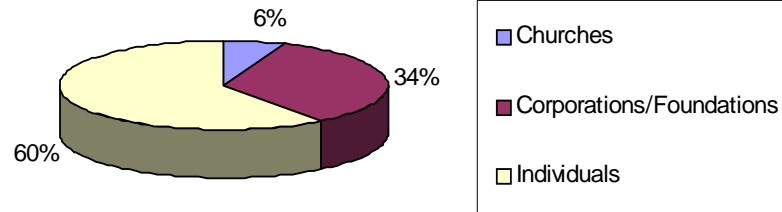


Giving Synopsis for 2006

Cornerstone is grateful for the 450 individuals who gave a financial gift in 2006. Although your names are not listed, please know that we are thankful for your support of our mission to urban children.

Giving Breakdown



SUPPORTING CHURCHES

- Abington Baptist Church- Abington, PA
- Beadle Memorial Presbyterian- Cape May Point, NJ
- Belmont Baptist- Broomall, PA
- Beverly Hills Presbyterian- Upper Darby, PA
- Christ Baptist- Burlington, NJ
- Christ Presbyterian- Gibbstown, NJ
- Church of the Good Samaritan- Paoli, PA
- Collins/West Hartland United Methodist- Collins, OH
- Concord Baptist- Philadelphia, PA
- Faith Deliverance Christian Center- Norfolk, PA
- First Baptist- Huntingdon Valley, PA
- Harrisonburg Mennonite- Harrisonburg, VA
- Holmesburg Baptist- Philadelphia, PA
- International City Community- Philadelphia, PA
- Narberth Presbyterian- Narberth, PA
- North and Southampton Reformed- Churchville, PA
- Northminster Presbyterian- Cincinnati, OH
- Old Pine Presbyterian- Philadelphia, PA
- Oreland Presbyterian- Oreland, PA
- Paoli Presbyterian- Paoli, PA
- Salem United Methodist- Ephrata, PA
- Scottsville United Methodist- Feasterville, PA
- The Presbyterian Church at Absecon- Absecon, PA
- Wayne Presbyterian- Wayne, PA

CORNERSTONE CHALLENGE

Winter 2007

Dear Friends,

As I come and go each day from the Kingsessing neighborhood where Cornerstone Christian Academy is located, I am reminded of the many challenges the children we serve face. Poverty, violence, neglect, indifference, and injustice are present realities in the lives of our students. There are days when I look beyond the barbwire-fence that surrounds our campus and I wonder how our kids can successfully compete with the obstacles before them.

of these graduates pursue higher education. Despite the challenges our students face, they are achieving success at a remarkable level because of the quality Christian education they are receiving at Cornerstone.

Thank you for sharing in our vision and supporting our ministry with your prayers, volunteer time, and financial contributions. **Your gifts are helping to transform the lives of two hundred underserved urban children.** On the back page of this newsletter you will find a brief summary of the support we received last year. The bottom line is we would not be here without your help. Please continue to invest in the lives of Cornerstone children. Your generosity is helping to bring life and hope to our kids and the Kingsessing community.

Gratefully,


Richard Ollinger
President/CEO

It is at these times that the Lord reminds me of the vision he gave the prophet Ezekiel. While standing in the middle of a valley of dry bones, the Lord asked Ezekiel if the bones could live. The prophet replied, "Lord, you are the only one who knows" (37:3). Then God told Ezekiel to prophesy to the bones that they might live. Obeying God, Ezekiel prophesied and life was restored in the dry bones. "... there was noise, and behold a shaking and the bones came together, bone to bone. And, . . . lo, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and skin covered them" (37:7-8).

God has given a vision to us at Cornerstone Christian Academy to be a beacon of light and hope for children in southwest Philadelphia. Daily we proclaim to our students that they can experience new and abundant life in Jesus and that the cycle of despair so prevalent in their surroundings can be broken with a quality education. Indeed, the facts show that our efforts are worthwhile. Over 95% of Cornerstone's graduates earn a high school degree (compared to well under 50% from the neighborhood), and nearly two-thirds

SUPPORTING FOUNDATIONS

- Allen Toebe Foundation
- Wachovia Foundation
- Advanced Practice Foundation
- City Lights
- Fishes and Loaves Foundation
- Gabrielle Family Foundation
- Mennonite Foundation
- Merck Company Foundation
- Pennsylvania Family Institute
- Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

SUPPORTING CORPORATIONS

- Anonymous
- Philip Morris USA
- Wendy's
- Eastwick Helping Hands
- Rittenhouse Farm LLC
- Wyeth
- LifeWay
- Science and Educational Encounters
- Martin Stone Quarries (EITC)
- Sovereign Insurance Group
- Nihill & Riedly, PC
- Spring Park Pharmacy, Inc.
- On-Air Family
- The Geneva School, Inc.

The Educational Improvement Tax Credit program, sponsored by the State of Pennsylvania, provides qualifying Pennsylvania corporations with a tax credit when they contribute towards scholarships for Cornerstone students.



THANK YOU TO OUR EITC CORPORATE SPONSORS!



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 4- Voices in Praise Choir at Paoli Presbyterian Church in Paoli, PA (lunch following 11:30 a.m. service)*

Month of February- Black History Month

Apr. 29- Voices in Praise Choir at Abington Baptist Church in Abington, PA (lunch following 10:30 a.m. service)*

May 11- Circle Of Friends Breakfast, Radnor Hotel*

***To RSVP or get involved in these events, please contact our Development office at (215)724-6858 x233**



From the desk of

Deborah Lee

Elementary Principal
Reading Specialist



Now that we have returned from the holiday break to serve here at Cornerstone, I am reminded of the "revival of pledges" my colleagues and I have made. I personally re-committed myself to forming young people into well-rounded Christian citizens who will make a difference in the Kingsessing neighborhood. I speak for my fellow teachers and staff when I say that the fall was hard work: we gave our intellectual and emotional energy each day to classrooms of eager students.

While the school year's beginning in September is always hopeful, I appreciate graduation more because it demonstrates nine months of our teacher's dedication and endurance. I believe that hard work pays off because a Cornerstone education gives our students the competitive edge they need in high school, college and their careers.

Here is a peek at some of the opportunities our students will have this winter and spring at Cornerstone:

- Annual "Egypt Day" was in January. Ms. Grant's sixth grade Social Studies class researched various Egyptians and made oral presentations in full dress to the entire student body.
- February is African-American history month. This is a time for our students to remember their heritage and pledge their service to their community.
- The annual Science Fair will be this spring for groups in third to eighth grades who will make presentations on scientific experiments. Teachers and staff review these projects and award students based on creativity, accuracy and strength of presentation.

Our goal in these activities and in the classroom is to develop young Christian leaders. Please pray that our students will continue to work hard and believe in their God-given abilities to achieve.

IN FOCUS: The Cornerstone story is diverse and unfolding before our eyes: students, parents, staff and friends making a difference together.



Joyce Lewis and **Promise** (2nd grade) pose together after a morning of reading. Promise enjoys being a part of the Reading Stars program and spending time with her mentor. "I like learning new things when I am reading. Mrs. Lewis has shown me some new books to read," says Promise. Nearly 30 students are involved with the Reading Stars program at CCA.



On January 13, 2007, our **friends from Narberth Presbyterian Church** came to help beautify and clean the school. In addition to cleaning and doing minor repairs, they helped stuff envelopes for a large mailing. We thank them for their time and commitment to Cornerstone.



Before the Christmas break, after much practice and preparation, all Cornerstone students were involved in putting on the musical production of "Dr. Newheart's Christmas Cure." Above, **kindergartener Stephanie** shows off her angel costume. Ms. Ross' kindergarten class sang "Holy Night," celebrating the wonderful birth of Jesus Christ. Thank you to all parents and family members who were able to be a part of this evening.



Student Sightings

The 6th grade computer class, taught by Ms. Melanie, wrote acrostic poems with the goal of learning how to format in Microsoft Word. Patience Dennis' poem below is a great expression of how she sees Cornerstone.

Cornerstone is a good school.
 Our teachers teach us everything.
 Reading is important in this school.
 No student can wear regular clothes.
 Every class is for learning, not for play.
 Reading is taught by Mr. Cammisa.
 Students are not to wear sneakers.
 Two hundred students are at this school.
 One teacher is in every class.
 No student is to wear jeans.
 Every classroom is clean!!!



6th graders **Patience** and **George** point to a map during a recent presentation on Egypt.

CONNECTING TO CORNERSTONE

Our vision is for you to be included in creating a quality educational environment. Here's how you can help during 2006-2007:

Volunteer Opportunities: There are numerous projects always in progress. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator Erica Cheslock, 215.724.6858 x233, echeslock@cornerstonephiladelphia.com.

Financial Support: you can give immediately by enclosing your gift in the envelope provided.

You can also give by:
Stock: transfers in 48 hours
Corporate Match: ask your employer about a dollar-for-dollar match of your gift.
Educational Improvement Tax Credit: corporate donors may qualify for 90% in tax credits from the State of Pennsylvania.
United Way of Tri-state: you are eligible if you work in New Jersey, New York or Connecticut.
In-kind Gifts: see the wish list on our website for needed supplies.

Come visit us: Come take a student-led tour of Cornerstone at any time during the school year.

Staff Snapshots

Get to know those that serve our students!

Kristine Harper



Kristine serves in many different capacities at Cornerstone. In addition to supervising the lunchroom, assisting in the main office, and working with the after school program, Kristine is also a substitute teacher. Kristine is a graduate of Temple University and previously taught at Sanctuary Christian Academy.

Alison Wear



Mrs. Wear is in her third year of teaching at Cornerstone as the middle school language arts instructor. She has an undergraduate degree from Samford University (Birmingham, AL) in Sociology and a graduate degree in Theological Studies from Palmer Seminary. "I teach at CCA to have the opportunity to put my faith into action, serving and educating young people."



Save the Date!!
CIRCLE OF FRIENDS BREAKFAST
Your chance to join the "Campaign for Cornerstone"

*Friday, May 11 from 7-8 a.m.
Radnor Hotel in Radnor, PA.*