



Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 42 – Week of October 21-27 2019

What's Happening at St. John's?

St. John's
Worship
this Week on
Sunday,
October 27

Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W.
Foust, PhD

Message

*Joyful Witness:
Beyond "God Help
Us"*

Scripture

Psalm 51:1-13 &
John 15:9-11

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Can You Write an Advent Devotional?

St. John's Advent Devotional Booklets Coming Soon

I want to write a devotional for the book. Who do I contact to let them know I am willing to write? Kevin Gray at kgray@sjcharlotte.org

How long does my devotional need to be? No longer than 3-5 paragraphs that are each 4-5 sentences long

When is my devotional due? November 18

To whom do I send it? Send it to **BOTH** Kevin Gray (kgray@sjcharlotte.org) **AND** Mallory Brown (mbrown@sjcharlotte.org)

What are the topics for each Advent week? (You can choose the topic)

December 2-7: Hope
December 8-14: Peace
December 15-21: Joy
December 22-24: Love

Join the Men's Chorus

Sunday, November 3

On November 3rd many of our female choir members will be away on the Women's Retreat. Therefore I would like to **invite all the men in the congregation to join us in the choir loft for a men's chorus that Sunday.** We will be singing an old time Gospel song entitled "What A Day that Will Be." The arrangement will be easy enough that if you arrive at 9:45 in the choir room you will be ready to sing by 10:30. Also, I will make rehearsal tracks you can listen to at home on your computer or phone. If you are planning on joining us, and would like the rehearsal tracks I send out next week please email me at kgray@sjcharlotte.org

Family Fellowship Event

Sunday, November 10 after Worship

On Sunday, November 10, all families with children are invited to meet at Olde Mecklenburg Brewing at 4150 Yancey Road in Charlotte at around 12pm. Together, we will enjoy some time to hang out together. Feel free to change clothes before or come as you are. They have great food but there might also be food trucks! We hope you and your family will join us!



Messages from St. John's Staff

ST. JOHN'S SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH

For many years, St. John's has been the campus for support groups and training offered by NAMI. Martha and Tom Bryson are integrally involved in the efforts of NAMI, Charlotte; the local affiliate of National Alliance for Mental Illness. This is the nation's largest grassroots organization dedicated to building better lives for the 46 million American adults who experience mental illness and their families and caregivers. We are also a site for public seminar education and professional certification training offered through Mental Health America of Central Carolinas. These two collaborative organizations provide tremendous resources and support for individuals and households.



These two organizations advocate for better mental health care across our nation. Today, the primary care for mental health crises is offered by emergency rooms and law enforcement officers. This is unavoidable because community-based mental health services do not exist. The United States can do better. Here are three ways we can make a difference now.

Advocate and encourage early intervention. Half of all mental illnesses begin by age 14, 75% begin by age 24. Getting help early results in better outcomes and lowered costs.

Invest in better access to quality care. Today, Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics are helping people get care when and where they need it. Ask congress to extend funding for this pilot program and expand it nationwide.

Divert people from the criminal justice system. Jails and prisons shouldn't be today's mental health institutions. We need crisis response and intensive mental health services for people experiencing severe symptoms.

(Continued in next column)

News for Youth and Their Families

from Lee Gray, Minister for Youth & Young Adults

Upcoming Events for Youth

Sunday, October 27

Scarwinds: We will meet at the church at 6:00pm. Dinner will not be provided so eat beforehand or bring money to buy food at the park. Pick up at the church will be at 10:30pm. The cost is \$35 per person. Please let Lee know by Wed., Oct. 23, if you are going.

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

To promote your own good mental health, do these things every day:

1. **Get proper sleep;**
2. **Avoid too much sugar and caffeine;**
3. **Get outside every day – if possible; and**
4. **Move your body – walk, yoga, exercise, etc.**

Shalom,
Dennis



Children's Sunday at St. John's was a wonderful day of worship. Allison was installed into her new position as Minister for Spiritual Growth. She is so excited to be serving in this new role and looks forward to making St. John's an even better place to be.



News for Children and Their Families

from Allison Benfield, Minister for Spiritual Growth

Sunday, October 27

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 Hour and Worship Hour. They'll be learning about how God called Moses from a burning bush. They'll also enjoy time for art and play. Music will be at 9:40.

Grades 1-5: These classes will be learning about how Jacob went back home and about what happened between Jacob and Esau after so many years apart. Grace Notes is from 10-10:20. Children will worship with their families. Worship bags will be available.

Schedule Change for Advent!

As worship planning for Advent has begun, we will be approaching things in a new way. **Our children's choirs will sing on December 15, not on December 8.** Please mark your calendars!

Grow with St. John's

St. John's Basketball Leagues for Youth and Children

Register Today!

Please open the following for all of the details and the forms at this link: <https://stjohnsbaptistchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/2019-SJBC-B-ball-Forms.pdf> Then mail in 3 things 1) your check 2) your registration form and 3) your release form to Lee Gray at 300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, 28204.

Wedding this Sunday

You're Invited to the Wedding of Noel Lance and Chris Lavender

The St. John's Baptist Church family is invited to the wedding ceremony in the Sanctuary of Noel Lance and Chris Lavender this Sunday, October 27 at 11:30am, right after worship is over. A reception will follow in Broach Hall.

SAVE THE DATE

Christmas Gathering for Senior Adults
Wednesday, December 11, 2019
11:30am-1:30pm in Broach Hall



Reach Out with St. John's

A Message from the Stewardship Resource Team

As we continue our focus on the stewardship portion of our church covenant and begin to consider our commitment and pledge to the 2020 financial ministry plan, the words of Dietrich Bonhoeffer come to mind. We will commemorate the 75th anniversary of his death this coming April 9, 2020. Bonhoeffer's writings encourage readers to "...turn from phraseology to the real," or, as we would say, "...walk the talk."

With these words in mind, we are called to reach out and let people know we are Christians by the love we show toward others in tangible ways. The St. John's community has a long history of reaching out beyond the walls to do the Lord's kingdom work locally, nationally, and internationally. These efforts are a strong and abiding testament to our church's commitment to the "real."

Dr. Foust gave an excellent summation of last year's outreach efforts in the September 16-22 Family News. The total value of last year's efforts was placed at approximately a quarter of a million dollars and made an enduring impact beyond monetary measure. It is a blessing and a privilege to lend our support with our time, talents, and financial resources to St. John's and our continuing mission in this world.

In Dr. Bonhoeffer's words, "The church that calls a people to belief in Christ, must itself be in the midst of that people, the burning fire of life, the nucleus of reconciliation, the source of the fire in which all hate is consumed and the proud and hateful are transformed into the loving.

Baby Bundles

Clothing Newborns with Love

Baby Bundles, started by three young Charlotte mothers who had each experienced the loss of a baby, was founded as a legacy to their lost children and is their way of keeping their "angel children's" memories alive as they reach out and help others in need.

More than 6,000 babies are born annually to mothers living in poverty in Mecklenburg County. Baby Bundles' mission is to provide baby essentials to those families in financial need in the Charlotte area. We carry out our mission by partnering with fifteen community agencies who identify families in need and then deliver the bundles to the new moms. Those community agencies are as follows: Florence Crittenton, Ronald McDonald House, Catholic Charities, Atrium Health, Novant Health, Crisis Assistance Ministry, Latin American Coalition, The Relatives, Lily Pad Haven, Communities in Schools, Bethlehem Center, Against All Odds Empowerment Center, Mecklenburg County Maternal and Child Health Programs, and the Center for Community Transitions. Each bundle consists of outfits, onesies, pajamas (two of each size birth to 3 months, 3 to 6 months, and 6 to 12 months), blankets, hats, socks, bibs, burp cloths, books, and developmental toys to these underprivileged newborns. These are all items that cannot be purchased with food stamps.

By helping to provide some of the necessities for a successful start in the world, our gift of what we refer to as a "baby shower in a bag" allows the at-risk mothers to focus on other items such as food, housing, employment, and transportation.

Host a Meal!

Charlotte Family Housing Meal Hosting

Volunteers are needed to provide dinners on Sunday, Nov. 17, Tuesday, Nov. 19, and Thursday, Nov. 21 for the residents of Hawthorne Place on the 2nd floor. You have to complete a background check for the safety of the families. **Contact Donna Scott for information and to sign up: 919-280-9204.**

Charlotte Family Housing

Jubilee Store

December 7 and 8 at SJBC

We are excited to have Charlotte Family Housing's Jubilee Store happening at St. John's again this year, which provides a way for their clients to shop for children's Christmas gifts at discounted prices. Volunteers will be needed on the store afternoons (Saturday and Sunday) for hospitality (welcoming, directing and general support), shopper assistants, kitchen support and gift wrapping. Starting in November, you will be able to purchase requested gifts and assist with gift collection, inventory, and pricing. **Please contact Mallory in the church office if you are interested in helping with this great event!**



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 Spiritual Growth.....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

Young Voices of the Carolinas Concert: Music of the Masters

The fall concert for the Young Voices of the Carolinas is Saturday, November 2 from 5:00-6:30pm here at St. John's in the Sanctuary! Tickets at \$10/adult and \$8/students and seniors. Buy tickets online at yvotc.org or at the door. This will feature all 80 singers in the choir singing Bach, Schubert, Handel and contemporary composers Lloyd Weber and Leonard Bernstein. We hope you all will come out to support their work!

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Tuesday, November 26 at 7PM

MeckMin presents its 44th Annual Citywide Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 7PM at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church on Beatties Ford Road. The Rev. Dr. James Howell, Senior Minister of Myers Park UMC, is the speaker. A reception will follow the service. All attendees are asked to bring canned goods to donate to Crisis Assistance Ministry and Loaves & Fishes.

Calendar for October 27-November 2

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Sunday, October 27

9:15am..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
10:30am..... Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:30am..... Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
11:30am..... Wedding (Sanctuary)
12:30pm..... Wedding Reception (Broach Hall)
6:00pm..... Scarowinds Trip (Offsite)

Monday, October 28

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

Tuesday, October 29

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 30

6:30am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
10:00am..... Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
6:00pm..... AA (Room 114)
6:00pm..... Handbells (Handbell Room)
7:15pm..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, October 31

11:30am..... Weekday School Fall Festival (Lasater Hall)
7:30pm..... CBFNC College Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, November 1

Women of the Church Retreat Begins All Weekend Offsite
10:30am..... Metrolina Assoc. for the Blind Yoga (Room 114)
6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
8:00pm..... AA (Lounge)

Saturday, November 2

7:00am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
5:00pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas Concert (Sanctuary)
6:30pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas Dinner (Broach Hall)

Prayer Concerns & Thank You

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

Dear St. John's Family,

The past six months have been difficult and I want to thank each of you for those wonderful words of encouragement, prayers and especially for the special cards that seem to come on just the right day. My journey isn't over but I'm feeling better each day since I'm no longer taking some of the medications I was receiving. The St. John's Family is such an important part of my life. Carol and I are blessed daily knowing that we have your support.

Blessing to all, Henry Snyder

Sunday, October 27

Deacons: Ryan Crowder, Treva Bridges, Teri Franklin, Allene Cooley, Bert Green, Clara Howell, Chuck Howard, Libby LeVie, Jeff LeVie, Jane Newman

Greeters: Main-Carol & Tom Injaychock; 5th St./Narthe-Vanessa Boling; Broach Hall-Gail Sifford; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Marvin Carter & Jeff LeVie

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of October 14-20: \$20,378
Income through October 20: \$864,719
Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

Ministers on Call:

October 21-27: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412
October 28-November 3: Lee Gray 704-451-1309