

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

Church Office Hours

8:00 am - 12:30 pm
Monday - Thursday

Next Key: Nov. 1

Deadline: Oct. 22



South Gate United Methodist Church
The Key
3500 Pioneers Blvd.
Lincoln, NE 68506
Return Service Requested

October 1, 2025

The Key

A newsletter of South Gate United Methodist Church
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Rev. Amy Slater, Pastor

Julie Snyder, Administrative Assistant

Dear Friends,

October will be a rich month of worship for us at South Gate! We begin by wrapping up our Created for Connection series on **October 5** with the gift of World Communion Sunday. What better way to celebrate the connections we've been exploring—connection with God, with one another, across barriers, and with the wider community—than to gather at the Lord's Table alongside Christians all around the world?

In the middle of the month, we'll turn our attention to one of the "small but mighty" books of the Bible: **Habakkuk**. (By the way, it's pronounced "Ha-BAK-kuk"—though I've heard everything from "HA-ba-kook" to "HAB-a-kuk" over the years!) This short prophetic book wrestles with hard questions about injustice, waiting, and faith. Over two weeks we'll journey with Habakkuk from lament—"How long, O Lord?"—to hope and trust—"Yet I will rejoice in the Lord." It's a word we need in these times.

Then, on **October 26**, we will be blessed by a special message from **Rev. Karen Jeffcoat**. Karen will help us reflect on what it means to fully live into our Engage, Act, Grow vision as a church, drawing inspiration from the prophet Joel's call to renewal and transformation.

I hope you'll join us each week as we bring our whole selves—our questions, our joys, and our hopes—before God together. Grace and peace,

Pastor Amy



CROP Walk

No one in this world should be hungry. That's why the CROP Hunger Walk is more than just a yearly gathering. It's a movement that's over 50 years strong, made up of compassionate people in more than 500 communities across the U.S. South Gate members will once again support this movement by raising funds and walking on October 12th. We plan to take a short (1 or 1.5 mile) walk around Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1200 S 40th St. Wear your South Gate gear and plan to meet in the OSLC parking lot at 12:45 p.m. The walk starts at 1:00 p.m.

Please support us by walking or donating or both! You can find a way to register and donate by visiting 2025 CROP Hunger Walk - South Gate United Methodist Church - Lincoln, NE, or you can sign up on the sheet on the Missions bulletin board.

Soup Cook Off

October 29
5:30—7:00 p.m.

Enter your best soup to win the Golden Ladle

Piece by Piece

This year we've seen God at work in wonderful ways though our church's ministries. Every person's contribution has helped build the picture of South Gate's witness in our community. As we enter the last stretch of the year, we celebrate what has been accomplished and invite everyone to add their "piece" to complete the picture—our 2025 ministry budget.

Our Goal \$10,000

Every piece matters. Together, we complete the picture.



Financial Report

August 2025

Total Receipts = \$150,381
Total Expenses = \$163,962
Total Deficit = \$13,581

Thank you for your continued support.



October Birthdays

Birthdays

1 Emily Schoenleber
10 Marjorie Parker
11 Amy Slater
11 Twila Trautman
19 Elizabeth Schoenleber
20 Jean Ann Pepin
20 Mikayla Wicks
21 Kristi Schopp
21 Laurisa (Parker) Richter
28 Elijah Bousson

Anniversaries

4 Rory & Randi Zink

Thank You Note

I wish to thank all of you for your generous gifts, cards, prayers, phone calls, Valentino's gift card, and the bouquet of flowers from the church garden. It's very reassuring to know that others care for you. I am truly blessed to have such a delightful church family. It appears I'm going to be in therapy for 4 to 6 more weeks. I can't wait to get back to a regular schedule. Thanks again!!

Eileen Fick

Grief Support

Rev. Galen Wray is leading a Grief Support session for six weeks beginning October 5 at noon in the Rose Room.

Grief Support is a supportive community of friends who have experienced loss. The losses in life come in many forms and experiences and all are invited to participate and take advantage of resources and coping mechanisms which may benefit us individually and collectively. The group is intended to help one move through grief and understand the stages of grief, as they continue the rest of their journey. We encourage anyone interested to contact the church office or speak to Galen.

Nut Sale

South Gate United Women in Faith will conduct their annual nut sale fundraiser starting October 19. We will be selling products from R.U. Nuts.

Order forms will be available at church. Prepaid orders are due November 7 to Barb Hellerich, Vicki Leech or Diane Lamb. Make checks payable to South Gate UWF.



Leadership Board Update

Meeting August 26, 2025

Actions taken by the Board:

- Received and affirmed a final summary of the Board’s discussions to enhance the church’s Engage, Act, Grow vision. Karen Jeffcoat will present the enhanced vision to the congregation when she preaches on October 26.
- Approved a Sick Leave Policy for church and preschool staff that complies with new Nebraska law going into effect on October 1, 2025.
- Set dates for the Fall Fund-raiser, budget process, and 2026 Pledge Campaign.

Upcoming meetings will be October 28 and November 25 at 7pm, in Memorial Hall. Leadership Board Meetings are open to the public, meeting minutes available upon request.

Connection Point

The Mission Team is collecting 1 and 2 lb. bags of rice during October. This staple item is frequently requested by their clients. We’ll be taking donations through November 2.

Men’s Group

John Leuthold and Galen Wray would like to start a new men's group that would be informal and mostly about connecting with one another, likely on a Saturday morning but open to other possibilities. If you would be interested, we will hold a meeting after church on October 19, probably in the Rose room. If you can't make it then, please feel free to talk to John or Galen at any time, as we'd love your thoughts and ideas.

UWF Market

Shop for handmade items at the United Women in Faith South Gate Market near the coatroom. New fall items have been added. All items are available for a free will offering to support UWF and South Gate.

Sunday Fellowship

Volunteers are needed to help with after worship fellowship time. Duties include:

- Purchase Donut holes (cost reimbursed)
- Make Coffee
- Serve
- Clean Up

If you would like to help, please sign up on the bulletin board at church.



World Communion Sunday October 5

World Communion Sunday is one of six churchwide Special Sundays designated to support ministries and causes important to the entire United Methodist Church. On this Sunday, United Methodists join Christians around the world in celebrating Holy Communion, remembering that we are one in Christ, no matter our background, language, or culture.

But it’s more than just worship. It’s also a time to support scholarships and leadership training for students from underrepresented communities—helping the Church become more inclusive and better equipped to serve.

The Church is strongest when its leadership reflects the people it serves. But many communities—especially those historically underrepresented—face barriers to education and ministry. World Communion Sunday matters because it helps break down those barriers. It equips students from diverse backgrounds with the resources and training they need to answer God’s call to lead. When we invest in these future leaders, we’re building a more faithful, inclusive Church—one that’s better prepared to share Christ’s love in a changing world.

Special Sundays give us a chance to focus our prayers and support on important ministries all year long—uniting our gifts to multiply our impact. Your generosity supports scholarships, grants, and programs that help prepare the next generation of church leaders. Here’s how the funds are used:

Scholarships (50%) Half of the funds collected go toward scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students of color in the U.S. who are pursuing ordained ministry.

Grants (35%) A portion of the funds provide In-Service Training Grants that support diversity, equity, and access training—helping the Church recruit and retain leaders of color across all areas of ministry.

Leadership Programs (15%) The remaining funds support leadership development with partner churches in Africa, Asia/Pacific, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and communities of color in the U.S.