

Upcoming Events

▶ New LIFE Group series

A series of lessons is being prepared by Pastor Alan based on the book of 1 Peter called *Living Hope* that our LIFE Groups will be going through together beginning Sept. 13. Fall is a great time to consider becoming part of one of our LIFE Groups.

▶ Showing of *Prodigal God* video

Many of you have asked about the possibility of another time to view the video that goes with Pastor Alan's study on Wed. night based on the book *Prodigal God*. We have set Wed. night, Sept. 2 at 5:15pm to show this powerful video. It will be in Mobile Unit 1 and you are free to bring your dinner in with you while you watch this 40-minute video.

▶ Newcomer's Class

A Newcomer's Class is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 13, from 3-5pm, for all interested in knowing more about involvement in the fellowship and ministry of Gateway. Please speak with a Staff member or contact the church office if you are interested in attending. Childcare will be available upon request.

▶ Baptism planned

A time of baptism is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 20 during worship. If you or one of your children are interested in participating, please contact Pastor Alan or the church office.

▶ Deacon/Elder Election process begins in September

Beginning Sept. 6, members of Gateway are encouraged to nominate men for the offices of Deacon and/or Elder. This is a very serious matter and one that is deserving of much prayer. Nominations will be accepted through Sept. 20. To be considered for either office, any man nominated must receive at least five nominations. Following a time of consideration, training, and an Ordination Council, the candidates will be presented to the congregation on Oct. 18, with the election being on Nov. 1. Begin now praying about the leadership that God would have step out in our body at Gateway.

*L*iving Hope



Summer is heading into Fall, kids are back in school, football season is upon us, and the traditions of the South that go along with a reprieve from the brutal heat of summer can put quite a bounce in your step. It seems that people everywhere are wanting to plug back into relationships and avenues for spiritual growth, whether it is through being a part of a Sunday School class, joining a LIFE Group, coming on Wednesday night for supper, AWANA, youth, and the adult Bible study on *The Prodigal God*, or through other means of connecting. God really seems to be working in people's lives as they reconnect with Him in the midst of community with others.

Eph. 3:10 tells us that God's intent was that through the church, the manifold (multi-colored, multi-faceted) wisdom of God should be made known. **Do you realize that when we gather together, we do so to know Christ in all of His wonder, splendor, majesty, humility, suffering, and sacrifice?** We cannot grasp who He is on our own! We need each other because He is too great, too much, too wondrous for us to comprehend. So, God puts His Spirit in each of us and then He puts us together in a body to help one another, minister to one another, glorify God together, and then display God's unfathomable wisdom to the powers, authorities, rulers, and to all creation. Let us gaze upon Christ together this Fall and truly partake of all that He is!

On September 13, we will be **starting a new series on 1 Peter called *Living Hope***. We are developing nine to eleven lessons that walk us through this beautiful letter on the Christian life and will be all going through this together in LIFE Groups throughout the Fall. If you are not in a LIFE Group, I hope that you will consider joining one to take part in community and also in digging deeper into God's Word.

One other thing: **At some point this Fall (around the end of October – mid-November) we will be finished with our new building.** We are excited about the new space and are even more excited about having another tool to minister to people and help people walk with the Lord. We are encouraging people to continue to give to this project so that we can enter the building with as little debt as possible. I praise God for the generosity of our church in this over the past couple of years and am so excited to see it almost completed! Praise the Lord!

Pastor Alan

STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS

BEACH RETREAT

Labor Day weekend

Leave from Gateway on Fri., Sept. 4 at 4:30pm and return early evening on Monday, Sept. 7.

Pelican Beach Resort
Destin, Florida

\$50 per person (includes room, gas, food while we are there) Meals on the road going and coming will be extra. Sign up with Drew Burton and invite your friends!



“ALWAYS A TIME TO SERVE” EVENTS WERE A BIG SUCCESS!

The “Always a Time to Serve” events in August that were planned and coordinated by the Collins’ LIFE Group gave many in our body an opportunity to be a part of specific outreach events.

Rita Zartman assisted by Katie Barber loaded the large supply of school materials that you donated and delivered them to Brewbaker Primary Elementary School.



On August 8, Gateway hosted a neighborhood *Health Awareness Day*. This included a blood pressure check, health clinic, and a 2-mile run/jog/walk event. About 20 people participated and were really blessed by what they did and learned. In addition, \$385 was raised for our Building Fund. If anyone is interested in participating in a neighborhood walking group or exercise class, please contact Bruno Resende.

September Ladies’ Gathering

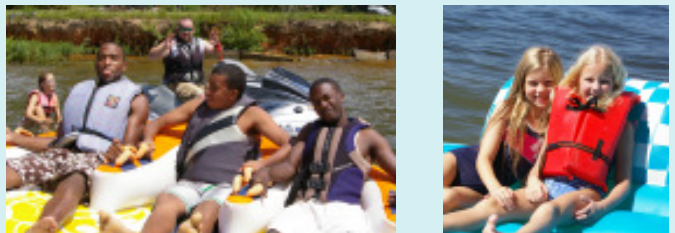
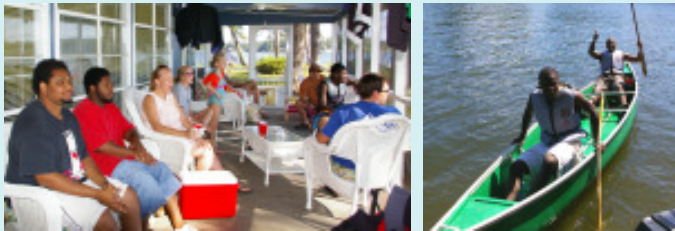
Thursday, Sept. 17 - 6:15pm

Home of Jan Kotouc

Topic: The Faithfulness of God when the bottom falls out

Family Lake Day in pictures

Our youth and their families enjoyed a beautiful day at the lake recently. There was lots of skiing, boating, etc. along with some great food.



New building construction progressing

As you have certainly noticed, construction on our new building is moving right along. Most of the work right now is being done on the inside but soon you will see the brick facade going up and the walkway connecting the two buildings being constructed. We praise God for the progress that is being made!



OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION AT GATEWAY

Sunday School

Sunday School for all ages is offered on Sunday mornings at 9am. Classes are age-divided through high school and the adult classes are offered on various topics. Jackie Giddens shares her experience in the Prime Time Class.



"I attend the Prime Time Sunday School Class. The leaders, Carmen Falcione and Robbie Collins make every lesson alive and thought provoking. They guide us to think deeper about spiritual issues, where ever we are in life. The other members are seasoned Christians, each adding a rich dimension to our discussions. Each Sunday I am excited to get to class to see the faces of the "saints" and study the Word. I have found incredible support and strength for my daily struggles through the study and fellowship with this amazing group. It is so encouraging to be part of this class." - Jacqueline Giddens

LIFE Groups

One way that we focus on building strong community is through our LIFE Groups. They meet all over the city throughout the week and gather to pray, study the Bible, and help facilitate spiritual and relational growth. C.J. and Nikki Falcione help lead one of our groups.

"Our Lifegroup has become such a valued treasure in my life. We share life each time we all get together. I don't think there has been one time that I didn't come away blessed and encouraged. It's a give and take relationship with one another. We laugh, we share what God is doing in our lives, then we eat and laugh again. It is a highlight of each week because in our togetherness, Jesus shows up!" - Nikki Falcione



Wednesday night Bible study

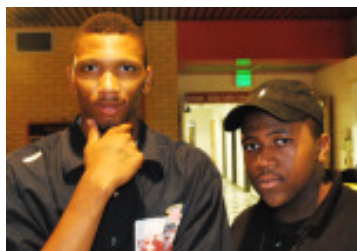
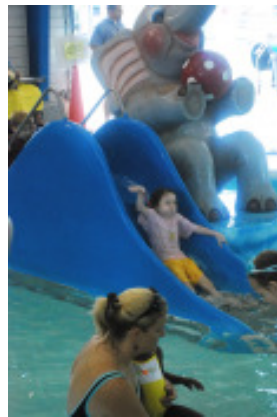
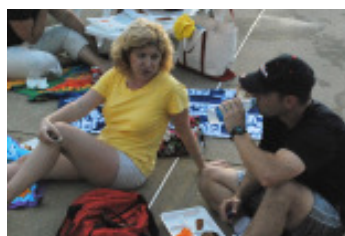
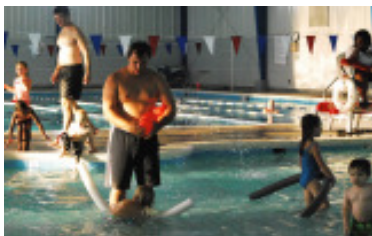
A Bible study for adults led by Pastor Alan meets each Wed. in the sanctuary beginning around 6:20pm. This Fall he is using the book *The Prodigal God* by Tim Keller as a basis for our study. Ruth Bozeman has been participating in this weekly study and gives us her insight.



"My physical life is 'battery dependant' and if it is not kept fully charged, I tend to become frustrated and life is slow. I put a 'trickle charge' in the battery everyday, but periodically it has to have a boost to keep it fully charged. My whole life is 'prayer dependant' and constant connecting to God, my source of power, keeps me going. But it is in joining together with fellow believers and connecting with Him on Wed. nights that I get that boost that keeps my life fully charged. Last Wed., as we began learning and sharing how God has 'recklessly, extravagantly, spent everything' to draw us close to Himself, I began to understand in a new way what that costs and how much it impacts my life." - Ruth Bozeman

Fun Night at the Y

On Sun., Aug. 2 we held our annual Fun Night at the Y. This event is always one of the highlights of our year as we see Summer come to a close and look toward the new beginnings of the Fall.



Welcome New Member:

Keva Culpepper



Sympathy to:

- **Cecelia Teal** and family in the death of her father, Russell Bonasso, on July 31.

Gateway Academy Volleyball

Our Gateway Academy now has a girl's volleyball team. We have games scheduled throughout the next six weeks. Please come out and cheer the girls in their games. For games dates and times, please see the schedule on the bulletin board in the hallway.



Coming in October

- Oct. 11-25 - Ministry Involvement Process
- Oct. 30 - Annual Fall Festival

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 August, 2009

Sunday Worship.....	218
Sunday School for all ages.....	140
AWANA.....	98
Wednesday Worship (Youth & Adults).....	73

For August, 2009

Monthly Budget Requirement.....	\$29,796.26
Budget Receipts.....	\$21,400.39
Building Fund.....	\$25,733.00
Gateway to the World Missions Offering.....	\$6,335.00
Other Designated Receipts.....	\$4,139.16
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2009 Budget Requirement YTD	\$208,573.82
2009 Budget Receipts YTD	\$190,280.55
2009 Gateway to the World Missions Giving YTD	\$27,956.70

“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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