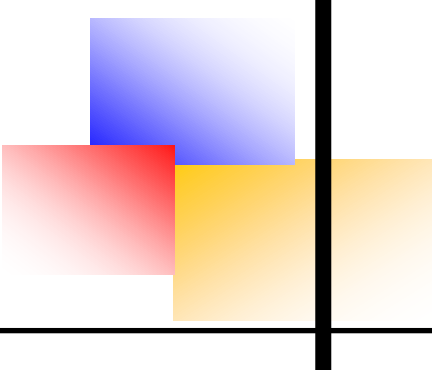




## CONNECTIONS JULY 2026



Centerpoint Community Church  
101 School Street  
Salem, NH 03079  
Pastor: Rev. Zach Crowell

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### Proclaim Liberty in Christ: America's 250th Anniversary

This 4<sup>th</sup> of July, America will celebrate 250 years since the Declaration of Independence. As we celebrate, we reflect on the freedom that is given to us individually and as a nation by our Creator. True liberty is not the right to do whatever we please, but the gift of God that enables us to live rightly before Him, love our neighbors, and seek the common good. The Apostle Paul reminds us, "For freedom Christ has set us free" (Galatians 5:1), but he also warns us not to use freedom selfishly, but rather "through love serve one another" (Galatians 5:13).



Scripture tells us that our human dignity comes from God, and therefore no one can take it from us, "God created humanity in his own image, male and female He made them" (Genesis 1:27). This truth established the Declaration of Independence's key words that "all men are created equal" and "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights." Our rights are not given to us by a government; they come from God. 250 years ago, we began a democratic experiment to serve and uphold those rights. That biblical vision of freedom is also engraved on the 1751 Liberty Bell in Philadelphia: "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the Land unto all the Inhabitants thereof" (Leviticus 25:10). The bell's inscription points to the Old Testament Jubilee which was a year of release, restoration, freedom, and mercy for those who had become captive. Certainly, America has not always lived up to its founding ideals, and at times we've gotten things very wrong. During the



Civil War, abolitionists embraced the Liberty Bell's message as a biblical call for freedom to slaves in bondage. Americans brutally fought and died to win this cause and conquer the sin of slavery. Our Biblical ideals continually serve as the moral compass and goal for repentance, correction, reform, and creating a better nation.

As we celebrate America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, let us give thanks for the blessings of liberty and religious freedom, while remembering that our ultimate hope is in Christ. May we proclaim the Gospel of Liberty in Jesus Christ with hope, gratitude, humility, truth, and grace . . . and may God Bless America!

**Pastor Zach,**

## Brotherhood Ministry



The Brotherhood Ministry exists to help men grow in their relationship with Christ and build meaningful connections with one another. This spring, we were blessed to host Men's Breakfast gatherings in both April and June. These events provided a wonderful opportunity for men to enjoy fellowship, worship, prayer, and encouragement while building relationships with one another.

We are grateful for all the men who attended and helped make these gatherings a success. Whether you are new to Centerpoint or have been attending for years, Brotherhood is a place where men can connect, grow in their faith, and encourage one another in their walk with Christ. We are always excited to welcome new faces and hope you'll consider joining us at an upcoming event.

**"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." — Proverbs 27:17**

### Upcoming Events

- **August 1** – BBQ at Jaime Marenco's House
- **September 12** – Breakfast at Centerpoint Church
- **October 2** – Cabin Camping
- **November 7** – Bowling Night

Sign-up information for each event will be posted as the dates approach. We encourage all men to join us as we continue growing together in faith, fellowship, and service to Christ.

# JOIN OUR YOUTH GROUP!

## JULY EVENTS

Fridays - 6-8:30pm

- ✗ July 3rd - No Youth Group
- ✓ July 10<sup>th</sup> - Youth Group Game Night!
- ✚ July 17<sup>th</sup> - UpKids! Volunteers Hype Night!
- ✚ July 18<sup>th</sup> - UpKids! Volunteers 8:30-4pm
- ✓ July 24<sup>th</sup> - Youth Group Night Out @ Chucksters!
- ✗ July 31<sup>st</sup> - No Youth Group

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Youth Group Game Night

July 10<sup>th</sup>  
@ Centerpoint!

### Youth Group Night Out

July 24<sup>th</sup>  
@ Chucksters!  
Sign Up Here!



UPKids!  
July 18<sup>th</sup> Volunteer  
with Ms. Becky



Laser Tag!

Youth Workday!



## FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE REACH OUT TO MR. MIKE:  
MTSWOODWORKING.NH@GMAIL.COM

CENTERPOINT  
YOUTH



# KIDS' CHURCH

## Summer Schedule

WORSHIPING. GROWING. TOGETHER. 



### IMPORTANT DATES



Last Kids' Church session before summer break:

**JUNE 28**

Summer break during July & August 

Kids' Church resumes:

**SEPTEMBER 6**

Thank You,  
**VOLUNTEERS!** 



This summer break gives our incredible volunteers time to rest and recharge. We are so grateful for their time, energy, and love all year long!

### WORSHIPING TOGETHER ALL SUMMER!

During July and August, we encourage children to join their families in the full worship service. As an intergenerational church, we value worshiping, praying, singing, and learning together as one church family.



#### Tools to Help Our Little Worshippers

Clipboards, crayons, and pencils will be available each week to help children engage during the service. Wiggles are welcome! 



#### Extra Space When Needed



The Family Room and Social Hall will remain open during worship, with the service streamed live. 

Thank You,  
**Families!** 

Thank you for entrusting us with your children this year. It has been a joy and a privilege to teach them about Jesus and the incredible love of God. We have loved watching them learn, grow, ask questions, and build friendships within our church family. 

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORSHIPING TOGETHER THIS SUMMER  
AND WELCOMING EVERYONE BACK TO KIDS' CHURCH ON SEPTEMBER 6!



## **AWANA Registration is NOW OPEN!!!**

AWANA will be returning to Centerpoint this fall! Ashley Smith and Jess Mullen are teaming up to direct this year's AWANA clubs for **grades kindergarten through 5th grade.**

### **What is AWANA?**

Awana is a world-wide nonprofit ministry focused on providing Bible-based evangelism and discipleship. Awana gives children the opportunity to know, love and serve Jesus, no matter their background.

At Centerpoint, our AWANA club is dedicated to providing a fun, caring, environment where children study and memorize the Word of God to equip them for living the Christian life in a fallen world. **A typical night of AWANA includes a large group meeting time with songs, small group time to study and recite scripture, and time for fun games.**

**AWANA will start September 9th  
Wednesdays from 6-7:30pm  
Register Today! Just use the QR Code or link below!**





<https://centerpointsalem.breezechms.com/form/2602d17099256268>

Welcome Team does not go on summer break! ☺ We welcome members and visitors year-round. 🤝 If you can say "Good morning", 😊 smile, 🙋 hand out a bulletin, then you would be a perfect fit. After the service, we also serve at the Welcome Desk — greeting members and guests, assisting with sign-ups, and helping everyone feel connected and at home. If you would like to serve on the Welcome Team **now, or start in the Fall**, please email Valerie [Valerie.fowler@centerpointsalem.org](mailto:Valerie.fowler@centerpointsalem.org) or call the church office. We would be happy to add you to the schedule. Commitment is not more than once every two months

| Role                          | Jul 5                              | Jul 12                                | Jul 19                         | Jul 26                     | Aug 2                          |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Welcome Desk-After Service    | Marenco, Melissa                   | Fowler, Valerie                       | Brown, Rosanne                 | Riccardi, Mandy            | Moriarty, Linda                |
| Front Walkway or Door Greeter | Riccardi, Shawn<br>Riccardi, Mandy | Patrakes, Sherry<br>Patrakes, Jeffrey | MENARIO, LAURA<br>Fowler, Lisa | Artz, Steve<br>Artz, Jerie | Spencer, John<br>Spencer, Jill |

Coming up.....

**UP KIDS! SATURDAY CAMP**

Join us ON **JULY 18TH!**

**K-5TH GRADE**

Registration is now **OPEN**

**SIGN UP TODAY**

WE ALSO HAVE A SPECIAL EXPERIENCE FOR OUR YOUNGEST ADVENTURERS!

**UPLittles!**  
PRESCHOOL-PRE-K

Scan to register!

Adventure, creativity, water games, and so much fun!

Building character, growing faith, making memories!

**POINTING KIDS UPWARD IN GOD'S WORLD!**



What is the Food for Thought Closet?

A small food pantry for basic essentials for families who need assistance.

How does it work?

Contact the church office or a member of the FFT team to visit our food closet.

What can I do to help?

Add two or three items from the list below to add to the inventory.

#### **Items needed.....**

Ketchup  
Yellow Mustard  
Juice  
Chicken Broth  
Mayo  
Mac & Cheese  
Instant Coffee  
Jelly or Jam

Spaghetti Sauce  
Canned Tomatoes  
Applesauce  
Canned fruit  
Tomato Paste  
Snack Bars  
Canned Chicken

#### **Household & Personal Care Products**

Paper Plates  
Paper Cups  
Plastic Utensils  
Shampoo  
Body Wipes

Laundry Detergent or  
pods  
Paper Towels  
Toilet Tissue

### **Food for Thought & Isaiah 58 Ministry Update A Season Filled with Blessings**

First and foremost, we give praise and thanks to our Lord for the opportunity to serve those in need and support Isaiah 58 throughout the year.

It has been a true blessing to work alongside such dedicated volunteers—women and men who faithfully cook, prepare, set up, serve, clean up, and share Christ's love with our guests each month. Your servant hearts make this ministry possible.

Michael from Isaiah 58 is continually impressed by the abundance of food provided and the warm, welcoming atmosphere created by our church family. Throughout the season, we received many compliments from guests who enjoyed everything from homemade soups to Jeffrey's award-winning blue-ribbon chili.

More importantly, they experienced fellowship, kindness, and genuine care—something that can be just as nourishing as the meal itself.

#### **Attention Sandwich Makers!**

Food for Thought will continue making sandwiches throughout the summer months. Our next sandwich-making day will be **Tuesday, July 14th at 9:00 a.m.**

Thank you for your continued dedication and support. You are the BEST!

#### **A Wonderful Finale to the Tailgating Season**

Our last Tailgating Luncheon of the season was held on **June 16th**, and what a celebration it was! Guests enjoyed a cookout featuring grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, along with a

delicious assortment of side dishes prepared by Sisterhood members. Thank you, ladies, for helping make the day so special.

We are also grateful to the Salem Area Women's Club for donating cookies, which were enjoyed by all.

The highlight of the day was our ice cream sundae bar, complete with an array of toppings, whipped cream, and cherries. It was a sweet ending to a wonderful afternoon!

We were blessed with a great turnout, welcoming both familiar faces and first-time guests. The room was filled with laughter, conversation, and meaningful connections as old friendships were renewed, and new ones began.

### **Special Partnership**

A special thank-you goes to the Salem Area Women's Club for partnering with us each month to make sandwiches in our church kitchen. We are delighted that this collaboration will continue throughout the summer.

### **The Tailgating Luncheon will return in September.**

Until then, thank you to everyone who has supported this ministry through your prayers, donations, and countless hours of service. Your generosity has touched many lives and continues to be a shining example of Christ's love in action.

Welcome to our food closet



Meals to cook in a to go bag.

Food assistance available – inquire at the Welcome Desk



Children's Library Summer ☀️ Reading Challenge";

"High Five for 5!" 🖐️

Earn a prize 🏆 for every 5 books 📖 you read this summer! ☀️

Stop by the "Children's Library" and start your next adventure today. 😊

How to begin...Visit the Children's Library to check out a book 📖 and pick up a "Reading Challenge" bookmark to record the titles of your books. After reading 5 books turn your bookmark in, (be sure to write your name on it), and pick out a prize. Then start reading the next five. Let's see who can read the most books this summer! 🏆

\*Parents as your child participates in the Summer Reading Challenge, please encourage them to choose books that are appropriate for their reading level. The goal is to foster a love of reading ❤️ while helping them grow as readers all summer long! 📖 ☀️

**\*\*Teens & Adults can participate too!\*\***

"Reading Challenge bookmarks will be in the **Church Library** also. Hmm...who will read more books this summer? Kids or Adults?! 🖐️

Questions? Email [valerie.fowler@centerpointsalem.org](mailto:valerie.fowler@centerpointsalem.org)



Our Monthly Newsletter is a great opportunity to stay connected with write-ups, testimonies, descriptions, articles, pictures, news, and celebrations of ministry events.

We encourage you to take the time to share and celebrate your experience, testimonies, and blessings with the whole church community through our Connections newsletter. We are all encouraged by one another, and by what God is doing through the many different groups at Centerpoint.

**Your information is due by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month for the upcoming month's publication.**

Please E-mail your submission to Valerie Fowler at [valerie.fowler@centerpointsalem.org](mailto:valerie.fowler@centerpointsalem.org) or the church office [office@centerpointsalem.org](mailto:office@centerpointsalem.org) We look forward to hearing from you.