



# Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 37 – Week of September 16-22, 2019

## What's Happening at St. John's?

St. John's  
Worship  
this Week on  
Sunday,  
September 22

### Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

### Message

Worship: Welcome to the  
REAL World

### Scripture

I Chronicles 16:23-31 &  
Hebrews 10:19-25

## 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. Dinner will be baked pastas from Hawthorne's, salad, bread, and dessert. Delicious! **Sign up by this Friday, September 20!**

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

<https://forms.gle/Qne5S9tPfNAazVxP8>

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## Hurricane Dorian Relief

### How can you help?

Some of you are asking about response to the impact of Hurricane Dorian, especially in the Bahamas, anxious to know the most direct and effective vehicle for responding with aid. We have heard from Larry Hovis, Executive Director of CBF of North Carolina, asking for prayers, especially for people in the hardest hit areas, where many remain missing or unaccounted for. Donations may be made toward preparations for recovery and rebuilding in the Bahamas via <http://www.floridacbf.org/donate/> or by mail, indicating Hurricane Relief on your correspondence:

**CBF Florida**  
P.O. Box 2553  
Lakeland, FL 33806

## Welcoming New Members!

### Dick and Barbara Schafer

This past Sunday, September 15, we welcomed Dick and Barbara Schafer as members of St. John's! They have been visiting with us for a while now and are excited to make it official. They come to us from Shelby, NC as members of Central United Methodist in Shelby. Please take some time to introduce yourself to them as you see them each week. If you would like to send a card, please contact Mallory in the church office for their address.



## Messages from St. John's Staff

### A NEW CHURCH YEAR: PART THREE

This is article 3 in a 5-part series. These articles are updating you on areas of congregational ministry. September introduces a new church year with fresh opportunities to nurture a healthy and vital St. John's.

In recent issues of Family News, I have presented a review of Worship, Servant Leadership, Administration, Communications, Messaging and Outreach. This week, I am reviewing Missions & Community Impact.

- Next Week – Community of Faith, Congregational & Pastoral Care; and
- Week of 30th – Spiritual Formation, Prayerfulness, Finances, Facilities & Construction Projects Impacting Our Campus.

**Missions:** In recent years, we conceptualized a 2020 Vision affirming goals to emphasize each area of our St. John's Church Covenant. One of these goals is in support of our covenant commitment to be a Servant Church: "Increase the number of St. John's members participating in at least one of our existing 29 community ministries to at least 200."

During our Mission Resource Team meeting during September, Charlie Harper, our thorough chairperson reported, "We have surpassed our goal and are needing to update our challenge. We now have 240 different St. John's folks participating in at least one of our existing 29 community ministries and have added a couple of ministries." So, we updated our 2020 Vision goal to 300 by the end of 2020. Plans are underway for a variety of ways to enlist others.

If you desire to become involved, consider which of the following areas are of interest to you: Children & Families; Education; Healthcare; Homelessness; Hunger; or Peacebuilding. Our efforts collaborate around Jesus' teaching recorded in Matthew 25: "...as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." In this passage, Jesus affirms those who feed the hungry, offer clean water to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the poor, care for the sick and visit those in prison. St. John's provides you many ways to respond to Jesus. We call our effort MT25 to acknowledge where Jesus' teaching is found in the Gospel of Matthew.

### 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 addition to these pathways of direct participation, we provide financial support to God's Mission each year - because God's Mission is Our Mission. Our Annual Financial Ministry Plan Budget sets aside \$70,000 per year for local and global mission efforts. As you contribute to our annual financial ministry plan budget, you support missions. We also utilize our facilities to shelter the homeless, provide transitional housing to families, offer quality preschool education, partner with organizations such

as Charlotte Family Housing, Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America, Church World Services CROP Walk, Bethlehem Center, Alcoholics Anonymous, National Alliance on Mental Illness, Right Moves for Youth, Mental Health America, Young Voices of the Carolinas, Children's Theatre of Charlotte, Dove's Nest, and other organizations to expand their capacities by reducing their expenses and extending their ministries and services. We also partner with our sisters and brothers of the South Sudanese congregation and Together In Christ International Ministries. Total value of space provided to all of these groups and others surpasses \$60,000 each year. We also give through two special mission offerings annually and to other designated funds. Thus far, through 2019, we have given \$5,566 through our Community & State Mission Offering; \$17,513 through our Global Mission Offering; \$3,820 to world hunger relief; \$38,200 to the community school in Nyarweng, South Sudan; \$39,646 to our Youth Mission Auction; and other miscellaneous gifts to groups, needs and initiatives totaling more than \$10,000. We still have CROP Walk in October and other gifts to be presented before year's end. Altogether, these gifts will provide more than \$250,000 of financial investment in support of God's mission during 2019.

**Community Impact:** It is impossible to know the full impact of St. John's in metro Charlotte, the Carolinas or the world. Wherever you go, your influence and Ministry in Daily Life impacts other people and situations. The fingerprints of the church body named St. John's are all over the place.

**Continued on back page...**

### News for Children and Their Families from Allison Benfield

#### Sunday, September 22

**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 Abraham and Sarah chose to trust God. 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. They'll be learning about how Abram and Sarai chose to trust God. Grace Notes is at 10:00. 1st-5th Graders will worship with their families. Worship Bags are available at the entrances to the Sanctuary

## Grow with St. John's

### Brotherhood of the Biscuit Is Back

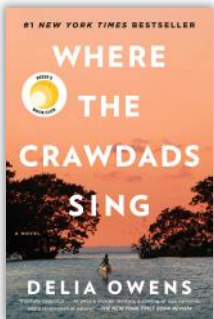
Join us September 20 @ 6:30am!

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@sicharlotte.org](mailto:kgray@sicharlotte.org) | 803-524-0287

Do you have a parking sticker?

If you do not, please get one from Mallory in the office today! They are available for pick up on Sundays on Mallory's desk.



## 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](mailto:rjackson4220@gmail.com)) or Tricia Miller

([pmiller251984@att.net](mailto: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](http://www.namiwalks.org/charlotte).



### Undie Sundays Are Back!

Collecting New Underwear in October

We will be collecting new underwear to be distributed to our Room in the Inn program, Hope Chapel and Charlotte Rescue Mission for all of October. **Items needed are athletic socks, boxer shorts, and t-shirts. Sizes most needed are medium and large.**

On each of the Sundays in October, containers will be at both the Main Entrance and Broach Hall entrance for you to place your donations inside.





**St. John's Baptist Church**  
300 Hawthorne Lane | Charlotte NC 28204  
704.333.5428 | [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://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](mailto:abenfield@sjcharlotte.org)  
Minister for Worship and Music.....Kevin Gray  
ext. 14 - [kgray@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:kgray@sjcharlotte.org)  
Minister for Youth & Young Adults.....Lee Gray  
ext. 15 - [lgray@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:lgray@sjcharlotte.org)  
Senior Minister.....Dennis Foust  
ext. 12 - [dfoust@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:dfoust@sjcharlotte.org)

### Church Staff

Administrative Assistant.....Mallory Brown  
ext. 11 - [mbrown@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:mbrown@sjcharlotte.org)  
Church Administrator.....Jacquelyn McAbee  
ext. 20 - [jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org)  
Custodians.....Chris Mullis, Sonny Ross, Debora Thon  
Graded Choirs Director.....Anna Ball  
Organist.....Noel Lance  
[nlance@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:nlance@sjcharlotte.org)  
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted  
ext. 39 - [weekdayschool@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:weekdayschool@sjcharlotte.org)

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm, Friday 8:30am-12:00 noon

We are making an effort to grow in active faith as we steward and participate in partnerships, events and initiatives. As a result of our staffing for the future plan, Kevin Gray will be enhancing these efforts. He already works closely with WDAV for our annual live broadcast and with other groups and musical artists who present concerts in our sanctuary. In the future, he will work closely with those who offer lectures, symposiums, seminars or dramatic presentations in our facilities and with the Elizabeth Community Association by connecting us to their events. He is currently planning a brochure to help you promote 'St. John's and the Arts.' We are also making plans to build bridges of relational impact in geographical areas of Charlotte. Our new minister will also increase our impact with youth & their families and young adults.

St. John's accomplishes a great deal between Sundays because – God's mission is our mission!

**Shalom,  
Dennis**

### Prayer Concerns & Sympathy

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

### Sunday, September 22

**Deacons:** Judy Sanford, David Sherrill, Gail Sifford, Henry Snyder, Laura Sorrell, Anne Sutton, Keith Towery, Kathy Turner, Mindy Vergakis, Nancy Wilson

**Greeters:** Main-Ed Turner & Scott Kerley; 5th St./Narthe-AI Bridges; Broach Hall-Gail Sifford; Elevator-Marvin Carter

**Tellers:** Paul Lloyd, Marvin Carter

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

### Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of September 9-15: \$13,568  
Income through September 15: \$777,538  
Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

### Ministers on Call:

September 16-22: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234  
September 23-29: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412

## 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](http://www.hearttutoring.org/become-a-volunteer).

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

## Calendar for September 22-28

Complete calendar online: [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

### Sunday, September 22

9:15am..... Sunday School (Classrooms)  
10:30am..... Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)  
10:30am..... Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:45am..... WOC Spiritual Growth Team (Lounge)  
5:00pm..... Sunday Night Live (Gym, Lounge, 3rd Floor)

### Monday, September 23

8:00am..... Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)  
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..... Search Task Force (Lounge)  
8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

### Tuesday, September 24

7:00am..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)  
10:00am..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)  
11:00am..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)  
5:00pm..... CROP (Lounge)  
5:15pm..... SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)  
6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)

### Wednesday, September 25

6:30am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)  
7:00am..... Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)  
9:30am..... Yoga (Room 114)  
1:00pm..... Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)  
5:50pm..... Open Table Trivia Night (Broach Hall)  
6:00pm..... AA (Room 114)  
7:00pm..... Handbells (Handbell Room)  
7:15pm..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

### Thursday, September 26

11:00am..... Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)  
7:30pm..... CBFNC College Ministry (Lounge)

### Friday, September 27

8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

### Saturday, September 28

7:00am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)