

CONNECTIONS

MAY

2025



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

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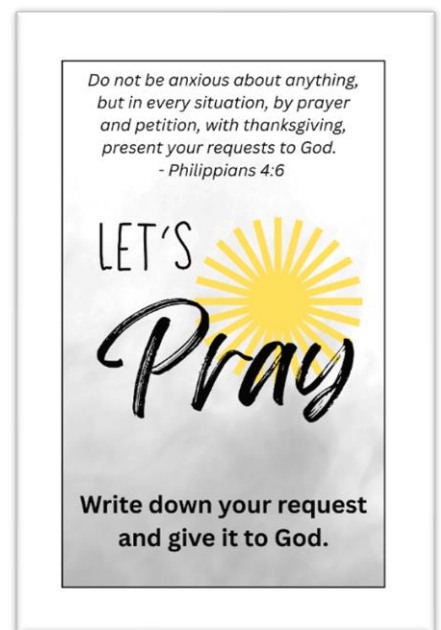
What questions would you like to ask God?

Have you ever scratched your head and thought, “I wonder . . . why did God make mosquitoes? . . . how did God fit all those animals in the ark? . . . are all world religions basically the same? This summer at Centerpoint we will explore your questions. So, we need your questions! And we need questions from your friends, family, and co-workers, both kids and adults. This is a great opportunity to listen to people's questions about faith, share your own faith, and invite people to church! Use the QR code or look for the link on Facebook, church website, or the Connect wall at church. Start pondering, and ask your questions . . .

Pastor Zach

NEW PRAYER WALL IN THE SANCTUARY

Have you noticed the new lighted prayer wall at the front left of the sanctuary? You are invited to come up before, during, or after the church to write down your prayers and place them in the wall. You can come into the sanctuary during the week 9am-5pm to pray and leave your prayers with God.



We also encourage you to come forward at the end of the church service to receive prayer from our prayer teams. Lastly, our Tuesday morning prayer group and One-Church-One-Day Prayer vigil fervently pray for all prayer requests that are sent to the office. Call or email the office, we want to pray for you!

Prayer changes things!

PRAYER WALK YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD THIS SPRING

How do I 'Prayer Walk' you ask? It's good exercise, God's blessing, and builds community! Grab a prayer walk card at the Connect Wall in the church entry way.

- 1. Start with a simple prayer such as, "Lord, as I walk today, give me eyes to see as you see, give me a heart full of your compassion for this neighborhood, and give me boldness in Your Spirit to love these people with my prayers, words, and actions."*
- 2. Walk, talk, and pray as you go. Enjoy yourselves and love the neighborhood! Take notice of details: flowers, chipped paint, animals, toys, people, cars. Pray as you go for the things you see.*
- 3. Be friendly and open to interact with people. We are here to build community, show love, and be good neighbors. You can say something like, "We are praying God's blessing on the neighborhood. Is there any special way we can pray for you?"*
- 4. Continue to pray for the people and neighborhood throughout your week. After you finish your walk, write down the names and prayer needs of neighbors you meet.*
- 5. We are instructed to pray for all people (1 Timothy 2:1-5). Prayer turns our heart and compassion outward toward people and neighborhoods, which is the primary step for the spread of the gospel.*



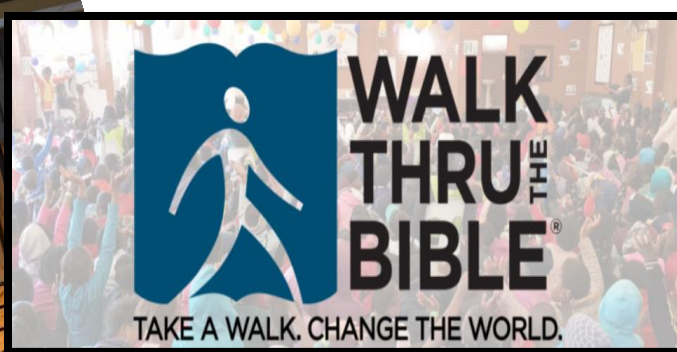
Church Garden . . Flowers, Flowers, Flowers!

See Rosanne Brown or Pastor Zach about how you can help grow flowers in the church garden this summer. We will cut and sell flowers each week with the proceeds going to the Belize Mission Trip. We'll start garden clean-up during mid-May and then plant seeds during late May. We'll cut and arrange flowers for sale throughout the summer weeks.



We will also collect vases and mason jars for bouquets. Come join the garden this summer . . . it's peaceful, beautiful, and fruitful.





Learning stories from the Old Testament in 1 day? Yes it can be done and it was fun.

Was it for adults & kids? Yes, the stories were taught in an amazing way.

Be sure to sign up the next time Walk Thru the Bible is offered....you won't be disappointed.



**Let's go! Salem's Town Wide Yard Sale
Day is this Saturday, May 3rd and we
are part of it.**



WHERE: Our Church parking lot

WHEN: May 3rd—8am-2pm

Additional Drop off day, Friday, May 2nd between 4-6pm. We will need extra help on Saturday starting at 6:30 to unload the shed and set up and again at 2pm to load items into the Lazarus House van.

****Needed-plastic shopping bags (like Market Basket bags) bring them or drop them off at the shed. Pray for sunny skies on Saturday.**

Gather before the summer starts: Come gather with us starting at 4:00pm on Friday June 13th thru



Saturday June 14th, ending at 3:00pm.

Bring a craft or a project you want to work on. We'll give you the space to spread out and be creative. Cross-stitch, paint, color...whatever Come and make some new connections. If you don't have a project, we can supply something for you.

Friday night includes hearty snacks provided for \$5.00.

Saturday includes breakfast and lunch for \$15.00

All weekend is \$20.00, there is an option to sleep overnight on Friday.

Register through Breeze

<https://centerpointsalem.breezechms.com/form/404c5027558>

or contact the church office



Exciting News

The Adult Choir has a wonderful opportunity to sing again this spring, June 15th, Father's Day

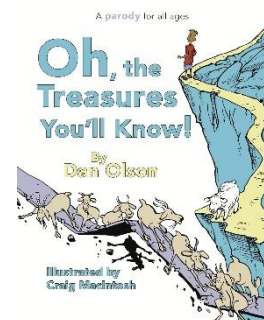
If you are interested in joining us, please contact Deb Stolar at dpstolar@gmail.com Rehearsals will start May 18, 2025, after service.



New book in the **Children's Library**, but suitable for teens and adults!

***"Oh, the Treasures You'll Know!"* By Dan Olson** is a parody of the well-known Dr. Seuss book, "Oh, the Places You'll Go". In this book readers are encouraged to follow the Path of God's kingdom which is narrow and steep, and warned to avoid places like the Wide Path of Destruction and the Pit of Pride.

But what you really want to avoid is Who caresville, where the people "don't care for their neighbor's woe, or for friend, or for foe: or for poor, or for low, the deaf or the lame, the weak or the slow, who do not care if Yes be No! They often say, "Who cares?".



This is a witty book with wonderful illustrations. Perfect read aloud for kids but might be even more meaningful for teens and adults. Check it out from the Children's Library.

*And if you're looking to buy a book with a Christian message as a "graduation" gift I highly recommend this one!

Valerie Fowler library@centerpointsalem.org

"A Day at the Beach with Nana, Danielle, and the Kids"

Life Lessons at the Beach

By Joan Ellis

It was a perfect, sun-filled day at Hampton Beach, the kind of day that makes everything feel brighter. The ocean shimmered under the golden sun, and the sand beneath our feet felt warm and soft, just like the memories we were making. My daughter, Danielle, had invited me to join her and my grandchildren, Mina and Charlie, for a day of fun by the sea. I couldn't have been more excited to spend this special time with them.

Mina, who was four, and I stood at the water's edge, pretending to surf the little waves. With our arms spread wide and our feet placed carefully one in front of the other, we were in perfect "surfing" form, laughing every time we wobbled. Charlie, at seven, was with Danielle, further out in the water, body surfing with joy. The day was filled with giggles, splashes, and the kind of laughter that only happens when you're truly enjoying the moment with the people you love most.

After a while, Danielle called out, "It's time for lunch!" We dried off and made our way to a spot near the concrete wall. The salty air smelled sweet, and the gentle breeze was just enough to cool us down. Mina and Charlie sat on opposite sides of the blanket, while Danielle and I settled into our beach chairs a little ahead of them. The sun was high in the sky, and the world seemed to pause, just for us. Danielle began handing out sandwiches to the kids, with Charlie sitting closest to her. He eagerly unwrapped his sandwich, holding it up like it was a treasure. But in the blink of an eye disaster struck.

Out of nowhere, a seagull swooped down, its wings stretching wide, almost as if it was an adult's arm span, and the gull was having a tug of war with Charlie for his sandwich. Before anyone could react, Charlie yelled, "Not my sandwich!" as the bird tried to pull the sandwich away. Thankfully, the gull didn't manage to take the whole sandwich—most of it stayed firmly in Charlie's hands.

Charlie sat down quickly on his mother's lap, his eyes wide with shock, and tears began to well up. The whole scene had scared him, and he needed a moment to process what had just happened.

Danielle comforted him, stroking his hair, but I couldn't help but feel for him. After a few moments, when his tears had stopped, I leaned in and said, "Charlie, you're so brave!"

His sad eyes met mine, and I smiled. "When that gull tried to take your sandwich, you didn't just let it happen. You shouted 'No, not my sandwich!' You stood up to the enemy, and that makes you the bravest of all."

For a moment, Charlie looked at me in silence. His expression softened, and then, like a light turning on inside him, he straightened up. "You're right, Nana," he said, his voice filled with newfound confidence.

"We've got to keep going," I added. "The enemy comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. But remember, God doesn't give us a spirit of fear—He gives us power, love, and self-control."

Charlie smiled brightly, wiping the last of his tears. He stood tall and said, "Let's go play more, Nana!"

And just like that, the mood shifted. We were ready to enjoy the rest of the day. With my heart full of pride, I thought about how the smallest moments sometimes carry the biggest lessons—and how, in that moment, Charlie had learned something far more important than how to protect his sandwich.

The rest of the day was just as full of laughter, waves, and moments of joy. And as we packed up to leave, I couldn't help but think how lucky I was to be a part of these moments with my family. What a blessing it was to share this day of love, courage, and faith at the beach.





Hi Campers,

Come join us for our annual fun weekend of camping, **August 15th-17th** at Pilgrim Pines Campground in West Swanzey, NH! Bring your tent, camper or RV, or stay in a bunkhouse or Hillside unit! Come for the weekend or just come for the day on Saturday!

Bunkhouses are for families, or groups of four people, and have their own bathroom. Most Hillside units have a max occupancy of 3. Please note that Bunkhouse and Hillside Unit availability is limited. Sign up quickly while units are available, and we will do our best to fit you into the right space.

There will be fun for the whole family! Group worship and devotions around the campfire, meals together, beach and boating, golf, tennis, hikes, games, and more! All meals are provided and included with the price (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch).

Sign up below by selecting either Saturday only or Entire Weekend. For Entire Weekend signup, select your site option then the food and expense option for your family.

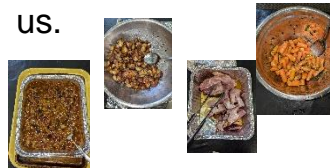
We are looking forward to another great time together, and we hope you can join us! Sign up and start praying for this event!

<https://centerpointsalem.breezechms.com/form/3b881f1072405619>



The seniors got together on April 9th for our month luncheon. Great meal made with love by Linda and Mark Moriarty and assisted by Dan and Sue Hein. Our

music entertainment was provided by Emily Crowell. It was a great time for all of us.



On Wednesday the 16th several seniors met at SalemHaven to give the many residents who attended a Prayer and Worship Service.

Any senior is welcome to join us the second Wednesday of next month for our luncheon.

We would love you to join us the third Wednesday at 1pm at SalemHaven in the chapel to pray and sing with the wonderful residents.

The fourth Wednesday from 10am-12noon we get together in the social hall to have a social time getting to know each other and have some laughter and fun over coffee/tea and a goodie we bring to share.

God's blessings to you always,

Lorraine

SISTERHOOD – LOVES DOES

On Saturday, April 12, thirty women of all ages gathered to serve, to have an outpouring of love for our community.

After a time of worship, we were challenged to put into action the love of God we have each individually experienced. 1 John 3 reminds us "My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth".

We divided into teams, to be doers of the Word and not hearers only. (James)

Team one was given the task of filling cute canvas bags with feminine hygiene products and personal care items. We were able to make 39 bags that will be distributed to women that are on the streets or living in cars. We learned that food pantries typically don't stock these necessary items. It was a blessing to make string bags filled with an assortment of supplies to show the women they are seen and loved by us, and more importantly, loved by God.

Team two made 40 Easter pails to bless those that come to We Care Charity Food Pantry. These pails were filled with snacks and a Capri Sun, along with a toothbrush and toothpaste. We included a warm note of encouragement with a Dunkin gift card. Sue Pendleton coordinated with the food pantry that a few of us would deliver these buckets of blessing on Tuesday April 15. The team from the food pantry was extremely grateful.

Team three visited a few of our friends from the Centerpoint family, Ann Matthieu and Shirley Brooks. While visiting Salem Haven, Deb Stolar mentioned a friend's husband that is recovering there and they were able to stop in and bless him as well. The women on this team brought bouquets of lovely spring flowers to brighten the week of these individuals.

Team four worked in the kitchen, creating 24 mason jars filled with dry ingredients for soup. These jars will be used to encourage those recovering from an illness or surgery. If you know of someone that would be blessed by one of these soup jars, please connect with

one of the Sisterhood team. We want them to be put in the homes of those needing encouragement.

Team five wrote cards of encouragement and appreciation. Forty cards were mailed to individuals that are a part of the Centerpoint family, with messages of hope and gratitude.

After our time of service, we came back together for a lovely lunch and time of discussion to dialogue about our experiences. YOUR GIVING MADE A DIFFERENCE

"Sisterhood Service Day"

Forty-eight creative Easter pails were assembled with treats and surprises by Sisterhood on Service Day.

Forty decorated pails with Dunkin gift cards were included provided by Food For Thought. The Easter pails were delivered to "We Care Charities" to be handed out to people coming to the food pantry that day.

Eight additional pails were available at the church for anyone wanting to bring Easter joy to a shut-in, neighbor, friend, or family member, etc...

A small gesture of love, hope, and joy, along with the message of our risen Savior, filled each Easter pail.

We pray that a portion of our community were blessed during these holiest of days.

Thank you to all who donated items for the gifts that were made.

And the many ladies and young girls who served our community on sisterhood service day.



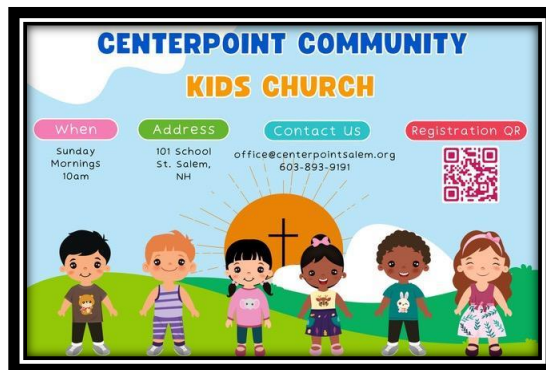
CENTERPOINT SISTERHOOD

LOVE IN ACTION

DAY OF SERVICE



KIDS CHURCH



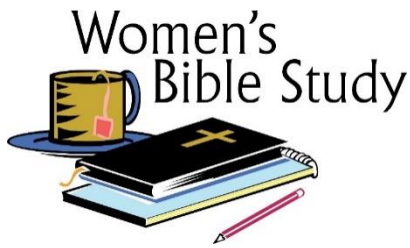
Need to register your child/children? <https://centerpointsalem.breezechms.com/form/12a82029>

Nursery/Kid's Church

Role	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25	Jun 1
Nursery Teacher					
Nursery Assistant					
Kids' Church PS & K Teacher	Moriarty, Linda	Marenco, Melissa	Levesque, Jamie	Marenco, Melissa	Spaulding, Melissa
Kids' Church PS & K Assistant	Crowell, Jonathan	Elkhoury, Sam	Crowell, Jonathan	Marenco, Lucas	Crowell, Allie Carrier, Levi
Kids' Church 1st & 2nd Teacher	Marenco, Melissa	Tremblay, Melanie	Spencer, Jill	Riccardi, Mandy	Tremblay, Melanie
Kids' Church 1st & 2nd Assistant	Marenco, Lucas	Tremblay, Ryan	Spencer, John		Tremblay, Ryan
Kids' Church 3rd-5th Teacher	Crowell, Shanna	Tremblay, Raymond	Crowell, Shanna	Frederico, Carmen	Crowell, Shanna
Kids' Church 3rd-5th Assistant	Hamel, Chelsea	Tremblay, Ross	Hamel, Chelsea	Frederico, Kim	Tremblay, Ross



Our AWANA year is ending May 18th! Thank you to all who volunteer to make this ministry happen for our kids. They have learned so much this year! We will be celebrating their accomplishments on Sunday June 8th at the beginning of the service. Thank you again for your support and prayers!



Ordinary Moments, Extraordinary God

Spring Bible study for women on Thursday nights 7-8pm

In the 30 devotions in this book, we will learn how ordinary moments become extraordinary when we give them to God. We have become nearly oblivious to how God is at work in every single ordinary moment of the day. Faith journeys differ from woman to woman and generation to generation, but what doesn't change is that our extraordinary God is always journeying with us

in our ordinary moments.

We will be learning from the lives of Biblical woman, Eve, Job's wife, Miriam, Rahab, Mary of Bethany, Lydia, and Mary, the mother of Jesus. We will see how the Savior worked in extraordinary ways in their lives and how He is at work in our lives as well.

Moment by moment, day by day, lifetime by lifetime, the truth of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection changes everything.

What will it change for you?

Join us for the next seven weeks...



COMING UP

✗ No YG on May 23rd (Memorial Day Weekend)

✓ May 30th (6:00 PM – 8:30 PM)

✗ No YG on June 6th (First Friday)

✓ June 13th (6:00 PM – 8:30 PM)

Upcoming Series



Keep up to date with Youth Group happenings on our website:  [Youth Group Page](#)

Is your teen registered for Youth Group? Help Us Update Our Records! We've added a photo release section to the [Youth Group registration form](#). We'd love to have updated contact information and photo releases for everyone! If you don't mind re-registering, it would really help us keep our records up to date. Thanks for your help!

Keep up to date with Youth Group happenings on our website:  [Youth Group Page](#)



Welcome Team

Role	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25	Jun 1
Welcome Desk- After Service	Tremblay, Melanie	Levesque, Jamie	McLoughlin, Pam	Marenco, Melissa	Moriarty, Linda
Front Walkway or Door Greeter	MENARIO, LAURA	Moriarty, Mark Moriarty, Linda	Riccardi, Shawn Riccardi, Mandy	Fowler, Valerie Fowler, John	Tremblay, Raymond Tremblay, Melanie

The Welcome Team is an important ministry of our church, with the primary goal of *"Loving People One Step Closer To Jesus"*. Whether you are visiting Centerpoint for the first time or are a member who's been coming for a very long time, everyone appreciates a welcoming smile, a friendly hug, or a handshake. That is what the Welcome Team does!

The actual time commitment is very short, only approximately 20 minutes on a Sunday morning. Teams are scheduled on a rotating basis, so you would only serve every 6 weeks, or even less. If interested call the church office for more info.

We are also looking for someone to take pictures of our church family and send them to the church so we can update our directory. Please let the church office know if you are interested in this.



Role	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25	Jun 1
Coffee Hour Team Leaders	Shibel, Carol Pedro, Miguel Pedro, Jennifer	Smith, Caleb Migliore, Maria Leno, Michael Fowler, Valerie Fowler, John	York, Joanne Pendleton, Sue Demain, Michelle	Stacy, Flo Russell, Leslie Roulston, Karen	Patrakes, Sherry Patrakes, Jeffrey Casey, Sheila
Coffee Hour Food	Vorce, Joanna Frederico, Kim Ferron, Celena Crowell, Shanna	Smith, Ashley Reilly, Amy Maranto, Joyce Haynes, Gerry Dunkley, Brenda	Tetreau, Cyndi Russell, Leslie Nicatora, Pat Koury, Mischele	Tremblay, Melanie Spencer, Jill Hein, Sue Ellis, Joan	Spaulding, Melissa Preston, George Cianci, Fran Artz, Jerie

We are happy to "Love People One Step Closer To Jesus", by serving in this ministry! Thank you to all who help out, by bringing goodies, cleaning up afterwards, and to Dan for faithfully making our coffee each week.

Just a reminder... anyone is welcome to bring refreshments in anytime. The more goodies the better!





Bellwether

By Bob Donahue

The shepherd knows the ringing bell,
The one the wether wears so well,
It means the flock is coming soon,
As with the spring when songbirds croon,
And the sun flies higher, now, up above,
And The Coming Christ deserves our love.



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 Library@centerpointsalem.org or the church office office@centerpointsalem.org We look forward to hearing from you.