

# The Cornerstone Chronicle



Worship Service

January 4, 2026

**"Jesus' Recipe for Church Growth"**

[Matthew 5:13-16](#)



Sunday School

January 4, 2025

**Adult Class:**

Prayer Topic:

Faith & Hope

**Junior High:**

Worldliness

Chapter 3

**Kids Classes:**

**"Lesson 28: Ananias and Sapphira Lie to the Holy Spirit"**

[Acts 4:32-5:11](#)



[Prayer Calendar & Reading Plan](#)

## From the Elders

In the hours before Jesus' death, He prayed to His Father, not that He would take Jesus' disciples out of the world, but that His name would be glorified through them. It's a prayer that helps us understand in incredibly clear terms what our purpose here is on this planet, and it also raises the question, "How are we supposed to do this?"

That's a question Jesus answers earlier in His ministry during the introduction to His Sermon on the Mount. Ryan will explain this Sunday in a message from Matthew 5:13-16 called, "Jesus' Recipe for Church Growth."



## Announcements

- 1. Deacon Vote: January 4!** *The following men were nominated and accepted the nomination: Jake Webb, Josh Hickerson, David Allen. These men will be on the ballot for voting at the Corporate Fellowship Meal this Sunday. Please continue to pray for this process. It's exciting to be in a place within the growth of our church that we need more deacons!*



- 2. Corporate Fellowship Meal: January 4!** [Meal-train link here!](#) Access to the Mealtrain link is in the app under "Events" as well as on the website.



- 3. Women's Bible Study: January 5!** Please join us as the women continue their study of Romans using the John MacArthur's Bible Study on Romans. The women meet in the conference room the 1st and 3rd Monday's of the month. See the Equipping Schedule along the left edge of the 2nd page for a schedule.



- 4. Doulos & Dessert: January 9!** This meeting is for elders, deacons, and ministry coordinators. We will meet at the Joki home at 6:30pm to review the past ministry quarter as well as the upcoming quarter.



## Calendar

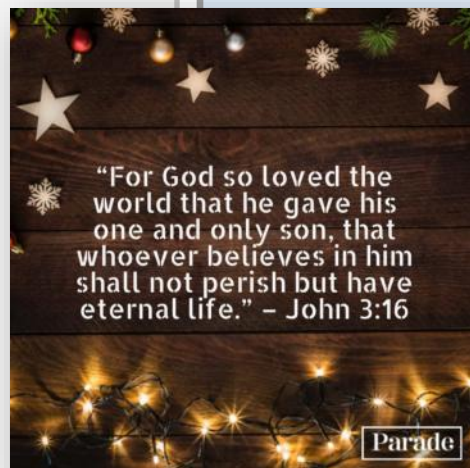
**1/4/26:** Corporate Fellowship Meal (12:30pm)

**1/5/26:** Women's Bible Study (7:00pm)

**1/7/26:** Council (Elders & Deacons) (6:30pm)

**1/9/26:** Doulos & Dessert (6:30pm)

**1/12/25:** Logos (6:30pm)



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[Nursery Volunteer Schedule](#)



[Children's SS Schedule](#)



[HFG Cleaning Schedule](#)



[Equipping Schedule](#)



[Equipping Schedule](#)



[Equipping Schedule](#)



**1. Logos: January 12!** *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.*



## Interested in serving at Cornerstone??

Now is the time to let people know!

If you are looking for ways to serve, please look through the Doulos list, list of ministries, at bottom of page 3 and talk with the person coordinating that ministry. (List will be updated after deacon voting on January 4.) The goal is to have all new servants starting with the new church calendar, at Pentecost. (Obviously, there is time to pray and think about where you may want to serve. If you are currently not a member, and you need to be a member for where you want to serve, there will be a membership class in February. For example, you must be a member to serve in any way with any of the children's or nursery ministries.)

Where are the needs?

1. Nursery (Sunday School hour)
2. Nursery (Worship Service)
3. Children's Sunday School (Teachers and Assistants)
4. Sunday Morning Greeters

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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:

Walter Elias Parker

8 lbs. 13 oz.

Born at 2:15am

November 29, 2025

[Mealtrain Here!!](#)

Welcome Isla Adams!!

Aaron and Jessica welcomed their newest little one on Monday, December 29 in the morning. She was 8 lbs. 2 oz. All are well!!

## 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](#)



[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.