



Family News

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

Vol. 76, No. 12 - March 20, 2018



St. John's at Worship

Sunday, March 25
*Palm Sunday/
 Sunday of the Passion*

Proclaimer:
 Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon Series:
*Living in the World
 as the Body of Christ*

Sermon:
Given

Scripture:
 Luke 11:5-13
 Mark 14:22



Palm/Passion Sunday - March 25

Children of all ages will process with palm branches to help us remember how the people greeted Jesus when he entered Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday - March 29 - 7:30 pm
 The Seven Last Words To and From The Cross
Remembrance and Communion

Easter - April 1
 Citywide Sunrise Service
 Romare Bearden Park at 7:00 am

Worship at 10:30 am

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Lilies for Easter Sunday

Note: Your lily purchase helps provide funds for Christmas poinsettias/décor.

I will give ___ lilies at **\$18 each**.

___ in memory of _____

___ in honor of _____

Donor name and telephone: _____

___ I wish to pick up my lilies.

___ I do not wish to pick up my lilies.

Last date to sign up for lilies is **Sunday, March 25**.

A CHURCH LIVING IN RESURRECTION HOPE

SUNRISE SERVICE IN ROMARE BEARDEN PARK

Once again, this year, we will begin Easter Sunday UPTOWN, in Romare Bearden Park. What we helped begin five years ago with 4 churches now includes 12 congregations. We will gather at 7 am with hundreds of Charlotteans to be rekindled by the light of God's living hope. I have found it to be a spiritually formative experience - gathering amidst the skyscrapers to proclaim the Good News of The Living God which can inspire so much compassion, creativity and redemption.

YET, RESURRECTION HOPE IS OURS TODAY

Tuesday afternoon, in Broach Hall, more than thirty of us participated in a program to help church and school leaders care for parishioners and students in various situations. Rev. Allison Benfield and Lydia Olmsted, Director of our Weekday School Ministry, invited members of our Safety and Security Task Force, teachers in our Weekday School and other preschools in the area to participate. One woman said, "*Thank you for including us. St. John's is known as a servant church in Charlotte.*" This is a sign we are living the resurrection.

This week, I also met with Dr. Lee Canipe of Providence Baptist Church and Dr. Clifford Jones of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. We explored ways to nurture our congregational partnerships we have initiated through Circles of Hope. We made three decisions: 1) continue to encourage our members to participate in Circles of Hope; 2) schedule a minimum of three gatherings per year, at least one of which will include worship; and 3) strengthen our partnership in creating new visions for better inter-racial relationships and efforts of creating a healthier Charlotte for everyone by introducing our deacons to one another in late April or May. (Deacons, stay tuned.) This is a sign we are living the resurrection.

On Wednesday, I enjoyed five conversations with church leaders in the areas of missions, future visions, leadership development, stewardship, worship, spiritual formation and improving our efforts in messaging and outreach throughout our city. Each was inspiring as unique signs of living the resurrection!

Last Sunday, we celebrated our 96th year. Please enjoy the wonderful collections displayed by the talents of Linda Crowder near the offices. We have a tremendous heritage. This Sunday, we enter Holy Week on our journey to Easter's celebration and beyond. Yet, God is using your active faithfulness continuously to bring new and renewed visions into reality. Beloved, we have some very good days in our future, for we are already living in resurrection hope!

Shalom,
Dennis

Youth News from Lee

Sunday, March 25 - Sunday Night Live from 5:00-7:30 pm. St. John's own Bobbie Hinson, who taught at Providence Day for 40 years—Biology, Anatomy, Physiology & Bioethics — will join us again as we look at ways faith can be informed, but not threatened, by science.

Sundays, April 1 & 8 - Youth will not meet on Sunday evening (due to CMS Spring Break)

Upcoming Youth Events

April 13-15 – 5th/6th Grade Discipleship Retreat (Meet at church on Friday at 4:30 pm. Return at 11:30 am on Sunday)

May 20 – Youth Banquet

June 17-23 – High School Habitat Mission Trip

July 23-28 – Unidiversity Youth Summer Camp

August 11-14 – Middle School Local Mission Trip

From Allison

This Sunday

Nursery/2s: This class will be cared for in their room for Formation Hour and Worship Hour. This class may join in our Palm Sunday processional.

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 the about the trial and death of Jesus. They will also join us for part of worship to be part of our Palm Sunday processional.

Grades 1-3 & 4-5: These children will have Formation Class from 9:15-10:00, where they'll be learning about Palm Sunday, and Grace Notes (Music) from 10:00-10:20. They will sit with their families in worship after they lead the Palm Sunday processional.

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is March 25! Children of all ages will get to process in with palm branches to help us all remember how the people greeted Jesus when he entered Jerusalem. Please have your children here for Formation Hour (9:15) so we have time to talk about this important story and get ready to lead worship.

Easter Sunday

Easter is April 1 this year. Our PreK/K class always does special activities to celebrate this important and holy day during Formation Hour. Elementary classes will combine for a special Formation Class time as we explore the stories of Holy Week and Easter. Please plan on being here for this important Sunday!



Brotherhood of the Biscuit gathering as a send-off for Monty Kearse

Fellow St. Johnians!

I would like to make two invitations to you.

1. This Sunday after worship our choir will be traveling out to the Bragg Farm to have a time of fun and fellowship (a Party)! If you think you might have future interest in singing with our wonderful group, this would be a great way to break the ice. If you plan on attending, please email me, and I will send you directions.
2. On Easter Sunday, we will be singing Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus*. If you have ever sung this piece before and think that with music and a run-through you could join in and make a joyful sound with us, then join us either next Wednesday night, March 28, from 7:15-7:35, or at 10:05 Easter Sunday morning. That morning, we will be inviting you to come forward to join us at the end of the service to sing. I would love to see more people in the front of the church than those remaining in the pews! Please email me to let me know you are coming if you can.



James Kevin Gray
Minister for Worship and Music
Kgray@sicharlotte.org

From the Heritage Room--

Thanks to the following for their help in compiling the information for the "Making a Difference -- Fulfilling Our Covenant" booklet for Heritage Sunday: Fredda Kimball, Linda Crowder, Kim Allen, Dr. Dennis Foust, Teri Franklin, Kevin Gray, Joy Jarrett, Melissa Millette, Laura Sorrell, and Sally Young. Thanks to Jacquelyn McAbee for taking the information and actually making the booklet. Please take time in the next couple of weeks to view the displays by Linda Crowder about all the ways in which the people of St. John's have made a difference -- Main Entrance, Broach Hall lobby, and window area outside the church/Jacquelyn's office.



Yes Sir! Yes Sir! Two Cars Full!

Al & Treva Bridgers, Pauline Carter & Eva Lee packed two SUV's full and drove to the Loaves and Fishes pantry at Galilee Center to deliver the groceries collected in February. After meeting the Thursday volunteers, we had time to stock the shelves of their expanded pantry. Your donations were ready for the next shoppers. Thanks you, St. John's for being your usual generous selves.

Thank you for the very generous gift to support recovery efforts in Puerto Rico! Your generosity will make an immediate impact. Our partners there are doing excellent multi-faceted work — running a program supplying hot meals (no easy trick with massive power outages), getting clean water distributed, helping people get life-sustaining medicines, providing programs for youth and children, doing clean up, and rebuilding homes. Your gift will help to get people the basic necessities of life — and will remind them they are not alone. Thank you! ~ LeDayne, BPFNA/Bautistas por las Paz



(This and many other thank you notes can be found on the bulletin board in the second floor hallway above the gym.)

**AGING AND
YOUR BRAIN**

HOW AM I DOING?

April 12, 2018 | 8:30 - 11:30 AM

Myers Park Methodist Church | 1501 Queens Road, Charlotte, NC

**Memory Loss -
Do I Have It?**
Charles H. Edwards II, MD

**Memory Loss - I Have It!
What Do I Do Now?**
Aristides E. Chaconas, MD

MEMORY CENTER
CHARLOTTE

Registration Cost: \$25
Call 704-577-3186 or
email@MemoryCenterCharlotte.com
Seating is limited. Register by Friday, April 6.



32ND ANNUAL Elizabeth 8K Road Race

8K Road Race • 1.5M Run/Walk • Liz Kids' Fun Run

Saturday, March 24, 2018

**Hawthorne Recreation Center
Independence Park**

345 Hawthorne Lane,
Charlotte, NC 28204

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

Minister for Children & Their Families Allison Benfield
 ext. 18 - abenfield@sjcharlotte.org
Minister for Worship and Music.....Kevin Gray
 ext. 14 - kgray@sjcharlotte.org
Minister for Youth & Young AdultsLee Gray
 ext. 15 - lgray@sjcharlotte.org
Senior Minister..... Dennis Foust
 ext. 12 - dfoust@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
Custodians Chris Mullis, Sonny Ross, Debora Thon
Graded Choirs Director..... Anna Ball
Organist..... Noel Lance
 nlance@sjcharlotte.org
Weekday School DirectorLydia Olmsted
 ext. 39 - weekdayschool@sjcharlotte.org

Office hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Fri.: 8:30 am-12:00 noon



⇒ Cornerstone ceremonies were conducted for our sanctuary on May 3, 1925. It was formally opened on July 11, 1926, at a value of \$200,000.

Do you enjoy gardening? Have you considered the pleasure of working with the volunteers who keep the Memorial Garden looking inviting and welcoming? Volunteers take turns watching over the garden — pulling a few weeds, pruning plants as needed, planting fresh flowers seasonally, and making sure that plants are watered during the hot, dry months. The garden is a very special place, and perhaps you would find it a meaningful place to share a bit of your time and talents. Please call Kathy Bragg (704-896-7444) or Wanny Hogewood (704-966-4140) to learn more about this opportunity.

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



Terrific Tuesday Book Club
 Tuesday, February 27, 12 noon, Library
 This month's book:
The Life We Bury by Allen Eskens
 Bring a sandwich and continue the discussion in the lounge over lunch!

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Joe Ehrenberger & Polly Hull - Asbury; Betty Crenshaw, Camille Green, Carmen Howard, Chuck Jones, Janie Kendrick, Brad Sifford & Doris Tedder - home

Sympathy to Dee and Ed Turner on the death of her sister, Joanne Shorts of Ohio, on March 10.

Thank you for your many expressions of love and caring during my recent surgery and recovery. I am especially grateful for this congregation. You were with me in spirit, and I am grateful for your presence. Thank you for the delicious and nourishing meals, phone calls, get well cards, notes, emails, and prayers. I am confident your caring encouraged my healing. Thank you, too, for your kind expressions of sympathy following the death of my sister.. ~ Dee Turner

Sunday, March 25

Deacons: Kami McGuire, Gail Sifford, Ellen Smith, Henry Snyder, Laura Sorrell, Todd Stillerman, Anne Sutton, Elizabeth Whipple, Lindsay Wilson, Alice Wirz
Tellers: Margaret Falls, Betsy Furr
Greeters: Main-Carol & Tom Injaychock; 5th St.-Vanessa Boling, Betty Thompson; Broach-Monty Kearse; Elevator- Marvin Carter
Ushers: Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Carol & Gene Poole

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of March 5-11: \$12,518
 Income through March 11: \$195,767
 Annual 2018 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,135,000

Calendar: March 25-31

Sunday, March 25
 8:00 Church Council (Conference Room)
 9:15 Sunday School (Classrooms)
 10:30 Worship (Sanctuary)
 5:00 Sunday Night Live (Gym/Lounge/Chapel/3rd Floor)
Monday, March 26
 11:45 Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
 5:15 SJC Men's Basketball (Gym)
 6:30 Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 8:00 AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, March 27
 7:00 Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00 Staff meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00 Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 11:00 CROP (Lounge)
 12:00 Terrific Tuesday Book Club (Library)
 1:00 Terrific Tuesday Book Club lunch (Lounge)
 4:15 Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:00 Handbells (Handbell Room)
Wednesday, March 28
 6:30 Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:30 Yoga (Room 114)
 6:00 AA (Lasater Hall)
 7:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, March 29
 7:30 Maundy Thursday service (Sanctuary)
Friday, March 30
 5:00 Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym)
 8:00 AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, March 31
 7:00 Benton Basketball (Gym)

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org

Ministers on Call:

March 19-25: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
 March 26-April 1: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234