

# GATEWAY CHURCH

## 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



REACHING GENERATIONS  
FOR CHRIST

[gcny.org](http://gcny.org)



# A JOYFUL END TO 2023

As we come to the close of 2024, we want to take a moment to reflect on all the incredible ways God worked through Gateway Church this year. With grateful hearts, we celebrate the milestones, the people, and the lives that have been transformed by His grace.

We ended 2023 with a beautiful family celebration, Jingle Jam—a special night for our children to experience the joy of the season. It was an unforgettable time to invest in the next generation. We also celebrated the birth of our Savior during our Christmas Eve service, which took place in our newly completed chapel. It was a milestone moment in the life of our church and a testament to God's faithfulness.

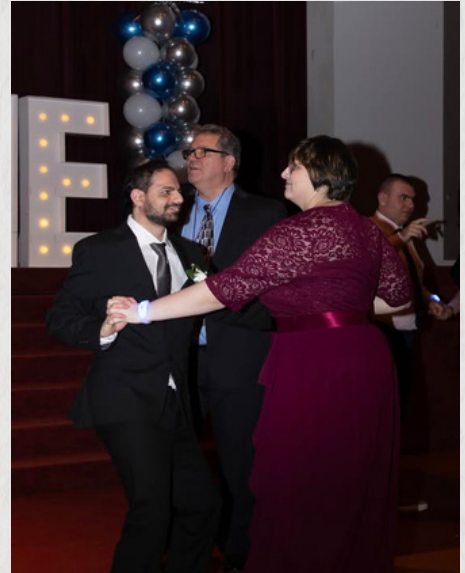




# HIGHLIGHTS

## A NIGHT TO SHINE

In 2024, we had the privilege of hosting Night to Shine, an event sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation for those with special needs and their loved ones. This was our first year hosting this incredible event, and we rolled out the red carpet for these amazing individuals. We celebrated them with a night full of joy, music, and dancing. It was a night that truly reflected our care and love for every one of God's image bearers.



## INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION

At Gateway, our mission is "Reaching Generations for Christ", and we are passionate about investing in the next generation. This year, we sent our youth and young adults to powerful camps and retreats like Word of Life and Reverb, where they had the opportunity to unplug from the distractions of the world and focus on their relationship with Jesus. Pastor Ben and his team are a blessing to our community, and I'm so thankful for his passion and partnership.



WEDNESDAYS | 7PM  
[gcny.org/ministries/students](https://gcny.org/ministries/students)



# SPRING CELEBRATIONS & MILESTONES



## GATEWAY ACADEMY'S HISTORIC FIRST GRADUATION

One of Pastor Dan's dreams for our church was to see Gateway Academy graduate its first high school class, and in June 2024, that dream became a reality. We celebrated 12 graduates who are now continuing their education and walking with the Lord in their college years. Under the leadership of Chris DeSanctis and his incredible team, Gateway Academy is setting a strong foundation for students in both faith and education.



Spring was a season of growth and celebration. We began by commemorating Holy Week, with Good Friday and Easter services that brought us together as a church family. Our Easter Jam for kids and families was another highlight, celebrating the resurrection with childlike faith and joy.

A historic moment finally happened, when we dedicated our Chapel and Atrium in honor of our Founding Pastor, Daniel Mercaldo, and his wife Vangie. By God's grace and through your generosity and prayers, we completed this project - 17 plus years in the making. It was a night filled with love, gratitude, and remembrance as we celebrated their legacy and vision. Pastor Dan played an integral role in my own faith journey, and I'm honored to carry forward the vision he cast for this church.

We pray that this new space will be a beacon of light on Staten Island for years to come as we introduce many to the love, forgiveness, and hope found in Christ. We've seen many trust in Jesus for their salvation in this new worship space, and we've already baptized dozens in there over this past year.

A special thank you to Steven Stanley, Pat Conquest, our Trustees, and all the other men and women throughout the years who have labored to see this project through to completion.



# SUMMER TRANSITIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

The summer brought some transitions to Gateway. After five years of faithful leadership, Alison Madill passed the baton as Worship Director to Andrew Anderson. We are so thankful for Alison's dedication and leadership over the years. With Andrew, our church has a new gifted leader, and we are excited to see how God will use him in this new role for years to come.

Summer also brought Vacation Bible School to Gateway, where hundreds of kids gathered to hear the good news of Jesus. It was a week of fun, faith, and unforgettable moments, made possible by the heart and dedication of our incredible volunteers



## MIDWEEK LAUNCH AND FALL FEST

In the fall, we launched Midweek—a new initiative designed to bring every generation of our church together. Each Wednesday night, families came together for worship, classes, small groups, kids and youth ministry. It's been an amazing opportunity to grow in community and faith. If you haven't already, join us in 2025.

We also celebrated our 5th annual Fall Fest, a beloved community event that grew to nearly 2,000 attendees from our Island this year. It was a day of hayrides, pumpkin picking, food, and fun—bringing families together to enjoy the season and celebrate the love of Jesus.





# HIGHLIGHTS

## IFF, MISSIONS, AND WORSHIP

Another highlight of the year was our International Food Festival. It's always a beautiful time when our church family gets to celebrate our diverse backgrounds and cultures by sharing special dishes from their countries; and this year, it was especially meaningful as we focused on raising funds for our missionaries. With 17 different missions' partners, spread across 5 continents, Gateway Church is reaching people with the love and hope of Jesus around the globe.

We also came together in November with churches and pastors from around Staten Island for a special night of worship—a powerful reminder of the unity we have in Christ among our brothers and sisters on our Island.



## A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

And finally, we ushered in the Christmas season this year with the lighting of our new 20-foot-tall Christmas tree in the Atrium. Hundreds of people joined us for a night of carols, bounce houses, hot chocolate, and celebration of the birth of our Savior. It was a wonderful way to begin the season of Advent and reflect on the hope and joy we have in Christ.



# LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025

As we reflect on all that God has done in 2024, we can't help but look ahead to 2025 with hearts full of anticipation. This next year, Gateway Church will celebrate 60 years of ministry. It's hard to believe how far God has brought us from our early days as a small church plant until today. We are so excited for all He has in store for the next chapter of our church family.

This coming year, we are going to build on some of the amazing new programs and events we've begun, as well as launch several new mission-focused initiatives, such as spring and summer outreach events, a new stewardship ministry, more nights of worship, how to study the bible seminars, a new podcast for daily devotion, and discipleship and evangelism trainings. I can't wait to see how God shows up as we seek to be faithful to our mission of reaching generations for Christ here at Gateway and beyond the gates to our Island and world.

To everyone – staff, elders, deacons, trustees, members, volunteers and attendees who are a part of what God is doing here—thank you. Your faithfulness, generous financial support, and love for the Lord are what make all this possible. Let's stay committed to our mission, to loving each other, and to continuing to grow together in our faith, community, and service. Here's to 2025!

To God be the glory!

– Pastor Michael



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## CHRISTMAS OFFERING

**Thank you for considering a special year-end Christmas offering gift! This offering, above and beyond our normal tithes, will go towards meeting the ministry goals of 2025! How is God leading you to join us in reaching this goal?**

**There are 3 ways to give.**

1. ONLINE at [gcnyc.org/give](https://gcnyc.org/give) by selecting "Christmas Offering" from the dropdown menu.
  2. CHECK made payable to Gateway Church and mailed to 200 Boscombe Ave., Staten Island, NY 10309
  3. IN PERSON at one of our Sunday services and on Christmas Eve at 4 PM.
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