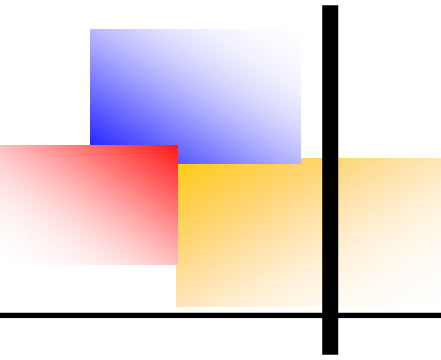




CONNECTIONS

SEPTEMBER 2026

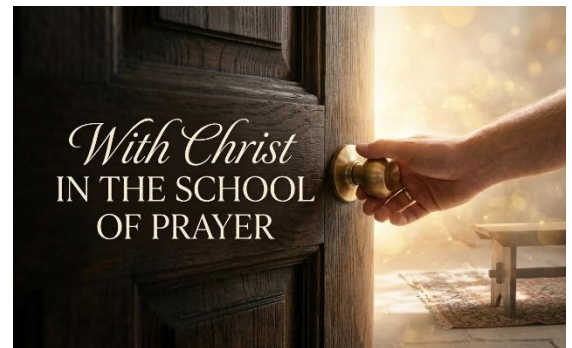


Centerpoint Community Church
101 School Street
Salem, NH 03079
Pastor: Rev. Zach Crowell

Web: www.centerpointsalem.org
E-Mail: office@centerpointsalem.org
Tel: (603) 893-9191

Fall Sermon Series: With Christ in the School of Prayer

Starting September 13th, we will begin a five-week sermon series, *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, loosely inspired by Andrew Murray's classic devotional work. Most of us know we ought to pray, and we generally believe that God answers prayer. But prayer is meant to be more than something we turn to in crisis, recite by habit, or squeeze in before dinner. Prayer is Christ's gracious invitation to draw near, speak honestly, listen humbly, and be empowered to live with deep and abiding faith through every situation.



This series will begin with the disciples' simple request: "Lord, teach us to pray." Over the five weeks, we will explore King David's humble prayer of repentance, the prayer of faith in James 5, Paul's prayers for peace, relief, and spiritual strength, and the prayer of Jabez. Each week will remind us that prayer is not a formula for getting God to do what we want, but a sacred meeting place where we converse and learn from our Lord. Prayer is our classroom and Christ is our teacher. As Oswald Chambers wrote, "Prayer does not prepare us for the greater work, prayer is the greater work." In prayer, God listens, searches, comforts, corrects, strengthens, and conforms us to the likeness of Christ. While we boldly petition for God to change our circumstances, we humbly surrender ourselves and invite God to change us.

My hope is that this series will encourage each of us to take a next step in prayer. Let's ask the Lord to renew our desire for the place of prayer, deepen our trust in Him, and make us a church marked by persevering prayer and mountain moving faith, being continually formed by communion with Him.

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

Why Am I Here? Young Adult Alpha Course starts on Wednesday September 16th, 6-8pm. What is Alpha? Alpha is a safe and engaging space where people can freely explore the basics of the Christian faith together. During this 11-week course, we'll have honest conversations around some of life's biggest questions through a series of interactive videos and sessions. Invite a friend!



We Need Your Picture! We're putting together our **church directory**, and we'd love to include a current photo of you! There are several easy ways to participate:

- **Have a friend take your picture** and send it to us.
- **Take a selfie**—yes, those work too!
- **Choose a favorite recent photo** and send it along.

You can use the **link to send us your photo directly from your phone**, or simply **email it to the church office**. <https://centerpointsalem.breezechms.com/form/83cc854985>

We need **individual photos as well as family pictures**. We realize getting a great family shot may be the hardest part—after all, kids don't always smile, look at the camera, or cooperate at the same time! 😊 But we know you can do it!

The only request? **Please don't send us a photo from 20 years ago!** We want the directory to help us recognize one another *today*.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS — MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

There's lots happening at Centerpoint this fall! Be sure to save these dates and join us for fellowship, fun, food, music, and ministry.

- **September 1** –  **GriefShare Evening Session Begins**
- **September 6** –  **Kids' Church Begins**
- **September 6** –  **Back to School Supply Drive**
- **September 9** –  **Centerpoint Seniors Luncheon**
- **September 9** –  **AWANA Begins**
- **September 9** –  **Spencer's Small Group Begins**
- **September 11** –  **Youth Group Begins**
- **September 12** –  **Brotherhood Breakfast**
- **September 13** –  **Change of service times to 10am**
- **September 13** –  **Ministry Fair**
- **September 14** –  **GriefShare Afternoon Session Begins**
- **September 16** – **Young Adults – Alpha Program Starts**
- **September 22** –  **Food for Thought Luncheon**
- **September 23** –  **Centerpoint Seniors Coffee Hour**
- **September 26** –  **Sisterhood Gathering**
- **September 26** – **Salem Scramble**
- **October 1** –  **Concert Featuring Tony Funches & Scott Johnson**
- **October 2 & 3** –  **Brotherhood Camping Event**

Mark your calendars — you won't want to miss all that's coming up!



BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

**COLLECTION DATES:
NOW UNTIL SEPTEMBER 6th**

HELP BLESS TEACHERS AND CLASSROOMS

- Tissue Boxes
- Clorox/Lysol Wipes
- Baby Wipes
- Hand Sanitizer
- Expo Markers
- Band-Aids
- Flair Pens & Fun Stickers
- K-Cups (Coffee & Hot Chocolate)
- Tea Packets
- Water Flavoring Packets
- Encouragement Cards for Teachers & School Staff

HELP BLESS FAMILIES WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Backpacks
- Crayons
- Colored Pencils
- Glue Sticks
- Pencil Cases
- Write Prayer Cards for Students

Let's start the school year with faith, encouragement, and community!

BACK TO SCHOOL SERVICE

Sunday, September 6 • 9:30 AM

-  Bibles for 3rd graders
-  Prayer for our students and teachers
-  Back to School Gift
-  First Day of Kids Church



Fall MINISTRY FAIR

DISCOVER. CONNECT. GET INVOLVED.



MEET
TEAM LEADERS



EXPLORE
MINISTRIES



FIND YOUR
PLACE TO SERVE



GROW IN
FAITH TOGETHER



FELLOWSHIP &
REFRESHMENTS



Sunday **SEPTEMBER 13**
AFTER CHURCH

THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU!

Loving People One Step Closer to Jesus

Centerpoint
Community Church



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.

In August, we gathered for a BBQ at Jaime Marenco's home, where the men enjoyed swimming, cornhole, great food, and fellowship. We are grateful to Jaime for hosting and to everyone who attended and helped make the event 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

- September 12 – Breakfast at Centerpoint Church
- September 13 – Ministry Fair—stop by to learn more about Brotherhood
- 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.

For more information, visit us at the Ministry Fair on September 13 or contact Ray Tremblay at brotherhood@centerpointsalem.org.

Sisterhood

"Wherever You Go"
Isaiah 30:21

Join us for our 10th year of Sisterhood!
A year of new adventures, meaningful gatherings, new
experiences, deeper connections, stronger friendships,
growing faith, and opportunities to give back.
Come join us for the journey!

SISTERHOOD 2026 GATHERINGS

Saturday, September 26

5:30–7:30 PM · Large Group Gathering

Saturday, October 24

5:30–7:30 PM · Large Group Gathering

Sunday, November 15

Following Church · "Gather & Go Groups"

Sunday, December 13

5:30 PM · "Gather & Go Groups": Christmas Adventures

🎵 GET READY TO ROCK, ROLL & REMEMBER! 🎵 AN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC & MEMORIES

Featuring Tony Funches, Former Lead Singer of The Platters

📅 October 1st, 2:00 PM



Join us for a fun-filled afternoon with Tony Funches, former lead singer of The Platters, as he performs some of the songs that have stood the test of time: 🎤 "Only You", "The Great Pretender". "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes"

Tony's personality and connection with his audience are second to none—and we promise, you won't need a time machine to take a trip down memory lane!



🎵 OPENING THE SHOW 🎵

Our Very Own Scott Johnson!

Scott will entertain us with classic country, pop, and oldies. Tony encouraged Scott to share his talent with seniors, and we're delighted to have him join us!

🎫 TICKETS: ONLY \$10!

Light refreshments will be served.

🎫 See Scott Johnson or Sue Pendleton for tickets.

❤️ COME FOR THE MUSIC...STAY FOR THE FUN...AND HELP FEED OUR COMMUNITY!

After expenses, 100% of the proceeds will benefit Centerpoint's Food for Thought Ministry.

🍪 Sweet Treats, Great Music & Good Company! 🎵

We have some **sweet news** for the Senior Concert on **Thursday, October 1 at 2:00 PM!**

Along with an afternoon of wonderful music and fun, we'll be serving a delicious assortment of **desserts, coffee, tea, and apple cider.** 🍰☕🍏

The **Food for Thought Ministry** is looking for volunteers to help make our Sweet Treats Table extra special! We would love donations of:

- Homemade cookies and other baked goodies 🍪
- Store-bought treats 🛒
- Finger pastries, brownies, and other easy-to-enjoy desserts 🍰

We also need a few helping hands to:

- Set up the pastry table and beverages before the concert
- Make coffee and prepare the beverage area
- Welcome guests and check names off the paid list as they arrive

It's shaping up to be a wonderful afternoon filled with goodies, laughter, great music, and plenty of fun!

If you can donate a plate of treats or volunteer to help, please let Sue know.

The Food for Thought Ministry is especially grateful that a portion of the concert proceeds will benefit our ministry. Thank you for helping us make this event both sweet and meaningful!

We are Thankful & Blessed,

Sue & the Food for Thought Team



Register now – don't miss out.

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!**



Grades 3-5



Coffee Hour Resumes

Sunday September 6th right after
church



A great time to connect with one another over a cup of
coffee or tea while enjoying some yummy treats. Join us for
Food and Fellowship every Sunday after church.



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. ❤️



Welcome Team

Role	Sep 6	Sep 13	Sep 20	Sep 27	Oct 4
Welcome Desk	Marenco, Melissa	Riccardi, Mandy	Fowler, Valerie	Moriarty, Linda	Tremblay, Melanie
Front Walkway	Patrakes, Sherry Patrakes, Jeffrey	Tremblay, Ray Tremblay, Melanie	Passler, Dorayne Levesque, Jamie	MENARIO, LAURA Fowler, Lisa	Riccardi, Mandy Riccardi, Shawn

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

Nursery/Kid's Church



Role	Sep 6	Sep 13	Sep 20	Sep 27	Oct 4
Kids' Church Nursery & PS Teacher	Knight, Dawn	Mullen, Jessica	Knight, Dawn	Reilly, Amy	Smith, Ashley
Kids' Church Nursery & PS Assistant	Pedro, Lilliana	Mullen, Naomi	Waterhouse, Carrie	Waterhouse, Carrie	Smith, Jeremiah
Kids' Church K to 2nd Teacher	Spencer, John Spencer, Jill	Tremblay, Melanie	Hughes, Wendy	Moriarty, Linda	Spencer, John Spencer, Jill
Kids' Church K to 2nd Assistant	Crowell, Jonathan	Tremblay, Ross	Crowell, Allie Brown, Rosanne	Gabriele, Grace	Crowell, Jonathan
Kids' Church 3rd - 5th Teacher	Marenco, Melissa	Tremblay, Ray	McGowan, Becky	Crowell, Shanna	Riccardi, Mandy
Kids' Church 3rd - 5th Assistant	Marenco, Lucas	Tremblay, Ryan	Gabriele, Macy	Peguero, Alexander	Riccardi, Donovan

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

Coffee Hour Team

Role	Sep 6	Sep 13	Sep 20	Sep 27	Oct 4
Coffee Hour Team Leader	Fowler, Valerie Fowler, John	Shibel, Carol Nadeau, Jean Leriche, Rita	Stacy, Flo Russell, Leslie Mailhot, Frances Gioia, Donna	Mauro, Cindee DiMario, Jeffrey DiMario, Faith	Nickerson, Melissa Linehan, Loretta Dunkley, Katie
Coffee Hour Food	Smith, Ashley Reilly, Amy Patrakes, Sherry Patrakes, Jeffrey Maranto, Joyce Haynes, Gerry	York, Joanne Nicator, Pat Koury, Michele	Tremblay, Melanie Spencer, Jill MENARIO, LAURA Ellis, Joan	Riccardi, Mandy Preston, George Hughes, Wendy Gladden, Grace Casey, Sheila Artz, Jerie	O'Rourke, Evie Marenco, Melissa Dunkley, Brenda Campbell, Nelda

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





♥ You Don't Have to Walk Through Grief Alone ♥

Have you recently lost someone you love? Maybe it was a spouse, a parent, a child, a friend—or someone who was an important part of your life. Grief can leave us feeling lost, overwhelmed, and sometimes even unsure of where to turn. You don't have to go through it alone.

What is GriefShare?

GriefShare is a 13-week, faith-based bereavement support group for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one or friend. Each week, we watch a video presentation, spend time talking together, and use a workbook filled with helpful information and practical tools to help us better understand our grief.

Grief is hard. Sometimes we don't want to talk about it. Sometimes we don't even know what we're feeling or why we're feeling it. We may find ourselves asking, *"Why do I feel this way?"* or *"How am I ever going to get through this?"*

GriefShare offers a safe place to come just as you are—to listen, to share if you want to, and to discover that you're not alone in what you're experiencing.

The goal isn't to forget the person we've lost. We never forget those we love. Instead, GriefShare helps us learn how to live with our loss, understand our emotions, find hope, and take those difficult steps forward on the journey toward healing.

Two GriefShare Groups Starting Soon!

Mondays at 3:00 PM Beginning September 14

Tuesdays at 6:00 PM Beginning September 1

Choose the day and time that works best for you. Come as you are and take the first step toward finding support and hope.

If you have questions or would like more information, please speak with Pam McLoughlin, Wendy Hughes, Lorraine Lindenberg, or Dolores VanBlarcom, or call the church office.

If you're hurting, we invite you to come. If you're not ready yet, that's okay, too. And if you know someone who is grieving, please share this invitation with them.

♥ You don't have to walk through grief alone. We're here to walk alongside you



Sandwiches, Sharing & Giving!

Our sandwich-making ministry has been a wonderful success throughout the summer months! Back by popular demand, we are once again preparing 40 sandwiches each time we gather, after temporarily dropping down to 30.

Our Chicken Salad Sandwiches continue to be famous — and we have Jean Nadeau to thank for that! But there are plenty of other favorites, too. Some people enjoy the traditional PB&J, while others reach for turkey & cheese, bologna, salami, or ham. Last month, we introduced Roast Beef & Cheese sandwiches, and they were a BIG hit! Chicken Salad... you may have some competition! 😊 Food for Thought partners with Salem Area Women Club making sandwiches each month. Here are some of the ladies preparing the lunches. Food for Thought will continue making sandwiches into 2027, helping support Isaiah 58 House in its important mission to feed those in need.



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.....

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

Welcome to our food closet



Food assistance available – i

❤️ THANK YOU, CENTERPOINT FAMILY!

Food for Thought would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the **Centerpoint congregation** for your generous donations of clothing, blankets, personal hygiene products, and other much-needed supplies for Isaiah 58 House and our Food Closet.

Whenever there is a need, **our church family responds**.

You truly have **giving hearts**, and your generosity makes a difference in the lives of so many. ❤️

Thank you for caring. Thank you for giving. And most of all... Thank You, Jesus!

🔥🍳 FOOD FOR THOUGHT TAILGATE LUNCHEON

A New Day, a New Menu... and a Whole Lot of Fun!

Food for Thought is kicking off our monthly Tailgate Luncheons on a new day — the 4th Tuesday of every month!



And we're starting things off with a delicious Breakfast for Lunch! 😊

On the menu: 🔥 Bacon & Eggs 🍳 Hash Browns 🍳 Pancakes & Syrup 🍊 Juice

But we need more than just hungry guests — we need YOU!

Come join us as we prepare, cook, set up, serve, and enjoy breakfast alongside our guests. Help make everyone feel welcome and comfortable, share some great conversations, and enjoy the blessing of serving together.

And, of course, we always need a clean-up crew, too!

📅 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Prep & Set-Up: 9:00 AM–Noon-ish

If you aren't able to join us on Tuesday, we can definitely use your help on Monday as we prepare and set everything up.

📅 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

9:00 AM: Last-minute cooking and heating

11:00–11:15 AM: Ready to Serve!

Luncheon: Until 1:30 PM, followed by clean-up

What a blessing it is to serve our Lord in so many different ways — and the best part is, we have fun doing it!



If you can share this day with us, please let Sue know.

👁️ SNEAK PREVIEW!

October: Roast Beef Dinner 🍖

November: Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner 🦃

Thank you so much for your continued support! ❤️

— The Food for Thought Ministry Team



Church Library Children's Library

Explore, borrow, and grow together



Browse books in our Church Library in person or use our online catalog.

All books in the Children's library are not entered into the online catalog yet.

But New Books are! 😊
Easy "Self Check-out!"
The procedure is posted!



Digital check-out in the Church Library. Scan your book, enter your email and that's it!



A Library
**ROOTED
IN FAITH**

Growing Together
in Christ



VISIT OUR LIBRARIES TODAY!

Open Sundays and any time the church doors are open

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly." COLOSSIANS 3:16



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.