

NOVEMBER 2025

@ CONNECTIONPOINT
CHURCH





A Note from Pastor Larry

Church Family,

As we head into November, we're reminded of one simple yet powerful word: thanksgiving. Not just the holiday, but the heart posture.

I want to say thank you for the way you've continued to show up, serve faithfully, give generously, and stay engaged in worship, life groups, and outreach during this season of transition without a lead pastor. It's not always easy to lean in when things feel uncertain. But you've leaned in anyway. And I believe God is honoring your faithfulness. As Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, *"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* Thank you for living that out.

Now, as we move toward the Christmas season, I want to encourage us to turn our gratitude into invitation.

There's no better time than now to invite someone you know to experience what God is doing here at Connection Point. Whether it's a neighbor, a coworker, a family member, or a friend — someone in your life is just one invitation away from encountering Jesus in a new way. And the next few weeks are a wide-open door with our Christmas worship service, Family Christmas Party, Tinsel & Tea, and Christmas Eve service, all of which you'll learn about on the following pages.

These events aren't just services or parties. They're opportunities. Moments where someone might hear the Gospel clearly, experience the warmth of our church family, and begin a new journey of faith.

So, this month, let's not just be thankful people. Let's be inviting people. Let's be a church that says to our community: "There's room for you here."

I can't wait to see what God does through our *invites* this Christmas season.

Grateful for you,
Larry Jones
Executive Pastor

I want to hear from you!

Seasons of transition can bring about concerns, questions, and even ideas. If you would like to voice what's on your mind, I would love to talk with you. To share your thoughts or schedule a meeting, contact me at 816-778-1115 or larry.jones@connectionpoint.tv. I look forward to hearing from you!

– Pastor Larry

TRANSITION TEAM UPDATE

Church family, thank you for your continued prayers, support, and faithfulness during this season of transition. We also want to thank you for your patience as our team has worked through many behind-the-scenes details to keep this season moving forward. God is at work, and we're grateful to see His hand guiding each step. Here are some important updates to share with you.

Lead Pastor Search Team Update & Special Called Business Meeting

Thank you again to everyone who prayerfully submitted nominations for the Lead Pastor Search Team. We are excited to announce that after thorough discussion and intentional prayer, the Transition Team has formed a Lead Pastor Search Team that we believe reflects and represents our church family well.

The next step in the process is for the church to affirm the team at a special called business meeting on **Sunday, November 2**, at the close of our 9:30am worship service. While this meeting will be streamed online as part of our regular service, church members must be present in person to participate in the vote.

We encourage you to be here that morning to hear about the

team, celebrate this milestone, and vote to officially begin the pastor search process.

Honoring Our Staff

This Christmas, we want to bless our staff with a gift of appreciation for their dedication and service. Our staff faithfully demonstrates a high calling to the Lord and a deep commitment to our church family, often in the midst of challenging circumstances. Would you consider partnering with us to honor them this year? You may give through any of our regular giving methods and simply designate your gift as "Staff Christmas."

As we walk through this season together, our desire is to keep the church informed every step of the way. We'll make announcements as they become available, but for the most up-to-date information, visit connectionpoint.tv/transition. If you have questions about the process or updates, you can reach the Transition Team at transition@connectionpoint.tv.

Steve Cox, Transition Team Chair



WORSHIP

Gathering with others to glorify God

Not by Strength or by Might

When God gave His message to Zechariah, He made it clear that His work would never be accomplished through human strength alone. *"Not by strength or by might, but by My Spirit," says the Lord of Armies* (Zechariah 4:6). Those words still speak powerfully to us today. Every step of faith, every ministry effort, and every act of obedience depends entirely on the Spirit's presence and power.

As a church, we don't want to rely on strategy, programs, or talent to do what only God can do. We want to be a people who pray first—who recognize that apart from the Spirit, our efforts are empty, but with the Spirit, the impossible becomes possible.

That's why First & Fast exists. It's our monthly rhythm of gathering in prayer and fasting in faith—an intentional way to start each month by



humbling ourselves before God and inviting the Holy Spirit to move in our church, our families, and our city.

Our next gathering is Sunday, November 2, at 5:00pm in the Atrium. We'll come together in worship and prayer, fixing our eyes on the Lord and seeking His presence together. The following day, we'll fast individually, continuing to depend on Him in faith throughout the day.

If you're new to prayer or fasting, this is a great opportunity to take a simple next step. **You can learn more about fasting at connectionpoint.tv/fast.**

Let's come expectantly—believing that when we pray and yield to the Spirit, God will work in ways far beyond our strength, our plans, and our imagination. *Come, Holy Spirit.*

Christmas

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Christmas Worship Service

Immerse yourself in the spirit of the season with a blend of new music, beloved classic songs, and engaging storytelling at our special Christmas Worship Service on **Sunday, December 14**, at 9:30am. Our 100-voice choir, full orchestra, as well as our kids and student choirs, promise a worship experience like no other, and Interim Pastor Steve Dighton will share a meaningful Christmas message. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with our community, and we encourage you to bring a friend to share in this special morning.

Christmas Eve Service

Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with your Connection Point family on Christmas Eve! Join us at 5:00pm on **Wednesday, December 24**, for a special service featuring beloved songs, candle lighting, and a special Christmas story. This meaningful experience is designed for the whole family and all generations. We invite the entire community to be part of this rich tradition. Make plans to join us and bring a friend along to share in the true spirit and joy of Christmas.



SEPTEMBER UPDATE

Average Weekly Worship Attendance: 811

9:30 Worship Service: 663

Online: 148

Giving: See update on the GIVE page





GROW

Building relationships to mature in Christ

UPCOMING EVENTS

GriefShare

Tuesdays, November 4 & 18

GriefShare offers a caring community for navigating loss, with meetings held on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00pm in C218. This supportive group is free and open to all. Join us to find healing together.

MomCo

Tuesdays, November 11 & 15

Mothering is complicated, but it doesn't have to be lonely. If you have a child birth through high school, MomCo at Connection Point is for you. MomCo meets the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Triple L

Tuesday, November 18

Enjoy fellowship, music, a devotion, a Thanksgiving lunch, and a program featuring music by Phil & Pam Morgan, at Triple L on Tuesday, November 18, at 10:30am in the Atrium. Cost is \$8. RSVP by calling Barbara Griffin at 816-847-7138.

Women's Bible Study

**Sunday, November 2 &
Wednesday, November 5**

Explore freedom in Christ with *Live Free*, our next women's Bible study through Galatians, beginning Sunday, November 2, at 5:00pm and Wednesday, November 5, at 9:30am. Childcare available. Sign up at connectionpoint.tv/events.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, November 15

Men, join us for the next Men's Breakfast on Saturday, November 15, at 8:00am in the Fellowship Hall. It's a morning filled with good food, genuine conversations, and special guest speaker Tyrone Flowers. Learn more about Tyrone at connectionpoint.tv/events. Invite a friend to enjoy this uplifting time with you.

Family Commitment Sunday

At Connection Point, we believe discipleship begins at home. That's why our Legacy Milestone Path is designed to help parents intentionally guide their children's faith journey. Each of the seven milestones marks a key season of growth, and Milestone 1 lays the foundation for everything that follows.

Family Commitment (Birth-Pre-K) is rooted in Deuteronomy 6:4-9, where parents are called to impress God's Word on their children. This milestone helps moms and dads embrace their role as the primary disciple makers in their homes. Through prayer, Scripture, and everyday faith conversations, parents learn to capture God moments and celebrate their child's spiritual development.

We invite you to participate in Family Commitment Sunday during the 9:30am worship service on **Sunday, November 9**. This special day is a celebration of your commitment to raise your child in the Lord and includes prayer over you and your family as we embark on this journey together.

Take your first step on the Milestone Path and register for Family Commitment Sunday at connectionpoint.tv/events.



Christmas

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Tinsel & Tea

Join us for Tinsel & Tea, a special event for mothers, daughters, granddaughters, and all the women in your life. On **Saturday, December 6**, from 9:00-11:00am in the Atrium, come and delight in a morning of holiday cheer with breakfast, games, prizes, and the warmth of lasting connections. This free event offers a meaningful pause in the busy season to connect and strengthen bonds with those we cherish across generations. With limited space, we encourage you to register early for yourself and your loved ones. Register at connectionpoint.tv/events and celebrate the joy of Christmas with us.

Family Christmas Party

Join our Kid Ministry for our annual Family Christmas Party! This event, held on **Sunday, December 14**, from 11:00am-12:30pm in the Atrium, is designed for families of birth-5th graders, including parents, children, grandparents, and extended family members. Enjoy a festive brunch, sing along to heartwarming Christmas carols, engage in fun games, and have the chance to win fantastic prizes. This party is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Christmas with your loved ones, connect with other families, and emphasize the true meaning of this special season. Register at connectionpoint.tv/events.





SERVE

Sharing my giftings to build the church

What It Really Means to Build the Church

When we talk about building the church, it's easy to picture construction projects or growing numbers. But that's not what Scripture means when it calls us to build up the body of Christ. Building the church isn't about bricks or attendance—it's about people. It's about strengthening the family of God, caring for one another, and helping each other grow in faith. Building the church means adding to God's Kingdom while also caring for those who are already part of His family.

At Connection Point, we see this truth lived out beautifully through our Homebound Ministry. Each month, a team of faithful members delivers packets to church family members who can no longer attend in person. These visits are simple acts of kindness that remind our homebound members that they are deeply loved and never forgotten.

Don Cable recently shared about a visit to Martha Applebee, who now resides in a care center. For years, Martha faithfully served in childcare and Little Learners Preschool, pouring her heart into the next generation. Now, we have the privilege of serving her. During one of Don's visits, Martha's niece walked in and was thrilled to see that her aunt's church was still caring for her. That's what it looks like to build the church—believers serving believers, one visit, one act of love at a time.

The Homebound Ministry is just one of many ways our church family uses their gifts to serve, love, and strengthen the body of Christ. How can you use your gifts to serve and build up others? When we each share our giftings to build the church, we build something eternal—God's Kingdom.

Want to find your place to serve? Visit connectionpoint.tv/serve to get started.



CURRENT NEEDS

Connect Team

Sunday Mornings

Join our Connect Team and help create a welcoming atmosphere every Sunday. Serve every week or on a flexible rotation. Your warmth and enthusiasm could brighten someone's day. To learn more, stop by the Connect Center on Sundays or email laura.davis@connectionpoint.tv.

Kid Ministry

Sundays and/or Wednesdays

Be part of nurturing the next generation with love and action! You can transform young lives by serving in Kid Ministry. No experience required—just a loving heart ready to guide kids in faith. To learn more, email kids@connectionpoint.tv.

Facilities Team

Choose Your Schedule

To keep our campus inviting and cared for, we need your help! You can serve in simple but meaningful ways—like picking up outdoor trash, helping with lawn care, cleaning windows, dusting, and vacuuming. To serve, email sierra.barlow@connectionpoint.tv.

Production Team

Sunday Mornings

Join our group of dedicated individuals working behind the scenes each week to bring our services to life. With positions available in audio, video, and slides, there's a space for everyone, regardless of technical expertise. To learn more, email nathalie.kuhns@connectionpoint.tv.

Parents Night Out

Connection Kids is hosting Parents Night Out on **Friday, December 5**, from 5:30-8:00pm for kids birth-5th grade. They'll enjoy food, games, a movie, and plenty of fun while you enjoy time to connect with other parents, a date night, or even just a chance to run errands kid-free. **Sign up your kids by 1:00pm on Thursday, December 4**, at connectionpoint.tv/events.

This event is a beautiful picture of how we serve one another as a church family. Our staff and volunteers serve families by making this event possible. In return, your \$10 per child registration directly helps send students to summer camp—a week that impacts their walk with Jesus and their friendships for years to come.





GIVE

Expressing joy through financial generosity



From Everyday Expenses to Eternal Impact

As we begin a new fiscal year, we do so with gratitude for all God has done and with expectation for what He has planned for us in the year ahead. Each new fiscal year marks a new season of ministry and a renewed opportunity to partner together in generosity—fueling life change across every generation of our church.

Every gift—no matter the size—plays a part in what God is doing through Connection Point. Together, our giving supports every ministry and mission, helping us connect people with Jesus and one another. While our annual ministry budget covers the areas we typically consider ministry—outreach, missions, discipleship, and worship—it also includes the practical, everyday needs that make ministry possible, such as:

- computers, phones, and software
- insurance, utilities, and maintenance
- printing, postage, and office supplies
- transportation, landscaping, and security equipment
- website and video streaming
- curriculum and music

Behind every receipt and repair is a story of a life impacted by the ministry of our church. Those everyday expenses create opportunities for ministry moments like these:

- kids meeting Jesus at Create-A-Camp
- families coming for food, yet finding a church home
- parents being equipped to disciple their children
- homebound members staying connected through online streaming, regular visits, and care packages

When you give, you are part of these stories—and so many more. Each gift you bring is a reflection of your faith, your joy, and your trust in God's provision.

We recently closed out another fiscal year, and we're celebrating how God once again provided through your generosity. Because of your faithfulness and the wise stewardship of our staff, we finished the year strong. Now, as we move forward into this new ministry year, we want to carry that same spirit of generosity and intention—giving joyfully and faithfully, and trusting that God will use every gift for His glory.

If you aren't currently giving, ask God how He would like you to respond to begin your giving journey. Together, let's continue to give with purpose and with joy. **To learn more about giving or to begin giving today, visit connectionpoint.tv/give or text GIVE to 816-306-1994.**

Fiscal Year to Date Received: \$167,621.17

as of Thursday, October 23, 2025



Fiscal Year to Date Goal: \$219,377.43



OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP

Total Annual Goal: \$3,802,542.00

WAYS TO GIVE

"Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver." – 2 Corinthians 9:7

- **IN PERSON** via offering plate or giving box
- **ONLINE** at connectionpoint.tv
- **TEXT** the word GIVE to 816-306-1994
- **MAIL** to 10500 E 350 Hwy, Raytown, MO 64138





GO

Taking the gospel to the world around us



Love in Action

Our church family once again showed what it means to be the hands and feet of Jesus. During our October Winter Hope Drive, you donated more than 400 bags filled with food and winter essentials—everything from canned goods and breakfast items to coats, gloves, and blankets.

On collection day, our Student Ministry spent the morning sorting your donations, preparing them to restock Hope Network's shelves and fill homes across our city. It's a beautiful picture of what can happen when the church comes together to care for others.

Your gifts couldn't have come at a better time. Our Hope Network Food Pantry has seen a 61% increase in families served over the last quarter, and your generosity is helping meet that growing need. Every can, coat, and pair of socks represents hope for a neighbor in our community.

Thank you, Connection Point, for giving generously and living out the gospel through compassion and service. Together, we're helping our neighbors experience the love of Christ in real and practical ways.

GO Day Serve the Homeless

Serve and share the hope of the gospel with the unhoused in Kansas City through Team Hope and City Union Mission on **Saturday, November 8**. Select from opportunities for every age and schedule. Learn more and sign up to serve at connectionpoint.tv/go or by emailing carmen.kraus@connectionpoint.tv.

Team Hope Homeless Ministry

- 9:00-11:00 – Make lunches & load bus
- 11:00-2:00 – Distribute lunches & supplies in the Metro area*

City Union Mission – Family Center

- 9:00-11:00 – Decorate for Christmas & lead craft for kids*
- 11:00-1:00 – Serve lunch*

City Union Mission – Christian Life Program Center

- 9:00-12:00 – Decorate for Christmas**

City Union Mission – Men's Center

- 12:00-3:00 – Decorate for Christmas**
- 3:00-5:00 – Set up for dinner**
- 5:00-6:30 – Serve dinner**
- 6:30-8:30 – Lead chapel service**

* 16 & under welcome with parent

** no participants under 16 permitted



Gifts of Hope Christmas Adoptions

Through Gifts of Hope, you can provide Christmas gifts for children in our community who would otherwise have nothing to open on Christmas morning. Stop by the Gifts of Hope table in the main lobby to select or "adopt" a boy or girl from birth to 18 years old. Each child's information will provide their gender, age, and some gift ideas based on their preferences and needs. Please consider adopting a child through Hope Network's Gifts of Hope as an individual, with your family, or as a Life Group and enjoy blessing a child and family in need. Stop by the Gifts of Hope table in the lobby to sponsor a child. *All gifts need to be delivered to the church on or before Sunday, November 23.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women on Mission

Thursday, November 6 & Monday, November 24

You are a woman on mission! Learn how others are living out the Great Commission and how you can too. Women on Mission meets monthly in the Fellowship Hall. Choose from two sessions: 1st Thursdays at 9:30am and 4th Mondays at 6:30pm.

Operation Christmas Child National Collection Week

November 17-24

Connection Point Church is honored to serve as the central drop-off location for Operation Christmas Child in Kansas City during National Collection Week from November 17-24. We're expecting to receive 9,000 filled shoeboxes from churches, individuals, and organizations, with each shoebox representing at least 10 gospel opportunities—that's 90,000 gospel opportunities being sent around the world! Volunteers are at the heart of this mission, and we're calling on you to help us receive shoeboxes and load trucks, playing a vital role in this impactful outreach. There are many opportunities to get plugged in throughout the collection week. Learn more and sign up at connectionpoint.tv/go.

Guatemala Mission Trip

January 2026

We're taking a team to Guatemala in January to support the Casa Bernabé children's home, transitional living program, vocational program, school, and clinic. This opportunity will include working with children, encouraging the staff, completing projects around the campus, and more. Learn more at connectionpoint.tv/go.

Find Connection This Week

What's Next?

Whether this is your first visit or you've been attending for years, you may be asking yourself, "Where do I go from here?" You're ready for your next step. Maybe you'd like to talk to someone about following Christ, joining a Life Group, becoming a church member, getting baptized, or something else. Stop by the Connect Center to talk with us or visit us at connectionpoint.tv/connect.

Sunday Morning Worship Service

Join us for a powerful, multigenerational worship experience every **Sunday at 9:30am** in the Worship Center. You'll hear biblical teaching that speaks to real life and experience dynamic music led by our choir and orchestra, all in a welcoming atmosphere for every age. ASL interpretation is available for the deaf and hard of hearing, and Kid City Jr. provides nursery care for children from birth through age five. Come just as you are and discover a place where you'll be encouraged and equipped to grow in your faith.

Connect with a Life Group

Life Groups are a great opportunity to meet new people, build friendships, and grow in your faith and knowledge of God's Word. Each group is made up of people just like you! Find the group that is right for you based on gender, age group, life stage, and schedule. Life Groups meet on Sundays at 8:15 am, Sundays at 11:00am, and during the week. **To find your group, stop by the Connect Center this morning or visit connectionpoint.tv/lifegroups.**

Sunday Resources Email

We want to send you a weekly email with resources to help you live out your faith at home, including the Faith Talk sermon discussion guide. If you don't already receive our weekly church-wide emails, sign up at connectionpoint.tv/email.

MIDWEEK - Wednesday Activities

Wednesday evenings are a great midweek opportunity to dig a little deeper at Connection Point. No matter your age—whether you want to learn, build community, or serve—there's a place for you at MIDWEEK on Wednesdays at 6:30pm. Learn more at connectionpoint.tv/midweek.

Childcare (ages 0-3)	Bible Study for Adults
Preschool (ages 3-5)	2:7 Discipleship
Kids (K-5th grade)	Choir Rehearsal
Students (6th-12th grade)	Orchestra Rehearsal

Come Early for MIDWEEK Dinner

Bring your whole family or come on your own—there's a seat for you! Dinner is served in the Atrium from 4:30-5:55pm before activities begin. Cost is \$6 per person. Call 816-268-1534 and leave a message by 2:00pm each Wednesday to reserve your spot.

Upcoming Menu

November 5 – Pulled Pork Sandwich

November 12 – Baked Ham

November 19 – Layered Taco Bake

November 26 – No Dinner

Prayer Requests

How can we pray for you? To leave a prayer request for the church-wide prayer list, call 816-778-1144. Or if you'd just like to share your request with our staff team, call the pastoral office at 816-353-1994 or visit connectionpoint.tv/prayer.

Pastoral Care Line

Please call 816-778-1110 when you or a loved one is in the hospital or if death is imminent. Someone from our Pastoral Care Team would be honored to call and pray with you and arrange a visit, if possible.

Thanksgiving Hours

With Thanksgiving approaching, please note our holiday hours listed below. While the office will be closed for the holiday, we are still here for you! If you or a loved one needs care, please use one of the contact methods listed above.

MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES

No evening activities on Wednesday, November 26.

CHURCH OFFICE

- Wednesday, November 26 – Closed at 12:00pm
- Thursday, November 27 – Closed
- Friday, November 28 – Closed

Regular church office hours are Monday-Thursday 8:00am-5:00pm. The office will re-open on Monday, December 1.

HOPE NETWORK FOOD PANTRY

- Wednesday, November 26 – Closed
- Thursday, November 27 – Closed

ROC FITNESS CENTER

- Wednesday, November 26 – Closed at 12:30pm
- Thursday, November 27 – Closed
- Friday, November 28 – Closed



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