

CONNECTIONS

NOVEMBER 2026



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

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Messy Branches, Faithful God: Jesus' Family Tree

Sermon series leading up to Christmas.

Beginning Sunday, November 8, we will journey through Matthew 1, exploring the messy details of Jesus' family tree. The series will continue through the Sundays leading up to Christmas.

Long before the manger in Bethlehem, God was moving His plan of redemption forward through generations of real people. We will meet men and women whose stories reveal promise and failure, courage and compromise, repentance and quiet obedience. Their lives are messy and broken—much like our own.

Yet the thread running through every generation is not human perfection, but God's faithfulness. When His people stumble, doubt, wander, or fail, He does not abandon His promises. He works through weakness, welcomes outsiders, restores the repentant, and carries His saving purpose forward.



Each week, we will pause along the road to Bethlehem to consider Abraham, Judah, Rahab, Ruth, David, Manasseh, and Joseph. Their lives remind us that grace works through our failures, faithfulness matters, and God can be trusted even when we cannot yet see how His promises will be fulfilled.

Every story leads us to Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Son of God. Join us each Sunday as we trace His family tree, find hope for our own imperfect stories, and celebrate the faithful God who keeps every promise.

Pastor Zach

What's Your Ten? A Challenge to Give

The New Testament encourages us to give wisely, generously, and joyfully. Many Christians use the principle of tithing as a guide, setting aside the first 10% of their income for their church, other charitable causes, or people in need.

For families working hard to make ends meet, giving 10% can feel like an impossible goal. Our financial capacity changes through different seasons of life, and tithing may not be realistic for you right now, but perhaps a goal to strive toward.

But what could be your ten? Could you commit to giving an extra \$10 a month? Maybe \$10 a week—or even \$10 a day? The amount may differ for each of us; what matters is taking a faithful next step.

As a church community, we continually see the Lord faithfully provide as each of us gives generously and stewards our resources wisely. Our volunteers accomplish remarkable things for God's kingdom, often with limited resources. Financial giving is one important way we support this shared ministry and put our faith into action.

In Luke 12, Jesus asks us to consider what we treasure—or stated another way, what we love. His question reaches the heart of our priorities: Do we treasure God's kingdom above everything else? Do we seek his kingdom first? If so, how do the ways our time and money reflect that love?

As you consider *your ten*, ask God to show you a faithful and joyful next step.

In Him,
Pastor Zach



**Don't forget to change your clock
this Sunday.**

BAPTISM

Baptism Weekend November 14-15

We Celebrate New Life in Christ!

Are you ready to take the next step of commitment to follow Jesus Christ with your life? It's time to get BAPTIZED in Jesus' name and proclaim that He is your Lord and Savior (Matthew 28:18-20)! Water baptism represents dying to oneself and rising again in new life in Christ (Romans 6:3-4). We were born once in the flesh, and we must be born again in the Spirit (John 3:5-7). As believers in Jesus, we choose to be baptized as an outward symbol and proclamation of our inward turning away from sin and toward new life of following Jesus.

Email or call the church office for more information or to receive our *Centerpoint Baptism Application and Bible Study*. You can print these from home or come by the church office to pick up a copy. We will assign you a mentor who will help walk you through the study materials. We will schedule individual baptisms throughout the baptism weekend.

It's time to plunge into your new life in Christ. Repent, believe, be baptized, and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). What are you waiting for?

Pastor Zach,



1st Sunday Prayer Gathering 6pm in the Sanctuary

As we focus on prayer this Fall, we are starting a 1st Sunday 6pm prayer hour. This will be a simple and reflective time of individual and corporate prayer, interspersed with worship singing. This prayer hour will also begin our *One Church One Day* of prayer each month. Unplug from the world and enter his house of prayer: Sept 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6

The Gifts of Christmas Variety Show

Saturday, December 12 | 6:00 PM

Calling All Talent!

Centerpoint is excited to host our annual **Christmas Variety Show!** This is a wonderful night to celebrate with our church family and invite friends and neighbors to share in the joy of Christmas.

We are looking for **12 acts** to create a true variety show to celebrate the birth of Jesus—musical (**vocal and instrumental**), choir, dance, spoken word, comedy, and more! Think of a classic, family-friendly variety production full of **faith, hope, and love**. Like last year, the show plans to feature a variety of Christmas worship songs & carols, classic Christmas songs, instrumentals, dance, and more.

Along with the show, we will be featuring **Desserts from Around the World** and a **Hot Cocoa Bar**.

Get Involved:

If you are interested in performing or have any questions, please reach out to **Matthew Jones**, as he will be coordinating the acts and production. We're looking for solo acts, duos, small groups, large groups... you name it! We look forward to celebrating with you this Christmas! .



Calling All Singers — and Those Who'd Like to Be!

Do you love Christmas music? Have you ever wanted to sing in a choir? Now's your chance to join the fun!

The Gifts of Christmas VARIETY SHOW

Saturday, December 12th at 6:00 PM

We're looking for adults and children to be part of the choir for The Gifts of Christmas Variety Show!

Whether you're a seasoned singer or just love to sing Christmas carols in the shower (we won't ask for an audition there! 😊), we'd love to have you join us!

Rehearsals Start November 1st
after church

Ready to share your voice?
Contact Deb Stolar or the church office for more information.

Let's fill the season with music, laughter, and the joy of Christmas!

FALL FESTIVAL & CHILI COOK-OFF!

What a blessed afternoon with our Centerpoint family! The chili competition was peppery hot this year, with 13 entries ranging from venison chili to buffalo chicken chili—and everything in between. Chrystal Ramond flew into third place with her chicken chili, Ryan Tremblay lassoed second place with his award-winning Texas chili, and Miguel Pedro stirred up a first-place finish with his Portuguese roots and chorizo-inspired chili. Awesome job, everyone!



Many people and teams worked behind the scenes to set up, serve, and clean up. We also enjoyed plenty of tasty cornbread, apple desserts, coffee, and cider. Best of all, several new friends visited Centerpoint, heard the gospel message, and experienced the joy of a loving community of believers. **Thank you to everyone who helped make the day so special!**



Acts 2:42, 46–47: *“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer . . . and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”*

Help for those dealing with grief during the holidays



SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

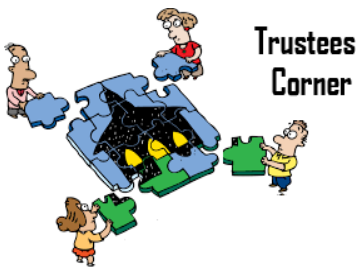
No matter how long it's been since your loved one died, grief can make the holidays a painful time. But there's hope. Join us for an encouraging seminar that will help you survive the holidays and discover new reasons to enjoy them again.

Saturday, November 7th 10AM

GRIEF SHARE

Call the church office, or speak with Lorraine Lindenberg or Dolores VanBlarcom for more information.

A Few Friendly Reminders from the Board of Trustees & Finance Committee



As we care for our church home, the Board of Trustees would like to share a few friendly reminders. If you open a window or unlock a door, please remember to close and lock it before leaving. And when your meeting is over, don't forget to turn off the lights. These little things make a big difference in keeping our church safe and saving energy!

A Little Warmth Goes a Long Way! 🧣 Thank you for being mindful of our thermostats and helping us keep heating costs under control. With the price of heating oil these days, every little bit helps! If you tend to feel chilly, you might want to bring a sweater to church. You can stay cozy while helping us be good stewards of our resources!

Looking Ahead to 2027 The Board of Trustees and Finance Committee have been busy working with our various boards and committees to prepare the 2027 annual budget. As we approach the end of the year, we encourage everyone to continue supporting Centerpoint through your faithful and generous giving. Together, we hope to finish the year on a positive financial note and prepare for the year ahead.

Thank you for all you do to support our church family. Your care, generosity, and cooperation are truly appreciated!

Mark Your Calendar! Our next Board of Trustees and Finance Committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 9, at 6:00 PM.

Thank you for helping us keep Centerpoint a welcoming, safe, and comfortable place for everyone!

Blessings,
In Hoc Signo Vincas ✝

Brotherhood Ministry



The Brotherhood Ministry exists to help men grow in their relationship with Christ and build meaningful connections with one another.

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

Next Event.....

November 7 – Men's Bowling Night at Lakeside Lanes in Manchester at 3pm. Please meet at Centerpoint Church at 2:15pm to carpool. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the church at the Welcome desk.

For more information, contact Ray Tremblay at brotherhood@centerpointsalem.org.



Sisterhood brings women of different ages and stages of life together to learn from one another and grow in faith. We want to continue cultivating an intergenerational community where women feel safe asking questions, stepping outside their comfort zones, and growing in grace together. Looking ahead, we're excited to deepen our relationship with God and discover new ways to connect with one another and serve.

One way we'll put these goals into practice is through Gather & Go Groups. These adventures give us a chance to spend time together beyond our usual gatherings and experience something new. Whether you enjoy active adventures, creative activities, or a more relaxed afternoon, there's something for everyone. Our own sisters will lead each group, sharing their interests and inviting others to join in the fun.



Our first Gather & Go Sunday is November 15th, following church! Choose from three adventures: axe throwing, an afternoon of games, or a mystery ride. Please sign up at the Welcome Center by November 6th so our leaders have time to plan. Group leaders will contact participants with additional details.



We also have opportunities to serve our local community and reach beyond it. On October 31st, the American Red Cross will host a blood drive. If you can donate, please sign up on the American

Red Cross website. You can also support Operation Christmas Child through our Centerpoint Global Outreach Team by signing up to help during collection week at the table in the church entryway.

Finally, mark your calendars for December 13th! We'll gather at Centerpoint for our next Gather & Grow Large Group, filled with Christmas fun. Think hot cocoa bar, games, crafts with a purpose, and an outreach opportunity.

We're looking forward to all God has in store as we continue growing in faith and friendship. Wherever God leads us, we're better when we walk together!



A big THANK YOU to everyone who has volunteered to serve in our Welcome Team, Preschool & Nursery, and Coffee Hour Ministries!

Your willingness to give your time, share a smile, care for our children, welcome newcomers, and keep the coffee flowing makes a wonderful difference at Centerpoint. We are so grateful for each of you! Thank you for being part of what makes our church feel like home. 🧡



Role	Nov 1	Nov 8	Nov 15	Nov 22	Nov 29	Dec 6
Welcome Desk	MENARIO, LAURA	Marengo, Melissa	Fowler, Valerie	Riccardi, Mandy	Passler, Dorayne	Smith, Ashley
Front Walkway	Artz, Steve Artz, Jerie	Smith, Mike Smith, Ashley	Moriarty, Mark Moriarty, Linda	Patrakes, Sherry Patrakes, Jeffrey	Tremblay, Ray Tremblay, Melanie	Passler, Dorayne Levesque, Jamie

If you are interested in volunteering for the welcome team, please see Valerie Fowler or email her at Valerie.Fowler@centerpointsalem.org



Role	Nov 1	Nov 8	Nov 15	Nov 22	Nov 29	Dec 6
Kids' Church Nursery & PS Teacher	Knight, Dawn	Mullen, Jessica	Smith, Ashley	Reilly, Amy	Knight, Dawn	Mullen, Jessica
Kids' Church Nursery & PS Assistant	Pedro, Lilliana	Mullen, Naomi	Smith, Jeremiah	Waterhouse, Carrie	Pedro, Lilliana	Mullen, Naomi
Kids' Church K to 2nd Teacher	Moriarty, Linda	Spencer, John Spencer, Jill	Tremblay, Melanie	Hughes, Wendy	Moriarty, Linda	Spencer, John Spencer, Jill
Kids' Church K to 2nd Assistant	Gabriele, Grace	Crowell, Jonathan	Tremblay, Ross	Crowell, Allie Brown, Rosanne	Gabriele, Grace	Crowell, Jonathan
Kids' Church 3rd - 5th Teacher	Crowell, Shanna	Crowell, Shanna	Riccardi, Mandy	Marengo, Melissa	Tremblay, Ray	Riccardi, Mandy
Kids' Church 3rd - 5th Assistant	Gabriele, Macy	Peguero, Alexander	Riccardi, Donovan	Marengo, Lucas	Tremblay, Ryan	Gabriele, Macy

Nursery and Preschool helpers are always needed, speak with Carrie Waterhouse for additional information.



Role	Nov 1	Nov 8	Nov 15	Nov 22	Nov 29	Dec 6
Coffee Hour Team Leader	Stacy, Flo Russell, Leslie Mailhot, Frances Gioia, Donna	Mauro, Cindee DiMario, Jeffrey DiMario, Faith	Linehan, Loretta Dunkley, Katie	Spaulding, Melissa Pendleton, Sue Pedro, Miguel Pedro, Jennifer Carrier, Levi	Smith, Jeremiah Smith, Caleb Fowler, Valerie Fowler, John	Shibel, Carol Nadeau, Jean Leriche, Rita
Coffee Hour Food	Tremblay, Melanie Spencer, Jill MENARIO, LAURA Ellis, Joan	Riccardi, Mandy Preston, George Hughes, Wendy Gladden, Grace Casey, Sheila	O'Rourke, Evie Murray, Cathy Marengo, Melissa Campbell, Nelda	Rose, Beverly Ferron, Celena Crowell, Shanna Butkus, Yokasta	Smith, Ashley Reilly, Amy Patrakes, Sherry Patrakes, Jeffrey Maranto, Joyce Haynes, Gerry Brown, Rosanne	York, Joanne Nicatra, Pat Koury, Michele Dittrich, Jan

Want to be part of the Coffee Hour or Food Team? Additional help is always needed. See Valerie Fowler or email her at Valerie.Fowler@centerpointsalem.org



OUR FOOD CLOSET IS BUSY!

Our Food Closet has been incredibly active, providing nonperishable food items to individuals and families who need a little extra help putting food on the table. The need continues to grow, and we can barely keep the shelves full!

Faith and Jeffrey DiMario have also been creating “**Meal Ideas in a Bag**” — convenient bags filled with ingredients and meal suggestions that families can grab and take home. You may see these available on our rolling cart in the hallway on Sunday mornings.

More information is available at the **Welcome Desk**, or feel free to speak with **Jeff or Faith**.

Items needed for the food closet and to help with making meals in a bag.

Bottled Water	Juice	Canned Cheese	Queso Cheese
Taco Meat in Pouches	Canned Chicken	Canned Ham	Instant Potatoes
Canned Ham	Vienna Sausage	Salsa	Canned Vegetables
Canned Fruit	Pasta Sauce	Chicken Gravy	Pancake Mix

Meal Ideas in a bag – Can you add one or two food items from the lists below to help make a complete meal for someone?

SOUP MAKING BAG

- Canned chicken
- Canned Carrots
- Box broth
- Noodles or rice
- Crackers

MEXICAN DINNER

- Taco Kits
- Pulled Pork Pouches
- Canned Fruit
- Cheese in a jar
- Salsa
- Hot Sauce

BREAKFAST IN A BAG

- Vienna Sausage
- Pancake Mix
- Individual Maple Syrup



HAM DINNER

- Canned Ham
- Instant Potatoes
- Canned Vegetable
- Canned Fruit

CHICKEN DINNER

- Canned chicken
- Chicken gravy
- Instant Potatoes
- Canned Vegetable
- Canned Fruit

PASTA DINNER

- Pasta
- Sauce
- Canned vegetable
- Canned fruit



November Is Paper Drive Month!

Food For Thought (FFT) ♥ Needs Your Help!

Our Food For Thought closet is running low on paper products and other household essentials. Your generosity helps us keep our shelves stocked for those in need.

One or two items
each week can make a
BIG
difference!

Items Needed:

- ♥ Toilet paper
- ♥ Paper towels
- ♥ Toothbrushes
- ♥ Dish detergent
- ♥ Laundry detergent
- ♥ Body wash
- ♥ Shampoo

— ♥ —
Blessings,

The Food For Thought Ministry Team



♥ Thank you
for your continued kindness
and support!

Your generosity means so much
to our FFT ministry and to everyone
who will benefit from your giving.

Small Gifts,
Big Blessings! ♥



"Decorators" needed!

🕯️ 🕯️ We are looking for volunteers to help transform our worship space for the Christmas season—and to form a team that keeps our church beautiful all year round!

Whether you have a gift for decorating or design, can help carry boxes, or simply want to share in fellowship while hanging wreaths, there is a place for you. We need helpers for:

- **Hanging greenery and garlands**
- **Setting up Nativity scenes**
- **Assembling and decorating the Christmas trees**
- **Joining our Year-Round Seasonal Team** (Easter, Spring, Fall and all the time)

Interested? Join us for a meeting Sunday Nov 1st @9:30 in the Church Library to share ideas, and make plans for the Christmas season and beyond. If you can't make the meeting but want to help please call the church office.



What an amazing weekend our youth had at the Fall Retreat at Camp Berea! We had a great speaker Sean Mead, who taught us to not only know the Truth but also Believe it and Live it. Our own Youth Worship band led incredible worship services all weekend long! Here's some pictures of our amazing trip! Thank you for your prayers and support!





NEW!!! Our new Youth Bible Study has begun! Our first series will be taken from the Alpha Series, a program designed to give young people a space to explore their questions about life, faith and purpose. Join us Wednesdays from 6-7:30pm!



Youth Group Every Friday Night 6-8:30pm!

In October we wrapped up our series of You be You with the topic "Becoming Who Your Already Are". We have now started our new series called "Closer" This series looks at the spiritual practices of Bible Study, meditation and prayer, giving us practical ways to grow a more intimate relationship with God. In addition to three messages and three small group lessons, we have also a 21-day devotional that our teens are encouraged to go through on their own. Join us and Bring a Friend!



****Special Event** Trivia Night** coming your way! Mark your calendars for Friday November 6th and start inviting your friends! Our Social hall will be transformed for a restaurant style trivia event! Friends are welcome. Food provided. \$6 per person, friends are free!



AWANA runs weekly on Wednesdays from 6-7:30pm.

This program is open to children in grades kindergarten through 5th grade.

New members are always welcome! Register Online Today!

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



Highlights from October!

- All our clubbers earned their uniforms! They look sharp in their red and green!
- Our T&T group (grades 3-5) earned their first chevron award for completing 4 sections. This means that they memorized 4 verses from the Bible: Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 10:17, Titus 3:4-5 and Romans 15:13. Challenge to everyone ... can you memorize these verses??
- Sparks (grade K-2) continued their study on the acronym for Sparks! S is for Savior, P is for Power, A is for Accordance, R is for Raised, K is for Keep and S is for Saved! Each letter had its own verse to memorize, as well as led each child through the truth of the Gospel!
- Our AWANA clubbers enjoy a snack each week, thoughtfully planned and served by John Fowler, who faithfully volunteers his time. Thank you, John!
- And last but not least, we have a new volunteer and 2 new clubbers! Please keep praying for our program that it will continue to grow and touch the lives of these children and their families!



From the Library

Try our new library checkout system!

Choose a book, scan it, and enter your email address to check it out. It's that easy!



Our new checkout kiosk sits on a beautiful wooden base, handcrafted and generously donated by Mike Smith. It's just the right height for entering your information. Thank you Mike!

Stop by the Church Library and give it a try.

 FALL Into a good book! 

And...if you like Biographies there are some new ones on display. One title written by our very own Vice President, "*Communion Finding My Way Back to Faith*".



Introducing Our New Garden Crew!

We'd like to introduce our new **Garden Crew: Pam McLoughlin and Mark Mahoney!** 😊 Pam and Mark decided to take on the flower bed beneath the church sign, and what a wonderful team effort it turned out to be!



Pam got things started by clearing away weeds and grass from the existing bed. Pastor Zach helped redesign the watering system, and Sue Pendleton generously donated several buckets of loam mixed with horse manure—helping give the new plants a healthy start!



Mark donated the bushes and flowers, with help from his daughter, Ashley, who works at a nursery. Ashley carefully selected plants that would thrive in full sun without growing too large for the space.

Pam and Mark worked together to plant the new greenery, install a soaker hose, and finish the bed with fresh black mulch. They also trimmed the bushes and gave the trees some much-needed attention, cutting away as much dead wood as they could reach—even with a pole saw!



Pam also created a binder with instructions for caring for the plants that will be kept in a small cabinet in the room behind the stage, so our garden can continue to flourish.

A big **thank-you** to Pam, Mark, Ashley, Pastor Zach, and Sue for sharing their time, talents, and generosity! Their hard work has given our church sign a beautiful new welcome. Now, with a little sunshine, some water, and continued TLC, we can watch our garden grow!



WE NEED YOUR PICTURE!



Help us put a face
with a name...
and save us from
guessing who's who! 😊

We're putting together
our church directory, and we'd
love to include a current photo
of YOU! After all, we want to
recognize you when we see you
at church—not have to introduce
ourselves all over again! 💖



Real people. Real smiles.
That's what makes our church family special! 💖

There are several easy ways to participate:



**Ask a friend
to take your picture.**
Just make sure you're
still friends afterward!



Take a selfie!
A little smile, a decent
angle, and you're good
to go. Filters are optional,
but please keep your
halo visible! 🌟



**Choose a favorite
recent photo.**
One you love and that
actually looks like you
today! 💖



Sending your photo is easy!

Use this link to upload your picture
directly from your phone:

<https://centerpointsalem.breezechms.com/form/83cc854985>

Use the QR code or email
the church office.



We need individual AND family photos!

We know getting the whole family
in one picture can feel like a minor
miracle. Someone is blinking,
someone is looking away, the kids
are wiggling, and Dad is asking,
"Are we done yet?" 😅

Don't worry! We're not looking
for a magazine cover—just a picture
that helps us recognize you!

**Thank you for helping us
put faces with names and make
our church directory complete!**

So, smile, snap, and send! 💖

We can't wait to see your smiling faces! 💖



One little request...

Please leave those wonderful photos
from 20 years ago in the family album!
We love nostalgia, but we'd also like to
recognize you when you walk through
the church doors on Sunday. 😊

Blessings! 💖



A Thanksgiving Prayer

Beneath the autumn sky so wide,
We thank the Lord who walks beside.
For golden leaves and skies of blue,
For faithful friends and blessings new.

For hands that help and hearts that care,
For answered prayers and love we share.
For daily bread and strength to stand,
For grace that comes from God's own hand.

And as we gather, hearts aglow,
May seeds of kindness bloom and grow.
For every blessing, great and small,
We thank our God, who loves us all.

*May faith fill our hearts,
gratitude guide our way, and
God's love bless us this
Thanksgiving Day.*



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 25th of each month for the upcoming month's publication.

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