

Elders:

- ✓ Daniel Cook (2nd Term)
- ✓ Zach Rudd (1st Term)
- ✓ Randy Paolino (1st Term)
- ✓ Rich Negron (1st Term)

As the ballots are counted, Doug Ranck begins the presentation of the budget.

Budget Overview **Doug Ranck (1:58 PM)**

- Giving this past year was less than originally budgeted.
- However, we finished the year with expenses much lower than budgeted so we finished the year with a surplus.
- All budget requests from ministries were honored for 2023.
- We do have budgeted for the fourth quarter of this coming year a new pastor for MSC.
- We are budgeting for \$1,110,661 of contributions for 2023 which is a -1.9% from 2022.
- We are budgeting expenses for the same amount as expected contributions for 2023 which is down -16.6% from 2022.
- Missions budget was dropped from \$179,670 to \$155,250 because two missionary families came off of the field. No missionaries will have less support this coming year.
- Doug presents a slide with our supported missionaries and external ministry partners.
- Doug explains the budget for the facilities as it has changed over the past four years, and explains how it landed this year.
- He explains the staff budget. The staff are getting a merit and cost of living increase in compensation for this year. Compensation will be at 52% of the total budget.
- He goes through two slides that list the full and part-time staff of Cornerstone.
- We have cash reserves as of May 2022 totaling \$1,979,285.
- We have \$50,354 in the Benevolence Fund right now.
- We will use the capital improvement fund in the budget to repair the floor at SSC.

Rick Schroder asks a question about the budget columns. He asks about not having a column with actual giving/expenses for this year? He would like to have a fourth column with the year-to-date included for next year's report. *Doug says he will do that next year.* He started working here just a month before this meeting so he used last year's format. *We will include year-to-date giving and expenses next year in the report.*

Hannah Sorsch asks about why Paul Harrison's budget was cut in half, was he really bad? Paul is doing a good job. His actual compensation is staying the same.

Danielle LaBelle asks if we are not doing Awana this year as the budget went from \$3,000 last year to \$0 this year? Chrissy Sysco explains that we are simplifying our children's ministry according to the vision and we are not doing Awana this year.

Motion & Vote on 2022 Budget John Stecz-(Show of hands) (2:25 PM)

John Stecz makes a motion for the church board to approve the 2022-2023 Cornerstone Budget. Dave Volzer 2nds the motion.

The motion passes unanimously without any "no" votes or abstentions. (2:26 PM)

The ballots were counted and all board nominees were elected onto the board. (2:27 PM)

Final tally had 0 "No" votes, but each nominee had several abstentions.

Pastor Johnny prays over the board members. (2:28 PM)

John Stecz shares some future endeavors to increase availability of the board to the congregation.

Starting in July, once a month we will have a meeting time after each service for anyone to ask questions, express concerns or share prayer requests with a board member who is available at each service.

Also, we will make space available at our board meetings (all boards meet on the same night) before it starts at 5:30 if anyone wants to come talk to the board.

John opens it up to the congregation to ask any questions or make comments to the board.

Nancy Van Dunk mentions that when John Piccolo checked in with her during a time of hardship and asked if they needed any help. She suggests that all board members take time to call those who are in need.

Kris Sorsch commends the board for handling the MSC shutdown well that morning. The MSC had to be evacuated because a power line caught fire. There was no damage to the building and non one was harmed. Encourages everyone to be diligent in making sure they check for communications from the church and the church leaders to look for anyone who may have missed the communications.

John Stecz makes a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Tom Liew 2nds the motion.

Motion is unanimously approved. (2:44 PM)

Closing Prayer

All the Board members come up and pray for David

Volzer, Dirk Friend and Paul Harrison. John Stecz, Pastor Tim, and Dirk all close in prayer.

(2:50 PM)

Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church
Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

	Actual FYE June 21	Actual FYE June 22	Forecast FYE June 23	BUDGET FYE June 24
Revenue				
CONTRIBUTIONS	1,290,015.00	1,150,714.00	1,038,264.00	1,272,332.00
4200 · Investment & Interest Income	14,926.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4300 · Other Income				
4320 · Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Stock/Land	498.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4340 · Other Income	196.47	163.00	0.00	0.00
Total 4300 · Other Income	694.47	163.00	0.00	0.00
Total Revenue	1,305,635.47	1,150,877.00	1,038,264.00	1,269,832.00
Expenses				
6100 · WORSHIP SERVICES				
6110 · Worship Expenses	19,637.73	6,654.00	11,750.00	12,000.00
6115 · Worship Equipment	4,345.31	9,769.00	8,500.00	10,000.00
6120 · Worship Equip. Repair Funding	4,000.00	4,000.00	2,939.00	4,000.00
6140 · Special Services	9,402.44	8,064.00	16,611.00	10,000.00
6150 · Honorariums	400.00	1,800.00	2,088.00	4,000.00
Total 6100 · WORSHIP SERVICES	37,785.48	30,287.00	41,888.00	40,000.00
6200 · CHRISTIAN EDUCATION				
6210 · CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES				
6211 · Children & Nursery Expenses	5,478.48	3,936.00	4,726.00	8,300.00
6213 · Vacation Bible School	2,553.58	2,145.00	4,204.00	4,000.00
6214 · Awana	26.20	2,876.00	0.00	0.00
6215 · After school bible club	0.00	351.00	1,567.00	2,000.00
6216 · Child Abuse History Clearance	43.70	0.00	150.00	150.00
6218 · Children's Trauma Healing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 6210 · CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES	8,101.96	9,308.00	10,647.00	14,450.00
6220 · Youth Ministries	12,552.35	10,058.00	8,285.00	10,500.00
Total 6200 · CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	20,654.31	19,366.00	18,932.00	24,950.00
6300 · MISSIONS & OUTREACH				
6301 · MISSIONS				
6302 · Internal Missionaries	46,950.06	58,124.00	51,000.00	50,000.00
6303 · External Missionaries	16,700.02	15,521.00	14,567.00	17,300.00
6304 · Ministry Partners	51,600.42	63,487.00	54,642.00	62,100.00
6305 · Missions Opportunities	6,200.00	17,500.00	9,803.00	10,000.00
Total 6301 · MISSIONS	121,450.50	154,632.00	130,012.00	139,400.00
6310 · OUTREACH				
6315 · Short-term Mission Trips	-30.81	901.00	1,925.00	3,000.00
6320 · Outreach Expenses	51.04	1,674.00	1,596.00	2,000.00
6330 · Riverside Ministry	14,851.59	969.00	9,769.00	20,000.00
6335 · Sponsorship	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
Total 6310 · OUTREACH	15,871.82	4,544.00	13,290.00	25,000.00
Total 6300 · MISSIONS & OUTREACH	137,322.32	159,176.00	143,302.00	164,400.00
6350 · COMMUNITY/MINISTRY TEAMS				
6352 · College & Career	280.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
6353 · Men's Ministries	616.31	212.00	1,359.00	2,500.00
6354 · Women's Ministries	15,143.77	1,680.00	5,200.00	7,000.00

Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church
Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

	Actual FYE June 21	Actual FYE June 22	Forecast FYE June 23	BUDGET FYE June 24
6355 · Community Groups	1,254.61	1,565.00	3,500.00	4,000.00
6357 · Young Adult Ministry	192.48	0.00	1,692.00	2,000.00
6360 · Connections Team	1,250.15	496.00	2,715.00	2,000.00
6362 · Flowers/Gifts	3,585.08	2,495.00	2,478.00	4,000.00
6363 · Volunteer Appreciation	5,494.04	1,110.00	4,504.00	4,000.00
6365 · Plugged in weekends	768.89	3,108.00	3,515.00	4,000.00
6370 · Picnic	2,911.87	407.00	2,000.00	3,000.00
6375 · Baptism	566.45	536.00	580.00	1,000.00
Total 6350 · COMMUNITY/MINISTRY TEAMS	32,064.45	11,609.00	27,543.00	33,500.00
6400 · FACILITIES				
6405 · Facilities Director	79,950.00	22,000.00	24,000.00	24,000.00
6410 · Maintenance & Repairs	30,239.81	23,251.00	31,500.00	25,000.00
6420 · Equipment/Furnishings	9,163.76	5,644.00	3,200.00	6,500.00
6430 · Elevator	4,942.61	4,430.00	5,000.00	7,000.00
6440 · UTILITIES				
6441 · Electric	10,943.14	16,792.00	20,425.00	21,000.00
6442 · Heating/Natural Gas	19,099.89	32,530.00	38,200.00	40,000.00
6444 · Sewer	706.50	1,532.00	708.00	1,500.00
6445 · Water	599.00	1,246.00	774.00	1,000.00
6446 · Garbage	8,020.83	8,868.00	11,050.00	4,000.00
Total 6440 · UTILITIES	39,369.36	60,968.00	71,157.00	67,500.00
6450 · Insurance	23,561.00	27,348.00	25,500.00	27,000.00
6460 · Service Contracts	11,993.84	15,721.00	47,200.00	50,000.00
6470 · Kitchen & Paper Supplies	5,110.01	6,672.00	8,530.00	9,000.00
6475 · Facility Funding	85,000.00	100,000.00	0.00	0.00
Total 6400 · FACILITIES	289,330.39	266,034.00	216,087.00	216,000.00
6500 · COMPENSATION				
6505 · WAGES				
6510 · Pastor Salaries				
6511 · Pastors	183,097.22	148,899.00	155,878.00	228,059.00
6512 · Clergy Housing	71,028.88	58,692.00	56,751.00	94,500.00
Total 6510 · Pastor Salaries	254,126.10	207,591.00	212,629.00	322,559.00
6520 · Administrative	154,306.62	139,152.00	198,575.00	223,932.00
Total 6505 · WAGES	408,432.72	346,743.00	411,204.00	546,491.00
6550 · BENEFITS				
6551 · FICA	7,158.33	11,185.00	15,191.00	17,131.00
6552 · Employee Insurances	69,569.14	51,922.00	46,872.00	68,000.00
6553 · Retirement Expense	5,728.40	4,302.00	8,465.00	14,319.00
6554 · Other Benefits	29,534.42	8,649.00	15,586.00	25,441.00
6555 Sabbatical funding	15,000.00			0.00
Total 6550 · BENEFITS	126,990.29	76,058.00	86,114.00	124,891.00
6570 · INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS	0.00	72,192.00	42,335.00	32,500.00
Total 6500 · COMPENSATION	535,423.01	494,993.00	539,653.00	703,882.00
6600 · ADMINISTRATIVE.				
6610 · STAFF ADMINISTRATION				
6611 · Payroll Service	1,565.80	4,023.00	2,010.00	3,000.00

**Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church
Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024**

	Actual <u>FYE June 21</u>	Actual <u>FYE June 22</u>	Forecast <u>FYE June 23</u>	BUDGET <u>FYE June 24</u>
6612 · Ministry Enhancement	7,602.05	5,742.00	4,998.00	6,000.00
6613 · Mileage Reimbursement	986.96	0.00	2,905.00	3,000.00
6615 · Library	1,937.47	816.00	1,009.00	2,500.00
6616 · Conferences / other	0.00	3,471.00	6,000.00	10,000.00
Total 6610 · STAFF ADMINISTRATION	<u>12,092.28</u>	<u>14,052.00</u>	<u>16,922.00</u>	<u>24,500.00</u>
6630 · BOARD ADMINISTRATION			1,164.00	2,000.00
6631 · Board Retreat	0.00	4,397.00	3,008.00	3,500.00
Total 6630 · BOARD ADMINISTRATION	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,397.00</u>	<u>4,172.00</u>	<u>5,500.00</u>
6640 · OFFICE EXPENSES				
6641 · Office Furnishings & Equipment	799.00	2,388.00	1,739.00	2,000.00
6642 · Computers	3,539.53	4,411.00	5,572.00	4,500.00
6643 · Copier	9,071.23	8,480.00	9,100.00	9,300.00
6644 · Software	8,169.95	9,643.00	6,759.00	8,200.00
6645 · Telephone	6,353.90	4,505.00	3,300.00	4,000.00
6646 · Internet	4,066.86	3,520.00	4,300.00	4,800.00
6647 · Office Supplies	965.21	2,941.00	3,767.00	4,000.00
6649 · Postage/Shipping	404.65	116.00	250.00	300.00
Total 6640 · OFFICE EXPENSES	<u>33,370.33</u>	<u>36,004.00</u>	<u>34,787.00</u>	<u>37,100.00</u>
6660 · GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE				
6661 · Website	1,538.14	1,216.00	2,044.00	3,000.00
6662 · Advertising	158.60	450.00	0.00	3,500.00
6663 · Vehicles & Trailer	2,351.03	5,168.00	1,700.00	2,500.00
6664 · Gasoline	0.00	268.00	568.00	1,000.00
6667 · Fees & Charges	4,915.04	5,020.00	6,847.00	10,000.00
6670 · Vehicle & Trailer Funding	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 6660 · GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE	<u>8,962.81</u>	<u>12,122.00</u>	<u>11,159.00</u>	<u>20,000.00</u>
Total 6600 · ADMINISTRATIVE.	<u>54,425.42</u>	<u>66,575.00</u>	<u>67,040.00</u>	<u>87,100.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>1,107,005.38</u>	<u>1,048,040.00</u>	<u>1,054,445.00</u>	<u>1,269,832.00</u>
Net Surplus	<u><u>198,630.09</u></u>	<u><u>102,837.00</u></u>	<u><u>-16,181.00</u></u>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>

2023 Board Nominations

Deacons

- Robert Ibach
- Gary Wojciechowski (interim Deacon - electing to full term)

Elder

- Doug Ranck

Board Members & Pastors

Deacons

- Dennis Bishop
- Chris Funari
- Stephen Nemeč
- Ralph Sorsch - Church Treasurer
- Matt Thornton
- Gary Wojciechowski (interim)

Elders

- Dan Cook - Church Secretary
- Richard Negron
- Randy Paolino
- Zach Rudd
- John Stecz - Church Chairman

Pastors

- Tim Ackley – Lead Pastor
- Tony Dorsey – March Street Campus Pastor
- Kyle Manning – Second Street Campus & Youth Pastor
- Jonny Villamar – Spanish-Speaking Congregation Pastor (Part-time)

Staffing Team

Lead Pastor – Tim Ackley
TimAckley@CornerstoneChurches.org

MSC – Pastor Tony Dorsey
TDorsey@CornerstoneChurches.org

SSC & Youth – Pastor Kyle Manning
Kyle@CornerstoneChurches.org

Spanish-speaking Congregation Pastor – Jonny Villamar
Jonny@CornerstoneChurches.org

Executive Director – Doug Ranck
Doug@CornerstoneChurches.org

Media Arts Director – Marc Jefferson
Marc@CornerstoneChurches.org

SSC Pastor Assistant in Youth & Worship Director – Matthew Ackley
MAckley@CornerstoneChurches.org

Children’s Ministry Director – Chrissy Sysko
Chrissy@CornerstoneChurches.org

Children’s Ministry Assistant – Carol Bedell
Carol@CornerstoneChurches.org

Director of Women’s Discipleship – Susan Schroeder
Susan@CornerstoneChurches.org

Administrative Assistant – Laura Barry
Laura@CornerstoneChurches.org

Administrative Director – Dana Kichline
Dana@CornerstoneChurches.org

Administrative Assistant – Caryl Nemec
Caryl@CornerstoneChurches.org