



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 36 – Week of September 9-15, 2019

What's Happening at St. John's?

St. John's
Worship
this Week on
Sunday,
September 15

Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust,
PhD

Message

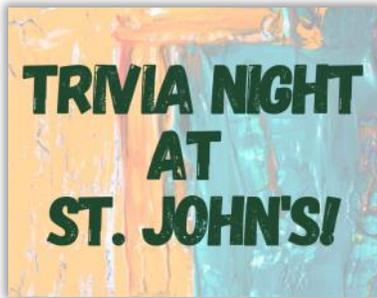
*Covenant: Something On
Which We Can Agree*

Scripture

Deut. 26:16-19,
Matthew 28:18-20,
Philippians 2:3-11

Sign Up for Open Table!

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 in Broach Hall @ 5:50pm



For our first Open Table meal and fellowship of this school year, we are planning a Trivia Night! We will have great food, summer pictures displayed from youth and children's trips, and team up for challenging but fun trivia for all ages! Costs for dinner are \$6/child, \$10/adult, and a maximum of \$30/family.

Sign up with Mallory OR click this link to register online:

<https://forms.gle/Qne5S9tPfnAazVxP8>

Queen Esther & the Journey to the Authentic Self

Register by THIS SUNDAY!

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." Sign up by September 15!

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!**

Message from the Youth and Young Adult Minister Search Task Force

The task force formed to identify candidates to call as our next Youth and Young Adults Associate Minister has been hard at work discussing the charge given by the congregation, developing a profile for the position to be filled, and preparing profiles of St. John's and our community to best present who we are as a congregation to potential applicants. While our work has built on the efforts of the Staffing Our Future Task Force and the information they gathered and analyzed in their process, the Search Task Force is at a point where **we need your feedback** to ensure we are adhering to the concerns and desires of the congregation. To help facilitate discussion, members of the Search Task Force will be visiting Sunday School classes over the next two weeks and we will hold open listening sessions for anyone who would like to discuss with us. Below is a schedule of listening sessions. If your Sunday School class or small group is not listed below, and you would like to host a listening session please contact the church office and a member of the Search Task Force will reach out to you. We appreciate your prayerful support and look forward to engaging with you on this search process.

- **September 15th at 8:30AM – General listening session in the Lounge-Anyone can come!**
- **September 15th at 9:15AM – Visit the Beacon Class, Pathfinders Class, Seekers Class, Adventure Class**

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Messages from St. John's Staff

A NEW CHURCH YEAR: PART TWO

This is article 2 in a 5-part series. These five articles are updating you on areas of congregational life and ministry. September introduces a new church year with fresh opportunities for nurturing a healthy and vital St. John's.

In last week's Family News, I presented a review of Worship and Servant Leadership. This week, I am reviewing Administration, Communications, Messaging and Outreach.

Next week – Missions & Community Impact;

Week of 23rd – Community of Faith, Congregational & Pastoral Care; and

Week of 30th – Spiritual Formation, Prayerfulness, Finances, Facilities & Construction Projects Impacting Our Campus.

Administration: Many organizations confuse three distinct areas of organizational guidance: Leadership, Administration and Management. These areas of our congregation's life are shared between staff and members. Leadership - As senior minister, I share leadership of the congregation with the chair of deacons. Now in my ninth year, I have been blessed to serve with eight deacon chairs, each one bringing key insights and varied approaches to this role. We share tasks of church leadership with church staff and diverse deacon panels and resource teams consisting of hundreds of members. Leaders (1) define contextual reality; (2) clarify shared visions and objectives connected to mission; (3) evoke and nurture momentum; (4) develop shared team directions, culture and values; and (5) differentiate between effectiveness and efficiency. Whereas leadership focuses more on the over-arching breadth and under-girding depth of organizational life, management focuses on details and tasks which must happen at multiple levels and in a variety of ways. Leaders must be attentive to the tasks of management; but, managers do not have to function in leadership roles.

In between leadership and management is this area of administration. There are twelve ways to express church administration: Planning; Organizing; Development of Policies, Procedures and Practices; Staffing; Managing Facilities & Equipment; Delegating; Collaborating; Communicating; Orienting; Reporting; Budgeting and Stewarding Finances & Resources; and Evaluating.

Last year, we installed Jacquelyn McAbee to be our Church Administrator. Jacquelyn had been serving as our Administrative Assistant for three years. It was clear to us that her quality work among us as well as her prior service in her home church

News for Youth and Their Families from Lee Gray

Upcoming Events for Youth

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!

in Virginia prior to moving to Charlotte gave her broad experience with a variety of church administration roles preparing her for this position. There are many facets to Jacquelyn's work, each one including numerous details. Jacquelyn administers all our financial operations - banking, accounting, budgeting, etc.; coordinates facilities schedules; supervises custodial staff; provides administrative support for all administrative deacon resource teams; coordinates relationships with vendors, contractors and residential partners and administers staff support for human resources. Jacquelyn is a gifted person with a desire to serve St. John's mission.

Communications: Promoting Jacquelyn to the position of Church Administrator presented the need for us to bring onto the staff a new Administrative Assistant. Reviewing our congregational needs and the ways in which this position has shifted over the years, it became apparent that we were looking for a person with communications skills, experience in digital production, writing and desktop publishing. Mallory Brown not only brings these skills to us, but she is also a theologically trained person who is a fine preacher. In addition to receiving incoming calls and guests, providing administrative support for staff, church leaders, resource teams, ministries, etc., Mallory is also expanding our communications ministry. She is extending our use of Facebook, working with Matt Comer as we enhance our website. Later this autumn, we will move to new formats for existing publications, expand our use of both digital platforms and printed media and enlist a Messaging and Media Resource Team to take advantage of the gifts and skills among our members.

Messaging: Whereas communications focuses largely 'within the church,' Messaging focuses on the community. Through the years, many members and non-members have said, "St. John's is a wonderfully kept secret in Charlotte. If we could just get our message out into the community without it being like a Madison Avenue approach, we think people would be drawn to our message and mission." Good News: As a result of our 'Staffing for Our Future' task force process earlier this year, we identified 'Messaging' as one of six areas to be enhanced. Mallory's work now includes this area of ministry. We will be enlisting a Messaging and Media Resource Team to help develop and implement a Messaging plan of action this year.

Continued on back page of the Family News...

News for Children and Their Families from Allison Benfield

Sunday, September 15

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 God kept Noah and his family safe during the great flood. They'll also enjoy time for art and play. Music is at 9:40am.

Grades 1-5: Formation Class is from 9:15-10:00. Grades 1-2 will be learning about what worship is and why we worship. Grades 3-5 will be learning about some people who thought they would be able to build a tower all the way to heaven. Grace Notes is at 10:00. 1st-3rd Graders will have Godly Play during the Worship Hour, and 4th-5th Graders will worship with their families. Worship Bags are available at the entrances to the Sanctuary.

Grow with St. John's

Bible Work Bench Begins

September 17 @ 11AM in Room 209

Please accept our invitation to join us as we begin the weekly meetings for our Bible Work Bench (Reading Between the Lines) on Tuesday, September 17, at 11 am in room 209 at St. John's. We meet for one hour each Tuesday. We welcome back our small group as we welcome people who have not attended in the past. Contact Steve Hoffman (hstevehoffman@gmail.com) or call 704-604-9634 for more information.

Brotherhood of the Biscuit Is Back

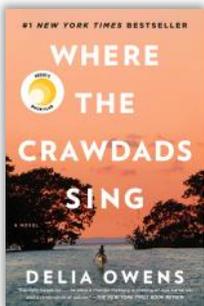
Join us September 20 @ 6:30am!

Join the Brotherhood of the Biscuit at 6:30am on Friday, September 20 for biscuits and fellowship in the Lounge. We are looking forward to hearing from Todd Stillerman as our speaker on this date. If you have never participated in Brotherhood of the Biscuit, this year is a good year to join this morning crowd!



Join Book Club!

Tuesday, September 24th in the Library



The Terrific Tuesday Book Club will meet on Tuesday, September 24 at 12PM in the Library to discuss the book, *Where the Crawdads Sing*, by Delia Owens. This book was on the *New York Times* Fiction Bestsellers List for 20 consecutive weeks and is a must-read! If you want to join us, start reading now, if you haven't already, and then come to the discussion on the 24th. Bring a sandwich or your lunch of choice.

A Message from Music and Worship Ministries

Summer is almost over and Fall is on the way. The hallways at St. John's are coming alive with the sounds of choir and bells rehearsing. Do you enjoy music? What about being part of a community? If these are important to you then the Chancel or Handbell Choir at St. John's might be a good way for you to be part of a ministry team. Our choirs not only love to sing and play, but they love a variety of different styles of music. It is not uncommon for us to lead worship using classical, folk, as well as spirituals and gospel music. We celebrate each other during the highlights of life, and pray and care for each other in moments of pain or difficulty. We would love for you to choose to be part of what we are doing for the kingdom through the gift of song. Our rehearsals are on Wednesday nights.

Handbells 6:00-7:00pm | Chancel Choir 7:15-8:45pm

If you have any questions please feel free to call or email Kevin.

James Kevin Gray

kgray@sjcharlotte.org | 803-524-0287

Serve with St. John's

Craft & Bake Sale Coming Soon!

October 13 from 11:30am-1:00pm

The 2019 Craft & Bake sale will be on Sunday, October 13 from 11:30am-1:00pm in Lasater Hall. If you want to donate items to sell, someone will be in Lasater Hall from 10:00am-12:00pm on Friday, October 11. Baked goods can be brought on Sunday, October 13 starting at 9:00am. All proceeds will go to national CBF's hurricane relief, partnering with Baptist World Alliance.

If you have questions, please contact Ruth Jackson

(rjackson4220@gmail.com) or Tricia Miller

(pmiller251984@att.net).

CROP Walk 2019

Join us on Sunday, October 20!



Once again we have the opportunity to support CROP Walk. This year, it is on a Sunday! Some of us will walk and generate donations, some will help organize and promote, and others will help tally. Seventy-five

percent of the funds raised support the efforts of Church World Service to fight poverty and hunger across the globe by providing disaster relief and supporting development efforts toward decreasing the causes of hunger. Twenty-five percent of the funds will benefit Crisis Assistance Ministry, Loaves and Fishes, and Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina for efforts to decrease hunger in our own community.

More details to come! If you want to sign up now, please click this link to do so:

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/charlottenc/stjohnsbaptistchurch>

Save the Date for the NAMI Walk

Saturday, October 26, 2019 @ Reedy Creek Park in Charlotte

If you are interested in joining this walk for the National Alliance on Mental Illness, please register at: www.namiwalks.org/charlotte.



Become a Heart Math Tutor!

Join St. John's members in mentoring and tutoring elementary students this year! Heart Math Tutoring provides a tutor-friendly curriculum and training and support from an on-site coordinator. To date, 98% of students have met program growth goals set with guidance from UNCC and CMS.

Consider volunteering for 30 minutes or 1 hour per week at one of the 23 locations and times listed at:

www.hearttutoring.org/become-a-volunteer.

Email sally.dudley@hearttutoring.org with questions or [sign up here](#).

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

Outreach: St. John's is a welcoming and inclusive community of faith. We are always attentive to guests on Sundays. Increasingly, our members are inviting family members, friends, colleagues and neighbors to participate with us in worship and ministries. Our Membership Resource Team is diligent in paying attention to events which can welcome and introduce guests to St. John's. However, we are needing to become more organized in how we express our outreach ministries of guest follow-up, relational contacts and assimilation. One of the best ways to accomplish this improvement is to utilize our Sunday School Ministry groups for this purpose. Therefore, as Allison Benfield transitions into her expanded role of spiritual growth, we will be renewing some efforts which were begun a few years ago through a Sunday School Leadership Council. In coming weeks, this group will be enlisted and asked to help develop and implement a plan to enhance our outreach efforts. Mallory Brown already provides administrative support to this area of ministry. And, we expect each staff minister to be involved as well as our new minister who will expand our outreach to youth & their families and young adults.

As you can see, a great deal goes on between Sundays. I hope this review helps you gain perspective on where we are as we begin a new year of administration, communications, messaging and outreach.

Shalom, Dennis

Prayer Concerns & Sympathy

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

Sunday, September 15

Deacons: Bert Green, Clara Howell, Chuck Howard, Libby LeVie, Jeff LeVie, Gary McFarland, Durning Moore, Jane Newman, Casey Perkins, Greg Rodden

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner & Phil Vavra; 5th St./Narthe-Vanessa Boling; Broach Hall-Ashley Hogewood; 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 September 2-8: \$18,868
 Income through September 8: \$763,661
 Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

September 9-15: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287
 September 16-22: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 September 23-29: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412

Calendar for September 15-21

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Sunday, September 15

8:30am Listening Session (Lounge)
 9:15am Sunday School & Worship 101 (Classrooms)
 10:30am Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
 10:30am Worship (Sanctuary)
 10:30am Godly Play (Room 221)
 11:30am WOC Luncheon (Broach Hall)
 2:00pm South Sudanese Worship (Chapel)
 5:00pm Sunday Night Live (Gym, Lounge, 3rd Floor)

Monday, September 16

11:45am Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
 12:30pm Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
 5:45pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:00pm Charlotte Family Housing (Lounge)
 8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, September 17

7:00am Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00am Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 1:00pm Safety & Security Task Force (Lounge)
 5:15pm SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
 6:00pm Elizabeth Community Assoc. (Broach Hall)
 6:15pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)

Wednesday, September 18

6:30am Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:30am Yoga (Room 114)
 10:00am Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
 5:30pm Temporary Sanctuary Group (Room 305)
 6:00pm AA (Room 114)
 6:00pm Handbells (Handbell Room)
 6:00pm Membership Resource Team (Lounge)
 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, September 19

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

Friday, September 20

6:30am Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
 5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 5:30pm Men's Shelter Dinner Service (Offsite)
 8:00pm AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, September 21

7:00am Benton Basketball (Gym)
 5:00pm Wedding (Sanctuary)

Report on the 2019 Global Missions

Thanks to all who contributed!

2019 Goal: \$16,000

Contributions to Date: \$17,588

As of this week, we have exceeded our \$16,000 goal! Thank you to all who contributed to assist the Nyarweng School in South Sudan and provide relief to victims of fire in Sierra Leone.