



# Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 14– Week of April 1-April 7, 2019

## St. John's at Worship in Lent

**Sunday, April 7**

Last Sunday in Lent | Communion

**Worship Theme:**

Be Thou My Vision

**Proclaimer**

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

**Message:**

*Asset Allocations*

**Scriptures**

John 12:1-8

## CONGRATULATIONS ST. JOHN'S!

YOU ARE TAKING A GIANT STEP AS A SERVANT CHURCH!

On Monday evening, April 1<sup>st</sup>, members of St. John's gathered to hear some exciting news. We learned about the future of the former King's College property, which is situated on our side of Lamar Street. In recent months, King's College closed and sold its buildings. Most of you know that two former dormitories sit between our parking lots and the corner of Park and Lamar. One of these buildings is being purchased by Charlotte Family Housing (CFH) and the other is being purchased by Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy (CCLA). These two entities are already community ministry partners of St. John's and we look forward to expanding our collaborations with them in the future. Dr. Foust and our Deacon Chair, Todd Stillerman, have been in discussions with Pedro Perez, Executive Director of CFH and Ken Schorr, Executive Director of CCLA to assure that we expand opportunities to create and nurture this entire city block of servant organizations.

This coming Sunday, the Church Council will hear a proposal to name our entire city block, *Servant Square*. Within our buildings, fourteen servant organizations gather and then scatter to serve others: St. John's Baptist Church, Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America, Crop Walk, St. John's Week-day School, Bethlehem Center Head Start for Preschoolers, Charlotte Family Housing, South Sudanese Worship Community, Together In Christ International Ministries (Sierra Leone worship community), three separate Alcoholics Anonymous groups, National Alliance for Mental Illness, Young Voices of the Carolinas, and QC Family Tree Freedom School. In addition, we are a primary location used by NewGen Peacebuilders, Right Moves for Youth, Metro Association for the Blind, Elizabeth Community Association, Room at the Inn and various community concert groups.

Our St. John's Covenant reads: *"We will be a servant Church, recognizing the infinite worth of every person and believing that Christ has called us to active involvement in behalf of human brotherhood."*

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## Palm Sunday on April 14

All Children Invited to Lead Processional of Palms

We invite all children to help us this morning with the processional of the palms on Sunday, April 14. We know this day is the beginning of Spring Break for many students. However, if you are here in town, please plan on participating. Contact Allison for more details.

### Easter Hydrangeas Order Form

Due to unforeseen circumstances and warm weather over the weekend, we are unable to procure Calla Lilies for Easter. They bloomed over the last few days and will not be viable for Easter. Therefore, we are going to use white hydrangeas. Hydrangeas can also be planted in your yard and enjoyed for years to come. If you purchased a lily and do not want a white hydrangea, please call Mallory in the office to let her know by April 8.

I will give \_\_\_\_ hydrangeas at **\$18 each**.

\_\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Donor name and telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I wish to pick up my hydrangeas.

\_\_\_\_ I do not wish to pick up my hydrangeas.



**Last day to order hydrangeas is Sunday, April 7. Turn form in to Mallory in the office.**

## A Legacy of Light: The Hackney Scholarship Fund

From Scott Hicks

Most of you know our son Corson was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive bone cancer when he was 14-years-old. Doctors removed the tumor and reconstructed his leg as an endo-prosthesis. He endured intense chemotherapy for a year. He is 21 now and, "Lord willing," will graduate from Wingate University with a Bachelors in Political Science on May 11. We are recipients of the Hackney Scholarship of St. John's. Mrs. Mildred Hackney Smith created the scholarship many years ago in honor of her parents, Martha Miller and J.P. Hackney, Sr., for the dependents of St. John's members should they attend Furman, Wingate or Wake Forest University. This scholarship has provided him an education but also allowed him a sense of worth and empowerment of which material existence had robbed him.

During Corson's time at Wingate, he could not carry over five pounds due to advice from the surgeons and, therefore, was unable to carry his books for class. So, his mother attended and carried them for him every day. Each day she would rise, prepared and go with him carrying the heavy laden pack from class to class. His Arabic teacher even allowed her to participate. When she reached out for help two young men volunteered. Each day, rain or shine, they would meet the two men at their truck to carry the pack. Corson was grateful but mortified that he could not even do this basic thing for himself. His dream had been to be a Navy Seal and serve his country and humankind. He struggled in a wilderness of pain and doubt. We struggled discovering the after affects of the chemotherapy on thought capacity, heart, and kidney function. Medical bills flowed like water with constant doctors and tests; yet, the Hackney's legacy helped provide much needed provisions as Corson rose each day and did what he had to do.



When he was 17 he went to Habitat for Humanity at St. John's Island. He lasted a couple of days in the heat and put forth an immense effort. He and his mother serve as Ambassadors to the Make a Wish Foundation, work with drumSTRONG and more. Corson was raised in St. John's youth program. So, stewardship ("We will be a servant church.") is ingrained in him and those cancer free bones. Many live in

pain and suffering, yet if we can see the wrong and set it right, others will know the legacy that is the body of Christ and each gift will ripple, illuminating truth and healing and peace each day, each step, and each breath.

Recently, I walked down the hall at home to find the cap and gown hanging on his door. There, I kneeled to touch the fabric and bowed my head in gratitude. Then I experience the light of God that I know the Hackney family felt when they looked through the lens of Christian stewardship to touch the lives of students such as Corson and families such as ours.

Might we too follow their example and live the resurrection legacy of light that they lived, in all seasons, so others might walk in its grace. Amen.

## News from Music Ministries

from Kevin Gray

### Party on April 7 at the Bragg's Farm

This **Sunday, April 7th at 1:00pm** the choir will have a social gathering at the Bragg farm in Huntersville. Anyone is welcome to join us for this afternoon, not just choir members. If you have often thought that you would like to sing in the choir, then this party is for you to come and learn more. 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@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:kgray@sjcharlotte.org) or call at 803-524-0287.

## News for Youth and Their Families

from Lee Gray

### Sunday, 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

### July 22-27

•[Unidiversity Summer Camp](#) in Merryville, TN

### August 10-13

•[Middle School Local Mission Trip](#)

## News for Children and Their Families

from Allison Benfield

### Sunday, April 7

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 shared a special meal with his disciples. 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 shared a very special meal with his disciples. Music is from 10:00-10:20. 1st-5th Graders will be leading worship, so we will all sit together.
- The 1st-5th Graders will be leading us in worship through song this Sunday. Please plan to be here so that we can sound our best!

## Worship with St. John's



### Maundy Thursday Worship Service

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

## Eastertide at St. John's

Sunday April 21

Join us for worship on Easter, April 21, at 10:30am in the Sanctuary. This Sunday will begin a new, 7-week worship theme called: *Live Tomorrow's Life Today*. This theme comes from the hymn, "There's a Spirit in the Air," on which we have based our entire year of worship. As we move through Easter and the six Sundays following, we will consider how God transforms, enlightens, and calls us to live in the power of resurrection.

## Citywide Easter Sunrise Service

All are welcome to the 2019 Citywide Easter Sunrise service at Romare Bearden Park at 300 S. Church Street. The service will be at 7:00am on April 21. Breakfast pastries and coffee will be available at the park after the service. Gail Henderson-Belsito, Director of Congregational Care and Worship at Caldwell Presbyterian Church, will preach. Free parking for the Sunrise Service will be available in First Presbyterian's parking lot at the corner of Trade and Poplar streets. Seating is provided at the park, and people are invited to bring blankets or other chairs. In the event of rain, the service will be held in Wood Fellowship Hall at First Presbyterian Church.

## Serve with St. John's

### Refugee Support Services

Are You Interested in Volunteering?

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 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 from the Missions Resource Team contact you.**

### Charlotte Family Housing Meals Needed

Immediate Needs

**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 (deliver by 5:30 p.m.)

For information or to volunteer contact Clara Howell,  
 704-578-8153 or [clarahowell92@gmail.com](mailto:clarahowell92@gmail.com)

### State and Community Missions Offering

Final Report on Meeting of Goal

**2019 Goal: \$5000.00**

**Total Received as of April 1: \$5,331.00**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to help us exceed our \$5,000.00 goal this year. Your contributions will go to Habitat for Humanity and Urban Ministry Center.

### Extending the Easter Outfit Collection

Bring to Main Entrance by April 7

We are extending the time to donate outfits for A Child's Place one more week. 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. **So, bring your outfits this week at the Main Entrance by April 7!**

### Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency

Donations Needed ASAP!

The Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency (CRRA), a sister agency of Refugee Support Services, is in need of coats for all ages, as well as some other household and hygiene items.

- Coats needed for adult males (Smalls and mediums), adult females (smalls and mediums), boys ages 4 and 5, girls ages 4 and 5 (typically sizes 4 - 6 for both).
- Other items needed: backless booster seats, TVs, vacuums, microwaves, large cooking pots, lightbulbs, flashlights, shaving cream, razors.

**If you can provide any of these items to CRRA, please take them directly to their offices at 5009 Monroe Rd #100, Charlotte, NC 28205.**

## Grow with St. John's

### Brotherhood of the Biscuit

A Monthly Gathering

Brotherhood of the Biscuit will meet again Friday, April 19 at 6:30AM in the Lounge. All are welcome to join!



### 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.**

### Pride Parade 2019

August 17-18

Save the date for this year's Pride Festival and Parade in Charlotte! Stay tuned for more details!



**St. John's Baptist Church**  
 300 Hawthorne Lane | Charlotte NC 28204  
 704.333.5428 | [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://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](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

**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 6:30 - 8:00pm. The next meeting is on Tuesday, April 9 in Rooms 114 & 116.



**Open Table: April 24**  
 Sign Up Today!

Open Table in April is on Wednesday, April 24 at 5:50pm in Broach Hall. Sign up here for dinner:  
<https://forms.gle/uTeYr7tm9Uryt933A>

**Young Voices of the Carolinas Spring Concert**  
 Saturday, April 27 at St. John's

Come and support the Young Voices of the Carolinas on Saturday, April 27 at 5PM in the Sanctuary. This select group of young people, ranging in age from 8-18, practices at St. John's several times a week and is directed by Sandy Holland. We hope you will come, invite a friend, and enjoy a night of music.

**Prayer Concerns**

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

Sympathy to Tricia Miller in death of her sister, Barbara Hunter;  
 Sympathy to Bo Pittman in the death of his mother, Eleanor Karabinos Pittman

**Sunday, April 7**

- Deacons:** Robby Ray, Judy Sanford, Anne Sutton, Keith Towery, Kathy Turner, Elizabeth Whipple, Nancy Wilson
- Greeters:** Main-Ed Turner, Ken Hungate; 5th St./Narthex-AI Bridges; Broach Hall-Gail Sifford; Elevator-Marvin Carter
- Tellers:** James Laney & Susan King
- Ushers:** Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Susan King

**Financial Ministry Plan Report:**

Week of March 25-31: \$17,156  
 Income through March 31: \$272,927  
 Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

**Ministers on Call:**

- April 1-7: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
- April 8-14: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
- April 15-21: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287

**Calendar for April 7-13, 2019**

<b>Sunday, April 7</b>	
8:00am.....	Church Council (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 and Communion (Sanctuary)
1:00pm.....	South Sudanese Worship (Chapel)
5:00pm.....	Sunday Night Live for Youth (Chapel, Gym, Lounge, 3rd Floor)
<b>Monday, April 8</b>	
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.....	Administrative Deacon Panel (Lounge)
6:30pm.....	Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
8:00pm.....	AA (Lasater Hall)
<b>Tuesday, April 9</b>	
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)
6:30pm.....	NAMI Support Groups (Room 114 & 116)
6:15pm.....	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
6:30pm.....	Elizabeth Community Association (Broach Hall)
7:00pm.....	Team United/AAU Basketball (Gym)
<b>Wednesday, April 10</b>	
6:30am.....	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
9:30am.....	Yoga Class (Room 114)
12:00pm.....	Elizabeth Communities of Faith Lenten Service (Caldwell Presbyterian)
6:00pm.....	AA (Lasater Hall)
6:00pm.....	Handbells (Handbell Room)
7:15pm.....	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7:30pm.....	Sherrill Basketball Group (Gym)
<b>Thursday, April 11</b>	
10:00am.....	Craft and Needles Ministry (Room 209)
7:30pm.....	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
<b>Friday, April 12</b>	
8:00pm.....	AA (Lasater Hall)
<b>Saturday, April 13</b>	
7:00am.....	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
2:00pm.....	Housing Committee (Room 209)
5:00pm.....	Sudanese Community (Broach Hall)

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

**Church Conference and Lunch**

Sunday, May 5 After Worship in Broach Hall

Join us in Broach Hall on May 5 after worship for Church Conference. We will be announcing and discussing some important items and want everyone to be there. Lunch will be provided at a low cost. No sign-ups are necessary.