



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 13– Week of March 25-31, 2019

St. John's at Worship in Lent

Sunday, March 31
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Worship Theme:
There Is a Wideness in

God's Mercy
Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Message:

On Being Found

Scriptures

Luke 15:1-32

Plans for the Future of King's College

Meeting Monday April 1 @ 6:30PM in Broach Hall

Please join us on Monday, April 1, at 6:30pm in Broach Hall for a special report on the exciting plans for the recently vacated King's College building on our block. Some longtime partners of St. John's Baptist Church will share these plans with us. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

State and Community Missions Offering

Last Week to Give

This is the **LAST week to contribute** to the annual State and Community Missions Offering. This year, the offering will go to Habitat for Humanity and Urban Ministry Center. As you can see below, we are almost halfway to our \$5000 goal. For many years we have supported both these ministries with our hands on labor through building houses, sponsoring Room in the Inn, serving meals at the Men's Shelter, and making 200 sandwiches a month. Your offering will provide valuable financial assistance for these ministries. We hope you will contribute today!

2019 Goal: \$5000.00

Received to Date: \$2,341.00

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Road Closures

Construction on Hawthorne Until Late July



Starting this week, the entrance to the parking lot for St. John's from Hawthorne Lane will be closed off. This will be closed until July 29. During this time, please enter and exit this parking lot from Lamar Avenue. The parking lot entrance from 5th street is still open during this time. Additionally, we are permitted to use the parking lots at King's College on Sundays. Although these are chained off, the owner of the property has given us permission to move the barriers and use the lots for our Sunday morning activities.

Easter Calla Lilies Order Form

Note: Your purchase helps provide funds for our Advent & Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary.

I will give ____ lilies at **\$18 each**.

____ in memory of _____

____ in honor of _____

Donor name and telephone: _____

____ I wish to pick up my lilies.

____ I do not wish to pick up my lilies.

Last date to order lilies is Sunday, April 7. Turn form in to Mallory in the office.

News from the Ministers of St. John's

Healthy and Exciting

St. John's, we are a healthy church entering an exciting season of change which will carry us into our second century. In April and May, leadership groups will present information expanding our campus partnerships, improving our facilities for strengthened ministries and focusing our approaches to staffing for our future. **These presentations begin this coming Monday, April 1, at 6:30 pm, in Broach Hall.** Please plan to be present.

Change is constant. The speed of change is increasing. How we relate with change is exceedingly important. Yesterday is not tomorrow. Since this is opening day for another baseball season, I offer this quote attributed to Sparky Anderson, former manager of the Cincinnati Reds and Detroit Tigers: "I've got my faults, but living in the past is not one of them. There's no future in it."

We have four options as to how we handle change:

•**Coping with change** – respond with a 'victim mentality' by helplessness, pessimism and hopelessness. Expresses energy as resistance, fear, anger and blame. Change is viewed as a problem interrupting the status quo and innovation ceases. Coping causes an organization to slow down, diverts focus from core mission and loses momentum.

•**Adapting to change** – respond with an 'adjustment mentality' by accommodation, grudging compliance and a go-with-the-flow attitude. Expresses energy as timidity, docility and deference. Change is viewed as an unwelcome interruption even if it is inevitable.

•**Exploiting change** – respond with an 'opportunity' Expresses energy by promoting positive aspects of change from a reactionary position. Organizational participants align quickly embracing the bright side.

From the Youth Mission Auction Team

Thank you again to the entire congregation for your heart-felt support of the Youth Mission Auction!

If you won an item you should have either:

1. Taken it home from the auction
2. Received an email from Lia Benton about your item.

If neither is true for you, please call or email Lia Benton (704-533-1629; liabenton@outlook.com) so we can get it to you.

News for Youth and Their Families from Lee Gray

Sundays March 31, and April 7

•Youth have **regular Sunday Evening Schedule** from 5:00-7:30pm

Sunday, April 28

- Youth Banquet**
- The theme is **"HOLLYWOOD."**



Sunday, June 2

- Senior Recognition Sunday**
- Our graduating seniors will be honored in the 10:30 am worship service.

June 15-22

- High School Mission Trip** to Puerto Rico

•**Creating change** – initiate a 'possibilities mentality' by proactively causing positive change to happen. Expresses energy with purpose, faithful action and optimism expecting breakthroughs and solutions by renewing practices and establishing new patterns.

Since 1922, St. John's has created change in many ways. In the future, we will continue to create change. We will:

- involve teams to help plan worship experiences.
- renew our commitments to spiritual formation.
- enrich our capacities in congregational care.
- expand our messaging and outreach.
- broaden our stewardship of resources.
- equip members for ministry in daily life.
- deepen and amplify our efforts as servants of Jesus' teachings in Matthew 28.

Beloved, thank you for investing in a healthy climate of trust. This is a reflection of the leadership of God's Spirit as we move into our exciting future.

**Shalom,
Dennis**

News from Music Ministries from Kevin Gray

Party on April 7 at the Bragg's Farm

All Are Welcome

On **Sunday, April 7th at 1:00pm** the choir will have a social gathering at the Bragg farm in Huntersville. As always, there will be plenty of fun, food and fellowship. Anyone is welcome to join us for this afternoon, not just choir members. We make these socials open to anyone who has interest in joining us and learning more about the choir. If you have often thought that you would like to sing in the choir, but did not know what the first step would be, then this is for you. There will carpooling from the church to help those who do not wish to drive themselves. If you would like more information please contact Kevin at kgray@sicharlotte.org or call at 803-524-0287.

News for Children and Their Families from Allison Benfield

Sunday, March 31

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 Jesus washed his disciples' feet. 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 1-5:** Formation Class is from 9:15-10:00. They'll be learning about how Jesus washed his disciples' feet. Music is from 10:00-10:20. 1st-5th Graders will join their families for worship.

Sunday, April 7

•On April 7, the 1st-5th Graders will be leading us in worship though song. Please try to be here over the next few weeks so that everyone feels comfortable with what they are singing.

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. [To register, click here.](#)

Worship with St. John's

Elizabeth Communities of Faith Services

Meals with a MESSage @ Caldwell Presbyterian

Each Wednesday in Lent, the Elizabeth Communities of Faith will meet at Caldwell Presbyterian at 12PM. Lunch is included each time with a suggested donation of \$5. The dates for each service are as follows:

- Wednesday, April 3
- Wednesday, April 10



Maundy Thursday Worship Service

- April 18, 2019 @ 7:30pm
- Sanctuary

Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday

Come and Worship at St. John's



- Palm Sunday worship this year is Sunday, April 14. We need all children to help us this morning with the processional of the palms. Contact Allison for more details.
- Easter Sunday is April 21. We will worship at our normal time and hope all plan to join us.

Serve with St. John's

Easter Outfit Collection

Last Day to Give at the Main Entrance

This is the LAST week to donate outfits for A Child's Place. St. John's is collecting new or gently used children's outfits *with* socks and underwear, sizes 5-14. The collection point for outfits is the main entrance by the gym. **Please have all outfits in by THIS Sunday, March 31.**

Meals Needed for Charlotte Family Housing

Can you help in April?

WHAT is involved? Provide a meal of meat, starch, vegetable, salad or fruit, bread, & dessert for up to 20 people, about half of whom are children.

WHO can do this? An individual, a couple, a family, a Sunday School class, or any other group

WHEN? One of these times: April 7, Sunday lunch (deliver by noon); Tuesday, April 9 or Thursday, April 11 (deliver by 5:30 p.m.)

For information or to volunteer contact Clara Howell , 704-578-8153 or clarahowell92@gmail.com

Refugee Support Services

Are You Interested in Assisting?



Can you imagine needing help reading mail? Making a telephone call? Completing a government form or understanding a power bill? The refugee help center at the Refugee Support Services (RSS) helps newly arrived refugees to just that. RSS wants to help refugees new to Charlotte Arrive, Survive, and Thrive. The day Keith Towery visited with 6 other St. John's

members they saw the Children's Love and Learn program in action. This is a program that seeks to develop a life-long love of learning. We smelled a hot lunch being prepared and heard many different languages spoken as people bagged groceries from the food pantry. We also felt lots of love and appreciation as everyone socialized with smiles. The RSS wants to be a good neighbor by helping these refugees become good neighbors themselves. If you would like to find out more about the work of the Refugee Support Services or would like to go there with other St. John's members to serve snacks and give welcoming smiles, please let Mallory know and she will have someone contact you.

Grow with St. John's

One Voice Chorus & Charlotte Pride Band

Concert on April 12 and 13 at First UMC

One Voice Chorus (OVC) and Charlotte Pride Band (CPB) are proud to announce a joint concert, "Love: Nothing Stronger." The concert will be presented on Friday and Saturday, April 12 and 13 at 7:30 pm in First United Methodist Church, 501 N. Tryon Street in Charlotte. Tickets are available for \$15 at the door and online at: <https://onevoicechorus.com/events/>.

Visit the Charlotte Museum of History

May 7 @ 2PM with Women of the Church



Women of the Church are going to the Charlotte Museum of History on May 7, and our tour guide will be our own Janet Wade! Please join us at 2 p.m. on that day for a look at the history of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Cost is \$10 per person, and everyone is welcome. **Sign up by calling Mallory in the church office by April 30.**

A Stewardship Reminder, As Easter Nears

Our stewardship theme, "Live Tomorrow's Life Today," resonates during the Spring season, just as it did in the Fall. Easter approaches and our thoughts turn to resurrection and to new beginnings. As Christians, we are called to live the resurrection life, to make God's gift to us of salvation and spiritual rebirth count, to live in that moment and to not waste a second of it. What better way to honor this gift than to ourselves give today for tomorrow? Many of us were witness to this earlier this month, as we gave of our time and financial resources until we had raised well over \$35,000 for our youth missions. Let us continue to give to the church as we head into the Easter season with an eye towards living tomorrow's life today.



Jason Benton
Stewardship Task Force Chair

St. John's Baptist Church
 300 Hawthorne Lane | Charlotte NC 28204
 704.333.5428 | www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

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

Take Note

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 6:00 - 7:30pm. The next meeting is on Tuesday, April 9 in Rooms 114 & 116.

Need to Update Your Information?

If you have moved to a new address, changed phone numbers, or have a new email address, please let Mallory know so that we can have the most up to date information. Thank you!

mbrown@sjcharlotte.org | 704-333-5428, ext. 11

Prayer Concerns

Betty Hastings, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Elma Thomas, Pris Tillman, Dee Turner, & Jeck Warren-home; Parker Jackson, military

Sunday, March 31

Deacons: David Allen, Linda Balentine, Jason Benton, Jordan Benton, Leslie Bragg, Minh Callaway, Cindy McIntyre, Teri Franklin, Charlie Harper, Clara Howell
Greeters: Main-Ed Turner, Bobby Furr; 5th St./Narhex-Treva Bridges; Broach Hall-Jimmy Carpenter; Elevator-Marvin Carter
Tellers: Marvin Carter & Jeff LeVie
Ushers: Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Susan King

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of March 18-24: \$16,314
 Income through March 24: \$252,898
 Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

March 25-31: Lee Gray 704-451-1309
 April 1-7: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 April 8-14: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412

Lost and Found

Help Us Clean Up



In an attempt to declutter the lost and found areas of our church, we are going to set up tables with these "lost and found" items in Lasater Hall starting this week. If you have lost anything at church (umbrellas, clothing, water bottles...), please come by and see if anything belongs to you. After April 15, we will donate these items.

Pride Parade 2019

August 17-18

Save the date for this year's Pride Festival and Parade in Charlotte! Plan to join St. John's on the weekend of August 17-18 and the parade on Sunday, August 18 in Uptown Charlotte. Stay tuned for details and mark your calendars.



Calendar for March 31-April 6, 2019

Sunday, March 31

- 9:15am..... Staffing Our Future Task Force (Lounge)
- 9:15am..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
- 10:30am..... Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
- 10:30am..... Worship (Sanctuary)
- 5:00pm..... Sunday Night Live for Youth (Chapel, Gym, Lounge, 3rd Floor)

Monday, April 1

- 11:30am..... Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
- 12:30pm..... Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
- 5:00pm..... Staffing Our Future Task Force (Lounge)
- 5:30pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
- 6:30pm..... All Deacons' Work Session (Broach Hall)
- 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, April 2

- 7:00am..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
- 10:00am..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 11:00am..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)
- 5:15pm..... SJB Men's Basketball Group (Gym)
- 6:00pm..... CROP (Lounge)
- 6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
- 7:00pm..... Team United/AAU Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, April 3

- 6:30am..... Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
- 9:30am..... Yoga Class (Room 114)
- 10:00am..... Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
- 12:00pm..... Elizabeth Communities of Faith Lenten Service (Caldwell Presbyterian)
- 6:00pm..... Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
- 6:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)
- 6:00pm..... Handbells (Handbell Room)
- 7:15pm..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 7:30pm..... Sherrill Basketball Group (Gym)

Thursday, April 4

- 9:00am..... Unity Coalition (Lounge)
- 5:00pm..... Facilities Master Plan Task Force (Lounge)
- 7:30pm..... CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, April 5

- 10:30am..... Metrolina Assoc. for the Blind Yoga (Room 114)
- 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, April 6

- 7:00am..... Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
- 10:00am..... Communion Task Force (Conference Room)

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org