



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 2- Week of January 7-13, 2019

St. John's at Worship

Sunday, January 13

First Sunday after

Epiphany

Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon Title

*Tempted to be Christ's
Church*

Scriptures

Luke 4:1-15

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Celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

1. Join MeckMin for **Food for Thought at Covenant Presbyterian Church on January 17, 2019 from 11:45am-1:00pm** as we discuss the challenges of providing economic opportunity for all Charlotteans. King didn't believe there was a path to genuine prosperity without public policies designed to help the most vulnerable. The dreamer was clear, charity is not enough. We look forward to seeing you as we discuss the challenges that Charlotte must address to level the playing field for all of its citizens. Register at <http://www.meckmin.org/event/food-for-thought-january-17-2019-2/>

2. All are invited to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through music, art, and poetry on **Monday, January 21 at 7pm at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church** on 3400 Beatties Ford Road. This program is free and presented by Opera Carolina. The program is a fusion of the arts with readings from Dr. King's well-known speeches and writings. Several members of the St. John's choir will be singing in this program.

3. The **youth Martin Luther King, Jr. project** is at Hope Chapel. We will repair the fence, an indoor closet, and also clean the facility. Additionally, we will cook and serve several hundred hot dogs. Youth participating need to be at the church by 9:45am and will return to the church by 1:00pm.

Epiphany: Lose Your Shyness, Find Your Tongue, Tell the World What God Has Done

Through seasons of the Christian Year, we retrace the main themes of God's Good News by staying close to the story of Jesus. Advent prepares us spiritually for God's promise. Christmas expresses our celebration of God's gift in Jesus. Epiphany provides us opportunities to share the news that, in Jesus, God is revealed as love. Lent invites us into spiritual renewal as we reflect on the life of sacrificial servanthood presented to us in Jesus. Easter inspires us to rise into the hope of resurrection living. Pentecost challenges us to live in the power of God's Holy Spirit as Christ's Church. Kingdomtide calls us to focus on why and how St. John's participates with all God's people in the ministry of the Kingdom of God in the world.

Just as Christmas follows Advent, Epiphany follows Christmas. We reveal why Jesus came. In Jesus, God manifests or makes love visible. In Jesus, we have God's good news to share. Our theme for Epiphany is a phrase in our hymn for this church year, *There's A Spirit in the Air*. This phrase is, "Lose your shyness, find your tongue, tell the world what God has done." Epiphany immerses you in the love of God and invites you to reveal God's love to others. With whom are you sharing the good news of God's love?



Youth Sunday

February 3, 2019 at 10:30am in the Sanctuary

Youth Sunday is February 3, 2019 during morning worship. The youth will lead all aspects of worship. We hope you all plan to join us! A special offering will be collected on this Sunday for the Souper Bowl of Caring to support Loaves and Fishes & Friendship Trays of Charlotte.

St. John's and the Mission of God

On Christmas Eve, your worship bulletins included an insert from your Mission Resource Team. You saw some of the ways your participation and financial gifts served people in need during 2018. More than \$170,000 were used to alleviate suffering, enrich opportunities, provide facilities, feed the hungry, share the message of God's love, shelter the homeless, educate those desiring to learn, clothe the poor, welcome and affirm those who have been de-churched, welcome refugees, create safe space for children and youth, support families living through challenges, provide clothing and toys for children, etc.

There is no way to tell all the stories of individuals or families whose lives were changed because of your generosity and active faith. I am so pleased to see how you continue to touch people who feel hopeless, bereft, conflicted, devalued, estranged, depressed, and forgotten. Thank you for being ST. JOHN'S – A SERVANT CHURCH; and, thank you for being committed to more than an organization or to the needs of people – thank you for being committed to live as partners with others in the mission of God.

Shalom,
Dennis

Sale of Garrison Road Property Complete

Last month, the church completed the sale of the Garrison Road property to Lincoln Harris. The property was formerly used by the church for the "Dixie Mission" project in West Charlotte, but the church had not used the property for many years. The congregation approved the sale of the property in 2018. The net proceeds of the sale are \$598,800. At the direction of the Finance Resource Team, the sale proceeds were deposited in an interest-bearing account, where they will remain until further direction from the congregation.

This spring, the congregation will participate in discussions regarding broad proposals by the Architectural Review Task Force and the Staffing Our Future Task Force. As part of those discussions, we will consider together how best to use the sale proceeds. Please follow the Family News for additional information about how you can participate in this process.

The church gives its thanks to the following individuals, each of whom gave substantial amounts of their time and energy to completing the sale: David Allen, Ken Benton, Norman Fortson, Cathy Hartsell, Doug Hammond, Chuck Howard, Fredda Kimball, Russell Norris, Kim Ray, Sally Young and Dennis Foust.

Youth News from Lee

Upcoming Dates and News...

- **January 21**—**MLK Project** (see front of Family News)
- **January 25-27**—**Youth Ski Trip** to Winterplace
- **February 3**—**Youth Sunday** during morning worship
- **March 17**—**Youth Mission Auction** after worship – Put this on your calendar and plan to be here!

Thank You from Lee Gray

"I want to thank the St. John's church family for the love and support they showed to me and my family in the passing of my father, Buck Gray. What an incredible turnout for his memorial service! Also, thank you for the many kind notes and words. It is a privilege to serve alongside you at St. John's" -Lee Gray

Celebration of Baptism on January 6

On Sunday, January 6, we celebrated the baptism of Audrey Heasley (center of right picture) and Katherine Mae Rodden (fourth from left on left picture). We are thankful for these two as they commit their lives to Christ through baptism. May we all encourage them as a community of faith along their journeys!



From Allison

Formation and Worship for Children on Sunday, January 13

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

PreK/K: This class will be cared for in their room during the Formation and Worship Hours. They'll be learning about how Jesus' family had to become refugees in Egypt to stay safe when King Herod was very mad. They'll also enjoy time for art and play.

Grades 1-5: Formation Class is from 9:15-10:00. They'll be learning about how Jesus' family had to leave for Egypt so that they could stay safe from King Herod who wanted to kill Jesus. Grace Notes is from 10-10:20. 1st-3rd Grade will have Godly Play during the worship hour, 4th and 5th Grades will worship with their families.

Parent Seminar on February 24

On Sunday, February 24, parents of children are invited to gather in the Chapel with Allison during the Sunday School hour to learn about and discuss ways that you can create intentional opportunities at home to deepen your child's (and family's) faith. Allison will share easy ways to build prayer, scripture, and service into your life as a family. There will be time to discuss what good resources are available to parents, what resources you would be interested in finding, and what things are already working for your family.

Room in the Inn: January Needs

As we move through our winter season of providing a warm bed and a hot meal to 12 homeless men in Charlotte we have immediate needs for the remainder of January. If you are able to fill one of these needs please sign up on <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4caaae2eaafb6-room9>, or contact Alice Wirz (ahwirz@carolina.rr.com) or Dale Johnson (dwj9578@usa.com) for more information. Thank you for continuing to support this ministry!

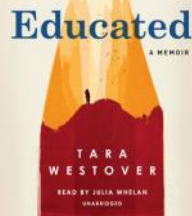
- **January 11:** Need a setup assistant, info table helper, and a van driver
- **January 18:** Need a setup assistant, one more overnight host, info table helper, and a laundry assistant
- **January 25:** Need a setup assistant, 2 more overnight hosts, and a laundry assistant



Brotherhood of the Biscuit will meet again on Friday, January 18 at 6:30AM in the Lounge.

Terrific Tuesday Book Club January 22 @ 12PM in the Library

The Terrific Tuesday Book Club will meet to discuss the memoir, *Educated* by Tara Westover on Tuesday, January 22 at 12PM in the Library. All are welcome to join this discussion and bring a lunch to eat afterwards in the lounge.



Panel Discussion: January 31

“Civil Discourse: Building a Bridge of Communication Between Differing Opinions”

Members and friends of the St. John's family are invited to a special program sponsored by Aldersgate Retirement Community on January 31 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The program, entitled "Civil Discourse: Building a Bridge of Communication Between Differing Opinions", will feature a panel discussion, with our own Dr. Dennis Foust, Rev. Joshua Bowron of St. Martin's Episcopal, and Rev. Harry Burns of Tranquil AME Church serving as panelists. For more information, contact Nina or Carl Philips at ninacarl@gmail.com or 704-596-3135. Location is the Aldersgate Fellowship Hall, Ray Hall Center.

Open Table

Wednesday, February 27 @ 5:50 in Broach Hall

Our next Open Table is scheduled for Wednesday, February 27. The theme is Mardi Gras! We will gather in Broach Hall at 5:50 and dismiss by 7:00 pm. Contact Mallory or sign up at this link today: <https://goo.gl/forms/zQ53ySW9ZZzLjwdm2>



MRT News

Refugee 101 on March 6, 2019

According to publications of the **Refugee Support Services (RSS)** in Charlotte, the world is experiencing the largest refugee crisis in global history, with people around the world being forcibly displaced from their homes because of violence, persecution, and war. At the same time, US policies have reduced the number of refugee admissions to the lowest in the history of US. Some of these refugees are arriving in Charlotte and served by RSS, a 501-C-3 volunteer-based organization, which was established to facilitate the transition of local refugees to a new life in our community by helping them access resources and develop their skills to promote self-sufficiency. Currently, many of these refugees are from Burma, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Syria. St. John's has begun a partnership with RSS and some of our members visit the center to take snacks and greet those in the ESL classes and those working in their needlework groups. On the morning of **March 6, RSS is offering a session called "Refugee 101,"** when the center provides an overview of the refugee situation in Charlotte, along with some details about services provided by RSS and opportunities for the community to assist. Space for each of the sessions is limited and registration is required. **If you are interested in learning more about this area of service and want to register for the March 6 session, please contact Mallory Brown in the church office by February 15.**

If you need further information about this opportunity please contact Nina Phillips (ninacarl@gmail.com) or Beverly Hester (beverlyrhester@earthlink.net).

Paul's Journeys

This year, VBS is June 10-14 from 9am-noon each day. VBS is for children aged 4 by June 1-Rising 6th Graders. We'll be learning about Paul and the Early Church through stories, art, and fun. We are giving members of St. John's and St. Martin's a few weeks to sign up before we open registration to the community.

Our Young Artists (4 Year Olds-Rising 1st Graders) will explore Paul's story and learn about the Early Church in an experience designed just for them! Each day includes art, story, and play.

Our Apprentices (Rising 2nd-6th Graders) will explore Paul's story and learn about the Early Church by choosing an art guild for the week. Guilds include: Drama, Puppetry, Illumination, Map-Making, and Sculpture.

Registration is a little different this year. Please note there are two ticket types this year. One is for 4 Year Olds-Rising 1st Graders (Young Artists). One is for Rising 2nd-6th Graders (Apprentices). Please choose the correct one when you register! **To register, [click here.](#)**

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

McLain Hall- hospital; Larry Batts, Nancy Burgess, Nancy Fuller, Betty Hastings, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Jerry Stephens, Elma Thomas & Dee Turner- home

Memorial Information for Buck Gray

In lieu of flowers, the family of J.L. "Buck" Gray requests memorial contributions be sent to: Providence Baptist Church, 4921 Randolph Road, Charlotte, NC 28211. Designate to the following: Libby Gray Media Center, Special Education Sunday School Class, or the Bereavement Ministry.

Sympathy

Sympathy to Mallory Brown, Administrative Assistant, in the death of her grandfather, Rip Collins, on January 3, 2019. Any notes or cards can be sent to the church office.

Thank You from Gene and Carol Poole

"How wonderful it is to be a part of such a loving, caring, and sharing church! Gene and I would like to thank you for enhancing our Christmas. The senior luncheon was so delightful--good food, good program, and good fellowship. It was so good to see so many of our neighbors there! The poinsettia is beautiful and still brightens our home and keeps us in the holiday spirit. The Christmas cards to our neighbors are a warm, touching, and loving way to show the love of Christ. How humbled we were to be recipients of those wonderful Christmas 'gifts.' Thank you for the ways you love and care for us. In deep love and appreciation, Gene and Carol Poole"

Sunday, January 13

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 Ken Hungate; 5th St./NartheX-Vanessa Boling; Broach Hall-Ed Outen; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Tom Blackmon, Matt Collins

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of Jan. 1-6: \$18,308
 Income through January 6: \$18,308

Ministers on Call:

January 7-13: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
 January 14-20: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 January 21-27: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287

SJ Basketball Game Schedule

| Team | Date & Time | Location |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 6 & Under Co-Ed | January 12 @ 12PM (1/5-W) | St. John's |
| 8 & Under Boys | January 12 @ 10AM (1/5-W) | St. John's |
| 10 & Under Boys (Cardella) | January 12 @ 2PM (1/5-W) | St. John's |
| 10 & Under Boys (Redding) | January 12 @ 3PM (1/5-L) | St. John's |
| 12 & Under Boys | January 12 @ 2:45 (1/5-L) | Providence Baptist |
| 12 & Under Girls | January 12 @ 1PM (1/5-L) | St. John's |
| 14 & Under Boys | January 12 @ 1:30PM (1/5-L) | FBC Charlotte |
| 15 & Under Girls | January 12 @ 6:30PM (1/5-W) | Calvary |
| 16 & Under Boys | January 12 @ 11:30AM (1/5-W) | Avondale Presby. |
| 18 & Under Girls | January 12 @ 8:30AM | Sardis Presby. |

Birthday Cards Needed!

We need birthday cards for men and women for the birthday card ministry. Please bring them to Mallory or give them to Patricia McCaskill.

Calendar for January 13-19

Sunday, January 13

8:00am..... Staffing the Future Task Force (Lounge)
 8:30am..... Ministries Endowment Sub-Committee (Conference Room)
 9:15am..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
 10:30am..... Worship (Sanctuary)
 10:30am..... Godly Play (Room 221)
 5:00pm..... Sunday Night Live (Gym/Lounge/3rd Floor)
 6:00pm..... Youth Mission Auction Meeting (Room 209)

Monday, January 14

9:30am..... Mental Health America (Lounge)
 11:30am..... Faith Journey Book Study (Room 220)
 5:30pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:30pm..... Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, January 15

7:00am..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00am..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00am..... Bible Workbench
 4:00pm..... Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
 5:15pm..... SJBC Men's Basketball Group (Gym)
 6:00pm..... Safety and Security Task Force (Lounge)
 6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 7:30pm..... Sherrill Basketball Group (Gym)

Wednesday, January 16

6:30am..... Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
 9:30am..... Yoga Class (Room 114)
 6:00pm..... Handbells (Handbell Room)
 6:00pm..... Membership Resource Team (Lounge)
 6:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)
 7:15pm..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
 8:15pm..... Team United/AAU Basketball Team (Gym)

Thursday, January 17

12:30pm..... Novant Managers' Meeting (Broach Hall)
 7:30pm..... CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, January 18

6:30am..... Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
 9:00am..... Dove's Nest (Lounge)
 5:00pm..... Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym)
 5:00pm..... Middle School Youth Serve QC Family Tree (Offsite)
 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, January 19

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

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org