

the  
**Pulse**

of Centerpoint Community Church

January 2021



So what would happen if Christians continued to pray... to pray without ceasing... for family and friends to come to Jesus? Or for peace to break out in our world? Or for a spiritual revival to grip the churches throughout the world? Or for Jesus to return? There are so many needs in our world. What could happen if we prayed as fervently and as faithfully for them as we have for a vaccine?

—Pastor Jim

**A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JIM:**

Someone pointed out that if you were trying to sell 2020 as a disaster movie script, it would seem so over-the-top no one would buy it. Then someone added with fear and trembling, *“What if 2020 was just the theatrical trailer for 2021?”* While January 1, 2021 doesn’t look much different than December 31, 2020 the new year is like a signal of hope... like the first glimpse of the rays of sun after a difficult night of struggle. It now looks like we have vaccines that work and it is just a matter of getting them to people as soon as we can.



Before 2020, people would have said that getting an effective vaccine to combat a worldwide pandemic out in 9 months is another Hollywood script so over-the-top it wouldn’t be believed. But it happened! This led some to say *“If you throw enough money and resources at a problem, it can be solved.”* But there is a part, a big part, of the success story that the media, scientists, and politicians have so far ignored. And that is prayer! Billions of Christians faithfully, constantly, and without ceasing, prayed for a vaccine. I know my wife and I have prayed every day for one. And I have no doubt that many in Centerpoint did the same. Throw enough prayer at something and you see God work in amazing ways!

So what would happen if Christians continued to pray... to pray without ceasing... for family and friends to come to Jesus? Or for peace to break out in our world? Or for a spiritual revival to grip the churches throughout the world? Or for Jesus to return? There are so many needs in our world. What could happen if we prayed as fervently and as faithfully for them as we have for a vaccine? I know we are weary, anxious to move on with the hope of a new year, but let us not grow weary in prayer... or of praying! Throw enough prayer at something and you see God work in amazing ways!

In Christ’s love,

Pastor Jim



**GLOBAL MISSION TRIPS IN 2021** As we all know, 2020 was a very unique year and, while COVID-19 has temporarily prevented Centerpoint from sending out global mission teams, we continue to pray and support our global mission partners. Centerpoint’s Global Mission Outreach Team (GMOT) is praying about our global mission trips for 2021. **We invite you to consider joining us on a mission trip to Ensenada, Mexico or Uganda, Africa.** These trips include getting to know the churches and communities we serve and the people who live there. We participate through building homes, planning and facilitating marriage retreats, as well as developing and implementing workshops for students and adults. Although we have no specific trips planned at this time, please let us know if you are interested in participating in a global mission trip in 2021. We will add you to our list and keep you updated. Contact Marlena Sprague at [marlenasprague@gmail.com](mailto:marlenasprague@gmail.com) or 916-521-0982.

**SIERRA PREGNANCY & HEALTH Diaper and Wipes Drive**

During the month of January, Centerpoint is celebrating “Sanctity of Life Month.” We recognize that the Bible teaches that human life is sacred. Sierra Pregnancy and Health (SPH) is one of our Mission Partners and is located directly across the street from our campus. SPH offers an alternative to abortion, thereby saving babies and their mothers. They also supply education and support for mothers and fathers during and after pregnancy, as well as reproductive loss support. All of their services are free of charge thanks to committed and generous donors.



As part of our caring for SPH, **Centerpoint will be collecting diapers and wipes in all sizes during the month of January.** There is a special need for newborn and young baby diapers. This year has been particularly challenging for parents of new babies. Just as the rest of us struggled with trying to find toilet paper, new parents often couldn’t find diapers for their babies, and the diapers they did find were more expensive than usual.

- **How can I help?** The shopping cart will be outside the church office Monday through Friday from 9:00am-4:00pm starting January 5 and on the courtyard starting January 10 so that donations of diapers and wipes can be dropped off.
- **What if I want to shop online?** If it is more convenient, you can order diapers from places like Target, Amazon, or Walmart and have them delivered directly to Sierra Pregnancy and Health, 1212 Coloma Way, Suite A, Roseville, CA 95661. Please mention Centerpoint in the additional information section of the order.

Please continue to pray for Sierra Pregnancy and Health’s mission and for all of our mission partners.



**SIGN UP TO FEED DINNER TO THE GATHERING INN IN 2021**

This year we have the blessing of feeding dinner to **The Gathering Inn** residents at Centerpoint on the **1st Sunday of every month.** If you are part of a Small Group or Bible Study, please consider signing up together. You will be feeding approximately 35-50 people. If you are NOT part of a small



group, consider finding five other families to join you and experience the chance to be “Jesus with skin on” to our local Roseville homeless. For more information, contact Diane Larson at [dlarsonsvl@gmail.com](mailto:dlarsonsvl@gmail.com) or 916-223-8784.

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BRYAN:

Did you know that since we've been sheltering in place, Centerpoint has provided Daily Devotionals five days a week? Back in March, Centerpoint's pastors began filming Daily Devotionals to help provide spiritual nourishment digitally, as well as something to look forward to five days a week. In June, in addition to hearing from Pastor Nancy and me, we began receiving regular Daily Devotionals from our Men's Ministry Director, John Sprague, our Women's Ministry Director, Rachel Dorsey, and our Worship Arts Director, Julie Battenfield. What a blessing it has been! Each voice has provided critical and timely focus on worship of God, our faith in action, and practical devotion.

Beginning January 1, 2021, we are expanding our Daily Devotional Team! I'm excited for our Centerpoint family to continue to hear from its pastors and ministry directors, and to begin hearing from a group of lay leaders, elders, and ministry volunteers. As the person who is coordinating our Daily Devotional calendar, I am very excited to see God move among us, using each person's unique voice and perspective to challenge and drive every listener closer and deeper in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

I invite you to bookmark the Daily Devotional page on our website or our Facebook feed. If you haven't checked out our Daily Devotionals yet, now is a great time! If a particular devotion has moved or challenged you, please make sure to share it with your friends and family over text, email, or Facebook. I look forward to God using each voice of the Daily Devotional Team in 2021!



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—Pastor Bryan

**LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS** Our Centerpoint family has a strong, loving heart for God and a strong desire to share His love with our neighbors. Here are a few examples of how we express that love to our Roseville neighbors:

- Through a Bible study, a Centerpoint family became familiar with a gentleman living in the care facility across the street from our church. Last year they prepared and delivered Thanksgiving dinner to him. This personal gift of care and love had a deep impact on him. Through most of 2020, due to COVID-19, this gentleman has been quarantined and unable to have visitors. This Centerpoint family prepared and delivered dinner to him again this year for Thanksgiving. Although they were unable to meet together, this gentleman felt the love and care expressed through the gift of Thanksgiving dinner.
- During weekly prayer walks in Centerpoint's neighborhood, our Prayer Walk Team members meet many people in the immediate neighborhood. One week our Prayer Team met a neighbor who attends our church. Our team learned she needed some healthy food, so a couple of the walkers purchased some groceries for her. She is now a regular member of our neighborhood Prayer Walk Team.
- On December 5, eight members of our Centerpoint family got together and prepared 200+ Christmas cards for residents and staff at two care facility homes located near our church: **Oakridge Healthcare Center** and **Roseville Point Health & Wellness Center**. The group personalized the cards and wrote out encouraging Bible verses on each card. It was a fun time for all who participated. We are planning to prepare Valentine's Day cards in January for these two care homes.



If you would like to be involved with the Prayer Walk Team or card-making for Valentine's Day (together with a group or at your own home) please contact Marlena Sprague at [marlenasprague@gmail.com](mailto:marlenasprague@gmail.com) or 916-521-0982.

# DECEMBER AT CENTERPOINT!



New bollards were installed to increase the safety of our campus



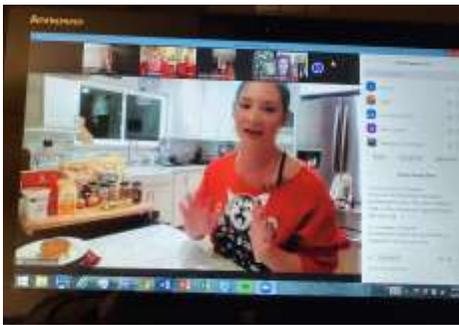
Caryn Frazier & Emily Mader blessed the Service of Remembrance with their music. Thanks to Larry Curtis for leading this beautiful service.



Our first ever Drive-Thru Nativity was a huge success with hundreds of cars winding their way down Coloma St. and through our parking lots to see the shepherds watching their flocks (real sheep, donkey, & llama!), the Angel appearing, Mary & Joseph caring for the baby Jesus, and the 3 wisemen following the star. Christmas music & lights added to the atmosphere. Each family received a bag of Christmas crafts to take home. Many thanks to the many people who helped to make this event so memorable.



Dee Dee Gunther, Jaime Phillips, and Michelle Giotto helped out with Deacons Food Baskets, which delivered food to 130 needy families



Three Zoom screens (over 100 women!) participated in our Home for the Holidays online event. Thanks to Rachel Dorsey and all the presenters, including Catrice Jaramillo (pictured above) who taught us how to make a keto pumpkin pie.



"We hope you enjoyed our online Christmas concert. One comment summed it up for us: 'Thank you for using your gifts to bless us this Christmas. Let us never take it for granted.' We are incredibly grateful that this concert was able to reach people and bless them, no matter the circumstances."  
—Julie Battenfield





**NEW MEMBERS CLASS Sundays, January 10 – February 14**

**1:00-2:00pm via Zoom**

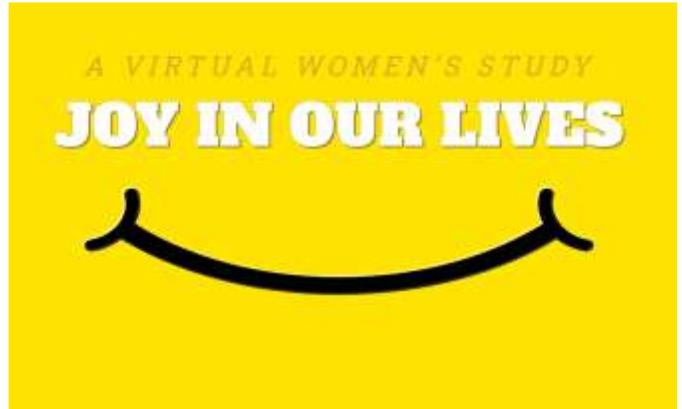
If you are ready to explore what it means to make a commitment to the life, people, and purpose of our church, this 6-week class is for you. You will meet the pastors and learn about Centerpoint’s purpose, beliefs, and core values. Whether you have been attending for just a few weeks or for years, you will find this class helpful. The class ends with the

opportunity to become a member at Centerpoint if you so choose. This class requires 6 weeks of attendance. Sign up online or contact Karen Fales at [kfales@centerpointroseville.org](mailto:kfales@centerpointroseville.org) or 916-782-3186 x26.

**A VIRTUAL WOMEN’S STUDY: JOY IN OUR LIVES**

**February 3 – March 10, Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30pm via Zoom**

Do you feel your life is joyful? What might be obstacles to a joyful life? How can we move toward a more joyful life? In this 6-week study for women led by Martha Neill, we will start by looking at the nature of joy and what the Bible tells us about joy. Then we will take a look at common obstacles to joy and at strategies and practices that may help us live more joyful lives. Sign up online or contact Karen Fales at [kfales@centerpointroseville.org](mailto:kfales@centerpointroseville.org) or 916-782-3186 x26.



**A MESSAGE FROM LISA MCGOUGH,**

**Centerpoint Preschool Director:**

Happy New Year!! We hope this past Christmas season filled you with His joy and peace! After a restful Christmas break and fun-filled Christmas Camp, our students and teachers are returning with new energy and joyful hearts. We are kicking off January by welcoming several new students. They are busy getting to know their new routines and working to make new friends. With the addition of new families comes an exciting opportunity to engage in conversation around potentially opening up a new Tuesday/Thursday class for 2 & 3 year olds. Please pray for wisdom and guidance as we continue to evaluate the possibilities.

January is the perfect time to pause, take stock, and set goals for the year ahead. While we adults may see the New Year as a chance to test old patterns or try something new, the children will be settling back into the comfort of school routines. While this may all be familiar, the children also set goals, often unknowingly, to try something new. Whether it be zipping a coat, completing a puzzle, mastering the monkey bars, or spelling their name, these learning and developmental milestones are set and met... on

a daily basis. We are grateful to be your partner in guiding the children along their journey as they, in turn, teach us about hard work and determination. We only need to look to the thrill on their faces when they master a skill, or share in their delight as they exclaim, “I did it all by myself!” as proof that perseverance pays off.

Our teachers and staff are humbled by and thankful for all of God’s blessings in 2020 and are looking forward to seeing His grace and purposes in 2021.

## SHOW YOU CARE – VOLUNTEER TO SERVE

As we move into 2021, many of our care ministries are doing things differently, and our Deacon teams need more team members. Here are some of the ways you can show you care by joining a Deacon team:

- Phone church families to check on how they are doing
- Prepare and deliver a meal to someone recovering from surgery
- Pray through our email prayer list weekly
- Do light handyman tasks for seniors or single moms
- Write cards to those on our prayer list
- Pray for pregnancies and infants in our church family
- Pray for those in the military connected with our church family
- Call someone who is homebound, and send them cards
- Distribute bags of groceries in the parking lot on Monday afternoons
- Assemble or deliver holiday food baskets

If you are interested in volunteering in any of these ways, please contact Pastor Nancy Duff at 916-759-2557 or [nduff@centerpointroseville.org](mailto:nduff@centerpointroseville.org) or Deacon Moderator Lorna Andrejewski at 916-835-2701 or [lornarn76@gmail.com](mailto:lornarn76@gmail.com).



## INTEREST GROUPS

**Trap and Skeet Shooting:** Saturday, January 2 from 10:00am-12:00pm at the Coon Creek Trap & Skeet Club. Contact Lance Mayhofer at [mayhofer@yahoo.com](mailto:mayhofer@yahoo.com) or 916-791-5423.

**Men's Book Fellowship:** We meet monthly on the 1st Tuesday at 10:30am via Zoom to discuss books we have been reading. Our next meeting is January 5. Contact Dave Shumway at [dave@dkshumway.com](mailto:dave@dkshumway.com).

**Hands of the Lord Quilters:** Monday, January 11, 1:00-3:00pm in the Annex. The quilters meet once a month to make quilts for various organizations and join others in fellowship. Contact Sandy Nelson at [sandynelsn@gmail.com](mailto:sandynelsn@gmail.com) or 916-591-9036.

**Holy Riders (Motorcycles):** Our next ride will be Saturday, January 16 to Jamestown. Contact Doug Jacobs at 916-541-8729 or [tdouglasjacobs@gmail.com](mailto:tdouglasjacobs@gmail.com).



*Editor's Note: Our Crafters Interest Group has a new leader and new options for attending.*

**Crafters:** Friday, January 15, 10:00-11:30am in the Annex **and** Tuesday, January 19, 7:00-8:30pm. Do you enjoy working with your hands...being creative...helping others? Then you will want to be a part of Centerpoint's Crafters. We will be working on a project each month to be donated to Centerpoint outreach projects or organizations. We are open to all. No experience is necessary, and participants may bring an older child (10+) to join them. (If you are already working on a project, you are welcome to come and work on your own project.) This will be a time of fun and fellowship. You can choose the day/time that works for your schedule. Contact Loretta Jaramillo at [bob.loretta@iglide.net](mailto:bob.loretta@iglide.net) or 408-761-0440.



## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR NANCY

You may have thought that your Christmas celebrations were over. Not quite! On January 6, many Christians give each other gifts and eat special cakes on what is known in some places as “Three Kings Day” and in other places as “Epiphany.” Whatever you call the holiday, it celebrates the revealing (or “epiphany”) of Jesus to the magi (or “kings”) as Matthew describes in his gospel.



When I set out my nativity set each Advent, I usually put the kings with their camels and the shepherds with their sheep on opposite sides of the manger. Sometimes I mix things up and put the kings and shepherds shoulder-to-shoulder. No matter what, the kings and shepherds are always in the stable at the same time. That’s not actually what we see in the New Testament. Jesus was first revealed to nearby shepherds (Israelites, all of them), and then later – perhaps months later – to the Gentile magi who had journeyed from the East. Aside from those shepherds, the Gentile “kings” worshipped Jesus before most Israelites. That means that right at the beginning of Jesus’ life there was already the seed of what Jesus would later commission his disciples to do: to go make disciples of *all the nations*.

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—Pastor Nancy

Sometimes I view January as a let-down month – a time to pack up the ornaments and relax a bit. Epiphany reminds me that really our celebration is just beginning! Now it’s time to spread the good news beyond our homes to the entire world! I’m going to try to keep that in mind this month – how about you?

## PRAYER & CARE



**DIVORCECARE** A new 13-week session starts Monday, January 25, 6:30-8:00pm via Zoom. DivorceCare is for those who are going through, or have gone through, the hardships of divorce. The video and discussion format is led by compassionate facilitators who have personally experienced divorce. Cost is \$20 for the workbook (scholarships available). Register on the website or app, or for more information contact Phil Kelly at 916-408-4083 or [info@windbow.com](mailto:info@windbow.com).

**Grief Support Group** meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 6:30-8:00pm in the Centerpoint Library. We will meet on January 5 & 19. Please contact Larry Curtis to make a reservation at 916-960-3193 or [lcurtis1310@yahoo.com](mailto:lcurtis1310@yahoo.com).

**Military Prayer Group** meets the 2nd Sunday at 9:00am to pray for those in our church associated with the military. The next meeting is January 10. Please RSVP to Pam Misco at 916-872-3635 or [pkmisco@gmail.com](mailto:pkmisco@gmail.com).

**Meals Ministry** is available to help with meals if you have recently been ill, had surgery, had a baby, or lost a loved one. Contact Cassie Johnson in the church office at [cjohnson@centerpointroseville.org](mailto:cjohnson@centerpointroseville.org) or 782-3186 x48.

**Home Handyman Help** is available for widows, seniors, and others who cannot afford to hire a handyman for minor fix-it jobs. Contact Cassie Johnson in the church office at [cjohnson@centerpointroseville.org](mailto:cjohnson@centerpointroseville.org) or 782-3186 x48.

**Food Bags are available** Mondays from 1:00-3:00pm. Bags of food will be placed in the trunk of your car. This is for Centerpoint attenders, or those who live in Roseville or cities that border Roseville.



515 Sunrise Avenue  
Roseville, CA 95661  
Phone: (916) 782-3186

[centerpointroseville.org](http://centerpointroseville.org)

Please Note: If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please contact the church office at [info@centerpointroseville.org](mailto:info@centerpointroseville.org) or 916-782-3186. Thank you.

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**FAITH IN ACTION:  
RESPONDING TO  
THE SIN OF RACISM**

**Rachel Dorsey**

**ADULT STUDY FAITH IN ACTION: RESPONDING TO THE SIN OF RACISM**

**Sundays, January 10 – January 31, 11:15am-12:15pm in person and via Zoom**

Issues of race and equality have come to the forefront in our nation's consciousness. Depending on who you are or what you look like, you and your neighbor may have very different experiences in economic opportunity or public safety. What are some root causes of these inequalities? In this 4-week, no-homework class led by Rachel Dorsey, we will engage with past and present race-related issues with the goal of having a deeper understanding of the reconciling role we are called to play as witnesses of the gospel. A limited number of in-person spots are available as well as unlimited Zoom attendance. Sign up online or contact Karen Fales in the church office.