



Family News

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

Vol. 76, No. 42- Week of October 29-November 4, 2018

St. John's at Worship

Sunday, November 4

Children's Sunday

Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Worship Theme

The Eternal Love of God in
Christ

Sermon Series

The God Who Welcomes
Children

Sermon Title

Jesus, the Child Advocate

Scripture

Matthew 19:13-15, Mark 10:13-16,
Luke 18:15-17

Children's Sunday November 4

This Sunday, November 4, during worship, our preschool and school-age children are leading us in worship through hospitality, stories, songs, and prayers. Children are an active and vital part of our congregational life and always seem to offer a different but much needed perspective on this thing we call faith. Therefore, it is so important that you come to participate with them in worship to celebrate with them as they lead us to new places and guide us to a different way of thinking.



Turn Your Clocks Back This Weekend!

Daylight savings time ends this weekend. Be sure to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday evening. In doing this, you will not only be on time for Sunday school and worship, but it may seem as if you have gained an hour of sleep!

Inside this issue:

Church Staff Page	2
SJ Basketball	
Veterans' Day	3
Winthrop Concert	
Advent Devotionals	
Directory Inserts	
Jubilee Store	
Hardin Minor	
Advent Devotionals	
Christmas Luncheon	
Staff Listing	4
Prayer Concerns & Celebrations	
Thank You	
Sunday Service Schedules	
Financial Ministry Plan Report	
Ministers on Call	
November Book Club	
Brotherhood of the Biscuit	
Deacons' Meetings	
NAMI Support Group	
Calendar	

Vision Sunday November 11

Dr. Foust's message will offer a vision, pointing toward the second century for St. John's. At the conclusion of worship, we will honor our veterans.



Commitment Sunday

November 18 is Commitment Sunday. We will make our financial commitments for the 2019 vision and will celebrate baptism with new disciples during morning worship.

Religious Freedom & Nationalism

In these days when voices are defending nationalism under the disguise of religious rhetoric, I offer this word of reminder. There are four perspectives of the relation between the Church (Religion) and the State:

ABOVE – The Church is above the State; present in nations where the head of the religious tradition is also leader of the State.

BESIDE – Represented in nations where there is an official religious tradition named by the State.

BELOW – The State is above the Church; present in autocratic and totalitarian governments.

SEPARATE – The Church is separate from the State providing freedom of multiple religious expressions by laws of religious liberty. This also allows the Church to serve as an ethical voice in relation to the State.

One foundational and historical principle of Baptists, from our beginning as a movement, in 1612, in London, was SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE. The historic Baptist position has always been to invest in religious freedom for everyone expressed as freedom *for* religion, freedom *of* religion and freedom *from* religion insisting God is not Caesar and Caesar is not God. As Jesus taught, we should offer (render) our lives to God and our taxes to Caesar.

Recently, I read a diary entry written by William Shirer, a foreign correspondent in Europe from 1934-1941. He writes about how Hitler used religion to bolster his movement and how the Church was silent. If you want to grasp how one Lutheran pastor represented opposition to Hitler, read *Letters & Papers from Prison* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

In William Shirer's diary, this entry appears on January 24, 1940: "For Germans a thing is right, ethical, honorable, if it squares with the tradition of what a German thinks a German should do; or if it advances the interests of Germanism or Germany. But the Germans have no abstract idea of ethics, or honor, or right conduct. This probably explains the Germans' complete lack of regard or sympathy for the plight of the Poles or Czech's. What the Germans are doing to these people – murdering them, for one thing – is right to them because Germans are doing it, and the victims, in the German view, are an inferior race who must think it right whatever the Germans please to do to them. Right is what the Fuhrer does."

Beloved, we are citizens of a kingdom not made with human hands. The language of God is compassion, not nationalism.

**Shalom,
Dennis**

Youth News from Lee

Upcoming Events & News

November 4– Youth activities take place after morning worship. Lunch will be at 11:30am in the 1st floor lounge & afterwards we will do Adopt-a-Stream clean up and return to the church around 2:00pm. Please bring a change of clothes with long pants, long-sleeved shirt, and shoes you don't mind getting dirty.

No regular evening youth activities November 4.

November 11– Youth will be on regular 5:00-7:30pm schedule.

Basketball at St. John's

The St. John's Basketball Ministry has already begun! The last clinic will be on Monday, November 5 in the gym. Younger children's clinics, ages 6 and under and 8 and under, will take place at 5:30PM in the gym. 10 and under will meet at 6:30 on the same evening. All basketball teams will begin practicing in mid-November. Each team's practice schedule will be published in next week's Family News. If you are interested in playing on one of our teams, **please contact Lee Gray at lgray@sicharlotte.org.**

From Allison

Formation and Worship for Children on Sunday, November 4 with **Special Instructions About Children's Sunday**

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

PreK/K: This class will be cared for in their classroom during Formation Hour. They will learn about how Moses was saved as a baby. This class will serve as **greeters for worship** and will sit with their teachers during worship.

Grades 1-5: We will be getting ready to lead worship during Formation Hour this week. Please have your child in their **classroom by 9:15**. We need all the time we can get so that we can feel comfortable and ready to lead worship.



Another picture from the Craft & Bake Sale on October 21; the children from the preschool class enjoyed their visit to the sale!

Veterans' Day Recognition

On Sunday, November 11, we will recognize those who have served and those who presently serve in the United States Armed Forces. This year, Veterans' Day falls on a Sunday, making it an appropriate occasion to recognize all veterans. During the service, veterans will be recognized and honored with a cord of ribbons and thanked for their years of service, past and present. If you know of any retired or active military members in our congregation, please contact Mallory at mbrown@sjcharlotte.org in the church office.

Winthrop University Concert: A Gateway Experience

When? Sunday, November 18 at 4PM
Where? St. John's Sanctuary
Cost? Free

Come enjoy our annual Winthrop University Chorale fall concert. The theme that Sunday afternoon centers around loving your neighbor and allowing your own love to be heard by all others. We are proud to be performing works by Brahms, Runestad, Dello Joio, and Rheinberger. A premiere of a new work by Winthrop alumna and our Minister for Worship & Music, James Kevin Gray, will also be featured.

Musicians include: Jeremy Mims, conductor; Zinori Bronola, piano; Janice Bradner, piano; Marisa Youngs, trumpet; Matthew Bratton, percussion; JP Bittner, bass; Jenna Kyber, guitar.

The Winthrop Collegiate Choir and Chamber Singers will also perform selections during the concert. Bring a friend along as this is a great way to introduce folks to the life of St. John's.

Advent Devotionals

As we make our way toward Advent, Kevin invites all those who find writing as way to express God's graciousness to join him in working on our Advent devotional book. Each devotional does not need to be any longer than a few paragraphs.

- Step 1** Notify Kevin of your intention to write a devotional.
- Step 2** Submit your devotional in a **Word document** via email by November 20th to kgray@sjcharlotte.org and mbrown@sjcharlotte.org

Topics for Each Week in Advent

- December, 2-8: Hope
- December 9-15: Peace
- December 16-22: Joy
- December 23-25: Love

New church directory inserts are available in the office with Mallory. Pick yours up today!

Jubilee Store: December 8-9

This year, the Missions Resource team has been notified that the Salvation Army will not be doing their traditional Christmas stockings, which we have enjoyed supplying for many years. Therefore, we will not be participating in this project. Many thanks to those who provided years of faithful participation in this project. This year, our Christmas giving opportunity will be in partnership with Charlotte Family Housing and their Jubilee Store. This event is held for those served by Charlotte Family Housing so that they have the opportunity to shop for Christmas gifts at discounted prices. The **Jubilee Store** will be held on **December 8 and 9** in our Broach Hall. We have opportunity to assist, both with the set up and with providing specific gifts to stock the store. More details will follow soon.

Hardin Minor's One-Man Show



Hardin Minor is a performer and educator based in Charlotte. At the beginning of November, he will perform his one-man show, **Letters from the Trenches: Dear Kit**, from St. John's in Broach Hall for the public. This show is a multimedia show

created and performed by Hardin Minor from letters written by his grandfather from the trenches of France during World War One as a Captain with the USMC. It is a special tribute celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Armistice of World War I to honor all veterans of the US Armed Forces. A suggested donation of \$20 will be shared with Veterans Group (TBD), St. John's Baptist Church, Charlotte Family Housing, and the Elizabeth Community Association. The show's dates are: November 1-3 at 7:30PM and November 4 at 2:00PM. To register click here: www.eventbrite.com/e/letters-from-the-trenches-dear-kit-tickets-51293154205.

To learn more click here: hardinminorletters.com.



Senior Adult Christmas Luncheon

Thursday, December 13, 2018
 11:30am until 1:30pm
 More information is coming soon!

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 Adults Lee Gray
ext. 15 - lgray@sjcharlotte.org
- Senior Minister Dennis Foust
ext. 12 - dfoust@sjcharlotte.org

Church Staff

- Administrative Assistant..... Mallory Brown
ext. 11 - mbrown@sjcharlotte.org
- Church Administrator..... Jacquelyn McAbee
ext. 20 - jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org
- Custodians Chris Mullis, Sonny Ross, Debora Thon
- Graded Choirs Director..... Anna Ball
- Organist..... Noel Lance
nlance@sjcharlotte.org
- Weekday School Director..... Lydia 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

Bill Finger, Asbury; Larry Batts, Martha Brown, Nancy Burgess, McLain Hall, Paul Huffman, Linda Maready, Martha Moore, Rob Peacock, Gene Poole, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Elma Thomas & Dee Turner- home

Thank You

"The last two months have been a whirlwind of appointments and procedures, but thanks to my St. John's family showing their concern with calls, cards, visits, food, and especially prayers, my days have been much brighter. Thank you for everything," -Don Swofford

Sunday, November 4

Deacons: Todd Stillerman, Anne Sutton, Cindy McIntyre/ Melissa Millette, Charlie Harper, Kathy Turner, Elizabeth Whipple, Nancy Wilson, Lindsay Wilson, Alice Wirz

Tellers: Tom Blackmon, Matt Collins

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner, Scott Kerley; 5th St./Narthex- Linda Kerley; Broach Hall-Gail Sifford; Elevator-Marvin Carter

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of October 22-28: \$11,838
 Income through October 28: \$777,397
 Annual 2018 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,135,000

Ministers on Call:

October 29-November 4: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287
 November 5-11: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
 November 12-18: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 November 19-25: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287
 November 26-December 2: Lee Gray 704-451-1309
 December 3-9: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412



The Terrific Tuesday Book Club is reading *White Houses* by Amy Bloom for the month of November. They will meet to discuss the book on November 27 at 12PM in the Library. Bring your own lunch to eat afterwards in the Lounge.



**Friday, November 16
 6:30 am in the Lounge**

Attention Deacons!

The next All Deacons' Meeting is Monday, November 19 at 7:30PM in Broach Hall. All deacon panels will meet prior to this meeting at 6:30 in various locations. Ministries meets in the Conference Room; Administrative meets in Broach Hall; Pastoral meets in the Lounge.

The NAMI support group for family members and care givers of those with a mental illness meets monthly at St. John's in the McLeod - Brown Sunday School room on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 7:00 - 8:30pm. Anyone with a loved one living with a mental illness is welcome.

Calendar for November 4-10, 2018

Sunday, November 4

- 9:15am..... St. John's 101 (Conference Room)
- 9:15sm..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
- 10:30am..... Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:30am..... Youth Lunch (Lounge)
- 12:00pm..... Youth Stream Clean Up
- 1:00pm..... South Sudanese Worship
- 2:00pm..... Hardin Minor Production (Broach Hall)

Monday, November 5

- 11:30am..... Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
- 5:30pm..... SJ Basketball Clinic (Gym)
- 5:30pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
- 6:00pm..... Women of the Church Board Meeting (Lounge)
- 6:30pm..... SJ Basketball Clinic (Gym)
- 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, November 6

- 6:30am..... General Election (Broach Hall)
- 7:00am..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
- 10:00am..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 11:00am..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)
- 1:00pm..... Soccer Shots (Gym)
- 5:15pm..... SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
- 6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)

Wednesday, November 7

- 6:30am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
- 9:30am..... Yoga (Room 114)
- 6:00pm..... Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
- 6:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)
- 6:00pm..... Handbells (Handbell Room)
- 7:15pm..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 7:30pm..... Sherrill Basketball (Gym)

Thursday, November 8

- 10:00am..... Craft & Needles Ministry (Room 209)
- 7:30pm..... CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, November 9

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

Saturday, November 10

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

Complete calendar online:
www.StJohnsBaptistChurch.org