



## Spreading Peace

*“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” — Matthew 5-9*

As followers of Christ, we are called to be peacemakers in a world filled with conflict and strife.

As a mother of two boys I’ve learned when tempers flare and harsh words are said that it is my job to calm the disputes. To gently intervene, remind them of their shared love and common goal at what they are doing. To bring unity and cooperation between them.

We live in a world where discord often drowns out the melody of peace. As children of God, we are called to be peacemakers, to bring harmony where there is discord, love where there is hate, and understanding where there is confusion.

Being a peacemaker is an essential part of our spiritual armor. It’s like carrying a shield of faith. With it, we can extinguish the flaming arrows of anger, resentment, and division that the enemy throws at us. Our peace, rooted in Christ, becomes a protective barrier that defends us and brings healing to others.

-Linda Self  
Administrative &  
Financial Assistant

# Mark Your Calendars

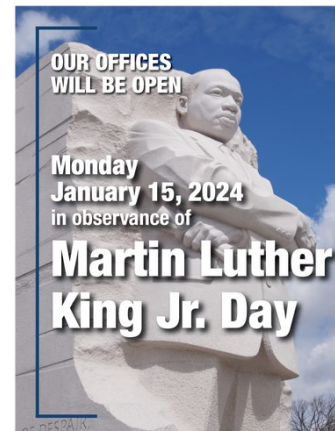
## UPCOMING EVENTS



December 25, 2023 - January 1, 2024 - Office will be closed. Will reopen on January 2, 2024

January 11 - Missions Committee Meeting

January 17 - Administrative Team Meeting



ADOM Search Committee—January 24



January 23—25

Springfield, IL



**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
MEETING

February 1—Executive Board and Ministry Luncheon



February 14—Valentine's Day & Ash Wednesday



February 21—Administrative Team Meeting



**Pray for our Pastorless churches**

First Baptist Church of  
Collinsville  
723 St. Louis Road  
Collinsville, IL 62234

Whitelaw Avenue BC  
800 Whitelaw Ave.  
Wood River, IL 62095

Pleasant Ridge BC  
195 West Country Lane  
Collinsville, IL 62234



**4539 Wanda Road  
Edwardsville, IL 62025**

**Phone** (618) 254-3953

**Fax** (618) 254-4132

**Email:** Linda Self  
Administrative Assistant  
and Finance  
admin@gatewayba.org

**Office Hours**

Mon. – Thurs. 9:00 am – 4:30 pm;

[www.gatewayba.org](http://www.gatewayba.org)



---

Would Your Church be Willing to

**HOST AN EVENT?**

For the GBC **Children's Mission Day 2024** – Scheduled for March 30, 2024

For a **GBA Annual Meeting** 2024, 2025 or 2026 – normally the last week in  
September

Please contact the GBA Office if you would be willing to bless the member churches.