

Thanksgiving Celebration

**Sunday, November 22
6:00 pm**

* Covered Dish Supper

(to be held in the new building)

(Meat and dressing provided. Please bring vegetables, other side dishes, and desserts)



* Special Time for Sharing and Prayer

(Childcare provided for birth to age 3 during sharing and prayer time.)

**No activities at the church facility on
Wednesday, Nov. 25**

Church office closed Nov. 25 & 26



Giving Thanks To God for His Blessings



Over and over again, the Bible tells us to give thanks. It is interesting that the time of year that we call “The Holidays” begins with a time of thanksgiving. God wants us to thank Him for everything that we have, but more importantly, He wants us to thank Him for all that He is and for all that He has done for us. When we have a consistent attitude of thankfulness toward God and others, it keeps us humble, grateful, and full of joy. Thanking God and rejoicing in Him is the first step toward living in the peace of God. No matter what situation you find yourself in, there are always things to praise God for! We begin by praising God for who He is, because He never changes. Then, we praise God for the gifts that He has poured into our lives. How can you praise God today? Stop what you are doing and take time to give God thanks!

There are so many things that we have to praise God for as a church! Four years ago, we changed up our finances and started being really aggressive in paying off our debt. We were on schedule to have our original debt from our current building paid off in the fall of 2009 – that would be now. But, we can praise God that he enabled us to pay off around \$160,000 in just 13 months! In February of 2007, we were debt free! Glen Spivey and Greg Locklier stepped up to lead our building team that came together soon after that and they immediately got to work. November, 2009, will see our new education/multi-purpose building completed! Praise God! Plus, it is almost half paid for! What an amazing blessing! God has been so gracious and He has done what we could not do! **On the evening of Sunday, November, 22, we will gather together as a church in the new building for a Thanksgiving Dinner to praise God for ALL of His blessings in our lives.**

We have seen God pour out His Spirit upon our church. Many have come to know the Lord this year. We have reached into our community and we have reached around the world. God continues to guide us, families continue to grow, people continue to walk with the Lord, and Gateway continues to be a church that loves God and loves people to the ends of the earth! I am so excited to see what God has for us in the future! May we continue to look to Christ and trust Him as He leads us each step along His Way!

Pastor Alan



Baby Dedication

On Sunday, Oct. 25, Eric and Trish Butterfield participated in a Baby Dedication for their son, Matt.

Baby Shower

All ladies are invited to a baby shower for **Rhonda McDuffee** on Sunday, Nov. 1 at the home of Donna Spivey, 7940 Norris Farms Rd. from 2 to 4pm. Mike and Rhonda are expecting a son, Colton, in December. They are registered at Target and Wal-Mart.



New Adult Study on Wednesdays begins Nov. 4

Counterfeit Gods: The Empty Promises of Money, Sex, and Power and the Only Hope that Matters

by Tim Keller

Idolatry does happen today and it is a matter of the heart. It is anything more fundamental than God to our happiness, meaning in life or identity. Anything can be an idol. You cannot understand your own heart or your culture unless you learn how to recognize and discern idols. Join with others as Pastor Alan leads us through the study of this book and its application to our lives. Meet in the sanctuary each Wed., at 6:15pm.

Jonathan and Lisa Moore in concert

Mark your calendars for Sunday, Dec. 6, 6pm. We will have the privilege of hosting a Christmas Concert presented by Jonathan and Lisa Moore. They are a married couple who are singers, songwriters, praise and worship leaders dedicated to the spreading of the Gospel and truths of the Bible. While Jonathan and Lisa are no strangers to Gateway, we are excited to have them presenting songs from their Christmas CD. (This will be in place of our usual Christmas Extravaganza.)



Montgomery Baptist Association Annual Meeting

Monday, November 2

Missions Fair - 5:45pm; Meeting - 6:45pm
Hayneville Baptist Church

(If you plan to attend and would like to serve as a messenger from Gateway, please contact the church office.)

A Time to Serve

Each year between Thanksgiving and Christmas, different opportunities are planned to give the Gateway family ways to step out and serve the Lord and others during the holidays. Be watching future publications and the bulletin board in the hall for details and to sign up. Our Deacon ministry is heading this up this year and are working through our Sunday School classes and LIFE Groups as well as the general church body.

November

· *Operation Christmas Child* – Boxes due Nov. 17
Contact: Laura Hicks

December (Examples)

- *Free Gift Wrapping at area stores*
- *Providing Christmas for Needy Families*
- *Serving area families with needed home repairs*
- *Visitation: Invite neighborhood to our Christmas Extravaganza*

Ministry to Internationals



On Thurs., Nov. 5, Gateway will be providing refreshments for the English Class for spouses of international officers held at First Baptist Church. If you would like to participate in any way, please contact Jan Kotouc at 277-3502. We need donations of snacks and people to serve.

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and



hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. Our AWANA ministry leads out in this ministry each year and invites anyone who would like to participate to fill an empty

shoe box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child (including hygiene items). Brochures with additional information and gift suggestions are available on the table in the hallway. Please bring your box to the church no later than November 17. Please donate \$7 for each box to help cover shipping costs. Contact Laura Hicks, AWANA Secretary, for more information.

Congregational Meeting

There will be a special Congregational Meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 6:30pm. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the proposed 2010 budget, 2010 calendar, and hear reports from our various ministries. Childcare will be provided for birth through third grade.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Wednesday Night Study - Foundations of Christianity

Our youth have been discussing various foundations of Christianity and recently covered the topic of Quiet Times. Melody Bray shares her testimony regarding this topic:

“Earlier this summer Drew was encouraging me on how I should be a light in the school. That kinda confused me and I didn’t really know how to do that. But, basically when we know God, we have the light of Him within us. And wherever we go it should shine. In school, we Christians should act differently than the rest of the kids in school. So, I decided that I would try to be a light in my school. But before I could shine, and be a light, the actual light had to be in me. I had my little quiet times every now and then and read a few verses and prayed for a couple minutes. But by the time I finished my pop-tart for breakfast I had already forgotten what I had read. So every morning I started a routine I spend at least 20 minutes in the Word reading and then as much time in prayer as I need to get everything out and the things I need to talk about. The more I read, the more I feel like I know Him. The more time I spend in prayer, the closer I feel to Him. And then throughout the day the decisions I make come naturally from what I’ve been reading and what’s been going through my head. Out of the heart the mouth speaks; and if you’re filling your heart with God’s word and His teaching then whatever you speak comes from your heart and the things you say and the decisions you make will bring glory to Him & reflect Him. God is so faithful when we seek Him out; but, we HAVE to seek Him and do our part. We’re not automatically going to be close to Him. We have to actually do something. And I’m not saying at all that I’m perfect. I still struggle all the time. I sometimes think, ‘hey if I skip my quiet time this morning I can get 30 extra minutes of sleep’; but, then I feel guilty, so I end up getting up and I’m always so blessed when I do.” - Melody Bray



Youth Camping Trip

All youth are invited to a camping trip Nov. 6 & 7. We will be leaving from the church around 4pm on Friday afternoon to go to the Summerford’s family farm in Wilcox County and returning on Saturday evening. The cost is \$10 per person.

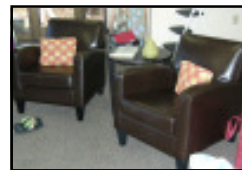
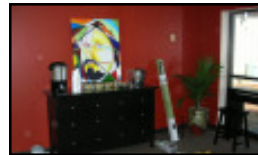
Flag Football



Okay, guys and gals, the temperatures are dropping and the air is crisp. That can only mean one thing - Sunday afternoon Flag Football!! Come on out for some healthy competition and fun at Woodmere Park on Nov. 8 from 3-5pm.

Building Update

In case you haven’t noticed, work is progressing rapidly on our new building! Much of the detail work is being done as well as the drainage and walkway. They are projecting to have it ready for us to use for our Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 22. That is dependent on several things so we will just have to wait until closer to time to know for sure. Several people have been meeting and planning concerning the decorating of the new building and the library area in our existing building that will be a main passageway. This hospitality area has been transformed into a seating area with coffee and hot tea service available.



All of this is still a work in progress so your patience is appreciated.

We praise God for His faithfulness and for the heart of the people at Gateway to give and serve!

Elder/Deacon Election Sunday, Nov. 1

On Sunday, Nov. 1, Gateway members will have the privilege of electing men to serve in the offices of Elder and Deacon in our church body. Nominees for Elder are: Kris Bauman, C.J. Falcione, and William Hurley. Nominee for Deacon is Jeff Moody. Each nominee must receive over 75% of the votes cast in order to be elected. Please pray for these men during this process and feel free to talk to any of our Pastor/Elder team.

Ministry Involvement Process

It’s not too late to turn in your MIG! Many of you have already turned yours in and ministry leaders will be contacting you in the near future. Each member of our body is encouraged to prayerfully consider what and how God would have you serve in and through Gateway during the 2010 ministry year. The *Ministry Involvement Guide* (MIG) is a handy tool to help you do that. As we see our church family growing numerically, it is important that everyone step in and do their part to help us be effective in all areas of our church body. Copies of MIGs are available at the entrances.

As Unto The Lord



“Only as the Lord has assigned to each one, as God has called each, in this manner let him walk.” 1 Cor. 7:17

Welcome New Members:



Michael (Mitch) Bullard



Brad and Ellen Jackson
Jonah and Ella



Ira and Jennifer Hostetter
Ashley and Haley

Daylight Savings Time

Ends Sun., Nov. 1. Set your clocks
BACK one hour before going to
bed on Sat. night, Oct. 31.



Pastoral and Staff Team

Alan Cross.....	Senior Pastor
Tom Kotouc.....	Elder
Robby Collins.....	Elder
Brett Morris.....	Elder
John Neal.....	Elder
John Reese.....	Elder
Greg Teal.....	Elder
Drew Burton.....	Student Ministries Pastor
Donna Spivey.....	Administrative Assistant
Karen Golson.....	Ministry Assistant
Laura Summerford.....	Preschool Coordinator
Chad Smith.....	Worship Leader
Brandon Shaw.....	Custodian

Regular Gatherings of our Church Family

Sunday

Sunday School.....	9:00 am
Worship.....	10:15 am
Youth LIFE Groups.....	4:00 pm

Wednesday

Weekly Fellowship Supper.....	5:15-6:00 pm
AWANA (ages 3-17).....	6:00-7:45 pm
Nursery (ages birth to 2).....	6:00-7:45 pm
Wednesday Worship.....	6:15-7:45 pm
Youth IMPACT.....	6:15-7:45 pm

LIFE Groups meet at various times and places throughout the week.

Average Attendance for October, 2009

Sunday Worship.....	274
Sunday School for all ages.....	142
AWANA.....	107
Wednesday Worship (Youth & Adults).....	77

For October, 2009

Monthly Budget Requirement.....	\$29,796.26
Budget Receipts.....	\$31,290.27
Building Fund.....	\$3,957.34
Gateway to the World Missions Offering.....	\$8,848.54
Other Designated Receipts.....	\$1,502.30

2009 Budget Requirement YTD	\$297,962.60
2009 Budget Receipts YTD	\$269,814.78
2009 Gateway to the World Missions Giving YTD	\$45,003.79
Given to Building Fund To Date	\$449,477.17

*“Rejoice in the Lord always, and
again I say: Rejoice!”*

Phil. 4:4

Loving God...Loving People...
To the Ends of the Earth



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