

THE GATE

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO JESUS CHRIST AND TO ONE ANOTHER

Six Billion Dollars!

In 1880 Thomas Edison crafted a strand of electric bulbs and decorated his lab with them and said "Merry Christmas." Two years later, Edward H. Johnson, Edison's business partner, took the next step when he wired an 80 bulb strand of red, white and blue light bulbs that would then dangle on his Christmas tree. So began the Christmas light business which is now a 6 billion dollar a year enterprise.



Lights have been a part of the Christmas celebration for centuries. Before electric lights, people used candles. Wherever Christians lived and worked and worshipped there were candles to proclaim the birth of the Savior, to declare that light has come into our darkness (John 1:1-9).

But what did that light, the light of the world, cost? For God, the price was His son. The very blood and life of Jesus was given, so we could live in the light. That's a priceless gift, far more expensive than all the candles, all the electric lights and all the energy bills over the course of nearly 2000 years of Christmas celebrations.

This season at Gateway there will be lights – beautiful, warm, inviting, simple, artistic and all pointing to the light who is Jesus. What will it cost Gateway? I don't know. What I do know, however, is that it is only a very small expression of our joy and gratitude for the gift of eternal life.

Please join us on the Sundays of Advent (December 2, 9, 16, 23) and, of course, Christmas Eve*. Together, we will worship the Light who is Jesus.

In His Light,
Ben Borsay

Mark your Calendars!



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Candlelight Services

2:30pm | 4:00pm | 5:30pm | 7:30pm | 9:00pm

COMMUNION

Sunday, January 6

2012

DECEMBER

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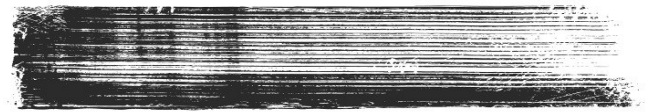
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Making Room for Others—Campaign Update

As of Sunday, December 2, 313 families have made pledges toward our building campaign, totaling \$2,808,089. WOW! We are now at 88% of our big picture plan. The big picture includes pledges, the elders' budget set-aside funds and our current building fund amount.

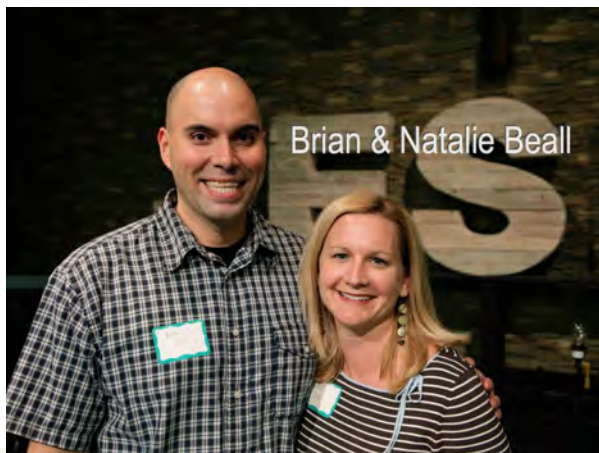
It is an exciting and encouraging place for our church family. But there is still work to be done. Our prayer is to see 100% participation from all the people who call Gateway home. Please pray that the next few weeks will see the commitment that gets us across the finish line. And remember that our campaign is not about us, but about glorifying God by *making room for others*.

Serving with you,
Pastor Scott

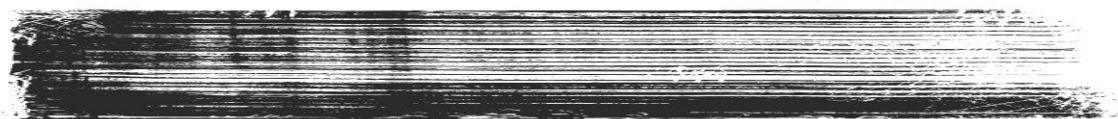
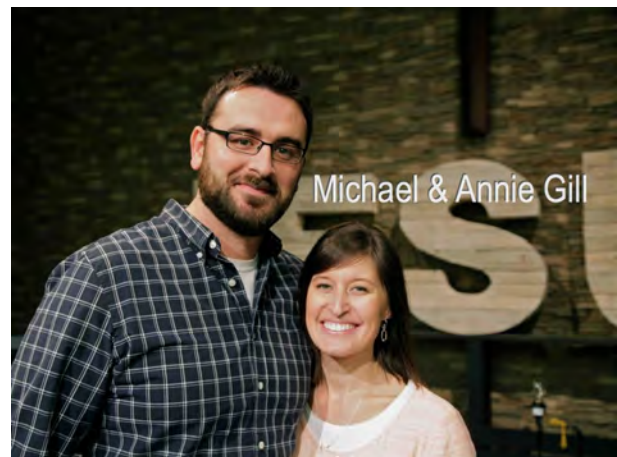


Welcome New Members

Please join us in welcoming the newest members to the Gateway family!



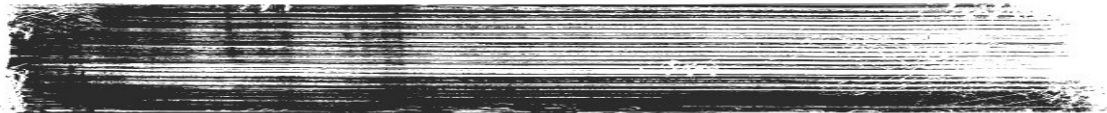
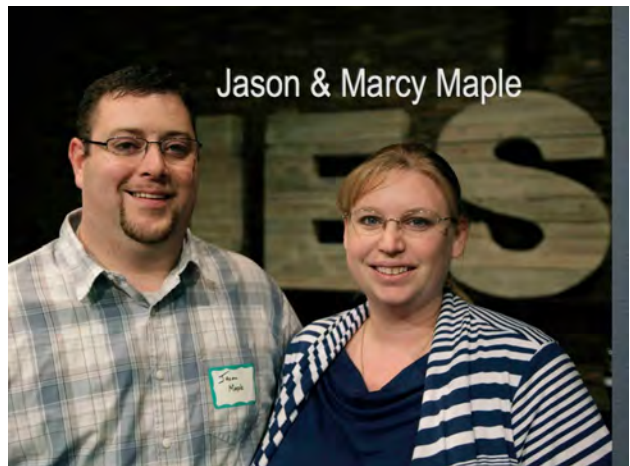
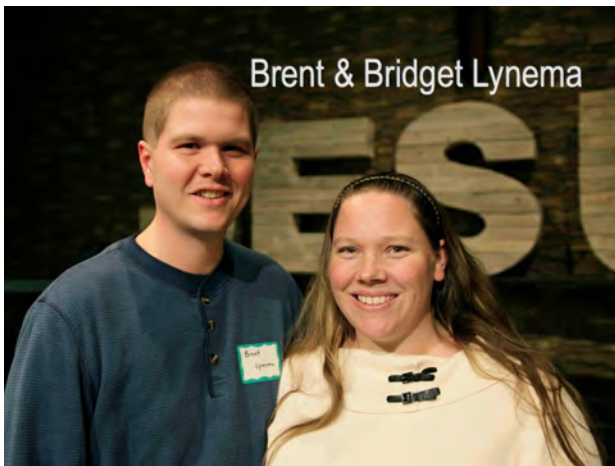
Welcome New Members — Cont.



Welcome New Members — Cont.



Welcome New Members — Cont.



Welcome New Members — Cont.

