



# JOY

**Contact us:** Office Phone: 231-773-2812 [office@connectionpointmi.com](mailto:office@connectionpointmi.com)

**Office hours:** Monday - Thursday: 9am-3pm

**Lead Pastor** Aaron Gregory: [aaron@connectionpointmi.com](mailto:aaron@connectionpointmi.com)

**Children's Pastor** Holly Hazekamp: [holly@connectionpointmi.com](mailto:holly@connectionpointmi.com)

**Youth Pastor** Matthew Spear: [matthew@connectionpointmi.com](mailto:matthew@connectionpointmi.com)

**Director of NCRC** Sarah Klassen: [sarahk@connectionpointmi.com](mailto:sarahk@connectionpointmi.com)

## Upcoming Events!

**December 19: MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)** - We will meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 9:30-11:00am at the church.

**December 24: Christmas Eve Services** will be at 10AM & 5PM. Youth Group will be cancelled that evening.

**December 31: New Years Eve** service will be at 10AM. Youth Group will be cancelled that evening.

**Clothing & Food Pantry Donations** are being accepted on Sundays or during office hours. We are in need of canned or packaged goods for the pantry and kids clothes of all sizes. The Kids Clothing Closet will be postponed until March due to low inventory.

**Christmas Giving** - If you would like to help families in need this Christmas, please see the tree in the Foyer. Unwrapped gifts can be returned to the church no later than Monday, Dec. 18th.

**Year End Giving** - If you are looking to make a year end gift, please do so by December 31st.

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## Things You Should Know!

**Connect Cards** can be found in the seat-back pocket in front of you! Please fill it out, take it to the Welcome Center in the Foyer and grab a gift! We want guests to feel welcome and we hope to see you again!

**Prayer Requests** can be submitted via the website under the Ministries tab. These prayer requests go directly to Pastor Aaron and are confidential.

**The Bridge the Gap Fund** sign is across from the Café. If you are interested in giving above your tithes/offerings, you may do so by putting donations in the box at the back of the sanctuary or by giving online. Please email the church office for more information.

**Church Directory App** is available now! If you need help accessing it, please contact the church office and we can work on getting you set up!

## Further Reflection for 12/17

1. Have you ever had a moment in which you felt joy that didn't make sense in your circumstances? If so, to what do you attribute that joy?
2. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
3. What jumps out to you from the text?
4. Paul gives a practical list of things that likely would change the essence of who we are if we embraced them. Which ones for you would be easy and which would be difficult?
5. Verse 24 reminds us that Jesus is faithful and he will do it. What is it that Paul is saying Jesus will do and why is that important? What role do we play in that?
6. Read Philippians 4:4-9
7. What jumps out to you from the text?
8. What are the similarities from both passages? How might that be an important part to following Jesus?
9. You will notice Paul talks often about our hearts, or about what we dwell on, why might it be important for us to think about what we love and where we place focus?
10. What are practices you could put in to your daily life that would lead to living out the list of what Paul writes here?

Further Reading: A Diary of Private Prayer: John Baillie; A Testament of Devotion: Thomas R. Kelly



## Weekly Gatherings:

**Sunday Service:** 9AM & 10:30AM  
**Kids Service:** Sundays during both Services  
**Youth Group:** Sundays from 6-7:30PM