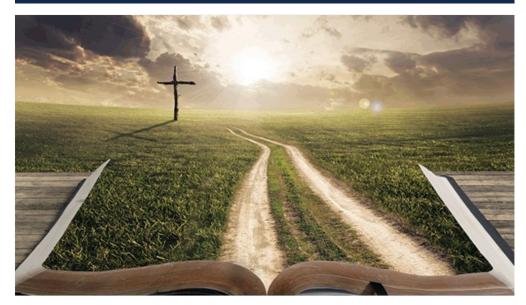
Welcome to CONNECTION POINT CHURCH



Road to Resurrection



Contact us:

Office Phone: 231-773-2812

Office@connectionpointmi.com

Lead Pastor

Aaron Gregory:

Aaron@connectionpointmi.com

Children's Pastor

Holly Hazekamp:

Holly@connectionpointmi.com

Youth Pastor

Chase DeMott:

Chase@connectionpointmi.com

Office hours:

Monday-Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm

If you're a guest with us today, we want to meet you! Please take the time to fill out the Welcome Card in the attendance pad or in the back of the pew and bring it to the Welcome Center following today's service where we will have a gift waiting for you!

Thanks for checking us out!



Things You Should Know!

<u>Welcome Gift</u> If you are a guest with us today please fill out the card in the attendance pad and then visit the welcome center where we have a gift for you!

<u>Connection Pads</u> are located in your row. Please take a minute to fill it out so we can better connect with each other.

<u>Prayer Request Cards</u> are located in the back of the rows. Please feel free to fill them out and drop them in the offering plate as it goes by.

<u>Text to Give</u> is now available. Please text GIVE to 231-386-0644 and then follow the instructions given! Thanks for supporting our ministries here at Connection Point.

<u>The Bridge the Gap Fund</u> sign is across from the Café. If you are interested in giving above your tithes/offerings there is a giving kiosk at the FOR store.

New 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!









We are continuing to partner with Kids Food Basket for the month of March. This week, we are collecting snack and sandwich bags. Please drop them off to the church by Friday, March 27th. Current volunteer opportunities are postponed for the time being. Donations are greatly appreciated in this time of need! The above are the dining opportunities this week where a portion of your bill will go the Kids' Food Basket. Please consider getting carry-out at these locations to support a great cause!

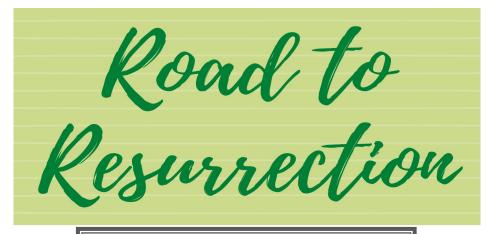
Upcoming Events!

<u>Youth Event</u> on March 22nd will be POSTPONED until further notice! **Marvelous Mondays** is POSTPONED until further notice!

<u>Next Steps Class</u> is POSTPONED until further notice. It is the class in which we talk about what your next step spiritually may be and what Connection Point stands for and believes. This is also the class to take to become a member here. Contact the church office if you are interested in participating once this becomes available.

<u>Baptisms on Easter!</u> If you have not been baptized, we encourage you to be baptized. This is a way to take your next step spiritually. Contact Pastor Aaron, Holly or Chase to be baptized on Easter.

March 22, 2020 — Sermon Notes



Further Study - March 22, 2020

Personal Reflection:

- 1. When is a time you looked in the mirror and had to stop for a minute because what you saw seemed different than you remembered?
- 2. Have you ever caught yourself saying or doing something that your parents did?

Personal Study:

- 1. Read Ephesians 5:8-14
 - a. Paul says that people are dark or light in the first verse, what is he trying to get us to understand?
 - b. There is a list of the characteristics of light, what would be ways those characteristics could be lived out?
 - c. How might we avoid the "fruitless deeds of darkness" and what do you believe those are, based on Paul's writing?
 - d. Paul mentions not even talking about what happens in the darkness, why is that?
 - e. Verse 13 makes clear that everything that happens in the dark will eventually see the light, how is that helpful for us when thinking about what Christ does?
 - f. How do we embrace the last verse, wake up and let Christ shine on us?

Personal Application:

- 1. What would it look like if you were able to see yourself in light of the light of Jesus?
- 2. What is an area of shame that you have not let go of, but should?

Personal Prayer:

Father, thank you for your love that shines on us. Please help me to see myself in light of the love of Jesus and to become aware of the places that I am trying to keep in darkness out of fear. Help me to become all that you have for me and to live a life that shines your light. I pray all of this in your son, Jesus' name. Amen.

Group Conversation

Group Reflection:

- 1. When is a time you thought, or someone said to you, "you sound just like your mother"?
- 2. Name a time you looked in the mirror and were surprised by what you saw?
- What would our connect group look like if we were better at seeing ourselves in light of the love of Jesus?

Group Study:

- 1. Read Ephesians 5:8-14
 - a. What does it look like to be live as light or darkness based on Paul's words?
 - b. Paul is writing to followers of Jesus and he reminds them that they USED TO BE darkness, but now are light. Why is that so important for us to remember?
 - c. If we are living in light Paul says we will consists of "goodness, righteousness, and truth" how might we live those out at home, at work, in this group?
 - d. How might Paul's words "have nothing to do with fruitless deeds of darkness" be better understood while thinking through Jesus' words in John 17:13-19 (read the John passage before replying)?
 - e. Verse 13 says that everything in the darkness will come to light, what does that make you think about in your own life?
 - f. Paul writes about shameful things that take place, how can we make sure that shame does not have a hold on our life?
 - g. How can we make sure we are focused on our growth and not pointing out where others fall short? (Often we point out others because it makes us feel better)
 - h. The last verse is a line from an early church song, the Greek word "to shine on" is understood in a way that says, "to be illuminated by divine truth," why is that a great thing?

Group Application:

- 1. How do we help one another see a better reflection of our self?
- 2. How can we help model becoming seen as "light"?

Further Learning Opportunity:

• "Wholeness in Christ" by William Greathouse and "Love Does" by Bob Goff

Serving Opportunity:

• What are some ways we can model hope for others letting go of shame?

Personal Spiritual Practice:

Self-examination is a spiritual practice that helps us see our self in light of Jesus. Spend time daily asking God to show you the areas of your life that are not like Jesus. Spend time this week sharing what you see with one person and ask them if your self -assessment is accurate.