



Family News

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

Vol. 71, No. 11 - March 15, 2016



*St. John's
at Worship*

**Sunday, March 20
Palm Sunday**

**Proclaimer:
Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD**

Lenten Theme:
*Imitating the Spiritual Life of
Jesus: What Jesus Wouldn't Do*

Sermon:
*Jesus Wouldn't Lead a Parade
about Himself or Die for Nothing*

Scripture:
Luke 19:29-40
& 23: 44-49



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Sunday, March 20 - Palm Sunday
Worship Service - 10:30 am - Sanctuary

Dr. Foust's Sermon:

"Jesus Wouldn't Lead a Parade about Himself or Die for Nothing"

Wednesday, March 23 - Lenten Service
Elizabeth Communities of Faith Noon Worship & Soup
Last Word: *"Into Thy hands, I commend my spirit."*
Worship Theme: TRUST

Featuring joint choir directed by Kevin Gray

Thursday, March 24 - Maundy Thursday
Worship and Communion Service - 7:30 pm - Sanctuary
The Seven Last Words *To* and *From* the Cross

Sunday, March 27 - Easter Sunday
Ecumenical Sunrise Worship - 7:00 am
Romare Bearden Park (300 S. Church Street-across from BB&T stadium)
Worship Service - 10:30 am - Sanctuary

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Saturday, March 19

This is Charlotte's oldest road race and features a certified course and a fantastic tour of the scenic residential streets of the Elizabeth neighborhood. The event also includes a 1.5M untimed run/walk for casual participants and youth runners and the Liz Kids' Fun Run for the little ones. Proceeds benefit the beautification of the Historic Elizabeth Neighborhood and the replenishing of both Charlotte and Elizabeth's tree canopies. St. John's is a sponsor of this year's race.



Baptist Peace Fellowship
of North America

**Do Not Be Afraid: Changing
the Narrative in the Midst of
Racial Conflict**

*"If we want to build the beloved
community, we cannot be afraid."*
- John Lewis

**March 19, 2016
St. John's Baptist
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM**

For more information or to register,
visit www.bpfna.org

A SEASON OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Daffodils are peaking through the soil and Bradford pear trees are bursting forth with blossoms. During this season, as nature renews its life, we renew our lives as our commitments to God express the ministry of Jesus.

Our observance of Holy Week begins this Sunday with our children leading us in worship through the procession of palms. John Fortson will offer unto God a solo and Samuel Bond will offer unto God a dance. On Wednesday at noon, we will host the faith communities of Elizabeth. Then, on Maundy Thursday evening at 7:30, we will gather in the Sanctuary for communion remembering the night of Jesus' mandate, "Love one another," and reflecting on the words spoken at the cross and from the cross. If you have not yet given 20 to 30 minutes to reflect on Stations of the Cross, set up in the Chapel, I encourage you to do so.

We will begin Easter Sunday by watching the dawn in uptown Charlotte with our sisters and brothers from other center city churches. Our ecumenical Sunrise Worship will begin at 7:00 a.m. in Romare Bearden Park, across the street from BB&T baseball stadium. And, then, we will gather for Sunday School Ministry groups at 9:15 and worship at 10:30.

REFLECTIONS ON HERITAGE SUNDAY

Last weekend's celebration of our 94th anniversary and the 90th birthday of our Sanctuary was wonderful! Once again, thank you to Fredda Kimball and Linda Crowder and all of those who assisted them in planning the details, orchestrating the meal, hosting our guests, etc. To welcome former staff ministers Tommy & Susan McDearis and Andre & Sheri Lash was a special treat. And your full support of this grand celebration was tremendous. Affirmations to you all! Now to the future!

HOW ABOUT SOME BASEBALL?

Let's go to a ballgame before it gets too hot. Please notice the story on page four about a night at the ballpark on April 26th. The game features WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY vs. APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY. I am grateful to Todd Stillerman for setting up this event. Todd and Dan Redding will be coordinators for this event.

THE 90 IDEA

Last Sunday, I shared an idea with you: 'In recognition of our Sanctuary's 90th anniversary, and in honor of the charter members of St. John's, give an extra 90 cents or \$90 over and above your financial commitment to the annual budget.' Paula and I are giving an extra \$90 and we invite you to join us in this expression of gratitude for the charter members of St. John's.

Shalom,
Dennis

From *Martha*

No Limits and Uptown Friends

Hey! Would you like to join our No Limits group for lunch uptown on Tuesday, March 22? Do you work uptown? Any and all are invited to join us—meet at the church at 11 am to catch the trolley, then we'll go to King's Kitchen as close to 11:45 as we can manage (trolley schedule is a bit random). We'll see who's there and have lunch together. No need to sign up, but we will start walking toward the trolley stop at around 11:05 am!

Teacher Training and Sunday School

This week, we'll finish our conversation about Biblical interpretation (if time permits, we will look at a website that helps with Biblical languages). We welcome our Master Teacher of the Week, Martha Bryson as well!

Sisterhood of the Vine at Kickstand

Join us Monday, March 21st at Kickstand Restaurant on Central Avenue from 7-9pm when we'll hear from Sara Vavra about parenting and how parenting practices shape our lives. Check us out at <https://www.facebook.com/vinesisters/>!

Youth News

Youth will have small groups for their program this Sunday evening (a week early – since March 27th, the last Sunday of the month, is **Easter**).

Youth Basketball

Congratulations to all of our basketball teams. It was fun for the children and youth to play against the adults at the banquet this year.

- Our 18 & Under Girls, "The Leaping Lizards," finished 2nd in the league.
- Our 18 & Under Boys won their flight in the tournament.
- Our 15 & Under Girls, "The Lima Beans," won their flight in the tournament.



From Allison

Sunday:

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

PreK/K: Formation Hour begins at 9:15am. The PreK/K class will have music time during the Formation Hour. They will remain in their normal classroom for Music. This class will be part of the Palm Sunday processional, and will then return to their classroom for the remainder of worship.

Grades 1-5: Formation Hour begins at 9:15am. Check the sign on the table in the hallway for the morning's schedule. During Worship Hour, 1st-5th Graders will be part of the Palm Sunday processional and lead worship by singing. After the 1st-5th grade choir sings, they will sit with their families.

Facilities Task Force

Our celebration of the 90th anniversary of our sanctuary building was a wonderful event. We saw old friends, told stories and were reminded of our heritage. This sanctuary is woven onto the sacred moments of our lives through marriages, baby dedications, baptisms, or moments when we said good-bye to friends and loved ones. For some of us, this is where we found a church family that we could join.

Other parts of our facilities are important in our lives. The gym, where we play, and Broach Hall, where we gather, feed us in different ways. Our Sunday School classrooms are where we meet with friends to feed our minds.

A new task force has been formed to enhance the care of our wonderful building and grounds. A **Facilities Task Force** has been approved by the deacons. It is the purpose of this group to move St. John's to a pro-active process of caring for our building. We hope to plan for upgrades and improvements.

This task force will have a broad range of responsibilities. Some of them are:

- Identifying and prioritizing needs related to the care and usage of our buildings;
- Monitoring the use of space to maximize appeal and efficiency;
- Working with **Interiors Focus Group** to review and approve changes in the building;
- Considering ways to improve the use of technology in our buildings.

The following members have agreed to join us for this first task force: Cathy Hartsell (Chair), Melissa Millette, Teresa Franklin, Beth Jones, Robby Ray, Mike Hall, Christel Hall. The FTF will be part of the House and Grounds Resource Team and will coordinate all work with the appropriate staff person. The goal is to keep our St. John's family reaching toward a vision and plan that will allow us to better serve our congregation and community.



Ladies Night Out

Join our pARTy and unlock your creative side....no ART skills required!

Join us for a fun evening with our own Jan Kerley, an accomplished artist and art teacher who enjoys leading these private art parties. For only \$25 per person, Jan will provide the necessary materials, easels, brushes, canvas, and paint. We will meet from 6:30 – 9:00 on Tuesday, March 22. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Seats are limited, so contact Bobbie Hinson at bobbie.hinson@providenceday.org or Jacquelyn McAbee in the church office at JMcAbee@sjcharlotte.org to reserve your place! Location TBA. Deadline for registration is Friday, March 18.

Women of the Church need your donated Birthday Cards! Please leave the cards in the church office, and Patricia McCaskill will use them for the birthday card ministry. Thank you!

From the Heritage Room --

"I have a goodly heritage" (Psalm 16:6)

Thanks to all who helped in our celebration of the 90th Anniversary of our Sanctuary Building and of the growth of our faith community at the corner of Fifth and Hawthorne: To Dr. Tommy McDearis and Dr. Andre Lash for returning to lead us in worship; to Dr. Foust and Kevin Gray for their planning and support; to Jacquelyn McAbee, Paul Pugh, and Awrin Ali for all their assistance; to Lloyd and Joan Baucom and Joe and Liz Patterson for hosting our guests; to the Heritage Task Force for everything they did in planning and preparing for a wonderful day: Linda Crowder, Kim Allen, Ashley and Wanny Hogewood, Bobbie Hinson, Nina Phillips, Teri Franklin, Ruth Jackson, Laura Sorrell, Joy Jarrett, Melissa Millette, Nancy Fuller, Betty Thompson, Ken Sanford, and Sally Young; to Cindy McIntyre and Ryan Crowder for photography and video; and to everyone else who greeted, set tables, provided and arranged flowers, assisted, prepared desserts, and celebrated with us.



Christmas ornaments commemorating the 90th Anniversary of the Sanctuary are available for purchase for \$10 in the church office (and on the next two Sundays before worship at the main entrance).

Stations of the Cross

Through Good Friday, the Chapel at St. John's will contain the Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross are a series of artistic images that tell the story of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Guides are available with scriptures that will illuminate more clearly what is taking place in each scene.

Walking The Talk - Thank You St. John's

Thank you St. John's for not only meeting but exceeding our 2016 Community and State Mission goal. To date we have received \$5,486.50 which is over 109% of our goal of \$5000. As a reminder these mission dollars will be given to support and build the following important organizations in our state and local community: Right Moves For Youth, Hope Chapel, CBF NC Collegiate Mission, Sowing Seeds of Hope and QC Family Tree. Please find below more information about QC Family Tree and how you can get involved.

QC Family Tree - Founded more than 10 years ago by two ministers, Greg Jarrell and his wife Jennifer "Helms" Jarrell, QC Ministry is located in Enderly Park, an at-risk West Charlotte neighborhood. QC Family Tree is one of roughly 70 intentional communities in the Carolinas where people live communally with a common aim -- social uplifting across racial lines. St. John's volunteers prepare meals for community events, participate in community projects, and this year St. John's will be hosting the QC Family Tree Freedom School. **For more information on how you can get involved, please contact Dale Johnson at dwj9578@usa.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. 18 - mkearse@sjcharlotte.org
Minister for Youth & Young Adults Lee Gray
ext. 13 - lgray@sjcharlotte.org
Minister for Children & Their Families.. Allison Benfield
ext. 15 - 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
Graded Choirs Director Sandy Holland
sholland@sjcharlotte.org
Church Accountant Elaine Johnson
ejohnson@sjcharlotte.org
Organist Noel Lance
nlance@sjcharlotte.org
Weekday School Director Lydia Olmsted
ext. 39 - weekdayschool@sjcharlotte.org
Church Administrator Sandra Rogers
ext. 20 - srogers@sjcharlotte.org
Custodians Paul Pugh, Awrin Ali
Office hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Fri. : 8:30 am-12:00 noon

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

McLain Hall - at home
Congratulations to Warren & Jane Lineberger on the birth of their granddaughter, Blair Willow, on March 10 in Raleigh to parent Nick & Hannah Lineberger. Also, congratulations to aunt, Laura Strickland, and cousins, Warren & Wilson Gray.

This Sunday, March 20

Deacons: Ellen Smith, Meredith Sorrell, Laura Strickland, Elma Thomas, Phil Vavra, Janet Wade, Kim Allen, Maggie Bond, Phillips Bragg, Randy Brantley

Tellers: Margaret Falls, Betsy Furr

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

Giving Report - Week of Mar. 7-13: \$24,603.50

Ministers on Call:

Mar. 14-20: Lee Gray 704-451-1309

Mar. 21-27: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234

Needed for Charlotte Rescue Mission: 30 gallon stackable plastic tubs, with lids, for sorting and storing donated clothing to be used by the men in the Mission's 90-day substance abuse recovery program. If you have one to donate, please leave it in the collection room at St. John's, or contact Nina Phillips, 705-596-3135, to arrange for pick-up.

ST. JOHN'S NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK!



Join us on Tuesday night, April 26th for an evening of baseball and fellowship! BB&T Ballpark (the uptown home of the Charlotte Knights) is hosting a special college baseball matchup between Wake Forest and Appalachian State, and we have reserved a block of club seats behind home plate. This event is open to members of the St. John's community and their friends and is appropriate for baseball fans ages 0 to 99.

Tickets are \$15 per person. Your ticket includes a voucher for the first \$2 you spend on concessions. If you would like to attend, please contact Jacquelyn McAbee in the church office to make a reservation. Payment for your ticket(s) is due no later than Wednesday, March 29th.

Please direct any questions to Todd Stillerman (stillerman@gmail.com).



Tuesday, March 22
11:00 am - Terrific Tuesday
Book Club (Library)

Book of the Month: *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry*
by Gabrielle Zevin

Spotlight on Your Deacon!

Be sure to open the attachment to check out this week's featured Pastoral Deacon!

Calendar: March 20 - 26

Sunday, March 20

9:15 Sunday School (Classrooms)
9:15 Sunday School Teacher Training (Conference Room)
9:15 Guest Reception (Parlor)
10:30 Worship (Sanctuary)
12:00 Stewardship Conference (Lounge)
3:15 Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
5:00 Youth Sunday Night Live (Gym/Lounge/3rd Floor)

Monday, March 21

10:30 Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
11:30 Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
5:15 Youth Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
5:15 Men's Basketball (Gym)

Tuesday, March 22

7:00 Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
11:00 Terrific Tuesday Book Club (Library)
12:00 Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
5:40 CROP meeting (Lounge)
6:00 Zumba class (Lasater Hall)
6:15 Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)

Wednesday, March 23

6:30 Benton Basketball (Gym)
9:00 Weekday School/Charlotte Theater (Lasater Hall)
9:30 Yoga Class (Room 114)
12:00 Elizabeth Community Lenten Service & Lunch (Sanctuary/Broach Hall)
7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, March 24

10:00 Head Start Parents Meeting (Room 114)
7:30 Maundy Thursday Service & Communion (Sanctuary)

Friday, March 25

10:00 Craft Class (Lounge)
5:00 Room in the Inn (Lounge, Gym)

Saturday, March 26

7:00 Benton Basketball (Gym)

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org