October Sermon Series: Lighthouse

Lighthouse // A 6 week series through Acts 23-28
Light is a powerful thing. It pierces the darkness, gives us a point of reference, and enables us to see. Lighthouses are designed for that very purpose, as they guide those caught in a dark storm into the security of harbor. In our final series through the book of Acts, the Apostle Paul is caught in a spiritual storm. He will face many trials with his life on the line, but he is able to navigate rough waters by keeping his eyes on the Lighthouse. This month let Christ’s light shine in you as you join us for Sunday Worship!

10.05 Guiding Light // Acts 23 // Karl Schad, Senior Minister
10.12 Light Years Away // Acts 24 // Dr. Ladd Haverly, Executive Pastor
10.17 Green Light // Acts 25 // Josh Hough, Youth Pastor
10.26 Bringing the Truth to Light // Acts 26 // Karl Schad, Senior Minister
11.02 Be the Light // Acts 27 // Karl Schad, Senior Minister
11.09 Walk in the Light // Acts 28 // Dr. Ladd Haverly, Executive Pastor

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Volume 43
Issue 10

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
You are cordially invited to our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Sunday, October 5, from 6:30-8:00 pm. This free, delicious, catered dinner, along with some fun entertainment, is a time for the staff and elders to say “thanks” to you and to God for your service to Gateway. Bring your family! Childcare will be provided for nursery through 5th grade; we will give your kids a kid-friendly meal, and entertain them so they will not go hungry or be bored. Please RSVP ASAP to the church office so we know how much food and childcare coverage to have. We look forward to seeing you at this evening of great fun, food, and fellowship.

~Pastor Tom
“Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer (elder), he desires a noble task.”  

1 Timothy 3:1

When was the last time you did something noble? This month you have an opportunity to be apart of something noble in God’s eyes. Each October, we invite our church family to nominate individuals they believe are ready for the role of Eldership. After a month of prayer and communication, we will close the nominations and present the names of the qualified candidates on November 2. During the month of November, you are welcome to consult current Elders with any comments about the candidates. The vote and results will be given on November 23 during our Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner.

God says the service of an Elder is a **noble** task. Noble is defined as, “beautiful, an outward sign of the inward good, righteous, virtuous, decent, generous, worthy, upright, moral, ethical, and even magnanimous.” The men you recommend should be visibly committed to Christ and His church. As you consider Elder candidates, I invite you to take these essential steps:

1. **Commit to pray for the current Elders.** These men are God’s design for church leadership and they need your support through fervent prayer and encouragement (Brian Barnard, Bill Bensinger, Mike Biggs, Russ Borders, B.J. Browning, Alan Hughes, Jim Kremer, Bruce Walden, and Karl Schad).

2. **Study God’s standard for Eldership.** The qualifications for Elders are found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 5:17-22; Titus 1:5-9; and 1 Peter 5:1-4. God gave His standard to protect His church from the default of electing the most influential, wealthy, or well-liked individuals in the church. He is seeking godly men who will listen to the Holy Spirit.

3. **Prayerfully consider His call.** You may be the person God is calling to step into this noble task. If you are approached to lead, seek the Lord before you give an answer. Talk it over and consider your family’s season of life (kids’ activities and job responsibilities). If you are not approached and still feel called, then seek out an Elder to see what discipleship steps you can take in the coming year.

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**Lead like Jesus, ~Pastor Karl**

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**START YOUR JOURNEY**

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

**LIVE FOR CHRIST**
- 101 COURSE
- Sunday, October 12 — 9:00 am

**GROW IN CHRIST**
- 201 COURSE
- Sunday, October 19 — 9:00 am

**SERVE LIKE CHRIST**
- 301 COURSE
- Sunday, October 26 — 9:00 am
WORSHIP CORNER BY RAGAN

In John, chapter 4, Jesus meets a woman from Samaria who came to the well for some water. She asked Him a very thought-provoking question as they spoke: **who worships the right way?** Jesus’ answer is summed up in the mission statement for our worship here at Gateway:

“We will bow our hearts to the Father, be guided by His truth, and yielded to His Spirit.”

It is not the place, the time, or even the style that God values. Worship is driven by our response to who we know Him to be and our obedience to the promptings of His Spirit. The woman at the well ran back to her town to proclaim boldly the love of Jesus. Her encounter with Jesus, the long awaited Messiah, caused her to forget her shame, her place in society, because her eyes beheld the glory of God—Jesus—and she would never be the same. **Are you worshipping the right way?**

This fall we will gather on the **2nd Saturday of the month at 5:00 pm** for Worship Nights. It will be family style, so bring your kiddos. We will focus our hearts and minds, sing, pray/intercede, and in God’s presence, worship Him in Spirit and Truth!

Saturday October 11: “Light of the World”
Worship November 8: “Glory of God”
Nights: December 13: “Christmas Edition: God with Us” *

* We will also be celebrating our Life Groups being the hands and feet of Jesus in their respective communities (more info to come).

~Pastor Ragan

THANK YOU

Gateway Christian Church,
Thank you very much for the lovely flowers you sent to the church for Laura Gunther. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

~The Cozadd and Gunther Family

My Gateway family,
Thank you so much for your support during my father’s passing. It truly means the world to me. God bless!

~Chris Ullrich

MEN’S RETREAT

OCTOBER 17-18

You are invited to the **Men’s Retreat** here at Gateway on **Friday and Saturday, October 17 & 18**! If you are 18 or older, please join us as we delve into the topic of fear from various Biblical perspectives. **“No God...Know Fear, Know God...No Fear.”** So, where do you find yourself along the fear spectrum? Come, be encouraged and challenged to grow in your faith with your brothers in Christ! The retreat will be **6:30-10:00 pm on Friday**, and **7:30 am-2:30 pm on Saturday**, allowing you to sleep in your own bed Friday night. Friday’s dinner, plus Saturday’s breakfast and lunch, will be provided. The retreat is free, with a love offering to cover the meals. We are praying for over 100 men to participate, including you! Be sure to sign up in the Crosssection for this encouraging weekend.

HYMN SING FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26
6:00 PM

DIVORCECARE PROGRAM

A new DivorceCare session will begin **Sunday, October 19, 6:00-8:00 pm**, meeting weekly through January 25. If you are facing or still struggling with the effects of separation or divorce, please join us for this video-based study where you will find encouragement, hope, and guidance on divorce-related issues such as anger, depression, children of divorce, finances, new relationships, and forgiveness. Included will be the **“Surviving the Holidays”** event on **November 9**.

To register, contact Paula Reed at stlpaula@gmail.com or the church office. Additional info and resources can be found at [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org).

YOUNG AT HEART OUTINGS

On **Tuesday, October 14**, we are going to tour **Warm Springs Ranch**, a Clydesdale breeding facility. An early departure from the church, **7:00**, will allow time to stretch our legs and arrive for our **10:00** tour. Lunch and snacks for the drive will be your only expense.

On **Saturday, October 18**, Young at Heart invites big and little people to join us at **Grant’s Farm**. This is an event planned with Gateway home school families, Young At Heart members, and grandchildren. Please sign up at the kiosk by **October 12**, indicate choice of transportation, and include number of children, too.

We will meet at church at 8:30 and **arrive at Grant’s Farm around 9:00**. Your only expense will be lunch, but please note we cannot take food or drink into Grant’s Farm. Parking costs will be covered by Young at Heart; just give the receipt to Joyce Inman, YAH contact.

GATEWAY TO F.U.N.

Play Bocce Ball with **Gateway to F.U.N.** on **Wednesday, October 22, at 1:00 pm**. Meet us at Italia-America Bocce Club located at 2210 Marconi Ave, St. Louis 63110. We will learn to play Bocce ball and then have plenty of time to practice our skills, finishing at 3:00 pm. This event is for all ages, no cost. **RSVP by October 14** to Carrie Imhoff at carie@planetspork.com or 314.471.4716.

WOMEN’S RETREAT

OCTOBER 24-25

“**Anchored in JOY**” is the theme for our **Women’s Retreat**! It will be held **Friday-Saturday, October 24-25**, at Sojourn Retreat Center in Dittmer, MO. Our speaker and worship leader will be Stephanie Olson. The retreat will begin with dinner at **6:00 pm** on Friday evening and will conclude with lunch on Saturday. Sign-ups run through October 19, with payment expected at registration. Invite someone to room with you! There is space for 55 women at the retreat—hope you will be one of them!
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).
SPOTLIGHT: “OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD”

Franklin Graham started this much-needed operation through his Samaritan’s Purse organization. This mission serves underprivileged children in desperate situations throughout the world by sending gift-filled shoeboxes to them at Christmas time. Christian literature is distributed with the shoeboxes to share the love of Jesus. Each Gateway family or person is encouraged to fill a shoebox with gifts for a male OR female child in ONE of the following age ranges: 2-4 years, 5-9 years, or 10-14 years old. Gifts may include small, age-appropriate toys and/or toiletries that fit in the box. Family photos and personal messages are also encouraged. A $7 donation should also be included to cover shipping; an envelope will be available to hold this donation or you can donate online. Plastic bins with lids will be available beginning October 13, but feel free to purchase your own or use a shoebox you have at home. The shoeboxes must be returned unwrapped to church no later than November 17 so they can be packed up and delivered to a local drop-off site that week, then shipped around the world by The Franklin Graham Organization. This is a great opportunity for kids and parents to work together to make another child’s Christmas bright and meaningful. Another opportunity will come November 16-30 when Gateway will host an Angel Tree for the Salvation Army. More details on that next month.

OCTOBER MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

**All Month - Bread Basket**: Help us keep the needy warm this winter! Gateway’s annual Coat Drive begins October 1. Please bring gently-used coats to the church and deposit them in the collection bin in the missions area. The coats will be distributed to sites throughout the St. Louis area. Gateway’s annual Gloves, Hats, and Socks Drive, supporting Shiloh Christian Children’s Ranch in Shelbina, MO, also begins October 1, just in time for the upcoming cold weather. Please bring warm gloves, hats, and socks of all sizes and deposit them in the basket on the mission table. Questions? Contact Neal Boothe at nboothe3@gmail.com or 636-294-7112. Last, but not least, October 19-November 9 are the dates of our Operation Christmas Child drive. Questions? See the article above or contact Jennifer Follmer at jennfollmer@gmail.com.

**You Made a Difference!**

Thank you so much to all who participated in the High Hill Christian Camp workday on August 23! We had 41 hardworking volunteers and, despite the heat, we accomplished everything on the camp’s wish list. What an amazing day!

From a SWERVE recipient: “I am sending this thank you for the generosity of your time, the windows, and the care you took in doing such a good job installing them. I am horrible at names but you know who you are. Saying ‘thank you’ seems so little but the warmth we will have through the winter months and keeping the heat out in the summer months is so appreciated. I enjoyed the company of Joanie, tell her I said ‘Hi.’” Thank you so much!

Susan Boyer & sons

**BREAD BASKET OCT. COLLECTIONS**

October 05 – Canned goods (i.e. soup, meat, vegetables, fruit)
October 12 – Toiletries (for men, women, and children)
October 19 – Dry Goods (i.e. spaghetti, rice, flour, etc.)
October 26 – Paper Goods (i.e. paper towels, bath tissue, Ziploc bags)

We have many Gateway families in need; please help keep our shelves stocked. Drop off your donations in the baskets at the missions’ table in the hallway.
Kids’ Ministry Open House—Sunday morning, October 5
As we hope you realize, much has changed in the kids’ worship center so far this year. As with any renovation project, there are always more things to accomplish throughout the kids’ ministry building, and this is your chance to see firsthand what is finished and what is next on our agenda. ALSO, it will be a great opportunity to meet some of the great folks who minister to your kids each and every week!

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – Sunday evening, October 5
We have an amazing team of folks who work in a variety of ways in the kids’ ministry throughout the year. So many, in fact, who volunteer in the nursery, preschool, and elementary on Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings and at special events that I cannot begin to count you all. You know who you are, though! If you are in this wonderful group, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE come to our church-wide appreciation dinner! We want to celebrate YOU! Will it help if I say “pretty please”? RSVP to the church office today!

Family Fall Fun Fest
Wednesday, October 29 6:30 — 8:00 PM
Family fun awaits you at our annual Family Fall Fun Fest! Kids (and adults!) can dress up in their favorite non-scary costumes, enjoy carnival games, a bounce house, a bon fire with s’mores, a hayride, and finish off with a bag of goodies! Join us for this come-n-go event and spend a little or a lot of time having good, old-fashioned family fun. Please note - Dinner will not be served that night.

We truly want this to be a family event and expect parents to remain with their preschool – elementary aged children throughout the evening. Because of this, if you do not have kids this age, please consider pitching in to make this evening a success! Lots of helpers are needed for set-up and tear-down, decorating, games, and snacks. Sign-up sheets and candy donation bins will be located in the children’s check-in areas and sign-up kiosks in the Crossection.

Help for Parents
Parents, have you ever been surprised at how much your child understands about the world around them? A random question or comment can shake up much of what you believe about that little human running around your home! Well, get used to it. The surprises never stop coming, but you can learn how to respond well. When your child has questions, answer them. If you are not sure, be honest about it and dig for the answers together. This is true for spiritual questions, as well. In Gateway’s PURSUIT Kids’ Ministry we are not hesitant to talk about the importance of following Jesus, even when it is hard to do. There may be questions or situations that come up that you are not sure how to answer. Please know that we are here to help you. Especially when those questions revolve around becoming a Christian, we want to walk alongside and provide help. We have a child-friendly booklet available for parents to work through with their kids that goes through the process of becoming a Christ-follower. Need help? Just ask!

Thank you, Gateway!
Last month we reported that, because of your generosity, we were able to provide clean water for 641 children in India. Well, since then the number has changed; you donated more and our final total is 645 kids in India for whom we are able to provide clean drinking water, a place to wash their hands, and access to a restroom for a year. Thank you and praise God for allowing us to be used in this way and opening our eyes to the needs of so many around the world!
Already one month has passed in the Collide Live youth group season. It was a great month learning about what sin is, how to kill it, and then how to keep it dead. What a great message to start off the school year and to push us into a month of “Powerful Grace.” Through the month of October we will be walking through the life of Elisha the prophet. Come join us from 6:30-8:00 on Wednesday nights.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>Elisha’s Call</td>
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<td>October 22</td>
<td>Elisha’s Mercy</td>
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These are not normal nights. The game time for October will be a little bit different. “CHOCTOBER” IS BACK! All of our games will have something to do with CHOCOLATE!! Come see what the Collide PreShow has to offer at 6:30 each Wednesday Night.

**Wednesday, October 29**, is the Family Fall Fun Fest. Last year we helped with the kids. This year, we get to be part of the party!!! We will have an inflatable that is suitable for students. (That means it is big and fun for you and maybe just a little dangerous.) And, we will have a bonfire outside, just for you. This will be a lot of fun! Come on out and hang with us on Wednesday October 29 for the CF**FFF**: COLLIDE Family Fall Fun Fest!

Our November Lesson Series for Collide Out will be Nickels for Nets. So, just for a head’s up, you might want to start saving your nickels!

~Josh
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|     |     |     | YAH Core Meeting 9:30  
 Wednesday Night  
 Life 5:20—8:00  
 Choir 6:30  
 Band Practice 6:45 | SHINE Dress Rehearsal  
 6:00 pm | SHINE Musical/Drama  
 "Able To Conquer"  
 7:00 pm | Chair Set Up Team #1 |
|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  |
| Kids' Ministry  
 Open House  
 College Class Lunch  
 Volunteer Appreciation  
 Dinner 6:30 pm | Staff Meeting 11:00 am |     |     |     |     |     |
| 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  |
| S.U.B.M.I.T.  
 8:00 am  
 Live for Christ  
 101 Course  
 9:00 am  
 Men's Basketball  
 6:30 pm | YAH Excursion  
 7:00 am  
 Staff Meeting 11:00 am |     |     |     |     |     |
| 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  |
| Grow in Christ  
 201 Course  
 9:00 am  
 DivorceCare Program  
 6:00 pm  
 Men's Basketball  
 6:30 pm | Staff Meeting 11:00 am | Gateway to F.U.N.  
 @ Bocce Ball 1:00 pm  
 Wednesday Night  
 Life 5:20—8:00  
 Choir 6:30  
 Band Practice 6:45 |     |     |     |     |     |
| 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |     |
| Serve Like Christ  
 301 Course  
 9:00 am  
 DivorceCare  
 6:00 pm  
 Men's Basketball  
 6:30 pm | Staff Meeting 11:00 am |     | Fall Family Fun Fest  
 6:30—8:00 pm |     |     |     |
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**October Nursery Workers**

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<th>Wed., Oct. 01</th>
<th>J. Bender, N. Moore, J. Reed</th>
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| **October 05** | **9:00 am** B. & J. Bensinger, J. Cuenca, T. Shon, L. Weitzel  
 **10:30 am** L. Rekas, L. Rekas, B. Vaughn |
| **Wed., Oct. 08** | J. Harris, J. Reed, **Need 1 more!** |
| **October 12** | **9:00 am** E. Feinstein, F. Kremer, S. & J. Primm, J. Sterling  
 **10:30 am** E. Allen, K. Barnard, P. Hilderbrand, J. Vallieres |
| **Wed., Oct. 15** | S. Jaegers, M. Jaegers, J. Reed |
| **October 19** | **9:00 am** E. Brame, D. & B. Cannon, J. Worley  
 **10:30 am** J. Bender, J. Lyons, J. Salmon |
| **Wed., Oct. 22** | J. Cottrell, J. Reed, **Need 1 more!** |
| **October 26** | **9:00 am** S. Craighead, S. Olsson, J. Padua, B. Wren  
 **10:30 am** B. Clark, F. Goad, N. Moore |
| **Wed., Oct. 29** | Fall Family Fun Fest—No Nursery Available |

**October Chair Teams**

- Oct. 05: Team 1—Joe Jones
- Oct. 12: Team 2—Steve Keroff
- Oct. 19: Team 3—Mike Holly
- Oct. 26: Team 4—Jim Haverly

**Men’s Retreat @ Gateway**

**Women’s Retreat @ Dittmer MO**