



Family News

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

Vol. 76, No. 13 - March 27, 2018



St. John's at Worship

Sunday, April 1
Resurrection of Our Lord

Proclaimer:
Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon:
*Mindfulness and
Jesus' Resurrection*

Scripture:
Luke 24:1-12
Colossians 3:1-17



Maundy Thursday

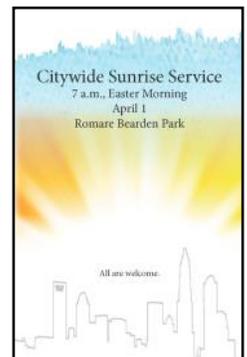
March 29 - 7:30 pm

*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**

All are welcome! Seating provided. Free parking in the First Presbyterian Church lot at the corner of Poplar and Trade streets. The park is a two-block walk and a shuttle service will be provided for those who wish to use it. Following the service, light refreshments and coffee will be served at First Presbyterian Church (200 W. Trade Street). In the event of rain, the service will moved to the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church.



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Worship at 10:30 am

The church offices will be closed on Monday, April 2, for the Easter holiday.



The children enjoyed leading the annual Palm Sunday processional.



YOUR WITNESS: LET THERE BE LIGHT!

Once upon a time, a king commanded his archers to shoot at the sun. His strongest bowmen, using their finest equipment, tried all day; but their arrows fell short as the sun continued unaffected on its course. All night the archers polished and re-feathered their arrows. As soon as the sun reappeared in the eastern sky, the archers shot arrows at the sun with renewed zeal. Again, their efforts were in vain. The king became angry uttering mean threats at the bowmen. On the third day, the youngest archer using the smallest bow came at noon as the king was sitting before a pond in his garden. Reflecting in the pond was a bright golden ball shining in the still water. With a single arrow, the lad pierced the watery sun at its heart. In that moment, the reflection of the sun splintered into a thousand glistening fragments. The king jumped to his feet in celebration of his victory over the sun presenting gifts to the lad. If the king had looked back at the pond, he would have seen the reappearance of the sunlight in the water after the ripples ceased. But, the king wasn't interested in seeing reality.

Throughout history, people in power have mistakenly believed they are in control of the Source of Light. Although they distort and destroy a multitude of reflections, their arrows cannot reach the Source of Light. Reflections of the Source of Light reappear in familiar places after the ripples of conflict settle.

In his experimentation studying light, quantum physicist, Max Planck, offered a statement based upon his scientific research. This truth has been taught by theologians and philosophers for centuries. Planck said he proved in his laboratory, "When you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change."

Organizational psychology proposes two ways of seeing reality which increase your success in life:

1. Realize you are responsible for your choices and each choice comes with costs, consequences and implications (i.e.: success, happiness, failure and sadness are choices, not situations); and
2. Realize your individuality always exists within a contextual, relational community, thereby collaborative synergy always strengthens your perspective (i.e.: to quote Helen Keller, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.")

Twenty centuries ago, some people didn't want to look at reality. Thinking they extinguished a reflection of The Source of Light, they placed Jesus in a tomb. However, this Sunday we will celebrate his resurrection. Beloved, your choices and collaborations offer hope amidst the dark chaos of this world saying, 'Let there be light!'

Shalom,
Dennis

Youth News from Lee

Sundays, April 1 & 8 - Youth will not meet on Sunday evenings (due to CMS Spring Break)
Sunday, April 15 - Youth will play **Paintball**. Meet at the church at 2:30 and return 6:15. Cost will be \$20. Details will be emailed to youth and parents (including address for those meeting us there) as I seek responses to verify numbers.

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**

March Madness - St. John's Style



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 the story of the very first Easter.

Grades 1-5: Elementary classes will combine for a special Formation Class time as we explore the stories of Holy Week and Easter. We will gather in the Godly Play room (the room between the two elementary classrooms). Children will join their families for worship. Please plan on being here for this important Sunday!

Maundy Thursday

Our Maundy Thursday service is this Thursday at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary. Most people don't typically think to bring children to this service, but it is a deeply meaningful service with things to see and experience. It makes Easter a more meaningful day when you have experienced a Holy Week service. I hope I'll see you there!





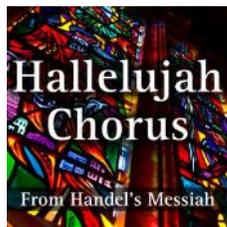
New Choir Robes

As many of you witnessed this past Sunday, the choir has been outfitted with new robes that add a burst of beautiful blue into the chancel area.

These robes were purchased through a generous gift by one of our choir families, Ken and Donna Scott, who did not request to be mentioned. It was because of their lack of need to be recognized that I asked them to make their names known to act as an inspiration to others. Also, the robes that we are currently wearing will continue to be used by the youth choir for events such as Hanging of the Green. This is a marvelous gift that will add to our worship for years to come!

Gay Men’s Chorus of Charlotte

On April 8, St. John’s Baptist Church will welcome the Gay Men’s Chorus of Charlotte to assist in leading worship at our 10:30 service. St. John’s is a diverse worship body that enjoys traditional music, as well as contemporary, jazz, and even ancient chant in their worship. The GMCC will be singing several songs during this worship service, concluding with a group number by GMCC and the St. John’s Chancel choir. Everyone is welcome!



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 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@sjcharlotte.org

Investing in the Future

Members of the Investing in the Future task force have now met with every Sunday School class, and we appreciate the time, thoughtfulness, and ideas the congregation shared with us. But it’s not too late! If you were not part of any discussion and have thoughts for us, please contact any member of the task force - David Allen, Bill Claytor, Bill Hartsell, Bobbi Sherrill, Randy Brantley, Charlie Harper, Wannoy Hogewood, Fredda Kimball, Russell Norris, Meredith Sorrell, Sara Vavra, or Sally Young - and let us know what you think! Our plan is to have a report with our findings and recommendations at a church conference in late May.

Below are the questions used in the recent listening sessions. Feel free to send your thoughts and/or answers to these questions to a member of the task force or the church office at jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org.

1. How can we use this money to further the mission of St. John's?
2. What does St. John's need to do to assure its future?
3. What do we need to do to attract more new members, especially young people, while continuing to be true to our identity and mission at St. John's?
4. Why should St. John's exist in 10, 20, or 100 years from now?
5. What should be the mission of St. John's?
6. How can we use these monies to propel us to larger visions of our future?
7. If money were no object, what would you like to see us do?
8. What is our ultimate aim as a church in Charlotte today?

College & Young Adult Sunday School

This Sunday (April 1)
Room 305 (across from Youth Lounge)
Breakfast will be provided!!!



**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



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

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

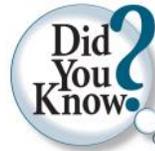
Equipping Ministers

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 AdministratorSandra 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



⇒ Dr. Chauncey W. Durden was called as St. John's second pastor and began his ministry on April 7, 1929. He served for 15 years. Upon his retirement, he presented the church his personal library.

A Year in the Church

Rising 2nd-6th Graders

explore and celebrate the church year by choosing an art guild for the week!
 Guilds include:
 -Drama
 -Mosaics
 -Painting
 -Textile Art



4 Year Olds- Rising 1st Graders

explore and celebrate the church year in a special experience designed just for them! Each day includes art, story, and play.

St. John's/St. Martin's VBS 2018
 June 11-15; 9am-noon
 \$15/child
 Children aged 4 by June 1 - Rising 6th Graders
 To register visit: <https://st-johns-st-martins-vbs-2018.eventbrite.com>
 Questions? abenfield@sjcharlotte.org

Registration required. Registration closes June 4, 2018.

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Elizabeth Laney - Novant Matthews; Polly Hull & Joe Ehrenberger - Asbury; Camille Green, Carmen Howard, Chuck Jones, Janie Kendrick, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson & Doris Tedder - home

Thank You

Many thanks for all the cards and calls. I am blessed to have so many friends like you.
 ~ Camille Green

Sunday, April 1

Deacons: David Allen, Linda Balentine, Jason Benton, Jordan Benton, Lynn Bishop, Maggie Bond, Leslie Bragg, Randy Brantley, Stan Brown, Minh Callaway

Tellers: Morgan Newman, Tim Gibson

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner, Chuck Jones; 5th St. - Linda Kerley, Susan King; Broach-Ashley Hogewood; Elevator- Marvin Carter

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

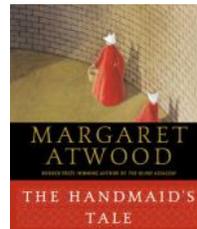
Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of March 5-11: \$10,530
 Income through March 11: \$206,297
 Annual 2018 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,135,000

Community & State Mission Offering: \$466

Ministers on Call:

March 26-April 1: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 April 2-8: Lee Gray 704-451-1309



Terrific Tuesday Book Club

Tuesday, April 24, 12 noon, Library
 This month's book:

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
 Books are available in the church office.

Calendar: April 1-7

Sunday, April 1

9:15..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
 10:30..... Worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, April 2

..... Church offices closed (Easter holiday)
 5:15.....SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
 8:00.....AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, April 3

7:00..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00..... Staff meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 1:00..... QC Family Tree (Gym)

Wednesday, April 4

6:30..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
 6:00.....AA (Lasater Hall)
 6:00..... Mission Resource Team (Lounge)
 6:00..... Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
 7:15..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, April 5

9:00..... Unity Coalition (Lounge)

Friday, April 6

5:00.....Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym)
 8:00.....AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, April 6

7:00..... Benton Basketball (Gym)

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org