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April 2020

# Celebration!

Last weekend we had our annual Cornerstone Celebrates banquet and we had the opportunity to celebrate the successes of 2019 and the first few months of 2020. We have so many reasons to celebrate: God, our guests, our staff, our volunteers and of course, our donors in the community who make our services possible. We are grateful we have a community that rallies around the Mission and recognizes the crucial services we provide to the area's neediest people.

Mother and daughter team, Sandy Gryder and Samantha (Sam) Nicks, were our keynote speakers. They told a very moving story of how they lived a very pleasant upper middle-class life and lost everything due to an economic downturn during the gulf oil spill in Mississippi and surrounding states. Through the grace of God, friends, church and family, who provided them shelter, food, money and helped pay their hotel bills, they were eventually able to get on their feet. Their story of sheer tenacity, courage and hope was compelling and brought tears to many eyes in the room. Most families in America today are a few paychecks away from homelessness and their story proved it can happen to anyone. Hani Shafai received our Cornerstone Spirit Award. Hani is a good friend of the mission and is never too busy to assist us in any way he can, whether it be financially, with his time or his advice. Thanks for all you do for us and the community Hani! Fred Erdman, a long-time board member, was

honored for his service to the mission. He has resigned from the board, but his incredible humility, kindness and desire to help the poor leaves a long-lasting legacy. An anonymous volunteer from the Thrift Store received the Volunteer Spirit Award. She did not want to be recognized publicly and we honored her request. She volunteers multiple hours a week and has done so for several years. As you spring clean, please remember Cornerstone Thrift Store - proceeds primarily go to the Cornerstone Women and Children's Home.

It is also a time to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. As winter ends and spring begins, new life abounds, physically and spiritually. Regardless of what is happening in the world or around us, Jesus offers refreshment, resurrection and hope. Spring brings life and renewal to our earth. Easter brings life and renewal to our spirits.

Happy Easter,  
Lysa



**This letter was written to Maryann Leanna, Program Director of the Cornerstone Apartments. It is certainly a special testament to Maryann and her dedicated staff!**

“To Maryann & Staff:

Wow another year is here! Another year that I have a roof over my head. Thank God. I'm proud to be the longest renting tenant here. My story is a good one. I will hold my head high, but not too high I'll get dizzy. But all joking aside, thanks is all to you Maryann, and your staff and of course the community. May God bless you throughout the coming year. You bring joy and happiness to so many people that are lost and alone. When they walk through the door to their new home it's a great comfort. Just as it was for me 9 years ago. I never thought I'd be able to keep and support myself and have a roof over my head ever. But here I am 9 years in. So much thanks to you Maryann and your staff for your support and patience and understanding. And all the rides and paperwork you've helped me with. I couldn't of done it without you. So here's to the coming year. I can walk instead of Run!

Sincerely, Denise L. Cook”



Black Hills Federal Credit Union employees from across the state made care kits as part of their special meeting and service day. Cornerstone was lucky enough to receive over 200 of these kits. They are such useful kits for our guests and we thank everyone at Black Hills Federal Credit Union who gave of their time and resources!

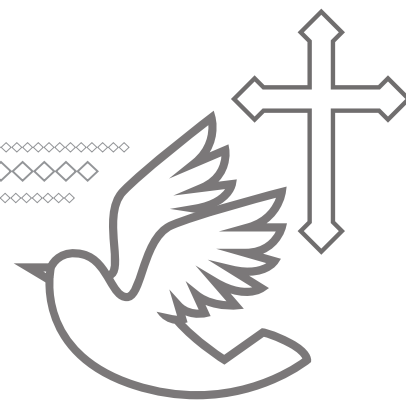


Our friends at Modern Woodmen dropped off personal care items for our guests at 30 Main. So generous of them!



## Congratulations Chris & Curt!

Two of our dear friends at Cornerstone got married! Curtis Steward, one of our faithful volunteers, and Chris Collins, a longtime employee of Cornerstone were married on February 15th in the dining room of 30 Main. God truly brought together these two wonderful people and we wish them many happy years together!



## Thank You!

Cornerstone serves 3 meals a day, every day of the year! With serving up to 175 people at a meal, this requires a tremendous amount of food. That is where the churches and other groups step in. Most of our evening and weekend meals are provided and served by these wonderful people. We want to give a hearty THANKS to the groups below that step in and provide these meals. Often these groups have done it for years and even decades! They faithfully do it without a lot of attention or praise. The simple fact is that Cornerstone could not feed all our guests, and the needy individuals who dine with us, without these amazing groups. So THANK YOU - you know who you are - and we apologize if we have left anyone off this list.

Word of Hope - Our Lady of the Black Hills - 7th Day Adventist - GE Capital/Synchrony  
 - Trinity Lutheran - Little White Church - EAFB Catholic Chapel - Calvary Baptist -  
 EAFB Protestant Chapel - Same Day Surgery Center - Shepherd of the Hills -  
 Canyon Lake Methodist - Zion Lutheran - Bethel Assembly - Frank Osborne group -  
 Monument Health - First Christian - Black Hawk Community Church -  
 Cathedral of our Lady of Perpetual Help - First Baptist - South Park United -  
 St. Therese - South Canyon Lutheran - Calvary Lutheran - Crossroads Wesleyan -  
 EAFB Top3 - Franciscan Order/Living Stones - First United Methodist - Rimrock E-Free  
 - Shotokan Karate Center - First Assembly of God - Westminster Presbyterian -  
 Blessed Sacrament - Open Heart UMC - Kristin Bennet group - Regional Health -  
 Emmanuel Episcopal - Rapid Valley United Methodist - Faith Lutheran -  
 First Congregational - Bethlehem Lutheran - First Wesleyan



2020  
CORNERSTONE  
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Cornerstone Rescue Mission's  
*Volunteer Appreciation  
Breakfast*

*Place:* Terra Sancta Retreat Center  
2101 City Springs Road • Rapid City

*When:* May 16th • 8:30 a.m.

Come join us for a Breakfast Buffet and  
a celebration of all the wonderful Volunteers  
who support Cornerstone!

Please RSVP to Deb by May 4th at 718-8712  
or [dberg@cornerstonemission.org](mailto:dberg@cornerstonemission.org)

*Hope to see you there!*



*Needs  
List:*

*Thank You!!*

MEN'S MISSION  
30 Main St.

KITCHEN

Fruits and vegetables, eggs, milk,  
coffee, sugar, oatmeal, pancake mix  
Cream of mushroom or chicken soup  
all kinds of meat.

MISSION:

Foot powder, towels, twin-sized  
blankets, twin-sized sheets, cold  
weather outerwear, reading glasses,  
bottled water for sack lunches,  
personal hygiene items for men &  
women, backpacks.

CORNERSTONE THRIFT  
STORE

401 - 11th Street

Beds, furniture and appliances,  
kitchen items, home décor.

WOMEN & CHILDREN'S  
HOME

301 Fox Run Drive

Coffee, eggs, milk, cereal, sandwich  
bread, butter, sugar, laundry soap,  
dish soap, baby wash, baby lotion,  
kleenex, clorox wipes and personal  
hygiene items.

VETERANS - 30 Main St.

Shoes, boots, thermal underwear,  
sugar, creamer, antiperspirant, lotion,  
backpacks, coffee.

APARTMENTS  
1220 East Blvd.

Dish soap and household cleaners.

ADOPT A FAMILY

Gas cards, oil changes, laundry soap,  
dish soap, toilet paper, household  
items.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CORNERSTONE RESCUE MISSION  
(The enclosed envelope is for your convenience. We are serving more people every day. Your help is appreciated!)