



Family News

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

Vol. 76, No. 21 - May 22, 2018



*St. John's
at Worship*

Sunday, May 27
Holy Trinity Sunday

Proclaimer:
Rev. Lee Gray

Sermon:
Legacy Living?

Scripture:
2 Corinthians 13:11-13

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 6 Wednesday evenings per year. Our next **OPEN TABLE** is scheduled for this **Wednesday, May 23**, and the menu will be roasted chicken thighs in a white wine and lemon sauce, sautéed vegetables and roasted potatoes. Programs will resume again on the 4th Wednesdays in August, September and October.

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.



CHURCH VOTES TO APPROVE INVESTING IN THE FUTURE TASK FORCE REPORT

This past Sunday, during Church Conference, the membership approved the recommendations of our Investing in the Future Task Force. These recommendations include:

1. Contracting with an architectural firm to develop a master-plan drawing for our church facilities to improve our capacity for outreach, hospitality, security and HVAC & electrical updates.
2. Updating and installing new audio systems and live-streaming capabilities in our sanctuary and Broach Hall.
3. Asking our Personnel Resource Team to develop a staffing plan to better address outreach, messaging and media relations.
4. Asking our Mission Resource Team to develop a plan for a church-wide inter-generational mission involvement focus.

In coming months, our Church Council and Administrative Deacon Panel will be communicating with us about initiatives and progress.

Inside this issue:

Church Staff Page	2
Summer Sunday School Senior Graduate Recognition Pass Me the Jazz concert	3
Staff Listing Prayer Concerns & Celebrations Sunday Service Schedules Financial Ministry Plan Report Ministers on Call Did You Know? Men's Softball League Book Club Calendar	4

THE NEEDING PLEAS

by Scott Hicks

"A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord." (Leviticus 27:30)

As I sat on the deck at home reading on Spirit, an urgent, thin chorus of chirping entered my consciousness. Honing-in on it, I realized the Carolina Chickadees had hatched in the birdhouse above my head as they do each spring.



Alternating, the parents delivered morsels so small I wondered they could nourish. Having quieted just moments, the babies soon renewed their needing pleas. My eyes fell upon the bumblebee dancing among the wisteria, gathering life to spread.

The cardinal on a branch nearby held my gaze until it was as if I could hear him say, "What can you give today? How can you spread the nourishment of God's word?"

"Are we, in this season of rebirth, emulating Christ, using our mind, body and soul to enrich the soil of existence?"

Do we behave like trees of life in all seasons? Do we spread our roots deep and reach our branches high, taking nourishment from His bounty then using it to enrich the soil of humanity? Do we only ruminate and discuss God and his grace or are we each day vessels of His light?

"I can do more," I thought.

Though I may have at times done my part, the hunger renews. Though I may have been light in the darkness in moments ... the darkness ever looms.

In this season do you not feel that we must remember to renew and not falter? Must we not give mind, body and spirit in each season so as to do our part to grow sufficient fruit that will sustain and renew our fellows, the earth and all of Creation?

You, the people of St. John's have renewed the soil of my family's spirit time and again. We have watched the seasons pass wrapped in the darkness of pain, yet you would not let it overwhelm the light. You gave mind, body and soul in each season and you have never faltered.

This is why I speak to you today. I would but bathe you in light that you might "hone-in" on the needing pleas that surround us each and every day.

"The light in me sees the light in you." Amen.

Youth News from Lee

Youth, please remember to sign up to help out with **Vacation Bible School** June 11-15. Here's the link to sign up: <https://goo.gl/forms/e6tVKNy330syazV83>

Summer Youth Events

June 17-23 – High School Mission Trip with Sea Island Habitat (There will be a brief parents' meeting in the Chapel on Sunday, June 10, at 11:30 - after morning worship.)

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.

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 first church.

Grades 1-5: From 9:15-10:20 they will have Formation Class. They will be learning about the Good Shepherd. 1st-5th Graders will join their families for worship.

Register Today!!!
Only 11 spots left!!!

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.

We still need a few volunteers to be pick-up monitors (from 11:45 am-12:15 pm, you'll stand with a guild and make sure parents/caregivers sign their children out of VBS - once all the children in the guild are picked up, you're free to go.) 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!



This summer we're going to do something a little different. From June 10-August 19, we will have an Intergenerational Summer Sunday School at 9:15 am in Lasater Hall. We'll gather together and learn about some of the most important stories of our faith. We have a lot to learn from each other!

During these weeks, this will be the only option for families with children during the Sunday School hour. We will offer worship care for the Nursery/2s Class and the PreK/K Class from 10:15-11:30 each week of Summer Sunday School. This gives all of our children's teachers a bit of a break, and it also allows the church family to get to know our children while our children get to know their church family.

Come join the circle as we wonder together about the stories of faith! These stories will continue in each week.

High School Senior Recognition

During worship on Sunday, June 3, we will recognize our graduates. This year, St. Johns' has four graduation high school seniors.

Kirby Bragg, son of Phillips and Leslie Bragg, will graduate from Davidson Community School.

Zachary Foy, son of Michael and Jayme Foy, will graduate from Myers Park High School.

Joshua Sealey, son of Jeff and Rachel Sealey, will graduate from Myers Park High School.

Rodney "Trey" Spence, son of Rod and Kathy Spence, will also graduate from Myers Park High School.

More information and pictures will be in next week's Family News.



FIREBIRD ARTS ALLIANCE PRESENTS

Pass Me The Jazz

VOX
David Tang, Director
The Rick Bean Trio
Dawn Anthony, Vocalist

Rick Bean & Kevin Gray's hit
Jazz Mass

Small group standards and favorites like
Night and Day, All the Things You Are, and more

Sat, June 9

7:30 pm

St John's Baptist
300 Hawthorne Ln
Charlotte

Tickets \$20/15/10
VoxFirebird.org
and at the door

You will not want to miss the "Pass Me the Jazz" concert at St. John's on Saturday, June 9th.

This concert is presented by VOX, directed by David Tang, and will feature many Jazz standards, as well as the Jazz Mass by James Kevin Gray, and Rick Bean.

Kevin will be conducting the ensemble for the mass, and Rick Bean will be playing the piano.

Tickets are \$20 for general admission, with a senior ticket option for \$15 and \$10 for students.

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

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Joe Ehrenberger - Asbury; Nancy Burgess, Harold Funderburk, Camille Green, Genice Harper, Polly Hull, Dale Johnson, Pat Lloyd, Laura McGuire, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson & Mattie Stillerman - home; Johnnie Morcock - upcoming surgery

Sunday, May 27

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

Tellers: James Laney, Susan King

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

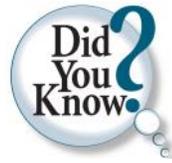
Ushers: Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Susan King

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of May 14-20: \$20,487
 Income through May 20: \$335,122
 Annual 2018 Ministry Plan Budget: \$1,135,000
 Global Missions Offering: \$270

Ministers on Call:

May 21-27: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412 & Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 May 28-June 3: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287



⇒ In 1957, a discussion was held regarding building a new sanctuary. The decision was made to continue two services in the existing building.



Men's Softball season will begin in early June. All games are played on weeknights at Providence Baptist Church. Please let Lee Gray know if you are interested in playing. We are looking for a few new players as several of our regulars have moved out of town.

Terrific Tuesday Book Club - Two books from this month's book club kit are missing. If you have a copy of *Warmth of Other Suns* that you checked out from the office (or last month's meeting), please call Betty Harkey at 704-366-5901.



Calendar: May 27 - June 2

Sunday, May 27

9:15..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
 10:30..... Worship (Sanctuary)
 11:30..... Habitat meeting-adults (Conference Room)

Monday, May 28

.....Church Offices closed (Memorial Day)
 8:00..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, May 29

7:00..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00..... Staff meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 4:15..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 5:15..... SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, May 30

6:30..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:30..... Yoga (Room 114)
 5:30..... Freedom School Worknight
 6:00..... AA (Lasater Hall)
 6:30..... Charlotte Nets AAU (Gym)
 7:15..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, May 31

8:30..... HeadStart (Broach Hall)

Friday, June 1

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

Saturday, June 2

7:00..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:30..... Kids Basketball (Gym)

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org