



CORNERSTONE
• JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING •

www.cornerstonewtn.com

AUGUST • 2026

CHASE CARROTS OR CHASE JESUS. TAKE YOUR PICK!

What is it with hamsters? Why do they spend hours running on the wheel within their enclosures? Why the endless chasing after nothing? Experts say hamsters run on their wheel to release energy, stay active, and prevent boredom. They run, chasing something that they never seem to find. Sometimes we're like that. We've got energy, we need to focus on something, we want to be active and make progress, and we definitely want to avoid boredom. We look around for something worth pursuing, a "carrot" that looks tasty, and the chase is on!

The trick is to chase the things that matter most, not the things that matter least. We want our chase to be worthwhile, not wasted. Our culture throws out in front of us various "carrots" for us to chase. Fame: What could be better than being known, admired and respected by people? Money and stuff: Isn't that what will make us happy and content? Perfectionism: A life with no mistakes or regrets. Approval: Nothing better than a high five from everyone. Comfort: Who wouldn't want to be comfortable each and every day?

But what if chasing fame, money and stuff, perfectionism, approval, and comfort is wasted time? What if those "carrots" can't give us what we think they can? What if we need to learn to let go of pursuing things that matter little to pursue what matters most? For Jesus Christ said – If you try to hang onto your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. (Jesus – Matthew 16:25)

Chase carrots or chase Jesus. Take your pick! *Pastor Steve*



CHASING
CARROTS

THE ENDLESS PURSUIT OF MORE

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 8:45am & 10:00am

CORNERSTONE Kids MINISTRY

SUNDAYS

NURSERY-

Birth – 3 years old

Every Sunday
both services

8:45 am & 10:00 am



SUNDAY SCHOOL

STARTS ON SEPTEMBER 13

Sunday School runs September through April | 9:30-10:30 am

NURSERY

AGE: 0-3 YEARS OLD

EMBARK ON A FAITH JOURNEY from birth. Our Nursery team introduces the love of God to the youngest of our Cornerstone Kids through books, play, music, and cuddles. We provide a clean and safe environment located just down the hall from the Worship Center. The Nursery is staffed during the 9:30am & 10:45am services. Parents, you can feel comfortable leaving your child in the loving care of our Nursery team of volunteers as you enjoy worship and the message.

THE WEE ARK

AGE: 3 YEARS OLD

(must be 3 years old by September 1st)

EXPLORE FAITH with a walk through The Word. In the Old Testament, your wee little one will be introduced to God's power and loving character & in the New Testament guided to a personal friendship with Jesus. SING • PRAY • CARPET TIME • TABLE TIME
3-year-olds who begin in this room, stay in this room for the remainder of the year. If your 3-year-old is not ready for this step, the Nursery is still available for them until they are comfortable.

THE LITTLE ARK

AGE: 4 YEARS OLD - KINDERGARTEN

(must be 4 years old by September 1st)

EMBRACE FAITH in The Little Ark! Your child will experience a large and small group setting. The Bible stories, prayer time, worship, crafts, and games aim to help them understand that "God made me", "God loves me", and "Jesus wants to be my friend forever."

THE ARK

AGE: 1ST - 4TH GRADE

ENGAGE IN FAITH through worship, interactive games & activities, word knowledge, prayer, and Bible stories. The teachings are driven to help kids grow in virtue knowing that "I can trust God no matter what", "I need to make a wise choice", and "I need to treat others the way I want to be treated."

THE ARK.56

AGE: 5TH & 6TH GRADE

ENJOY (OWN) YOUR FAITH knowing you are not too young...." to be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, in your faith, in your purity." 1 Timothy 4:12. Preteens will have their own space to continue building a faith foundation as they hear God's Word, learn life application skills, form relationships, ask questions, play games, and worship.

CORNERSTONE
Net.56

STARTING SEPTEMBER 02!

21 BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYERS TO PRAY OVER YOUR CHILDREN

Prayer#1 Lord, I pray that my children will hear your voice and increase in learning. Proverbs 1:5

Prayer#2 Lord, I ask that you would direct my child's mind to know, investigate and seek truth, and to understand the difference between wise and foolish choices. Ecclesiastes 7:25

Prayer#3 God, please help my children make the best use of their time, both when they do schoolwork and when they go about the rest of their day. Ephesians 5:15-16

Prayer#4 I pray that my children would be reminded, whether they are at home or in school, that their lives are hidden with Christ. Help them to set their minds on things above. Colossians 3:2-3

Prayer#5 Lord, please give my children joy in doing their work. Help them to see that the joy of the Lord is their strength as they work on more difficult schoolwork and projects. Phil. 4:4

Prayer#6 As my kids interact with their siblings or classmates, help them to honor others and look to the needs of others over their own. Romans 12:10

Prayer#7 God, remind my kids that they are called to obey those who are in leadership over them. Whether that be a schoolteacher, professor, administrator, or a parent at home, help them to act in a way that makes teaching them a joy to the person in authority. Hebrews 13:17

Prayer#8 During times of confusion or difficulty, let your Holy Spirit impress upon my child to seek the wisdom that you promise to give to those who ask. James 1:5

Prayer#9 Help my children to be a friend to those who need one and to notice when others need encouragement. Proverbs 17:17

Prayer#10 When my child feels frustrated and experiences the growing pains of life and learning, help them to heed instructions so that they will not go astray. Proverbs 10:17

Prayer#11 Remind my children of my love for them, whether they are with me all day or in the schoolroom learning. Help them know they can come to me with any need or just for a hug and a prayer. 1 John 4:7

Prayer#13 Dear God, bless my child with a sense of belonging. Help my child to find good friends who will encourage and build him/her up. Help my child to remember that his/her life is hidden in Christ Jesus. Colossians 3:3

Prayer #14 Heavenly Father, I ask that you would teach my child to make wise choices in the classroom, lunchroom, and on the playground. Lead and direct my child in every situation. Ephesians 5:15

Prayer#15 O Lord, we know that faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. Help my child to know that he/she can always put his/her faith in you and hope in you throughout his school experience. Hebrews 11:1

Prayer#16 Dear Jesus, help my child's words to be pleasing to you. Help my child to use the right words at the right time as he/she interacts with her classmates, teachers, and school administrators. Remind him/her that you are her redeemer and that you love him/her no matter what. Psalm 19:14

Prayer #17 Dear Lord, I know that you will give wisdom and understanding to my child. Help him/her to know the difference between right and wrong so that he/she can act accordingly. Proverbs 2:6

Prayer #18 God, help my child to experience the peace of God above all things during his/her school year. Philippians 4:7

Prayer #19 Heavenly Father, when my child faces peer pressure, help him to stand strong and follow the truth. Help him to find loyal friends to be a good influence and support. Romans 12:2

Prayer #20 Lord, use your Holy Spirit to teach my child not to rely on his/her own strength but on Yours. Grant him/her divine protection as he/she walks into the school building each day and strives to make good choices. 2 Thessalonians 3:3-5

This last one is a prayer for you as a parent for this time of year!

Prayer #21 O God, I know I need to trust you as a parent during this school year. Give me a spirit of gratitude when I'm tempted to be frustrated with school situations, my child's teachers, or other difficult situations. Help me to experience God's peace and to reflect that peace to my child. Give me the courage to handle any matters that need to be addressed with wisdom and grace. In Jesus' Name, Amen. Proverbs 4:6-7

Content taken from: thepurposefulmom.com



CORNERSTONE
STUDENT MINISTRY



Text line for Youth Group

To receive youth group updates &
announcements:

Send a text to this number
605-597-4545.

Choose from Below for the proper code.

If this is your class year: Text this:

Class of 2027	2027
Class of 2028	2028
Class of 2029	2029
Class of 2030	2030
Class of 2031	2031
Class of 2032	2032
Parent	Parent

SUMMER

YOUTH GROUP IS EVERY

SUNDAY

6:30 -8:30 pm

Meet @ Church for a ride.

AUG 02- YG @ Beynon's
276 S Lake Dr

AUG 09- @ Pietz's
335 42nd St NW

AUG 16- @ Church

YOU NEED TO KNOW

YOU ARE LOVABLE, CAPABLE &
WORTHWHILE

YOU ARE LOVED WITHOUT
STRINGS & NEVER ALONE

YOU HAVE A FUTURE

FALL YOUTH GROUP KICKOFF

SEPT
09

7TH -12TH GRADE

6:30-8pm | Large Group
Worship Center

FROM SURVIVAL TO *Saved*

Nicol
Theron



Melissa
Rowenhorst



Mary
Henning

Saturday: October 3rd
9:00-11:30AM
CORNERSTONE WORSHIP CENTER

COST: \$10



Includes Backroads coffee,
child care & materials!

Hebrews 4:12-13 "For the word of God is alive and powerful."

Join us as we explore God's Word for wisdom and truth, discovering what it truly means to go from surviving to saved in Christ. Together, we'll learn how the living Word of God transforms our hearts, heals our wounds, and shapes our lives through His presence.

TO SIGN UP: TEXT YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME ALONG
WITH "WOMENS EVENT" TO 605-777-7230.
PLEASE INDICATE IF CHILD CARE IS NEEDED!



Daughters of the King

||| MEN MOVING
FORWARD

MEN'S *Fire* NIGHT

MONDAY SEPT. 14

6-8:30 PM

LOCATION
TBD

\$10 FOR MEAL

RSVP BY TEXTING
"FIRE" ALONG WITH YOUR
FIRST & LAST NAME TO
605-777-7230

MMF RETREAT

MEN'S FALL RETREAT

FOLLOW JESUS: R&B

SEPTEMBER 25TH -26TH

@ BYRON BIBLE CAMP

MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

AWESOME ENVIRONMENT. GREAT FOOD.
WORSHIP AND TEACHING. REST AND RECEIVE
AS WE GO THROUGH FOUR MOVEMENTS:
COME. ENCOUNTER. SERVE. TRUST.



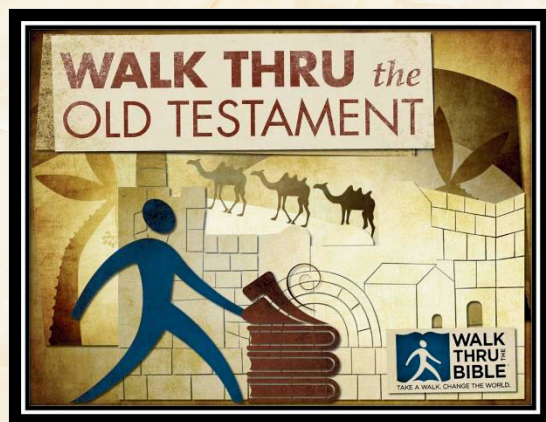
SAVE THE DATE

Upcoming Special Event on Saturday,
October 10th from 9am - Noon.

Walk Thru the Old Testament Live Event Presented by Walk Thru the Bible

We're excited to announce that we will be hosting a Walk Thru the Old Testament Live Event. Join us as we learn the big picture of the Old Testament in just a few short hours! This Live Event is not a boring seminar or lecture. It's an interactive, engaging and fun way to experience the big picture of the Old Testament!

More than 2 million people in the USA and over 10 million worldwide have attended the Walk Thru the Old Testament Live Event, making it one of the most attended events of all time! Join us...you'll be glad you did!



KINGDOM JOURNEY

THE MEMBERS OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE ARE:

Hally Bach, Bruce and Susan Buhler, Jesse Hurkes, Malachi Mennenga, Renee Olson-Stevenson, Tom Henning, Paul Johnson, Ryan Carlson, Trisha Reiffenberger, Larry Reiffenberger, Lynn Jurens, Daisy Jurgens, Al Hendricks, Chad Fleming, Crystal Stein, Paul Rowenhorst

Currently the committee is taking a break for the summer and pondering the next steps of how many, what type of rooms, what size of rooms we should add to our current facilities. Thank you for your generous and faithful giving to the Kingdom Journey Building Campaign. The current amount in the fund is \$ 719,741.89. Thank you for your commitment to Cornerstone Church!

If you have any questions, ideas or concerns please contact Pastor Paul or one of the committee members.

Please pray for God to provide a clear direction for the staff and building committee in deciding on a Multi-Generational, Multi-purpose facility to reach the people of Watertown and surrounding areas. Pray that we continue to life in the rhythm of Jesus' life, Up in worship and prayer, In into community, Out on mission and help people find their spiritual home in Jesus here. May God expand His Kingdom here on earth through Cornerstone Church.



Cornerstone Church is looking for a few
talented and skillful people to join our team!

Office Administrator (Part-Time)

Email resume & statement of faith

Creative Arts & Communications

Coordinator (Full-Time)

Email resume, portfolio & statement of faith

Apply: lvetch@gmail.com

ROYAL FAMILY KIDS CAMP

A WEEK OF TRANSFORMATION



This past July 21–25, our Royal Family Kids Camp at Joy Ranch provided a safe, unforgettable week for children in our region. But the campers aren't the only ones whose lives are transformed by this ministry. As we reflect on the incredible impact of this summer's camp, we want to share the powerful, firsthand testimonies of two of our dedicated volunteers, Harper Hendricks and Travis Robbins.

HARPER HENDRICKS: DISCOVERING AN INFINITE LOVE

Harper went into the week unsure of exactly what to expect, knowing only that she hoped to give the kids a fun time. However, the experience quickly became so much more as she formed deep relationships with both the campers and the staff. A standout moment for Harper was witnessing the children's profound eagerness for love and attention as they got to experience many special "firsts".

By the end of the week, she found that saying goodbye was incredibly difficult. Harper shared that she felt a heavy heart, wishing more than anything that she could continue making an impact and take away the pain these children face at such a young age. But God used that heavy heart to reveal a beautiful truth: "It is so crazy how strong my love is for these kids and what we got to do last week for them, but His love is infinitely stronger and that is amazing".

Reflecting on the week with God has given Harper immense peace. She leaves this summer confident that God loves the campers even more than she does, that He is always with them, and that He will grow the seeds planted in their hearts during camp.



TRAVIS ROBBINS: FINDING HEALING & THE FATHER'S HEART

For Travis, having the opportunity to volunteer as a camper's best friend was a life-changing experience that brought unexpected personal healing. Travis grew up in Maine in a broken home filled with emotional turbulence, illness, and instability. After years of struggling with interpersonal relationships, alcohol, and the law, a turning point came during a brief time in jail in South Dakota. There, reading a New Testament Bible brought him to tears of conviction and led him to give his life to Christ.

While Travis eventually found a supportive church community and began breaking down the spirits of abandonment and self-hate he had carried since childhood, he still struggled to understand what it meant for God to be his Father. He often viewed his faith as a service-based relationship, feeling he had to constantly work to keep God happy with him. That perspective completely shifted at camp.

Through the profound love, support, and accommodation of the camp staff, the heavy weight Travis didn't even realize he had been carrying began to fall off. He realized God wasn't keeping him from his "promised land," but was actively healing him, performing "open heart surgery" to prepare him for the future.

Travis noted that while the week takes all the energy a person has, it is incredibly fulfilling. He hopes more young men will step up to volunteer next year, noting that the camp is not just a chance to give a child the best week of their life, but also a profound opportunity to reflect on God's amazing grace and blessings.

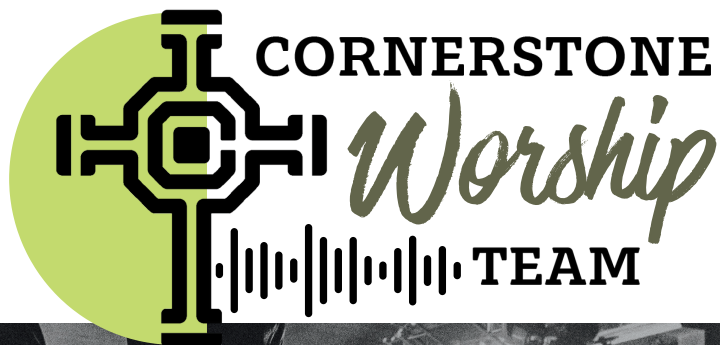


PAM HURST: REDISCOVERING STRENGTH AS A CAMP "GRAMMA"



Serving as "Gramma Pam" this year helped Pam reconnect with a part of herself she had forgotten she possessed. Though she found the week to be emotional, inspiring, and a lot of work, she was reminded just how deeply impactful the experience truly is.

Stepping into the role showed her that as a camp grandparent, a person can do more and feel more than they ever thought possible. She found the physical and emotional strength not only to serve the young children, but also to support the adults and teenagers who spent countless hours working for the well-being of the kids and serving God. Calling it both the hardest and the best week ever, Pam declared, "And this old gal wouldn't miss next year for anything!!!!" She is already looking forward to being right back there next year.



TO EMPOWER PEOPLE TO
ENCOUNTER THE LIFE-
CHANGING PRESENCE OF
GOD TOGETHER.

WORSHIP & PRAYER

CORNERSTONE
CHURCH WORSHIP
CENTER

NIGHT

MONDAY
AUG. 17
6:30PM

If you love to worship and have a gift to sing or play an instrument, we would love to connect with you! Please visit the Connection Center in the lobby, text "Worship" to 605-777-7230, or fill out the interest form here:
www.cornerstonewtn.com/worship

Also, check out our Sunday Setlist for a current list of the Modern worship songs we're singing:
www.cornerstonewtn.com/spotify
www.cornerstonewtn.com/youtube



WHAT IS FREEDOM IN CHRIST MINISTRIES?

HISTORY OF FICM

Freedom in Christ Ministries was founded in 1989 by Dr. Neil T. Anderson while serving as a professor of practical theology. He realized Christians often needed helpful guidance with how to overcome their personal and spiritual conflicts so they could live free and fruitful in Christ. The results of his study and experience are his best-selling books, *Victory Over the Darkness* and *The Bondage Breaker*—along with a biblical, moral and spiritual inventory called *The Steps to Freedom in Christ*. From that beginning, FICM has now grown to hundreds of trained staff and volunteers serving all across the nation and around the world.



COMMON QUESTIONS

WHY IS FREEDOM IN CHRIST IMPORTANT FOR EVERY BELIEVER?

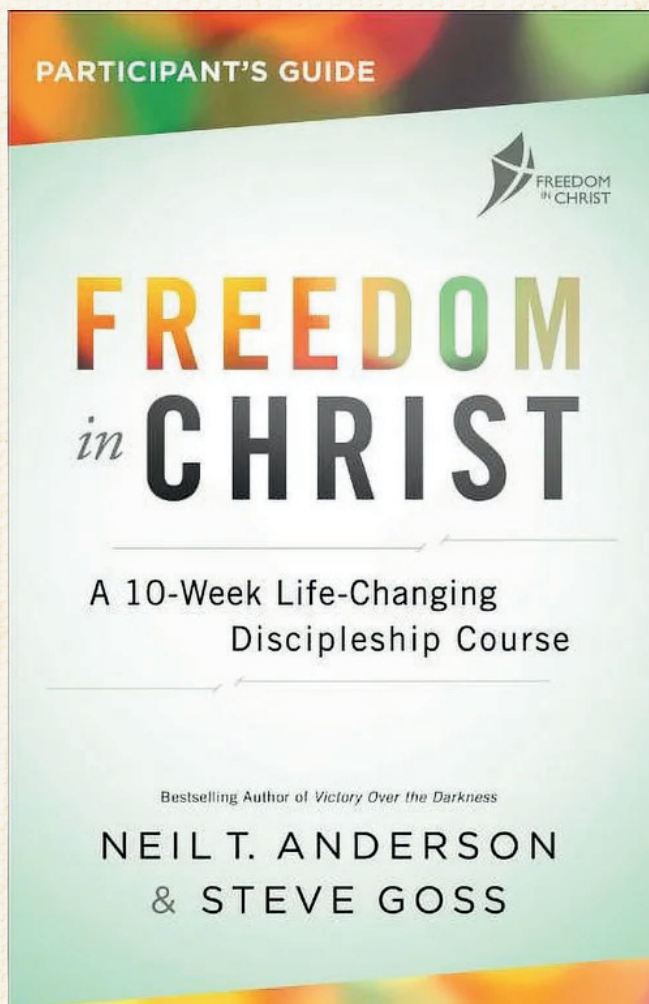
Our salvation in Christ is just the beginning of our discipleship journey to maturity. Sadly, many of God's people are stuck in wrong thinking, feeling and doing; so they can't grow up spiritually or be fruitful. There is a missing ingredient, a bridge, between our salvation in Christ and our maturity in Christ—that bridge is discipleship which includes our freedom in Christ.

IS FICM ONLY FOR STRUGGLING CHRISTIANS?

Absolutely not. Every believer needs to know his or her new identity, position, authority and freedom in Christ. We all battle the traps of the world, sinful tendencies of the flesh and temptations, tricks, and taunts of the devil. FICM is a discipleship ministry for the whole church so that all may walk intimately with Christ as His free and fruitful

IS FICM A SPIRITUAL WARFARE MINISTRY?

FICM is a discipleship ministry. We provide biblically balanced tools to help believers reject lies and choose truth, having their minds renewed and their lives transformed in Christ. Any discipleship ministry that ignores the reality of the spiritual world will be fundamentally flawed. But our purpose in FICM is to help God's people walk closely with the Lord Jesus, freely abiding in Him and bearing much fruit for His glory.



TUESDAYS

(Sept. 15th - Nov. 3rd)

8-week study Room 102

6-7:30 PM

Join us to unpack seven attributes of God, which will change the way you think about Him, yourself, and others. Lead by Travis Berkland.

To sign up for the study text "FIC" along with your first & last name to 605-777-7230

AUGUST 23 BACK TO 3 SERVICES
8:00 | 9:30 | 11:00 AM

KICKOFF SUNDAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS SEPTEMBER 13TH



MINISTRY TEAM:

Steve Anderson: *Senior Pastor*
Paul Rownhorst: *Executive/Men's Pastor*
Jesse Hurkes: *Youth Pastor*
Mark Tracy: *Pastor of Outreach/Missions*
Nicol Theron: *Women's Ministry Director/Office Manager/Creative Arts*
Jill Hauger: *Kids Ministry Director*
Brandon Trupe: *Worship Pastor*
Lucas Severson: *Director of Technology/Creative Arts*
Malachi Mennenga: *Maintenance/Youth Ministry Assistant*
Lexie Vetch: *Communications & Business Assistant*
Abby Keyes: *Financial Manager/Youth Ministry Assistant* • Emily Trupe: *Youth Ministry Assistant*
Bethany Severson: *Hospitality Coordinator* | Travis Berkland: *FIC Coordinator*
Jen Koistinen • Mandy Hilmoe • Molly Lindgren: *Kids Ministry Assistants*
Anna Ruschmeier: *Kids Hospitality* • Lindsay Conrad: *Nursery Coordinator*
Marissa Stone: *Kids Hope Coordinator*
Lehla Pietz: *First Service Director of Music*
Shannon Berg: *Custodian*
Guy Gibson: *Safety/Security Director*

2025 FINANCIAL AND ATTENDANCE REPORT

Annual Budget: \$1,914,710.00
\$36,821.35 needed per week to meet budget • Weekly average received for budget expenses - \$33,210.43
General Fund Year-to-Date Income: \$996,313.00 Building Fund Balance: \$719,741.89
Attendance (in-person average): 1st - 188 • 2nd- 632 ; Online- 128 | TOTAL = 948
Average Weekly Food Pantry Families: 70

**To view the church calendar
use the QR code or go to
www.cornerstonewtn.com/calendar**