



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 39 – Week of September 30-October 6, 2019

What's Happening at St. John's?

St. John's
Worship
this Week on
Sunday,
October 6

Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W.
Foust, PhD

Message

*Community of Faith:
Abiding Creates a
Fruitful Culture*

Scripture

John 15:1-5

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.



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**. This coming Sunday, October 6, Micah and Molly Belong will offer a time for children during worship. Stay tuned to hear what they 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>

St. John's Basketball Leagues for Youth and Children

The season starts in December. **Registration starts now** for St. John's members and members of our partner congregations. Returning non-member players may register starting October 9, and general registration starts October 16.

Please open the following attachment for all of the details and the forms at this link: [SJBC Basketball Forms](#). Then mail in 3 things 1) your check 2) your registration form and 3) your release form to Lee Gray.

St. John's Baptist Church
Attn: Lee Gray
300 Hawthorne Lane
Charlotte, NC 28204



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Messages from St. John's Staff

A NEW CHURCH YEAR: PART FIVE

This is the last article in a 5-part series. These articles are updates on areas of congregational ministry. As September begins a new church year, we are given fresh opportunities to nurture a healthy St. John's. This autumn, we are expressing our worship to The Living God through the emphasis, "Strengthening Our Connection with God's Heart – A Season of Covenant Renewal: God's Mission is Our Mission." Let us renew ourselves to God's mission through each ministry.

In recent issues of Family News, I have reviewed Worship, Servant Leadership, Administration, Communications, Messaging, Outreach, Missions and Community Impact, Community of Faith, Congregational Care and Pastoral Care. This week, I offer a perspective related to Spiritual Formation, Prayerfulness, Finances, Facilities & Construction Projects Impacting Our Campus.

Spiritual Formation: A few weeks ago, it was announced that Allison Benfield will be enlarging the scope of her ministry with us as she continues to serve our children and their families. She will expand her focus to include spiritual formation for all groups and all ages in the life of St. John's. On Sunday, October 20th, as we observe Children's Sunday, we will also include an element in our worship to acknowledge Allison's new role. She and I have already been discussing subjects such as: enlisting members to serve as a Spiritual Formation Resource Team to help us design new approaches and improve existing approaches; equipping the people of St. John's to express Vocational Discipleship through Active Faith; establishing all ages in biblical and theological literacy; strengthening Sunday School Ministry; differentiating between spiritual formation, Christian education and congregational curriculum; enhancing learning opportunities by better utilizing gifts within our congregation; etc. I am looking forward to new ventures as Allison's ministry among us merges with our knowledge and visions.

Prayerfulness: More than a decade ago, St. John's implemented some pathways for invigorating the prayer life of the church. We are a praying people. Yet, I sense the need to emphasize prayer as we approach our second millennium of

News for Youth and Their Families from Lee Gray

Upcoming Events for Youth

Sunday, October 6

5:00 – 7:30pm – SNL – Minh Callaway will share about her faith journey and vocation at 6:30 during large-group time

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

University Youth Summer Camp – Maryville College

August 8-11, 2020

Middle School In-Town Local Mission Trip

ministry in 2022. Please join me now in praying for our church, our ministries, our impact in Charlotte, our people, our church leaders, our staff ministers. During 2020, I will be emphasizing prayerfulness in numerous ways.

Finances: Thank you for your generosity in giving. Each quarter, we send a letter with giving statements to apprise you of our financial ministry progress. We are entering the fourth quarter of 2019 in a healthy financial position. A strong fourth quarter will enable the church to accomplish some significant goals which we planned to realize this year. If you are a bit behind in your 2019 giving, please use October to catch up and help us end the year strong in November and December. If you can make some extra gifts during the fourth quarter, please do so. As you pray about your commitments to St. John's Financial Ministry Plan Budget for 2020, please consider a 1% to 5% increase. We have wonderful opportunities ahead. Several of these will require increased financial support to move us beyond maintenance and propel us to increased mission.

Facilities & Construction Projects Impacting Our Campus:

The work on Hawthorne Lane to install tracks for the trolley project continues. Last week, the work to restore the bridge across Independence Highway restarted. Current projections are to open the trolley in 2021. (Let us cross our fingers.) The work on the hillside between Broach Hall and Independence Park, to install the power station for the trolley, is nearing completion. The brick wall is being built. The parking lot was repaved last week; parking stripes are being painted this week. The city has been our advocate with the contractor agreeing to install new sidewalks along Hawthorne, trim trees and shrubs along our Hawthorne Lane landscape and provide a light pressure washing of our buildings facing Hawthorne after all construction is complete. **(continued on back panel)**

News for Children and Their Families from Allison Benfield

Sunday, October 6

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 Joseph's brothers were so upset with him that they sold him. They'll also enjoy time for art and play.

Grades 1-5: Formation Class is from 9:15-10:00. They'll be learning about how Rebekah chose to become part of the Great Family by marrying Isaac. No music this week. 1st-5th graders will worship with their families. Worship Bags are available at the entrances to the Sanctuary.

Adopt-a-Barrel for Missions

This year, we have a great family missions opportunity. Your family can volunteer to adopt one of the barrels in the Collection Room (off of Lasater Hall) for 3 months. All you have to do is check the barrel once a month, and if the barrel is over halfway full, you'll take the items to the organization. You don't have to solicit donations. This is a great way for your family to participate in missions together as you learn about some of the organizations we partner with in the city. [Here's a link](#) where you can sign up to adopt a barrel.

Grow with St. John's

Our first Open Table of the fall was a great time! We enjoyed a lovely dinner from Hawthorne's and then played trivia around the tables. Fun was had by all and now we all know what a vuvuzela is! We hope everyone will consider coming to Open Table next month on October 23!



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 16 people.

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.

October Book Club Meeting

Tuesday, October 22 @ 12pm

The Terrific Tuesday Book Club will meet again on October 22 at 12PM in the Library to discuss Michelle Obama's memoir, *Becoming*, that was released in 2018. Bring a lunch to share in the lounge after the discussion. Start reading today! Anyone is welcome to join the book club.



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

**OPEN TABLE:
TRIP ROGERS IN CONCERT**

have dinner and enjoy a concert of Celtic 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>

Reach Out 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

Stranger to Neighbor Conference

Friday, October 11 in Greensboro

Join faith and community leaders for a conference, coordinated by FaithAction International House and designed to empower faith communities to better serve, love, and protect their immigrant and refugee neighbors. The conference is being held in Greensboro and is scheduled for Friday, October 11 from 10AM-4PM. The cost for the conference is \$50.

Please register by October 4 (THIS FRIDAY) at:

<https://faihouse.networkforgood.com/events/14846-serving-loving-and-protecting-our-neighbors-conference> Contact Beverly Hester for questions at beverlyrhester@earthlink.net

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.

Undie Sundays Are Back!

Collecting New Underwear Starting this Sunday

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 this month, containers will be at both the Main Entrance and Broach Hall entrance for you to place your donations inside. **Collection begins THIS Sunday, October 6.**



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

After the sale of the King's College dormitories to Charlotte Family Housing and Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy failed to materialize, the owner of the buildings adjoining our property began exploring other options. We are merely able to be good collaborative neighbors at this juncture. As any solid future plans materialize, our Buildings and Grounds Resource Team and Administrative Deacon Panel will apprise the congregation.

Inside our facilities, our Architectural Review Task Force finished their work and church leadership is considering next steps. We did have an HVAC unit go out on the third floor of the Chapel Building which caused water damage to the second and first floors. Jacquelyn McAbee has been working with contractors and insurance folks, in communications with Don Hinson, chair of our Buildings and Grounds Resource Team. A new HVAC unit has been ordered at a cost of \$45,000 and is to be installed in October. New exterior lights were installed on the Sanctuary Building as planned. Our fluorescent light fixtures are being changed over to LED; enjoy the brighter light. Ha! You're St. John's – you ARE brighter lights!

**Shalom,
Dennis**

Calendar for October 6-12

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Sunday, October 6

9:15am..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
10:30am..... Joint Worship Service (Sanctuary)
5:00pm..... Sunday Night Live (Gym, Lounge, 3rd Floor)

Monday, October 7

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

Tuesday, October 8

6:30am..... Second Primary Election (Broach Hall)
7:00am..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
10:00am..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
11:00am..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)
12:00pm..... Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
5:15pm..... SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
6:00pm..... Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
6:30pm..... Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness Support Groups
..... (Rooms 114 & 116)

Wednesday, October 9

6:30am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
9:30am..... Yoga (Room 114)
6:00pm..... Mission Resource Team (Conference Room)
6:00pm..... AA (Room 114)
6:00pm..... Handbells (Handbell Room)
7:15pm..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, October 10

10:00am..... Craft & Needle Ministry (Room 209)
7:30pm..... CBFNC College Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, October 11

8:30am..... Weekday School Active Reading Wkshp. (Lounge)
10:00am..... Drop Off for Craft & Bake Sale
8:00pm..... AA (Lounge)

Saturday, October 12

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

Prayer Concerns & Sympathy

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

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Hilda and Ed Outen on the marriage of their granddaughter, Mallory Outen, to Logan Taylor on Saturday, September 21 in the Sanctuary at St. John's.

Congratulations to John and Elizabeth Whipple and their daughter Kayleigh on the birth of their son and new little brother, John Whipple on 9/27/2019. He is the new grandson of Gary and Kathy McFarland.

Sunday, October 6

Deacons: Alan Dietz, Teri Franklin, Bert Green, Clara Howell, Chuck Howard, Libby LeVie, Jeff LeVie, Gary McFarland, Durning Moore, Jane Newman

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner & Chuck Jones; 5th St./Narthen -Vanessa Boling; Broach Hall-Ashley Hogewood; 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 22-29: \$9,803
Income through September 29: \$810,921
Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

September 30-October 6: Lee Gray, 704-451-1309
October 7-13: Kevin Gray 803-524-0287