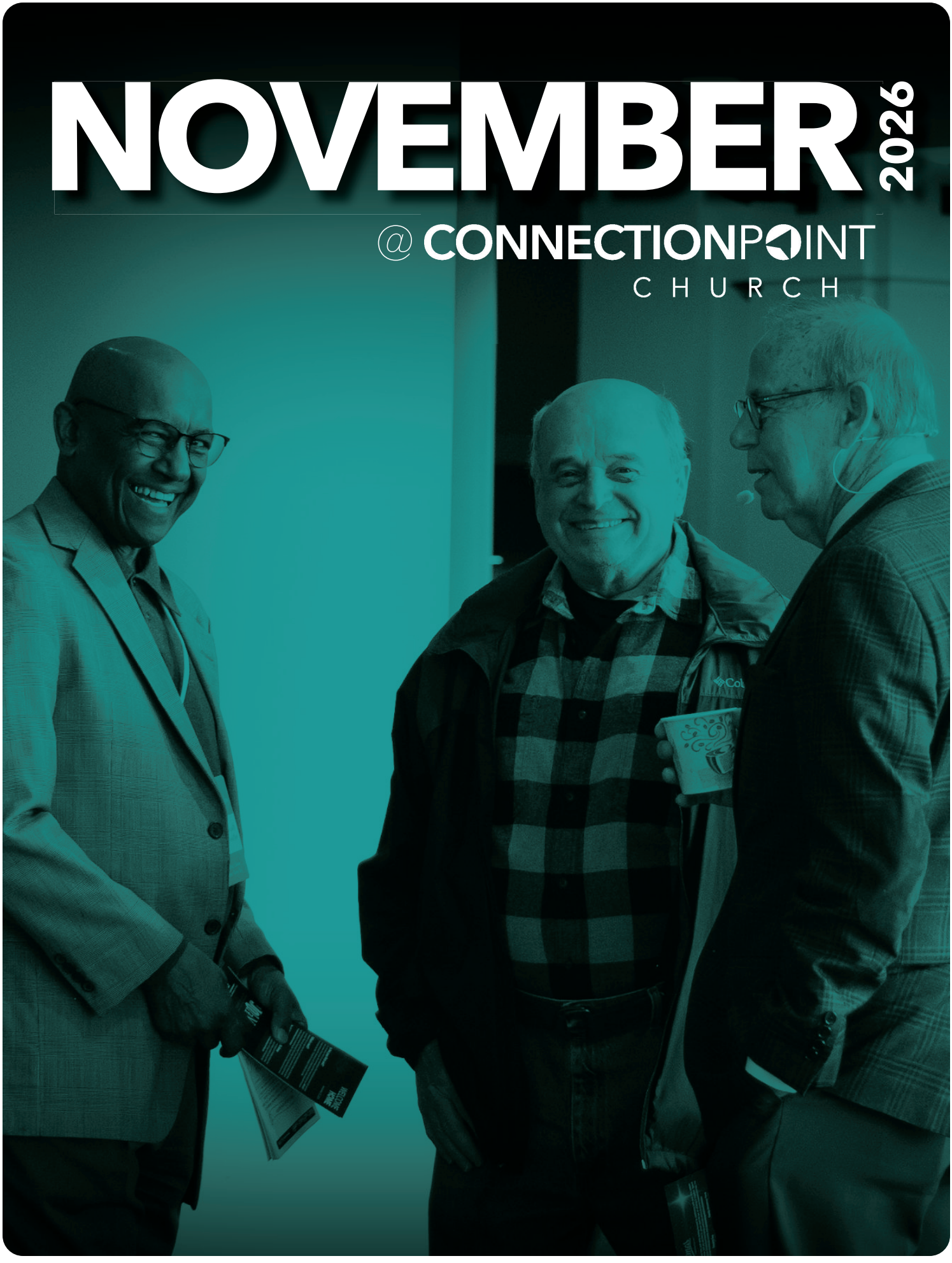
NOVEMBER 2026

@ CONNECTIONPOINT CHURCH





A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PASTOR

So Much to Be Thankful For

Celebrating God's faithfulness and the church family we share

Church family,

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, I want to encourage us to pause and reflect on the goodness and faithfulness of God. Sometimes, in the busyness of life or the uncertainty of waiting, it's easy to focus on what we don't yet have rather than recognizing all that God has already done.

Psalm 100:4-5 reminds us:

> *"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."*

What a wonderful reminder that our gratitude isn't based on our circumstances, but on the unchanging character of our God!

While we continue praying and trusting the Lord to lead us to our next Lead Pastor, we have so much to be thankful for at Connection Point Church. I'm grateful for the unity of our church family, the dedication of our staff and lay leaders, and the countless volunteers who faithfully serve week after week. I'm especially thankful that God continues to change lives as people place their faith in Jesus, follow Him in baptism, and become part of our church family. Through it all, God has been faithful!

On a personal note, I want you to know how deeply thankful I am for each of you. Your prayers, encouragement, generosity, and commitment to the mission of our church have meant more to me than you may realize. It is truly a privilege to serve alongside you.

As we gather with family and friends this Thanksgiving, let's remember that God's goodness isn't measured by how quickly He answers our prayers. His goodness is rooted in who He is.

Church family, we have much to celebrate and even more reason to give thanks!

Blessings,

Pastor Larry

Starting Point

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Sunday, November 8
11:00am-12:30pm
Fellowship Hall

connectionpoint.tv/events

Church membership is more than adding your name to a list. It is a commitment to belong to a local church family as we worship together, encourage one another, serve side by side, and carry out Christ's mission.

We have discovered that some people intended to become members but never completed Starting Point to become an Active Member. Completing Starting Point is required for Active Membership at Connection Point. Active Members age 16 and older will also have the opportunity to affirm the Pastor Search Team's eventual recommendation for our next Lead Pastor.

Are ready to officially make Connection Point your church home? **Register for Starting Point at connectionpoint.tv/events.** Questions? Contact Marty Heath at 816-353-1994 or marty.heath@connectionpoint.tv.

Lead Pastor Search Team Update:
A New Partnership in Our Pastor Search

The Lead Pastor Search Team is continuing the search for the right man to be our next Lead Pastor. After receiving proposals from four outside search firms earlier in 2026, the team unanimously agreed to hire Shepherd Staff to work with us in the search process.

Shepherd Staff has 20 years of experience and will be involved in every step of the process, including guiding and caring for our search team. They bring full-time consultants, proven expertise, and a pastoral process built specifically for Connection Point Church. Shepherd Staff will work with our team to find the right pastor, someone who fits our theology, culture, team chemistry, and community.

Ryan Cook, Senior Level Team Leader for Shepherd Staff, and John Denmon, Search Consultant, will be with us November 6-8. They will meet with the Lead Pastor Search Team, Transition Team, and pastoral staff and attend our Sunday morning service to get to know our church firsthand.

Please continue to pray for the Lead Pastor Search Team as we seek God's man to lead our church.

Rob Jordan
Pastor Search Team Chair

Thanksgiving Schedule & Care

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 below.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25
- No evening activities
- Building closes at 12:00pm

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29
- Normal morning schedule
- No evening activities
- Building closes at 2:00pm

CHURCH OFFICE
- Wednesday, November 25 – Closes at 12:00pm
- Thursday, November 26 – Closed
- Friday, November 27 – Closed

HOPE NETWORK FOOD PANTRY
- Wednesday, November 25 – Closed
- Thursday, November 26 – Closed

ROC FITNESS CENTER
- Wednesday, November 25 – Closes at 12:00pm
- Thursday, November 26 – Closed
- Friday, November 27 – Closed

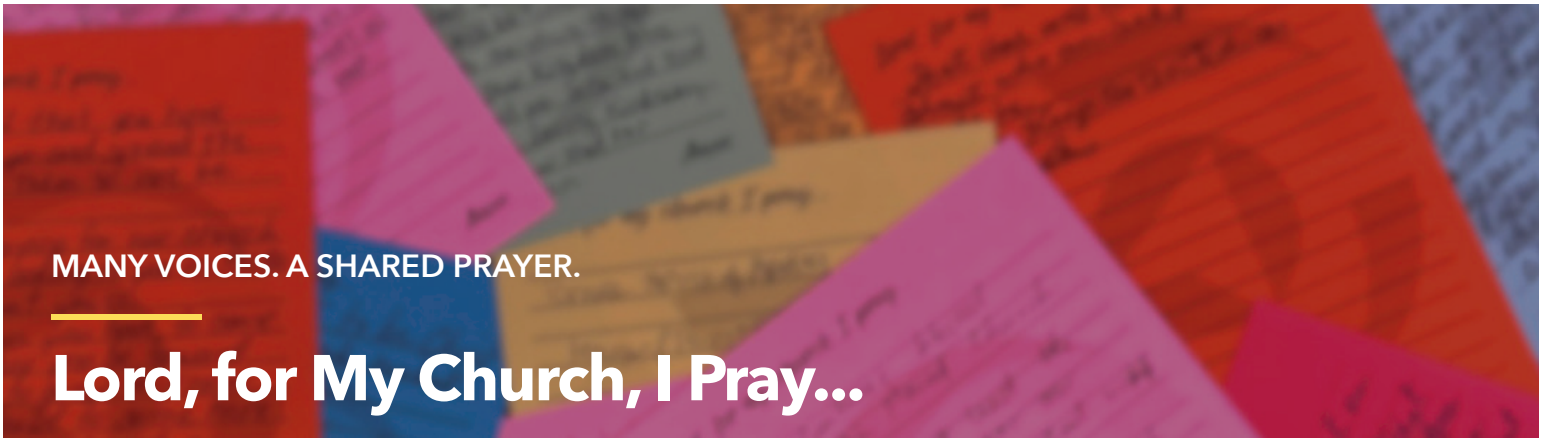
PRAYER REQUESTS
How can we pray for you? To leave a prayer request for the church-wide prayer list, call 816-778-1144. Or if you'd just like to share your request with our staff team, call the pastoral office at 816-353-1994 or visit **connectionpoint.tv/prayer**.

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.

scan to connect

FIRST-TIME GUESTS • PRAYER • LIFE GROUPS
EVENTS • GIVE • SUNDAY RESOURCES

Stop by the Connect Center in the lobby so we can say hello!



MANY VOICES. A SHARED PRAYER.

Lord, for My Church, I Pray...

At October's First & Fast gathering, members of our church family wrote down what they are praying for Connection Point. Their prayers reveal shared desires for renewed hearts, deeper unity, and lives changed through Jesus. Read these selections slowly. Let them give words to your own prayers and encourage you to ask God to work in ways that reach beyond what we can accomplish ourselves.

“ Lord, open my eyes/heart to where I need renewal and focus on kingdom work. May I not be satisfied with my current 'norms' of faithfulness. Move in my heart to hunger and thirst instead for your righteousness.”

“ Please forgive me for times I'm complacent or impatient when answers to prayer are not fully seen. Lord, move in my heart and in the church to love you, love people the way you do, to not grow weary in well-doing as we wait on your perfect timing to bring our next lead pastor. Break our hearts for the lost, this community and for your will to be done.”

“ Let our lives and relationships outside the building walls be of genuine love and make others take notice and have hope. Let our thoughts and words be pleasing to you, bring to the surface all our faults and let us strengthen one another. Open our hearts to anything that needs to leave or move to make room for your best for us. Holy Spirit foster a deep unity that overshadows any surface level grievances and breaks down any attitudes that do not honor you above all.”

“ That we would be a beacon of light to our community. That we would point people to the only real hope, Jesus. I pray that we would suffer well and stand firm in our faith as a spiritual battle rages around us. I pray that your name would be raised high, and that you would be glorified. Help us, your children, remember that you are sovereign, and that no matter our circumstances, you are working your purpose out. It is a privilege and an honor to join you in your work. Keep our minds, hearts, and spirit focused on you, you alone. So that at the end, we may hear those sweet words, 'Well done, good and faithful servant.' Amen.”

“ Lord help our church to be bold, shining your light and sharing the gospel. Help *me* to be bold. Help us to take every opportunity we have to share the love of Jesus with others.”

“ Please break my spirit of apathy – self first – too much 'creature comfort' on my mind. Give me a hunger and thirst for your righteousness. May I be your light where I live. Teach me to pray as you guide me. Thank you for your love and forgiveness when I blow it.”

“ For our staff. I pray you are close to them even when they feel far from you. I pray you give them energy to do their job for your namesake when they feel drained. I pray you give them peace when they feel down a weary. I'm thankful for our staff and pray they feel that daily. Bless them daily.”

“ I pray for the new lead pastor to arrive and feel like he is coming home the minute he steps through our doors. I pray that this church outlast everyone who is here today.”

“ I pray that you are glorified. That your name is exalted. That we as your children bear your name as you would wish. That your plans for us are mightily accomplished. That the step-by-step working of your will for our church body and for ourselves individually is brought to maturity. We recognize where our fight is, who and what it is against, but we also know your power is greater than any that come against us. Equip us. Provide what we need. Keep us dependent on you.”

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

First & Fast

Gather Sunday, November 1, at 5:00pm in the Atrium for worship and prayer, with worship led by Brandon Taylor. Childcare is provided for birth-5 years. On Monday, November 2, we'll fast individually and continue seeking God through prayer. We gather on the first Sunday of each month and fast on Monday. Whether you've participated before or this is your first time, you are welcome. *Next month's gathering will be Sunday, December 6, at 5:00pm.*

Christmas @CONNECTIONPOINT

Tinsel & Tea
Saturday, December 5 @ 9:00am
Join us for Tinsel & Tea, a special event for mothers, daughters, granddaughters, and all the women in your life. Come and delight in a morning of holiday cheer with breakfast, games, prizes, and the warmth of lasting connections on Saturday, December 5, from 9:00-11:00am in the Atrium. 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.

Christmas Worship Service
Sunday, December 13 @ 9:30am
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 13, at 9:30am. Our 100-voice choir, full orchestra, as well as our kids and student choirs, promise a worship experience like no other. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with our community, and we encourage you to bring a friend to share in this special morning.

Family Christmas Party
Sunday, December 20 @ 11:00am
Join our Kid Ministry for our annual Family Christmas Party! This event, held on Sunday, December 20, 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.

Christmas Eve Service
Thursday, December 24 @ 5:00pm
Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with your Connection Point family on Christmas Eve! Join us at 5:00pm on Thursday, 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.

A Christmas Thank-You for Our Staff



Throughout the year, our church staff pour their time and care into serving our church family. They walk alongside us, help us grow, and take care of countless details that make ministry possible.

The Personnel Team invites our church family to contribute toward a special gift that will be presented to our staff at Christmas. If you'd like to participate, gifts above and beyond regular giving can be made at **connectionpoint.tv/give** by selecting "Staff Christmas Appreciation," or in person with an offering envelope marked with the same designation.

Contributions are needed by Sunday, November 15, so the team can prepare the Christmas gifts. Thank you for considering this opportunity to encourage our staff and express your appreciation for their faithful service.



Gifts of Hope Christmas Adoptions
November 1-29
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 29.*

Meet the Team

Each month, get to know a few of the people who serve our church through a closer look at their work, their faith, and life beyond their job titles. From meaningful moments in ministry to favorite hobbies and family traditions, these highlights offer a chance to find something you have in common and learn something new. We're grateful for the care and dedication our staff brings to Connection Point, and our Personnel Team invites you to join them in praying for them and thanking them for the ways they serve.



Brandon Taylor

Worship Leader

On Staff Since: 2024

During the Week: I meet with the Worship Ministry team to discuss upcoming services. I, along with the student band, lead worship for the Student Ministry on Wednesday nights.

What I Enjoy: I look forward to the collaboration with the Worship Ministry team on how to make our services strong and unifying.

Favorite Bible Verse: 1 John 4:16 – This verse speaks to me speaks of the journey of first knowing that God loves me, and through many experiences, believing that God loves me.

Favorite Treat: I am a tenured ice cream connoisseur.

Something You Might Not Know: I am really into commercial aviation and have always dreamed of becoming a pilot.



Clarisse Lewis

Preschool Ministry Associate & Childcare Coordinator

On Staff Since: 2021

During the Week: I am constantly working on scheduling childcare workers for church programming. I also spend time preparing for our biggest event of the year, Create-A-Camp.

What I Enjoy: I love working with the kiddos in classrooms, but also love the administration side of things.

Favorite Bible Verse: Psalms 52:8 – This was the first verse that my 1st grade Sunday school teacher encouraged me to find on my own. It has stuck with me ever since. God's love is forever unfailing and will never waiver.

Ask Me About: I always love talking child development and child behavior. However, I really enjoy just talking about anything!

A Memorable Moment: Whenever a child wants to give me a hug or is excited to see me and tell me something about their week. It makes me so happy to know they love our church, they feel safe, loved and welcome!



Carmen Kraus

Missions Coordinator

On Staff Since: 1998

During the Week: I build relationships and connect people with missionaries and ministries where they can serve within their passions.

What I Enjoy: My favorite days are spent outside the walls of our church listening to, serving alongside, and caring for missionaries and ministry partners.

Behind the Scenes: Managing donations is an unexpected joy of my role. We receive and distribute donations to our many mission partners. I also move a lot of boxes!

Favorite Bible Verse: Jeremiah 29:11 – I'm encouraged knowing God has a plan for me, even when I do not understand. But I like to share it with others because of the next part – to let them know He has a good plan for their life. We will have an eternal future with Him.

In My Free Time: I love shopping!



Steven Scifers

Student and Family Pastor

On Staff Since: 2021

During the Week: My responsibilities fall into three buckets: regular ministry programming planning and preparation, special event planning, and pastoral duties, like preaching, calls and visits, school outreach, etc.

What I Enjoy: I love seeing and hearing about people taking next steps in their faith and walking in greater obedience.

Favorite Bible Verse: Romans 12:1-2 is the passage I felt called to ministry by. Nothing about it says, "When you read this, you'll be called to ministry." However, the Lord used that passage to solidify a calling I sensed, in how to make my body a living sacrifice dedicated to the Lord.

My Road to KC: I grew up mostly in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, though a bit of time in Austin, San Antonio, OKC, and the Memphis area. I came to the KC area through a ministry search firm.

Something You Might Not Know: I like projects, especially wood working/carpentry.

UPCOMING EVENTS



GriefShare
Tuesdays, November 3 & 17
Our GriefShare support group is led by people who understand what you are going through and want to help. You'll gain access to valuable resources to help you recover from your loss and look forward to rebuilding your life. GriefShare meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month in room C218 at 6:00pm.

Women on Mission
Thursday, November 5 & Monday, November 23
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 1st Thursdays at 9:30am and 4th Mondays at 6:30pm.

Men's Breakfast
Saturday, November 7
Gather with other men for breakfast and encouragement at our next Men's Breakfast on Saturday, November 7, at 8:00am in the Fellowship Hall. You'll enjoy a great meal, meaningful conversation, and a message from Marcellus Casey, who grew up in our church and now serves as a chaplain to the Kansas City Chiefs. Bring a friend and join us.

GO Day
Saturday, November 7
Help a neighbor feel seen, cared for, and loved at our next GO Day. Serve our homeless neighbors through meal service, Christmas decorating, preparing essential supplies, or prayer. Choose an opportunity that fits your schedule and sign up at connectionpoint.tv/go.

Milestone 1: Family Commitment Sunday
Sunday, November 8
Parents of children birth through Pre-K are invited to participate in Family Commitment Sunday. As Milestone 1 on our Legacy Milestone Path, this is an opportunity to commit to discipling your child as our church family celebrates with you and prays for your family. To sign up, email kids@connectionpoint.tv.

MomCo
Tuesdays, November 10 & 24
Mothering is complicated, but it doesn't have to be lonely. Moms of children from birth through high school can find friendship, encouragement, and support at MomCo. We meet the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00pm. To learn more, email connectionpointmomco@gmail.com.

Triple L
Tuesday, November 17
Enjoy fellowship, music, a devotion, a Thanksgiving turkey dinner, and a program featuring music from Phil & Pam Morgan at Triple L on Tuesday, November 17, at 10:30am in the Atrium. Cost is $8. RSVP by calling Barbara Griffin at 816-847-7138.

Mayor's Tree Lighting
Saturday, December 5
Help take the hope of Jesus into our Raytown community! We're partnering with the city for this Christmas festival from 4:00-8:00pm. Serve at our booth with games, crafts, and church information, or help with setup and cleanup. Donations of hot cocoa packets, fun toppings, and "Happy Birthday Jesus" themed prizes are also welcome. Sign up to participate at connectionpoint.tv/go.

For more events, visit connectionpoint.tv/events

FCA SPORTS +

YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE
Register by December 11

Your child doesn't need basketball experience to enjoy being part of a team. Our co-ed league for K-3rd grade welcomes beginners and kids who already love the game.

Through our partnership with FCA Sports, caring coaches will help kids learn basketball, build friendships, and grow in confidence. Weekly practices and Saturday games combine skill development with teamwork, sportsmanship, and opportunities to learn about Jesus.

Season: January 4–March 6 at Connection Point
Cost: $95 per athlete ($10 sibling discount)
Registration deadline: December 11

Register now at connectionpoint.tv/fca.

Have a child, grandchild, or neighbor who would enjoy playing? Share this opportunity with their family. You can also donate at the same link to help support the league and its mission to connect athletes and families with Jesus and His church.



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**. If you are looking for consistent opportunities to stay connected with the Connection Point family, be sure to join us every Sunday:

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.**

MIDWEEK – Wednesday Activities

Wednesday evenings are a great midweek opportunity to dig a little deeper. 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)
- Preschool (ages 3-5)
- Kids (K-5th grade)
- Students (6th-12th grade)
- Bible Study for Adults
- Choir Rehearsal
- 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 4:30-6:00pm before activities begin. Cost is $7 per person. Call 816-268-1534 and leave a message by 12:00pm each Wednesday to reserve your spot.

Upcoming Menu

- 4 - Baked Chicken
- 11 - Sloppy Joe
- 18 - Lemon Chicken
- 25 - No Dinner

Find events, resources, and more ways to get connected at connectionpoint.tv

GIVING UPDATE

Total Annual Goal: $3,813,349.00

Fiscal Year to Date Received: $230,321.25 *as of Thursday, October 29, 2026*

Fiscal Year to Date Goal: $293,334.52

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

WORSHIP UPDATE

Average Weekly Worship Attendance

October Total Average: 768

9:30 Worship Service: 646

Online: 122



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

CONNECTIONPOINT CHURCH

10500 E 350 Highway, Raytown, MO 64138
816-353-1994 • CONNECTIONPOINT.TV