



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 22—Week of May 27-June 2, 2019

St. John's Worship on Ascension Sunday and Graduate Day

Sunday, June 2
Graduate Recognition

Proclaimer

Rev. Lee Gray

Message

What Will Your Verse Be?

Scriptures

Acts 10:34-41

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Coming Up at St. John's

Senior Recognition Sunday

Celebrating High School Graduates this Sunday

This Sunday in worship we will recognize St. John's seven 2019 high school graduates in worship. This year's high school graduates are as follows:

- **David Benton**, son of Kevin & Lia Benton, is graduating from Providence High School and will attend the University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- **Samuel Bond**, son of R.D. & Maggie bond, is graduating from Lake Norman Charter School and will attend the University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- **Lena Duke**, daughter of Joe & Christine Duke, is graduating from Myers Park High School and will attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- **Peter Kerley**, son of Scott & Jan Kerley and Rebecca Kerley, is graduating from Porter Ridge High School and will attend Stanly Community College
- **Noah McGuire**, son of Jim & Laura McGuire, is graduating from The Fletcher School and will attend Life University
- **Agatha Mitchem**, daughter of Jim & Tina Mitchem, is graduating from Myers Park High School and will attend the University of Tampa
- **Janie Smith**, daughter of Ken & Ellen Smith, is graduating from Myers Park High School and will attend the University of South Carolina

We hope that you are able to join us in worship on Sunday and celebrate with our soon to be graduates.

Pentecost Worship Service

Sunday, June 9 @ 10:30am for Morning Worship in the Sanctuary

During this service of worship, we will join together with the South Sudanese worshipping community and Together in Christ International Ministries from Sierra Leone. Pastor Brickson Sam will be our proclaimer and during the service, more than 8 languages will be spoken amongst these three communities of faith. We hope you will join us for this Pentecost celebration!

Summer Series

Intergenerational Sunday School from June 9 to August 4

Dennis has designed an intergenerational learning series for this summer season. There will be nine sessions that will convene each Sunday in Broach Hall from 9:15am-10:15am, the regular Sunday School hour. The series is called, *Difficult Conversations for an Actively Faithful Church: Moving Through Discussions to Informed Actions*. Topics include: Immigration, global and local hunger, poverty, and affordable housing. Guest speakers from across the Charlotte area will come to present and we hope you all will attend! More details on page 3 of this Family News!

Messages from Your St. John's Staff

“INVITATIONS TO SEE THROUGH” The St. John's Pulpit this Summer

June 2: Our annual recognition of high school graduates. We will see the future through their eyes.

June 9: **Wear your Pentecost RED!**

We will celebrate Pentecost Sunday with creativity. Rev. Brickson Sam, pastor of *Together in Christ International Ministries*, our partner congregation from Sierra Leone, will offer the message and our worship choir will consist of voices blending our St. John's Chancel Choir with members of our partner worship communities from South Sudan and Sierra Leone.

We will see the Spirit of God through this celebration.

On June 16, 23, July 14, 21 & 28, I will offer messages on five of our stained-glass roundels. Our beautiful stained-glass windows offer biblical and theological symbols in the roundels. We will see teachings of our Judeo-Christian tradition through these windows:

- *Noah's Ark* – June 16
- *The Bible* – June 23
- *Ark of the Covenant* – July 14
- *Ten Commandments* – July 21
- *Golden Candlestick* – July 28.

There are other symbols in our sanctuary as well; each symbol invites us to see through its invitation. Do you know where stained-glass roundel windows are located within our facilities, which are not in the sanctuary?

In addition to the five messages inviting you to see through our stained-glass windows, I have invited four friends of St. John's to proclaim from the St. John's Pulpit while I am out of town this

News for Youth and Their Families

Sunday, June 2

- Senior Recognition Sunday with Breakfast in the Lounge at 9AM

June 10-14

- Youth are invited to help with VBS!
- Sign up here: <https://goo.gl/formsfEVzwhj2HydEoy23>.

June 15-22

- High School Mission Trip to Puerto Rico

July 22-27

- Unidiversity Camp in Merryville, TN

August 10-13

- Middle School Local Mission Trip in Charlotte

summer. During the last days of June and early days of July, I will be serving as a Guest Pastor in Residence at Chautauqua Institute, in upstate New York. (I will write more about this later.) On Sundays, August 4th and 11th, I will be away for my annual study and planning weeks.

- June 30th, **The Rev. Dr. Michelle Jones**: associate pastor for Friendship Missionary Baptist Church where her father, Dr. Clifford Jones, serves as pastor.
- July 7th, **Mallory Brown**: a graduate of Gardner Webb Divinity School, you have come to know Mallory as she serves alongside us as Administrative Assistant.
- August 4th, **The Rev. Dr. Daynette Snead**: She is on the staff of North Carolina Cooperative Baptist Fellowship as she coordinates all efforts related to those affected by the flooding in eastern North Carolina. (Daynette is also the fiancé of Pedro Perez, Executive Director of Charlotte Family Housing.)
- August 11th, **The Rev. Dr. Larry Hovis**, Coordinator of NC Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Information about the sessions during the Sunday school hour are found on the next page in the green box.

Shalom,
Dennis

News for Children and Their Families

Sunday, June 2

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 went to heaven but promised to send the Holy Spirit to his disciples. They'll also enjoy time for art and play.
- **Grades 1-5**: Formation Class is from 9:15-10:20. We will gather in the Godly Play room for the first part of a special 2-part lesson. 1st-5th Graders will worship with their families.

Summer Sunday School: June-August

- **Nursery and PreK/K Classes**: We will be on our normal schedule for June and August. In July, we will only offer Worship Care from 10:15am-11:30am.
- **Grades 1-5**: These classes will combine for the summer. On June 2 and 9, I need 2 parents/adults to volunteer to be the extra adults in the classroom. I will be teaching, all you would need to do is show up ready to help out. Please respond to this email if you are willing to help. It is important for us to have at least 2 adults in the room for the safety of your children and the volunteers.
- There will be **no Sunday School in July**. Our regular teaching teams will cover the remainder of June and August. We'll be doing a 6-week study on The Lord's Prayer.

Summer Sundays at St. John's

Formation & Worship this Summer at St. John's from June 9 - August 4

- **June 9, 16, & 23: Pentecost, Immigration, & Storytelling**
 - Mike Warner from St. Peter's Catholic Church will lead sessions during Sunday School with art and media to help you understand immigration as the history of humanity, referencing stories in biblical literature.
 - One June 9, our sisters and brothers from South Sudan and Sierra Leone will worship with us as we explore how God's Holy Spirit is continually writing stories today.
- **June 30, July 7 & 14: The Global and Local Story of Hunger**
 - During Sunday School, you will hear from Church World Service, CROP Walk, Men's Shelter, and Urban Ministries who will update us on the scope of hunger today, global and local.
- **July 21, 28, & August 4: Poverty and Building a Sustainable Charlotte**
 - Charlotte is the 3rd fastest growing population in the United States with a booming hospitality industry, growing skyline, and exploding population. However, the chances for folks living in poverty to rise out of poverty are decreasing. Leaders from Charlotte Family Housing, Foundation for the Carolinas and others will be with us these Sundays as we learn and choose which actions to take as we strengthen as God's actively faithful people.
- **Summer Sermons:**
 - Throughout the summer, Dennis will preach on 5 of the stained glass windows. Additionally, we will welcome guest preachers Pastor Brickson Sam, Rev. Dr. Daynette Snead, Rev. Dr. Larry Hovis, and Mallory M. Brown.

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. 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.

Helping Students Build Confidence with Heart Math Tutoring

from Melissa Millette, Tutor and St. John's Member



Heart Math Tutoring is a wonderful volunteer program that equips volunteers to help elementary students get a better foundation in basic math skills. I have enjoyed working with 4th and 5th graders at Montclair Elementary over the past 4 years. The students gain confidence in math, but also benefit from a relationship with another adult. It has been a rewarding activity for me and I hope that you might consider it if you are able to give 30 or 60 minutes once a week during the school year.

New Deacon Leadership

At last week's meeting of the deacons, Jason Benton was elected chair for the 2019-2020 church year. Bert Green and Nancy Wilson were also nominated for chair. Please extend your congratulations to Jason on his election and your thanks to Bert and Nancy for their willingness to serve the church. Jason will take office at the first deacons meeting in September.

Grow with St. John's

CBF Gathering and Coffee Hour Friday, June 7 in the Lounge

Greetings! Paul Baxley, new CBF Global Executive Coordinator, will be traveling throughout the state to meet with our CBFNC family in early June. Paul is looking forward to meeting with CBF friends, sharing his initial impressions and vision for CBF in the coming years. Paul will be in Charlotte



on Friday, June 7 at St. John's at 10:30 am. This meeting will be in the Lounge. All who are able are encouraged to attend. Let's show Paul a warm NC welcome on June 7!

-Larry Hovis
CBFNC Executive Coordinator



**Do You Have a Parking Sticker?
If you do not, please get one
from Mallory in the office today!**

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, Melissa Nash, Linda Nash, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Henry Snyder, Elma Thomas, Dee Turner, & Jeck Warren-home; Parker Jackson, military

Parker Jackson's address is: Major Parker Jackson, Team Army/ Team 2/TFSW 19.2, Camp Shorab, APO AE 09354

Sunday, June 2

Deacons: David Allen, Linda Balentine, Jason Benton, Jordan Benton, Leslie Bragg, Minh Callaway, Allene Cooley, Teri Franklin, Charlie Harper, Clara Howell
Greeters: Main-Carol and Tom Injaychock; 5th St./Narthex-Vanessa Boling; Broach Hall-Gail Sifford; Elevator-Marvin Carter
Tellers: Tom Blackmon & Matt Collins
Ushers: Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Susan King

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of May 20-26: \$31,187.00
 Income through May 26: \$467,802
 Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

May 27-June 2: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 June 3-9: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
 June 10-14: Lee Gray 704-451-1309

Reserved Parking for Seniors

Starting this Sunday and continuing each Sunday, there will be 6 parking spaces marked with signs and designated for those age 80 and up. These spots will be right outside the Main Entrance in the center of the lot on Sundays only. Large, red signs are used to mark the spots.

Senior Adult Summer Picnic

Sign Up Today for Our June 23rd Picnic for Senior Adults

Coming up this summer, on Sunday, June 23, at 11:30am in Broach Hall, we will have a picnic for senior adults, similar to the luncheon we have at Christmas. If you would like to come or know someone who would like to come, please call Mallory in the office to reserve your spot for lunch.



Calendar for June 2-8, 2019

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Sunday, June 2

- 8:00amStaffing Our Future Task Force (Conference Room)
- 9:00amSenior Breakfast (Lounge)
- 9:15amSunday School (Classrooms)
- 10:30amTogether in Christ Ministries (Chapel)
- 10:30amWorship (Sanctuary)
- 2:00pmSouth Sudanese Worship (Chapel)

Monday, June 3

- 12:30pmCharlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
- 6:15pmChurch Council (Lounge)
- 6:30pmLeadership Task Force (Lounge)
- 8:00pmAA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, June 4

- 7:00amTuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
- 10:00amStaff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 5:15pmSJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
- 6:15pmYoung Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
- 7:00pmTeam United/AAU Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, June 5

- 6:30amBenton Basketball (Gym)
- 7:00amCharlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
- 9:30amYoga Class (Room 114)
- 12:00pmNovant Health Resident Graduation (Broach Hall)
- 6:00pmPersonnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
- 6:00pmAA (Lasater Hall)
- 7:15pmChoir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 7:30pmSherrill Basketball (Gym)

Thursday, June 6

- 9:00amUnity Coalition (Lounge)
- 10:00amHeadStart (Broach Hall)
- 5:30pmWeekday School Board Meeting (Lounge)

Friday, June 7

- 10:00amCBFNC Reception (Lounge)
- 10:30amMetrolina Assoc. for the Blind Yoga (Room 114)
- 7:04pmCharlotte Knights Game (Offsite)
- 8:00pmAA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, June 8

- 7:00amBenton Basketball (Gym)
- 9:30amKids' Basketball (Gym)

Difficult Conversations for an Actively Faithful Church:

MOVING THROUGH DISCUSSIONS TO INFORMED ACTIONS

Discussion

9:15AM IN BROACH HALL

- June 9, 16, & 23: Pentecost, Immigration, & Storytelling

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However, the chances for folks living in poverty to rise out of poverty are decreasing. Leaders from Charlotte Family Housing, Foundation for the Carolinas and others will be with us these Sundays as we learn and choose which actions to take as we strengthen as God's actively faithful people.

Worship

10:30AM IN SANCTUARY

Throughout the summer, Dennis will proclaim on 5 of the stained-glass windows in our Sanctuary: Noah's Ark, the Bible, Ark of the Covenant, Ten Commandments, and Golden Candlesticks

Additionally, we welcome the following guest preachers:

- Brickson Sam- Pentecost on June 9
- Rev. Dr. Michelle Jones-June 30
- Mallory M. Brown- July 7
- Rev. Dr. Daynette Snead-August 4
- Rev. Dr. Larry Hovis-August 11

SUMMER SUNDAYS AT

St. John's

JUNE 9 - AUGUST 4