



December 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>

## Welcome to The Gathering!

*We exist to connect people to the love of God.*

### Stay Connected

Check us out online: [www.thegatheringottawa.com](http://www.thegatheringottawa.com)  
Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/thegatheringottawa](http://www.facebook.com/thegatheringottawa)  
Follow us on Twitter: @GatheringOttawa

### Keep in Touch

Jeff (Lead Pastor): [jeff@thegatheringottawa.com](mailto:jeff@thegatheringottawa.com)  
Kristyn (Office Admin & Children's Pastor): [kristyn@thegatheringottawa.com](mailto:kristyn@thegatheringottawa.com)  
General Inquiries: [info@thegatheringottawa.com](mailto:info@thegatheringottawa.com)  
Youth Inquiries: [youth@thegatheringottawa.com](mailto:youth@thegatheringottawa.com)

### Multiple Giving Options Available

There are three ways to give to The Gathering: the offering plate on Sunday morning, via direct debit, or by going online and using Canada Helps. Contact Kristyn or visit us online at [www.thegatheringottawa.com/giving](http://www.thegatheringottawa.com/giving) for more info.

### Take Notes with YouVersion

To follow along with today's message, and take notes online with YouVersion, open your YouVersion Bible App and go to "Events"! To access the OCSB wifi, use the password: wireless4all

### [re]UNION Junior High: Wednesdays at Parkway Church

Grades 6-8 can find their place in Christ, and connect with peers of the same faith at [re]UNION at Parkway Church Greely! [re]UNION takes place from 7-8:30pm, at 7275 Parkway Road. For more info, email [youth@thegatheringottawa.com](mailto:youth@thegatheringottawa.com).

### Mosaic Senior High: Thursdays at Parkway Church

Grades 9-12 from 7-9pm at Parkway Church in Greely (7275 Parkway Road). Students can expect a safe place to explore and wrestle with their faith, while being surrounded by a team of leaders who have lived life and found a faith of their own. For more info, email [youth@thegatheringottawa.com](mailto:youth@thegatheringottawa.com).

### Elder Nominations Now Being Received

Our Board of Elders is looking to affirm one or two new Elders to the Board at our AGM in March, and are now accepting nominations of potential candidates. Church member or not, we would like your input! Nominations must be submitted prior to January 13, 2019. For more information, visit [www.thegatheringottawa.com/eldernominations](http://www.thegatheringottawa.com/eldernominations).

### The Al Shahem's Christmas Blessing Drive

We want to bless our newly sponsored refugee family, as they prepare for their first Canadian Christmas! We are collecting Walmart gift cards and cash to bless this family. Gift cards can be purchased this morning at the home church table, or cheques can be written to The Gathering, with "Refugee Christmas Blessing Drive" written in the memo line.

### December 23<sup>rd</sup>: SO MUCH IS HAPPENING BECAUSE IT'S CHRISTMAS!!!

*December 23<sup>rd</sup> is a Sunday you will NOT want to miss; here's what will be happening!*

**Family Christmas Service:** The kids will take the stage and show off their special Christmas songs and you might just get to spot their acting chops as well! Be sure to invite your friends and family, they'll want to be a part of this too!

**Baptism Service:** What better way to celebrate Jesus than with a baptism or two?!! Are you ready to take the next step in your faith and publicly declare your love for Jesus? Then perhaps it's time to be baptized in water!

Contact Jeff and chat about this exciting possibility!

**Family Christmas "Dinner":** Okay, so it's actually happening at LUNCH TIME, but we still call it a Christmas DINNER!! *Sign up today* to contribute something to our traditional Christmas potluck, and then stick around after service and spend a wonderful time celebrating with your church family! And eating!

**Kids Talent Show:** We're finishing off a great day, with our annual Kids Talent Show! We've seen karate, gymnastics, singing, saxophone and piano playing – what might we see this year?!! Stick around to find out!! *Kids, sign up today!*

### Christmas Eve Services

This year, we're offering three Christmas Eve Service options, so surely one will fit your schedule! Visit [christmasinrisversidesouth.ca](http://christmasinrisversidesouth.ca) for more info. Pick up some postcards today to invite others to join you as well!

December 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 6PM & December 24<sup>th</sup> @ 3PM: Parkway Church

December 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM: The Gathering

### December 30<sup>th</sup>: NO SERVICE

We will not be holding a service on Sunday December 30<sup>th</sup>. We like to give our volunteers a break, and we encourage all of you to spend some special extra time with your families and home churches over this busy holiday season! If you're still looking for a worship service to attend on the 30<sup>th</sup>, check out Parkway Church!

### Alpha Marriage: Sunday Nights Starting in Mid-January!

The Alpha Marriage Course is a series of seven sessions (date nights!) designed to help couples invest in their relationship and build a stronger marriage. Sign up at the coffee table or contact your hosts, Linda & Craig Cudmore for more information at [lindaandcraig@cudmore.ca](mailto:lindaandcraig@cudmore.ca).