



Family News

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

Vol. 75, No. 42 - October 31, 2017



*St. John's
at Worship*

Sunday, November 5
All Saints' Sunday

Proclaimer:
 Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon:
A Future Not Your Own

Scripture:
 John 14:1-3
 1 John 3:1-3
 Revelation 7:9-17

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Financial Stewardship Commitment Campaign 2018

Our St. John's Covenant includes these words: *"...offering ourselves for God's work in the world."* This year, our Stewardship Resource Team has chosen this phrase as our focus as we enter a season of prayerful commitment related to our church's vision for 2018. Our Financial Ministry Plan for 2018 will continue ongoing ministries as well as offer some new ministry initiatives and plans. Commitment Sunday is November 19th.

All Saints' Sunday November 5th

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith..." (Hebrews 12)

This Sunday, we will remember members of St. John's who have passed on ahead of us in the past year. We will ring a bell and light a candle for each person as we announce the name.



CELEBRATE ST. JOHN'S!!!

YOU SURPASSED YOUR GLOBAL MISSION OFFERING GOAL – TWICE!

Well done St. John's! Well done!! Last Sunday, our Mission Resource Team announced the final amount of our gifts toward our Global Mission Offering goal. **Our goal was to raise \$10,000** to support the faculty salaries of Nyarweng Primary School in Pariang County, Ruweng State, South Sudan. Once again, our accumulative active faithfulness has surpassed a goal:

Total Gifts = \$23,050



A WONDERFUL NOVEMBER AWAITS

Each year, I enjoy how we transition from one Christian calendar year into the next. Advent begins a new Christian Year. This year, the first Sunday of Advent is December 3rd. Therefore, we have the entire month of November to celebrate, renew, make new commitments and offer thanks.

Last Sunday, we observed Reformation Sunday and the impact of Martin Luther's Ninety-Five Theses upon church history over the past 500 years. I challenged us to 'Indulge a New Reformation' by collaborating with others who proclaim God and who reveal God as love in the world. And, I called us to search for creative ways to deepen our experience of spiritual learning as we offer practical ministry training for the people of God to become more effective Ministers in Daily Life.

This coming Sunday, as an expression of our worship, we will give thanks to God for those members of St. John's who have passed on ahead of us into God's eternal light. As each name is pronounced, a bell will ring and a candle will be lighted. Our life together is enriched by each life who spreads God's light into our living. (We will also be praying for approximately 50 of our women who will be involved in a retreat this weekend.)

On Sundays, November 12 and 19, we will renew our commitments to God as stewards of all God's gifts and highlight visions for 2018 as we make commitments for another year of shared ministry. We have some special opportunities for blessing new initiatives during these weeks as well.

On Sunday, November 26, we will focus on a Day of Worship through Thanksgiving. Be watching for ways you can offer your expressions of thanks to be included in worship on that Sunday.

And...the opening paragraph of our St. John's Church Covenant reads, "United in the faith that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, revealed in history, disclosed in the Scriptures, and experienced in human life, we do solemnly and joyfully make this Covenant together:..." Jesus Christ is the basis of our shared life as St. John's. I love you and look forward to our shared future in Jesus Christ!

Shalom,
Dennis

From Martha

No Limits

Interested in a day-trip to the Reynolda House in Winston-Salem on 11/9 or 11/10 (Thursday or Friday of next week)? Contact Martha at mkearse@sicharlotte.org. Tickets are \$18/person, and we would need to buy them in advance for a timed entry (10:30-12:30 or 12:30-2:30). Let me know!

South Sudanese Ministry

In the last months, some of our friends in the South Sudanese community have been talking with our staff and leadership about the possibility of holding a worship service here at St. John's in Dinka. The service would be open to the South Sudanese community in Charlotte and the surrounding area, and would be led by South Sudanese members. On **November 19**, we will welcome our South Sudanese friends in worship, and commission them to create this service, to be held at St. John's twice a month on Sunday afternoons. After worship, everyone is invited to join us for a reception in Broach Hall, celebrating our time together and our plans for the future.

Youth News from Lee

Sunday, November 5 - Sunday Night Live - Regular schedule 5:00-7:30 pm. Our youth group time will be on the subject of "Saying Yes to God."

Mark your calendar for these summer dates:

- **June 17-23** – **High School Habitat Mission Trip**
- **July 23-28** – **Unidiversity Summer Camp**
- **August 11-14** – **Middle School Local Mission Trip**

St. John's Children and Youth Basketball -

St. John's children and youth basketball practices are beginning. Games will start Saturday, December 2.

SUNDAY

11:45 - 18 & Under Boys (Spence)

3:00 - 12 & Under Girls (Stillerman/Oettinger)

4:00 - 18 & Under Girls (Smith)

MONDAY

5:30 - 6 & Under Co-Ed (Stillerman)

6:30 - 10 & Under Boys (Cardella/Jordan Benton)

TUESDAY

6:30 - 8 & Under Boys B (Redding)

WEDNESDAY

5:30 - 10 & Under Girls (Sorrell/B. Benton)

6:30 - 14 & Under Boys (Benton/Wilkerson)

THURSDAY

5:00 - 12 & Under Boys (Gray)

7:30 - 16 & Under Boys (Fries)

From Allison

This Sunday

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. This week, they'll learn about how baby Moses was saved.

Grades 1-3: Formation Class will be from 9:15-9:45, and they'll be learning about how the God gave the Hebrew people instructions for how to live in God's way. Music will be from 9:45-10:15. This class will worship with their families.

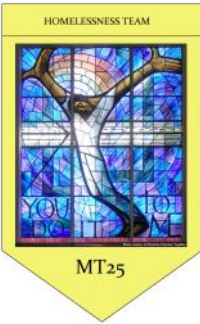
Grades 4-5: Formation Class will be from 9:15-9:45, and they'll be learning about how the Hebrew people made a golden calf in the wilderness. Music will be from 9:45-10:15. This class will worship with their families.

Upcoming Concerts at St. John's

Young Voices of the Carolinas will be in concert on Saturday, November 4, at 5:00 pm.

Carolina Voices' Festival Singers will be performing on Sunday, November 5, at 4:00 pm.

The Winthrop University Chorale will be with us in worship on Sunday, November 12.



Homelessness Team News:

Once again, St. John's will partner with our friends at Caldwell Presbyterian Church to host 12 homeless guests each Friday night this winter (starting December 8) as part of the Urban Ministry Center's Room in the Inn program. This year we are asking our volunteers to sign up on our RITI form found on the Sign-Up Genius website. To

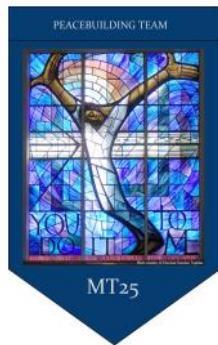
become a Room in the Inn volunteer, please visit this link:

www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4caaae2eaafb6-room5.

Questions: please contact Alice Wirz or Dale Johnson.

Peacebuilding Team News:

Bert Green has been forming a new Habitat Team, which met this Wednesday to work on marking the floor plans of a new build off of Rozzelle's Ferry. For more information, contact Bert Green at bert111@att.net.



GENESIS

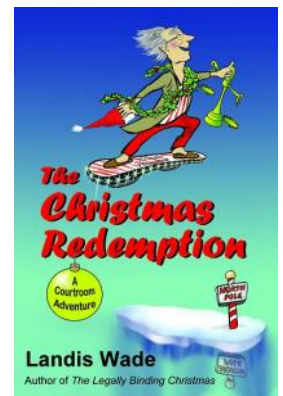
A YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY
St. John's

NEW SUNDAY MORNING GROUP FOR YOUNG

ADULTS: On Sunday, November 5, a new Sunday morning group of young adults will begin meeting. We will gather from 9:15 to 10:15 in the Lounge, near the Gym and just inside the Main Entrance. We have already identified more than twenty young adults who can help us begin this new community. Our name is **GENESIS**, because we are beginning something new. We are focused around the following Touchpoint Teams: *Caring, Social Support, Hospitality/Welcoming, Leadership, Outreach/Promotion, Learning and Service*. Several young adult individuals and couples have already committed to roles of involvement to make sure **GENESIS** is successful. Dennis Foust is our learning guide. **GENESIS** members will input the planning of learning sessions. If you are interested in finding out more about **GENESIS**, please contact Chase Bailey at dcbailey7@gmail.com or Eric McCombs at ericmcombs@gmail.com.

Landis Wade will be having two book signings for his recently released book, The Christmas Redemption. It is the third and final book in his Christmas Courtroom series.

- Wednesday, November 8, at 7:00 pm, at Park Road Books in Charlotte
- Tuesday, November 14, at 7:00 pm, at Main Street Books in Davidson



"I have come to believe that in giving of myself in the creation of shelter and sustenance, I give hope for a new day and the realization that we are never alone. A realization that came in large part from the mental, physical and spiritual nourishment you bestowed upon me during my cancer battle. As a college student your financial contributions have nourished me in a different way. Because of the generous giving at St. John's I have received both the Hackney and the North Carolina Baptist Foundation Scholarships. Your presence and gifts matter more than you may know!" ~ Corson Hicks



"The Fortson family first joined St. John's in 1960. Job transfers required moves out of state where we joined other churches but job transfers always brought us back to Charlotte, and we always returned to St. John's. Why? Because St. John's has always been a leader and at the forefront on issues ahead of their times. Missions and ministries are the focus of our church and our family. St. John's has been, is, and always will be our church and we willing lend our financial support for the missions and ministries of St. John's." ~ Norman Fortson

St. John's Baptist Church
300 Hawthorne Lane - Charlotte NC 28204
704.333.5428-www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org
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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 Sandy Holland
 sholland@sjcharlotte.org
Organist..... Noel Lance
 nlance@sjcharlotte.org
Weekday School Director Lydia Olmsted
 ext. 39 - weekdayschool@sjcharlotte.org
Custodians.... James Cowan, James Lee, Chris Mullis
 Office hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Fri.: 8:30 am-12:00 noon



⇒ Your pastoral deacons are here, when needed, to support you. However, it is necessary for someone to let the church office know of your need. Please contact Jacquelyn, in the church office, if someone is in the hospital, ill or has a special prayer need.

Craft & Bake Sale

Sunday, December 3
 9:00 am - 12:30 pm
 Lasater Hall

Sponsored by The Craft & Needle Ministry

We need your help to donate handmade crafts and baked goods! All proceeds donated to fight hunger! Contact Ruth Jackson or Tricia Miller for information.



Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Tom Bryson, Carmen Howard, Chuck Jones, Jan Kerley & Lewis LeVe - home

Congratulation to Izzy (Phillips) and Lane Hayes on the birth of Thomas Boone Hayes on October 20. And congratulations to grandma, Nancy Fuller.

Sympathy to Mator and Deng Chengkuach on the death of their mother, Abiel Majok, on October 31, in Nairobi, Kenya.

Sunday, November 5

Deacons: David Allen, Linda Balentine, Maggie Bond, Kathy Spence, Todd Stillerman, Anne Sutton, Elizabeth Whipple, Lindsay Wilson, Alice Wirz
Tellers: Margaret Falls, Betsy Furr

Ushers: Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Carol & Gene Poole
Greeters: Main-Ed Turner, Chuck Jones; 5th St.-Vanessa Boling, Betty Thomopson; Broach-Monty Kearse; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of October 23-29: \$9,958
 Income through October 29: \$790,533
 2017 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,075,535

Ministers on Call:

Oct. 30-Nov. 5: Martha Kearse 704-941-8446
 November 6-12: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412

Calendar: November 5—11

Sunday, November 5

9:15 Sunday School (Classrooms)
 10:30 Worship (Sanctuary)
 4:00 Carolina Voices' Festival Singers concert (Sanctuary)
 5:00 Sunday Night Live (Gym/Lounge/Chapel/3rd Floor)

Monday, November 6

11:45 Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
 5:30 SJ Kids' Basketball clinic - 6&U, 8&U (Gym)
 6:30 SJ Kids' Basketball clinic - 10&U (Gym)
 6:30 Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 8:00 AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, November 7

6:30 Election (Broach Hall)
 7:00 Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00 Staff meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00 Co-ed Bible Study (Room 209)
 2:45 Weekday School training (Lounge)
 4:15 Young Voices of the Carolinas (Broach Hall)
 5:15 SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, November 8

6:30 Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:30 Yoga (Room 114)
 6:00 AA (Lasater Hall)
 6:00 Women of the Church Board meeting (Lounge)
 6:15 Handbells (Handbell Room)
 7:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, November 9

10:00 Craft and Needle Ministry (Room 209)

Friday, November 10

4:30 Wedding rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 8:00 AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, November 11

7:00 Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:30 Girls Basketball (Gym)
 3:00 Johnson-Fields Wedding (Sanctuary)

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org