Even Our Billboard

Easter 2014 was an amazing and awesome time in our life together. It began with our ‘best ever’ Easter egg hunt on Thursday, followed by a powerful evening of worship, prayer and the Lord’s Supper. Then came a weekend of Easter celebrations – five services on Saturday and Sunday. And the Lord brought 2904 people to our church to hear the Good News -

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.
(I Corinthians 15:3-5)

God used our efforts to bring glory to Himself. What a privilege! He even used our Easter billboard campaign.

One of our post-Easter e-mails said,

“Thank you for the billboard on Trenton Ave., with a depiction of Jesus’ palms and blood and the words: Easter. So What? I was taking a friend, who is Hindu, and her son to the BMV and they saw that sign and asked about it, which led to the sharing of the gospel, planting seeds in an easy and natural way, just going about daily business. Just want to say thank you to God and your obedience in placing it there!”

Even our billboard. Thank you Lord Jesus.

In the joy and power of His Resurrection,

Ben
Kaylynn Baughman
Mary Beilharz
Brennan Bookmyer
John Bookmyer
Duane DeBoo
Jenny DeBoo
Morgan DeBoo
Taylor DeBoo
Heather Farren
Angie Ford
Teresa Grine
Avery Heitkamp
Hannah Hiss
Karin Johnson
Malia Lee
Jenny McDougle
Trista Maag
Rachel Myers
Emma Otley
Stephanie Parsons
Lynn Paset
Jacquelyn Reese
Julie Salyer
Joseph Sherrieb
Pam Showman
Garret Simmermeyer
Nicholas Simmermeyer
Ted Simmons
Logan Speyer
Jamie Starr
Jim Swortchek
Abby Wolbers
Dylan Wolbers
Tara Wolbers
Kayla Yingling

Easter 2014 Baptisms
Gateway Church has multiplied in attendance since we started as a church over twelve years ago. With that growth has come many times the number of kids in our children’s ministry than the first day we met as a church. Over the past number of years, two part-time Children’s Ministry Directors, Gale Jones (who oversees babies to those children in kindergarten) and Pat Uncapher (who oversees children in first through fifth grades) have carried the load of oversight for hundreds of kids. Gale and Pat will continue to work in those ministries at their normal hours, but with a church our size we need a full-time person who oversees the whole of children’s ministry (babies through those in fifth grade).

In comes Laura Moore. Gateway Church has hired Laura as our new full-time Children’s Ministry Director effective July 1, 2014. Laura graduated from Miami University with a bachelor’s degree in Music Education and from Winebrenner Seminary with a Master of Arts in Family Ministry degree. She has taught elementary music for the last fourteen years for the Findlay City School system. Laura has been part of Gateway since the beginning. She taught in children’s Sunday School, has been part of the worship team... even leading it for long stretches, has been active in life groups, has participated in mission trips and has been active in many other ways as well in the life of Gateway Church.

Laura Moore has been married to Matthew for almost three years and they live in Findlay. Laura enjoys reading, gardening, traveling and spending time with family and friends.

We are so excited to have Laura as part of the Gateway staff. Please congratulate her and let her know how you will be willing to help.

Youth DR Mission Trip - Help Needed

This summer our youth group will be doing a mission trip in the Dominican Republic. During that trip they will be doing sports camps as an avenue to share the Gospel. There is a need for sports equipment. We need roughly 50 basketballs, 25 volleyballs and 25 soccer balls. They could be gently used. There is also a need for various other sports equipment. Visit the table in the lobby for all the details. Please partner with the youth group to make an impact for Jesus in the DR.

Laura Moore...Coming Soon to a Church Near You!

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Vacation Bible School

All Kids 4 Years - Completed 5th Grade
June 23 - 27
6:00 - 8:30 pm
Registration begins June 1st.
Visit www.gatewayepc.org for details.
Sew What?

Did you know there are girls in Haiti who are able to attend school every day of the month because of the sewing that goes on here at Gateway? Did you know that women in our own community who find themselves unexpectedly expecting a baby receive love and encouragement through the quilts and blankets created here? Did you know that Findlay City Mission has simple, useful, and practical laundry bags to give clients because of the generous and loving women here at Gateway?

Sew*Quilt*Share began in the hearts of Sandra Tietje and Mary Claire Petro as God quilted together the love they have for Jesus, for sewing, and for other women. A growing group of women gather monthly at Gateway to share this love in a time of devotion and prayer before producing beautiful quilts and blankets for Women’s Resource Center of Hancock County, laundry bags for City Mission, and sanitary pads for Mission Possible that are used in Haiti.

The display of beauty they create both with fabric and relationship is evident in each sewn piece and in the sounds of conversation, laughter, and whirring of sewing machines that come from Fellowship Hall each month. All women are invited to “sew” seeds that reach our community and the world. For more information, contact Sandra at larsantg@gmail.com

Future dates:  May 27, June 17, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28, November 18

Groundbreaking Sunday

Sunday, May 4th, will be our groundbreaking Sunday, a great day of worship, praise, thanksgiving and prayers. Please remember to be ready for a picture of you digging the earth. And ten months later (approximately) a new sanctuary.
The Journey - How Does God Want You To Move?

On the weekend of March 21-23, Gateway Youth Group headed in 2 charter buses to Michigan for our annual Journey Weekend. For those of you unfamiliar with The Journey, it is a high energy, contemplative weekend that takes teens out of their everyday life to learn and reflect on their relationship with Christ. This year’s Journey theme was “Move” and we challenged teens to evaluate their lives, seek God and allow Him to direct them. We asked the question, “How does God want you to Move?”

Throughout the weekend we used God’s word and people of the Bible to show how God wants us to know him more and then respond. Of course in the mix were amazing worship sets by the Gateway youth band, Biblical Challenges, Small Group time, wild and crazy games (like our own version of Flappy Bird), Team Build Activities that reinforced the challenges, and even a little Bow and Arrow Dodge Ball (find a teen that went and ask about this).

Probably the biggest highlight of the weekend was Saturday night when students were asked to reflect on what is keeping them from God. We spent time in prayer and then students wrote what they struggle with. Then they were challenged to get up and share this (in the microphone) with their peers. What an amazing time of reflection and confession. This was followed by more prayer and focusing on how God is calling them to “Move”. We asked them to come up with one word that represented how God is leading them. The words they came up with varied from pray, seek, evangelize, break free, forgive, unmask, and more. They came down and wrote these words on a display surrounding Jesus’ hands and that will be hanging in The Attic as a reminder.

The goal of the Journey is to take these teens away from their everyday and allow them to focus on their relationship with Christ. We had some make first time decisions and others commit to move in the direction God is calling them. The Journey continues here at home as they step back into their everyday and follow through to “Move.”
If you haven't yet, download the Gateway App to your smartphone to access sermon audio and video along with quick access to the Bible. Click here to download the Gateway App: App Store or Google Play.

Reminder to join us in reading the New Testament throughout 2014.