



# Family News

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

Vol. 76, No. 48- Week of December 10-16, 2018

## St. John's at Worship

**Sunday, December 16**  
Third Sunday of Advent

### Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

### Worship Theme

God, in Christ,  
Brings Joy to Stay

### Sermon Title

*We Know What Happened to Sin*

### Scriptures

Zephaniah 3:14-20

If you missed the WDAV Charlotte Lessons & Carols, you can listen again on 89.9FM or [wdav.org](http://wdav.org) on Tuesday, December 25 at 3PM.

## Jubilee Store Message of Thanks

Thank you so much to everyone in the congregation who participated in this year's Charlotte Family Housing Jubilee Store. We exceeded our 100 gift goal this year and members assisted with the decoration, set-up and running of the event. Saturday evening, we hosted over 70 families who shopped for gifts, enjoyed a hot meal on a cold night, and spent time together in community. Throughout this week, families will shop who were unable to attend due to weather. Thank you to everyone who played a role in this wonderful event!

## A Service of Lessons & Carols on December 16

This Sunday, join us for worship at 10:30 for a Service of Lessons & Carols in the Sanctuary.

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Advent Yoga will meet again this year on Tuesday, December 18, at 7pm in Room 114 with Sara Vavra as instructor. People of all ability levels are welcome. Chairs will be provided, if needed, or you may bring a mat. Please call or email the church office ([mbrown@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:mbrown@sjcharlotte.org)) and make a reservation by December 14 for this class, as space is limited.

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.



## Christmas Eve Worship at St. John's

Join us for worship on Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24 at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary. We will come together for a service with candlelight and communion. All are welcome as we celebrate the advent of Christ.

## Advent, Celebration, and a New Year

I missed seeing you last Sunday! After trusting the weather forecasters on Saturday evening, I was glad to see snow and ice outside on Sunday morning. By this Sunday, the white stuff will be melted as we gather for our Sunday School Ministry Formation Groups and Lessons & Carols.

Once again, we are enjoying a meaning-full Advent. The next two Sundays will prepare us for a wonder-full celebration on Christmas Eve.

Then, we will enter 2019 for a New Year of enriched and new ministries. In recent weeks, I have met with several groups within our congregation. Each group consists of members who are envisioning and making commitments toward our future. Here are a few:

**STAFFING FOR OUR FUTURE TASK FORCE:** This group is guided by Todd Stillerman, chair of our deaconate. They are looking at information gleaned from members and reviewing our church's goals and demographics.

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW TASK FORCE:** This group is guided by Bill Hartsell, a retired architect. They are listening to members and considering concepts as to how our facilities can be updated for future ministries based upon our church's goals and the continued population growth of our city and area.

**MESSAGING AND MEDIA RESOURCE TEAM:** This new group of 20 members had our first meeting in late November to begin exploring ways to expand our communication with the people of Charlotte who are interested in a church like ours. Expect to hear more from this group in the first six months of 2019.

**SPIRITUAL FORMATION RESOURCE TEAM:** This new group of 30 members had our first meeting in late November also and will be initiating several practical approaches in 2019 in areas such as Expanding and Updating our Sunday School Ministry Formation Groups for purposes of caring, learning and reaching out; Spirituality; Curriculum Resources; etc.

**MISSION RESOURCE TEAM:** This group is always active. Charlie Harper chairs this active group and they are already planning ways to help us continue to serve the needs of Charlotte and beyond in 2019.

In the past six weeks, it has been my blessing to visit with more than 30 of our members in retirement centers, in their homes, in hospitals and another 12 over breakfast, lunch or coffee. I have also been able to speak in three settings in our community: PFLAG Panel, Sharon Towers and Union Theological Seminary and will participate in 11 Christmas parties and special events in December. These times remind me of how blessed we are as a church and how blessed I am to serve as your senior minister. I love you and am grateful for how you love me.

**See you Sunday! (No snow-shoes necessary!)**

**Dennis**

## Youth News from Lee

### This Week...

- **Friday, December 14** - Middle School Youth Christmas **Room In The Inn** Service Party 5:00 – 8:00 pm (Pickup and drop-off at church)
- **Sunday, December 16** – High School Christmas Bingo Party at **Charlotte Rescue Mission** 5:00 – 8:00 pm (Pickup and drop-off at church)

### 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!**



### Poinsettia Deliveries 2018



## From Allison

### Formation and Worship for Children on Sunday, December 16

**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 the night that Jesus was born, and they will get a chance to do some art and play together.

**Grades 1-5:** This group will have Formation Class from 9:15-10:20. They'll learn about how an angel visited Mary and about how Mary said yes to working with God; they'll also learn about how an angel came to visit Joseph, too. These classes will join their families for worship.

## Christmas Cards for Neighbors

This is the LAST week to write Christmas cards for neighbors! The mailboxes are available at the Main Entrance. 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 this coming Sunday, December 16 so that deacons have time to deliver them.

## Urgent Help Needed for RITI

As we move through the first month of Room in the Inn (RITI), we have immediate needs for volunteer help on the following December dates:

- **12/21 - Need setup assistance, food prep coordinator, van driver, 1-2 overnight hosts**
- **12/28 - Need 1-2 overnight hosts, laundry assistance**

If you can help or have questions, please call Dale Johnson (704-364-2575) or Alice Wirz (704-377-6189) or volunteer by clicking this signup list link:

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

## Hanging of the Green DVDs Available

DVD copies of the Hanging of the Green service are available, upon request, for \$5/each from Ryan Crowder. Contact Ryan at [crowderyan@gmail.com](mailto:crowderyan@gmail.com) or 704-302-7780 if you are interested in purchasing a copy. You can pick up your DVD the Sunday following your request in the church office. Other arrangements can be made, if necessary.



St. John's 90th Anniversary of the Sanctuary Christmas ornaments are available for purchase in the office or with Fredda Kimball. If you would like to purchase one, they are \$10 and are a wonderful keepsake.

## Adventure Sunday School Party

The Adventure Sunday School Class Christmas Party is Friday, December 21 at the home of Shannon & Greg Rodden. If you are not affiliated with a Sunday School class (or if you're just curious!) and would like to join us, please contact Todd Stillerman at [stillerman@gmail.com](mailto:stillerman@gmail.com).

## Help Move Furniture from King's College!

From Wednesday, January 2 to Saturday, January 5, we need your help moving LOTS of HEAVY furniture from King's College to our building. Only one person has signed up to help.

Please click here to sign up for available times on these dates:

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

## Conversation with Your Architectural Task Force

Earlier this year, the church approved the appointment of an Architectural Review Task Force. This group is chaired by Bill Hartsell and includes Don Hinson, Chris Lavender, Bobbie Sherrill, Kathy Spence, and Kevin Turner with Dennis Foust serving ex-officio. This Sunday, December 16th, following worship, members of the Architectural Task Force will be in the Chapel to listen to your ideas concerning building renovations and planning. All comments and suggestions are welcome and your input will greatly help the planning as we go forward. If you are unable to be present on the 16<sup>th</sup>, feel free to present your ideas to any Task Force member.

## Financial Ministry Pledge Report 2019

**Amount Pledged: \$832,601**

**Commitments Received: 170**

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



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

**St. John's Baptist Church**  
 300 Hawthorne Lane | Charlotte NC 28204  
 704.333.5428 | [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://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](mailto:abenfield@sjcharlotte.org)  
 Minister for Worship and Music.....Kevin Gray  
 ext. 14 - [kgray@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:kgray@sjcharlotte.org)  
 Minister for Youth & Young Adults.....Lee Gray  
 ext. 15 - [lgray@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:lgray@sjcharlotte.org)  
 Senior Minister.....Dennis Foust  
 ext. 12 - [dfoust@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:dfoust@sjcharlotte.org)

**Church Staff**

Administrative Assistant.....Mallory Brown  
 ext. 11 - [mbrown@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:mbrown@sjcharlotte.org)  
 Church Administrator.....Jacquelyn McAbee  
 ext. 20 - [jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org)  
 Custodians.....Chris Mullis, Sonny Ross, Debora Thon  
 Graded Choirs Director.....Anna Ball  
 Organist.....Noel Lance  
[nlance@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:nlance@sjcharlotte.org)  
 Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted  
 ext. 39 - [weekdayschool@sjcharlotte.org](mailto: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, Buck Gray, McLain Hall, Betty Hastings, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Ken Hungate, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Elma Thomas & Dee Turner- home

**Sunday, December 16**

**Deacons:** Clara Howell, Chuck Howard, Carol Injaychock, Libby LeVie, Jeff LeVie, Christa Lynch, Gary McFarland, Cindy McIntyre, Tricia Miller, Melissa Millette  
**Greeters:** Main-Ed Turner and Phil Vavra; 5th St./Narthenx-Linda Kerley; Broach Hall-Ed Outen; Elevator-Marvin Carter  
**Tellers:** Marvin Carter and Jeff LeVie  
**Ushers:** Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Susan King

**Financial Ministry Plan Report:**

Week of December 3-9: \$8,531  
 Income through December 16: \$906,823  
 Annual 2018 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,135,000

**Ministers on Call:**

December 10-16: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234  
 December 17-23: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234  
 December 24-30: Lee Gray 704-451-1309



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

**SJ Basketball Game Schedule**

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

**Calendar for December 16-22**

Sunday, December 16

9:15am..... Sunday School (Classrooms)  
 10:30am.....Worship: Lessons & Carols (Sanctuary)  
 1:00pm..... South Sudanese Worship (Chapel)  
 5:00pm..... High School Youth Mission and Party (Offsite)

Monday, December 17

8:00am..... Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)  
 11:30am..... Faith Journey Book Study (Room 220)  
 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, December 18

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)  
 6:00pm..... Safety & Security Task Force (Lounge)  
 6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)  
 7:00pm..... Advent Yoga (Room 114)  
 7:30pm..... Sherril Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, December 19

6:30am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)  
 9:00am..... Weekday School Winter Festival (Broach Hall)  
 9:30am..... Yoga (Room 114)  
 6:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)  
 7:15pm..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, December 20

11:00am..... Uptown Ladies (Lounge)  
 7:30pm..... CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, December 21

11:00am..... King's College Graduation (Sanctuary)  
 5:00pm..... Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym)  
 5:30pm..... Volunteers Serve Dinner Uptown Men's Shelter  
 7:00pm..... Adventure Class Christmas Party (Offsite)  
 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, December 22

7:00am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)  
 10:00am..... Basketball Games (Gym)

Complete calendar online: [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)