



Family News

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

Vol. 76, No. 6 - February 6, 2018



*St. John's
at Worship*

Sunday, February 11
Transfiguration of Our Lord

Guest Proclaimer:
Reverend George Williamson

Theme:
Fat Tuesday and a Piety of Play

Scripture:
Matthew 18:1-4; Isaiah 11:6-9;
Mark 2:18-19; John 10:10;
Luke 7:31-35

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Our Ash Wednesday Experience is available for you from 7 am-7 pm on Wednesday, February 14 (except for the hours of 11 am-1 pm to allow for our ECOF service, hosted by St. Martin's Episcopal and Hawthorne Lane United Methodist in our sanctuary). We will be in Broach Hall all day, offering the imposition of ashes along with several other stations. Drop by any time during those hours to experience our labyrinth walk, along with other meditative and thoughtful spiritual practices to help you set a focus for the Lenten season. The practices are accessible and appropriate for just about any age, and anyone is welcome, including friends outside the St. John's community.



**Living in the World
as the Body of Christ**
Experiencing the Season of
Lent in St. John's
February 14-March 29

Finding your identity and purpose is essential. As the first followers of Jesus began living in the world of the first century, they developed an understanding of their identity and purpose or mission. One of the primary images they embraced was 'the Body of Christ.' The early Churches retold the story of Jesus at the Passover Meal: "While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, blessed it and broke it, gave it to them and said, 'Take, eat, this is my body.'" The early Church determined their identity to be the physical presence of Jesus and their purpose to be continuing his ministry. This year, on each of the six Sundays during Lent, we will experience the symbolism of bread as 'the body of Christ.' We will explore how we live in the world as the body of Christ using worship themes of 'Kneaded and Needed,' 'Transformed,' 'Taken,' 'Blessed,' 'Broken' and 'Given.' On Wednesdays at noon, we will serve as the host site for the Elizabeth Communities of Faith ecumenical worship services.

Basketball Sunday

- Players are asked to wear their **green St. John's basketball uniform** to worship.
- Checks for lunch & game are to be made to St. John's (prices to calculate cost—\$16 game ticket/\$10 adult lunch/\$5 child lunch-10 & under).
- Either Lee Gray or your coach will have your Hornets' tickets.
- Hornets' game attendees are allowed to leave worship first to get lunch (catered by Midwood Smokehouse) in Broach Hall.
- We can take the trolley to Spectrum Arena.
- All children & youth who stay after the game can shoot a free throw on the court.
- We will return to the church between 3:45 and 4:15 pm.



**“LET’S DO THIS”
A LIFETIME OF PROGRESSIVE MINISTRY**

This coming Sunday, The Rev. Dr. George Williamson will be our guest in The St. John’s Pulpit. George has invested his life in the redemptive and reconciling work of God’s Gospel in progressive ministry. There is much to appreciate about George. He is married to Carol, Wanny Hogewood’s sister, and is known for his ‘can do spirit,’ prophetic voice, integrity, wit, insight, vision, stewardship, compassion, scholarship, commitment to peacebuilding, etc.

George was born in Atlanta, educated at Wake Forest, Yale Divinity School and Vanderbilt University where he earned his Ph.D. in Christian Ethics. Through the 1970s, George was Chaplain and Associate Professor of Religion of Vassar College before serving from 1981 to 2004 as Senior Pastor of First Baptist, Granville, OH (now First United Church). He was founding president of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America (with their offices now in our Chapel Building). On Sunday afternoon, in Broach Hall, George will read from his memoir, Born in Sin, Upended in Grace. He and his wife, Carol, live in New York City with their dog, Amos. They have three children and four grandchildren.

During his years of servant leadership in Granville, Ohio, the members often heard George challenge them to a sacrificial vision or an extra commitment. Once the vision was clarified, George would say, “*Let’s do this!*” This voice resonates with the history of St. John’s. We will hear George as one who speaks our language.

Here is George’s preview of this Sunday’s sermon: “About a hundred years ago, Max Weber, in his groundbreaking sociology of religion, The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism, made the definitive link between the western, especially American commitment to “hard work,” and Protestant, especially Calvinist, theology. As “hard work” has skyrocketed in the American value system, theologians have charged our “hard work” with the term “idolatry,” and the more recent language of addiction has coined “workaholic.” Sunday’s sermon will offer us “busy-busy” workaholics a piety of play; a piece of serious whimsy. Sunday is the last Sunday of the liturgical season before Mardi Gras, Fat Tuesday in English, a moment of celebratory play before taking on ashes and entering the solemn season of repentance. The sermon, *Fat Tuesday and a Piety of Play*, will side with the spirit of Mardi Gras as more appropriate for the Christian life than the idolatry of, and addiction to, work. Even for the wickedness of our political and international crisis; even for Lenten Repentance.”

Shalom Beloved,
Dennis

From Martha

MT25

Hunger

The month of February is our focus on the Hunger Team. During February, we will be doing our Food Drive for Loaves & Fishes! Stay tuned for details and start buying extra non-perishables at the grocery store! To have your name added to the Hunger Team list, email mkearse@sjcharlotte.org.

Habitat

Our Habitat crews are on the move:



Youth News from Lee

Sunday, February 11 – Hornets vs Raptors Game after church (1:00 pm). All Basketball teams have been invited to 10:30 am worship, lunch from Midwood Smokehouse, and then to take the trolley to the 1:00pm Hornets game. (more details on front page)

Sunday, February 18 & 25 - Regular Sunday Night Live resumes from 5:00-7:30 pm.

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 Jesus healing a woman who was sick.

Grades 1-3 & 4-5: These children will have Missions 101 from 9:15-10:00, where they'll be learning about how St. John's serves God through Habitat for Humanity, and Music from 10:00-10:20. They will worship with their families. Our St. John's basketball teams will be recognized during worship.

VBS Registration Is Open!

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



We'll be learning about the life of Jesus as we walk through the seasons of the church year together with stories and art. We do have a maximum number of children we can care for at VBS, so don't wait to sign up!



**Financial Ministry Plan 2018
Question & Answer Sessions**

Sunday, February 18
9:15 & 11:30 am
in the Chapel



Youth Sunday



You can pick up one of Samuel's "Being Authentically You" pins in the church office or the church narthex.



New Members

Welcome to the following new members who joined by profession of faith on Youth Sunday, February 4: Audrey Heasley, Nora Frances Benton, Mattie Stillerman, Aluel Nyuon, and Scarlett Goodson.



Have you ever wanted to ring handbells?

If so, stop by the table in the Broach Hall lobby after worship this Sunday (February 11) to talk with Jacquelyn McAbee about joining this music ministry. Experience is not required; only a willingness to learn. Rehearsal times will be determined by availability of ringers. You can also email Jacquelyn to volunteer or for more information at jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org.



They're B-a-a-ck. . .

The Big Blue Barrels can be found in Broach Hall and Main Entrance

lobbies. Please join us as we restock the Loaves & Fishes pantry at Galilee Center (formally St. Andrews Episcopal Church) on Central Ave. We are dedicating the month of February to collecting non-perishable grocery items/monetary donations for the perishable items the pantry offers. Stay tuned for more details. Thanks for your support!



The St. John's Peacebuilding Team invites you to participate in this important community forum:

Action and Awareness: A Community Conversation on Immigrant Security in Charlotte

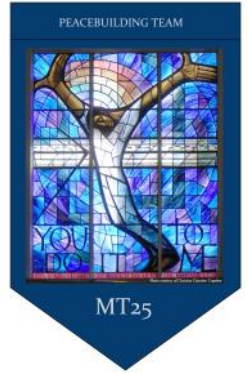
When: Wednesday, Feb. 21, 5:00-7:00 PM

Where: First United Methodist Church
501 N. Tryon St.

Charlotte 28202 (free parking)

Sponsored by: Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy

2017 was a year of disruption, fear and uncertainty for Charlotte's immigrant and refugee community. Join Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy for a community conversation on where we are a year later and what we can do to protect and support our neighbors. This discussion includes a keynote address by Ric Elias, CEO of Red Ventures, and a community panel Discussion moderated by Rebecca O'Neill, Director of the Immigrant Justice Program of Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy.

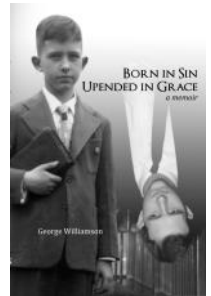


For further information and to register, please visit the following website:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/action-awareness-a-community-conversation-on-immigrant-security-in-clt-tickets-42057470025?aff=es2>

Welcome George Williamson! Sunday, February 11

This Sunday, we invite you to join us in welcoming George Williamson, former Vassar professor, pastor and chaplain (and brother-in-law of Wanny Hogewood) as he comes to share with us in worship and in readings from his memoir. Join us for worship, then discussion with George.



Lunch reservations are closed, but those who do not want lunch can join the conversation without a reservation. Our schedule will be:

- 10:30 - Worship, with sermon by George Williamson
- 11:45 - Lunch (\$10/person)
- 12:15 - Introductions and a word from LeDayne Polaski, Executive Director of BPFNA
- 12:30 - Reading and discussion with George

Heritage Sunday March 18, 2018 "Making a Difference"

Over the past 96 years, over 8,500 people have become members of St. John's.

- How have the people of St. John's made a difference in the life of our community?
- How have the people of St. John's made a difference in your life?

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
 Graded Choirs Director..... Anna Ball
 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 - CMC Northeast; Joe Ehrenberger, Carmen Howard, Chuck Jones, Jan Kerley, Brad Sifford & Dee Turner - home

Sympathy to the family of Kevin Browder (mother- Carlotta, sisters-Donna and Becky), former members of St. John's, on his passing on January 26.

Congratulations To Joshua Sealey (and parents Jeffrey and Rachel) on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America.



Sunday, February 11

Deacons: Teri Franklin, Bert Green, Charlie Harper, Cathy Hartsell, Carol Injaychock, Chuck Jones, Jeff LeVie, Christa Lynch, Robby Ray, Kathy Spence
Tellers: James Laney, Susan King
Greeters: Main-Ed Turner, Chuck Jones; 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 29-February 4: \$19,329
 Income through February 4: \$86,082

Ministers on Call:

February 5-11: Lee Gray 704-451-1309
 February 12-18: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412

Terrific Tuesday Book Club
 Tuesday, February 27, 12 noon
 This month's book:
The Color of Water by James McBride
 Books are available in the church office.



CHILI COOK-OFF
Sunday, February 25 - 5-7 pm

Categories: Children; No Beans Please; Vegetarian; The Works; Bring on the Heat
 Prizes for each category!
 To enter, please email Kim Allen
 (kallen1994@aol.com) or
 Jacquelyn McAbee (jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org)

Children and Youth Basketball
Saturday, February 10th

6 & Under Co-Ed - 2:00 pm at St. John's (1/27-WON!)
 8 & Under Boys - 1:00 pm at St. John's (2/3-Lost)
 10 & Under Boys - 12:00 pm at St. John's (2/3-Lost)
 10 & Under Girls - 10:00 am at St. John's (2/3-WON!)
 12 & Under Boys - 11:00 am at St. John's (2/3-Lost)
 12 & Under Girls - 9:30 am at Avondale Presbyterian (2/3-WON!)
 14 & Under Boys - 3:00 pm at First Baptist Charlotte (2/3-Lost)
 16 & Under Boys - 10:30 am at Nations Ford (2/3-WON!)
 18 & Under Boys - 11:30 am at Mt. Harmony Baptist (2/3-Lost)
 18 & Under Girls - 10:00 am at First Baptist Matthews (2/3-WON!)

Calendar: February 11-17

Sunday, February 11

9:15 Sunday School/Missions 101 (Classrooms)
 10:30 Godly Play (Room 221)
 10:30 Worship (Sanctuary)
 11:30 Lunch and Book Reading (Broach Hall)

Monday, February 12

8:00 Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)
 11:45 Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
 6:30 Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:30 Administrative Deacon Panel (Broach Hall)
 6:30 Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
 6:30 Pastoral Deacon Panel (Lounge)
 7:30 All Deacons' Meeting (Broach Hall)
 8:00 AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, February 13

10:00 Staff meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00 Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 1:00 Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
 4:15 Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 5:15 SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
 5:30 Charlotte Family Housing (Lasater Hall)
 6:00 Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness Support Groups (Room 114 & 116)

Wednesday, February 14

7:00 Ash Wednesday Spiritual Reflection Experiences (Broach Hall)
 9:30 Yoga (Room 114)
 12:00 Elizabeth Communities of Faith Lenten Service (Sanctuary)
 1:00 Charlotte Family Housing (Lounge)
 6:00 AA (Lasater Hall)
 7:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, February 15

11:00 Uptown Ladies (Lounge)
 12:30 Novant Monthly Managers' Meeting (Broach Hall)

Friday, February 16

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

Saturday, February 17

10:00 Basketball games (Gym)
 10:00 Communion Task Force (Conference Room)

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org