



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 18– Week of April 28-May 5, 2019

St. John's Worship in Eastertide

Sunday, May 5

Third Sunday in Easter

Worship Theme:

God Transforms

Failures into Purpose

Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Message:

Living as a Servant of Others

Scriptures

John 21:15-19

Join Us for Church Conference

Church Conference and Lunch

Discussion of Staffing for the Future and Building Master Plan

Join us in Broach Hall on May 5 after worship for Church Conference. We will discuss items presented by our Staffing for Our Future Task Force and hear about our Architectural Master Plan at this meeting. A lunch from Hawthorne's including hearty salads, garlic breadsticks, and cookies will be provided for \$5/person. Sign up with Mallory today for lunch.

Childcare is available at no cost!

Inside this issue:

From Dennis 2
Youth
Children

Worship this Sunday 3
Wedding Invitation
MT25 News
Deacon Nominations Needed
Colors of Song Concert
Women of the Church Retreat
Pride 2019

Staff Listing 4
Prayer Concerns
Sympathy
Thank You
Memorial Service
Sunday Service Schedules
Ministers on Call
Brotherhood of the Biscuit
Painting inside Main Entrance
Calendar

Volunteer for Vacation Bible School

June 10-14 at St. John's

It is almost VBS time, which means we need volunteers! Help us minister to children and families in the community by giving of your time to make VBS awesome. VBS is June 10-14 from 9am-noon each day, but volunteer shifts are much shorter than that 3 hours! We are in need of Greeters to welcome children and families each morning (8:40am-9:10am), Guild Assistants to help our Guild Leaders (10:30am-11:45am), and Pick Up Monitors to make sure parents/adult sign their children out each day (11:45am-12:15pm). To sign up, please visit our online sign up or contact Allison at abenfield@sjcharlotte.org.

Here's the link for the sign up genius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A4FADA62EA4FF2-2019>



Pentecost Worship Service

Sunday, June 9 for Morning Worship

- Sunday, June 9, 2019 @ 10:30 a.m.
- St. John's Sanctuary
- 1 Worship Celebration
- 3 Communities of Faith
- 8 to 12 Languages

Messages from Your St. John's Staff

ENOUGH! ENOUGH! ENOUGH!

Two nights ago, another emotionally disturbed and spiritually troubled person killed innocents in a classroom. The families of UNCC students Ellis Parlier, age 19, of Midland and Riley Howell, age 21, of Waynesville, are grieving the senseless deaths of their sons, brothers, grandsons, nephews. These two murders were #45 and #46 in the Queen City for 2019 compared to 14 murders for January-April of 2018. The number 14 is not better than 46; 14 is 14 too many. The people of Charlotte and this nation are saddened, angry, afraid and confused.

Four other students were also shot: Sean Dehart, age 20, and Drew Pescaro, age 19, both of Apex; Rami Alramadhan, age 20, of Saihat, Saudi Arabia; and Emily Houpt, age 23, of Charlotte. These four victims and others who were terrorized by this evil action had their lives changed forever. Fear hangs around for years like a dense fog which refuses to dissipate.

Possibly you are like me and you have walked into tragic situations as a caregiver when a killing has violated all sanity; all your compassion can offer is to sit in the silence of the unnecessary and unexplainable. I will continue to walk with you as we love mercy, do justice and walk humbly with God. Yet, honestly, I am tired of lighting candles for children and youth. As a citizen, I am just tired of all of the shootings in synagogues and churches and other places where innocents gather. Also, as a citizen, I expect our elected officials to look beyond party lines and political action committees to act on behalf of the innocents. The blood of these innocents is on the hands of every politician and legislator who refuses to figure out

how to protect the second amendment while also pursuing sane laws against the proliferation of guns in our 21st century society. Surely some folks are smart enough to link the lack of mental health support across the nation and the proliferation of emotionally disturbed perpetrators who gain access to automatic weapons. (And my friends who hunt say real hunters don't need automatic weapons to hunt.)

It is not likely that this nation will (or even should be expected to) outlaw guns; but surely some folks are smart enough to protect innocents in schools without arming teachers. Surely some folks will listen to the parents and relatives of the 26 innocents murdered at Sandy Hook Elementary; the parents and relatives of the 17 innocents murdered at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School; the parents and relatives of the 32 innocents murdered at Virginia Tech; the parents and relatives of the 13 innocents killed at Columbine High School; etc. Each year, between 35,000 and 40,000 persons are killed intentionally across the USA by use of firearms. Imagine:

Year 1 – everyone in Goldsboro is killed by gunfire;
 Year 2 - everyone in Hickory;
 Year 3 - everyone in Lumberton AND Boone;
 Year 4 - everyone in Salisbury;
 Year 5 - everyone in Mooresville;
 Year 6 - everyone in Monroe;
 Year 7 - everyone in Pineville AND Matthews; etc.

ENOUGH! ENOUGH! ENOUGH!

**Prayerfully,
 Dennis**

News for Youth and Their Families

Sunday, June 2

•Senior Recognition Sunday in worship

June 10-14

•Youth needed to help with VBS

•Sign up here: <https://goo.gl/forms/fEVzwhj2HydEoy23>

June 15-22

•High School Mission Trip to Puerto Rico

July 22-27

•University Summer Camp in Merryville, TN

August 10-13

•Middle School Local Mission Trip



News for Children and Their Families

from Allison Benfield

Sunday, May 5

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 and Thomas. They'll also enjoy time for art and play.
- **Grades 1-5:** Formation Class is from 9:15-10:00. They'll be learning about how Jesus appeared to his Disciples early one morning. Grace Notes is from 10:00-10:20. 1st-3rd Graders will have Godly Play during Worship Hour. 4th-5th Graders will worship with their families.

Sunday, May 12

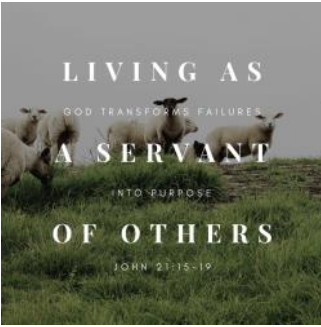
Grace Notes Class

- There has been a change in plans! Instead of leading in worship on May 12, Grace Notes invites their parents to join them at 10am in the Music Room for a special time of music and sharing.

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



God Transforms

Join us for worship on Sunday, May 5 at 10:30am in the Sanctuary. The message is titled, "Living As a Servant of Others," based on John 21:15-19. During the next few weeks, we will consider how God transforms, enlightens, and calls us to live in the power of resurrection.

Wedding Invitation to the Congregation

The St. John's family is cordially invited to a service of worship and wedding ceremony for Micah Furlong and Molly Bedrock on Saturday, May 18 at 11AM in the Sanctuary.



Serve with St. John's

MT25 News

The Relatives and Counseling Center at Charlotte

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 these organizations is The Relatives. This organization provides immediate support for youth in crisis, aligning with our missions of homelessness. They were founded in 1974 and focus on programs that assist homeless youth and youth in crisis. If you want to learn more about The Relatives visit www.therelatives.org. To learn more about the National Safe Place program, visit <https://www.nationalsafeplace.org/>.



Another organization we support is the Counseling Center at Charlotte. The Counseling Center at Charlotte exists 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 our circumstances. Their experienced therapists 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 <https://www.counselingcenteratcharlotte.com/>.

2019-2020 Deacon Nominations

Now Accepting Nominations for SJBC Diaconate

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.

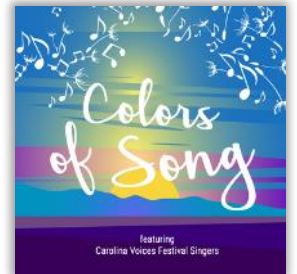
For this cycle, the church will elect 4 administrative deacons, 4 ministry deacons and 9 pastoral deacons. If you would like to nominate a candidate, **please alert Mallory in the church office**. Please secure your candidate's permission prior to nominating them, and if possible indicate which panel your candidate prefers.

Grow with St. John's

Colors of Song Concert

May 18 at 7PM in the Sanctuary

In this concert, the singers will explore the sound of color with music of composers including Eric Whitacre and Irving Berlin. Join us for an evening filled with a musical rainbow. Tickets are \$20 and on sale now at carolinatix.org, 704-372-1000, OR at the door.



Women of the Church Retreat 2019

Queen Esther and the Journey to the Authentic Self

Save the date for the Women of the Church Retreat at the Blowing Rock Conference Center from November 1-3, 2019. Our own Janet L. Jones, M.Ed., LPC is our presenter and will use the Book of Esther as the retreat guide. More details to come as the time draws closer. For now, mark your calendars.



Pride Parade 2019

August 17-18

Save the date for this year's Pride Festival and Parade in Charlotte! Stay tuned for more details and plan to join us downtown for Sunday's parade.

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

Prayer Concerns

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

Sympathy

Sympathy to Paul Huffman in the death of his wife, Henrietta, on Tuesday, April 30. Arrangements will be announced church-wide as soon as possible.

Sympathy to Kim, Robby, and Miller Ray in the passing of Kim's mother, Mary Lib Causey. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 4, at 1PM at First Presbyterian Church of Statesville.

Thank You

"Thank you so much for the calls, cards and attendance at my dad's funeral. Church life and participation was instilled in me by my dad at birth and was very important to him. We appreciate the love and support we receive from this caring church." from Chuck and Beth Jones, and family of Fred C. Jones

Memorial Service

Services for Harriet Lasater will be held this Friday, May 3 at 12:30pm in the Sanctuary at St. John's. A reception will follow after the service in Lasater Hall.

Sunday, May 5

Deacons: Linda Balentine, Morgan Newman, Robby Ray, Shannon Rodden, Greg Rodden, Gail Sifford, Henry Snyder, Laura Sorrell, Kathy Spence, Todd Stillerman
Greeters: Main-Ed Turner and Scott Kerley; 5th St./Narthex-Linda Kerley; Broach Hall-Gail Sifford; Elevator-Marvin Carter
Tellers: Marvin Carter and Jeff LeVie
Ushers: Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Susan King

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of April 22-28: \$6554
Income through April 28: \$334,411
Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

April 29-May 5: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
May 6-12: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412

Take Note

Brotherhood of the Biscuit

A Monthly Gathering

Brotherhood of the Biscuit will meet again Friday, May 17 at 6:30AM in the Lounge. All are welcome to join!



Painting Inside the Main Entrance

Going on Now

Please be aware that the entire Main Entrance, from the first floor to the third floor, is currently being painted. Be careful as you enter and exit these areas as there may be wet or drying paint on the walls. We are excited for this area to be revitalized as we enter the summer months. It already looks better!



Calendar for May 5-11, 2019

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Sunday, May 5

9:15am Sunday School (Classrooms)
10:30am Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
10:30am Godly Play (Room 221)
10:30am Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30am Church Conference and Lunch (Broach Hall)
1:00pm South Sudanese Worship

Monday, May 6

11:30am Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
12:30pm Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
5:30pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, May 7

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)
6:00pm CROP (Lounge)
6:15pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
7:00pm Team United/AAU Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, May 8

6:30am Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
9:30am Yoga Class (Room 114)
6:00pm Mission Resource Team (Conference Room)
6:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)
6:00pm Handbells (Handbell Room)
6:00pm Women of the Church Board Meeting (Lounge)
7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7:30pm Sherrill Basketball Group (Gym)

Thursday, May 9

10:00am Craft and Needles Ministry (Room 209)
7:30pm CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, May 10

8:00am Weekday School Cultural Day (Lounge)
8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, May 11

7:00am Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
9:30am Kids' Basketball (Gym)