



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 33 – Week of August 19-25 2019

What's Happening at St. John's?

**St. John's
Worship
this Week on
Sunday,
August 25**

Proclaimer
Rev. Dennis W.
Foust, PhD
Message
*God Within the
Shadows*

A New Year in Sunday School

Promotion Sunday on August 25

Just as a new school year begins for our teachers and students, so does the new Sunday school year at St. John's. While most adults will continue on in the same classes, many of our children and teenagers will move to a new class as they either move up a grade level or start kindergarten, middle school, or high school.

This Sunday, our children (birth-5th grade) will share breakfast treats with their families and Ms. Allison in Broach Hall at 9:00am. At this time, they will bid farewell to the new 6th graders who are entering the youth group and will present them with new Bibles. After this, there will be a parent meeting to talk about the upcoming year in Children's Ministries. In worship, as is tradition at St. John's, the new 2nd Graders will receive their new Bibles: Max Cordello and Emmitt Vergakis. We hope all of you plan to attend this service on Sunday as it is an important milestone for these students.

Our youth group has already said goodbye to those who graduated from high school but will welcome six new 6th graders to the fold: Audrey Heasley, Gabe Perkins, Will Stillerman, Natalie Turner, Parker Wilson, and Whit Wilson.

We hope that each of you will enter this new year with hope and excitement, no matter your age and no matter if you are starting a new class or staying in the same one you've been in for years.

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| From Dennis Youth News Children's News | 2 |
| Faith Journey Book Study Women of the Church Luncheon Women of the Church Retreat Craft & Bake Sale BPFNA Hosting Memorial Garden | 3 |
| Staff Listing Prayer Concerns & Sympathy Sunday Service Schedules Ministers on Call Open Table Pride Pictures Calendar | 4 |

Global Missions 2019

Have You Contributed?

2019 Goal: \$16,000
Contributions to Date: \$14,613

We are approximately two weeks away from our deadline for this year's global mission offering. As of this week, we are a little over \$1,000 away from our \$16,000 goal. This year, \$1000 is going to aid those impacted by the Sierra Leone fire in West Africa and \$15,000 is going to the Nyarweng School in South Sudan. Please consider giving today! This offering will be collected through Sunday, September 1!

Last Week of the School Uniform Drive

Donate Today!

The uniforms will be collected at the Main Entrance on a rack from now until August 25 (THIS Sunday).

Needs include:

- Girls khaki or navy pants: Sizes 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18
 - Boys khaki or navy pants: Sizes 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20
 - Short-sleeved polo shirts: ALL Sizes - White and navy
 - Long-sleeved polo shirts: ALL Sizes - White and navy
- GREATEST NEED IS FOR SMALLER SIZES.**



Messages from St. John's Staff

GLOBAL MISSION OFFERING GOAL

We need only \$1,387 to reach our Global Mission Offering goal of \$16,000. These gifts will serve two communities on the African continent. First, we are helping to pay the salaries for the teachers of Nyarweng School in South Sudan (\$15,000). Second, we are contributing to an emergency assistance fund coordinated by our partner congregation (Together In Christ International Ministries), to support members of their mother church in Freeport, Sierra Leone, who lost their homes and worship center in a massive fire a few weeks ago (\$1,000). We have already given \$14,613! **Let's do this!!!**

PLEASE BE FOREWARNED

Police have notified us of a new twist on gift card scams. Scammers are pretending to be religious leaders and are asking for people to donate to what they claim is a good cause by sending gift cards. Please be forewarned; **if someone contacts you asking for money using the name of one of your ministers, please get any information possible and contact us to let us know.** We will pass information on to the police. Thank you.

MESSAGES FROM A YOUTH MISSION AUCTION

Every other spring, our Youth Mission Auction provides funds to support our youth mission trips, initiatives and missional immersion experiences for the next two years. The auction always includes an opportunity for a member to make a gift in order to discuss with me subjects they would like to have presented in a sermon (I maintain veto rights if the proposed subject is out of bounds – which has never been the case – but, just sayin'.) Surprisingly, this past spring, two men made donations to the youth mission auction for this purpose. Both subjects, like both men, are outstanding.

Last Sunday, I offered a message requested by Joe Trull in honor of his long-time friend, Eddie Rickenbaker. The message, entitled, 'Keep On Keeping On or Persevere On –

Persevering,' reminded you how your influence outlives you because of your relationship with God and your commitment to express God's love for the good of all.

This Sunday, I will offer a message entitled, 'God Within the Shadows.' This message is built around a subject offered by lifelong St. John's member, Ashley Hogewood; a person dedicated to historic Baptist principles of freedom. As a semi-retired attorney Ashley has always invested his personal faith commitments to his public square connections expressing his Ministry in Daily Life through Vocational Discipleship. Like many of you, Ashley is interested in the relationships between Church & State and religion & politics; exceedingly pertinent topics. These topics are set within the larger questions: 'How do we live with our eyes wide open to local, national and global situations while connecting our prayer, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done," with our involvements in God's work in the world?' 'How can we invest our lives so the vision of God's kingdom revealed in Jesus brings about change – in the world and in us?' We will consider these questions on Sunday.

If you're in town this Sunday, please gather with us. Or, please worship with us by joining us on our St. John's Facebook page through livestreaming at 10:30am CT.

**Shalom,
Dennis**

News for Youth and Their Families from Lee Gray

Upcoming Events for Youth

August 30–September 1

High School Retreat to Camp St. Christopher in Seabrook Island, SC. Our numbers were sent in today. More information will be forthcoming, but those who have signed up should plan on leaving at 4pm that Friday and returning at 4pm on Sunday.

Sunday, September 8

Youth Fall Sunday Evening Kickoff and Parent's Meeting

Sunday, October 20

CROP Walk (It's back on Sunday, and we are working on plans to make it a good day for youth)

June 21-27, 2020

High School Habitat Mission Trip to John's Island, SC. We think we will be able to pre-build in Charlotte beforehand this year!

New Deacon Ordination

September 8 during Worship

On Sunday, September 8, we will ordain our new deacons in worship. The following will be ordained: Treva Bridges, Alan Dietz, Paula Foust, Deacon Jones, Durning Moore, Casey Perkins, David Sherrill, and Mindy Vergakis. Please plan to be in worship this day as we support these folks and welcome them into the diaconate of St. John's!

News for Children and Their Families from Allison Benfield

Promotion Sunday this Week!

You're invited to gather in Broach Hall at 9:00am for some light breakfast treats as we say goodbye to the 6th Graders and present them with their Bibles and send them to youth group, promote children to their new classes for the year, and have a parent meeting to talk about the upcoming year in Children's Ministries. All families with children are strongly encouraged to attend!



In worship, as is tradition at St. John's, the 2nd Graders will receive their Bibles. Please plan on being here for this important Sunday so we can begin our year the right way. See you soon!

Grow with St. John's

Faith Journey Book Study

Starts Back on Monday, September 9!

An eventful beginning for the Faith Journey Book Study is planned. Martha Kearse will be here on Monday, September 9 to discuss her book, *The Sun Is Up*, which will be the study for the "Soul Sisters" for the fall. The group would like to invite the congregation to join them in welcoming Martha back that day at 11:45am until 1 pm. You may make your reservation by contacting Mallory in the church office as soon as possible. Martha's book is available through Amazon or Smyth & Helwys for \$13.00.



Please make plans to join us that day (or for the entire book study during the next four weeks).

Women of the Church Luncheon

Sunday, September 15 in Broach Hall after Worship



All women of St. John's are invited to lunch on September 15 at 11:45am-1:00pm in Broach Hall. This year, our speaker will be Rev. Kheresa Harmon from the School of Divinity at Gardner-Webb University. Kheresa is also a former member of St. John's. The menu includes: turkey croissants, potato salad, and cookies from Carolina Confections. The cost is \$10 at the door. Reserve your spot at the table by emailing or calling Mallory in the office today. We hope all St. John's women will attend this special lunch.

Queen Esther & the Journey to the Authentic Self Register Now!

Sign up now 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 for the weekend. The book of Esther will be our guide on retreat as we seek to live more fully into our authentic selves and listen for how we are called "...for such a time as this."

When? November 1-3, 2019, starting Friday at dinner through Sunday at breakfast

Where? Blowing Rock Conference Center, 1818 Goforth Road, Blowing Rock, NC 28605

Pricing?

- * \$168.00 Triple Occupancy
- * \$185.00 Double Occupancy
- * \$248.00 Single Occupancy
- * Please contact Jaquelyn McAbee in the office for confidential scholarship assistance. jmcaabee@sicharlotte.org
- * **New this year-Price includes all meals at conference center!**

Registration Deadline is September 15! Contact Donna Scott at 919-280-9204 or djs58@nc.rr.com for questions or concerns. **Please contact Mallory in the office for a registration form or pick one up in your Sunday school room or the office in person today!**

Serve with St. John's

Get Ready for the Craft and Bake Sale!

Start Your Crafting for the Sale on October 13 in Lasater Hall

It's time to start preparing for the annual Craft and Bake Sale at St. John's on Sunday, October 13! If you are a crafter and have goods you would like to contribute to the sale, go ahead and start knitting, painting, gluing, or whatever medium of choice you prefer. Stay tuned for more details as the date gets closer. Also, start thinking about what you can bake for the sale!



Baptist Peace Fellowship Hosting

Host a guest in your home for BPFNA in September

The Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America is seeking your assistance. Our Fall board meeting will be held this September in Charlotte, and as we are "of North America," board members will be coming in from across the United States as well as Mexico and Canada. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to host an out-of-town board member (or two) from Wednesday, September 25 – Saturday, September 28. There are nine people who need housing in total.

Please contact Allison Paksoy at allison@bpfna.org or 704-301-9447 if interested or for more information. Thank you in advance!

Do You Enjoy Gardening?

Volunteer in the Memorial Garden

Did you know that St. John's has a Memorial Garden? Do you know where it is? Do you know about the policies related to the use of the garden? Our Memorial Garden flanks both sides of the long walk which goes out from the Children's Building toward Hawthorne Lane. The garden was established in 1997 with a garden plan which was professionally installed at the time and, of course, has been slightly altered, as all gardens change over the course of 20 years. A brochure explaining the use and policies and history is available in the church office. All should feel welcomed to walk through, sit, and enjoy this garden at any time.



The Memorial Garden is cared for by volunteers in the church who find it a meaningful volunteer experience. Currently, the Task Force is in need of volunteers to care for and tend the garden! If you have an interest, enjoy gardening, and are glad that we have such a garden right here on our own grounds, we invite you to please notify the Leadership Committee through Donna Scott at 919-280-9204, Kathy Bragg at 704-896-7444, or Wanny Hogewood at 704-966-4140. We need you. Sometimes the work is difficult but it is primarily fun and inspiring!!! Please call to volunteer 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 & Sympathy

Byron Bullard, Carol Drye, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Henry Snyder, Elma Thomas, & Jeck Warren-home; Parker Jackson, military;

Sympathy to Kami McGuire and her family in the loss of her mother.

Congratulations to Chase and Natalie Bailey in the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Kate Bailey on Wednesday, August 21! Kate and family are doing well!

Sunday, August 25

Deacons: Morgan Newman, Robby Ray, Shannon Rodden, Greg Rodden, Judy Sanford, Gail Sifford, Henry Snyder, Laura Sorrell, Kathy Spence, Todd Stillerman

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner & Bobby Furr; 5th St./NartheX-Vanessa Boling; Broach Hall-Gail Sifford; 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 August 5-11: \$20,426
 Income through August 11: \$711,310
 Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

August 19-25: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 August 26-Sept.1: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412



Thanks to all who came out to support Charlotte Pride at the festival and parade this past weekend!

Calendar for August 25-31

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Sunday, August 25

9:15am Sunday School (Classrooms)
 9:15am Sunday School Promotion Meeting
 for Children and Families (Broach Hall)
 10:30am Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
 10:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, August 26

12:30pm Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
 5:15pm Young Voices of the Carolinas Orientation (Broach Hall)
 8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, August 27

7:00am Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
 5:15pm Young Voices of the Carolinas Orientation (Broach Hall)
 5:15pm SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, August 28

6:30am Benton Basketball (Gym)
 7:00am Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
 9:30am Yoga (Room 114)
 1:00pm Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
 4:30pm Weekday School Open House
 6:00pm WOC Spiritual Growth Team (Lounge)
 6:00pm AA (Room 114)
 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
 7:30pm Sherrill Basketball (Gym)

Thursday, August 29

8:00am Head Start Staggered Entry

Friday, August 30

8:00am Head Start Staggered Entry
 All Weekend High School Retreat (Offsite)
 8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, August 31

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

Save the Date for Open Table!

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 in
 Broach Hall from 5:50pm-7:00pm

For our first Open Table meal and fellowship of this school year, we are planning a Trivia Night! We will have great food, have summer pictures displayed from youth and children's trips, and team up for challenging but fun trivia for all ages!