



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 38 – Week of September 23-29, 2019

What's Happening at St. John's?

St. John's
Worship
this Week on
Sunday,
September 29

Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W.
Foust, PhD

Message

*Vocational
Discipleship: Beyond
Being Useless*

Scripture

Ephesians 4:1-3 &
11-16

CROP Walk 2019

Sign Up for CROP Walk on Sunday, October 20



This year, Charlotte's CROP Walk is on Sunday, October 20 at 2:30pm. We hope you will join us as we raise support for 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 and for Crisis Assistance Ministry, Loaves and Fishes, and Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina for efforts to decrease hunger in our own community. This coming Sunday, September 29, Micah and Molly Belong will offer an announcement and appeal for service in worship. Stay tuned to hear what the have to say as our CROP Walk liaisons for this year.

If you want to sign up now, please click this link to do so:

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

Inside this issue:

From Dennis 2
Youth News
Children's News

Retreat in October 3
Children's Sunday
NAMI Support
Groups
Brotherhood of the
Biscuit
October Open Table
Craft and Bake Sale
Heart Math
Weekday School
VIC

Staff Listing 4
Prayer Concerns &
Sympathy
Sunday Service
Schedules
Ministers on Call
October Book Club
Calendar

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 6 in Worship

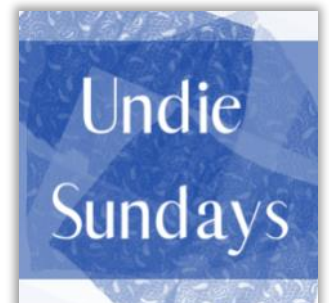
Join us for worship on World Communion Sunday, October 6. On this day, we will be joined by the South Sudanese and Together in Christ International Ministries congregations. Dennis will offer a message titled, "Community of Faith: Abiding Creates a Fruitful Culture," based on John 15:1-5. A special "Moments with the Younger Church" will be a part of this service with an emphasis on the CROP Walk and how children can be a part of ending hunger across the globe. We hope you will join us for this service of worship that promotes unity with 2.2 billion Christians around the world.



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.



Messages from St. John's Staff

A NEW CHURCH YEAR: PART FOUR

This is article 4 in a 5-part series. These articles are updating you on areas of congregational ministry as September begins a new church year with fresh opportunities to nurture a healthy and vital St. John's.

In recent issues of Family News, I have reviewed Worship, Servant Leadership, Administration, Communications, Messaging, Outreach, Missions and Community Impact. **This week, I am reviewing Community of Faith, Congregational Care and Pastoral Care;** and Next Week – Spiritual Formation, Prayerfulness, Finances, Facilities & Construction Projects Impacting Our Campus.

Community of Faith:

The early Church use of phrases such as 'comfort one another,' 'bear one another's burdens,' 'admonish one another,' 'encourage one another,' 'pray for one another,' 'forgive one another,' etc. continue to inspire us. Each of these 'one another' passages express Jesus' command for us to 'love one another.' Our 'loving one another' begins by greeting guests and one another each Sunday as The Gathered Church. THANK YOU FOR THE WAYS YOU WELCOME GUESTS ON SUNDAYS. Our guests affirm your friendliness A primary factor contributing to congregational health and vitality is a warm climate of hospitality. How we greet guests on Sundays reflects our relational and inclusive approach to ministry. I DO HAVE ONE REQUEST: If you notice persons with whom you are unfamiliar sitting near you in the sanctuary, please introduce yourself to them prior to AND following worship. The awkward moments for guests are those first moments as they approach and enter our facilities and immediately following worship. Imagine being a guest and noticing everyone's face is turned away from you immediately following worship. If possible, bring guests with you and introduce them to me following worship. I will be greeting worshippers at one of the doors near the chancel or I will be in the narthex. ALSO, THANK YOU FOR BEING INTENTIONAL AS YOU HELP EACH MEMBER FEEL VALUED AND INCLUDED. Of course, we are respectful of one another's space and boundaries.

News for Youth and Their Families from Lee Gray

Upcoming Events for Youth

Sunday, September 29

5:00 – 7:30pm – SNL – At 6:30 we have the first night of 11th & 12th Grade Discipleship & Youth Small Groups Meet

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!

July 20-25, 2020

Unidiversity Youth Summer Camp – Maryville College

August 8-11, 2020

Middle School In-Town Local Mission Trip

Yet, letting another person know we care about them and offering compassionate care to one another is exceedingly important. Even a smile and a greeting brightens a person's day. In our congregational curriculum, we have plans to help members learn more about interpersonal skills and assimilating guests into relational participation.

Congregational & Pastoral Care:

A few months ago, we affirmed the efforts of our Staffing for the Future Task Force in their plans to amplify and broaden our efforts in congregational care and pastoral care. Coupled with this decision was the announcement that Rev. Lee Gray will transition into a new role as Minister of Congregational Care. After twenty-two years of ministry with us, we know Lee's compassionate heart and his love for us. Lee will continue to lead our ministries with youth until a new person is called to fill this role. Lee and I have begun conversations regarding congregational care. He will help us improve in areas such as training of care group leaders, Pastoral Deacon coordination and support, training of members through new approaches such as Stephen Ministry. Lee will continue to coordinate our recreation ministries and we will seek ways to increase our outreach through recreation and wellness ministries. Lee and I will also work closely together in visitation and elder care. We have already identified more than 25 areas of congregational and pastoral care for us to build toward in future years.

Whereas congregational care includes equipping church members to provide care for one another, pastoral care directly involves the senior minister in crisis care, grief care, pastoral/spiritual counseling, family support ministries, hospital ministries, death and dying, premarital preparations, etc. Lee's collaboration with me in care situations not requiring an immediate response will be helpful to each household in the years ahead.

Hopefully, you feel cared for by your ministry staff, deacons and ministering members. We are wanting to assure this experience for all members and even for people who need the compassion of St. John's, although they are not within our membership circle – yet. As we train members in congregational care, we expand the reach of our church in the community.

Continued on back panel...

News for Children and Their Families from Allison Benfield

Sunday, September 29

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 gave Sarah and Abraham a son even though they were very old. 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 Abraham and Sarah had a son just like God promised. 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

Autumn Retreat: Letting Go

Saturday, October 19 @ Ramah Creek Farm

You are invited to Ramah Creek Farm for a retreat on Saturday, October 19 from 9am-2pm called **Letting Go**. The Rev. Sally Brower of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and Kathy Bragg of St. John's are offering this time where you can relax in the beauty of Kathy's family farm with varied experiences to help you interact with the them. The cost is just \$20 with lunch included. Proceeds go to the Catawba Land Conservancy. Make checks out to the Catawba Land Conservancy and mail to Rev. Sally Brower, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 164 Fairview Road, Mooresville, NC 28117. Please include your name, mailing address, phone number and email when you mail the check. Retreat is limited to the first 16 responding.



Children's Sunday

Sunday, October 20, 2019

Join us for Children's Sunday during worship on Sunday, October 20, at 10:30am. Our children (preschool-5th grade) will lead us in various aspects of worship including scripture readings, calling us to worship, singing, and more. This is always a wonderful day of worship at St. John's.



NAMI Support Groups

Second Tuesday of Every Month @ 6:30pm

The NAMI support group for family members/caregivers of those with mental illness meets monthly at St. John's on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 - 8:00pm. The next meeting is on Tuesday, October 8 in Rooms 114 & 116.



Brotherhood of the Biscuit

Friday, October 18 @ 6:30am

Brotherhood of the Biscuit meets again on Friday, October 18 at 6:30am in the Lounge. All are welcome.

October Open Table

Wednesday, October 23

It's already time to think about signing up for October's Open Table! On Wednesday, October 23 at 5:50pm, we will have dinner and enjoy a concert of Celtic

OPEN TABLE:
TRIP ROGERS IN CONCERT

Music from Trip Rogers, formerly part of the Thistledown Tinkers that we have had here before. We hope you will come to eat, listen to music, and bring a friend for this great evening! Menu TBA. Sign up with Mallory or here: <https://forms.gle/zsZB4dHytuBzjKDn6>

Serve with St. John's

Craft & Bake Sale

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).

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](#).

Link Your VIC Card!

Support the Weekday School with Your VIC Card

If you are interested in supporting the St. John's Weekday School, you can link your Harris Teeter VIC Card to the school (#5879). You have to re-link your VIC Card every year in order for this to be effective.



Join the Handbell Choir!

Come Ring with Us!

The handbell choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 6-7pm. If you are interested in joining this group that plays in worship several times a year, please contact Jacquelyn McAbee for more information (jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org or 704-333-5428 ext. 20). No previous experience is



necessary and you do not have to read music to learn to play bells. We hope you'll consider joining this fun group!

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

In all our ministries, we have been moving more and more toward a 'proactive' approach (which means we have been moving away from a 'reactive' approach). The changes which will materialize this next year will help us become more proactive in congregational and pastoral care.

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

Shalom,
 Dennis



Stay tuned for a special announcement about children and youth basketball next week. It's almost that time!

Calendar for September 29-October 5

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Sunday, September 29

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

Monday, September 30

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

Tuesday, October 1

5:30am..... Mecklenburg Radiology Associates (Lasater Hall)
 7:00am..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
 10:00am..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00am..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)
 5:15pm..... SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
 6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)

Wednesday, October 2

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

Thursday, October 3

9:00am..... Unity Coalition (Lounge)
 5:30pm..... Weekday School Board Meeting (Lounge)
 7:30pm..... CBFNC College Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, October 4

8:30am..... Weekday School Active Reading Wkshp.
 10:30am..... Metrolina Assoc. for the Blind Yoga (Room 114)
 8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

Saturday, October 5

7:00am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
 4:00pm..... Private Event (Lounge)

Prayer Concerns & Sympathy

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

Sunday, September 29

Deacons: Kim Allen, Jeff Almond, Kevin Benton, Leslie Bragg, Treva Bridges, Minh Callaway, Marc Cardella, Allene Cooley, Ryan Crowder, Deacon Jones

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner & Bobby Furr; 5th St./Narhex-Treva Bridges; Broach Hall-Jimmy Carpenter; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Jeff LeVie and Ken Hungate

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of September 16-22: \$20,707
 Income through September 22: \$798,245
 Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

September 23-29: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412

October Book Club Meeting

The Terrific Tuesday Book Club will meet again on October 22 at 12PM in the Library to discuss Michelle Obama's memoir, *Becoming*. Bring a lunch to share in the lounge after the discussion. Start reading today! Anyone is welcome to join the book club.

