

the pulse

of Centerpoint Community Church

January 2018

Campus Closed
January 1 & 15

Presbyterian Women
January 3

Presbyterian Men
January 3

Community Prayer for
the Nation
January 6

Disaster Relief Ministry
Information Night
January 9

Senior Adult Lunch
January 11

Family Movie Night
January 12

Military Prayer
January 14

Single Parents' Group
January 14

Haiti Mission Trip
January 15-23

Sanctity of Human Life
Sunday
January 21

Women's Bunco Night
January 26

Family Breakfast/Blood
Pressure Check
January 27

EPC Presbytery at
Centerpoint
February 1-3

Centerpoint 101
New Members' Class
February 10 & 17

Marriage Conference
February 23



HAPPY NEW YEAR! When I used a paper datebook it used to be fun to look ahead and see all the blank pages that hadn't yet been filled. Now, with electronic calendars, I have so many repeating meetings and appointments that I am already booked well past my lifespan (one person with way too much time on their hands scrolled their Apple calendar to the year 60313!) The truth is we can't even know for sure what will happen tomorrow, regardless of what our datebook says. So the best way to look ahead is to simply keep your eyes on Jesus and walk as faithfully as you can day by day (do I hear an Amen?! I do, however, want to give you some idea of what will be happening at Centerpoint over the next 6 months:

- 75 staff, elders and deacons will meet in January to comb through the results of our CHAT survey to look for short-term and long-term ways we can make Centerpoint even healthier.
- Our worship staff and committee, along with our pastoral staff, will meet with a group of millennials in our church to look at creating a worship service designed by them and "aimed" at their generation.
- Our Adult Formation Committee will be rolling out some ideas on going deeper in discipling and mentoring, as well as equipping, Christians for today's culture.
- Our Associate Pastor Search Committee hopes to call a candidate by Easter or soon thereafter (see the article on page 4).
- Our Global Missions Team will be making recommendations on a possible new location of ministry for our church.
- Our Local Missions Team will be reviewing our involvement in local missions and looking to add new or expand present ministries.
- We hope to send at least one team from Centerpoint to join **Samaritan's Purse** in helping with the recovery efforts in the Houston area.

Much more will be happening, as well as our usual ministries, missions and events (I wonder what the Fall Festival will look like in 60313... will we finally have hover boards by then?).

So please keep Centerpoint in your prayers and your eyes on Jesus! And Happy New Year!

Pastor Jim



MISSIONS

Grace City Center
"Christmas on the Block"

On Saturday, December 9, [Grace City Center](#) held their Christmas on the Block party for the Dixieanne neighborhood in Sacramento. About 400 neighbors joined them for a day of fun and a message of hope and love. Chris Stambaugh, GCC Director, and friends went up into the Sierras and hauled back snow for the kids to play in. The neighborhood was transformed into a day of wonder and laughter as the kids received "passports" to be stamped as they "traveled" to Mexico, Japan, Africa and Russia.



In "Mexico," students from Centerpoint's Journey (Middle School) and Revolution (Senior High) ministries helped kids decorate cookies. Next on the visit was "Japan" where more Centerpoint students helped to make lanterns and passed out Japanese cookies. It was just a short hop over to "Russia" for more yummy treats and a chance to have their holiday picture taken. Our own Kristin Ball from OneHope created precious memories by decorating the faces of children with designs like butterflies and Batman! The kids received stockings and the families received a bag of food. Everyone was treated to a fantastic lunch and a chance to play in the snow.

Memories were made that day by those that live in the community and also by our students from Journey, Revolution and OneHope. Those of us from the Local Mission Team helped with a little bit of everything and had a fantastic time supporting Grace City Center.

Join us on January 13 at Grace City Center for our next adventure in being the Hands & Feet of Jesus! Call Sharon Wurst at 217-6273 or sswurst@sbcglobal.net for more information.



ANNUAL FUNDRAISER DINNER & AUCTION
March 9, 2018



Join us for an evening of fun on Friday, March 9 at our annual mission fundraiser. We are looking for donations of services (painting, electrical, plumbing, decorating, landscaping, etc.), hosted dinner parties, boat rides, plane rides, golf lessons and/or rounds of golf, timeshares, B&Bs, lessons (cooking, baking, painting, crocheting, knitting, beading, music, flower arranging, etc.), quality handcrafted items, and themed baskets!

This year we're trying something new called a "party section." We'll have several parties available where people can sign up and purchase a spot to attend! (For example, you might want to host a "mystery dinner party" for 10 people at \$25/person. Each person then gets an evening of fun and Missions gets \$250.) So be creative and throw a

party for friends or make new friends! You can have a puzzle party or a progressive party or a Sock Hop or pool party. The idea is to have fun and get to know each other better! Let's get our thinking caps on and have some fun!

Contact Sharon Wurst at 928-2498 or sswurst@sbcglobal.net if you have something to donate or for more information.

“I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home.” Matthew 25:35

In a world inundated with thousands of news reports on refugees desperately fleeing violence, searching for safety, food and shelter, I wanted to find a tangible way to help. I had much to give, but no way to reach them. Then, I came across a Facebook post about a local nonprofit called [World Relief](#). It offered a training course on how to help refugees. World Relief gave me the opportunity not only to give monetarily, but also the chance to interact with refugee families face to face. Sacramento is the #1 city to resettle refugees in the nation. Currently, most refugee families in Sacramento are coming from Afghanistan. They are part of the SIV program, which means that a member of their family has helped the U.S. government for at least 5 years.

My Centerpoint small group quickly became **interested in World Relief’s mission as well.** We created a Good Neighbor Team, committed to caring for a refugee family with 2 small

children for at least 6 months. We picked them up at the airport, furnished their apartment, stockpiled a kitchen, and took them to doctor appointments. But most importantly, we became their friends.

This has changed us. It has stretched us. It has forced us into a state of vulnerability at times. How do I communicate with someone who doesn’t speak my language? How do I show God’s love to someone who comes from such a different background? It makes you nervous. It makes you timid. Does love truly know no limits? Repeatedly we have swallowed our fears and have taken that leap of faith and claimed, **“Yes, God’s love will light the way,”** and we have never been disappointed.

God calls us to welcome the stranger, to invite them in and make them family. And only as God can do, when we are faithful to the call, we gain so much more than we give. My husband and I had the privilege of hosting another refugee family of 6 from Afghanistan in our home for a week in November. They had to leave their loved ones and homeland due to Taliban threats. The father drove for an

American engineering company for 14 years, saving many lives by hiding them when needed and dodging dangerous roads. The Taliban threatened to kill his entire family because he helped Americans. They had to quickly leave their village and hide in Kabul for 2 years waiting for safe passage to the States.

If you feel inspired to help this family, please contact me at rdorsey@centerpointroseville.org. They could use gift cards for food and furnishings for their apartment. They came with only a few bags each. And if you feel inspired to host a family, you can! [World Relief](#) is a nonprofit that helps resettle refugees in the Sacramento area. I promise you will gain more than you give.

A big shout out goes to all these Centerpoint church members for actively participating in this process: Chris & Jennifer Cleveland, Michelle & Mike Giotto, Wynnie & Grace Bell, Dee Dee Gunther, Serena MacDiarmid, Diane Larson, Kristin Ball, Josh Vega and my wonderful husband, Mark Huchingson.

— [Rachel Dorsey, Centerpoint’s Elementary Sunday School Coordinator](#)

(For reasons of privacy and security, the refugee families requested that no photos of them be used in this publication)

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— Rachel Dorsey





"Our life experiences, expectations and dreams form the basis of how we perceive the world and shape our decisions. Male and female alike, we have all had thoughts about family size and children, thus creating our reproductive story. For some, our stories may change depending on factors such as marital status, unintended pregnancies, infertility, health and more. From everything we experience, our personal narrative is crafted."

—Tanya Flores, Women's Ministry Director

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

Revelation 4:11

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 is Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. At Centerpoint, we join churches around the United States in recognizing the third Sunday in January as the Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. We recognize that the Bible establishes that human life is sacred. In all stages of life, from conception to our ending days, may we communicate the beauty, wonder and reverence our Creator intended for each person in the human family.

It is estimated that one in four women experience a pregnancy loss during her lifetime. Research shows these losses are challenging and can be isolating experiences for all affected. If grief has not been processed, it will drastically impact those who are hurting and their loved ones. Women's Ministry strives to offer loving and Biblical support to women in all stages of grief, including losses from miscarriage, stillbirth and abortion.

In the event of end-of-life decisions and the loss of loved ones, our Grief Support Groups help those in need face the challenges of rebuilding their lives, bringing hope in a time of confusion, isolation and pain. For more information about reproductive loss, please contact Tanya Flores at tflores@centerpointroseville.org or 782-3186 x24. For more information on our Grief Support Groups, please contact Larry Curtis at 960-3193 or lcurtis1310@yahoo.com.



Tanya Flores
Women's Ministry Director



EPC Coming to Centerpoint February 1-3 Volunteers needed!

A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

The first meeting of the newly formed EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest will take place at Centerpoint on February 1-3. We will need 50+ volunteers to assist with registration, check-in, greeting, and hospitality services. Look for information in the worship folder and weekly email to see how to sign up to help.

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Associate Pastor Search Committee Update The search for our new Associate Pastor is going well. We have looked at 34 resumes so far, and are continuing to review new resumes as they come to us. We have 7 candidates that we are looking at more closely and with whom we will be starting interviews in January. *Thank you for your prayers, and please continue to pray for us and for discernment in identifying the person that God intends for Centerpoint.*

— Jennifer Harrington, Chair of the Associate Pastor Search Committee

MEN'S and WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Presbyterian Women - Wednesday, January 3

at 10:30am in the Family Life Center Dining Room
Dottie Poore will continue the monthly Bible Study, "In God's Garden." Please bring a Bible. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Mary Beth Watson at 624-3089 for information.

Presbyterian Men - Wednesday, January 3

at 6:00pm in the Family Life Center Dining Room
All men of the church are invited to attend for dinner and a program. For a dinner reservation, contact Dick Law at doutlaws@surewest.net or call him at 791-3346 no later than Tuesday, January 2.



"Emotionally Healthy Spirituality" *A Bible Course for Women*

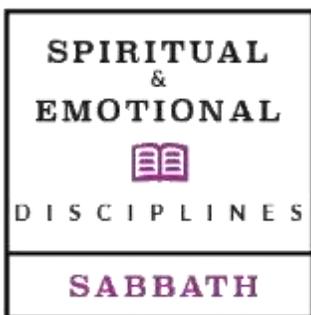
Class begins Wednesday, January 10, 8:30-10:30am OR 6:30-8:30pm in Room 118C

We are excited to offer this course again this year! The response to this course has been transformational and we look forward to another great class. The course is a plan for discipleship that deeply changes our relationship with God in two ways:

- Addressing directly the reality that emotional maturity and spiritual maturity are inseparable and that it is not possible to be spiritually mature while remaining emotionally immature, and
- Equipping people in a personal, firsthand relationship with Jesus by incorporating stillness, silence, and Scripture as daily life rhythms.

NOTE: Advanced registration and reading homework is required before the first class. Please visit the [website](#) for the book information and to register, <https://centerpointroseville.org/women-ministries/bible-studies.html>.

Childcare is available on request. Please contact Karen Fales at kfales@centerpointroseville.org or 782-3186 x26.



Workshop: Spiritual & Emotional Disciplines - Sabbath

Wednesday, January 17, 8:30-9:45am or 6:30-7:45pm in Family Life Center Room 118C

Join us for a special time as we pray and discuss the spiritual discipline of Sabbath and how to incorporate it into our lives. Required reading in advance: Chapter 5 of *"The Emotionally Healthy Leader"* or the Sabbath chapter in *"Emotionally Healthy Spirituality,"* both by Peter Scazzerro. Childcare is available upon request. Please contact Karen Fales at kfales@centerpointroseville.org or 782-3186 x26.

Bunco Night for Women

Friday, January 26, 7:00-9:00pm in the Family Life Center Dining Room



A night of laughter & getting to know one another over a game where the only skill required is the ability to roll dice. Come alone or invite a friend.
Cost is \$5 for snacks and prizes.

Childcare is free with prior request. Please contact Karen Fales at kfales@centerpointroseville.org or 782-3186 x26 with the ages of your children.

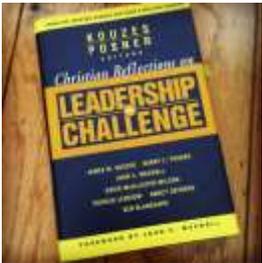
SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY LUNCH Thursday, January 11, 11:45am in the Dining Room



Our program will be presented by Roseville Vice Mayor, Bonnie Gore. A long-time member of the Roseville business community, Bonnie won re-election in 2016 to the City Council and will become Mayor in January 2018. She manages government and community relations for a local healthcare and hospital system and is a Trustee for William Jessup University. Bonnie will speak on the accomplishments of the City of Roseville in the past few years and the Council's plans for the future.

The cost of the lunch is \$8.00 per person, payable at the door. The menu includes chicken marsala with parmesan noodles, salad, bread and almond cream cake for dessert. The lunch is open to all, so invite a friend. *Reservations for lunch must be made with Bob or Diane McCarthy at 783-9295 by 5:00pm on Tuesday, January 9.*

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES



CHRISTIAN REFLECTIONS ON THE LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE: A Book Study Wednesday Evenings, January 17 to February 28, 7:00-8:30pm in the Annex

Led by Jennifer Armitage, this is a book study by a collection of Christian leaders who share insights on faith and leadership. We will look at The Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership: Model the Way, Inspire a Shared Vision, Challenge the Process, Enable Others to Act, and Encourage the Heart.

[Register online](#) or contact Karen Fales at kfales@centerpointroseville.org or 782-3186 x26.



THE HISTORY OF RELIGION IN AMERICA

Sunday Mornings, January 21 to February 25, 11:00am-12:00pm in the Annex

Led by Keith Bolte, this course offers an overview of the American religious experience from a historical perspective. The interaction of American religions is examined in four periods: 1) Colonial America 2) Revolution to the Civil War 3) Modern Prospects from Cityscapes to Bible Battles 4) World War II to the new Millennium. [Register online](#) or contact Karen Fales at 782-3186 x26 or kfales@centerpointroseville.org.



CENTERPOINT 101: NEW MEMBERS' CLASS

Saturdays, February 10 & 17, 9:00am-12:00pm in the Annex

If you are ready to explore what it means to make a commitment to the life, people and purpose of our church, this class is for you. You will meet the pastors and learn about Centerpoint's purpose, beliefs and core values. Whether you have been attending for just a few weeks or for years, you will find this class helpful. The class ends with the opportunity to join the church if you so choose. [Register online](#) or contact Karen Fales at kfales@centerpointroseville.org or 782-3186 x26.



JOIN A SMALL GROUP IN JANUARY

Small groups give you the opportunity to grow in your faith as you build friendships with others through meeting together to study scripture and pray for each other. Watch for new groups starting in January, or join one of the existing groups for couples, men and women. There are also groups open to all. Groups meet at various times and locations.

To learn more about group topics and locations, visit our website or contact Celia Blalock at 782-3186 or cblalock@centerpointroseville.org.

Save the Date!



CENTERPOINT MARRIAGE CONFERENCE

"Marriage Tune-Up: Looking Under the Hood"

Friday, February 23
6:00-9:00pm
Centerpoint campus

Our speakers are Allen and Terri Haley. Allen is an ordained minister and Terri is a marriage and family therapist. The Haleys bring a unique perspective to their conferences because of the difficult and painful journey they have had in their own relationship. A catered dinner is included. More details to come.



Have you heard about Kevin, our church rooster?

Appearing out of nowhere around Labor Day, "Kevin" has taken on the job of official greeter with his boisterous crowing, making all that hear it aware of his presence. Our Preschool kids delight in being greeted by him, and classes in the Annex recount that at the end of their prayers Kevin always crows as if to say "Amen!" Which begs the question... *can angels appear in chicken form?*

INTEREST GROUPS

For more detailed information regarding all of our Interest Groups and their activities, visit our [website under "Adults/Interest Groups."](#)

MEN'S BOOK FELLOWSHIP Tuesday, January 2, 10:30am-12:00pm in the Library, to discuss books we have been reading. Contact Dave Shumway at dave@dkshumway.com.

HANDS OF THE LORD QUILTERS Monday, January 8, 1:00-3:30pm in the Annex. Contact Sandy Nelson at 591-9036 or sandynelsn@gmail.com.

HOLY RIDERS (MOTORCYCLES) Saturday, January 20 for a day ride. Contact Doug Jacobs at djacobs@surewest.net or 541-8729 to join the group.

HIKERS Saturday, January 27 Hike around Angel Island in San Francisco Bay. Ferry over from Tiburon, hike up Mt. Livermore and have lunch. The hike is 6 miles around the Island for those who want to hike. There is much to see and do at one's own pace. Contact Jere at 786-2790 from 10:00am to 10:00pm or jere@surewest.net.

PRAYER & SUPPORT

For more detailed information & other prayer and support ministries, visit our [website under "Ministries/Care & Support."](#)

COMMUNITY PRAYER FOR THE NATION Saturday, January 6
7:00am at Bayside Adventure Church, 6401 Stanford Ranch Road, Roseville. Contact Lynn Jorgenson at 791-7447 or djorgenson@jps.net.

NEW GROUP! **WOMEN'S CANCER SUPPORT GROUP Tuesday, January 9 & 23**
11:30am - 12:30pm in the Centerpoint Library. This group will meet the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month. Join us if you have cancer or are a cancer survivor. Come when you can. Contact Lisa Butler at 365-3093 or pinkpeachescat@aol.com.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY for KNITTERS/CROCHETERS
Friday, January 12, 10:30am - 12:15pm in Room 118B. We will fellowship while we knit and crochet shawls. Contact Gail Rothwell at 742-4148 or grothwell64@yahoo.com.

MILITARY PRAYER Sunday, January 14, 9:00am in the Chapel. Join the team that prays for those in our church family connected with the military. Contact Pam Misco at 782-3560 or pkmisco@gmail.com with prayer requests.

SINGLE PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP Sunday, January 14
9:45-10:45am in Room 213. This monthly group supports one another through the task of raising children on your own. Contact Lisa Shearon at 780-7620 or lshearon@surewest.net.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS
Evening group/Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00pm in the Library
Daytime group/3rd Sunday (January 21), 2:00-3:30pm in the Library
Contact Larry Curtis at 960-3193 or lcurtis1310@yahoo.com.



DIVORCE CARE
This program uses a DVD and discussion format, led by compassionate facilitators who have personally experienced divorce. Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K) is for kids K-6th grade. Childcare is available for younger children. Our new

session starts Monday, January 22, 6:30-8:15pm in the Family Life Center. For more information, contact Alan Gartner at gartnerar@gmail.com or (408) 209-3574.



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centerpointroseville.org



For up to date Centerpoint happenings, as well as sermon video/audio, visit our Facebook page

Please Note: If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please call our office at 782-3186. Thank you.

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DISASTER RELIEF MINISTRY
Information Night
Tuesday, January 9, 7:30-8:15pm
Family Life Center Dining Room

Have you wondered what it's like to go on a disaster relief trip with Samaritan's Purse? Have you wondered if you can get involved without having to take a trip? Join us to find out more about Centerpoint's disaster relief ministry. Hope to see you there! For more information, contact Natalie Williams at naturalwilliams79@gmail.com.



MANY THANKS again to all in the Centerpoint community who donated over \$37,000 to give Christmas to 10 families in the Santa Rosa area who were devastated by recent wildfires. After a joyous day of delivering gifts, trees and gift cards our records revealed we still had over \$4,000 left in our SERVE SANTA ROSA account!

While in the process of determining how to best use the additional monies, we heard from Chris Medford, Chick-Fil-A owner and one of our Serve Santa Rosa partners. He sheepishly asked if we could possibly sponsor one more family. Joyfully, we said that we had money left over and we were able to sponsor an 11th family, who received their gifts and blessings **on Sunday, December 17!** God's hand was so apparent in the whole Serve Santa Rosa effort and all those involved were honored and humbled to be used in this tangible expression of love. Way to go, Centerpoint!



The Pierucci Family with Chris Medford (left) at Chick-Fil-A in Santa Rosa