



Family News

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

Vol. 76, No. 3 - January 16, 2018



*St. John's
at Worship*

Sunday, January 21
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Proclaimer:
Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Homily:
Leading by Following

Scripture:
Matthew 4:18-22, 10:1-7

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Welcome George Williamson!

Sunday, February 11

Check out all the details
on page 3

Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Service Project Hope Chapel



VARIETY ALONG OUR JOURNEY TO EASTER

During **January**, our worship of The Living God is focused on the Transformational Gospel.

On the first Sunday of January, we celebrated baptism with five of our youth and young adults. Through their commitments, we renewed our resolve to follow Jesus as his disciples allowing God's Good News to transform our living.

Last Sunday, we asked, '*Can Our Kind of Church Serve Our Kind of World?*' Of course, our answer is 'yes!' We described how we are already involved in the transformational work of God's Gospel and clarified how we will enrich our efforts in 2018.

The next two Sundays will have us assessing the ways we influence other people through the transformational Gospel. This week we consider how we serve as leaders of others. Next Sunday we will examine our relationships in light of God's transforming Gospel.

On the first Sunday of **February** (4th), as is our tradition, we will observe Youth Sunday. Our teenagers will lead us in every aspect of worship.

On the second Sunday of **February** (11th), we will welcome The Rev. Dr. George Williamson back to The St. John's Pulpit. George is a graduate of Wake Forest University, Yale Divinity School and Vanderbilt, George served as Chaplain at Vassar College and then as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Granville, Ohio. He was the founding president of Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America. He is also a brother-in-law of Wanny and Ashley Hogwood as he is married to Wanny's sister, Carol. He will offer to God and before us his sermon entitled, '*Fat Tuesday and a Piety of Play*,' as he sides with the spirit of Mardi Gras. (Please note the article about George on page three.)

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Again, this year we are hosting the churches of Elizabeth IN OUR SANCTUARY **each Wednesday during Lent**. Church leaders and chaplains from area hospitals will guide us to meditate upon the mind of Christ. More details to follow.

Our Worship of The Living God on **Sundays during Lent** (February 18 – March 25) will center upon the theme, '*Living in the World as the Body of Christ*.' On Sunday, February 18, we will observe Communion. On the six Sundays of worship during Lent, our worship will examine these themes: *Beloved, Transformed, Taken, Blessed, Broken and Given*.

As we journey toward Easter Sunday on April 1st, expect meaningful experiences of worship.

Shalom,
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

January 19-21 - Youth ski trip to Winterplace - Meet at the church on Friday at 3:45 pm. We will return at 6:30 pm on Sunday.

January 28 – Both **5th/6th** and **11th/12th Grade Discipleship** groups meet at 9:00 am. **Sunday Night Live** – 5:00-7:30 pm During youth time Carl & Nina Phillips, Phillips Bragg, and Martha Kearsue will share about what a commitment of faith and being a member of St. John's means to them.

February 4 – **Youth Sunday** (Youth lead most of the 10:30 am worship service) & **Super Bowl Party** at the Smith's
February 11 – **Hornets Game** after church (1:00 pm). You will be contacted by your basketball coaches to sign up. I will reach out to everyone not on a team.

From Allison

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

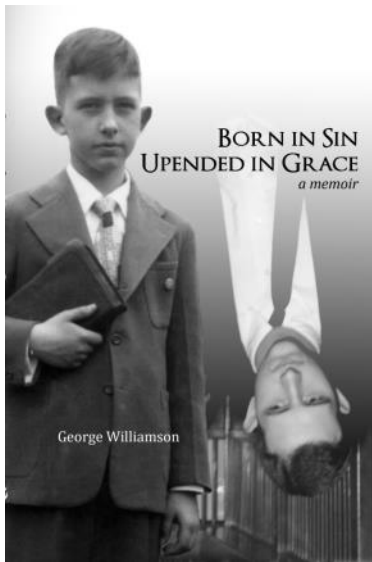
PreK/K: This class will remain in their classroom for Formation Hour and Worship Hour as they share a story together, make some art, and play together. This week, they'll learn about a trip Jesus took with his parents to the temple in Jerusalem.

Grades 1-3: These children will have Worship 101 from 9:15-10 (where Mr. Kevin will teach them about music and worship), and Music from 10-10:20. 1st-3rd Graders will sit with their Worship 101 Shepherds during worship.

Grades 4-5: These children will be learning about how Jesus called some of his disciples in Formation Class from 9:15-10. From 10-10:20, they will have Music. This class will worship with their families.

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!



Welcome George Williamson!

On Sunday, February 11, 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. George's own self-description is that he was born "on the wrong side of every moral social issue of the twentieth century." His memoir tells of the ways he has been addressing those

moral social issues through his life and career. From being arrested in the North Carolina sit-ins to welcoming and affirming members into his church who identified as LGBTQ, George has been at work righting some of the wrongs he saw in the culture and in Christian life. George, along with others, was instrumental in starting the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America/Bautistas Por La Paz (which has its offices housed in our building); BPFNA published his book and LeDayne Polaski, the Executive Director of BPFNA, will join us on that day. Join us for worship, and then lunch and discussion with George—he is lots of fun and will keep us all entertained as well as informed! **Reservations are required for lunch**, but those who do not want lunch can join the conversation without making a reservation. Our schedule will be:

10:30-11:30—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

Call or email the church office to make your reservation for lunch!

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!

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.



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.

News from the Heritage Room

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

"Making a Difference"

- In the lives of those 293 charter members and their families who met in 1922 to formally organize St. John's Baptist Church
- In the lives of all of the children who attend (and have attended) Headstart through the Bethlehem Center
- In the lives of those who serve and are served at Hope Chapel on Sunday mornings

How do you think St. John's has made a difference in your life or the life of our community? Contact the church office or Fredda Kimball.

Women of the Church need your donated Birthday Cards for men! One volunteer is also needed to help with this ministry in a coming month. Cards can be given to Patricia McCaskill or left in the church office for use in the Women of the Church birthday card ministry. Thank you!



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

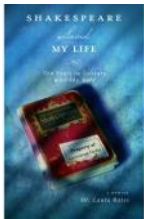


⇒ There is a "Sandwich Ministry" at SJBC. You can donate to this ministry with monetary donations by writing "Sandwich Ministry" on the memo line of your check or on your donation envelope.



Children and Youth Basketball
No games on Saturday, January 20th

6 & Under Co-Ed - 1/13 - WON! 12 & Under Girls - 1/13 - WON!
 8 & Under Boys - 1/13 - Lost 14 & Under Boys - 1/13 - Lost
 10 & Under Boys - 1/13 - Lost 16 & Under Boys - 1/13 -
 10 & Under Girls - 1/13 - WON! 18 & Under Boys - 1/13 - Lost
 12 & Under Boys - 1/13 - WON! 18 & Under Girls - 1/13 - Lost



Terrific Tuesday Book Club
 Tuesday, January 23, 12 noon
 This month's book:
Shakespeare Saved My Life
 by Laura Bates
 Bring a sandwich and continue
 the discussion over lunch!

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Dee Turner - CMC; Brad Sifford - Prebyterian
 Matthews; Joe Ehrenberger - Asbury; Betty
 Crenshaw, Cathy Hartsell, Carmen Howard, Chuck
 Jones & Jan Kerley - home

Sunday, January 21

Deacons: Mark McNeill, Tricia Miller, Melissa
 Millette, Jane & Morgan Newman, Russell Norris,
 Kim & Robby Ray, Shannon Rodden, Lindsay Wilson
Tellers: Morgan Newman, Tim Gibson
Greeters: Main-Ed Turner, Bobby Furr; 5th St.-Al &
 Treva Bridges; Broach-Jimmy Carpenter, Ed Outen;
 Elevator- Marvin Carter
Ushers: Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie
 Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Carol & Gene Poole

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of January 8-14: \$12,200
 Income through January 14: \$30,664

Ministers on Call:

January 15-21: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 January 22-28: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287

Calendar: January 21-27

Sunday, January 21
 8:00 Administrative Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
 9:15 Sunday School/Worship 101 (Classrooms)
 10:30 Worship (Sanctuary)
Monday, January 22
 9:30 Mental Health America (Lounge)
 11:45 Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
 6:30 Investing in the Future Task Force (Lounge)
 6:30 Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 8:00 AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, January 23
 7:00 Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00 Staff meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00 Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 11:00 CROP (Lasater Hall)
 12:00 Terrific Tuesday Book Club & Lunch (Library/Lounge)
 4:15 Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 5:15 SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
Wednesday, January 24
 6:30 Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:30 Yoga (Room 114)
 6:00 AA (Lasater Hall)
 7:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, January 25
 5:30 Right Moves for Youth (Lasater Hall)
Friday, January 26
 5:00 Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym)
 8:00 AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, January 27
 7:00 Benton Basketball (Gym)
 10:00 Basketball games (Gym)

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org