



CORNERSTONE
CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORTS

2024

1290 WHITEHAVEN RD

GRAND ISLAND, NY 14072

WWW.CORNERSTONECHURCH.LIFE

SENIOR PASTOR - JON SCHUERHOLZ

It is an honor for me to serve this body in a staff position since 2019. I started as an interim pastor then as the executive pastor and now the Elders voted to change my title to senior pastor as it is a better fit my current role. 2024 was a year with challenges and many praises. I thank GOD for all the love and support this church has given me. We are praying for great things for 2025 so CHRIST may be praised.

2024 REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- I met with Sam and Colton until they both decided to leave this summer.
- Chaired the Elders meetings on average twice a month. We went through "Humility" by Andrew Murray and currently working through "The Other Half of Church" by Wilder & Hendricks
- Attend and help coordinate our weekly Monday Prayer Meetings.
- Chaired our weekly staff meeting.
- I took on more preaching responsibility after this summer.
- Met regularly with seven men at least bi-weekly in a disciple-making role, as well as many others less formally throughout the year.
- Co-leading our Cornerstone Men's group on Thursday nights
- My wife and I hosted a small group in our home.
- Met regularly with four pastors for mutual encouragement.
- Taught two membership classes.
- Served as a board member on the Niagara Gospel Mission and worked with the executive director on human resource issues.

2024 ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Worked on developing a transitional worship director and youth ministry coordinator.
- Lead a Men's retreat in February.
- Did a Tuesday teaching "Why Trust the Bible?".
- Taught at four youth group meetings.
- Served on the Finance Committee.
- Chaired the Missions Committee.
- Chaired the Nominating Committee
- Served and chaired the Facility Team.
- Served at the church Picnic.
- Was able to spend a week in Greece training Missionary team leaders from across Africa.
- Counseled married couples and couples preparing for marriage.
- Performed a wedding for a Cornerstone couple.
- Lead Funeral services.
- Worked with Isaac Chapman our part-time technology director on several projects.
- Attended a Pastor training for four days in the Fall.

2024 ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES • CONTINUED

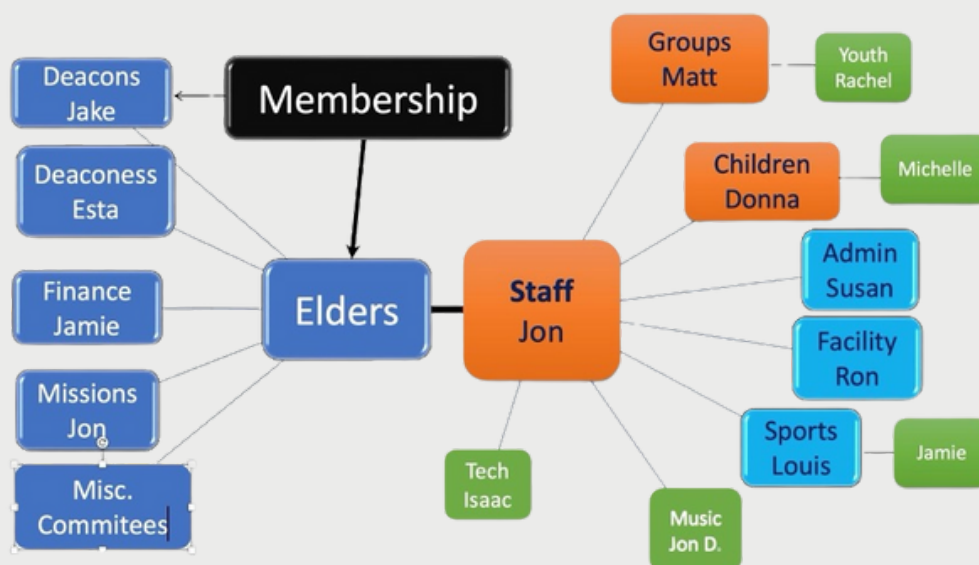
- Esta and I planned leadership gatherings (June and October) including an overnight retreat. These involved prayer, training, and goal setting.
- Participated with regional North American Baptist Meetings and attended the Triennial North American Baptist convention in Saint Paul Minnesota as well as our regional "Fall Fest" in Oakville and I taught a breakout session.
- Under the consultation of our lawyer gathered material for a subpoena that the church was issued. Met several times with him.

2024 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- **Help to integrate three new families to the church.** Starting a new small group for this purpose.
- **Improve our Men's Ministry.** Held our first Retreat in February, planning to do one this year. This area still needs my attention.
- **Sell the Land.** Land Sold. Money from the sale are available for Capital Improvements
- **Come up with a plan to tackle three major facility issues.** We tackled two of the three: the parking lot and the pillars holding up the portico.
* Still have a roofing issue to address.

2025 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Hire a Student Ministry Leader and meet regularly with them.
- Establish a new Cornerstone community group.
- Lead a successful Men's Retreat.
- Help the Deacons increase their impact.
- Help lead a churchwide prayer initiative.



ASSOCIATE PASTOR - MATT PFEIL


2024 REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- Preached on a regular basis, ranging from 1-2 times per month.
 - Served as an elder.
 - Worked with several other churches and ministries with different focuses:
 - NAB Pastors Fellowship - meeting every other month with pastors from the Rochester/Buffalo area for encouragement and edification
 - Christ Together - a part of the leadership team that works toward collaborating with pastors from the Northtowns of Buffalo
 - Serving on the NAB East Home Missions Committee
 - Now also serving as the Chair of this committee
 - Met with several men for various reasons:
 - Accountability
 - Counseling
 - Discipleship
 - Met with multiple couples for counseling
 - Performed pre-marital counseling and performed wedding in July
 - Have been a part of Thursday morning men's Bible study and Friday morning accountability group
 - Oversaw Greeter ministry, recruiting and training several new greeters
 - Oversaw small group ministry; added multiple new small groups and Bible studies
 - Led invocations for Grand Island Town Board meetings
 - Assisted with the leadership of Fight Club, a men's ministry with over 200 men in the Western New York region
 - Including leading a squad (group) of men from Cornerstone and other local churches
 - Met with baptism candidates
 - Manage Planning Center, the platform our church uses for database, registrations, small group/Bible study sign-ups, check-ins for youth group and children's ministry, and church directory
 - Made visitations to hospitals and shut-ins
 - Connected with the community through Grand Island soccer (as a parent), Niagara County Volleyball Club (as a coach and parent), and the Grand Island High School volleyball programs (as a volunteer coach and parent of a girls JV and Varsity player)
 - Lead small group that includes 6 families from Cornerstone Church
 - Served at Niagara Gospel Mission for 3M ministry and service projects
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2024 REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- Hosted a men's breakfast
- Managed our social media accounts (Facebook page, Facebook groups, and Instagram)
- Communicated on a regular basis (typically every week) to our church via email updates that included announcements and sign-ups/registrations
- Participated in Blue Ocean, a leadership development cadre with the NAB, which included multiple three-day retreats (Rosedale, California, and Chicago, Illinois)
- Planned, prepared, and ran two sand volleyball leagues
 - Co-Ed Recreational League - 9 teams, over 70 people, ages 13+, from different churches and the local community; this also included recruiting referees and other volunteers
 - Girls' Junior 4's League - 6 teams of local high school players from Western New York
- Ran youth volleyball events during several times throughout the year, consisting of tournament play, skill instruction, and devotion time to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through sports
- Read several books for personal and professional growth, as well as meeting with other men for discipleship: Kingdom Mae Rising by Tony Evans, The Kingdom, The Power, and the Glory by Tim Albert, Humility by Andrew Murray, Faithful Presence by David Fitch, From Broken Boy to Mended Man by Patrick Morley, Mostly What God Does by Savannah Guthrie, and Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert by Rosaria Butterfield.

2025 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Provide opportunities for the people of Cornerstone Church to connect and grow together
 - Read 12 books (came 4 books short of 2024 goal)
 - Improve as a communicator
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DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

- DONNA LINENFELSER

SUNDAY DISCOVERY ISLAND

- We use The Gospel Project on Sunday mornings and the kids are growing in their knowledge of the Bible. I continue to be amazed at how much they learn.
- I will continue to offer Bible Studies for kids in the fall. I had opened it up to kids from 4th-9th grade and we had 20 children that came on Sunday's right after church September-December.
- We have a full roster of teachers for Sunday mornings, and I will be looking for a handful of subs that I can utilize throughout the year as things come up.

DISCOVERY ISLAND KIDS CLUB

- Kids Club is a wonderful ministry for Cornerstone kids and community kids. We continue to have a very committed team of leaders, and they really pour into the lives of the kids from September-May. For 2024-25, we have 90 children enrolled and we average around 78 children every week.

JERUSALEM MARKETPLACE

- Jerusalem Marketplace, which will take place the week before Easter this year, is a kid's version of the Passion Week. The lower level of the church will be transformed into first century Jerusalem and children will experience sights, sounds, smells and tastes of Jerusalem as we tell the incredible story of Jesus journey to the cross.

FASTRAK

- We are holding FASTRAK in June of 2025 to be a local outreach to community kids K-5th grade. This is a free event where kids will bring their Hot Wheels and/or Matchbox cars to race on a custom-made track! Kids will enjoy hearing from race car drivers, crafts, lunch, games, Bible Story and Racing!

SUMMER JAM VBS

- We are planning to run VBS at the Lighthouse Women's and Children's ministry in Niagara Falls this August 2025. We will be brainstorming with Joanne Lorenzo to see how we can encourage the neighborhood kids to come. We were NOT able to run it last summer (2024) due to some medical issues with those of us planning it.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

- We had a wonderful volunteer appreciation event during spring 2024. We bonded over Family Feud with a lot of laughs and TV dinners! We are going to hold another event this March, but we can't tell you the theme...it's a surprise! You can thank Michelle Giambra for all of the fun and frivolity. She is an amazing children's ministry assistant.

CORNERSTONE CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING

- This year we will continue to safeguard our children having those working with children, youth or vulnerable adults trained through Plan to Protect. We will hold training for first time volunteers and refresher training for those who have already attended the training in the last three years.

FAMILY SERVICES

- This past year, and continuing this coming year, we are incorporating more family services- landing on one per quarter. The purpose of these services is for the kids to see the adults in their lives worshipping the LORD and hearing from his Word, but also for the adults to see the children - those that need to be taught and molded and prayed for. I believe these services can be a nice combination of a regular adult service and a children's service.

ROCKSTAR MINISTRY

- We continue to work towards developing and reimagining our Rockstar Ministry so that we can serve not only children in Children's Ministry but to expand to include all individuals in our community who are considered differently-abled (developmentally, physically or with a mental health diagnosis; ADHD/ADD) to have a place to hear the Word of God in a safe and inclusive.
 - Michelle Giambra will be attending Disability & The Church, spring 2025 in Washington DC and it is our prayer that she comes back excited and with ideas that we can implement.
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DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP MUSIC - JON DALBO

Cornerstone's music ministry exists to create an atmosphere of authentic; spirit-filled; truthful worship of Jesus (John 4:23-24). Psalm 100:1-5 provides an awesome example of what this sort of authentic worship looks like:

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with singing! Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His, we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name! For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations"

This past August I had the privilege of joining the church staff as the Interim Music Director. It has been an honor to serve God in my home church, in this new capacity. Working with a dedicated and talented group of volunteers has been a true blessing. I am excited for what the future holds as our musicians continue to grow and use their talents to glorify God!

SPECIFIC UPDATES FROM THE PAST SIX MONTHS OF 2024

- In collaboration with the tech director and preaching team, contributed towards the implementation of weekly worship services
- Collaborated and communicated with preaching team to align song selections with message topics as applicable
- Introduced different instrumental combinations to incorporate diverse sound textures
- Composed musical parts for certain songs used in worship services
- Worked closely with the tech director to refine the Sunday sound for both in-person worship and the live stream
- Provided worship for high school youth group's weekly meetings
- Added 6 new volunteer musicians to the team (Currently 18 volunteer musicians actively serve on the worship team)
- Organized and implemented weekly rehearsals for volunteers
- Prepared and organized the monthly schedule for volunteer musicians
- Researched and learned new worship songs to introduce into corporate worship
- Provided worship for the leadership retreat

2025 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Continue to align the music ministry to the mission of Cornerstone Church
 - Add 2-5 new volunteer musicians to the worship team
 - Work closely with the tech director to improve sound quality
 - Provide several serving and development opportunities for youth musicians
 - Introduce at least 7 new songs to the church for worship
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SPORTS MINISTRY - LOUIS SHAKKOUR

"I'm really enjoying running the sports ministry at Cornerstone Church. Not only do I run the Saturday program, but I've also had the chance to meet, play sports with, and hang out with a lot of the athletes from Grand Island High School". Louis Shakkour

2024 IMPACT SPORTS

- Lead Impact Sports Ministry.
- Ran two 10-week programs on Saturdays
- Basketball program (January - March)
 - 160 athletes participating
 - 45 volunteers
 - Every week, we made sure to share the Bible with all our registered athletes.
- Flag Football program (August - October)
 - 179 athletes participating
 - 63 volunteers
- Took a poll to see how many of our athletes attend church and how many do not.
 - Over 65% of the athletes in our program come from unchurched households.

2025 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Our goal for Impact Sports is to bridge the unchurched community into other programs at the church, like Youth Group and Kids Club.
- We want to create a welcoming space where these athletes can not only play sports but also build relationships and get connected to the church in a deeper way.



FACILITY TEAM

WHY DO WE HAVE A FACILITY TEAM

Because we need qualified input into how we steward our facilities and property.

PURPOSE

To help the Cornerstone church steward the facilities and property well.

1. Planning for maintenance, improvements, and future needs.
2. Providing for ministry needs to fulfill the purposes of the church.
3. Presenting to our community with a good impression.

PROJECTS ACCOMPLISHED SINCE 2020

- Turned Rock Stars room into 2 classrooms
- Early Spring Purge (ESP) Two dumpsters plus removed Garage roof repaired.
- Storage closet shuffle - reassigning storage areas to free up 104 to be a classroom.
- Opening some existing closets by purging and consolidation
- Remove/add walls to add storage space
- Front area stumps and rocks - cleaned, buried, replanted
- Playground
- Power cord for sign lights buried
- Metal Steps side of building replaced
- Spotlights replaced in front of sanctuary
- Snack Shack upgrade
- Gym floor replaced
- Removal of large evergreen.
- Removal of tree remains
- Total and complete Door Stopper replacement
- Side door repaired and brick work redone.
- Permanent Basketball hoops install.
- Old Rockstar room door install.
- Flooring Rooms off Gym



PROJECTS ACCOMPLISHED SINCE 2020

- DI floor stripped and waxed.
- New AC/heat Donna's and shared office space
- Stone sign & lighting
- Sanctuary remodel
 - Paint
 - Carpet
 - Chairs
- Volleyball Courts
- Sheds - staining sheds
- Repair of trench
- Cameras installed
- Paint office
- Patch walls in Donna's and shared office space
- 60% of Parking Lot Redone
- Brick columns demolished and repaired
- Hallway flooring - first level
- Finishing Pavilion ceiling
- Front sidewalk railings tightened
- Painting of church - front of worship center
- DI chair cleaning
- Three classrooms - new floor/paint
- Regrade front grass area
- Reseed front & side area
- Remodel Check In area.
- Dead tree removed - volleyball area
- New Handicap parking signs
- New WiFi thermostats installed
- Basketball hoops reinstalled more securely

