



Family News

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

Vol. 76, No. 16 - April 17, 2018



*St. John's
at Worship*

Sunday, April 22
Fourth Sunday in Eastertide

Proclaimer:
Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon Series:
*Adapting to God's Light:
New Ways of Seeing*

Sermon:
Genetics of Faith?

Scripture:
John 20:19-31

OPEN TABLE: Intergenerational Evenings with Purposeful Play



Our St. John's Covenant reads, "We will love and encourage each other in the family of the church..."

To strengthen opportunities for our multiple generations to interact and learn from one another and play together, we are scheduling 5 or 6 Wednesday evenings per year. Our first **OPEN TABLE** is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25. The menu will be barbecue chicken, rice consommé, smothered green beans and chocolate brownies.

Please make reservations on or before April 20 by calling or emailing Jacquelyn McAbee in the church office at 704.333.5428, ext. 11 or jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org.

Meal costs will be \$10/adults and \$6/child under 12 with a maximum of \$30 per household. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:50 and will continue to be served until 6:30. We will gather in Broach Hall and dismiss by 7:00 pm. All generations will be together for this time as we enjoy intergenerational table games, storytelling, conversations, etc.

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High School Habitat Mission Trip

St. John's Youth have been building Habitat houses every other summer since 1989. This year, our high school youth will once again work with Sea Island Habitat on John's Island, South Carolina, from June 17-23. We will not be able to prebuild the walls this time, so we have requested local work days with Habitat of Charlotte on May 12, 26 and June 9. This Sunday, Bert Green will share with all youth about Habitat and St. John's ongoing involvement with this ministry.



YOUR FIRST IDEA IS NOT YOUR LAST

Joshua L. Cowen was a young inventor who had already sold his 'flash-lamp' to the government. It looked like what was later called a flashlight; but was being called a 'flash-lamp.' It ignited flash powder which photographers used to take pictures. The United States Navy bought 10,000 of them to ignite fuses in mines.

However, Joshua L. Cowen had another idea. He wondered if he could put a small light bulb in the end of the slender tube rather than flash powder. His idea was to power the small light bulb with small batteries and place them in the slender tube and then place these slender tubes in the base of flower pots providing ambient light in restaurants or store window displays.

As you know, if you have ever used a flashlight, this idea did very well; but, not for him. Other people were coming up with the idea of the battery-operated light bulb and several lawsuits were pending as inventors threatened to sue one another. Therefore, Joshua L. Cowen signed his rights over to Conrad Hubert who started American Eveready Company. Hubert did very well making billions of battery-powered flashlights.

But, don't feel too bad for Joshua L. Cowen. He designed a small electric motor to power a miniature fan. Then, he realized it was just the right size to power a miniature train engine. He had loved miniature trains since he was a young lad. Joshua L. Cowen started selling miniature electric trains through a catalogue. He also created numerous mesmerizing window displays in department stores and toy stores. Of course, people started buying his electric trains for Christmas. By the way, the L in Joshua L. Cowen's name was for his middle name, Lionel, and the rest is model train history.

I tell you this story to remind you that your first idea is not your last. That proverb popularized by William Edward Hickson in the mid-nineteenth century still offers truth today:

'Tis a lesson you should heed;
Try, try, try again,
If at first you don't succeed,
Try, try, try again.

By the way, Hickson himself may have borrowed this proverb from another who borrowed from another because Robert the Bruce, king of Scotland, is credited with telling this proverb to his troops prior to defeating the English at Bannockburn in 1314. And, Bruce, it is thought was inspired by observing a humble and patient spider stoically weaving its web through trial and error.

Beloved, no matter what you have tried, there is another idea. Your first idea is not your last. Try, try, try again!

Shalom,
Dennis

Youth News from Lee

Sunday, April 22 - Sunday Night Live 5:00-7:30. Since Kevin will be out, there will be no youth worship/choir. At 5:00 pm, we will have an hour-long walking scavenger hunt, in and around the church. Dinner will be from 6:00-6:30 pm. Bert Green will share with us about **Habitat for Humanity** at 6:30 (this is for all youth, not just the high school youth).

Upcoming Youth Events

May 6 – Youth Banquet (moved from May 20)

May 20 - Paintball (make-up date)

June 3 – Senior Graduation Recognition Sunday

June 17-23 – High School Mission Trip with Sea Island Habitat

July 23-28 – Unidiversity Youth Summer Camp

August 11-14 – Middle School Local Mission Trip (this includes rising 6th graders)

From Allison

Nursery/2s: This class will be cared for in their room for Formation Hour and Worship Hour. We have some brand new toys for these children to enjoy!

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 the lost sheep and the shepherd who made sure to bring the sheep home.

Grades 1-5: We have an exciting opportunity this Sunday! From 9:15-10:00 we will be taking a tour of the organ with Noel. **Meet in the music room at 9:15. Be sure to be on time as it will likely be more difficult to find us once the tour begins.** If we are not in the music room, you can try the sanctuary, but there may be other neat places that we will get to see on our tour. We will have an abbreviated Formation Class from 10:00-10:20 where we will learn about one time Jesus ate with his disciples after Easter. Children will join their families for worship.

VBS Registration Is Open!

Only 30 spots left!

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 (by June 1) - rising 6th Graders.
\$15/child, Pre-registration required.

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!

2018 Community & State Mission Offering Received \$521

This year, our gifts are set aside to impact lives locally in three ways:

- 1) our efforts of Peacebuilding through Habitat for Humanity,
- 2) our partnership with Loaves and Fishes to feed our neighbors,
- 3) our partnership with North Carolina Cooperative Baptist Fellowship to expand efforts of ministry among college and university students in metro Charlotte.



CUSTODIAL STAFF OF ST. JOHN'S

We want you to know the magnificent Custodial Staff of St. John's. These three people assure that our congregational ministries happen without interruption in clean space with grace.

Please be nice to them because they are very nice to us. Pictured above (left to right) are Sonny, Debora and Chris.

Chris Mullis joined our staff in September of 2016. Chris is our Maintenance Custodian. He supervises and coordinates the work of our two custodians, cleans the Sanctuary and Offices, makes repairs to and directs the maintenance of our facilities, oversees setups for events, interacts with residential partners, contractors and vendors, and is generally responsible for all facilities matters. Chris is a Charlotte native, father of three children and has sole custody of his son, Jayden, age 7.

Debora Thon is our Custodian who cleans our Weekday & HeadStart space and most restrooms each weekday, along with our kitchen and both floors of our Broach Hall Building. Debora came to the United States from South Sudan in 2000 and to St. John's in 2001. She is mother of four children, Akur, Manyon, Rep and Aluel and is grandmother of three.

Sonny Ross joined our Custodial staff last month. He cleans the Gym, Lounge, Lasater Hall and classrooms on the first floor of the Sanctuary Building. He also cleans the Chapel Building, Music Suite, and Children and Youth Division and assists with all setups. Sonny is a native of Charlotte, is father of five children and has sole custody of his daughter, Storm, age 5.

Discipleship Retreat



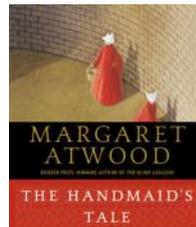
VBS Volunteers



We are 2 months away from Vacation Bible School! That means it's time for you to volunteer! Each year around 65% of the children who come to VBS aren't part of St. John's or St. Martin's, so VBS is one very important way we reach out to, and connect with, families and children in our community. VBS is June 11-15 from 9 am-12 noon each day. This year there are three ways you can volunteer:

- 1) **Guild Assistant:** Assist the Guild Leader as they guide the group through the day's work. No preparation is required on your part. Just show up ready to help out and have fun. There are two time blocks: 9:15-10:45 am and 10:15-11:45 am.
- 2) **Greeter:** We want to make sure children and their families are welcomed each morning they arrive. So from 8:40-9:10 am, greeters welcome everyone with a smile and a warm hello.
- 3) **Pick-Up Monitor:** From 11:45 am-12:15 pm, you'll stand with a guild and make sure parents/caregivers sign their children out of VBS, and you'll help make sure no child just wanders off without an adult.

You can sign up on our Sign Up Genius at bit.ly/2q7SVRY or send Allison an email at abenfield@sjcharlotte.org. VBS can't happen without you!



Terrific Tuesday Book Club

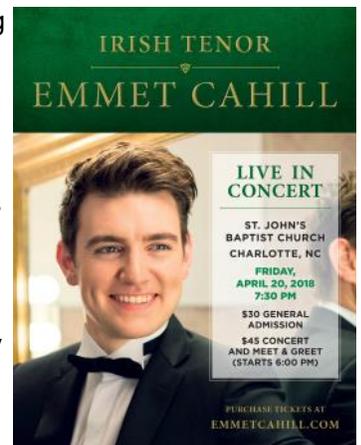
Tuesday, April 24, 12 noon, Library
This month's book:

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
Bring a sandwich and continue the conversation over lunch.

Emmet Cahill is an award-winning Irish tenor and a principal vocalist with the renowned Irish music show Celtic Thunder. This concert is part of his 2018 solo tour to promote his debut orchestral album, "Emmet Cahill's Ireland."

In addition to performing traditional Irish songs from his album, Emmet will sing Broadway favorites, folk classics, sacred hymns, plus an occasional operatic aria that will showcase his classical vocal training at the Royal Irish Academy of Music in Dublin. Ever the charming Irishman, Emmet will also share stories and tell a few (bad) jokes! It'll be a special night of songs and tales with the Emerald Isle's most exciting young tenor!

General admission tickets are \$30 and may be purchased online at www.emmetcahill.com/tour-dates/ or at the door. A limited number of Meet & Greet tickets (pre-concert meeting with Emmet plus the concert) are available for \$45.



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

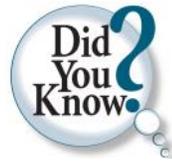
Equipping Ministers

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

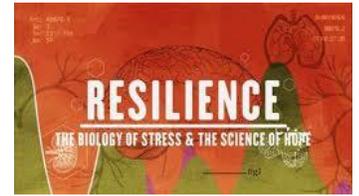
Church Staff

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



⇒ In 1947, St. John's celebrated its 25th anniversary with Dr. Chauncy Durden returning to deliver the sermon.



Join us for a FREE showing of the award-winning film
RESILIENCE

An Educational Forum
 presented by **NAMI-Charlotte**
Saturday, May 5, from 2 - 4 pm

Providence United Methodist Church
 2810 Providence Road
 (corner of Providence & Sharon Amity)

Following the film, a panel of professionals will answer questions and lead a discussion. Register to guarantee a seat by emailing namiresource@nami-charlotte.org.

SOME FACTS YOU MAY NOT KNOW:

- Resilience is a skill that can be taught, learned and practiced.
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) shape adult behavior and health.
- Toxic Stress puts children at greater risk for disease, homelessness, prison time and death.
- Everyone can become resilient when surrounded by the right environments and people.

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Polly Hull & Joe Ehrenberger - Asbury; Camille Green, Janie Kendrick, Elizabeth Laney, Laura McGuire, Brad Sifford & Carole Ann Simpson - home

Sympathy

to the family of Jean Canady, long-time St. John's member, who passed away on Monday, April 16. A graveside service will be held on Friday at 11 am at Evergreen Cemetery.

Sunday, April 22

Deacons: Shannon Rodden, Gail Sifford, Ellen Smith, Henry Snyder, Laura Sorrell, Kathy Spence, Todd Stillerman, Anne Sutton, Elizabeth Whipple, Alice Wirz

Tellers: James Laney, Susan King

Greeters: Main-Carol & Tom Injaychock, Phil Vavra; 5th St.-Vanessa Boling, Betty Thompson; Elevator-Marvin Carter

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of April 9-15: \$16,982
 Income through April 15: \$253,708
 Annual 2018 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,135,000

Ministers on Call:

April 16-22: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
 April 23-29: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234

Calendar: April 22-28

Sunday, April 22

9:15..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
 10:30..... Worship (Sanctuary)
 11:30..... Habitat trip meeting (Conference Room)
 5:00..... Sunday Night Live (Gym/Lounge/3rd Floor)
 6:30..... Baptist News Global (Room 222)

Monday, April 23

8:00..... Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)
 8:30..... Baptist News Global (Lounge/ Rooms 220, 222 & 226)
 11:45..... Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
 5:15..... SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
 6:00..... Investing in the Future Task Force (Conference Room)
 6:30..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:30..... Baptist News Global dinner (Broach Hall)
 8:00..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, April 24

7:00..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 8:30..... Baptist News Global (Lounge/ Rooms 220, 222 & 226)
 10:00..... Staff meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 12:00..... Terrific Tuesday Book Club (Library & Conference Room)
 4:15..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:00..... Memory Center Charlotte (Broach Hall)

Wednesday, April 25

6:30..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
 8:30..... Baptist News Global (Room 222)
 9:30..... Yoga (Room 114)
 6:00..... Open Table (Broach Hall)
 6:00..... AA (Lasater Hall)
 6:30..... Charlotte Nets AAU (Gym)
 7:00..... Handbells (Handbell Room)
 7:15..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, April 26

5:00..... HeadStart Parent Advocacy gathering (Broach Hall)
 6:00..... Women of the Church Board meeting (Lounge)

Friday, April 27

8:00..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, April 28

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

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org