



CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Finding Our Way to God
A Study in the Psalms

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL
Ordinary Time—The Sundays of Pentecost
12 July 2020

Pastoral Notes

When you think of spiritual growth or change, what would you say makes the most difference? There's lots of potential good (right) answers. But when I look back on the seasons of the most significant spiritual growth, there's always been *a loving person delivering God's Word to my heart*. It really is that simple, and that profound.

On the surface, that may sound like a defense of pastoral ministry or the activity of preaching and, in a sense, it is. But that's not the point I'm making right now. For interestingly, the people who have made the biggest spiritual impact in my life have only occasionally been pastors.

This week in staff meeting we took time to personally apply the first point of last week's sermon from Psalm 44, namely, that God's ordinary means of passing on the faith to the next generation is the family of faith, the church. I asked each staff member to tell us about someone in their past who made a big spiritual impact. We named mothers, Sunday School teachers, youth volunteers, and, yes, a pastor or two. But it was noteworthy that for almost all of us, the single biggest spiritual influencers were ordinary Christians who loved us enough to minister the truth of God's Word to where we needed it most.

At staff meeting, I mentioned the name Chuck Thompson. He helped lead the 3rd-5th grade boys' class on Wednesday nights at my home church in Laurel, MS. I remember one night in particular. Chuck told us he'd had a long week and didn't have much time to prepare a lesson, but that he wanted to teach us about thanksgiving.

He had each boy—probably 4 or 5 of us—retell all the events of our day. From the moment we woke up, to the moment we stepped into the room for Bible study that night. As we painstakingly rehearsed the day's activities, Chuck would stop us and say, "How can you give thanks to God for that?" From brushing our teeth to playing catch in the backyard, Chuck was calling us to pause, consider, and give thanks to God.

Little did we know, he was teaching us the life transformative truth of I Thessalonians 5:18, "*Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*" The teaching was so simple. It was even unprepared! But thirty years later I remember it and am still learning the lesson of it. In fact, I'm sharing the lesson with you! Chuck has gone on to be with the Lord, but the impact of Chuck's ministry remains with me to this day. That's how God loves to work.

Who has God used in your life to make a spiritual difference? Go ahead and stop right now and give thanks for them. Then, for God's glory alone, ask the Lord to use *you* to lovingly minister the truth of God's Word to someone else. Trust me, that's the kind of prayer He's inclined to answer.

Worship is a response to the love of God that brings us out of darkness into his light. The rhythm and flow of the service reflects this present reality as God calls his people and reveals himself, forgives their sins, teaches them from his Word, the Bible, feeds them, and then sends them out to live what they have learned.

This is the pattern of his love in redeeming and saving his people.

Prelude, Announcements, and Preparation

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE AND REVEALS HIMSELF

God calls His people to worship and come before Him. The Creator of all things reveals Himself through His Word and calls us into His presence.

Introit—Give Thanks to God the Lord, Vs I

Give thanks to God the Lord; up - on His Name now call.

Make known a - mong the peo - ple on earth what He has done for all.

Sing praise to Him, now sing; His won - drous acts pro - claim.

Re - joice, all you who seek the Lord; come glo - ry in His Name.

Text: Susan H. Peterson, 1999; Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1868.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 113:1-6

Pastor: Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD,

All: praise the name of the LORD!

Pastor: Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!

All: From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!

Pastor: The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens!

All: Who is like the LORD our God, who is seated on high,

Pastor: who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?

Hymn of Praise—Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Come, Chris - tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
Let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
Life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

let all, with heart and voice, be - fore His throne re - joice;
He is our Guide and Friend; To us He'll con - de - scend;
On heav - en's bliss - ful shore, His good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is His gra - cious choice. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
His love shall nev - er end. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
Sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

Text: Christian H. Bateman, 1843; Music: MADRID, Traditional Spanish Melody, Arr David Evans, 1927.

New Testament Reading—I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE & RECONCILIATION

The People of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Sung Preparation—Hear My Prayer (from Psalm 86)



Hear my prayer, O Lord, and an-swer me. I am poor and need-y.
You, O Lord, are good and for-giv-ing. Give ear to my prayer.



Save my life for you are the on-ly God. For to you I cry.
Teach your way so that I may walk in your truth; fix my heart to fear You.



You, O Lord, are full of mer-cy. Grac-ious are you, O God. Slow to an-ger a-



bound-ing in faith-ful-ness. Turn to me, de-liv-er me. Save me in Your love.

Text & Music: Greyfriars Press, 2013. Used by permission.

Congregational Prayer of Confession of Sin—based on Matthew 6:25-34

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing that we are anxious about our lives,
about what we eat and drink,
about clothes and provisions.

All: **We forget that life is more than food
and the body is more than the clothes we wear.**

Pastor: You feed the birds of the air who neither sow nor reap.
You clothe the lilies of the field who neither toil nor spin.

All: **We are of more value than they,
yet we are anxious about earthly things.**

Pastor: Our lack of faith causes us to question Your provision, O Father.

All: **The unbeliever seeks after providing food and drink and clothes,
yet it is You, our heavenly Father
who knows that we need them.**

Pastor: Give us the grace to seek after Your kingdom and Your righteousness,
and to rest in the assurance
that You provide for our needs.

All: **Help us not to be anxious about tomorrow.**

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—from Ephesians 1:11-14

11 In Christ we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, 12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Hymn of Praise—Though Troubles Assail Us



Though trou - bles as - sail us and dan - gers af - fright, Though friends should all
The birds, with-out gar - ner or store-house, are fed; From them let us
When Sa - tan as - sails us to stop up our path, And cour - age all
No strength of our own and no good - ness we claim; Yet, since we have
fail us and foes all u - nite, Yet one thing se - cures us, what -
learn to trust God for our bread. His saints what is fit - ting shall
fails us, we tri - umph by faith. He can - not take from us, though
known of the Sav - ior's great Name, In this our strong tow - er for
ev - er be - tide, The pro - mise as - sures us, "The Lord will pro - vide."
ne'er be de - nied So long as 'tis writ - ten, "The Lord will pro - vide."
oft he has tried, This heart cheer - ing pro - mise, "The Lord will pro - vide."
safe - ty we hide: The Lord is our pow - er, "The Lord will pro - vide."

Text: John Newton, 1779; Music: ST. DENIO, Traditional Welsh Melody.

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—Psalm 90

LORD, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.

² Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

³ You return man to dust
and say, "Return, O children of man!

⁴ For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.

⁵ You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
⁶ in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.
⁷ For we are brought to an end by your anger;
by your wrath we are dismayed.
⁸ You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.
⁹ For all our days pass away under your wrath;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
¹⁰ The years of our life are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty;
yet their span is but toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.
¹¹ Who considers the power of your anger,
and your wrath according to the fear of you?
¹² So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom.
¹³ Return, O LORD! How long?
Have pity on your servants!
¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
¹⁵ Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,
and for as many years as we have seen evil.
¹⁶ Let your work be shown to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.
¹⁷ Let the favor of the LORD our God be upon us,
and establish the work of our hands upon us;
yes, establish the work of our hands!

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

All: But the Word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon—Summer Psalms: Finding Our Way to God, Series 2, Pt 6

Living in the Light of Eternity

—Nate Shurden, *Pastor*

Sung Response—O Praise the Father

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "O praise the Fa-ther, Praise the Son, The Lamb for sin - ners giv - en." The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "And Ho - ly Spir-it, through whom a - lone Our hearts are raised to Heav - en." The music is in 3/4 time and features a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady piano accompaniment.

Text: John Mason, 1683; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2011.

Sursum Corda

Elder:	The Lord be with you.	People:	And also with you.
Elder:	Lift up your hearts.	People:	We lift them up to the Lord.
Elder:	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	People:	It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
Elder:	It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.		

Sung Response—Holy God We Praise Your Name, Vs 4

The musical score is written for piano in G major and 3/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly Fath - er, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it, Three we name You; While in es - sence onl - y One, Un - di - vid - ed God we claim You; And a - dor - ing bend the knee, While we sing this my - ster - y."

Text: Based on *Te Deum*, 4th c., Attr Ignace Franz, 1774; Music: GROSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 1777

Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty,
the Creator of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into Heaven
and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church,
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* "Catholic" refers to the universal church of God's people throughout all time and from all places

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

God offers to His people the gift of communion with Him through the grace of the sacrament and we respond in thanksgiving.

Words of Institution and the Lord's Table

Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is the family meal for Christians. We invite all baptized Christians who are members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, and who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ to join us.

If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. You can find some sample prayers on the next page. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the church.

At Cornerstone, we come forward to receive communion. You may take the bread at the first table and then proceed to either side for the wine/grape juice.

Psalm of the Month—Psalm 66: Come All You People



Come, all you peo - ple, praise our God and tell his glori - ous works a - broad,
We come with off'r - ings to his house, and here we pay the sol - emn vows
Come, lis - ten, all who fear the Lord, while I with grate - ful heart re - cord



who holds our souls in life; he nev - er lets our feet be moved
we ut - tered in dis - tress; to him our all we ded - i - cate,
what God has done for me; I cried to him in deep dis - tress,



and, though our faith he of - ten proved, up - holds us in the strife. Al - le -
to him we whol - ly con - se - crate the lives his mer - cies bless. Al - le -
and now his won - drous grace I bless, for he has set me free. Al - le -



lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, A - men. Come,
lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, A - men. We
lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, A - men. Come,



all you peo - ple, praise our God who holds our souls in life.
come with off'r - ings to his house, the lives his mer - cies bless.
lis - ten, all who fear the Lord, for he has set me free.

Communion Hymn—If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee



If thou but suf - fer God to guide thee And hope in Him through all thy ways,
What can these an - xious cares a - vail thee These nev - er ceas - ing moans and sighs?
Be pa - tient and a - wait His lei - sure In cheer - ful hope, with heart con - tent
All are a - like be - fore the High - est: 'Tis eas - y for our God, We know,
Sing, pray, and keep His ways un - swerv - ing, Per - form thy du - ties faith - ful - ly,



He'll give thee strength, what - e'er be - tide thee, And bear thee through the e - vil days.
What can it help if thou be - wail thee O'er each dark mo - ment as it flies?
To take what - ever thy Fa - ther's plea - sure And His dis - cern - ing love hath sent,
To raise thee up, though low thou li - est, To make the rich man poor and low.
And trust His Word: though un - de - serv - ing, Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.



Who trust in God's un - chang - ing love Builds on the rock that naught can move.
Our cross and tri - als do but press The heav - ier for our bit - ter - ness.
Nor doubt our in - most wants are known To Him who chose us for His own.
True won - ders still by Him are wrought Who set - teth up and brings to naught.
God nev - er yet for - sook in need The soul that trust - ed Him in - deed.

Georg Neumark, 1641, trans Catherine Winkworth, 1855; Music: NEUMARK, Georg Neumark, 1657, Mod. 2011.

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper

If you are not able to partake in the Lord's Supper today, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth. Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief. Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment. Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen*

Hymn of Praise—Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; nought be all
Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er
Be thou my bat - tle - shield, sword for my fight; be thou my
Rich es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, thou mine in -
High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by
with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,
dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light, thou my soul's shel - ter,
her - i - tance now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly,
heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what-

day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
thou my high tow'r: raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
first in my heart, High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: *Rob to mo bboile, a Comdi cride*, Ancient Irish Poem, 8th century, trans Mary Byrne, 1880-1931;

Music: SLANE, Traditional Irish Melody.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

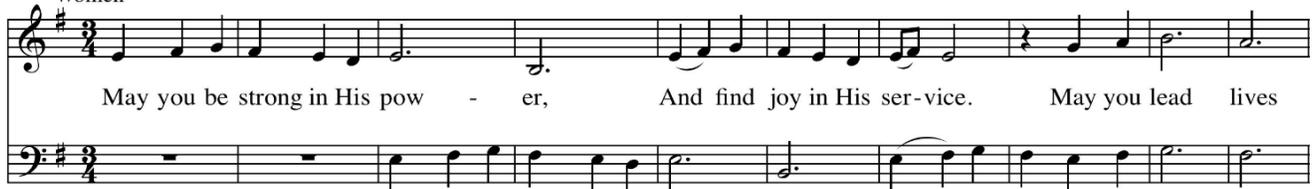
After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benediction—from John 16:33

Jesus spoke, saying, “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” *Amen.*

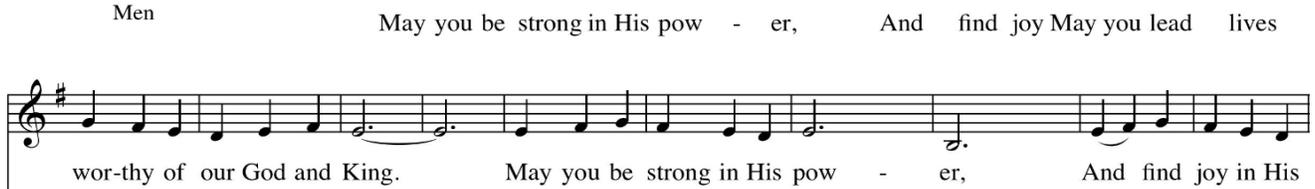
Sung Response—May You Be Strong (Colossians 1:10-11)

Women



May you be strong in His pow - er, And find joy in His ser-vice. May you lead lives

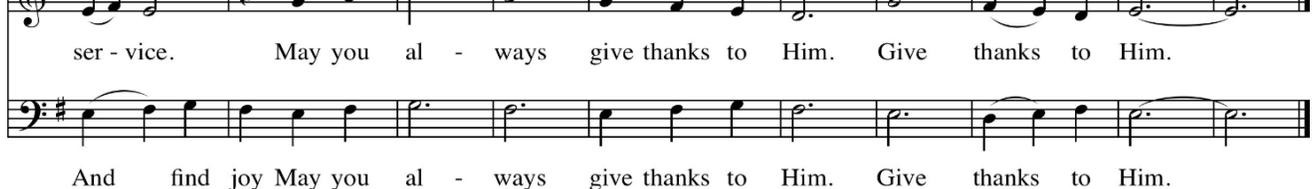
Men



May you be strong in His pow - er, And find joy May you lead lives



wor-thy of our God and King. May you be strong in His pow - er, And find joy in His



wor-thy of our God and King. May you be strong in His pow - er, ser - vice. May you al - ways give thanks to Him. Give thanks to Him.

And find joy May you al - ways give thanks to Him. Give thanks to Him.

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Text: Nan Allen, 2013; Music: Greyfriars Press, 2013.

Welcome to Cornerstone! We're glad you're visiting with us today, and would love the opportunity to welcome you personally. We invite you to fill out our visitor card by following this link.

<https://cornerstonepresbyterianchurch.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/40/responses/new>



Focus on Church Ministry

New on the Bookshelf

The Masculine Mandate, Richard D. Phillips, \$12

What does it mean to be a man made in the image of God? And what does it mean to be a man under God's grace, called according to His purpose? This book seeks to cut through the cultural confusion, highlight God's mandate for men, and encourage readers to repentance and renewal. Phillips provides clear biblical instruction for husbands, fathers, and sons as he carefully examines important truths from Scripture.

Men's Ministry—Bible Study

Set aside Thursday mornings for our Bible Study series, *Coffee with Calvin (& Friends)—True Prayer, True Power*. We are studying Charles Spurgeon's sermons on prayer. The next meeting will be July 23 at the Franklin Mercantile, and we will continue to meet every other Thursday, ending on August 20. We hope you'll join us to study the teaching of this powerful 19th century pastor. Study begins at 7:00 a.m.; please stay after for a time of breakfast and extended fellowship with your brothers from Cornerstone.

Prayer Requests

Our prayer team would be honored to pray for you. Join the team and submit requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

GraceWorks is Celebrating 25 Years

During COVID-19, GraceWorks has been working to serve **double** the number of fellow Williamson County residents by meeting **double** the demand for food and rent assistance. Give to GraceWorks between July 3-15, and, in celebration of their 25th birthday, your gift will be **doubled!** graceworksministries.net

Men's Ministry—Summer Series

The Men's Thursday evening study in July has been cancelled.

Women's Ministry—Summer Bible Study

Join with other Cornerstone women and women from around the world as we learn from Nancy Guthrie's 8-week video series, *God Does His Best Work with Empty*. In addition to the video series, Nancy is leading a Zoom call just for Cornerstone women Tuesday evenings from 8–8:30 p.m. Contact Martha or Julie to register for the call and find out how to access the personal Bible study questions: women@cstonepres.org

Youth Group—*The Prodigal God*

6:00–8:00 p.m., Wednesdays at the Allen's. Dinner provided. Bring a towel if you want to swim! More info: youth@cstonepres.org

New College Franklin

NCF is seeking housing for college students for the 2020/21 school year beginning in August. If you are interested in housing a student (or two!) or finding out more, contact Tammy McCoy: office@newcollegefranklin.org

Women at the Merc—"Seasons of Life"

We hope you will set aside Thursday, August 6, to join us at the Franklin Mercantile for a special evening. Several of your Cornerstone sisters will reflect on their season of life and how the Lord is working in it. Come laugh and learn about where you've been and where you're headed and maybe where you are right now. \$5 suggested donation for the cost of dinner. 6:00 p.m.

Register: women@cstonepres.org

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

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Randy Allen (260-1884)
Terry Cheney (579-7089)

Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (943-8443)
Joe Haworth (289-7543)

Jim Payne (497-0613)
Jim Smith (347-4188)

Deacons

Mark Elliott (477-1041)
Kevin McClung (243-9228)
Mike Payne (579-6453)

Jim Robinson (587-0442)
Todd Russell (319-4803)
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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

