



Cornerstone Prison Church Newsletter

As you come to him, the living Stone - rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him - you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says:

"See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious **cornerstone**,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame."

1 Peter 2:4-6

December 2017

EXPANDING THE KINGDOM FROM THE INSIDE-OUT

"Pray for Peace People Everywhere"

Many people are familiar with the song, "Do You Hear What I Hear?" but not many know that it was written in the US in 1962 as a response to the Cuban Missile Crisis and the possibility of war. In the song, we are urged to pray and ask the Child Messiah who "shivers in the cold" for peace.

I continue to see deeper into the lives of men inside the walls each year. With this I am also seeing that the view inside the walls is a snapshot of the view beyond the walls. There is a great deal of talk about the haves and the have-nots. Usually this is a financial conversation or one about social status, but as the society we live in tries to be more and more independent and less reliant on God, the gap between those who have peace and those who do not have peace becomes more evident.

One of the regular comments we hear from our visitors who enter the prison for Friday night worship is about a deep sense of peace they experience there. We are so grateful that God blesses the services, the space and especially the hearts of those who attend in this way.

Recently we have seen an increase in the number of guys coming to worship, joining Bible Studies and wanting to get involved.

One of the Bible Studies has asked if they can sing a special song for our worship service this week. This weekly study generally has more than 20 men attending. Some of them come to worship services and others do not. We are excited that they want to share their God-given joy and peace with the body of believers in this way.

Another area that we have witnessed new enthusiasm is in prayer. Seeds that were planted in 2016 which we declared our "Year of Prayer" are growing and fruit is evident. The number of prayer requests continues to climb. The content of the requests is indicating a greater focus on other people. The number of men who want to participate in praying for others is also growing. This is exciting!

2017 has been our "Year of Hope" and we both have hope in Christ and are sharing that hope with others. Our prayer is that we remain faithful in being the people God has called us to be and to allow the world to see that God is more than able to fill our lives with peace!

God Bless and Pray for Peace,

- Pastor Rick

Christmas Sack Packs...

We will be packing the Christmas Sack Packs for the inmates Sat., Dec. 17. We are excited to be able to fill bags with peanuts, fudge, candy and a hand made Christmas card. The sacks are then handed out to inmates December 24.

Pray for this to be a blessing in their lives.

Christmas worship...

We are so excited to be able to share the joy of Christmas with the St Dymas congregation Sunday, December 25. We will be having a combined candlelight worship service. Please pray for the Hope Chapel to be filled with the light of Jesus!

Amazonsmiles.com...

If you are buying from Amazon.com, use Amazon.Smile.com instead. Designate Cornerstone Prison Church as the recipient. There are no extra cost or fees involved, but Cornerstone will receive .5% from the purchase as a donation. Thank you!



Prayer Requests...

- Holidays are a special time for many and especially difficult for others. We pray for peace to be infectious and the real meaning of Christmas to be known.
- The annual Cornerstone Council election cycle is complete and we are excited to welcome the new council members and express our gratitude to those who have rotated off.
- Worship service at Unit C. We praise God that we have been granted a weekly evening worship time at Unit C which will begin the week of Christmas..

Cornerstone Prison Church

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Faith Fellowship Weekend

January 26-28

Theme: Do You Want to Get Well?

~ The theme is based off of John 5:1-9 ~

Please consider this opportunity to minister to the men inside the walls. They are blessed by your presence.

Email Terese to get signed up to help all or part of the weekend.
office@cornerstonepcsd.org

Give your gifts to Cornerstone Prison Church

Enclosed is a \$ _____ gift for Cornerstone Prison church

Please use for () General Fund () Bibles & Materials () Cornerstone Barnabus Foundation

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Please make checks payable to *Cornerstone Prison Church*.

Donations are tax deductible.

Donations can be sent to:

Cornerstone Prison Church, c/o David Vande Kamp, Treasurer,
801 S. Gordon Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57110.