

155 West River Rd, Waterville, Maine 04901

Rev. Craig Riportella, Lead Pastor

Hello Prospective New Church Partner,

Relationships are a VITAL part of our ministry here at Centerpoint Community Church! Our goal is that everyone who calls Centerpoint Community Church their home will feel a sense of LOVE, ACCEPTANCE, & BELONGING in this church family. You are receiving this letter either by your request or due to the fact that I have recognized your faithful attendance over the past few months and wanted to invite you to prayerfully *consider partnership* into our fellowship. We are not asking you to consider joining an organization, rather <u>become a part of our family</u>.

We are a church that is committed to The Great Commission! Matthew 28:19-20 says, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age". We care very deeply about missions, world hunger, aiding the orphans, and world peace. However, we are also deeply concerned with the practical every day needs of our own body, like... help with your teenagers, support and resources with raising children, hope for the divorced; and the many trials of life that you face on a daily basis.

You are an individual and we realize you have many needs. We desire to be a biblically functioning New Testament church model which affirms, appreciates, and accepts individuals where they are. Thus, our commitment to you is to obey and adhere to the principles taught to us in the Bible. We are instructed in God's word to..."bear one another's burdens". As a church family we understand this will take on various aspects of life and ministry. We commit to do our very best to minister to and meet the needs of our members first and foremost.

As you consider partnership, it is important that you realize that this empowers you to help in the decision making process of leadership and management of our fellowship. This church is not run by dictatorial administration, rather by you the partner. We need and want the partners of this body to have an intricate part of the decisions which will affect your worship within this body.

One of the most satisfying and fulfilling relationships in life is our identification and partnership in a local body of believers. It gives security and a covering to the individual and their family. It provides identification with those of like precious faith who share in a commitment to reach the lost of our community as together we *"grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ"*. It gives you pastoral care, faithful teaching of the word, spiritual leadership and accountability, and it offers you an opportunity to develop and use your gifts in the service of the church and the kingdom of God. It is evident from the Scriptures that such a commitment is both biblical and practical.

We realize that there are some who have had an unfortunate experience in a church and are therefore reluctant to identify with another church. Hopefully we have established ourselves, in your eyes, as a fellowship which is *trustworthy.* We truly believe that there are great benefits of church membership to you, your family, and the entire church family.

We also understand that this is a decision that should not be taken lightly or without much prayer and consideration. Please carefully read the enclosed booklets which will explain our beliefs and distinctive doctrines. We are an Assemblies of God fellowship. The Assemblies of God is a fellowship comprised of over 12,300 churches in the United States alone, with over 1.5 million church members. You can learn more about the Assemblies of God by reading the enclosed brochures and visiting their website www.ag.org. Our church website is also available as a resource. www.centerpointme.org

Please take some time to carefully read all of the information enclosed in this packet. After consideration and attending the class, reading the enclosed information and having a brief interview with members of our Church board, we will move forward in the process of membership here at Centerpoint Community Church. Further, we will have an official recognition of new members during a Sunday morning service following the class. This will be a great time of celebrating together your new membership into the Centerpoint Community Church family.

Thank you for considering our family as a your new HOME,

In HIS Service,

Rev. Craig V. Riportella Lead Pastor