



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 5- Week of January 27-February 3, 2019

St. John's at Worship

Sunday, February 3
 Youth Sunday

Proclaimers

Lena Duke & Lily Wilkerson

Worship Theme:

God is with You

Wherever You Go:

Singing in a Strange Land.

Scriptures

Psalms 137:1-4 &

Deuteronomy 10:12-14, 17-21

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Youth Sunday 2019

God is with You Wherever You Go: Singing in a Strange Land

Join us for this Sunday, February 3, at 10:30am as our youth lead us in all aspects of worship. Our proclaimers are Lena Duke and Lily Wilkerson. Janie Smith, Elizabeth Rodden, and Emma Goodrich will lead the moments with the younger church. Samuel Bond will do an interpretive dance and David, Tyler and Nora Frances Benton will help lead our youth choir in singing an anthem for worship. Jacob Callaway, Miller Ray, Owen Hahn, and Sam Vavra will also lead prayers or readings of Scripture.

I Love Sunday School Day

Sunday, February 10

Read Dennis's article on the next page to consider the ways Sunday school makes an impact.



2019 Budget Q & A Sunday, February 10

Gather in the Chapel at 9:15am during Sunday School to ask any questions you have about the 2019 budget.

Important Church Conference & Lunch

Sunday, February 17th, in Broach Hall

On Sunday, February 17th, in Broach Hall, following worship, we will convene in Broach Hall for Church Conference. Lunch will be served at \$5/person and \$20 max per family. The purposes of this congregational meeting will be to vote on the 2019 Financial Ministry Plan Budget, hear an update from our Architectural Design Task Force and participate with our Staffing Our Future Task Force in an open conversation about visions.



New Member Welcome

On Sunday, January 20, Amy Chilton joined the membership of St. John's. Amy is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion at Wingate University. Additionally, she is an ordained minister in the American Baptist Churches, USA. She has a daughter, Vija, who is a seventh grader and active part of the youth group already. We are excited to welcome them into our family. If you would like to send them a note, their address is: 11711 Laurel Grove Lane, Charlotte, NC 28226.

Do not forget to bring your offering for the Souper Bowl of Caring this Sunday, February 3. All contributions will go to support Friendship Trays and Second Harvest Food Bank.

IS SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY A HOLE OR IS IT AN INVESTMENT IN SUSTAINABLE MINISTRY?

The first century Church did not impact the world for Christ because they offered doctrinal proclamations, became involved in politics, chased the latest fad or pronounced moral declarations. The first century Church impacted society because they loved one another and served the people in their midst through an active faith commitment guided by God's compassion revealed in Jesus Christ. The first century Church was living evidence of an authentic spiritual transformation lived out in small groups as they offered to other people a relational and ethical incarnation of God's Character, as revealed in Jesus.

Just as God draws near to us in Self-revelation in Jesus, we, as God's Church, are set apart to love one another, mature as disciples of Jesus and share God's mission and good news of salvation with others. As we draw near to the needs of the world and reveal the character of Jesus, we have impact by living as the body of Christ.

One of the ways we live as the body of Christ is through small groups. In St. John's, since our first Sunday in 1922, we have offered clusters of compassion and commitment, called Sunday School Ministry groups. Some people may question whether Sunday School matters anymore. I offer 10 reasons why your Sunday School Ministry small group should matter to you. It can:

- Offer authentic Christian community.
- Provide a spiritual accountability group.
- Support you with care along your journey.
- Sustain learning & maturity in active faith.
- Strengthen the overall mission of St. John's.
- Connect all generations to God's Story.
- Resource you as a disciple (learner) of Jesus Way.
- Help you apply biblical Truth to life.
- Be an excellent pathway to welcome guests.
- Deepen your experience of Christian friendship.

During January and February, we are considering how we proclaim God's timeless message in today's rapidly changing world. On Sunday, February 10th, I encourage you to renew your commitment to your Sunday School Ministry group. If you know of someone not participating in a group, invite them to your group.

One day, I watched children digging in the sand at the beach. They eventually left their digging and started picking up small sea shells. Another little boy, of about six years of age, had been digging his own hole about twenty yards away. He walked over and asked the group of children, "Are you finished with that hole?"

Some people try to experience spiritual vitality and a life of deep meaning in relationship with God by moving from one hole to another? I propose we consider how Sunday School Ministry groups can help us impact the world for Christ by allowing Christ to make an impact inside of us.

**Shalom,
Dennis**

News for Youth and Their Families from Lee

Friday, February 1

- Youth Sunday Practice at 4PM for all youth
- High School Youth prepare beds and serve dinner for Room in the Inn from 4:45-6:45pm in the gym and lounge

Sunday, February 3

- Youth Sunday during morning worship for all youth

Sunday, March 3

- Hornets Basketball game at 1:00pm after worship for all basketball teams and all SJBC youth, more details coming soon



Sunday, March 17

- Youth Mission Auction in Broach Hall after worship; all youth should plan to attend as we will be raising money for youth mission trips

News for Children and Their Families from Allison

Sunday, February 3

Formation and Worship for Children

- **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 went into the desert for 40 days to pray and be close to God. They'll also enjoy time for art and play.
- **Grades 1-3:** Formation Class is from 9:15-10:00. They'll be learning about how Jesus was baptized by his cousin John. Grace Notes is from 10-10:20. 1st-3rd Graders will join their families for worship.
- **Grades 4-5:** Formation Class is from 9:15-10:00. They'll be learning about who John the Baptist was. Grace Notes is from 10:10:20. 4th-5th Graders will join their families for worship.

Sunday, February 10

I Love Sunday School Day and Missions 101

- On this day, we will recognize all of the wonderful work our Sunday School teachers do. Please think of a small way to say thank you to your child's teachers.
- Also on this day, the 1st-5th Graders will learn about the Backpack Program that provides students from low-income families with a backpack of food for the weekend. All families with children are invited to bring in one of the following items or something similar this Sunday to donate: Applesauce, Fruit cups, Cereal bars, Nabs, and Juice Boxes.

Sunday, February 24

Parent Seminar

- Meet with Allison to discuss worshiping with children at church and at home during the Sunday school hour (9:15-10:15). The location has to be changed so stay tuned for that information. See Allison if you have questions!

VBS 2019: Paul's Journeys: To register, [click here.](#)



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>

Youth Mission Auction Sunday, March 17

Come to Broach Hall after worship on Sunday, March 17 to raise funds for two years of youth mission trips. This is an important event for our youth and fun for the whole congregation so plan to attend! Lunch and reservation information coming soon. Want to donate for the auction? Contact Lia Benton (liabenton@outlook.com)

Youth
Mission
Auction

Heritage Sunday: March 17

This year Heritage Sunday will be celebrated on March 17th. If you have friends, sons, daughters, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc. who have been part of the Youth Ministry at St. John's, please invite them to plan to be present on March 17th. In addition, if you have pictures of Youth Activities, we would love to have your pictures and are happy to copy and return to you. We are particularly interested in Youth Sundays and Youth Auctions for past years. You may contact Fredda Kimball or Linda Crowder or leave them with Mallory in the church office. If you have memories of your participation in the Youth Ministry, it would be wonderful if you could send those to us or to Mallory by email (or leave with Mallory, if written). Thank you so much.

Fredda Kimball & Linda Crowder
Church Archivists



Room in the Inn 2019

Please continue to check the sign-up page to see where we have open slots in which to serve Room in the Inn.

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

You may also contact Alice Wirz (ahwirz@carolina.rr.com) or Dale Johnson (dwj9578@usa.com) for more information.

Charlotte Family Housing Meals

St. John's is hosting meals for Charlotte Family Housing residents for the week of February 3. We need a family, Sunday School class, or small group to prepare a meal for up to 20 people, including a small group of children, on the following dates:

- Sunday, February 3
- Tuesday, February 5



If your group can help, please contact Clara Howell at clarahowell92gmail.com or 704-578-8153 for details.

Loaves & Fishes Food Drive 2019



The blue barrels are back in the main and Broach Hall entrances as collection points for the Loaves & Fishes food drive throughout the month of February. The clients of Loaves and Fishes are the working poor who need emergency help providing meals for themselves and their families. After obtaining a referral and making an appointment with the nearest pantry, they are given points to spend shopping in the pantry. Don't forget to donate items like laundry supplies, baby food and diapers – things that take a big bite out of grocery budgets.

New North Carolina Cooperative Baptist Partnership

A few years ago, North Carolina Cooperative Baptist Fellowship sponsored a new worship community in Charlotte focused on immigrants from Sierra Leone. Rev. Brickson Sam and his wife, Annie, are the leaders of the church. Their average attendance is 20 to 30. The place where they have been gathering has raised their rent substantially. After conversations with some church members representing our deacons, church council, finance resource team, trustees and staff, the Administrative Deacon Panel has approved them worshipping in our Chapel. Brickson and Annie are friends of Tom & Martha Bryson and have enjoyed time with Linda and the late Bill Finger. Members of this Sierra Leone community will be in worship with us this coming Sunday. Then, on February 10th, Brickson, Annie and others will participate as worship leaders with us. We look forward to being enriched by their sincerity and commitment.

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

SJ Basketball Game Schedule

Team	Date & Time	Location
6 & Under Co-Ed	February 2 @ 3:15PM	February 2 @ St. John's
8 & Under Boys	February 2 @ 1PM	February 2 @ St. John's
10 & Under Boys (Cardella)	February 2 @ 12PM	February 2 @ St. John's
10 & Under Boys (Redding)	February 2 @ 11AM	February 2 @ St. John's
12 & Under Boys	February 2 @ 12:30PM	February 2 @ Sardis Presby.
12 & Under Girls	February 2 @ 10AM	February 2 @ St. John's
14 & Under Boys	February 2 @ 12PM	February 2 @ FBC Matthews
15 & Under Girls	February 2 @ 12:45PM	February 2 @ Avondale Presby.
16 & Under Boys	February 2 @ 10:30AM	February 2 @ Trinity Epi. School
18 & Under Girls	February 2 @ 11:30AM	February 2 @ FBC Charlotte

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Larry Batts, Betty Hastings, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Parker Jackson, Kathy Mahnesmith, Sarah Peacock, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Jerry Stephens, Elma Thomas & Dee Turner- home

Sunday, February 3

Deacons: David Allen, Linda Balentine, Jason Benton, Jordan Benton, Leslie Bragg, Minh Callaway, Allene Cooley, Teri Franklin, Charlie Harper, Judy Sanford

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner, Phil Vavra; 5th St./Narthex-Susan King; Broach Hall-Jimmy Carpenter; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Linda Kerley, Margaret Falls

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of January 21-27: \$7,819
 Income through January 27: \$65,584

Ministers on Call:

January 28-February 3: Lee Gray 704-451-1309
 February 4-10: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234

NAMI Support Groups

The NAMI support group for family members/caregivers of those with mental illness meets monthly at St. John's on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 - 8:00pm. This month's meeting is on February 12 in Rooms 114 & 116.

Calendar for February 3-9

Sunday, February 3

8:00am..... Church Council (Conference Room)
 9:15am..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
 10:30am..... Worship/Youth Sunday (Sanctuary)
 6:00pm..... Youth Super Bowl Party (Offsite)

Monday, February 4

11:45am..... Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
 5:30pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:30pm..... Administrative Deacon Panel (Broach Hall)
 6:30pm..... Pastoral Deacon Panel (Lounge)
 6:30pm..... Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
 7:30pm..... All Deacons' Meeting (Broach Hall)
 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, February 5

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 Group (Gym)
 6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:30pm..... Charlotte Family Housing (Broach Hall and Lounge)
 7:30pm..... Sherrill Basketball Group (Gym)

Wednesday, February 6

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

Thursday, February 7

9:00am..... Unity Coalition (Lounge)
 7:30pm..... CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, February 8

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

Saturday, February 9

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

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

**Special Guest
 Coming to Terrific
 Tuesday Book Club!**

Mark February 26 on your calendar and join the book club @ 12pm in the Library to meet with author, Katherine Stillerman! She has authored 4 books and is also the mother of our own Todd Stillerman and grandmother of Mattie and Will. Stay tuned for more information. All are invited!

