Vacation Bible School 2017

As you can see from the pictures, we had a wonderful week of Vacation Bible School! Our week was filled with learning and fun! We served 70 children from St. John's, St. Martin's, and the community, and we strengthened our relationship with St. Martin's Episcopal, who has been our VBS partner for many years.

SIGNS OF A SERVANT CHURCH

I am writing these words on Sunday evening, June 18, on the campus of St. John's University in Queens, NY. Twenty of our high school students (and 5 adults) are in New York City this week to serve in the mission of God and experience a servant immersion in a pluralistic culture. They will serve in soup kitchens, offer ministry to homeless persons, hear from persons who have been rejected, experience opportunities to worship and learn from church leaders of Riverside Church and Metro Baptist Church, work in an inner city roof vegetable garden, reflect on spiritual stories, have their world enlarged through tours of The Holocaust Museum, The 9/11 Museum and The United Nations as well as hear from those who build bridges of peace and understanding in a diverse world where conflicts and confusion are prevalent. I am grateful to Lee Gray for planning this trip and for the five adults who are traveling with the students.

This coming week, our beloved member, Bert Green, will be celebrated by Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte upon his retirement. Countless lives are better because of Bert’s Ministry in Daily Life through Habitat during the past three decades. He expanded their efforts as Executive Director and broadened their visions as Director of Strategic Initiatives. He has forged partnerships and bolstered support with unwavering integrity. We hope Bert's retirement with Dianne provides him multiple chances to enjoy the fruit of his labors. And, we know he will continue to express his actively faithful servant joy.

Beloved, St. John’s is a Servant Church. Tell your friends and neighbors. They may be looking for a church like us; there are many who need a church like St. John’s. You may be a sign to point them toward finding their own servant church stories.

Shalom,
Dennis

Freedom School began this week! Our Education Team worked to provide each Intern with a few boxes of supplies for their rooms, and some fun things to help get their summer started. Carolyn Allred, a member here at St. John's and the Volunteer Coordinator for Charlotte's Freedom School Partnership, let us know that there are many ways to connect with Freedom School this summer. One important event this summer is their big reading event on July 19th--they are hoping that over 900 volunteers will join in the 13 different Freedom School venues around the city to partner with one of the Freedom School scholars to read together for a whole hour! If you would like to volunteer with Freedom School, you can:

1) email Martha Kearse at mkearse@sjcharlotte.org to get on the Education Team and hear about all the opportunities we have with FS this summer;
2) go to http://qcfamilytree.freedomschoolpartners.volunteerhub.com/events/indexv1 and check out all the volunteer opportunities offered with Freedom School this summer!

Youth News from Lee

Upcoming Youth Trips

- June 16-24 – High School Mission Trip to NYC
  (Youth return on Saturday, June 24 at 7:30 pm.)
- July 17–22 – Unidiversity Youth Summer Camp
  (We are now full with 2 adults and 16 youth. Be sure to send your seminar and elective choices to Allison so she can complete your registration. For our fun afternoon outing, we will do a riverboat cruise.)
- August 5-8 – Middle School Local Mission Trip
  (Projects lined up so far are with Crisis Assistance, Friendship Trays, Hope Chapel, Charlotte Rescue Mission and Adopt-A-Stream. I will ask for adult helpers/drivers once the schedule is complete.) This is open to rising 6th graders

From Allison

Summer Sundays

Nursery/2s: This class will be cared for in their room for Formation Hour and Worship Hour.
PreK/K: The PreK/K class will remain in their classroom for Formation Hour and Worship Hour as they share a story together, make some art, and play together.
Grades 1-5: These grades will meet together in the 1st-3rd Grade classroom for the rest of the summer. They will join their families for worship.

2017 State & Community Offering
Received $3480
Goal: $5000
• The Galilee Refugee Support Center
• Sowing Seeds
• Center For Community Transitions
St. John’s Pulpit Summer Series
Ten Commandments for the Twenty-First Century: The Calling of Wisdom

June 25  
A² + B² = C² - Martha Kearse
2nd Commandment: Graven Image

July 2  
A Rose, By Any Other Name - Martha Kearse
3rd Commandment: Wrongful Use of the Name

July 9  
You Are Not a Robot - Dennis Foust
4th Commandment: Sabbath

July 16  
Live Long and Prosper - Martha Kearse
5th Commandment: Honor Your Parents

July 23  
Choosing Life - Dennis Foust
6th Commandment: Murder

July 30  
Thou Shalt Commit Commitment - Dennis Foust
7th Commandment: Adultery

August 6  
Thief - Martha Kearse
8th Commandment: Steal

August 13  
Southern Gentle Lady, Be Good - Martha Kearse
9th Commandment: False Witness

August 20  
Craving Simplicity - Dennis Foust
10th Commandment: Covet

August 27  
Our Sweet Husband - Martha Kearse
Love the Lord with heart soul mind & strength

Sept. 3  
Labor of Love - Dennis Foust
Love One Another

Holy Spirits

This summer, we will offer opportunities for conversation and discussion on our summer sermon series at Hawthorne’s Pizza (corner of 7th Street & Hawthorne Lane) on the following dates:

- June 27 at 7 pm
- July 10 at 7 pm
- July 25 at 7 pm

From May 17 to June 30, Hawthorne Lane between 5th Street and 7th Street will be closed to all thru traffic. Also, be advised that the closing of the intersection of Hawthorne Lane and East 7th Street has been extended until June 30. You should use the entrances on 5th Street and Lamar Avenue to get to the church parking lots. Please remember to be extra cautious in the parking lot!

Documentary Screening & Discussion

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
3400 Beatties Ford Rd.
Charlotte, NC
3:30-6 PM

Please join us for this free screening of Raoul Peck’s Oscar nominated film “I Am Not Your Negro” and panel discussion.

Summer Sunday School Series 2017
“Discerning Our Call: Identity and Purpose Through a Life of Faith”

Join us in Lasater Hall—we will begin each week at 9:30 with a lesson from the Bible or church history about a person hearing, and responding to, their call. Between 9:45 and 9:50, we will turn to one of our local mission partners to hear about their work. Each week, a representative from our Mission Resource Team will be available to help connect you, if you have not done so already, with one of our MT25 teams so that you can begin hearing about what your team is doing in the world!

This week’s lesson:
Hearing Our Name/Moses with Dr. Martha Kearse

This week’s partner organization and speaker: Charlotte Rescue Mission/Jeff Glenn
Income through June 18: $451,100

Financial Ministry Plan Report:
Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Carol & Gene Poole
Ushers:
Tellers:

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations
Jim Austin, Byron Bullard, Ethel Harris, Carmen Howard, Chuck Jones, Jane Starnes & Elma Thomas - home

It is hard to find words to express the gratitude of the Packman family for all your expressions of love and support during Dana’s illness and passing. Her loss has left a huge hole in our hearts and lives, but you have helped us to begin the healing process. Thank you for being family to us. ~ Hank Packman

Sunday, June 25

Deacons: David Allen, Linda Balentine, Jordan Benton, Lynn Bishop, Maggie Bond, Kim Ray, Laura Strickland, Elma Thomas, Elizabeth Whipple, Alice Wirz
Tellers: Jay Baucom, Marc Cardella
Ushers: Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Carol & Gene Poole
Main Ent. Greeter: Ed Turner, Gail Sifford

Financial Ministry Plan Report:
Week of June 12-18: $25,300
Income through June 18: $451,100
2017 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: $1,075,535

Ministers on Call:
June 17-25: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287
June 26-July 2: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412

Birthday cards are sent to each member of St. John’s Baptist Church. You can contribute to this card ministry simply by donating birthday cards. Cards for any and all ages are acceptable. Cards may be left in the church office. Please identify them for “Birthday Ministry.”

Save the Dates
9th Annual Luncheon
September 10 - Broach Hall
Retreat
November 3-5 - Blowing Rock

Summer Softball Schedule:
All games will be played at Providence Baptist Church, 4921 Randolph Road
Come out and support the team!

Tues. 6/27 at 7:15 pm vs PBC Grey
Thurs. 6/29 at 7:15 pm vs St. Gabriel

No games week of July 4th
Tues. 7/11 at 6:00 pm vs. PBC White
Thurs. 7/13 at 7:15 pm vs. PBC Blue
Tues. 7/18 at 6:00 pm vs. PBC Red
Thurs. 7/20 at 6:00 pm vs. Hawthorne Lane
Tues. 7/25 at 6:00 pm vs. St. Martin’s
Thurs. 7/27 at 6:00 pm vs. St. Gabriel
Tournament scheduled to begin 7/31

Called All Deacons' Meeting
Sunday, June 25, at 8:45 am in the Chapel

Calendar: June 25 – July 1

Sunday, June 25
8:45 Called All Deacons’ Meeting (Chapel)
9:15 Summer Sunday School (Lasater Hall/Classrooms)
10:30 Worship (Sanctuary)
Monday, June 26
10:30 Staff meetings (Conference Room)
5:00 Freedom School Family Night (Lasater Hall)
6:15 Administrative Deacon Panel (Lounge)
6:45 Zumba (Gym)
8:00 AA (Room 114)
Tuesday, June 27
11:00 Co-ed Bible Study (Room 209)
6:00 Zumba (Lasater Hall)
7:00 Holy Spirits (Hawthorne’s Pizza)
Wednesday, June 28
6:30 Benton Basketball (Gym)
9:30 Yoga (Room 114)
6:00 AA (Room 114)
6:00 Guard U (Gym)
6:00 Women of the Church luncheon planning (Lounge)
7:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, June 29
6:00 Zumba (Lasater Hall)
Friday, June 30
8:00 AA (Room 114)
Saturday, July 1
7:00 Benton Basketball (Gym)

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org