



# HOPE

**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 5: 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 10: Blue Christmas** service will be held in the sanctuary at 5PM. This Christmas season may be a difficult one for you. Grief and loss are real. It will be a night to remember those we have lost, find hope, and work towards healing. There is a sign-up in the Welcome Center.

**December 12: Engage** is back! Birthday Party - Jesus Style! This Wednesday from 5:30-7. The cost is \$3/person or \$10/family. Come on out! Soup, salad, bread & cupcakes to decorate!!

**December 13: Women's Christmas Party** will be at 6PM in the Gym. Come enjoy the festive season with fellowship, games, a devotional and a cookie exchange! If you plan to bring cookies, please bring 3 dozen (2 dozen for exchange, one for tasting).

**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.

**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.

## Further Reflection for 12/3

1. What is something that you looked forward to with such anticipation that when it finally came, it was as if it had already happened?
2. Read Mark 13:24-37
3. What jumps out to you from the text?
4. Jesus uses everyday prophetic language from his day in what he says, why might he choose to do that?
5. Why do you think people become fixated on end times things?
6. Notice that Jesus says that about the day or the hour in which he will return that no one but the Father knows. How then should we think about end times?
7. Jesus makes it clear that his followers are to "keep watch." What is Jesus trying to say?
8. How does the way we live impact our understanding of keeping watch?
9. What are practices you could put in to your daily life that would lead to living more like God's Kingdom has already come "on earth as it is in heaven."

Further Reading: The Practice of Prophetic Imagination:  
Walter Brueggemann

## 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!

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## Weekly Gatherings:

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