

The Cornerstone Chronicle



Worship Service

December 7, 2025

"The Authority and Qualifications of the Deacon"

[1 Timothy 3:8-13](#)



Sunday School

December 7, 2025

Adult Class:

Prayer Topic:

Stewardship/Volunteers

Junior High:

1 Peter

[Chapter 5](#)

Kids Classes:

"Lesson 26: The Holy Spirit Arrives"

[Acts 2:1-47](#)



[Prayer Calendar & Reading Plan](#)

From the Elders

The deacon is an oft misunderstood office within the church - and an absolutely vital one. When a church fails to appoint men to this office - or when they fail to appoint the *right* men, it not only presents a serious threat to the unity of the church, it can also hinder the church's mission in some hugely significant ways.

Why is this the case? And, if so, how should the church go about appointing men to this office? Ryan will explain this Sunday in the second part of a two-part series on the function, authority, and qualifications of the deacon called "The Authority and Qualifications of the Deacon".



Announcements



1. Sunday School Quarter 3: Starts December 7!

Check the Sunday school schedule to see if you are teaching this upcoming quarter!



2. Corporate Fellowship Meal: December 7!

[Mealtrain link here!](#) Access to the Mealtrain link is in the app under "Events" as well as on the website.



3. Congregational Meeting: December 7! During the Corporate Fellowship Meal we will have our quarterly congregational meeting. **Please be ready to share what you would like to see happen in the church this year! This meeting is to help the elders get a feel for what the congregation is desiring for the upcoming year! If you would like to email the elders your ideas, please email elders@cornerstonecarthage.com by December 7! (The elders are always available, but for planning purposes, it would be helpful to know your thoughts by December 7.)**

4. Deacon Nominations: December 7! One or order of business at the Congregational meeting on December 7 will be nominating deacons. Over the next few weeks, be thinking about who you may want to nominate for this role.



Calendar

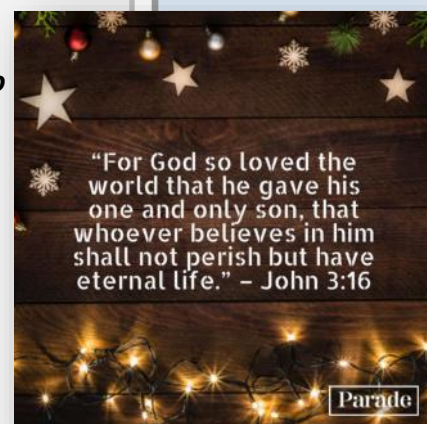
12/7/25: Sunday School Quarter 3 Begins

12/7/25: Corporate Fellowship Meal

12/7/25: Congregational Meeting

12/7/25: Deacon Nominations

12/10/25: Council (Elders & Deacons) (6:30pm)



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[Nursery Volunteer Schedule](#)



[Children's SS Schedule](#)



[HFG Cleaning Schedule](#)



[Equipping Schedule](#)



[Equipping Schedule](#)



[Equipping Schedule](#)

1. Logos: December 8! *The men are discussing Wayne Grudem's Systematic Theology. The Equipping Schedule can be found at the bottom left of this page. The men meet at 6:30pm in the conference room.*

2. Home Fellowship Group: December Schedule! *We will not be discussing any chapters from the study book for December due to the first week being Corporate Fellowship and the last two weeks, the weeks of December 23 and December 28, being cancelled for Christmas and New Years. Check the HFG schedule for clarification. The fellowship groups will still need to clean on their designated weeks. The week your group meets could be used for a Christmas Party or service!*



3. Christmas Open House Coffee Kiosk and Outreach: December 12! *We have made a **small shift in plans** for our Sparkle in the Park outreach and open house. We are not actually going to open the church up, but instead we are going to have a little coffee and hot chocolate table in the park and offer both for free as a service to the community. As a part of that event, Jim is planning on leading an outreach effort in the park as well. We will hand out flyers for the Christmas concert as well as talk to people about the gospel if the Lord allows. [If you'd like to serve with the coffee kiosk \(table\) or in the outreach effort, click here to sign up.](#) Jim is looking for two teams of 4-6 people for the outreach. Please be at the church at 5 for instructions and prayer. The outreach and coffee table will go from 6-8.*



4. Women's Bible Study: December 15! *Please join us as the women continue their study of Romans using the John MacArthur's Bible Study on Romans. See the Equipping Schedule along the left edge of the 2nd page.*



5. Christmas Concert: December 19! *We are having a Christmas concert starting at 6:30pm on December 19. Doors will open at 6:00pm. This is an outreach event, so invite whoever you know! Please be praying about who you can invite and the people who will be in attendance; also be praying for the musicians and others who are involved in organizing the event. Amy Pryor is organizing the music for this event. If you would like to help in that way, please let Amy know by December 1!*



INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD

6. Lottie Moon Offering: Extended to December 21! [Click here for more information about Lottie Moon specifically as well](#)

[as what the offering goes toward.](#) *Considering we do not pass an offering plate, if you would like to give toward this Lottie Moon Offering, you may place your offering, designated for Lottie Moon, in the offering box. Thank you!*



7. Christmas Eve Service: December 24! *Save the date. More details to come.*

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Cornerstone Membership Process

1. Membership Class—*Elders and those interested in finding out more about membership.* These are offered semi-annually or as the need arises.
2. Membership Application—*Individuals interested in membership.* The individual fills out application and returns it to the elders.
3. Membership Interview—*Elders and applicants.* This interview is for the elders to personally get to know the applicants, verify baptism and testimony, as well as discuss what it means to be a member of the Church universal and Cornerstone, specifically.
4. Baptism & Testimony—if necessary
5. Announcement of Membership Application & Testimony—*Elders, applicants, congregation.* The elders announce the application for membership and the applicant shares their testimony with the church. The church is encouraged to get to know the applicant over the next month(s).
6. Membership Vote—*Congregation.* This vote is to admit the applicant into fellowship. This vote marks two things: one, that the current members, on what information they have, accept the elders' recommendation for membership; and, secondly, that the current members, on what information they have, accept the applicant into fellowship.

Home Fellowship Groups

Jones

Sunday's (4:30pm)

South Carthage

Contact: Jeremy Jones

Callen/Allen

Wednesday's (6:00pm)

West Carthage

Contact: Will Callen

Riley/Adams

Wednesday's (6:00pm)

North Carthage

Contact: Trevin Riley

Andrews/Ziler

Thursday's (6:00pm)

East Carthage

Contact: Jim Ziler

Online Offering



If you desire to give online to Cornerstone, please use Zelle and the church phone number.

417-358-4844

Baby Bulletin!



Parker and Chelsea Day welcome

Walter Elias Parker

8 lbs. 13 oz.

Born at 2:15am

November 29, 2025

[Mealtrain Here!!](#)

RESOURCES to learn more about the *elder selection*:

Pastor Ryan's sermons:

["The Teacher and the Tongue \(Pt. 1\)" \(May 26 sermon\)](#)

[Understanding Church Government 6-Week Series](#)

["Wanted: Male Leadership"](#) (from Iron Man Conference 2019 Owasso, OK)

Scripture: [1 Timothy 3:1-7](#) and [Titus 1:5-9](#)

 DOULOS

Ministries & Coordinators

Doulos is a group of servants joyfully volunteering to love the body by coordinating and assisting communication regarding various ministries of the church under the authority of the elders.