

Fall Festival

October 30, 2009

6:00-8:00pm

- * Games for ALL AGES
(Ex.: balloon burst, sponge throw, ring toss, cake walk, etc.)
- * Special Kiddie games (ages 0-3)
- * Bounce Houses
- * Face Painting
- * Bonfire and singing
- * Hayride
- * Food booths (pop corn,  corndogs,  lemonade, etc.)
- * Please bring bag, etc. for your child to collect their goodies in 
(No scary costumes, please.)



LOTS OF FUN-All Free!
Bring your friends!

Living Hope



At the beginning of September, we started a study of 1 Peter on Sunday mornings. The theme of this sermon series is “*Living Hope*,” taken from 1 Peter 1:3. We have been given new birth into a living hope not just so that we can go to heaven when we die (as great as that is), but so we can also live for the Lord now, hoping in the grace that is to be given us when Jesus is revealed. Without hope, we easily give in to despair and live only for this world, trying to find pleasure wherever we can. But, with hope in the Lord and in what He has for us, we are able to live for the Kingdom of God instead of this world. We are able to say no to sin and to instant gratification because we are willing to wait on the Lord. We know that His ways are better than what we can carve out and grasp for ourselves. A living, active hope in Christ is essential to the Christian life, and when you have it, every aspect of your life begins to reflect God’s glory.

So, what are you hoping in? What are you looking forward to? Do you believe that God has something amazing in store for you each day in both your trials and your triumphs? Do you believe in the victory that Jesus has secured for you and do you believe that that victory can be experienced now? I am not talking about perfectionism or a lack of trouble. Jesus said that in this world we would have trouble. But, He also told us to take heart because He has overcome the world (John 16:33). I believe that sin, Satan, the flesh, evil, death, and everything that sets itself up against the knowledge of God must bow the knee to Jesus. There is nothing that we face that Jesus cannot conquer. Our hope is to be in Him for deliverance now and in the future. When you are looking forward to what God has in store for you both in this life and in the life to come, getting up in the morning is not a chore. You aren’t just looking forward to holidays, week-ends, and vacations; but you look forward to each day because you know that God is always working, always redeeming, always restoring (John 5:17). And, who doesn’t want to be in on that?

Have you noticed all the new people coming to Gateway the past month? Make sure that you reach out and share the love and hope of Christ with them!

Pastor Alan

Outreach to India continues this month

Your generous donations through our *Gateway to the World* missions offering enables us to continue our on-going outreach to the people of northern India. October 15-24, Jeff Moody and Bill Hurley will travel back to India; and, along with a couple from St. Louis, Missouri, will be leading two conferences, doing assessment of different ministries, and seeking God for the future.



On Sunday, Oct. 11, there will be a **fundraiser lunch** immediately following worship. All donations made at this lunch will go directly to support the projects in India and not to any overhead. Please plan to participate in this lunch and commit to pray for this team.

Ministry Involvement Process (MIP) Kicks Off This Month

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, . . . Col. 3:23

Everyone of us has gifts, abilities, and talents that God has given us to be used for His glory. He’s placed us together in a body so that we can minister to one another and, together, minister to the world. Each one of us should be involved in some type of ministry and that is what the *Ministry Involvement Process (MIP)* is all about. 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. MIGs are available at the entrances.

Ministries Fair

On Sunday, Oct. 11 following the India Fundraiser lunch, there will be a Ministries Fair set up in the sanctuary and other areas of the building. At this time, you will have an opportunity to explore various opportunities for ministry and discuss these with the different ministry leaders. After prayerfully considering where God would have you serve, we are asking that you turn your MIG in on Sun., Oct. 18.

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

Gateway to participate in 7 on 7 Flag Football tournament at Eastdale



On October 3rd, 2009, Eastdale Baptist Church will be hosting the First Annual River Region Flag Football Classic. The Classic is designed to raise awareness and funds for Family Promise in Montgomery. The mission of Family Promise is to assist homeless or displaced families in finding housing and employment here in the Tri-County area. They partner with local churches and civic organizations to house and feed families during a 12 week program where they are taken to job interviews and look for permanent residence. There are already many churches in the River Region partnering with Family Promise, but the need is greater than the current manpower can minister to effectively.

All of the proceeds from the Classic will go to Family Promise and their outstanding work in our community. There is no cost to attend the River Region Classic. In addition to the Flag Football Tournament, there will be inflatables and games for the kids, as well as free popcorn and sno-cones. Gateway has four teams entered to play and you are encouraged to come out and support our teams and this great community venture.

Grace in the Gospel: Thai Christian Dance

This amazing dance troupe will be at Gateway on Mon., Oct. 26, time TBA. Their dance-dramas deal with many truths of the gospel in a beautiful & graceful way. See Janie Foxx for more information.

Elder/Deacon Election Time Line

- Oct. 1 (7pm)** Elder/Deacon Nominees Training
- Oct. 4** Deadline for all nominees to declare whether they wish to be considered for service at this time.
- Week of Oct. 5** - Consideration of Candidates by Elders and Deacon Leader
- Oct. 12** - Ordination Council (All ordained men of the church are invited to participate.)
- Oct. 18-Nov. 1** - Names of candidates given to church for prayer and consideration
- Nov. 1** - Election
- Nov. 8** - Ordination Service (if needed)

Please pray for this process and the men who are considering serving in these very important positions of leadership in our church body.

Women's Ministry News

Our Gateway ladies gathered at the home of Jan Kotouc on Thurs., Sept. 17 for an evening of sharing, food, fellowship, prayer, and encouragement. Several ladies shared about specific times in their life when they experienced God's faithfulness in a very significant way.



Ladies' Small Interest Groups forming

Our Women's Ministry leadership team has been meeting for prayer and planning and feel that we need to provide more opportunities for women to connect around common interests. Our monthly gatherings, Titus 2, will now be once a quarter. Listed below are some interest groups that are starting up right away. Feel free to contact the lady facilitating any group(s) you are interested in for more information.

- **Homeschooler's Group** - Meets once a month on Fridays. Contact: Shannon Morris
- **Crafts/Projects Group** - Gather together with other ladies and bring whatever "to do" project you are working on. (Ex.: scrapbooking, writing Thank You notes, stamping, etc.) and a snack to share. First meeting - Thurs., Oct. 22 at the home of Ronna Bauman. Contact: Ronna Bauman
- **Sewing Group** - Will not begin until after the first of the year. Contact: Rita Zartman.
- **Lunch Bunch** (with children) - Stay-at-home moms will gather at various locations for lunch and play. The first gathering will be later in October. Contact: Norma Butterfield
- **Healthy Living** (soul & body) - There will be a time of cooking healthy foods as well as discussions on taking care of our spirit and body in a health way. First meeting - Saturday, October 24 at the home of Jan Kotouc from 10:30-12:30. Contact: Jan Kotouc
- **Book Club** - Participants will come together once a month to discuss a book they have all read. First meeting will be Sat., Oct. 17 at the church facility. It will be an organizational meeting to share books participants have read recently that ministered to them and decide on a common book to read for the next meeting. Contact: Trish Butterfield
- **Play Group** - Moms and kids will gather for the kids to play and the moms to visit once at month at different participant's home. The first time will be Tuesday, Oct. 13 at Shaunta Chambers' home from 10 to 12. Contact: Shaunta Chambers.
- **Prayer Group** - Gather with other ladies each Friday at 11:30am at Joan Hedden's office (Montgomery Baptist Association) Contact: Jan Kotouc or Joan Hedden.

LIFE Groups

Our LIFE Groups are a major way for families/ individuals to get connected, build relationships, and share life together. Three new groups started last recently. They are listed below. A complete list of all the groups is available on the information table in the hallway.

- ⇒ Moody/Ezell Group - Sunday nights at 6pm.
- ⇒ Foxx Group - Every other Sun. night from 6-8pm.
- ⇒ Rhodebeck Group - Sunday evenings at 5:30pm.

Newcomer's Class

Sunday, Oct. 4
3 to 5pm

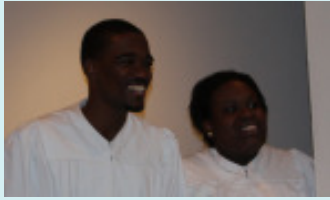
For all those interested in knowing more about involvement in the fellowship and ministry of Gateway.

Childcare will be provided.

Welcome New Members:



Kurt & Hannah Butler



Ray & Hartrice Jackson



Elle Foxx



**Eric & Trish Butterfield
Matt**

Congratulations to:

- **Ray & Hartrice Jackson** on their marriage on September 13, 2009.

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
KID'S Club.....	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 September, 2009

Sunday Worship.....	243
Sunday School for all ages.....	137
AWANA.....	92
Wednesday Worship (Youth & Adults).....	85

For September, 2009

Monthly Budget Requirement.....	\$29,796.26
Budget Receipts.....	\$26,844.07
Building Fund.....	\$52,243.66
Gateway to the World Missions Offering.....	\$2,179.00
Other Designated Receipts.....	\$1,863.55
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2009 Budget Requirement YTD	\$268,166.34
2009 Budget Receipts YTD	\$238,524.51
2009 Gateway to the World Missions Giving YTD	\$36,155.25

“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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