

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

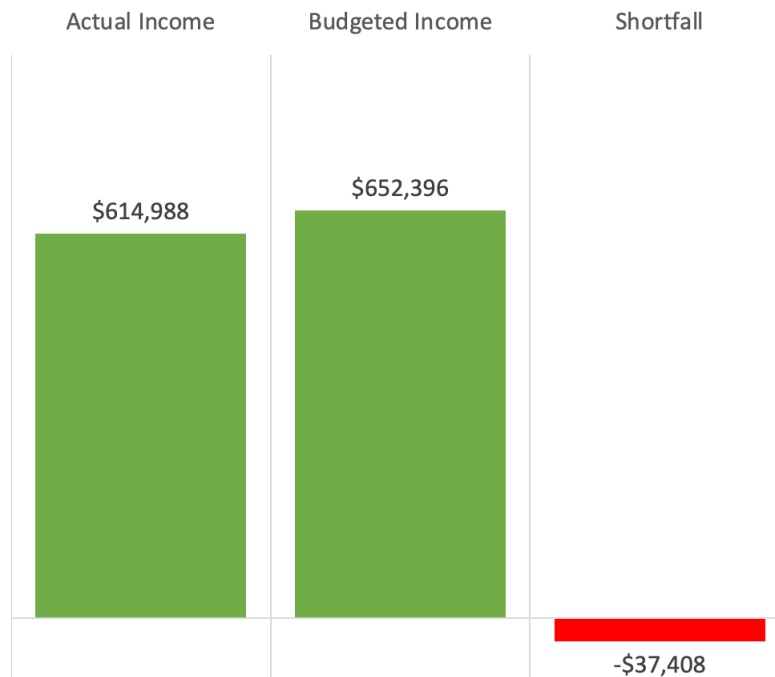


CENTERPOINT KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

On December 14, our Centerpoint Kids presented a Christmas program at both campuses. They told the story of our long-awaited Savior, celebrated His birth, and looked forward in anticipation to His return. We are so grateful for the opportunity to hear the story of Jesus from the next generation in this Christmas season!



FINANCIAL UPDATE



We are currently
6% behind in giving.

CELEBRATIONS



We were blessed to celebrate with the De Haan family as Caleb and Paige professed their faith and their daughters Harper Nicole and Sophie Evalyn De Haan were baptized.

BOARD UPDATE

On December 8, the board met for its regularly scheduled meeting. We opened with a devotion and split into groups for prayer. We continue to review the principles of Policy Governance, and this month we reviewed principle 5; Big Bowls before Small Bowls.

[Click here to watch the video.](#)

Each month the board spends time reviewing one of the five ends that we have as a church. As a reminder, the five ends include: Worship, Discipleship, Missional Engagement, Multiplication, and Healthy Culture. This month we reviewed the end of Multiplication which reads: *Centerpoint Church exists for a purpose beyond ourselves. Therefore, we will multiply Christ-followers and leaders in multiple locations, for the sake of the Kingdom of God. We will use any responsible cost to accomplish this end.* The board discussed this end, and they feel that it is worthy of continued focus. As we move forward with our capital campaign, the congregation will hear more about this end.

Covenant Partner agreement forms will again be available for signature for the 2026 calendar year. Find the online agreement form [here](#). Below are some frequently asked questions about Covenant Partnership:

What is a Covenant Partner?

1. Since 2019, our Board of Elders has used Policy Governance as a framework for governing our church. A key component to this governance style is something called Ownership Linkage. Jesus is the owner of the church, and collectively, you are connected to Jesus by the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ownership Linkage is work the Board of Elders does to seek the leading of the Holy Spirit by listening to what the Spirit is saying to the church through the collective feedback from our Covenant Partners.
 - Covenant Partners are defined as baptized members who have professed their faith in Jesus, who support the Mission and Vision of the church, worship regularly at that church, serve in areas of the church where they are gifted, and give money cheerfully and regularly to the work of the church.
 - To clarify exactly who these persons are and to help the board receive feedback from them, a Covenant Partner Agreement is available annually for people to sign.

Why do we need Covenant Partners?

1. Becoming a Covenant Partner indicates your commitment to actively participating in the life of the church.
2. It is important to know who is engaged in the life of the church. The leaders of the church desire to communicate and gather feedback from those who are most engaged. The Covenant Partner Agreement identifies those who are supporting, worshipping, serving, and giving regularly to the church.

What is the difference between a Covenant Partner and a Member?

1. The Covenant Partner agreement does not change the status of membership in our church.
2. Members are those who are baptized and have professed their faith in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Professing members have the opportunity to sign up to be Covenant Partners annually, if they desire to do so.
3. Signing up as Covenant Partners gives members the opportunity to take a step

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forward as leaders within the life of the church and to take responsibility for the church.

4. Covenant Partners agree to a higher level of commitment within the church. Covenant Partners can be elected to serve on the Board of Elders. Covenant Partners will be invited to vote to affirm the slate of those nominated to serve on the Board of Elders.
5. Covenant Partners provide a vital communication link to the Board of Elders through the Ownership Linkage segment of Policy Governance. As need arises, the board will look to Covenant Partners for feedback as the Board of Elders leads the congregation into the future.

Why is the Covenant Partner Agreement an annual document?

1. We recognize that life changes. We want to understand who is currently engaged in the life of the church.
 - Members may be in a season of life in which they cannot commit to serving and being fully engaged in the life of the church. During these seasons, they may choose not to sign up as Covenant Partners. As life circumstances change, they may decide to again engage more deeply and can choose to sign the agreement at that time.
 - Members may move away from the area and may no longer be engaged in the life of Centerpoint Church.
 - Some members may choose not to sign the Covenant but remain a valuable member of the church.
2. The Covenant Partner agreement will be available to be signed at any time throughout the year at the NEXT STEPS kiosk, but it will be intentionally rolled out each December and January.
3. Our denomination, The Alliance of Reformed Churches, has a similar process in which churches are asked to opt-in to the organization regularly (every 5 years). Pastors must also opt-in and be recertified. This provides mutual accountability, and accountability is a key value within The Alliance of Reformed Churches. Within our church, leaders, including Pastors, Elders, and Covenant Partners, will opt-in to a higher level of accountability appropriate for leadership within Christ's church.

On Sunday morning, January 18, there will be a Covenant Partner meeting at both our Sioux Center campus and our Hawarden campus. The meeting in Sioux Center will begin at 8:00 AM and the meeting in Hawarden will begin at 10:45 AM. Childcare will be provided at both locations during the meeting. We anticipate sharing some of the results of the Church Pulse Survey as well as an update on the Immeasurably More capital campaign.

We want to say a BIG thank you to everyone who gave or pledged to give to the capital campaign that was rolled out this past month. The board is overwhelmed with the generosity of those that have made a commitment to the future of Centerpoint's needs and vision. THANK YOU!

Also, as we approach the end of the year, we want to thank everyone for all the support that has been offered to Centerpoint throughout all of 2025. Your investment of time, talent and treasure is very much appreciated in carrying out our mission of making Christ known. Please continue to keep Centerpoint in your financial considerations for end of year giving.

The board wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

JOY AND CONNECTION

December was a month to remember! Our student ministry came together to celebrate the birth of Jesus with worship, laughter, and festive fun. From candlelight services to creative games, these gatherings reminded us of the joy and hope we have in Christ. Here's a glimpse of what happened across our groups:

Sioux Center High School: Our high school students created such a great atmosphere for worship and trivia.

- **Candlelight Worship** led by students
- **Reading Jesus' birth story** and singing hymns
- **Christmas Trivia** in competitive team rounds



Sioux Center Middle School: Our middle school students brought incredible energy to the night.

- **Christmas-themed Family Feud**
- **Holiday games** led by our adult leaders
- Every student left with a festive pair of **Christmas socks!**

Hawarden Students: The Hawarden group enjoyed a night packed with creativity and laughter

- **Christmas Lyric Trivia** challenged everyone's memory.
- **A Reindeer Antler Game** led to a lot of laughs.
- Snacks and fellowship rounded out an evening of joy and connection.



A Heart of Gratitude

As we celebrate, we pause to thank the incredible leaders who give their time to invest in students' lives. Their dedication makes these moments possible. If you have the chance, take a moment this week to thank someone who serves in student ministry. As we engage in the Advent season, may you experience His deep joy and delight in you by sitting in the waiting of His second coming, knowing that He once kept His promise by sending His Son, and that He will keep His promise that He will return again.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Soup & Pie Supper**
January 21, 5:15-6:30

DECEMBER SALT TRIP

Written By: Steve Breen

December 3 dawned as a frigid day in northwest Iowa. It was a not a day most would choose for any outdoor activity, but it was just right for our journey westward over the river and through the hills to Nora, South Dakota—population: 5. Outside the air was chilly indeed, but inside the Centerpoint Church bus, there was a warm feeling of community among the 21 persons who had joined us for our SALT Christmas gathering.

Piloted by Jack Woelber, our trusty bus made its way down Highway 10 that afternoon, affording us an opportunity to view our second campus as we passed through Hawarden. The forty-minute pilgrimage transported us to our destination, a humble looking, yet energized structure called the Nora Store.

For thirty-six Christmas seasons Mike Pedersen has welcomed visitors to his unique facility for stories and songs. This former painter and church organist exudes faith, hope, and love to all who enter his tiny but joy-filled Yuletide concert hall. While ours was a senior group, Mike was also looking forward to welcoming a youth gathering that evening.

Most first-time visitors would likely be quite surprised to learn that this small facility is home to three highly valued musical instruments. During the course of our fun-filled musical hour we saw demonstrations of a pipe organ, a grand piano, and a player piano. The musicians among us got an opportunity to try them out too.

Lifting our voices to sing the carols of Christmas was our highest joy. Sometimes handbell accompaniment joined the vibrant organ music. Mike is quite a story teller too. The remarkable narratives behind the acquisition of each instrument yielded multiple examples of God's gracious provision and Mike's tenacious vision for ministry at the Nora Store.

There were a multitude of other antiques and holiday decorations that caught our attention as well. Mike provided beverages to accompany the sweet treats that members of our group had brought along for an afternoon coffee time. The camaraderie of our group as we interacted with Mike and other guests present that day was a blessing. We also had a devotional time, sharing the Biblical narrative of our Savior's birth in all its beauty and power.

We headed homeward with the music of the afternoon still singing in our hearts. Back in Sioux Center we concluded our activity with supper at Culver's. It was a delightful afternoon of Christmas worship and fellowship.



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF KIDZONE!

Kidzone has been a place where kids laugh, learn, and grow in faith—and this year, we're celebrating 20 incredible years of making memories together!

Every week, we get the privilege of being the best part of so many kids' lives—sharing joy, building friendships, and reminding them just how much Jesus loves them. That's what Kidzone is all about!

To honor this milestone, we asked our Kidzone kids to share what they love most about Kidzone. Their answers warmed our hearts and reminded us why this ministry matters so much.

Here are 20 favorite things about Kidzone—straight from the kids who make it special.

Kidzone Kids' Top 20 Favorite Things

1. Iron beads
2. Making crafts - especially sun catchers and pot holders!
3. Bouncy houses on party days!
4. Snacks!!! - a few favorites are Oreo dippers, Cosmic brownies and ice cream
5. Volunteers, Dordt students, and Amy
6. The Sensory Room
7. Gaga Ball in the gym
8. Football in the gym
9. Basketball in the gym...basically the kids love to play in the gym
10. Playing with fun things - Kinetic sand, Littlest Pet Shop, the vet set
11. Making slime
12. Being with friends
13. Drawing on the white boards - they love to play hang man, draw pictures, and write messages to each other.
14. Coloring pictures
15. Listening to stories during devotions
16. Playing in the gym...it was said so many times it's worth mentioning again!
17. Having relay races
18. Building with Magna Tiles and Magnetic Blox
19. Playing with Air Toobz
20. Everything!

**Here's to the next 20 years of fun, faith,
and showing kids the love of Jesus!**

"Children are a gift from the Lord." – Psalm 127:3



LOOKING AHEAD

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Join us on **December 24** at 5:00 pm at either campus for a Christmas Eve service to celebrate the birth of our Savior and look forward with anticipation and joy to His return.



CONNECT SERVICE

Our Sunday morning service on **December 28** will be a connect service at our Sioux Center campus. We are excited to conclude our Advent series with the opportunity to worship together in one place!



STAY CONNECTED!



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