



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 16– Week of April 15-21, 2019

St. John's Easter Worship

Sunday, April 21

Easter Sunday

Worship Theme:

God Transforms Death into Life

Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Message:

Living in God's Light with Your

Lack of Understanding

Scriptures

John 20:1-10

Holy Week and Easter at St. John's



Maundy Thursday Worship

April 18, 2019 @ 7:30pm in the Sanctuary

Join us for worship on Maundy Thursday as we recall the events that led up to Jesus's death on Good Friday. We will take communion during the service to commemorate Jesus's last supper with his disciples. All are welcome.

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Eastertide at St. John's

Begins Sunday, April 21

Join us for worship on Easter, April 21, at 10:30am in the Sanctuary. The message is titled, "Living in God's Light with Your Lack of Understanding," based on John 20:1-10. On this day we 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

Sunday, April 21

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. 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.

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 announce and discuss important items and want everyone to be there. Lunch will be provided at a low cost. Sign up with Mallory today!

Messages from Your St. John's Staff

TIGER WOODS, CATHEDRAL OF NOTRE DAME AND HOLY WEEK; EXPERIENCING SACRED SPACE

I once read of a boy living with autism who watches the movie, Titanic, over and over in reverse because he likes to see the ship come up out of the water.

Last Sunday, we watched Tiger Woods win The Masters. If you have ever walked the course in Augusta, you have experienced sacred space in the world of golf. In 2000, Paula and I were able to walk the grounds of Augusta on a Thursday. We followed Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player for three holes before peeling off to explore the grounds for the remainder of the day.

Tiger Woods' fall into the depths of loneliness, grief, immorality, physical pain and professional despair have been amplified by the media. Last Sunday's leap of glee by a victorious Tiger, chants of support by patrons, smiles on the faces of viewers and hugs by his children and mother were expressions of hope for a redemption of sorts. It was a bit like watching a ship come up out of the water. Is there a better place for a fallen influencer to roar again than Augusta?

On Monday, we watched video as the Notre Dame Cathedral burned in Paris.

This treasure of the Roman Catholic Church is over 800 years old; begun in 1163 and completed in 1345. Although it is sacred space for millions, it has also been the context for plenty of tragic moments and incarnations of evil. In recent years, efforts to raise funds for restoring the cathedral have been difficult. Yet, in less than 48 hours since the destructive fire, almost \$1 billion has been committed and President Macron pledges to restore the cathedral within five years; redemption?

In 2009, my travel companions and I descended from the Mount of Olives making our way through the Eastern Gate of Jerusalem. This was the path taken by Jesus on that Sunday before Passover; it was a path of celebration. The next day, we walked the Via Dolorosa, the way of grief. Both are sacred spaces.

This evening, we will gather in the St. John's sanctuary; sacred space. Through bread and cup, we will obey Jesus who asks us to 'remember.' We will read the words spoken at the cross and from the cross. We will extinguish candles as we retell this part of God's Story of redemptive compassion. Then on Sunday, we will gather again to celebrate God's compassion and our redemption.

Did I ever tell you about the boy who likes to see the Titanic come up out of the water? Do you know why?

**Shalom,
Dennis**

News for Youth and Their Families from Lee Gray

Sunday, April 21st

- 9:15 am Sunday School & 10:30 Worship only
- No evening activities due to CMS Spring Break

Sunday, April 28

- Youth Banquet
- The theme is "HOLLYWOOD."
- Come dressed as your favorite movie character or Hollywood Star. There will be a variety of awards given out as well as best costume awards. This will be the last Youth evening event of the Spring.

Sunday, June 2

- Senior Recognition Sunday

June 10-14

- Youth needed to help with VBS
- Sign up here: <https://goo.gl/forms/fEVzwghj2HydEoy23>

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 21

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 the wonderful story of the very first Easter. They'll also enjoy time for art and play.
- **Grades 1-5:** Formation Class is from 9:15-10:20. They'll gather in the Godly Play room for a special Easter lesson and activities. 1st-5th Graders will join their families for worship.

Sunday, May 12

Grace Notes Sing in Worship

- Grace Notes will lead us in worship through song on May 12. Please put this date on your calendars so that you can be here!

VBS June 10-14

- There are still spots left for VBS with St. Martin's and St. John's. To register, [click here](#). Anyone ages 4 through rising 6th grade is welcome to attend! Contact Allison for questions.

Worship with St. John's

Easter Flower Note

On Easter Sunday there will be potted white Hydrangeas and some yellow Calla Lilies in the sanctuary. If you ordered flowers and indicated you were taking them after the service, feel free to take a hydrangea or a calla lily. Thank you for ordering and helping beautify our sanctuary on this special day.



Serve with St. John's

Room in the Inn Thank You

From Alice Wirz and Dale Johnson

Thanks to all of our stalwart Room in the Inn volunteers for successfully completing another Room in the Inn season! For this, the 23rd season of RITI, St. John's volunteers converted the gym and the lounge into a warm, safe space for up to 12 homeless neighbors each Friday night from December through March. Special thanks to our friends from Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church who partnered with us for five of those 17 Friday nights.

Whether you participated as a driver, meal provider, overnight host, van driver, laundry washer, lunch bag provider, or setup assistant, we VERY much appreciate all you have done to make 12 neighbors feel at home on each of those wintry Friday nights!

Several individual volunteers and Sunday School classes have provided assistance since RITI was initiated by the Urban Ministry Center in 1996! We appreciate ALL volunteers, whether you've been involved for 1 year or for 23! Thanks in advance for your help beginning next December when the 24th edition of RITI will debut!



Did You Know?

Through allocations from our church budget, St. John's supports organizations in Charlotte whose work aligns with our MT25 missions of addressing hunger, education, children and families, homelessness, peace building and health?

One of those organizations is "The Relatives." They provide immediate help and support for youth in crisis, aligning with our missions of homelessness, and children and families. The Relatives was founded in 1974

and operated in the basement of a church. Legend has it that after a short time operating without a name, its founders asked the youth who were staying there what would be a good name. They suggested The Relatives, because they said they were telling their friends they were staying "with relatives." The Relatives focus on programs that assist homeless youth and youth in crisis. For more information on their mission and programs visit www.therelatives.org.



Counseling Center At
CHARLOTTE

Another of the organizations with whom we partner as a healthcare MT25 mission is the Counseling Center at Charlotte. They exist to help persons who find themselves having difficulty in dealing with life situations. Any of us may find ourselves feeling lost or confused, overwhelmed by the circumstances we are in. Their experienced therapists can help, provide safe space to heal and grow in working with individuals, couples, and families. They foster understanding, healing, and renewal in a faith-based context. For more information visit www.counselingcenteratcharlotte.com

Deacon Nominations Needed

A Message from the Leadership Task Force

The Leadership Task Force is seeking deacon nominations for the 2019-2020 church year. Our diaconate is the primary lay leadership body of St. John's Baptist Church. Members of the congregation are elected to determine, initiate, and support the various ministries of the church with each of three panels overseeing a different part of our greater whole.

The administrative panel is responsible for the business and management, including finance, personnel, house & grounds and technology. The ministry panel is responsible for programming and education, including outreach, missions, spiritual formation and worship. The pastoral panel is responsible for congregational care and relationship building. For this cycle, the church will elect 4 administrative deacons, 4 ministry deacons and 9 pastoral deacons. If you would like to nominate a candidate, **please alert Mallory in the church office**. Please secure your candidate's permission prior to nominating them, and if possible indicate which panel your candidate prefers.

Grow with St. John's

Open Table: April 24

Open Table in April is on Wednesday, April 24 at 5:50pm in Broach Hall. We will play games and share a dinner of chicken casserole, salad, rolls, and dessert. Sign up here for dinner: <https://forms.gle/uTeYr7tm9Uryt933A> or call/email Mallory in the office. We would love you to join us!

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.

Tickets can be purchased online at <http://yvotc.org/>.

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

Lost and Found in Lasater Hall

We now have tables set up with "lost and found" items in Lasater Hall. If you have lost anything at church (umbrellas, clothing, water bottles...), please come by and see if anything belongs to you. After April 22, we will donate these items.



Road Closure Reminder

Construction on Hawthorne Until Late July

This is a reminder that the parking lot for St. John's off Hawthorne Lane is closed until July 29. During this time, please enter and exit this parking lot from Lamar Avenue or enter on 5th Street.

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

Calendar for April 21-27, 2019

Sunday, April 21

9:15am Sunday School (Classrooms)
10:30am Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
10:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, April 22

Church Offices Closed for Easter Monday

8:00am Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)
12:30pm Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
5:30pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, April 23

7:00am Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
11:00am Bible Workbench (Room 209)
12:00pm Terrific Tuesday Book Club (Library and Lounge)
5:15pm SJBC Men's Basketball Group (Gym)
6:15pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
7:00pm Team United/AAU Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, April 24

6:30am Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
9:30am Yoga Class (Room 114)
1:00pm Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
1:30pm Learning Charms (Room 116)
5:50pm Open Table (Broach Hall)
6:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)
7:00pm Handbells (Handbell Room)
7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7:30pm Sherrill Basketball Group (Gym)

Thursday, April 25

2:30pm Weekday School First Aid Training (Lasater Hall)
5:00pm HeadStart (Broach Hall)
6:00pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Sanctuary)
7:30pm CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, April 26

8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, April 27

7:00am Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
9:30am Kids' Basketball (Gym)
5:00pm Young Voices of the Carolinas Concert (Sanctuary)

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Prayer Concerns

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

Sunday, April 21

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

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner and Mark McNeill; 5th St./Narhex-Vanessa Boling; Broach Hall-Ed Outen; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Tim Gibson and Morgan Newman

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of April 8-14: \$13,464

Income through April 14: \$308,996

Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

April 15-21: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287

April 22-28: Lee Gray 704-451-1309

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.**