



Family News

A Servant Community: Actively Faithful, Faithfully Active
St. John's Baptist Church · 300 Hawthorne Lane · Charlotte, North Carolina

Vol. 76, No. 2 - January 9, 2018



*St. John's
at Worship*

Sunday, January 14
Second Sunday after Epiphany

Proclaimer:
Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Homily:
*Can Our Kind of Church
Serve Our Kind of World?*

Scripture:
Psalm 139:1-6
2 Corinthians 3:17-4:10

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Leslie Lee and Steve Gretz in concert



Saturday, January 13, at 7 pm

Leslie Lee and Steve Gretz join us again this winter as they swing through the South, sharing their beautiful gifts for music and lyrics, as well as words both thoughtful and entertaining! Join us in Lasater Hall for an evening of great music, lovely desserts, and a great, mid-winter evening! Donations will be accepted for hurricane relief in Zulueta, Cuba.

Art • Poetry • Music: **Celebrating Charlotte's Black Culture** January 15, at 7:00 pm Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Art • Poetry • Music: Celebrating Charlotte's Black Culture and the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is a powerful, collaborative concert by Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Firebird Arts Alliance's Power of Song Project, Quentin Talley's OnQ Productions and Opera Carolina. Three-time Emmy Award winner Bluz, of Slam Charlotte, will perform along with the incredible Ocie Davis Quartet and the combined choirs of Opera Carolina Chorus, Winthrop University Chamber Singers, semi-professional choir VOX, the Charlotte Contemporary Ensemble and Friendship Missionary Baptist Church Choir. APM fuses music, spoken word and visual art with readings of Dr. King's iconic speeches. Join us for this community celebration of Dr. King's legacy, and Charlotte's African-American community.

RECONCILIATION: THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

The work of Christmas is sharing God's gift of reconciliation with one another and with the world. In Jesus, God's gift of reconciliation put on human skin and walked among us.

Born in 1899, the Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman invested his life and ministry in reconciliation. He was profoundly influenced by his maternal grandmother, Nancy Ambrose. She had been a slave in Florida. His parents and grandmother shaped Howard's spirit. When Howard was seven years of age, his father died of pneumonia. Howard's father desired for his son to finish eighth grade. Howard was such an excellent student that upon completion of eighth grade, he was invited to attend Florida Baptist Academy in Jacksonville. Florida Baptist Academy was one of only three high schools in the state for African American students in 1912.

After graduating from the academy, Howard graduated from Morehouse College as valedictorian and Rochester Theological Seminary as valedictorian. Later, he became Dean of the Chapel at Howard University in Washington, DC, from 1932-1944. He traveled broadly leading Christian missions and met Mahatma Gandhi in India. Howard asked Mahatma what message he could take back to the United States. Gandhi admitted his regret that he had failed to make nonviolence more visible as a practice worldwide telling Howard Thurman, "*It may be through the Negroes that the unadulterated message of nonviolence will be delivered to the world.*"

In 1944, Howard left his tenured position at Howard University to help the Fellowship of Reconciliation establish the Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples in San Francisco. It was the first racially integrated, intercultural church in the United States. He served as the co-pastor with a white minister, Dr. Alfred Fisk.

In 1953, Howard was invited to become the first African American to serve as Dean of the Chapel for a majority white university as Boston University named him Dean of Marsh Chapel. Teaching on the faculty of Boston University School of Theology, Howard Thurman influenced many leaders including a young student, Martin Luther King, Jr., in the direction of becoming a practitioner of reconciliation.

Reflect on these words by Howard Thurman: "*When the song of the angel is still, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their sheep, THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS BEGINS – to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart.*"

Beloved, you are some of God's reconcilers.
Shalom to you!
Dennis

From Martha

MT25 - Homelessness

The Homelessness Team works with several organizations, one of which is Charlotte Family Housing. During the year, St. John's covers five weeks of volunteering at CFH, which includes providing an overnight host each night of that week, and making two dinners for the families who live in our space. Our dates for this year are: January 21-25, March 25-29, May 20-24, September 16-20, November 4-8. Clara Howell is our Liaison to CFH and can give you more information. If you would like to connect with the volunteer opportunities at CFH, email me at mkearse@sjcharlotte.org and I will add you to the email list for the Homelessness Team. Like all our MT25 Teams, the Homelessness Team sends out a monthly email to let you know about upcoming volunteer activities. You can connect at any time! Go to <https://charlottefamilyhousing.org/> to find out more about the work CFH is doing here in Charlotte!

Youth News from Lee

Sunday, January 14 -

Youth ski trip meeting - There will be a brief meeting at 11:30 am (after worship) in the Chapel to collect forms, answer questions, and to just put our heads together.

Sunday Night Live - Youth are on regular evening schedule from 5:00-7:30 pm. During choir, they will work on songs they will sing at Youth Sunday worship service on February 4. During our program time, we will continue to watch and reflect upon the PBS documentary "A Class Divided."

Monday, January 15 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Service Project

- We will meet at the church at 10 am to go over to Hope Chapel and do a service project and serve hot dogs. If the weather is agreeable, we will finish putting the pavers down beside the outdoor walkway. If we have inclement weather, we will fix a closet door and do some painting inside Hope Chapel. We will return to the church at 1 pm.

January 19-21 - Youth ski trip to Winterplace - Meet at the church on Friday at 4:30 pm. We will return at 6:30 pm on Sunday. (Details and release forms have been emailed to participants.)

From Allison

Nursery/2s: This class will be cared for in their room for Formation Hour and Worship Hour.

PreK/K: This class will remain in their classroom for Formation Hour and Worship Hour as they share a story together, make some art, and play together. This week, they'll learn about how Jesus' family had to go to Egypt when he was little because it wasn't safe for them to stay in their home.

Grades 1-5: These children will have Missions 101 from 9:15-10, and Music from 10-10:20. 1st-3rd Graders will have Godly Play during the Worship Hour. 4th and 5th Graders will join their families for worship.

Save the Date -

A Year in the Church: St. John's/St. Martins VBS 2018

June 11-15 from 9 am-12 noon each day

For children aged 4 - rising 6th Graders

\$15/Child - Registration will open next week.



Elementary Music

Kevin and Allison are excited to announce that Anna Ball will be joining us as our Elementary Music Director this Sunday. She is a music education student at Wingate who has years of experience leading children's music at her home church (Knollwood Baptist in Winston-Salem). Our Sunday morning schedule has changed slightly. Formation Class will be from 9:15-10, and Music will be from 10-10:20. We'll be focusing more on learning about hymns, using our hymnals, and having fun while doing both. We hope that a new approach will help our children be able to participate more fully in worship and come to love singing to God. I think our children are going to enjoy learning from and with Anna!



Financial Ministry Plan Pledge Report

Amount Received: \$864,206
Commitments Received: 178

If you have not turned in your Pledge Card to the church office, please do so as soon as possible.

St. John's Winter Weather Closing Policy



Weekdays:

When the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools cancel school because of bad weather, all church activities, including meetings and Weekday School, will be canceled and the church office will be closed.

Sundays:

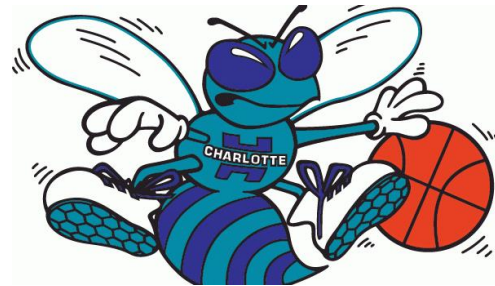
In the case of extreme weather conditions affecting Sundays, we will announce alterations/closings no later than 7:00 am Sunday through the following media:

- Automated greeting on church phone (704.333.5428)
- Church web site (www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)
- Facebook and Twitter
- E-mail to St. John's Family News list
- Local TV stations, including WBTV, WCNC, WSOC and Channel 14 News.

News from the Heritage Room

**Please mark your calendars for
Heritage Sunday, March 18.**

This year's theme is "Making a Difference." In the movie, It's a Wonderful Life, George Bailey finds out how he made a difference in Bedford Falls. What comes to mind when you think about how St. John's presence at Fifth and Hawthorne has made a difference during the past 96 years? It might be the difference our youth have made in the lives of those living in the neighborhood on St. John's Island because of the building of Habitat houses. It might be the difference made in the lives of those for whom we built a church in Pinch, West Virginia, or those children who attended Miss Anita's after-school programs which we supported. There are a myriad of examples. Please let us know your answer by contacting Jacquelyn in the church office or Fredda Kimball.



Basketball Sunday

We are inviting all the St. John's basketball teams and their families to join us for worship on Sunday morning, February 11, before they head uptown to attend the Hornets vs. Raptors game at the Spectrum Center. Teams will sit together down front together and be recognized during worship; then they will enjoy lunch in Broach Hall before the game. Coaches have received information from Lee Gray about this special day. Tickets to the game will be \$16, and lunch will be \$10 for youth/adults and \$5 for children ages 10 and under. Everyone who attends the basketball game will receive a Hornets gift and have the opportunity to shoot a postgame free throw. For more information, contact Lee Gray at lgray@sjcharlotte.org.

To All College Age Members of St. John's:

The Martha Miller and J.P. Hackney Trust Fund was created through the will of Mildred Hackney Smith, and provides grant money for St. John's members (or children of St. John's members) who plan to attend Furman University, Wake Forest University, or Wingate University.

If your plans for college next year include one of these three schools, you may wish to apply for one of the Hackney Grants. The deadline for application is March 1. For more information, contact the Chair of the Hackney Committee, Ken Raynor, at Ken@Raynorlawfirm.com.

St. John's Baptist Church
300 Hawthorne Lane - Charlotte NC 28204
704.333.5428-www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org
Family News - a publication of St. John's Baptist Church

Ministers

Every participant in God's Servant Church

Equipping Ministers

Senior Minister..... Dennis Foust
 ext. 12 - dfoust@sjcharlotte.org
Associate Minister Martha Kearse
 ext. 13 - mkearse@sjcharlotte.org
Minister for Youth & Young Adults Lee Gray
 ext. 15 - lgray@sjcharlotte.org
Minister for Children & Their Families Allison Benfield
 ext. 18 - abenfield@sjcharlotte.org
Minister for Worship and Music..... Kevin Gray
 ext. 14 - kgray@sjcharlotte.org

Church Staff

Administrative Assistant..... Jacquelyn McAbee
 ext. 11 - jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org
Church Accountant Elaine Johnson
 ejohnson@sjcharlotte.org
Church Administrator Sandra Rogers
 ext. 20 - srogers@sjcharlotte.org
Organist..... Noel Lance
 nlance@sjcharlotte.org
Weekday School Director Lydia Olmsted
 ext. 39 - weekdayschool@sjcharlotte.org
Custodians James Ford, Chris Mullis, Debora Thon
 Office hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Fri.: 8:30 am-12:00 noon

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Betty Crenshaw - Pineville Rehab & Living Center; Joe Ehrenberger - Asbury; Emily Batts, Joyce Ehrenberger, Cathy Hartsell, Carmen Howard, Chuck Jones, Jan Kerley & Betty Taylor - home

Sympathy to

the family of Libby Collier, long-time member of St. John's, who passed on Sunday, January 7. A service to celebrate her life and ministry will be held on Thursday, January 11, at 1:30 pm in the sanctuary; and to Kimberly Follis on the death of her grandfather, Walter Cooper.

Sunday, January 14

Deacons: Bert Green, Charlie Harper, Cathy Hartsell, Chuck Howard, Carol Injaychock, Chuck Jones, Jeff LeVie, Christa Lynch, Kami McGuire, Cindy McIntyre

Tellers: Margaret Falls, Betsy Furr

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner, Phil Vavra; 5th St.-Alan Dietz, Scott Kerley; Broach-Gail Sifford; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Ushers: Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Carol & Gene Poole

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of January 1-7: \$18,646
 Income through January 7: \$18,646

Ministers on Call:

January 8-14: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
 January 15-21: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234



⇒ MT 25 Education Team supports Right Moves for Youth, Freedom School and Heart Math Tutoring. Please contact Ken Raynor if you are interested in assisting in these areas.



**Children and Youth Basketball
 Saturday, January 13th**

- 6 & Under Co-Ed - 12:00 pm at St. John's (1/6-WON!)
- 8 & Under Boys - 11:00 am at St. John's (1/6-Lost)
- 10 & Under Boys - 1:00 pm at St. John's (1/6-Lost)
- 10 & Under Girls - 2:00 pm at St. John's (1/6-Lost)
- 12 & Under Boys - 11:00 am at Mulberry Baptist (1/6-Lost)
- 12 & Under Girls - 3:00 pm at St. Johns (1/6-Lost)
- 14 & Under Boys - 12:00 pm at Mulberry Baptist (1/6-WON!)
- 16 & Under Boys - 11:00 am at Christ Lutheran (1/6-Lost)
- 18 & Under Boys - 2:00 pm at First Baptist Charlotte (1/6-Lost)
- 18 & Under Girls - 1:45 pm at Mt. Harmony Baptist (1/6-WON!)

Calendar: January 14-20

Sunday, January 14

9:15 Sunday School/Missions 101 (Classrooms)
 10:30 Worship (Sanctuary)
 10:30 Godly Play (room 221)
 11:30 Ski trip meeting (Chapel)
 5:00 Sunday Night Live (Gym/Lounge/Chapel/3rd Floor)

Monday, January 15

..... Church Offices Closed
 10:00 Youth Service Project (Hope Chapel)
 7:00 Crownsgate HOA (Lounge)
 8:00 AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, January 16

7:00 Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 8:00 Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)
 10:00 Staff meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00 Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 4:15 Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 5:15 SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, January 17

6:30 Benton Basketball (Gym)
 7:30 CROP (Lounge)
 9:30 Yoga (Room 114)
 6:00 AA (Lasater Hall)
 6:00 Membership Resource Team (Lounge)
 7:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, January 18

11:00 Uptown Ladies (Lounge)
 12:30 Novant Monthly Managers' meeting (Broach Hall)
 6:00 Investing in the Future Task Force (Lounge)

Friday, January 19

6:30 Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
 5:00 Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym)
 5:30 Volunteers serve dinner at Uptown Men's Shelter
 8:00 AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, January 20

7:00 Benton Basketball (Gym)
 8:00 King's College Scholarship Day (Broach, Lasater, Sanctuary)

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org