

CORNERSTONE METHODIST NEWSLETTER

A GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

JULY 12, 2026

YEAR 4, WEEK 14

OU' IN THE CORNER – ACTS 26:26

- ❖ Stop by the Welcome Table to sign in and get information.
- ❖ July/August Upper Rooms are available.

MESSAGE FROM THE MISSION TEAM

Mission Report:

JULY Mission: Honor our country any way you like. Visit a National Park or historic site (thankful for beauty), commit to pray specifically for America one day a week for the month, write an encouraging word to a member of the military.

August Mission Project will be school supplies for Stuff the Bus. In addition to school supplies, the King's Daughters requests underwear for children (S, M, L). Also earbuds for the older students, and headphones (S) for PreK – 3rd Grade. A list will be available at the Welcome Table and is attached to the Newsletter.

Loving Jesus, loving others. Ben, Bettye, Charles, Patsy, Jan T, Roy

REFRESHMENTS

July 12 – Linda Dain and JoAnn Poole, July 19 – Marianna and Perry Tassin, July 26 – Carla and Ben Oefinger, August 2 – Bettye Cook and Patsy Helmcamp, August 9 – Jan Tomanio, Cindy Brown and Rosie Herrera

CORNERSTONE CLASS NOTES

To prepare for next Sunday's discussion, please read Luke 12.

CONSTRUCTION PLANS FROM THE BUILDERS (GRADES 5-9)

The Builders are continuing with their study of the Ten Commandments. This Sunday our focus will be on the fourth commandment. *"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."* (Exodus 20:8) We will study how God prepared a special day for believers to remember and celebrate Him. This day was intended to be different from all other days of the week. Both the Old and New Testaments have passages about the Sabbath and the Lord's Day. The students will read in Genesis and Exodus how first Sabbaths involved a change of activity from creating to resting by remembering and worshiping God. Then from Acts and 1 Corinthians, how after the resurrection of Jesus on the first day of the week, some Christians chose to remember God's love, power, and grace on Sundays. How to worship God on the Sabbath and keep it holy will be discussed. Please continue to pray for our youth and encourage are youth.

DISCIPLESHIP BANDS

Pastor Tunde mentioned Discipleship Bands from the pulpit on Sunday. A band is a group of three to five men or women who meet weekly to engage in transformation questions and to pray for one another. Each band meeting starts with "Awake, O sleeper, and rise from the dead. And Christ will shine on you." The meeting then goes on to answer the following questions: "How is it with your soul?"; "What are your successes and struggles?"; How might the Word and Spirit be speaking in your life?" Shawn Tindell, Darla Plier and Jan White started a band over a year ago. We have grown in our relationship with God and each other. From Jan - it is invaluable to have a group of women to share successes and struggles with each week. I encourage you to consider joining a band. If you want more information, Jan White will have literature on Sunday. Ask her for a book.

GREETINGS FROM PASTOR 'TUNDE

Grace and peace to you in the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As another week unfolds, I want to begin by expressing my deepest gratitude to each one of you who has faithfully prayed for my family. Some of you have sent encouraging messages, made phone calls, visited, and found countless other ways to show the love of Christ. During difficult seasons, these acts of kindness become tangible reminders that we are not walking alone. You have truly lived out the words of Scripture: *"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ"* (Galatians 6:2).

Thank you for being the church—not merely by attending worship, but by loving one another in practical and sacrificial ways. We are deeply grateful, and we continue to trust the Lord for His sustaining grace day by day.

As we continue building the life of Cornerstone Methodist Church, I would like to encourage us to become more intentional in caring for one another. One of the greatest strengths of the early Methodist movement was its commitment to small groups, often called bands. These were groups of three or four believers who met regularly to pray together, encourage one another, confess their struggles, celebrate victories, and hold one another accountable in Christian discipleship.

John Wesley believed that spiritual growth happens best in Christian community. He famously said: "The Bible knows nothing of solitary religion."

Wesley did not mean that a Christian cannot pray alone or read Scripture privately. Rather, he meant that the Christian life was never intended to be lived in isolation. God designed us to encourage one another, challenge one another, pray for one another, and help one another persevere in faith. For Wesley, the church was not simply a place to attend on Sundays—it was a family where believers walked together toward holiness.

That is why I would love to see us begin forming these small prayer bands throughout our congregation. Imagine the difference it would make if every person at Cornerstone knew that three or four fellow believers were intentionally praying for them every week. Imagine the encouragement that would come from checking on one another, celebrating answered prayers, and standing together through life's challenges. This is how healthy churches grow—not only larger, but deeper.

One passage that has become especially meaningful to me over the past several days is Galatians 6:9:

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Those words are simple, but they carry tremendous hope. Paul reminds us that God's harvest does not always come immediately. There are seasons of sowing before there are seasons of reaping. There are times when faithfulness feels unnoticed, prayers seem unanswered, and progress appears slow. Yet God promises that perseverance is never wasted. The harvest belongs to Him, and it comes in His perfect timing.

That truth is echoed in a helpful way by James Clear in *Atomic Habits*. He writes: "Habits are the compound interest of self-improvement."

In another place he reminds us: "You do not rise to the level of your goals. You fall to the level of your systems."

Those observations describe the Christian life remarkably well. Spiritual maturity rarely comes through one extraordinary experience. More often, it is formed through thousands of ordinary decisions to follow Christ faithfully.

Every prayer you pray matters.

Every chapter of Scripture you read matters.

Every Sunday you choose to worship matters.

Every child you teach matters.

Every dollar you give to God's work matters.

Every friend you invite to church matters.

Every encouraging phone call, visit, text message, or act of kindness matters.

These seemingly small acts are the daily habits through which the Holy Spirit forms Christ within us. God delights in using ordinary faithfulness to accomplish extraordinary things.

As we prepare for worship this Sunday, I encourage each of us to take one more faithful step. Join or begin a prayer band of three or four people. Pray for one another throughout the week. Read God's Word every day. Invite someone to worship with you. Encourage someone who is struggling. Continue doing good, even when you cannot yet see the harvest.

Remember Paul's promise: "At the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." God's timing is always perfect, and His promises never fail.

I look forward to worshipping with you this Sunday as we continue our series "TRAVEL LIGHT". I am also beginning a new study in our second Sunday school class at the chapel. The title is "spiritual warfare" May the Lord strengthen your heart, establish your faith, and fill you with His joy as we continue growing together in Christ.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Dr. Tunde Oladimeji
Pastor, Cornerstone Methodist Church

CELEBRATIONS

- Birthdays
 - Wednesday, July 15 – Patsy Helmcamp
- Anniversary
 - Tuesday, July 14 – Patsy and Dick Helmcamp – 63 years (heavenly)
 - Tuesday, July 14 – Darla and Tom Pliler 54 years
 - Wednesday, July 15 – Leona and Randy Peacock
- Traveling
 - Stan and Dianne Johnson – Colorado
 - Perry and Marianna Tassin – New Mexico
 - Barney and JoAnn Poole – to be there for the birth of their grandson
- Allen Slagle's great granddaughter, Margot Mae, was born XXXXX. She was 9 lbs, 5 oz and 21 inches long.
- The Historical Commission will receive a Distinguished Service Award for the 5th time.
- NEW: Barney and JoAnn Poole welcomed their grandson, Henry Calvin Poole, son of Alex and Kara. He was born Monday, July 13, at 8:23 a.m. and weighed 8 lbs.
- Women's Bunko was a great time of fellowship and fun!

CONCERNS

- Lami Oladimeji will have an Evaluation this week to determine if the clinical trial is working..
- Sophia, Marianna and Perry Tassin's granddaughter, has been diagnosed with a genetic disease (Tay-sachs). It is terminal. Pray for the family as they navigate this diagnosis. Jacob and Brooke's address is 117 Old Blooming Grove Road, Italy, Texas 76651.
- Neal Lanman is at home recovering from a heart attack last Sunday morning.
- Gerry Tomanio, Jan's husband, is recovering from his fall in Port Aransas. He is doing well.
- Danny Doggett, George's cousin, is having some heart issues. His wife, Beverly has an aneurism in her heart.
- Senator Lindsay Graham died Sunday.
- Jackie White, Joe's brother, will have surgery July 22 to replace the hardware in his former hip replacement.
- Deanna Driggers has some health concerns.
- Betty, Ben and Carla's housekeeper lost some clients and needs work. (her business card will be attached)

CALENDAR

- Wednesday, July 15
 - Prayer Meeting – 5:00 p.m. at Pastor 'Tunde's Office
- Thursday, July 16
 - Women's Group – 9:30 a.m. at The Victory Building
 - *Growing Up: Faith Lessons from the Book of James* – LuAnn Riley
 - Books will be available Thursday
 - We will look at Week 3, Living Faith – From Hearing to Doing