



Cornerstone Prison Church

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

November 2024

EXPANDING THE KINGDOM FROM THE INSIDE-OUT

UPDATE ON CORNERSTONE

2 Chronicles 7:13-14 says: "When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Over the summer and at the fall Classis meetings I shared the ways God has been working powerfully through a time where many in the prison have been hurting, or at least longing for better days. There has been a series of sweeping changes the last year that have decreased opportunities for the men to engage in community, worship practice, work, and recreation. Tensions rose much over the summer and areas of the prison experienced radical reduction in movement. Then the entire Sioux Falls Prison Complex went into a near month long lockdown where all outside religious volunteers were not allowed to continue providing religious programming in the prison. We called on our partner churches to pray, we were hoping for healing and wellbeing for our incarcerated brothers in Christ, for restoration of a functional chapel schedule, for changes that would increase the religious liberties and opportunities for our men rather than the gradual decrease that seemed to have set in.

Once we got back in, our time slots for worship were experiencing less reduction from schedule trouble. Our Bible Study attendance has grown significantly. The hunger for resources has skyrocketed with the pamphlets that we provide giving reformed answers to life's harder questions being taken from the chapel faster than any other time in the last three years. More recently the state removed the warden from her post at the Sioux Falls Prison Complex. That same week we learned that an effort was being made to get worship services moved back to evenings instead of keeping them in the afternoon. Transition is happening in a big way, with greater possibility of guests attending in the evenings again and even the possibility of having praise team practice again within the next few months (Our band has had to show up and lead worship without any practice for nearly a year).

(continued on back)

Thank you for your prayers thus far, and please continue to pray.

Pray that God would work through the transition in leadership and that the next Warden would be favorable to the work our church is doing in the prison.

Pray that the tensions would continue to diminish and that the wellbeing of our men would improve as new normal trends of schedule bring back some of what had been taken away.

Pray that the switch back to evening worship services goes well so that we can again welcome groups who haven't been able to attend with us in the afternoon.

Pray that God would continue to draw to himself the hearts of men who have been far from him so they would take that step of coming to a church program or service for the first time.

Pray that the Bible's, daily devotionals, and many reformed resources that have been flying from the shelves lately are being read and shared so that many more men would grow in the depth of their faith and their understanding of the truth.

Pray that the upcoming Christmas Card Distribution to the men goes well and that God provides all that is needed for the statewide Christmas Sack program (the Christmas Sack program is a bag of goodies for every inmate to remind them they are not forgotten over the Christmas season. This replaced the Christmas Fudge program when home produced goods were no longer allowed.)

Thank you for your prayers and support, May God hear from heaven and bring even more healing to our land.

Pastor Scott

Cornerstone Prison Church

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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.

Our services at Cornerstone Prison Church will again be in the evening at 6:30pm starting November 8, 2024.

Please consider joining us. We are limited to 10 individuals!

Contact Jean to schedule a date that works for you.

We need to schedule far enough out that we have all the paperwork from the group three weeks prior to their visit.

Our email address: office@cornerstonepcsd.org

We can come to you... Pastor Scott is willing to provide Pulpit Supply and a Cornerstone Prison Church update on a Sunday morning or evening.

(please email Scott directly)