



Family News

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

Vol. 76, No. 43- Week of November 19-25, 2018

St. John's at Worship

Sunday, November 25
 Christ the King Sunday

Proclaimer

Rev. Lee Gray

Worship Theme

Christ the King Sunday

Sermon Title

Where We See God

Scriptures

Mark 15:33-39;

Luke 24:13-16, 28-31

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Stewardship Update

Financial Ministry Pledge Report

Amount Pledged: \$683,864

Commitments Received: 144

If you have not turned in your pledge card to Jacquelyn in the office, please do so as soon as possible.



Hanging of the Green Service

On Sunday, December 2, at 10:30AM in the Sanctuary, we will gather for our special Hanging of the Green worship service to prepare our sanctuary for Advent and Christmastide. During this service, music from our Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, Handbells, and Children's Choir will be featured. We hope all plan to attend. There will be a guest reception at 9:15 in the parlor.

*Hanging of
 the Green*



WDAV Live Broadcast of Lessons & Carols

When? Tuesday, December 4

Time? 7:00PM

Where? Sanctuary of St. John's

WDAV Live Broadcast of Lessons and Carols will feature music by two of Charlotte's premiere vocal ensembles, Vox and the Charlotte Contemporary Ensemble. This event is broadcasted live throughout the city and the surrounding Carolinas.

The church office will be closed Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

We Will Give Thanks for Active Faith

As you read these words, Paula and I are driving to Tampa for Thanksgiving. Our daughter and son-in-law have purchased their first home and are hosting this year. My brother will drive over from Orlando to be with us. With family connections in several states, we approach this season like many of you; we choose a place and gather with those in that spot. No matter where we gather, we always share memories & stories and talk about plans & future visions. The seeds of future visions become tomorrow's blessings. Each year, we look at photos and listen to stories as what were last year's plans and visions are now realities. This year, we will remember how Dave & Rachael were planning to buy a house this time last year and we will hear about my brother's new business visions and opportunities.

In the life of St. John's, our 2019 financial stewardship theme is, 'Live Tomorrow's Life Today.' Like a family, we have wonderful stories to tell about yesterday as well as plans & future visions to explore.

This year, we are asking households of St. John's, which can afford to do so, to increase their commitments by a minimum of \$10 more per week (\$520 for the year.) If 200 households will do so, we will increase our annual giving by \$104,000 in 2019.

This vision allows us to:

- Increase our support of mission partners.
- Initiate new messaging and media initiatives.
- Expand our outreach efforts, hospitality and guest services and congregational care.
- Multiply resources to support our ministries of worship and education.
- Offer additional experiences aimed at serving families with children and youth.
- Strengthen our relationships in the local community.
- Supply resources offering substantive theology and biblical literacy to nurture spiritual growth.
- Provide a cost of living increase to staff while providing funds to staff for our vision.
- Set aside ample funds for building utilities and property repair & maintenance.
- Enhance the appearance of our landscape and street presentation to passersby.
- Improve our safety and security systems.
- Bolster our involvement in peace-building.

One year from now, we will have stories to tell of how this year's plans are now realities. And, we will give thanks once again for active faith.

**Shalom,
Dennis**

Youth News from Lee

This Week...

- **Sunday, November 25-** Regular Sunday evening schedule with small groups and the **last full youth choir practice** before **Hanging of the Green** worship service.

Upcoming Dates and News...

- **Friday, November 30 – High School Youth sponsor and attend the QC Family Tree Community Meal**
- **Saturday, December 1 – Youth Basketball Games begin**
- **December 2 – Youth Delivery of Poinsettias to St. John's Neighbors after worship**
- **January 25-27 – Youth Ski Trip to Winterplace** – I will send out a sign up email next week. We have asked for BYEs in the basketball schedule for that weekend.
- **March 17 – Youth Mission Auction after worship – Put this on your calendar and plan to be here!**
- **June 15-22 – High School Mission Trip to Puerto Rico**
- **July 22-27 - Unidiversity Summer Camp in Knoxville, TN**

From Allison

Formation and Worship for Children on Sunday, November 25 and an Advent Announcement

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 and Worship Hour. They will learn about how God gave the people the 10 Commandments to help them live, and they will enjoy time to play together.

Grades 1-3: This group will have Formation Class from 9:15-10. They'll learn about King Josiah and how he helped his people remember to live in God's way. Music is from 10-10:20, and they will be working on music for Hanging of the Green. 1st-3rd Graders will join their families for worship.

Grades 4-5: This group will have Formation Class from 9:15-10 where they will learn how King Josiah helped his people remember to live in God's way. Music is from 10-10:20, and they will be working on music for Hanging of the Green. 4th-5th Graders will join their families for Worship.

We have one more Sunday until Advent begins. Please be watching the Family News for more information about events happening during Advent. (And yes, we will have our really cool Advent coloring posters that we'll work on in our classes on Sunday mornings!)



MRT News

There's a Spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere: "Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world!" When a stranger's not alone, where the homeless find a home, praise the love the Christ revealed, living working, in our world!

Room in the Inn

For the 2018-2019 season, St. John's and Caldwell Presbyterian Church volunteers will again collaborate to house 12 homeless neighbors, vetted by the Urban Ministry Center, each Friday night from December 7 through March 29. Alice Wirz and Dale Johnson, as long time liaisons with this ministry, are very grateful for the continued support of the many who have previously volunteered. We hope you will be able to continue with this ministry and we also welcome others who might wish to help with a piece of this ministry.



To sign up for any of the varied tasks in serving our homeless neighbors on Friday evenings please use our 2018-2019 RITI Signup Genius form, which is accessed at the following website:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4caaae2eaafb6-room9>

There will be a training session for RITI volunteers from 2:00-4:00PM in the church lounge on Sunday, November 25. If you have any questions on any tasks or need assistance in signing up, please contact Dale Johnson at 704-364-2575 or Alice Wirz at 704-377-6189.

Jubilee Store

Charlotte Family Housing sponsors its annual Jubilee Store, to be held this year in Broach Hall, where clients can purchase Christmas gifts at discounted prices.

Here is how you can help:

- Pick a leaf from one of the Christmas trees at our Main Entrance, showing a specific gift, purchase it and return it to St. John's by December 2. On Sundays you may leave the gift in the collection bin at the Main Entrance. During the week, please leave the gift with Mallory in the church office.
- Volunteer with the set up, hospitality, or day-of- the event support. Clara Howell can connect you with the CFH staff that can schedule a time that works for you.



Contact Clara Howell at 704-578-8153 or clarahowell92@gmail.com

Christmas Cards for Neighbors

Starting this Sunday, November 25, the mailboxes for Christmas Card for Neighbors will be available near the Main Entrance. Anyone is invited to write and/or decorate a Christmas card for one or several of our members who cannot easily come to church services anymore. The list of those receiving cards will be on the table near the mailboxes. So, bring your own card or use one here at the church and put them in one of the mailboxes starting this Sunday! The mailboxes will be open until Sunday, December 16 so that deacons have time to deliver them.



St. John's Lessons & Carols

On Sunday, December 16, at 10:30AM in the sanctuary, we present our own service of Lessons & Carols featuring the St. John's Chancel Choir, as well as a string quartet. The music and readings throughout the service will be filled with the wonder of the season of Advent.

December Outing

What? Singing Christmas Tree: Big Band Bash!

When? Sunday, December 9, at 4:00pm

Where? Knight Theater

join the group from St. John's attending this year's show or for more information, please contact Jacquelyn McAbee at jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org or 704-333-5428, ext. 20.

Help the Weekday School This Season!

The Weekday School has Amazon wish lists for classroom supplies in each classroom at the following links: [Weekday School](#), [Infant Class](#), [Toddlers Class](#), [2s Class](#), [3s Class](#), [4s Class](#), [TK Class](#). If you want to help supply these classrooms so that they are equipped to provide the best curriculum and instruction to our preschoolers, please consider purchasing from these lists. Additionally, please link your VIC card for Harris Teeter to the WDS. Their ID number is #5879.

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: Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm, Friday 8:30am-12:00 noon

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Bill Finger, Asbury; Larry Batts, Nancy Burgess, McLain Hall, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Rob Peacock, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Elma Thomas & Dee Turner- home

Sunday, November 25

Deacons: Jane Newman, Morgan Newman, Robby Ray, Shannon Rodden, Greg Rodden, Judy Sanford, Gail Sifford, Henry Snyder, Laura Sorrell, Kathy Spence

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner, Ken Hungate; 5th St./Narthex-Treva Bridges; Broach Hall-Ashley Hogewood; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Margaret Falls, Linda Kerley

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of November 12-18: \$35,546
 Income through November 18: \$859,606
 Annual 2018 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,135,000

Ministers on Call:

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 meets again next Tuesday, November 27 at 12PM in the Library. The book for discussion is *White Houses* by Amy Bloom. Bring a lunch of your own to eat afterwards with the group if you plan on attending.

SJ Basketball Practice Schedules

All St. John's Basketball teams will practice on their respective day of the week (listed below):

- **6 & Under Co Ed** – 5:30 pm on Mondays
- **8 & Under Boys** – 6:30 pm on Thursdays
- **10 & Under Boys (Redding)** – 6:30 pm on Tuesdays
- **10 & Under Boys (Cardella)** – 6:30 pm on Mondays
- **12 & Under Boys** – 5:45 pm on Wednesdays
- **12 & Under Girls** – 5:30 pm on Thursdays
- **14 & Under Boys** – 12:00 pm on Sundays
- **15 & Under Girls** – 3:00 pm on Sundays
- **16 & Under Boys** – 7:00 pm on Wednesdays
- **18 & Under Girls** – 4:00 pm on Sundays



Save the Date

On Sunday, December 23, during the Sunday school hour (9:15-10:15), there will be a gathering of all ages to watch the Charlie Brown Christmas movie and enjoy hot cocoa together on the eve of Christmas Eve. Dress comfortably and bring your family and friends.

Calendar for November 25-December 1

Sunday, November 25

9:15am..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
 10:30am..... Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)
 1:00pm..... Room in the Inn Training (Gym)
 5:00pm..... Sunday Night Live (Gym, Lounge, Chapel, 3rd Floor)

Monday, November 26

11:30am..... Faith Journey Book Study (Room 220)
 5:30pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:30pm..... Media & Messaging Task Force (Broach Hall)
 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, November 27

7:00am..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00am..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00am..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 12:00pm..... Terrific Tuesday Book Club (Library and Lounge)
 1:00pm..... Soccer Shots (Gym)
 5:15pm..... SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
 6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:30pm..... Youth Resource Team (Lounge)
 6:30pm..... Spiritual Formation Resource Team (Broach Hall)
 7:30pm..... Sherril Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, November 28

6:30am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:30am..... Yoga (Room 114)
 1:30pm..... Learning Charms (Room 116)
 2:00pm..... Chrismon Tree Decorating (Sanctuary)
 6:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)
 6:00pm..... Membership Resource Team (Lounge)
 6:00pm..... Handbells (Handbell Room)
 7:15pm..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, November 29

7:30pm..... CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, November 30

5:00pm..... High School Youth Serve QC Family Tree
 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, December 1

7:00am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
 10:00am..... Basketball Games (Gym)
 1:00pm..... St. Jude Holiday Party (Broach Hall)

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org