

## Sunday Worship

9:30 a.m.

You can watch our Sunday worship service live or recorded on YouTube through our website.

[www.southgateumc.org/video](http://www.southgateumc.org/video)

## Special Advent Worship

The kids will present a special program during worship on Sunday, December 8.

Our vocal choirs will present their annual cantata on Sunday, December 15. "Tapestry of Light: a Celtic Christmas Celebration" by Joseph Martin features traditional songs with a Celtic twist that tell the story of Christ's birth.

### Christmas Eve Worship

3:00 and 6:00 p.m. on Dec. 24 with special music, communion and candlelight.

**Next Key: Jan. 1**

**Deadline: Dec. 22**



Return Service Requested

3500 Pioneers Blvd.  
Lincoln, NE 68506

The Key

South Gate United Methodist Church



Rev. Amy Slater, Pastor

December 1, 2024

## The Key

A newsletter of South Gate United Methodist Church  
3500 Pioneers Blvd., Lincoln, NE 68506

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Julie Snyder, Administrative Assistant

Dear Friends,

The season of Advent is upon us—a sacred time of endings and beginnings. As one church year draws to a close, another begins, inviting us into a fresh chapter of faith and reflection. Advent reminds us of the ultimate new beginning: Immanuel, God with us. In Jesus, God enters the world in the flesh, bringing hope and love to all. For Mary, the arrival of Jesus was surrounded by endings and beginnings—intensely personal and profoundly universal. Even as Christ's birth offered a new beginning, forces like King Herod sought to bring the story to an end.

As we reflect on this season, we are reminded that navigating endings and beginnings in our own lives often requires words of comfort, strength, and hope. This Advent season, we will seek out those Words for the Beginning—words that feel like the warmth of a cherished quilt on a cold day, wrapping us in God's love and grace. Each week (except Cantata Sunday), we will reflect on blessings and reminders that prepare us for the road ahead. Join us as we embrace this season of hope, finding strength and inspiration in the lessons of Advent.

Blessings,

*Pastor Amy*



## Leadership Board Update

November 14, 7:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall, actions taken by the Board:

- Reviewed the results of the Board self-assessment.
- Completed the Appointive Recommendation Form to submit to the District, requesting that Pastor Amy remain at South Gate for another year.

Next meeting will be a Zoom call to finalize the budget on December 12 at 7:00 p.m. If you wish to join you may request the link from Julie by emailing [office@southgateumc.org](mailto:office@southgateumc.org).

Leadership Board Meetings are open to the public, meeting minutes available upon request.

## United Women in Faith

South Gate UWF will host a Christmas Brunch in Memorial Hall on Thursday, December 12 at 11:00 a.m. All women of the church are invited to attend.

## All Ages Advent Fun

Join us in Memorial Hall on Sunday, December 8 at 10:45 a.m. for a special all ages Advent event. We'll have fun crafts, a story corner and cookies to decorate. Thanks to the Education Committee and Adult Sunday School class for hosting this event.

## Pop-Up Shop

Get some of your holiday shopping done on Sunday, December 15 after worship. Ten Thousand Villages will bring fair trade gift items, coffee and chocolate for a pop-up shop in Memorial Hall. Ten percent of all sales go to support South Gate's operating budget.

## Thank You Note

I want to thank the South Gate family for the get well card and gift card I received after my recent surgery. All is going well. Thanks very much.

*Doug Hellerich*



## December Birthdays

### Birthdays

5 Deb Bose  
9 Jim Hershberger  
9 Connor Craig  
11 Shirley Ritter  
13 Bryanne Mieth  
15 Randi Zink  
18 Jan Bolin  
19 Diane Lamb  
22 Rita Imlay  
22 Peggy Volker  
23 Linda Nelson  
25 Dan Hopmann  
26 John Findley

## Managing Grief in Response to the News

Rev. Galen Wray is offering a single session of grief support for anyone who is struggling to manage their grief in response to news stories locally, nationally, or globally. This will be a safe place of support and sharing, with some learning about the stages of grief. The gathering will be Tuesday evening, Dec. 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Rose Room.

## Mission Market

The Mission Committee will be hosting their annual Mission Market in December. You may donate to your choice of four mission organizations as a gift to someone special, or as a memorial. This year they have chosen:

LuLu's on N provides meals and other services for those in need.

Habitat for Humanity works to build affordable housing.

UMCOR U.S. provides disaster relief and continuing support in the U.S.

Heifer International provides farm animals for people around the world.

Learn more on Sunday, December 1 during worship.

## Finance Report Oct. 2024

Total Income = \$172,443  
Total Expenses = \$198,816  
Net Deficit = \$26,373

Thank you for your financial support of South Gate.