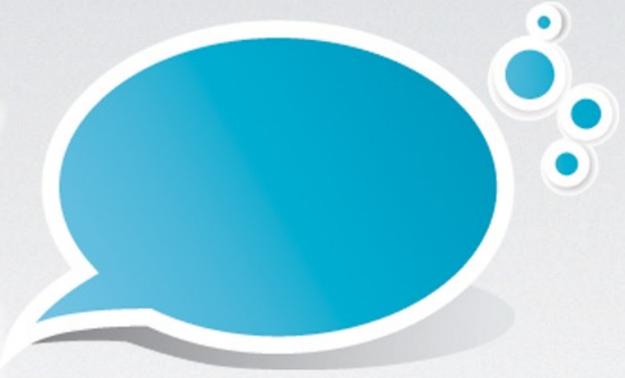


GATEWAY BUZZ

NEWS & NOTES FOR GOD'S FAMILY @ GATEWAY

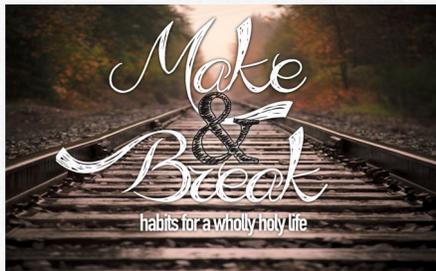


January 2015

Volume 44

Issue 1

JANUARY SERMON SERIES MAKE & BREAK // HABITS FOR HOLINESS



Holy living is not for the faint of heart. Many desire to strengthen their spiritual lives, but don't know how to go about it. And the reality is—we can't rely on others to get us in shape. Tough decisions and persistent effort are required to build lives that are whole and holy. This is your year to take the steps to make and break habits for holiness. Join us every Sunday and invite your friends and family to feel God's love at Gateway!

- 1/04/15** **Rushing to Slowing** / Karl Schad, Senior Pastor
- 1/11/15** **Burning to Building** / Karl Schad, Senior Pastor & Tom Harland, Family Pastor
- 1/18/15** **Hoarding to Blessing** / Dr. Ladd Haverly, Executive Pastor
- 1/25/15** **Hiding to Sharing** / Karl Schad, Senior Pastor

SPRING WNL PROGRAM BEGINS JANUARY 7

The Spring semester of **Wednesday Night Life (WNL)** begins on **January 7** and runs until May. An inexpensive, tasty, homemade dinner will be served each Wednesday night, from 5:20-6:20 pm. The rest of the evening's schedule is as follows:

- Teens' COLLIDE LIVE runs 6:15-8:00 pm
- Joyful Noyz (1-5 graders) practice from 6:15-6:55 pm
- Kids' drop off begins at 6:15
- Adult groups run 6:30-8:00 pm

Pick up a Wednesday Night Life brochure in the Nook for additional details, especially regarding the course offerings for adults.

MAKING PLANS FOR THE SUPER BOWL?

As diehard fans already know, the **Super Bowl** is on **Sunday, February 1**, this year. Are you making plans to have a party that night in your home? Are you going to invite your neighbors and friends? This would be a great way to connect with others and build new relationships through a non-threatening, fun event. We encourage you to be intentional about who you invite, recognizing that God may give you an opportunity to introduce someone to church or even a personal relationship with His Son through such an event.

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LIVE FOR CHRIST

GALATIANS 2:20-21

This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls." But you said, "We will not walk in it."
Jeremiah 6:16

We may never know the good way to walk unless we ask God. Many of us have a desire to strengthen our faith-walk with God. Day to day, we identify the distractions that hinder us from making space for God. Then at the beginning of the new year, we resolve to break bad habits and start practicing positive ones. Jesus encourages this kind of resolve when He calls us to, *"deny yourself, pick up your cross and follow Him daily"*. The Gospel is full of stories of people who followed Him and people who walked away. May this be a year of walking closer with God for you. But we all know that forming new spiritual habits is hard—especially if we're out of shape. We want instant results, but this requires devotion over the long haul. We'll have to make tough decisions to walk in the good way and find rest for our souls. Please pray about these questions for the new year:

- 1) Do you talk to God through a regular time of prayer? Do you make a lot of decisions without consulting God first? Is your prayer more about asking God—rather than seeking God?
- 2) Do you listen to God through consistent study of the Scriptures? Are you able to overcome temptation or gain direction through Scriptures you've studied?
- 3) Do you find encouragement from God through other Christ followers? Have you joined a Life Group to gain spiritual and emotional support as a disciple? What's keeping you from joining?
- 4) How does your spiritual investment reflect your spiritual condition (knowing His will, feeling His love, trusting His lead)? What steps can you take to strengthen your walk with God?

This year I am making some changes to stretch my faith and grow as a disciple of Jesus. I've been asking for an ancient path and I'm excited to walk in it to find rest in my soul (I'd love to tell you all about it, so don't hesitate to ask me). I believe that this will be an incredible year for the Gateway family. May we have a pure and holy passion to follow hard after God.

~Walking with Jesus, Pastor Karl



START YOUR JOURNEY

Sign up in the *CROSSECTION* for the course that is appropriate for you:

LIVE FOR CHRIST—101 COURSE
Sunday, January 18 — 9:00 am

GROW IN CHRIST—201 COURSE
Sunday, January 4 — 9:00 am

SERVE LIKE CHRIST—301 COURSE
Sunday, January 11 — 9:00 am

WORSHIP CORNER BY RAGAN

Dear 2014, I am still not the man, husband, father, musician, or follower of Jesus that I want to be. I have not reached my potential, nor have I accomplished all of my goals. I gained a lot, but I also lost a lot. I have not finished the race which the saving work of God began in me. I am a work in progress, an incomplete masterpiece, and so are YOU.

Here is the good news: God promises that He is a finisher. God is not like us; He is always kind and patient, He fulfills His promises, and His love is unending.

What can we do? Forgetting what lies behind, we press on towards the upward goal/prize in Christ Jesus...and we remember that this race of life is one that requires ENDURANCE, and endurance must have its perfect course, so that we might be complete, not lacking in anything. We use our past as a springboard, a training course, a how to/how not to. God is calling you and me to grow in 2015:

Am I growing...

- where I am planted?
- in the knowledge and grace of Jesus?
- in my faith?
- in my talents/gifts?
- in my love for others?

Instead of making this new year about new resolutions, let us lean more heavily on age old promises from our forever Father. Get into God's Word daily, pray without ceasing, seek Him and His presence continually. My prayer this year is that we would experience the abounding love of God, and that our lives would be transformed into His likeness.

God, this year make me more like You, for the glory of Your name.

~Pastor Ragan

YOUNG AT HEART

If the weather cooperates, it is a certainty: on **Wednesday, January 21**, Gateway's Young at Heart (men and women 55+ who attend) will get together for a time of fellowship and entertainment.

We will meet at the church mid-to-late morning to organize car pools and drive to a nearby restaurant for a casual, inexpensive lunch. After lunch, we will go to a movie theatre for an afternoon feature at either Des Peres 14 Cine or Chesterfield Galaxy 14 Cine, with YAH covering the cost of all tickets. The location will depend on availability of an appropriate movie and the show time(s).

Because we do not know January's movie schedules at this time, our exact times for lunch and the movie, as well as the location for both, will be communicated through the Sunday bulletins. However, you can **sign up now** at the kiosk in the Crossection. (Note: If school districts have cancelled classes, we will cancel our activity.)

All Gateway seniors are invited to join the fellowship and fun every month in 2015. Activities will be varied, always include lunch (your only expense), and offer encouragement by others who want to share their faith and friendship.

2015 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE

A WORD FROM PASTOR TOM

I have a few pounds to lose (and probably another few by the time this article is published and the holiday feasts have taken their toll). I have some bad habits I would like to stop and some good habits I would like to begin. Whether or not we actually make any New Year's resolutions, we all have some changes we know we should make, right?

More important than any other change we can make, though, is the change that Christ is making in us. That is why our main resolution this year should be to draw closer to Christ, the One Who is actually making us new. Take time to study God's Word on a regular basis. Schedule a daily quiet time. Get involved in a Life Group in 2015--whatever it takes to immerse yourself in a deep, deep relationship with God.

Come near to God and he will come near to you.

James 4:8a

~Pastor Tom

GATEWAY TO F.U.N.

Gateway to F.U.N. is a group for homeschoolers and their families. Those already signed up will be taking a tour of the St. Louis Public Library on Monday, January 12. If you did not RSVP in time for our January event, be sure to note the **February 6 deadline** for our 2nd Annual **Valentine's Day party**, scheduled for **Friday, February 13**, at **10:00 am**. Join us at Gateway for a fun party for all ages, full of crafts, special hand-made snacks, and games. Cost is \$5 per family. Questions? Contact Carrie Imhoff at carrie@planetspork.com.

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Gateway's Hispanic Ministry is alive and thriving! They meet for fellowship and study on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights; they also serve each month in the café and help put away chairs after services. If you know Spanish-speaking individuals who would benefit from connecting with others in practical and spiritual ways, please contact Carlos Aguilar at 314.951.8213 or cat1969@hotmail.com. Todos son bienvenidos! Vengan a crecer espiritualmente con nosotros!

COLLEGE LUNCH

Are you a college student? Do you like to eat? How about a free lunch the first Sunday each month? NOTE: our **January 4** event is now a **dinner** from **5-8 pm** at the Kremers' home; if you need directions, contact Jenni Biggs (mbiggs1@charter.net) or Fran Kremer (kremerfran@gmail.com).

IN SYMPATHY

Our sympathies to Ron Butler (nephew); Marcia Lang (mom); Karen Briggs (brother); Tara Boggs (uncle); Mary Ullrich (mom); and Ellie Goeke (dad).

**GATEWAY
BUZZ**

welcome home!

BAPTISMS

Nate Poerschke
Frank Washington

Any of our pastors are available to speak with you about your relationship with Jesus Christ. Please call the church office at (314) 821-2156 to speak with one.

What on earth am I here for? That's a question we've all asked ourselves at one time. **The answer is to worship God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.** He created you and longs to have a relationship with you. God made a way for us to find forgiveness, peace, and meaning through His Son, Jesus Christ. We will never find or fulfill our purpose in this life until we let Jesus rescue us from our sin and become the leader of our life. So how do we do that?

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever **BELIEVES** in him will not perish, but have eternal life."* (John 3:16)

*"**REPENT**, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord..."* (Acts 3:19)

*"If you **CONFESS** with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord" and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved."* (Romans 10:9)

*"Repent and **BE BAPTIZED**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins."* (Acts 2:38)

MONTHLY GROWTH AND GIVING

	<u>11/30/14</u>	<u>12/07/14</u>	<u>12/14/14</u>	<u>12/21/14</u>
Worship	453	606	526	556
Sunday School	204	360	258	218
General Fund	\$7,535.00	\$41,250.51	\$21,903.13	\$27,977.01
Special Gifts	\$4,100.00	\$450.00	—	—
Missions	\$27.00	\$629.00	\$1.00	\$55.00
Bldg/DY2M Fund	\$247.00	\$642.23	\$182.00	\$625.00
Total	\$11,909.00	\$42,971.74	\$22,086.13	\$28,657.01



Healing Heart Counseling Center is available to assist individuals, couples, groups and families to face and overcome life's greatest challenges and changes.

Contact the center at 314.821.1120 and begin to heal by tending to your heart (calls are strictly confidential; sliding fee scale used).

2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

S.W.E.R.V.E.: Over 150 of our Gateway family were able to serve Circle of Concern and neighborhood with improved homes and relationships built.

Rebuilding Together: Twenty Gateway volunteers helped rehab a home in May. They wrapped windows with flashing, repaired a basement drain, garbage disposal, and painted a kitchen, hallway, and bathroom. They cleaned up debris from the yard, added lighting to the basement, replaced electrical outlets, repaired a handrail outside and added handicap accessibility to the home.

Bread Basket: We provided food to many of our church families in need, collected soup from the "Souper Bowl" party and several bags of school supplies for Circle of Concern, and donated many winter coats.

Armed Forces Ministry: Gateway sent 4 large care packages to our loved ones in the armed forces, helping them feel well loved.

Operation Christmas Child: In cooperation with Samaritan's Purse, Gateway provided 401 shoeboxes of Christmas gifts for needy children.

Angel Tree: In cooperation with the Salvation Army, Gateway provided 100 needy families in the St. Louis area with Christmas presents.

Bags of Hope: Countless numbers of bags were dispersed to St. Louis homeless by Gateway members.

High Hill Work Day: Forty-one volunteers helped with painting, landscaping, and the handicap accessible cabin. Gateway collected over 50 boxes of Cap'n Crunch cereal to help feed the campers.

Mission Trip to Shiloh Children's Ranch: Ten people traveled to Shelbina, MO to repair, clean, and play with children housed there. We also collected toiletry items for them.

Long-Term Grants: A grant was awarded to Tess Borders, who traveled to 2 villages in Panama.

With the help of our women's ministry, members were able to collect boxes and bags of Christian books, magazines, and periodicals for **Love Packages**. Several Gateway women and children delivered the items and spent about 4.5 hours sorting and packing Bibles and books that will go to 120 different countries.

Monthly Support: Regular monetary support was given to the following organizations:

St. Louis Christian College - \$200 per month for a total of \$2400

High Hill Christian Camp - \$200 per month for a total of \$2400

Shiloh Children's Ranch - \$100 per month for a total of \$1200

Niños de México - \$100 per month for a total of \$1200

Gateway also gave support in 2014 to our own missionaries in the field. Recipients of this one-time support include: Ybene & Laura Dalla in Haiti, Allie (Borders) Crabbs, Andrew Sexton, Mosaic Christian Church, Zach & Bethany Firsick, Brock & Kristi Howard, Joel & Cassie Brinkley, and Ryan & Sarah Johnson.

JANUARY 2015 MISSION EVENTS

World Impact Launch/Mission Fair: On **Sunday, January 25**, everyone will have the chance to see what exciting service/mission opportunities are planned for 2015. There are many year-round opportunities to donate with finances and goods, a few trips, and several work days. These opportunities cover our city, state, country, and take place from March to October. Look for a table with more info, calendars, and sign-up sheets in the gym after both services.

National Sanctity of Life Sunday is **Sunday, January 18**. Gateway will be collecting size 2 and larger diapers to donate to Thrive.

BREAD BASKET FOR JANUARY

January 04: Canned goods (i.e. soup, meat, vegetables, fruit)

January 11: Toiletries (for men, women, and children)

January 18: Dry Goods (i.e. spaghetti, rice, flour, etc.)

January 25: Paper Goods (i.e. paper towels, bath tissue, Ziploc bags)



GATEWAY MISSIONS



NEW YEAR RESOLUTION

GET INVOLVED IN PURSUIT KIDS' MINISTRY

Kids are fun – Kids are exciting – Ministry to kids has eternal rewards – You get to wear a brightly colored vest or apron – Hugs and smiles are free – We have a great team!

Do you need any more great reasons to join our team? How about the fact that you get to share your faith every week in fun and interesting ways – You never have to guess what the kids are thinking because they will be sure to let you know – You get to know the great stories of the Bible in fresh, new ways – It is a challenge that will help you grow your knowledge, skills, and love in more ways than you could ever imagine!

Applications to get involved are available at all three children's ministry check-ins, nursery, preschool and elementary. Of course, background checks are necessary for all regular volunteers. We take the safety and security of our kiddos very seriously. **Questions?** Contact Shari Borders, Children's Pastor, at 314-821-2156, shari@gccstl.org, or sign up on The Card in the weekly bulletin. We look forward to you joining the team!

2015 CHILDREN'S EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Family Movie Nites – Fridays: January 16, May 8, and July 24

VBS FunShop Trainings – Saturdays: April 11– Cross Culture VBS: Thailand Trek
April 25– Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power

Joyful Noyz Musical – Friday, May 1

Gateway's 40th Anniversary Celebration – Sunday, June 7

Vacation Bible *Summer* –

Everest: Sundays, June 14 – July 12 // Thailand Trek: Sundays, July 19 – August 9

High Hill Christian Camp Sessions (all summer sessions are for the grade child is entering in the fall):

- Kickstart 1 for 1st-2nd grades – June 5-6
- Kickstart 2 – June 26-27
- Kickstart 3 – July 17-18
- Camp 34 (1) for 3rd-4th grades – June 28-30
- Camp 34 (2) – June 30 – July 2
- Pre-Teen 1 for 5th-6th grades – June 21-26
- Pre-Teen 2 – July 12-17

Other specialized camp sessions occur throughout the summer. Check them out at www.highhillcamp.org.

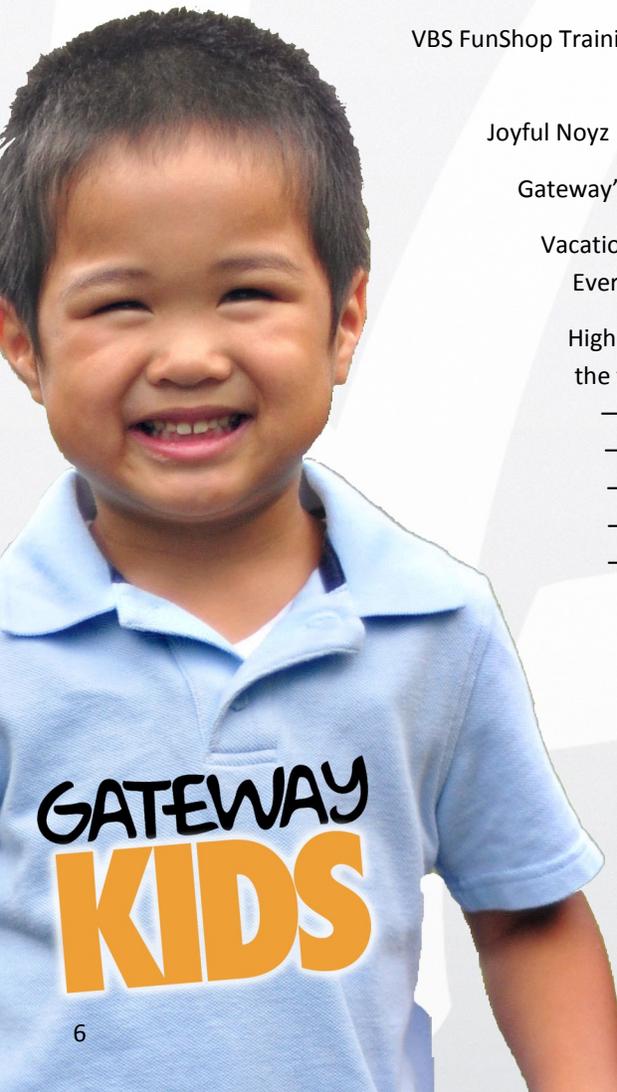
Move-Up Day – Sunday, August 23

Family Fall Fun Fest – Wednesday, October 28

Kids' Christmas Party – Sunday, December 6

Other events are also being planned, so keep reading the newsletters, bulletins and the Family Connect take-home papers for more details!

~Pastor Shari



COLLIDE

JANUARY 2015

Happy New Year!

Last year was one for the record books in Collide! The purity retreat in March had the largest number in attendance. And the best thing was that those 80 students heard God's plan for them about sex and dating. Summer trips were a blast, with 56 High Schoolers going to Colorado for CIY MOVE and 35 Middle School students hearing about Jesus' love for them at Junior High Camp at High Hill. Our prayer for 2015 is that God moves even more in the lives of students at Gateway. Please join us in praying this!

Here is what we have going on in January: Wednesday night **Collide Live** is starting with a series called **Change**. We will be looking at John 14:6, how Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. He literally changed EVERYTHING when He came to this earth and died on the cross.



We are also **looking for people to serve as host homes** for our **March 6-8 conference**, called **MAKE**. We will be teaching about Jesus making us into disciples who make disciples. If you are interested in hosting a group of students at your house, please contact Josh.

If your students have not signed up for MAKE you can get all info at makeconference.tumblr.com. There is a place at the bottom to register online. Please feel free to invite others by sending the link above to friends and family.



This is going to be a great year, and we appreciate all your prayers for the students at Gateway— and for the ones who have yet to walk through our doors.

Have a great year!

~Pastor Josh

SHINE news

Calling all students in 6th-12th grades! You are invited to participate in the **SHINE Spring Musical**, to be presented here at Gateway on **Friday, April 17**.

Please join us for our **Informational Meeting** for parents and students on **Sunday, January 4**, at **12:30 pm** in **Room #211** (note: this is a different room than our normal location). A full rehearsal schedule will be provided at this meeting.

Our **Kickoff Rehearsal and tryouts** will be the following **Sunday, January 11**, from **12:30-2:30 pm** in **Room #210**.

No tryouts are required to sing in the musical; however, a tryout is required for a speaking part or a solo.

If you are not able to make the Informational Meeting, be sure to sign up at the COLLIDE table or send an email to Laura Fletcher. You can also contact Mrs. Fletcher with any questions at (314) 378-2706 or via email, mrsfletch443@sbcglobal.net.



GATEWAY — JANUARY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! (church offices closed)	2	3 Chair Set Up Team #1
4 S.U.B.M.I.T. 8:00 am <i>Grow in Christ/</i> 201 Course 9:00 am SHINE Info Meeting 12:30 College Lunch @ Kremers DivorceCare 6:00 pm Men's Basketball	5	6 REFIT® Fitness Class 9:30 am Staff Meeting 11:00 am	7 YAH Core Meeting 9:30 am Wednesday Night Life 5:20 pm—8:00 pm Band Practice 6:45 pm	8 REFIT® Fitness Class 9:30 am	9	10 Chair Set Up Team #2
11 <i>Serve Like Christ/</i> 301 Course 9:00 am SHINE Tryouts 12:30 DivorceCare 6:00 pm Men's Basketball 6:30 pm	12 Gateway to F.U.N. @ St. Louis Public Library Tour 9:45 am	13 REFIT® Fitness Class 9:30 am Staff Meeting 11:00 am	14 Wednesday Night Life 5:20 pm—8:00 pm Band Practice 6:45 pm	15 REFIT® Fitness Class 9:30 am	16 Family Movie Nite 6:30 pm	17 Chair Set Up Team #3
18 <i>Sanctuary of Human Life</i> <i>Live for Christ/</i> 101 Course 9:00 am DivorceCare 6:00 pm Men's Basketball 6:30 pm	19	20 REFIT® Fitness Class 9:30 am Staff Meeting 11:00 am	21 Young At Heart Movie Wednesday Night Life 5:20 pm—8:00 pm Band Practice 6:45 pm	22 REFIT® Fitness Class 9:30 am	23	24 Chair Set Up Team #4
25 World Impact Lunch Missions Fair DivorceCare 6:00 pm Men's Basketball 6:30 pm	26	27 REFIT® Fitness Class 9:30 am Staff Meeting 11:00 am	28 Wednesday Night Life 5:20 pm—8:00 pm Band Practice 6:45 pm	29 REFIT® Fitness Class 9:30 am	30	31 Chair Set Up Team #1

JANUARY CHAIR TEAMS

- January 04 Team 1—Steve Keroff
- January 11 Team 2—Mike Holly
- January 18 Team 3—Jim Haverly
- January 25 Team 4—Joe Jones

GATEWAY'S WEATHER ADVISORY PLAN

As we enter our coldest season, we wanted to let you know how we plan to handle any needed rescheduling of Sunday worship services due to bad weather. After reviewing the weather forecast for a 24-hour period, Senior Pastor Karl and Executive Pastor Ladd will make the decision **by 7:00 pm Saturday** to reschedule, as follows:

1. If the Sunday forecast calls for snow or freezing rain that will *melt off mid-morning*, we will *cancel the 9:00 am service and hold just the 10:30 am service*.
2. If the Sunday forecast is for snow/freezing rain *throughout the morning*, we will *cancel both morning services and hold one worship service at 2:00 pm on Sunday* instead.
3. If the forecast indicates snow/freezing rain *all day Sunday*, the decision will be made to *cancel both worship services and hold one worship service in lieu of that week's Wednesday Night Life (WNL) program*, starting at **6:30 pm**, without our usual fellowship meal.

NOTE: Each of these inclement weather scenarios will also result in the cancelation of adult classes and the COLLIDE teen program; a kids' program will still be available for nursery-5th grade. **How will you know** when a decision to reschedule has been made? Ensure we have a **good phone number** (where you can receive calls and texts) and a **good email address for your family**; the decision will be communicated **via mass text and/or email**, as well as being **posted on Gateway's Facebook page**, at **7:00 pm on Saturday night**.



JANUARY NURSERY

- Jan. 04: 9:00:** F. Kremer, S. & J. Primm,
J. Worley
- 10:30:** N. Moore, E. Pratt, L. Ryan
- Wednesday, Jan. 7:** M. Jaegers, S. Jaegers
- Jan. 11: 9:00:** S. Olsson, T. Shon, J. Starling,
B. Wren
- 10:30:** E. Allen, J. Lyons, J. Vallieres
- Wednesday, Jan. 14:** J. Cottrell, J. Harris
- Jan. 18: 9:00:** S. Craighead, F. Goad, J. Padua,
L. Weitzel
- 10:30:** B. Clark, L. Rekas, L. Rekas
- Wednesday, Jan. 21:** N. Moore, J. Reed
- Jan. 25: 9:00:** J. & K. Bell, J. Cuenca, E. Feinstein
- 10:30:** K. Barnard, J. Salman, B. Vaughn
- Wednesday, Jan. 28:** K. Haverly, J. Reed