

Expanding Our Servant Leadership At Cornerstone

Dear Cornerstone Members,

As our church continues to mature in our call to make disciples, the Scripture is clear that we should recognize and equip men and women in our congregation with God's call to servant leadership. As Christ is the head of our church, elders, board of directors, and deacons are charged with caring for our congregation and watching over the health, unity, doctrinal purity, and mission of our church in different ways.

At Cornerstone, Elders watch over the doctrine, member care, discipline and vision of the church. The Board of Directors oversee administrative matters of the assembly to ensure resources are used wisely along with assessing fiscal year end accountability and assisting with the development and execution of annual budgets. Deacons serve the church by connecting people to the church and the ministries they may need. **All of these candidates have been unanimously approved by the Eldership** and are now ready for the congregations' feedback and/or vote.

May Christ be obeyed and glorified in all we do!

– Pastor Shawn

*Please submit any questions or comments to
Lead Pastor, Shawn Franco at
sfranco@cornerstone.ag*

2024 ELDER CANDIDATES



Wendell Butler has been married to Anedra for 25 years. Together, they have raised four children—Jaden, Kye, Soren, and Melia. At a very early age, Wendell felt a strong call to ministry, leading him to uproot his family and move to various locations, including Florida, New Jersey, and now North Chesterfield, to answer that call. Since joining Cornerstone in 2013, he has served over ten years in Kids Ministry, two years in Production, and led groups for men and new members. God has placed a deep commitment to

nurturing marriages, leading Wendell to help in leading the Marriage Ministry at Cornerstone. His heart is to help couples recognize the potential God sees in their marriages and give practical ways for them to keep Jesus at the center. Outside of ministry, Wendell is a die-hard Cowboys fan and enjoys discussing anything sports.

2024 ELDER CANDIDATE



Dawn King has been married to Randy for 30 years. They have two children, Chris and Emily. Dawn gave her life to Christ when she was a teenager. She has been a member of Cornerstone for 21 years. Throughout her time at Cornerstone, Dawn has served as a small group leader, on the CRC board of directors, and as a mission's leader. Currently, she serves as a deacon and is part of

the security and production ministry teams. Dawn and Randy are also Marriage Mentors. Dawn has a deep-rooted passion for fostering spiritual growth and building a community grounded in faith and love. She works as an educator for Chesterfield County Public Schools and her hobbies include gardening and reading.

2024 ELDER CANDIDATE



Kim Larson has been married to Paula for 39 years. They have been part of Cornerstone for 29 years. During that time, Kim has been part of and led various small groups. He has also participated in Isaiah 61 Ministry as a facilitator and a prayer minister. Kim has served as a Marriage Mentor and presently has a men's small group. Kim enlisted in the Navy and served for 7 years. It

was in the Navy that he met the Lord, in 1978. He was on the staff of Rock Church in Va. Beach before moving to the Richmond area. He had a custom woodworking business for 18 years and now presently works for Blair Dumond Architectural Woodworking.

ELDER 6 RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1) Provide intercession, care, and counsel for Lead Pastor.
- 2) Provide intercession, care, and counsel for staff.
- 3) Own and oversee the teaching of our discipleship pathway.
- 4) Protect the unity and doctrine of the church, including performing church discipline.
- 5) Ratify Board of Directors & counsel Lead Pastor in its oversight.
- 6) Lead church through any Lead Pastor transition.

ELDER QUALIFICATIONS

An Elder shall be a faithful church member of mature age (over 30), sound in faith, of good report, and baptized with the Holy Spirit. An Elder shall qualify according to the following scriptural standards: Matthew 6:21; Romans 12:21; Philippians 4:8; 1 Timothy 3:2-7; Titus 1:6-9, 15-16. An Elder's spiritual gifting shall be recognized and respected by members of this Assembly (I Peter 4:10).

ELDER SELECTION

A candidate for Elder shall be selected by the Lead Pastor in consultation with the existing Elders. The candidate's name shall be presented to the members of the Assembly for prayerful consideration for at least two weeks, during which time members may give their comments to the Lead Pastor. If the candidate continues to be acceptable to the Lead Pastor and two-thirds of the Elders, the candidate shall be recognized in a Public Worship Service after receiving at least 2/3 of Assembly votes in a membership meeting.

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATE



Jane Abbate has been married to Bill Abbate for 16 years. She enjoyed a management career in financial services before starting a leadership & team coaching business. Jane and Bill have been members of Cornerstone for about 7 years after relocating from Pittsburgh, PA, Jane's hometown. Raised in the Catholic Church, Jane was born again in 1999 and water-baptized in 2007. During her time at Cornerstone, Jane has served as a leader and member in numerous small groups and as a volunteer in the church office and the meals ministry. Passionate about helping women and men heal after abortion, Jane volunteers with the Rachel's Vineyard ministry and hosts her YouTube channel, "My Mentor Jane." She enjoys playing bridge, cooking, and spending time with Bill, their 4 cats, her sisters, and many friends.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR 6 RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 1) Prayer: seek the Lord & intercede on behalf of the church, Lead Pastor, & Leadership.
- 2) Promote unity and the understanding of vision and finances among our membership.
- 3) Enter into all significant business and legal matters for the church.
- 4) Advise the Lead Pastor & Business Administrator.
- 5) Annual budget approval and monthly accountability.
- 6) Provide leadership for business and administrative projects.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS:

A member of the Board of Directors shall be a person of mature faith, of good report, and has demonstrated administrative abilities. A member of the Board of Directors shall be a voting member of this Assembly. A person that meets the following biblical qualifications: Acts 6:3; 1 Tim 3:8-13, 1 Cor 4:2, 1 Cor 4:2.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR SELECTION:

The candidate's name shall be presented to the members of the Assembly for prayerful consideration for at least two weeks, during which time members may give their comments to the Lead Pastor. If the candidate continues to be acceptable to the Lead Pastor and two-thirds of the Elders, the candidate shall be appointed by a majority vote of the members of the Assembly attending a business meeting of the Assembly.

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (YOUNG ADULTS & YOUNG MARRIEDS)



Todd and Eulah Davis have been married for over 5 years now. Todd has been a part of Cornerstone since ~1995 and has served in various capacities including youth group, college group, various small groups, & ushering. Eulah has been a part of Cornerstone for over 5 years and has served in co-leading small groups and in the worship team. Their hearts are to build a sense of community by bringing people together and pointing them to Jesus. Outside of ministry, Todd & Eulah love to travel and see everything that God has made!

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (FACILITIES)



James Hartman is a dedicated member who has been actively involved in the congregation for 17 years. James is a devoted husband to Tracy (13 years) and a proud father of four children (James Jr, Ben, Naomi, & Ella). He has a passion for financial literacy and has led multiple Financial Peace University courses within the church community. James has also served on the building committee for various church projects, demonstrating his commitment to the physical and spiritual well-being of the congregation. James has been involved with media production since its inception over 10 years ago. James is a sales manager for a large mechanical, plumbing and electrical contractor that is based out of Richmond, VA.

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (EVENTS TEAM)



Kyrie Jones has been married to Mike for 9 years. Together, they are raising two children—Lilianna (7) and Luca (5). Kyrie has called Chesterfield home for most of her life and has found joy serving her community in various ways, including volunteering at Etrick ES and spending 10 years as the Assistant Band Director at

Matoaca HS. Since Kyrie joined the Cornerstone family in 2006, she has given of her time, talents and treasures to various ministries, including serving as a Youth Leader, Kids Min volunteer for Sunday Mornings, Wednesday evenings, the Christmas program, and VBS. She has also been a small group leader over several semesters and for the last two years, she has played a lead role in the planning and execution of corporate events for Cornerstone. God has given Kyrie a heart for those who are walking through mental and emotional health challenges because of the growth and healing she has experienced within her own walk. Outside of serving, Kyrie enjoys soaking up every moment with her family, either being creative with crafting and cooking or enjoying time outside.

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (ENGAGEMENT & HOSPITALITY)



Diane and TJ Joyce came to the Lord differently in their lives but have become “one in him” through their life’s journey. Hailing from North Carolina and married for over 43 years, they have seen, felt and experienced the mountain tops and the valleys of life. They have known and seen God’s mighty and faithful hand in all circumstances.

Being the proud parents of 3 amazing, God loving sons, 3 incredible and inspiring daughters-in-love who are humbling portrayals of God’s love, and 4 “perfect grandchildren” that keep their lives in constant motion. They joined Cornerstone in 2021 and have been a faithful part of the Engagement & Hospitality teams. They are faithfully stepping out to answer God’s “nudge” in service to others and to radiate the love of Christ. Though their lives have been full from their careers, family, trials and celebrations, they know that this is another new season in their lives; one that the Lord has endowed them with His purpose, power and plan.

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (MISSIONS)



Stacie Melara has been married to Sal Melara for almost 30 years. Together they have raised two sons, Gabriel and Marcus. Since joining Cornerstone in 2003, Stacie has served in several ministries. She served in the nursery and as a Sunday school teacher. She was a youth leader for eleven years. Since the season in youth, she has participated in various ministries driving the church bus. Stacie and Sal served together on the mission team to Peru in 2007. That experience lit a fire in Stacie for missions.

Since then, she has participated in a mission team or two every summer. Her deep love for missions grew to the point she prayed the Lord would speak clearly that full-time mission work was the plan. Although moving abroad was not realized, God put the words "bridge builder" in her heart. She has served on Project Hope teams for five trips to Ethiopia strongly committed to being the bridge builder God has called her to be.

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (MISSIONS & MEN'S)



Lynn & Mike Murphy began attending Cornerstone in 2011 and are currently serving as marriage mentors and small group leaders. They have been married 35 years and have 5 children and 4 grandchildren. Mike has a heart to serve others especially veterans. Lynn loves teaching God's word and encouraging others. As deacons

they would like to be the hands and feet and voice of Jesus as they care for their brothers and sisters at Cornerstone.

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (MISSIONS)



Rev. Bridget Olugbemi is a Life Coach, Mentor, a world traveled passionate counselor and speaker. She is passionate about helping couples to protect their marriages from life controlling issues that tear families apart. She believes that the family unit portrays the image of a nation. She is an ordained minister with a passion to see individuals become accountable to one another. Bridget believes that our actions impact each other's emotional wellbeing and seeks to be an instrument of Christ in exposing and dislodging the thief that comes to steal the joy that is meant for the family unit. She is a successful business owner and a philanthropist. She is the founder of Bridget Olugbemi Ministries. She earned a postgraduate degree in Pastoral Counseling from Liberty University Theological Seminary. Bridget served as International and Outreach Ministries director for Christ Chapel Assemblies of God in Woodbridge VA for many years, before moving to Chesterfield County. Bridget and her husband Olufemi of 37 years, are blessed with five adult children and 2 grandchildren. She lives in Midlothian, Virginia. Bridget and her family started attending Cornerstone in 2015. Bridget is a part of Radiant Life Sunday school class.

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (KIDS MIN)



Randy and Jo Olson have been married for 43 years. Together, they have raised six children-Tara, Carter, Marcus, Myra, Mia and Buddy. Randy and Jo grew up in Iowa and moved to the Chester area in 1986. They started attending Cornerstone in 2000, and have worked in Kids' Ministry, for much of that time. God has placed in them, a heart for the children of Cornerstone. Each Sunday morning, they work with the kindergarten and first grade kids. Teaching them the scriptures and telling them the wonderful Bible stories are their passion. Playing a few games with them to help them remember their Bible verses is also really fun. Nothing can compare to the look on a child's face when they get the verse of the month memorized. What a great way to practice your evangelism skills. Outside of ministry, Randy and Jo enjoy spending time with family and friends.

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (SINGLES)



Rudo Pride is a widow of 3 years. She was married to Robert Pride for 18 years and raised 1 daughter Latesha 37, and 3 boys Dominic 20, Michael 15 and Christian 10. She was born in Rusape, Zimbabwe and was raised in a Catholic household. As the oldest of her mother's children, Rudo felt the calling to always lead with love and by example. This calling to love and lead continued through the years as a camp counselor at a Christian camp while she was in college, to serving in the children's ministry at Cornerstone and then finally becoming co-leaders with Robert of the Rekindle the Fire small group and also marriage mentors. As she walks this new season as a single parent, Rudo is sensing the call to love and lead single mothers. To walk along with them, share God's love and grace, encourage and champion their efforts as they raise their families with Jesus at the center.

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (SENIORS)



Roslyn Thompson has been married to Ray for 53 years. They are blessed with 2 wonderful children. Their son, Mark & wife Sharon, have 3 daughters, Carolyn (husband Daniel), Lydia, and Christina. Their daughter Jennifer & husband Roy, have a son Dalton. They are blessed with 2 great grandchildren, great granddaughter Stacie who is 19 months old and great grandson Fort who is 2 weeks old. Roslyn & Ray came to Cornerstone church in 2000, and it instantly felt like home. She joined the choir, which was an amazing experience. They took a short hiatus to help plant Motivation Church. Recently Roslyn felt lead to be a part of an intercessory prayer group where she feels she has grown significantly in her prayer life. Last but not least, Roslyn is a board member with the Senior ministry. She would love to see this group grow and blossom in the near future. By the way, Roslyn loves to play the piano, read, cook and the Dallas Cowboys!!

2024 DEACON CANDIDATE (SMALL GROUPS)



Alana Tucker has been married to Tirrell for 21 years. Together, they have raised three sons—Jawon, Kwante, and Jordan. Having been raised in a spirit filled home and church, God's call on Alana's life was evident at an early age. Her mother and sisters poured into her spiritually and modeled the beauty of having an intimate relationship with Christ. Her father instilled in her a strong work ethic rooted in humility and serving others. Alana joined Cornerstone in

2019 and began serving in the online campus ministry. As of 2020, she and Tirrell have been co-leads of the Rekindle the Fire small group in which marriage, family and personal support is provided through Christ-centered teachings and discussions. God has placed a deep commitment in Alana to share the love of Christ with others, that they may grow in the amazing grace that God gives us freely. Outside of Cornerstone, Alana enjoys spending time with Tirrel and their sons, and especially her two-year-old grandson Cyan.

DEACON 6 RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 1) Lead & serve the church in an assigned ministry area.
- 2) Equip, care, & train a team in your assigned area of ministry.
- 3) Be an active leader for 2nd Sunday Four Helpfuls and lead the follow-up.
- 4) Assist Elders with Sunday morning altar responses & salvation follow-up.
- 5) Support & own the success of ministry events.
- 6) Attend Deacon monthly meetings and Cornerstone leadership meetings.

DEACON QUALIFICATIONS:

A Deacon shall be a faithful church member of mature faith, of good report, and a teachable spirit. A Deacon shall qualify according to the following scriptural standards: Acts 6:3; 1 Tim 3:8-13; 1 Cor 4:2.

DEACON SELECTION:

A candidate for Deacon shall be selected by the Lead Pastor in consultation with the Elders. The candidates name shall be presented to the members of the Assembly for prayerful consideration for at least two weeks, during which time members may give their comments to the Lead Pastor. If the candidate continues to be acceptable to the Lead Pastor and two-thirds of the Elders, the candidate shall be recognized in a public worship service.