



Family News

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

Vol. 78, No. 8 – Week of February 17-23, 2020

What's Happening at St. John's?

St. John's
Worship
this Week on
February 23,
2019

Proclaimer:

Rev. Dennis W.
Foust, PhD

Theme

*Rebuilding the
Damaged Engine of
God's Mission*

Scriptures

Isaiah 6:1-3, 43:1-11;
Mark 4:10-12;
Acts 1:6-8

Ash Wednesday Sacred Space for Renewal

Wednesday, February 26 in Broach Hall 9AM-12PM & 1PM-7PM

On Ash Wednesday, Broach Hall will be open for self-led, reflective, prayer stations. This experience was designed with all ages in mind, including children. From 9AM-12PM and 1PM-7PM on February 26, a St. John's minister will be present to administer ashes. From 12PM-1PM, we hope you will attend the Elizabeth Communities of Faith service here in our Sanctuary. At 3PM, Kevin and Dennis will offer music and a devotion and at 6PM, Allison will offer a family devotion. We hope all will consider coming to this experience at any point during the day as we begin another Lenten season. If you have any questions, please contact [Allison Benfield](#).

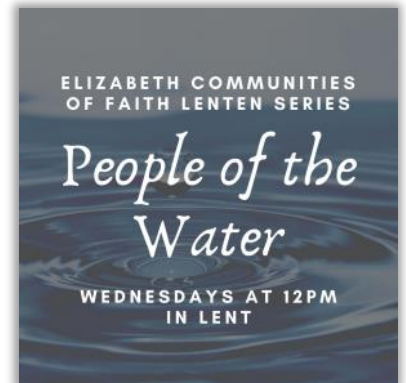


Elizabeth Communities of Faith

12PM Lenten Services at St. John's this Season

Beginning February 26, the Elizabeth Communities of Faith (ECoF) will have noontime (12PM) Lenten services each Wednesday in Lent here at St. John's. The theme of this year's series is "People of the Water." We look forward to hearing from each member congregation/entity of ECoF throughout the season of Lent. Each week except for February 26, there will be a soup and sandwich lunch following the service in Broach Hall. Services will last approximately 30 minutes and 30 minutes for lunch. A donation of \$5/person is suggested for lunch and all monies will go to Refugee Support Services and Galilee Refugee Center. The timing makes this ideal for anyone in the working world to attend on his or her lunch break.

We hope you will attend these services during this reflective season of Lent.



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Easter Lilies 2020

Easter Lilies are a long-standing tradition and are loved by many, except those who are allergic to the pollen that traditional Easter Lilies bring. This year, we are offering the alternative of White Calla Lilies in order to reduce the pollen and help everyone enjoy this glorious Sunday of worship. Like Easter Lilies, Calla Lilies can be planted in your yard and come back again next year. The cost this year will be \$18, and order forms are available in the Family News and in the church office with Mallory. **All orders must be placed by Sunday, March 8! This week, see the order form on the BACK of the Family News. Fill out the form, tear off, and send to Mallory.**



Proceeds from the Easter flowers are used to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas. We usually purchase less than ordered to have extra funds for Christmas decorations, so please be sure to indicate on your order form if you **do not** plan to take your Calla Lily after the Easter service.

Messages from St. John's Staff

CHURCH HEALTH & INCREMENTAL PROGRESS

In 2011, St. John's Interim Steering Team (IST) brought forward a report entitled, '*Defined Shared Goals.*' These three goals were adopted by the membership to guide St. John's visions and efforts for 2011 and beyond:

- Financial Sustainability,
- Church Growth with an Emphasis on Children & Young Families, and
- Local Service and Missions.

Throughout the past decade, we have made progress on each goal. Like most change in healthy local churches, our progress has been incremental.

Our progress in '*Financial Sustainability*' includes growing our Annual Financial Ministry Plan Budget from \$945,000 in 2011 to \$1,175,000 in 2020. We have also completed two capital campaigns: one campaign addressed long-neglected building maintenance needs and replaced all HVAC equipment in the Sanctuary Building; the other increased our Endowment Fund so we could begin using the earnings to expand our impact in ministry and mission and improve our facilities. Each campaign was successful. In 2011, the Ministry & Mission Endowment enables initiatives in the amount of \$25,500 and the Facilities Endowment will contribute \$28,000 to help us improve our building security systems – very important as we increase our outreach to families with children and youth.

Our progress in '*Church Growth with an Emphasis on Children and Young Families*' is reflected in our numbers. From January 1, 2011 through today, we have received 166 new members with 103 of those being younger than 40 years of age. Our renewed efforts in the past two years and our current search for new ministry leader(s) in the areas of youth and young adults will help us continue this progress.

Our progress in '*Local Service and Missions*' is pronounced by trips to Canada, Cuba and Puerto Rico plus multiple trips to New York City. In addition, we continue our tradition of youth and adults building a Habitat for Humanity house in the coastal area of South Carolina every other summer. Our Mission

News for Youth and Their Families

from Lee Gray, Minister for Youth & Young Adults

Upcoming Events for Youth

February 28-March 1

Middle School Discipleship Retreat to Blowing Rock

March 1

Basketball Banquet for all of St. John's teams (The season concludes on February 29)

June 15-19

Volunteering for St. John's VBS

June 21-27

High School Habitat Mission Trip to John's Island, SC (near Charleston) – Adult leader meeting on February 23rd at 11:45 am after worship in the church conference room

July 20-25

Unidiversity Summer Camp (for all youth) in Maryville, TN

August 8-11

Middle School Local Mission Trip

Resource Team continues to guide us to increase our impact through the transformational power of God's redemptive Gospel. We have identified 241 St. John'sians who are involved in community ministries and missions and we have set a participation goal of 300 by the end of this year.

Let us continue to pursue these goals even as we celebrate our church health and incremental progress by giving thanks to God who is faithful and by affirming one another for being an Actively Faithful Faithfully Active beloved community.

**Shalom,
Dennis**

Basketball Playoff Schedule

Team	Date & Time	Location
6 & Under Co-Ed	Season Complete	Season Complete
8 & Under Co-Ed	Season Complete	Season Complete
10 & Under Boys	2/22 @ 1:45PM	The Park
12 & Under Boys	2/22 @ 9AM	Mulberry Baptist
12 & Under Girls	2/22 @ 8:30AM	Trinity Episcopal
15 & Under Girls	2/22 @ 9:30AM	Providence Baptist
16 & Under Boys	2/22 @ 11:30AM	Avondale Presby
18 & Under Girls	2/22 @ 1:45PM	Avondale Presby
18 & Under Boys	2/22 @ 1:30PM	Harvest Center

News for Children and Their Families

from Allison Benfield, Minister for Spiritual Growth

Sunday, February 23, 2020

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 will learn about how Jesus fed 5,000 people. They will have time for art and play. Music is at 9:40am.

Grades 1-5: The 1st-5th Graders will learn about A Child's Place and complete a project that will help us collect Easter outfits in Missions 101. Music is at 10am. 1st-5th Graders will join their families for worship.

Grow with St. John's

Elizabeth 8K Road Race

Saturday, March 21 @ Independence Park

The annual Elizabeth 8K Road Race is Saturday, March 21. This race is on a beautiful course through the streets of Elizabeth. St. John's is a sponsor for this event. So, we have a code for 10 free registrations and 10% off registration on a first-come, first-serve basis. Reach out to Mallory if you want a code!



Register here:

<https://raceroster.com/events/2020/25466/2020-elizabeth-8k>

Katherine Schwarzenegger Pratt

LIVE at St. John's

Sunday, March 15 @ 10:30AM during worship



On Sunday, March 15, we welcome Katherine Schwarzenegger Pratt to St. John's Baptist Church for a launch of her book, *The Gift of Forgiveness*, which will be released nationwide on March 10, 2020. Katherine is a New York Times best-selling author, lifestyle blogger, philanthropist, and ASPCA Ambassador, who speaks to and for her generation of women, providing a strong message of empowerment. Katherine will be a part of our regular worship service and will stay afterwards for book signings. Overflow seating will be available. This event is free and open to all. Spread the word!

The book, *The Gift of Forgiveness*, is available for pre-order on Amazon now! Books will also be available for purchase at the event on March 15.

Al Staggs as Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Saturday, March 28 @ 4PM in the Sanctuary



On Saturday, March 28, Al Staggs will present his one-person drama called "A View from the Underside" in the Sanctuary at 4PM. This play brings the life of one of the great heroes of the twentieth century, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, to the stage. The audience is brought into the prison cell where Bonhoeffer awaits execution and listens to his struggles with evil, injustice, and God.

Tickets are on sale NOW here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/afternoon-with-al-staggs-tickets-90047306919?aff=ebdssbeac> If you want to buy tickets but do not want to do so online, please contact Mallory in the office and she can help you procure tickets. On Sunday, March 29, Staggs will join us in worship to offer his portrayal of Clarence Jordan.

Vacation Bible School 2020

The Adventures of Moses

Vacation Bible School: *The Adventures of Moses* is June 15-19 from 9am-12pm this summer at St. John's in partnership with St. Martin's Episcopal Church. Registration is open now and closes at 11pm on June 7. Spaces tend to fill quickly, so don't wait!



[Click here to register!](#)

In *The Adventures of Moses* we will learn about how Moses chose to work with God and help free the people. The cost is \$15/child. This is open to children aged 4 by June 1-Rising 6th Graders. **Register today!**

Reach Out with St. John's

Loaves and Fishes Food Drive

You Can Help this February

Last chance! The food drive is ending next week. Have you thoughtfully shopped? Donated money? Don't forget to say prayers for the pantry volunteers and their clients and for yourselves as you donate food that will make such a difference in all the lives involved.



Easter Outfits Collection

For "A Child's Place"

Starting now, St. John's is collecting new or gently used children's outfits for A Child's Place. We are collecting NEW boy and girl outfits, sizes 5-14, with new socks and underwear with each outfit. The collection point for outfits is the main entrance by the gym. **Please have all outfits in by March 29.**



Refugee Support Services

Opportunities to Volunteer!

Over the years the lives of the people of St. John's have been enriched by the presence of refugees and immigrants who have come to Charlotte seeking a better life for themselves and their families. Opportunities continue for us to provide support to newly arrived people from around the world and for us to continue to be enriched by them. If you would like to find out more about either of these opportunities, please contact Beverly Hester, beverlyrhester@earthlink.net or Nina Phillips, ninacarl@gmail.com.

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
 Administrative Assistant.....Derek Henson
 ext. 10 - info@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

Prayer Concerns

Emily Batts, Judy Biber, RD Bond, Martha Brown, Byron Bullard, Carol Drye, Teri Franklin, Don Furr, Polly Hull, Paul Lloyd, Johnnie Morcock, Esther Narron, Carl Phillips, Gene Poole, Brad Sifford, Elma Thomas, Debora Thon, Joe Trull, Alison Zieglermeier (daughter of Ken and Donna Scott); Parker Jackson, military

Sympathy to Bobbi Sherrill and family in the death of her mother, Marilyn Smith

Sympathy to Joe Millsaps in the death of his sister, Ann Batten

Sympathy to Cherry and Anne Sutton in the death of their sister, Sue Sutton, on Monday, February 17. The service is Saturday at 3PM at Lady's Funeral Home Chapel in Kannapolis, NC.

Congratulations to Liz and Jordan Benton on the birth of their son, Greer Walker Benton, on Thursday, February 20, 2020! Greer is the grandson of Debbie and Ken Benton and the great-grandson of Jean Hutson.

Sunday, February 23

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

Greeters: Main-Carol & Tom Injaychock; 5th St./Narthex-Treva Bridges; Broach Hall-Jimmy Carpenter; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Margaret Falls, Ken Hungate

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of February 10-16: \$10,887
 Income through February 16: \$160,887
 Annual 2020 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,175,000

Ministers on Call:

February 17-23: Lee Gray 704-451-1309

Stay tuned next week for information about this year's State & Community Missions Offering!

Calendar for February 23-29, 2020

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Sunday, February 23

9:15am Missions 101 (Room 223)
 9:15am Sunday School (Classrooms)
 10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
 10:30am Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
 11:30am Habitat Mission Trip Meeting (Conference Room)
 5:00pm Sunday Night Live (3rd Floor, Gym, Lounge)

Monday, February 24

11:45am Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
 5:45pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 8:00pm Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)

Tuesday, February 25

10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00am Bible Study (Room 209)
 12:00pm Terrific Tuesday Book Club (Library/Lounge)
 5:15pm SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
 6:15pm Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)

Wednesday, February 26

6:30am Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:00am .. Ash Wednesday Sacred Space Begins (Broach Hall)
 9:30am Yoga (Room 114)
 12:00pm Elizabeth Communities of Faith Service (Sanctuary)
 6:00pm Belmont AA (Room 114)
 6:00pm Drakeford Company (Lounge)
 6:00pm Handbells (Handbell Room)
 7:00pm Sherrill Basketball (Gym)
 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, February 27

2:00pm Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
 7:30pm CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, February 28

All Weekend Middle School Discipleship Retreat
 8:00am New Gen Peacebuilders (Broach Hall)
 5:00pm Room in the Inn (Gym, Lounge)
 8:00pm Eastway AA (Room 114)

Saturday, February 29

7:00am Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:00am New Gen Peacebuilders (Broach Hall)
 10:00am Basketball Games (Gym/Lounge)

Calla Lily Order Form 2020

I will give ____ (number) lilies at \$18 each.

_____ in memory of _____

_____ in honor of _____

Please enclose or send cash/check with this order form. Checks made to St. John's Baptist with "Easter Lilies" in memo line.

Donor name and telephone:

_____ I wish to pick up my lilies.

_____ I do not wish to pick up my lilies.

The deadline to place your order is Sunday, March 8, 2020 with Mallory in the office.