



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 26-December 1, 2018

St. John's at Worship

Sunday, December 2

Hanging of the Green
Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Worship Theme

God, in Christ,
 Brings Hope to Stay

Sermon Title

Hope-Inspired Action

Scriptures

Jeremiah 33:14-16;

Luke 21:25-36

Advent Begins: God in Christ Has Come to Stay

This 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, Handbell Choir, and Children's Choirs will be featured. We hope all plan to attend. There will be a guest reception at 9:15 in the parlor.



Inside this issue:

Church Staff Page 2
 Weekday School Gift Cards

Room in the Inn 3
 Jubilee Store
 Lessons & Carols
 Stewardship Report
 Advent Yoga
 Help Move Furniture
 Charlie Brown and Cocoa

Staff Listing 4
 Prayer Concerns & Celebrations
 Sunday Service Schedules
 Financial Ministry Plan Report
 Ministers on Call
 Birthday Cards
 SJ Basketball Game Schedules
 Brotherhood of the Biscuit
 Calendar



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 three of Charlotte's premiere vocal ensembles, Vox, Charlotte Contemporary Ensemble, & Young Voices of the Carolinas. Also, this year's performance will include the premiere of Kevin's "Sleep, Little Tiny Baby" for SSA choir by Young Voices of the Carolinas. This event is broadcasted live throughout the city and the surrounding Carolinas.

Advent Devotional Booklets

Starting this Sunday, December 2, Advent Devotionals from St. John's will be available both in print and online through the website and Facebook. Included in the booklet are devotionals, poetry, illustrations, and contemplative coloring pages. So, pick up your booklet anytime starting this Sunday.

Christmas Cards for Neighbors

The mailboxes for Christmas Cards for Neighbors are available near the Main Entrance. Anyone is invited to write and/or decorate Christmas cards for one or several of our members who cannot easily come to church services anymore. The list of those receiving is on the table near the mailboxes. Use your own cards or use one provided at the church! The mailboxes will be open until Sunday, December 16 so that deacons have time to deliver them.

ADVENT: A SEASON TO GO BEYOND

Elias Chacour is an Arab who grew up in Galilee and became a Greek Orthodox priest in Jerusalem. Amidst terrible conflict in the Middle East, Chacour does not push for the rights of Arabs alone, but for all people. He walks down the streets of Jerusalem with an Muslim Oman on one side and a Jewish Rabbi on the other. Chacour says: "Over the years, I have developed a consciousness that my real community can only be Jews, Christians and Muslims living together in love.

Chacour's own Jerusalem congregation became bitterly divided, a few years ago, with a deep hatred running throughout the congregation. The people split into two angry factions, each one sitting on opposite sides of the sanctuary, until, one Palm Sunday, at the close of worship Chacour walked down the center aisle, took out the large key to the entryway, locked the doors, slipped the key inside his cassock and returned to the pulpit. Then, he said, "Friends, this rift cannot go on any longer. You all must decide. Either get up and kill each other right now... or love each other. I'll sit down while you decide."

Where do people find Christ today? They find him in us. They notice that he is being born in our lives. They listen to what we say. They notice how we relate to people of other skin colors, cultures, religions, political persuasions, and belief systems. They notice how we repent of our own sin and forgive others for their sins against us. They see us focus on reconciliation.

During this Advent and Christmas season, Americans will use more than fifty million rolls of wrapping paper, more than thirty million packages of tags and bows, over forty million Christmas trees and more than four hundred million greeting cards. Yet, this year, you may be able to give a gift beyond monetary value. You may be able to,

- Mend a quarrel.
- Dismiss suspicion.
- Tell someone, "I love you."
- Give something away--anonymously.
- Forgive someone who has treated you wrong.
- Turn away wrath with a soft answer.
- Say a word against prejudice and hatred.
- Give a gift to someone who does not expect one.
- Visit someone who is lonely.
- Be especially kind to someone with whom you work.

In the beginning Jesus was just a word. But he didn't stay a word. The Word became flesh. May we go beyond words, fleshing out the character of Jesus, the reason for this season.

Shalom,
Dennis

Youth News from Lee

This Week...

- Friday, November 30 – High School Youth sponsor and attend the QC Family Tree Community Meal
- Saturday, December 1 – Youth Basketball Games begin (see schedule on back page of Family News)
- Sunday, December 2: Hanging of the Green Worship Service & Youth Delivery of Poinsettias to St. John's Neighbors after worship

Upcoming Dates and News...

- January 25-27 – Youth Ski Trip to Winterplace
- 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

In addition to the Weekday School's Amazon wish lists, printed in last week's Family News, they are also accepting Amazon Gift Cards to purchase items on the wish lists.



From Allison

Formation and Worship for Children on Sunday, December 2

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 an angel came to visit Mary. They will also practice to be worship leaders during Hanging of the Green. During Worship Hour, they will sing toward the beginning of the service and join their families after they sing. Worship bags are available to help your child during worship. This service also has a lot of special music, symbols, and readings that will help them engage in worship.

Grades 1-5: This group will have Music from 9:15-10:20. They'll practice for being worship leaders during Hanging of the Green, and enjoy some extra time for music games and activities. They will sit together during worship. **The piece they are singing will happen at the end of the service.**



MRT News

Room in the Inn 2018-2019

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>



Any questions? Please contact Dale Johnson at 704-364-2575 or Alice Wirz at 704-377-6189.

Jubilee Store: December 8 & 9

If you want to help with the Jubilee Store for Charlotte Family Housing, please see some specific needs below from Clara Howell:

Between Now and December 8-9:

- Decorating
- Inventory of Gifts

Friday, December 7:

- General Support from 9:30AM-3:00PM from 5-10 members of St. John's to help guide volunteers and those bringing gifts to stock the store
- Contact Clara Howell for a specific time to come.

Saturday, December 8, and Sunday, December 9-

- Help in the store. Please contact Clara Howell for a specific time to come so that there are not too many or too few at different times.
- Greeters & Guides- We need some St. John's folks present to help assist people in navigating the building and maintain a presence.
- Parking Lot Gophers- A few people are still needed to help people know where to park and to assist them with bringing gifts back out to their car.
- Childcare- There are a few spots left for childcare assistance during the store hours.

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

Lessons & Carols: December 16

Our own Lessons & Carols service will take place on Sunday, December 16 during regular worship time (10:30am). We hope all will attend!

Financial Ministry Pledge Report 2019

Amount Pledged: \$768,828

Commitments Received: 155

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

Advent Yoga: December 11

Advent Yoga returns this year on Tuesday, December 11 at 6:30pm in Room 114. Please join us for a time of meditation, stretching, and relaxation as we venture further into the Advent season. Please let Mallory in the office know if you plan on attending so that have enough space. Both chairs and yoga mats will be available.

We Need Your Help Moving Furniture!

From Wednesday, January 2 to Saturday, January 5, we need your help moving LOTS of furniture from Kings College to our building. Please click here to sign up for available times on these dates:

<https://goo.gl/forms/7hJgyjY90jXoekpx1>

Save the Date

On Sunday, December 23, during the Sunday school hour (9:15-10:15), there will be a gathering of all ages in Broach Hall 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.



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, December 2

Deacons: Carol Injaychock, Todd Stillerman, Anne Sutton, Cindy McIntyre/Melissa Millette, Keith Towery, Kathy Turner, Elizabeth Whipple, Nancy Wilson, Lindsay Wilson, Alice Wirz

Greeters: Main-Carol and Tom Injaychock; 5th St./Narthex -Vanessa Boling; Broach Hall-Gail Sifford; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Tim Gibson, Morgan Newman

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of November 19-25: \$18,367
 Income through November 25: \$877,973
 Annual 2018 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,135,000

Ministers on Call:

November 26-December 2: Lee Gray 704-451-1309
 December 3-9: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
 December 10-16: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234

If you have any birthday cards for men or women for the birthday card ministry, please drop them by the church office with Mallory during the week or give them to Patricia McCaskill.

SJ Basketball Game Schedule

Team	Date & Time	Location
6 & Under Co-Ed	Dec 1 @ 10AM	St. John's Baptist
8 & Under Boys	Dec 1 @ 11AM	St. John's Baptist
10 & Under Boys (Cardella)	Dec 1 @ 1PM	St. John's Baptist
10 & Under Boys (Redding)	Dec 1 @ 2PM	St. John's Baptist
12 & Under Boys	Dec 1 @ 3PM	St. John's Baptist
12 & Under Girls	Dec 1 @ 8:30AM	Providence Baptist
14 & Under Boys	Dec 1 @ 9:30AM	Sharon Presby.
15 & Under Girls	Dec 1 @ 12:30PM	Trinity Episcopal
16 & Under Boys	Dec 1 @ 1PM	Mulberry Baptist
18 & Under Girls	Dec 1 @ 1:45PM	Providence Baptist

Brotherhood of the Biscuit will meet again on Friday, December 14 in the Lounge at 6:30AM.

Calendar for December 2-8

Sunday, December 2

8:00am.....Personnel Vacancy Task Force (Conference Room)
 9:15am..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
 9:15am..... Guest Reception (Parlor)
 10:30am..... Worship: Hanging of the Green (Sanctuary)
 12:00pm..... Poinsettia Delivery and Lunch (Lounge/Offsite)
 1:00pm..... South Sudanese Worship (Chapel)

Monday, December 3

11:30am..... Faith Journey Book Study (Room 220)
 6:00pm..... WDAV Dress Rehearsal
 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, December 4

7:00am..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00am..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00am..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 5:15pm..... SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
 7:00pm..... WDAV Concert (Sanctuary)
 8:00pm..... WDAV Reception (Lasater Hall)
 7:30pm..... Sherril Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, December 5

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

Thursday, December 6

9:00am..... Unity Coalition (Lounge)
 5:30pm..... Weekday School Board Meeting (Lounge)
 7:30pm..... CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, December 7

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

Saturday, December 8

7:00am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
 10:00am..... Basketball Games (Gym)
 5:30pm..... Jubilee Store (Broach Hall)

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org