



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

January 2018

EXPANDING THE KINGDOM FROM THE INSIDE-OUT

"Year of Discipleship"

Welcome to 2018 and Cornerstone's "Year of Discipleship." This is our third consecutive year in which we have designated a focus theme for the year. 2016 was our Year of Prayer. 2017 was our Year of Hope. We are excited about this theme because of the fruit that has come from the previous themes.

Our prayer ministry has grown considerably. Both in quantity of prayer requests from the men of Cornerstone and also in the requests themselves. Many more requests are for the things of eternal significance and salvation of others.

During our Year of Hope, there were many struggles on the individual level and also on the community level. Throughout, there were many examples of people encouraging each other through sharing their hope in Christ.

Discipleship can be described as sharing life, sharing understanding, and sharing in the maturity process. During Jesus' years of earthly ministry, he had a group of disciples that he shared life, understanding, and the process of maturity in faith with.

'You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses.

Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.'

2 Timothy 2:2 NLT

Jesus' disciples received from him, shared with each other and passed on what they had received to those who were to follow. Even today we are benefactors of His sharing.

In the last few weeks, two penitentiary residents have died from long illnesses. Both of them were in their 70's. While I did not know either of them well, I have been in numerous conversations which included memories of them. One consistent theme is that both men blessed those who they interacted with through the actions of discipleship.

They shared life with their neighbors and friends. They shared their understanding about eternal things and temporary things with those who came to prison while the two men were there—one even taught in the school.

We want to thank all of our brothers and sisters in Christ for their prayers, support and encouragement. We also want to invite you to join us in making 2018's theme "Discipleship."

Be Disciples. Making Disciples.
- Pastor Rick

Christmas Sack Packs...

Thank you to those who donated to help cover the expense of the Christmas sack packs. Also a big thanks to all those who made fudge - each inmate received 4 pieces of homemade fudge...many commented on how good it was - they were blessed!

Christmas worship...

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on the Hill! The Hope Chapel was filled with light of Jesus Christ and the light from the candles we held as we sang Silent Night. What a blessing to hear the voices join as one to worship our Lord and Savior!

New Location...

Unit C service has moved!

It is amazing to watch how God works in and through lives. A perfect example of this is the service at Unit C. Several years ago, one of the regular attenders on the Hill was transferred to Unit C (minimum security unit); he contacted us and asked that we come down to this unit and meet with him. One man became two, five and more and eventually a worship service was requested. God opened this door and a worship service time was granted Friday afternoons in the chow hall. Eventually, we came to realize that many of the men work during the day, so the talk began of moving the service to an evening. A project application was put in by one of the men in conjunction with Cornerstone and the service was given the exact time and location that we desired. (Yea God!) Services are now held Wednesday evening from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the large lower classroom in the Training Academy.

Cornerstone Prison Church

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Faith Fellowship Weekend is coming soon...January 26-28

Theme: Do You Want to Get Well? - John 5:1-9
Please keep this weekend in your prayers as we prepare. The speakers are preparing talks, others are preparing poems or songs to share. Pray that the small group leaders will be ready to share Christ's love with the guys and that all will be lead by the Holy Spirit!

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

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Donations are tax deductible.

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