



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 10- Week of March 4-March 10, 2019

St. John's at Worship

Sunday, March 10

First Sunday in Lent

Worship Theme:

Forty Days & Forty Nights

Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Message

*Grace Leading to New
Beginnings*

Scriptures

Luke 4:1-13

Elizabeth Communities of Faith Lenten Services



Each Wednesday in Lent, the Elizabeth Communities of Faith will meet at Caldwell Presbyterian at 12PM. The theme is "Meals with a MESSage," focused on Luke's meal stories. Lunch is included each time. The dates for each service are as follows:

- **Wednesday, March 13**
- **Wednesday, March 20 (St. John's leads)**
- **Wednesday, March 27**
- **Wednesday, April 3**
- **Wednesday, April 10**

A Brief History of the Youth Mission Auction from the Heritage Team

Since 1983, the Youth Mission Auction has not only raised money for our youth mission trips but provided inter-generational fellowship and fun. Summer youth mission trips became a yearly event in the early 1980's after the arrival of Valerie Hardy as the Youth Minister. Over the years, there have been trips to New Orleans (2), Washington DC (4), New York (4), Atlanta (4), Charleston (2), Cherokee, St. Louis, Miami, Ottawa, Chicago, Jefferson City, TN, and this year, Puerto Rico. The youth have participated in building 13 houses with Habitat in Circleville W VA, Lynchburg VA, Charlotte, and 10 at John's Island, SC. The monies now also provide for an in-town mission experience for the those in middle school.

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Youth Mission Auction 2019

Sunday, March 17 after Worship

Come to Broach Hall after worship next Sunday, March 17 for delicious BBQ, courtesy of MC Sorrell and Chuck Jones, Bake Sale, Silent Auction and Live Auction—all 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! Want to help us meet our \$30,000 goal? Consider the following:

- **Make a lunch reservation this Sunday or by calling or emailing Mallory in the church office before Monday, March 11 (\$12/adult and \$5/children under 10)**
- **Buy a raffle ticket or several for a chance to win a MiniMax Big Green Egg or Apple Watch (see the attached flyer for more details)**
- **Contribute to the bake sale—bring your donations Sunday, 3/17 before Sunday school**

Can't attend the auction? Please consider making a donation to the youth mission trip fund. Contact Lia Benton (liabenton@outlook.com) or Sara Vavra (saravavra@yahoo.com) with any questions.

(continued from front page)

Initially, funds were raised by rent-a-youth days with the youth providing services such as babysitting and yard work. The first auction on June 5, 1983 following a lunch in what is now Lasater Hall. There were 12 items sold including golf at MPCC, beach house weekends, paintings, a plane ride over Charlotte, cakes, and cookies made by Harriet Lasater with the stipulation that bidding could only be done by children 12 and under. The silent auction was begun in 1988. The auctions were a great success and were held every year (except 1991) until 1999 when it was decided that the auction would be every two years, alternating with other church events. Since then there have been 10 auctions for a total of 25.

The very first auctioneer was Bill Finger. Over the years, the auctioneers have included Ashley Hogewood, Bill Claytor, David Crowder, Ken Benton, David Allen, Ryan Crowder, Marc Cardella, Steven Follis, the Blues Brothers, "Grandmama" Larry Johnson of the Hornets, cheerleaders from UNC and Wake Forest, Blythe Taylor and Martha Kearse, a couple from Dancing with the Stars, the two rival Miss North Carolinas, the Good Witch and Bad Witch from the Land of Oz, and Princesses Elsa and Anna. Since the auction is held every other year, the monies fund missions trips and activities for both the year of the auction and the following year.

Stepping into Lent from Dennis

Our youngest granddaughter, Eleanor, took her first steps a few weeks ago. Seeing her find her balance with every step brings joy and smiles. I have noticed how she handles transitions. Moving from carpet to hardwood or tile in sock feet requires extra attentiveness by a 10-month old. She pauses. Transitions require extra attentiveness for each of us and for all of us. Too often, we try to move from one task to another, from one relationship to another, from one responsibility to another without a pause.

Yesterday was Ash Wednesday. Once again, this year, Allison Benfield created reflective experiences in Broach Hall. I look forward to this time as a spiritual pause. I stop to reflect through each area of my life and – without exception – find areas or aspects of my life which I need to address. On Ash Wednesday, we are stepping into Lent, a journey of spiritual formation and renewal lasting 40 days (not including Sundays) in route to Easter's dawn. I hope you picked up one of the Daily Devotional booklets I wrote entitled, 'Face to Face with Ourselves: The Cup of Authenticity.' I am appreciative to Mallory Brown for preparing and printing this booklet. I am also grateful to Micah Furlong for posting readings from this booklet each day during Lent on our St. John's Facebook page.

Our worship during Lent will focus our attentions upon spiritual renewal. Our theme is, "May the Spirit Fill Our Praise, Guide Our Thoughts and Change Our Ways." This Sunday, we will consider 'Grace Leading to New Beginnings.' Next Sunday, as we celebrate our 97th Anniversary, focusing upon youth ministry, we will consider that little verse, Luke 2:52 – "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humanity." On March 24, we will consider 'Amazing Grace is More Than a Song.' On March 31, we will ponder the idea, 'On Being Found.' On April 7, we will participate in communion and consider, 'Asset Allocations.' And on Palm Sunday, April 14, we will be sure our worship and our spiritual living follows Jesus 'Beyond Applause.' Stepping into Lent, pause with me praying for spiritual renewal.

AFFIRMATION: Thank you for being so warm and friendly. Recently, several guests have commented on your hospitality and kindness. You welcome people into worship and into your Sunday small groups. This means so much to people who are trying to find a spiritual community. You are being Christ's Church!

Shalom,
Dennis

News for Youth and Their Families from Lee

Sunday, March 17

- **Youth Mission Auction** in Broach Hall after worship; all youth should plan to attend as we will be raising money for 4 youth mission trips

June 15-22

- **High School Mission Trip** to Puerto Rico
- Many more details will come on this in the weeks to come.

July 22-27

- **Unidiversity** Summer Camp in Knoxville, TN
- Sign-ups begin very soon. We hope all will consider attending this week of growth, learning, and community building.

Attention Seniors in High School!

St. John's has been blessed with the Hackney Scholarship for many years. Students from St. John's who attend Wake Forest, Wingate, or Furman are eligible for grants from this fund. There is no merit requirement or financial needs limitation associated with the scholarship.

If you are planning on attending one of these schools please contact Ken Raynor, Ken@Raynorlawfirm.com to let him know you are interested and to find out more about the program.

News for Children and Their Families from Allison

Sunday, March 10

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 Mary and Martha learned from Jesus. They'll also enjoy time for art and play. Please note that during March and April, this class will be working on a special Easter art project. They will need time each week to work on it; so your regular attendance is appreciated.
- **Grades 1-3:** Formation Class is from 9:15-10:20. They'll be learning about how Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time. This class will be working on a special art project that will be sold at the Youth Mission Auction, so please plan to be here! 1st-3rd Graders will have Godly Play during the Worship Hour.
- **Grades 4-5:** Formation Class is from 9:15-10:20. They'll be learning about how Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time. This class will be working on a special art project that will be sold at the Youth Mission Auction, so please plan to be here! 4th-5th Graders will join their families for worship.

Elizabeth 8K Road Race

Saturday, March 23, 2019

@ Independence Park

Once again, St. John's is a sponsor for Charlotte's oldest road race. As a sponsor, we can offer 10 free registrations and a 10% discount to all who choose to participate. If you would like to run in the race and need a free code or 10% off code, email or call Mallory for this. If you want to volunteer, sign up through this link: <https://elizabeth8k.racesonline.com/volunteers>

Join the Choir for Easter an invitation from Kevin

As we approach Lent in preparation for Easter I would like to invite anyone who has interest in the choir to come and join us for this season. Working on music for Easter is always an exciting endeavor, and a great time to see if our group would be a good fit for you. I can promise you that you will find the choir very inviting, and full of laughter and joy. We work hard, but have a great time, too. Also, this year we will conclude the Easter service with the Hallelujah Chorus by Handel. If you know this work, I invite you to join us. I would ask that you attend the last Wednesday rehearsal before Easter, and the rehearsal Sunday morning before worship. Last year we had many people augment the choir and the congregation was greatly blessed by the outpouring of sound and spiritual energy that came pouring out of the choir loft. I am here to answer any questions you have, so feel free to email or call me.

J. Kevin Gray | kgray@sicharlotte.org | 803-524-0287

Paul's Journeys: VBS 2019

June 10-14, 2019

9AM-12PM

Registration is open to all for VBS 2019! Do not wait to register as spaces are already filling up quickly. Registration is a little different this year. Please note there are two ticket types this year. One is for 4 Year Old's-Rising 1st Graders (Young Artists). One is for Rising 2nd-6th Graders (Apprentices). **To register, [click here](#).**

CBFNC Annual Gathering

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina will hold their Annual Gathering on March 28 & 29 at FBC Greensboro. They invite us to join them for two days of fellowship, learning and growth. For more information, visit this site: <https://www.cbfncag.com/>

Click below to register:

[Register Here](#)



State & Community Missions Offering Update

We continue toward our goal of \$5000 for State and Community Missions. Two ministries have been selected by the St. John's Mission Resource Team to receive this year's offering: Habitat for Humanity and Urban Ministries.



For many years, both youth and adults from St. John's have served as volunteers with Habitat to build, along side future homeowners, an affordable house. Through programs sponsored by Urban Ministries we serve directly to address issues of homelessness and hunger. Our offering this year will give essential financial support to both these programs.

In early February Bert Green shared in the worship service information about Habitat. This Sunday, March 10, Katie Church will be with us to talk about the services of Urban Ministries. As part of this ministry St. John's sponsors Room in the Inn on Friday nights during the winter months and the monthly year round sandwich ministry in which volunteers provide 200 sandwiches for the homeless.

2019 Goal: \$5,000.00

Received to Date: \$761.00

Daylight Savings: Spring Forward

Do not forget to set your clocks an hour ahead this Sunday as Daylight Savings time begins.

Urgent Room in the Inn Help Needed!

Even as Room in the Inn winds down this season, we still have a few open positions that need to be filled RIGHT AWAY.

March 8:

- Van driver (no special license required)
- 2 more overnight hosts

March 15:

- Van driver (no special license required)
- 1 more overnight host

March 29:

- Van driver

Note: The van driver is needed this week!

To sign-up, please call Dale Johnson at 704-364-2575 or access the Signup Genius signup list located at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4caaae2eaafb6-room9>

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

Al Bridges Betty Hastings, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Delbridge Narron, Gene Poole, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Elma Thomas, Dee Turner, & Jeck Warren-home; Parker Jackson, military

Celebrations

Adalie Claire Zieglmeier was born Monday, February 18th to Ken and Donna Scott's daughter Alison and her husband Elliot and big brother Jackson of Fuquay-Varina, NC

Thank You

"I would like express my thanks and appreciation to my St. John's family for all your prayers, cards, calls & visits before, during & following the replacement of my aortic heart valve. I feel truly blessed to be part of such a caring and loving congregation." -Al Bridges

Emily Batts and family would like to express thanks to all of their St. John's family for the love and support they received during Larry's illness and death.

Sunday, March 10

Deacons: Clara Howell, Chuck Howard, Carol Injaychock, Libby LeVie, Jeff LeVie, Christa Lynch, Gary McFarland, Cindy McIntyre, Tricia Miller, Melissa Millette

Greeters: Main-Carol & Tom Injaychock; 5th St./Narhex-Linda Kerley; Broach Hall-Ed Outen; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Margaret Falls & Linda Kerley

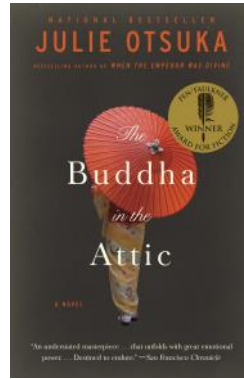
Ushers: Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Susan King

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of Feb. 25 – March 3: \$28,533
 Income through March 3: \$178,787
 Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

March 4-10: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 March 11-17: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
 March 18-24: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287



Terrific Tuesday Book Club

March 26 @ 12PM

Start reading for March's meeting of the Terrific Tuesday Book Club. This month, we will discuss *The Buddha in the Attic* by Julie Otsuka. We meet at 12PM in the Library and share lunch together in the Lounge after our discussion.

Become a Greeter at St. John's!

If you can point the way and say "hello" or "welcome", you would be perfect as a greeter for special services (memorial services, etc.) at St. John's. You are not expected to serve for every service and it is up to you when you can assist. Please contact Nancy Wilson (nandwilson@aol.com) if you are willing to volunteer to serve the church in this way. Your specific times and places will be worked out prior to each service.

Easter Outfits Collection

Now – March 29 @ Main Entrance

Starting this week, St. John's is collecting new or gently used children's outfits *with* socks and underwear for A Child's Place. The collection point for outfits is the main entrance by the gym. Please have all outfits in by Friday, March 29.

Calendar for March 10-16

- Sunday, March 10**
 - 8:00am Staffing Our Future Task Force (Conference Room)
 - 9:15am Sunday School (Classrooms)
 - 10:30am Godly Play (Room 221)
 - 10:30am Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
 - 10:30am Worship (Sanctuary)
 - 11:30am Pastoral Deacon Training (Lasater Hall)
 - 4:00pm Basketball Banquet (Gymnasium)
 - 5:00pm Youth Sunday Night Live (Gym, Lounge, 3rd Floor, Chapel)
- Monday, March 11**
 - 11:30am Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
 - 12:30pm Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
 - 5:30pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 - 6:30pm Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
 - 6:30pm Administrative Deacon Panel (Lounge)
 - 8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)
- Tuesday, March 12**
 - 7:00am Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 - 10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
 - 11:00am Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 - 12:00pm Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
 - 5:15pm SJBC Men's Basketball Group (Gym)
 - 5:30pm Charlotte Family Housing Workshop (Room 305)
 - 6:00pm Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness Support Groups (Room 116)
 - 6:15pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 - 7:00pm Team United/AAU Basketball (Gym)
 - 7:30pm Sherrill Basketball Group (Gym)
- Wednesday, March 13**
 - 6:30am Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
 - 9:30am Yoga Class (Room 114)
 - 12:00pm Elizabeth Communities of Faith Lenten Service (Caldwell Presbyterian)
 - 6:00pm Mission Resource Team (Conference Room)
 - 6:00pm Women of the Church Board Meeting (Lounge)
 - 6:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)
 - 6:00pm Handbells (Handbell Room)
 - 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- Thursday, March 14**
 - 10:00am Craft & Needles Ministry (Room 209)
 - 12:45pm Opendoor Studios Dance (Gym)
 - 7:30pm CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
- Friday, March 15**
 - 6:30am Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
 - 5:00pm Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym)
 - 8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)
- Saturday, March 16**
 - 7:00am Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
 - 9:00am Set up for Youth Mission Auction (Broach Hall)
 - 10:00am Charlotte Family Housing Workshop (Room 305)

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org