



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 19– Week of May 6-12, 2019

St. John's Worship in Eastertide

Sunday, May 12

Fourth Sunday in Easter

Worship Theme:

God Transforms

Diversity into Community

Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Message:

Living Missionally

Scriptures

Acts 13:1-3

Coming Up at St. John's

Report from Church Conference

Learn about the presentation and discussion at May 5 Church Conference

This past Sunday, we heard about future plans for staffing and facilities in the life and ministries of St. John's. Three separate task forces have been working over the past year. These are: Staffing for Our Future Task Force, Architectural Review Task Force, and Safety and Security Task Force. These groups are working together to help us move into the future. See Dr. Foust's column on the next page for more information. We have an exciting future and hope you will join us in our journey forward.

Pentecost Worship Service

Sunday, June 9 for Morning Worship in the Sanctuary

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

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Charlotte Knights Game

Friday, June 7 at 7:04PM

Instead of Open Table in May, join St. John's for a Charlotte Knight's game vs. Louisville on Friday, June 7! The game begins at 7:04pm. We have a block of 50 tickets so claim yours now. Each ticket is \$14 and that includes a \$2 discount on merchandise or food at the stadium. The last day to sign up is May 26. **Call or email Mallory today in the office to reserve your spot.**



Carolina Voices: Colors of Song

May 18 at 7PM in the Sanctuary featuring Carolina Voices

I would like to personally invite you to the Festival Singers' Colors of Song concert to be held next Saturday, May 18, at 7:00 in the St. John's sanctuary. I am honored to be singing with this excellent group of musicians, led by Donna Hill. We have been working hard since February to prepare a variety of music for this program. In **Colors of Song**, the Festival Singers will feature Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music*. The evening will also explore the sound of color with the music of composers Eric Whitacre and Irving Berlin as well as "Sunday" from *Sunday in the Park with George* by Stephen Sondheim. Join us for an evening filled with a musical rainbow. Tickets available at carolinatix.org or at the door.

Messages from Your St. John's Staff

Future Church: Part 1

This past Sunday, many of you heard reports from our Staffing for Our Future Task Force and our Architectural Review Task Force. Our Architectural Review Task Force has also been in conversation with our Safety and Security Task Force in efforts to make our facilities more hospitable and better oriented for ministry in the 21st century. These task forces will have tremendous impact on the future of St. John's. Here is Part 1 of my review from Sunday's Church Conference. Next week, I will review the report of facility visions and priorities.

Staffing for Our Future: Through several meetings with members and deacons, during the past year, it became clear that our future visions require that we (1) continue staffing for every ministry area in which we are now involved while ALSO (2) expanding the roles of our staff to serve as equipping leaders in the following five areas:

- Engagement, Outreach and Messaging;
- Serving Young Adults and Families with Children and Youth;
- Community Impact;
- Congregational & Pastoral Care; and
- Spiritual Formation and Growth.

Those of you who have worked closely with me know that I especially like this plan because it a BOTH/AND effort; this plan assures that we BOTH focus on reaching new people AND helps us enhance our ministries to current members. The task force has developed strategies for each of these areas and last Sunday announced the first step of implementation.

The Rev. Lee Gray has served us for the past 22 years as Minister with Youth & Young Adults. In conversations with Lee, he has expressed excitement over transitioning his love for the people of St. John's into the new role of Minister for Congregational Care. Lee will continue to serve our youth and their families through the coming months while a search team is enlisted and works toward finding new leadership to build on Lee's ministry with youth and help us connect with the growing numbers of young adults and families in metro Charlotte. When this search process concludes, Lee will begin his transition into his new focus of congregational care.

An expanded St. John's ministry for congregational care will include expanding our attentions upon members in their 80s and 90s; especially those whose health requires them to become more inactive at home or in CCRCs (Continuing Care Retirement Communities). Lee will also guide us to strengthen our approaches of caring through Sunday Small Groups and Pastoral Deacons. We will enlist some members to join Lee in training for Stephen Ministry and other initiatives. I am looking forward to working with Lee as we implement numerous efforts magnifying congregational care.

In coming weeks, we will share other expansions of staff ministry roles. St. John's, I am excited about our future. Thank you for your investments of commitment to strengthen the ministry resources we offer to this city.

**Shalom,
Dennis**

News for Youth and Their Families from Lee Gray

Sunday, June 2

- Senior Recognition Sunday in worship

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

- 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 12

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 sheep who gets lost and is found again. They'll also enjoy time for art and play.
- **Grades 1-5:** Missions 101 is from 9:15-10:00. They'll be learning about how refugees and how St. John's helps refugees.. Grace Notes is from 10:00-10:20, and parents are invited to come and join music class to see what your child has been learning this year. 1st-5th Graders will worship with their families.

Grace Notes Class

- 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 but they are going quickly! To register, [click here](#). Anyone ages 4 through rising 6th grade is welcome to attend! Contact Allison for questions.

Worship with St. John's



Living Missionally

Join us for worship on Sunday, May 12, at 10:30am in the Sanctuary to learn and consider how God transforms diversity into community. Dennis is our proclaimer on Acts 13:1-3 from the lectionary.

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. They hope all can join them for this joyous occasion



Serve with St. John's

Nominations for Diaconate

Now Accepting Nominations. Who Can You Nominate?

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.

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>

Grow with St. John's

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.



A Riff of Love Concert

Thank you to anyone who went out to Holy Comforter Episcopal to support QC Family Tree's jazz concert last night. This evening was a wonderful event full of jazz and stories about justice and belonging.

Counseling for UNCC Students, Staff, & Faculty

I wanted to make our covenant churches aware that our therapists are offering to see UNCC students, staff, and faculty 3 times for free as they begin to deal with the recent tragedy. If you learn of persons in your congregations who are hurting, please let us know how we may help. And, as always, thank you for your continued support of the Counseling Center at Charlotte.

Gary McFarland, DMin
Counseling Center at Charlotte

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, Teri Franklin, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Elma Thomas, Dee Turner, & Jeck Warren-home; Parker Jackson, military

Peggy Harrison, long-time administrative assistant at St. John's, in her time of surgery and healing; her address is 1334 McDowell Farms Drive, Charlotte, NC 28217 if you would like to send her a note

Sunday, May 12

Deacons: Allene Cooley, Carol Injaychock, Anne Sutton, Keith Towery, Kathy Turner, Elizabeth Whipple, Nancy Wilson, Lindsay Wilson, Alice Wirz, Bert Green

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner and Chuck Jones; 5th St./Narthex-Susan King; Broach Hall-Jimmy Carpenter; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Susan King & James Laney

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of April 29-May 5: \$51,905
Income through May 5: \$389,190
Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

May 6-12: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
May 13-19: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287

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.

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!



New Heritage Booklets Available

Pick Up Your Copy of the 2019 Heritage Booklet in the Office

Additional, revised copies of the 2019 Heritage Booklet from Heritage Sunday is available in the office today! This book highlights and celebrates the youth ministries of St. John's over the years. If you would like one but are unable to pick one up, please let Mallory in the office know.

Calendar for May 12-18, 2019

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Sunday, May 12

8:00am Church Council (Conference Room)
9:15am Sunday School & Missions 101 (Classrooms)
10:30am Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
10:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, May 13

11:30am Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
12:30pm Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
6:30pm Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
6:30pm Administrative Deacon Panel (Room 209)
6:30pm Pastoral Deacon Panel (Lounge)
7:00pm Festival Singers' Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:30pm All Deacons' Meeting (Chapel)
8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, May 14

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)
6:15pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
6:30pm NAMI Support Groups (Room 114 & 116)
7:00pm Team United/AAU Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, May 15

6:30am Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
9:00am Weekday School Day to Shine (Broach Hall)
9:30am Yoga Class (Room 114)
10:00am Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
6:00pm Membership Resource Team (Lounge)
6:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)
7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7:30pm Sherrill Basketball Group (Gym)

Thursday, May 16

12:30pm Novant Monthly Managers' Meeting (Broach Hall)
7:30pm CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, May 17

6:30am Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
5:30pm Wedding Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:00pm Festival Singers Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, May 18

7:00am Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
9:30am Kids' Basketball (Gym)
11:00am Wedding for Micah Furlong and Molly Bedrock (Sanctuary)
2:00pm Housing Committee (Room 209)
7:00pm Festival Singers Concert (Sanctuary)