



## ▼ PLAYLIST

Psalm	title	date
Psalm 1:	Crossroads	Feb 6
Psalm 27:	Pause	Feb 13
Psalm 23:	Still Waters	Feb 20
Psalm 77:	O God where art Thou?	Feb 27
Psalm 63:	Thirst	Mar 6
Psalm 139:	Known	Mar 13

Be filled with the Holy Spirit, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

Ephesians 5:18-19 [NLT]



## This Week at Centerpoint Fellowship February 13th, 2011

### Pressed Down, Shaken Together, and Running Over [1]

This is a pretty good description of Centerpoint lately. Last week, we had 1,164 people attend services, which beats our previous record of 1,155, set last Easter. We've also had many 1000+ Sundays recently, including four so far this year.

Not that we're complaining! Quite the contrary: This is *not* a problem. Or if it is, it's a problem we wish every church had! Our marvelous growth does bring with it a number of logistical issues, however, which we must attend to if we are to keep growing and keep meeting peoples' needs throughout the River Region. We'll address these in a bit.

But first we want to reiterate an important bit of Centerpoint's philosophy concerning its goals and organization. Every week someone asks a pastor or an elder, "when are you going to build a church?" To which the answer is, many times repeated, "we *are* building a church. We - *all* of us - have been doing so for over a year." God has led so many into our fellowship; these souls - not a building - make up a church. "Church," rightly understood, is the part of Christ's body that is visible in the world [2]. A building is a mere convenience that will crumble in time; each of us lives forever. The relationships we build with God and with each other matter more than any structure. And building relationships, through worship and connect groups, is - and will remain - Centerpoint's major focus for the foreseeable future [3].

Of course, God may eventually guide us to build. Right now, however, that is not what He is leading us to concentrate on. We are so grateful to the [Marriott Legends in Prattville](#) for hosting our worship, as well as to our usual alternate location, [Prattville Christian Academy](#) (about which see more below). Still, our continued growth does necessitate that we take action soon, so **here's the plan:**

1. We will **maximize seating in the Legends ballroom**. So far, we have not taken advantage of all the space the room affords; you may see some re-arrangement as early as this Sunday.
2. We will **start another service**. We will soon begin offering worship services at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 am. We may make the change as early as March, but we will definitely not wait until Easter - we absolutely *need* three services by then. Of course, this will tax our volunteer workforce, **so we will need additional volunteer help** in many areas, from set-up assistance to parking.
3. We will **introduce an "overflow" venue**, which will probably not be at the Legends, but at some nearby location that has the room and facilities to accommodate a fairly large crowd, who will view John's message in high-quality video, but have their own worship leader, announcements, etc. We are beginning to work out the details, but expect this within three to six months. Such an arrangement will also allow us to test-run many of the technical aspects of multi-site expansion.

So stand by for future developments!

**REMINDERS:**  
Services: 9:15 and 11 am  
at the [Legends](#)

2nd Sunday Volunteers

Get Connected!



Centerpoint's Connect Groups are small groups of 10-16 people who meet once a week in a home, a restaurant, or some similar location to study God's word, enjoy fellowship, pray together, and provide support. They are the central means through which we provide connection, protection, and growth for our fellowship. A central tenet of our ministry is that **Centerpoint is a church of small groups, not just a church with small groups.**

If you don't believe in the benefits of small groups, read the story to the left.

New groups are forming now. Find out more at the Connect Group table on Sunday mornings, online at [centeringlives.com](#), or contact Dave Brewer at [connect@centeringlives.com](mailto:connect@centeringlives.com).

Young People's Activities:

KidCentral



- KidCentral is our fun-filled worship experience for K-6th graders. We're running a new series of messages this month using Disney / Pixar clips to illustrate well-known Bible stories, like Noah's ark and Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead.

- **This week:** How Noah is found righteous and is rewarded by getting to build a REALLY big boat, as illustrated through Toy Story 3.

- **K-4 graders meet downstairs at the Legends** at 11 am. If you have questions, please contact Tracey Maggard at [tracey@centeringlives.com](mailto:tracey@centeringlives.com).

- **5 & 6 graders will meet upstairs in the Camellia Room** starting this week.

- **7th - 12 Graders** normally gather at 11 am to "go deeper" into the 9:15 sermon. They meet upstairs, down the hall toward the restaurant in one of the rooms on the left. This is a great way to get into some practical applications of what they learned at 9:15.

- **Student Break-Away (7-12 graders) Wednesdays at Camp Grandview** from 5:45 to 7:45.

## A Blessed Relationship

Prattville Christian Academy will host our worship again on **Feb. 27**, due to a prior commitment at the Legends. [4]



PCA's Facilities and Elementary Class  
(Note: This photo was taken years ago; the student body has grown a bit in the meantime.)

This gracious offer, once more extended by PCA's President, Ron Mitchell, and its governing board, highlights a special relationship that has grown over the last year, to the mutual benefit of Centerpoint and PCA. This relationship also highlights the value of allying with other Christian organizations in our region that are experts in doing what they do.

We asked President Mitchell to comment on PCA, Centerpoint, and our relationship: *"Prattville Christian Academy was built to glorify our God and is intended to support all Christ-based organizations that can use our facilities to forward the good news of the Gospels. Our desire is to partner with families and their Churches, regardless of denomination, to grow our children spiritually. We also want to be part of our community in the areas of spiritual formation and parent education for everyone, not just students at PCA. Welcoming Centerpoint Church into our facility was an easy decision based on this philosophy."*

*Since beginning a relationship with Centerpoint, we have found that our school is blessed by interaction with Centerpoint leaders, workers, and families. Many of our PCA families attend Centerpoint and they feel a great sense of pride when worship is held here. Some of the families from Centerpoint that saw our facilities for the first time came back to see me asking questions about our school – some have enrolled. Bringing new kids to PCA from Centerpoint is a blessing to both organizations as we work together to build-up our children.*

*We appreciate the prayers and encouragement we receive from Centerpoint Church and we look forward to a long and God-honoring relationship."*

To President Mitchell and everyone at PCA: You do indeed have our prayers, encouragement, and abiding gratitude!

- **Tweenagers** also meet on Wednesdays at Camp Grandview from 5:45 to 6:45.

**Come. Join.** (Resistance is Futile.)

Our membership classes have resumed their "normal" monthly rotation. Here are the classes for the remainder of this month:

- This Sunday: M-201, Christian Living.
- Feb 20: M-301, Serving
- Feb 27: M-401, Mission

We will next offer "Centerpoint 101," the class everyone needs in order to join, on Mar 6th. Come; be assimilated. We will add your biological and technological distinctiveness to our own.

**Note: This week, membership classes will move downstairs; all will be at 11 am.**

### Celebrate Recovery



Centerpoint's Celebrate Recovery ministry is going strong. We had around 40 participants last week. CR is a place where we can admit and work through our hurts, hang-ups, and sinful habits in a safe and loving environment. CR meets every Friday at [Church of the Living Water](#) in Prattville:

- 6:00 pm: Divine Diner (\$3)
- 6:30 pm: Large Group
- 7:30 pm: Small Groups
- 8:30 pm: Cross-Talk Cafe (\$2)

Currently, men and women each have small groups for chemical dependency and life challenges. For more info, see our [CR info on the CP website](#) and on [Facebook](#). Also check out [CR's main website](#). Or just come on Friday - you will be very welcome and very thankful that you did!

### Your Story



We want to hear how you came to have a relationship with Jesus and what He's done in your life. Go to the [main website page](#) and click on "My Story" to tell us.

### Missions

Do you have a passion for missions? We are looking for leaders who have a heart for sharing God's love in our local community. If you are willing to help organize and equip teams to serve, contact the church office (356-3076) or Tony Brewer at [tony.brewer@dab-llc.com](mailto:tony.brewer@dab-llc.com).

**We Want You! No; strike that:**

**WE NEED YOU!** We have an urgent need for volunteers in the following areas:

- **Setup & Break-down Teams**
- **Tech Team** - videographers, video editors, sound techs, others (training provided)
- **Stage Set Designers**
- **KidCentral**
- **Greeters & Ushers** for the 11 am service

## Haiti Mission

We are **sending an exploratory mission team to Haiti** this month, from the 19th to the 27th. The team consists of Craig Clement, Tony Brewer, Tom Barnard, Lane Easterling, Jason Smith, and Stuart Hoven, and will be conducted under the auspices of the [One Mission Society](#). In addition to helping build housing in the earthquake-ravaged country, this team will be investigating the prospects of future CP mission trips - Haiti is far from a hospitable environment, but is in desperate need. Please **pray for our hardy souls** who have chosen to brave this trip! We look forward to the after-action reports.

## All in the Family (Finally!)

We caught her! Yes we did! We caught the ever-busy and ever-elusive Cyndi Lombardi, and forced her to give us a profile on pain of having to use Windows Vista for the rest of her life. Cyndi is Executive Assistant to Senior Pastor John Schmidt, eagle-eyed administrator, prized Girl Friday, and the glue that holds Centerpoint together on a day-to-day basis. We are delighted to introduce Cyndi to those Centerpointers who don't yet know her:



Cyndi grew up in Orlando, Florida, attending Florida State Univ. ("*Go Noles,*" she says [4]). She has traveled extensively and lived in Japan for a year. She moved to Montgomery in 1991, where she attended AUM and began working for John [5] while he was at [Frazer United Methodist](#). Most of her immediate family lives in this area, except for her brother, who is an executive chef at a resort in south FL. ("*I love when he comes to visit and cooks!*")

As we contemplate expanding to three services, we will need more volunteer help! Please prayerfully consider where God may use you in CP's ministry! Sign up at the information table. The church offers several other ongoing opportunities for volunteer service (such as bulletin assembly and communion set up). Contact Cyndi at the [church office](#), (334) 356-3076 or at [cyndi@centeringlives.com](mailto:cyndi@centeringlives.com).

### Prayer is a vital part of our ministry.

If you need prayer, you can find our Pastors and volunteers to pray with and for you every Sunday (in the corners of the Legend's Ballroom). You may also write prayer requests on your connection cards and/or contact our prayer team at [prayer@centeringlives.com](mailto:prayer@centeringlives.com).

### Prayers for Our Deployed Military

If you have a family member who is deployed or is deploying soon, please let us know. We would like to pray for you and your family. We need the name, relationship (son, daughter, husband, etc.), and estimated date of return. You can email the info to [cyndi@centeringlives.com](mailto:cyndi@centeringlives.com).

### Name that Tune:

Shelley and our web team have put [complete song lists on CP's website](#), including authors, album info, and many video links. Nice! And if you want to hear and purchase Shelley and Tommy's music now, you can always go to [their old band's site](#). (Although the site is no longer updated, their albums are still available for purchase.)

### Nursery Volunteers:

We always need dedicated folks to work in our nursery. Yes, dads, that includes you. If interested, contact Tricia Brewer at [brewertt@aol.com](mailto:brewertt@aol.com) or stop by the nursery during Sunday services.

### Photography Team:

Anyone interested in helping document Centerpoint's events in pictures please contact Anita Thebo at 365-8229 or [nospam61@gmail.com](mailto:nospam61@gmail.com).

### The Autauga Interfaith Care Center

(AICC) is in desperate need of blankets, sheets, towels, and sleeping bags to help area families in need this winter. Given all the very cold weather we've been having, we are continuing a drive to help provide them until further notice. You may bring these items to the Legends on Sunday or to the church office during the week. Please contact Don Darling at 549-5524 if you need more info. Check out [AICC's website here](#). Also note that AICC is always looking for willing volunteers. Contact [Dave Everist via email](mailto:Dave Everist via email) or at 365-4080 if you can help.

### Grace Place

Pregnant? Have questions about sex? Need help? You are not alone. Grace Place is here to help you. They offer pregnancy testing, options counseling, material aid, and referrals to community services, **all confidential and free of charge**. Contact them at (334) 365-8266, or [go here for more contact info](#). Their [main website is here](#). **Grace Place is also looking for volunteer help - another great ministry opportunity.** Contact them at the number above.

### Emmaus and Chrysalis:

Are ministry retreats and unique times with God that help accomplish CP's primary goal: Centering lives on Jesus. This ministry has literally changed the lives of many involved in ministry at CP, so we encourage you to attend. Emmaus is an adult retreat. Check out their [website](#). Emmaus is for adults; Chrysalis is for 10-12 graders.

**Emmaus needs volunteers** to help fill support needs, including a meal. If interested in helping with a walk, contact the support team coordinators listed under the individual walks. There are also continuous prayer vigils for each walk; signups are on the [website](#). For more info, to sign up for volunteer assistance, or to get answers to general questions, please contact Carol Reynolds at [candtrev@knology.net](mailto:candtrev@knology.net) or Joy Priester at [jbp0922@att.net](mailto:jbp0922@att.net).

### Here's the Emmaus Schedule for the upcoming year:

- Feb 23-26: Women's Walk #136
- Mar 2-5: Women's Walk #137
- Apr 27-30: Men's Walk #138
- Aug 24-27: Men's Walk #139
- Sep 7-10: Women's Walk #140
- Sep 14-17: Men's Walk #141
- Oct 20-23: Women's Walk #142

**Registrar, men's walks:** Jim Snyder, (334) 272-3548, [jsnyder3548@charter.net](mailto:jsnyder3548@charter.net)

**Registrar, women's walks:** Lynn "Mo" Moseley, (334) 749-6613, [lynnmoseley@bellsouth.net](mailto:lynnmoseley@bellsouth.net)

Cyndi has two children: Son Ryan, married to Hanna; and daughter Amber, married to Joseph. Ryan and Hanna have one son, Miller, who calls Cyndi "CC" ("'grandma' sounds too old!")

Cyndi's interests include college football. Her abiding love is Florida State, but, *"upon moving to Alabama, I was told I had to choose between Auburn and Alabama. War Eagle!"* [6] Cyndi is also something of the Anthony Bourdain of Centerpoint, loving travel, cooking (*"I'm a Food Channel junkie!"*), reading, organizing parties, and discovering great restaurants. (We are uncertain, however, whether she has - like Bourdain - ever consumed Vietnamese scorpions in her travels. We forgot to ask.)

Of her CP experience, Cyndi says, *"Being a part of Centerpoint Fellowship has been an amazing experience. John and I had prayed and waited for this opportunity for years. To watch God's plans unfold and be a part of Centerpoint's birth has been life changing in so many ways. Nothing is impossible with God and He is truly faithful and gracious beyond my imagination. I can't wait to see what He does through our church in the future!"*

## 43 Days and Counting...



...til the **Centerpoint Half Marathon and 5K Race**, which will be held in Prattville on March 26, 2011. [Registration is available online](#), along with other details you'll need to know. You can run in the races, sign up as a sponsor, walk a little and run a little (same price), learn to wear a "race bib," work as a race volunteer, sign up as a "phantom runner" (and still get the t-shirt), register your dog to run (dog gets the t-shirt), get your photo taken while sweaty and bedrugged, and other, even more fun but arcane, options. The race benefits the [Kevin Turner Foundation](#), [soles4souls](#), and CP's international missions.

## Our Faithfulness

Attendance: 9:15: 560, 11:00: 604; Total: 1,164. Giving: \$26,570.06. Again - a new record for attendance. BTW, you can give and check your giving online. Just go to [CP's website](#) and click "online giving." God bless all y'all's crowded little selves!

**Remember Lunch at the Legends:** You really need to try the [Legend's excellent buffet](#), available after service each Sunday.

### Keeping in Touch:

ONLINE:

[FACEBOOK](#)

[centeringlives.com](#)

[Newsletter Blog](#)

[Artist's & Writer's Blog](#)

[Essential 100 Bible Blog](#)

CHURCH OFFICE:

ph: (334) 356-3076

fax: (334) 356-4695

[696-C Commerce Ct.](#)

[Prattville AL 36066](#)

E-MAIL US:

John Schmidt

[john@centeringlives.com](#)

Scott Schumpert

[scott@centeringlives.com](#)

Cyndi Lombardi

[cyndi@centeringlives.com](#)

Shelley Green

[shelley@centeringlives.com](#)

Tracey Maggard

[tracey@centeringlives.com](#)

Teresa Easterling

[teresa@centeringlives.com](#)

For Prayer

[prayer@centeringlives.com](#)

For Celebrate Recovery

[celebraterecovery@centeringlives.com](#)

Contact Greg Tolar at [celebraterecovery@centeringlives.com](#) or 358-1851 (w) 361-3510 (h) for more info. Check out

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[1] "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you"  
(Luke 6:38, New International Version [NIV]).

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[2] "Now all of you together are Christ's body, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it." (1 Cor 12:27, New Living Trans. [NLT]); "So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another" (Rom 12:5, New King James Version [NKJV]).

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[3] We adhere to a principle of church growth known as "deliberate simplicity," which maintains that the most effective organizations do just a few things extremely well and ally with others that are superb in their own niches when taking on wider projects. As the Russians say, "chase two rabbits and you won't catch either." [Learn more here.](#)

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[4] NOTE: **We will also be at PCA on Oct. 23 and Nov 20 this year.**

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[5] What's a 'nole'? The only answers we could find were, "Nole (pronounced 'nolay'): A municipality in the Italian Piedmont district of Turin" (presumably she meant a denizen thereof, perhaps encountered on her many travels; why she would favor them particularly is unclear - perhaps it has to do with their cuisine); or, according to the [Urban Dictionary](#), "The object of envy in higher education, especially in the state of Florida, but not as high as University of Florida" (which seems an unlikely usage, since she attended Florida State). We shall continue to investigate.

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[5] Schmidt, Senior Pastor of Centerpoint Fellowship Church.

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[6] We are reliably informed that this enigmatic phrase is uttered by fans of the Auburn Univ. Tigers football team. Why a team called the Tigers has a cry featuring an eagle is unclear, and is a subject for further investigation as well.