



# Family News

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

Vol. 77, No. 46 – Week of November 18-24, 2019

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

St. John's  
Worship  
this Week on  
November 24,  
2019

### Proclaimer

Rev. Dennis W.  
Foust, PhD

### Message

*Reaching Out with  
Commitment*

### Scripture

Mark 12:41-44

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## Room in the Inn 2019-2020 Opportunities to Help

We have a current need for many volunteers for the upcoming Room in the Inn season. We need help from interested volunteers who can fill the following roles:

- Overnight Hosts -- We need 2-3 SJBC members to serve as overnight hosts on each of the Friday nights that St. John's hosts 12 homeless men during Room in the Inn season which runs from December 1st through March 31. Our overnight hosts would serve from about 5PM Friday evening until 7AM Saturday.
- Van Drivers -- We need van drivers to drive the church van each of the 17 Friday nights and Saturday mornings of the RITI season. A van driver drives the church van from the church to Urban Ministry Center at 4:45PM on Friday to pick up 12 homeless men assigned to St. John's. The next morning, our van driver returns to the church at 7AM to take the men to the Transit Center. No special driver's license is required.
- Bag Lunch Providers -- On Friday, volunteers deliver 12 bag lunches to the lounge kitchen by 5:30PM.
- Setup Team Members -- Each Friday at 4PM, a two-person setup team helps in configuring the gym as a sleeping area for our 12 guests.
- Meal Provider -- Each Friday evening, meal providers deliver and serve dinner for our 12 guests. We also ask the meal provider to provide portable breakfast foods such as muffins, biscuits, and fruit for the following morning.
- Laundry Assistant -- Each Friday, we need a volunteer to wash RITI laundry (towels and bed linens) either at their own location or using the church washer and dryer.
- Community Resource Table Volunteer -- Each Friday after dinner, an SJBC member will present a 3-minute video which describes job placement services offered by agencies working with Urban Ministry Center. The volunteer distributes the brochures and collects names of our guests who would like more information.

Below is the link to our Signup Genius signup list which shows ALL volunteer slots. Please click on this link below to sign up as a volunteer: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4caaae2eaafb6-room9>  
If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact Alice Wirz at 704-377-6189 or by emailing her at [ahwirz@carolina.rr.com](mailto:ahwirz@carolina.rr.com), or Dale Johnson at 704-364-2575 or 704-454-8931 (cell) or by emailing him at [dwj9578@usa.com](mailto:dwj9578@usa.com).

## Chrismons! Women of the Church Outing

Join Women of the Church Friday, December 13 for a day trip to Salisbury to see the Chrismon trees at St. John's Lutheran Church and to visit Ruffy's Chrismon Shop. We'll meet at the church and leave at 9:30 a.m. to visit the church, have lunch, and then go to the shop, returning by 3:30 p.m. Everyone, not just WOC members, is welcome. Please call Mallory in the church office to let us know if you plan to attend.

## Commitment Cards Bring to Worship on November 24

This Sunday is Commitment Sunday. Therefore, we are asking you to bring your financial commitment cards to worship. If you would rather mail your card in, please do so as soon as possible. If mailing, please write "Attn. Jacquelyn McAbee" on the front of the envelope we provided in the stewardship mailing. Thank you all for carefully considering what you can commit to for our 2020 Financial Ministry Plan.

## Messages from St. John's Staff

### REACHING OUT

Every dollar you give to St. John's reaches out!

Through your giving to the Financial Ministry Plan Annual Budget of St. John's, you reach out to

hungry veterans,  
homeless children,  
abused teenagers,  
college students needing community,  
hungry older adults,  
hungry people around the world,  
people who cannot afford their prescriptions,  
persons needing affordable counseling,  
prisoners needing encouragement,  
individuals released from prison,  
villages needing clean water,  
hurricane and flood victims,  
persons moving into a Habitat home,  
children and youth needing a mentor,  
children and youth needing a tutor,  
etc., etc., etc.

Through your financial commitments and gifts to the Ministry Budget of St. John's, you are reaching out to share God's compassion with

those who are lonely,  
those who are grieving,  
those desiring a relationship with God, and  
those desiring to follow the Way of Jesus, etc.

Through your commitments and financial gifts to St. John's, you are present when your ministers are

praying beside a hospital bed,  
listening to a person's painful story,  
letting a family know about St. John's,  
counseling a couple preparing for marriage,  
sharing tears of a family in a crisis or death,  
teaching children, youth or adults, etc.

### News for Youth and Their Families from Lee Gray, Minister for Youth & Young Adults

#### Upcoming Events for Youth

##### November 24

11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth have Discipleship form 6:30-7:30 during SNL

##### December 8 at 5 pm

High School Christmas Bingo Party at Charlotte Rescue Mission

##### Friday, December 13 at 5:00 pm

Middle School Christmas Mission Party for Room In The Inn

##### December 15 at 11:30 am

All youth deliver poinsettias after morning worship. Youth will sing in the 10:30 worship service that morning.

Through your financial giving to St. John's, you are

sustaining and strengthening our ministries, allowing for spiritual transformation, providing care and upkeep of your facilities, enabling creative expressions of grace, promoting the welcoming message of God, offering sacred space for spiritual growth, proclaiming John 3:16-17, Micah 6:8, Psalm 23, 1 John 4, John 15:12, Matthew 22:35-40, Luke 15, Matthew 25, etc.

See you Sunday for our Commitment Walk!  
We continue the path of Reaching Out!

Shalom,  
Dennis

### "We Will Be a Servant Church"

MT25 Booklets and Service Cards

If you did not receive one of the MT25 booklets, copies are available at the two church entrances and in Mallory's office.



With the booklet are "Offering of Service" cards. Whether you want to continue, renew, or begin a commitment for an aspect of service ministry OR want to know more about other ministries, we encourage you to complete one of the cards and either drop it in the offering plate or leave it in Mallory's office in the box in the corner. Someone from the Mission Resource Team will contact you to provide the information you need.

**MT25 "...as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (NRSV)**

### News for Children and Their Families from Allison Benfield, Minister for Spiritual Growth

#### Sunday, November 24

**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 Jonah and the big fish. They'll also enjoy time for art and play. Music will be at 9:40.

**Grades 1-5:** These classes will be learning about Room in the Inn and packing bags for our Room in the Inn guests. Grace Notes is from 10-10:20. 1st-5th Grades will worship with their families. Worship bags will be available.

#### Grace Notes

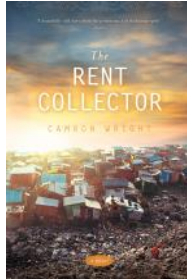
Grace Notes is leading worship through song on **December 15**. That means we only have 4 more weeks to rehearse! Please make every effort to be here so your child feels prepared and comfortable on December 15.

## Grow with St. John's

### Terrific Tuesday Book Club

Tuesday, November 26 @ 12PM in the Library

The book club will meet again on Tuesday, November 26 at 12PM to discuss the book *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright. Bring a lunch to eat afterwards in the Lounge. This will be the last meeting of 2019. This book's story is set in a Cambodian dump called Stung Meanchey and is a story of hope and second chances as one woman tries to save her chronically ill child while living in the worst of places.



### 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. Rev. Dr. James Howell, Senior Minister of Myers Park UMC, is the speaker. All attendees are asked to bring canned goods to donate to Crisis Assistance Ministry and Loaves & Fishes.

**Don't forget to bring your commitment cards to worship this Sunday!**

### WDAV Service of Lessons & Carols

LIVE from St. John's on Tuesday, December 3 @ 7PM

Mark your calendars for this year's live broadcast from St. John's of the WDAV Service of Lessons and Carols. This will be held on Tuesday, December 3 at 7PM in the Sanctuary with a reception following in Lasater Hall.

### Children and Youth Basketball Practice Schedule

#### Sunday:

- 3-4PM, 15u Girls
- 4-5PM 18u Girls
- 5:30-6:30PM 10u Boys

#### Monday:

- 5:30-6:30PM, 6u Co-Ed
- 6:30-7:30PM, 12u Boys

#### Tuesday:

- 6:45-8:00PM, 16u Boys

#### Wednesday:

- 5:30-6:30PM, 8u CoEd

#### Thursday:

- 5:30-6:30PM, 12u Girls
- 6:45-8:00PM, 18u Boys



## Reach Out with St. John's

### Christmas Cards for Neighbors

December 1-15 at the Main Entrance

The mailboxes for the Christmas Cards for Neighbors will be up December 1-15 at the Main Entrance. During this time, see the list of folks we are sending cards to this year, write one, a few, or all of them a Christmas card, and have them back to the church by December 15 so that our deacons can deliver them in plenty of time.

### Be a Volunteer RA!

Charlotte Family Housing Needs Your Help!

The Resident Advisers for the two shelters hold a team meeting twice a month. During these meetings Charlotte Family Housing needs volunteers to **fill in for the RAs at our Hawthorne Place Shelter**. The RA Volunteer's primary responsibility is to **buzz residents in and out of the shelter** during their shift. **Here is the link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0448a8af29a3ff2-hawthorne>**. You will get an email to fill out a background check form when you sign up. It is free and protects the residents of the shelter. Consider doing this today!

### CFH Jubilee Store Giving Tree Time

Gifts are due **THIS Sunday, November 24!**

We are excited to have Charlotte Family Housing's Jubilee Store happening at St. John's again this year. The event will be held on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, December 7th and 8th and provides an empowering and dignified way for their clients to shop for children's Christmas gifts. Here is how you can help:

- Select a leaf from the Christmas tree in the Main Entrance (gym) which shows a specific gift, purchase it and return the **UNWRAPPED** item to the St. John's collection bins at the Main Entrance by November 24. If during the week, please leave the gift in the church office.
- If you prefer to shop online, you may view the Amazon wish list at the following link:
- <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1PXA3UW1S84KY?type=wishlist&filter=unpurchased&sort=priority>
- Sign up at the shared link below for children's activities, meal servers, shopping assistants, gift wrappers and hospitality help needed each day of the event.
- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050b48acaf0-2019>

Contact Donna Scott at 919-280-9204 or [djs58@nc.rr.com](mailto:djs58@nc.rr.com) if you need more information.



**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 Spiritual Growth.....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

### Prayer Concerns, Congratulations, Sympathy

Harry Barr, Judy Biber, Tom Bryson, Byron Bullard, Betty Curlin, Carol Drye, Polly Hull (Asbury), Gene Poole, Brad Sifford, Henry Snyder, Elma Thomas, Bryan Thorn, & Jeck Warren; Parker Jackson, military

### Sunday, November 24

**Deacons:** Teri Franklin, Clara Howell, Chuck Howard, Gary McFarland, Jeff LeVie, Libby LeVie, Durning Moore, Bert Green, Jane Newman, Casey Perkins  
**Greeters:** Main-Ed Turner & Chuck Jones; 5th St./Narthex -Al Bridges; Broach Hall-Gail Sifford; Elevator-Marvin Carter  
**Tellers:** Tom Blackmon and Matt Collins  
**Ushers:** Arnold Philemon, Marvin Carter, Bobbie Hahn, Bobbie & Don Hinson, Susan King

### Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of November 11-17: \$47,628  
Income through November 17: \$970,380  
Annual 2019 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,140,000

### Ministers on Call:

November 18-24: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412  
November 25-December 1: Lee Gray 704-451-1309

## Attention Choir and Handbells!

Rehearsal Day is Tuesday Next Week!

The Adult Chancel Choir and the Handbell Choir will rehearse next week on **Tuesday, November 26 instead of Wednesday**. Times are the same but the day is different. If you are in either one of these groups, please make a note of this change in days in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

## Advent Worship for 2019

Asking Honest Questions While Waiting for the Lord

### Sunday, December 1: First Sunday in Advent

- Worship Theme: God Inspires Visions of Hope
- Message Title: Can You See Hope from Here?
- Scriptures: Isaiah 2:1-15 & Romans 13:11-4

### Sunday, December 8: Hanging of the Green

- Worship Theme: God Inspires New Beginnings through Peace
- Message Title: All Are Welcome! But Was John Our Kind of Baptist?
- Scriptures: Isaiah 11:1-9 & Matthew 3:1-11

### Sunday, December 15: Third Sunday in Advent

- Worship Theme: God Inspires Us to Rediscover Joy
- Message Title: The Question We Really Must Settle
- Scriptures: Isaiah 35:1-7 & Matthew 11:2-6

### Sunday, December 22: Fourth Sunday in Advent

- Worship Theme: God Inspires the Nature and Character of our Loving
- Message Title: How Does Jesus Effect Your Loving?
- Scriptures: Psalm 80:1-3 & Matthews 1:18-25

### Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve Communion, Carols, Candlelight

- Worship Theme: Celebrating God's Appearance
- Message Title: Christmas Everyday
- Scriptures: Titus 2:11-14

Throughout the season, we will keep you updated with weekly events in the Family News. So, stay tuned.

## Calendar for November 24-30

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

### Sunday, November 24

9:15am..... Sunday School & Missions 101 (Classrooms)  
10:30am..... Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
10:30am..... Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)  
5:00pm..... Sunday Night Live (3rd Floor, Lounge, Gym)

### Monday, November 25

12:30pm..... Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)  
5:45pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)  
8:00pm..... AA (Lasater Hall)

### Tuesday, November 26

10:00am..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)  
12:00pm..... Terrific Tuesday Book Club (Library & Lounge)  
5:15pm..... SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)  
6:00pm..... Handbells (Handbell Room)  
7:15pm..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

### Wednesday, November 27

6:30am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)  
9:30am..... Yoga (Room 114)  
10:00am..... Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)  
6:00pm..... AA (Room 114)

### Thursday, November 28

Church offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

### Friday, November 29

Church offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

8:00pm..... AA (Lounge)

### Saturday, November 30

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