# Competition is Crushing



Contact us: Office Phone: 231-773-2812 office@connectionpointmi.com

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

**Lead Pastor** Aaron Gregory: aaron@connectionpointmi.com

Children's Pastor Holly Hazekamp: holly@connectionpointmi.com

Youth Pastor Matthew Spear: matthew@connectionpointmi.com

Director of NCRC Sarah Klassen: sarahk@connectionpointmi.com

















### **Upcoming Events!**

<u>April 23: ALPHA</u> is meeting on Tuesdays at 6:30PM. It is a conversation built around wrestling with the deep questions of life. Feel free to invite others to join us!

<u>May 6: MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)</u> - We will meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 9:30-11:00am at the church.

<u>June 2:</u> We're celebrating our graduating high schoolers, as well as our college and post-graduate students. If you or someone in your family graduated in 2023-2024, email Pastor Matt (<u>Matthew@connectionpointmi.com</u>), because we want to celebrate you! Please let us know by May 26th, to make sure you're included!

<u>Week of June 17</u> - Kids Camp! Mark your calendars! Registration cards and Volunteer forms are in the Welcome Center! See Pastor Holly for more information. Scan the QR code to register.



<u>Food Pantry & Kids Clothing Donations</u> are being accepted on Sundays or during office hours.

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## **Things You Should Know!**

<u>Connect Cards</u> 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!

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

<u>The Bridge the Gap Fund</u> 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.

<u>Church Directory App</u> 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 4/21**

- 1. Have you ever felt yourself struggling with competition or comparison towards someone else in such a way that it was ruining a part of your life?
- 2. Read John 3:22-36
- 3. What jumps out to you from the text?
- 4. What do you think was going on in the minds of John's disciples as they had an argument about ceremonial washing and when they came to John about people going to Jesus?
- 5. John shares that he has great joy in the success of others. Do you have joy in other people's success or do you find it difficult to celebrate the lives of others?
- 6. John the Baptist says, "He must become greater; I must become less." When have you seen someone model that idea? When have you seen someone who didn't model that idea and it had a negative outcome?
- 7. What area of your life do you find the greatest struggle of comparison or competition?
- 8. John writes that God gives the "Spirit without limit." How can (or has) the Holy Spirit helped you overcome the struggles of comparison or competition?
- 9. What is one thing you can practice this week that will help you overcome any area of comparison/competition?

Further Reading: Celebration of Discipline: Richard Foster; Sabbath as Resistance: Walter Brueggemann

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# Weekly Gatherings:

Sunday Service: 9AM & 10:30AM

Kids Service: Sundays during both Services

Youth Group: Sundays from 6-7:30PM