



Family News

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

Vol. 78, No. 6 – Week of February 3-9, 2020

What's Happening at St. John's?

St. John's
Worship
this Week on
February 9,
2019

Proclaimer:

Rev. Dennis W.
Foust, PhD

Theme

*Reweaving the Torn
Tapestry of Prayer*

Scriptures

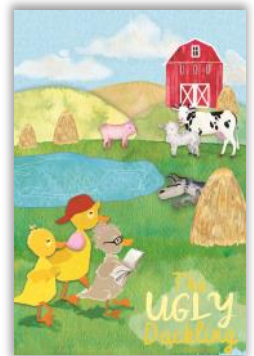
Matthew 6:5-15

Opera Carolina Presents: The Ugly Duckling

February 8, 2020 @ 10:30AM for FREE

On THIS Saturday, February 8, children and families are invited to a free opera presentation of the "The Ugly Duckling." This will be at 10:30am in Broach Hall at St. John's Baptist Church. This is a community-wide event sponsored by St. John's Baptist Church and Opera Carolina. This is a great event to bring children and grandchildren to!

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-ugly-duckling-at-st-johns-baptist-church-tickets-89295853301>



Open Table: Pancakes and Music

Wednesday, February 19 @ 5:50pm

We hope you and your family join us for the first Open Table dinner of the new year on Wednesday, February 19 from 5:50-7:00pm in Broach Hall! We will have a delicious dinner of legendary **Brookscakes** pancakes from George Brooks with bacon, and grits to celebrate Shrove Tuesday a week early and enjoy musical entertainment from Kevin Gray and Friends! This is a great night to get to know others better around the table and enjoy some good food and entertainment. We would love everyone to come!

Call or email Mallory in the office or sign up with this link online: <https://forms.gle/Zsmu9DbdBkvwdyat5>



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Katherine Schwarzenegger Pratt LIVE at St. John's

Sunday, March 15 @ 10:30AM

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 sales and 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.



Messages from St. John's Staff

SHARING AND REACHING OUT

SHARING IS WHAT WE'VE BEEN TAUGHT

Are you sharing the Facebook posts on our St. John's Facebook page? Mallory Brown is doing an excellent job of keeping us apprised of what is happening in the life and ministries of St. John's. When you see a post and you realize it is something you want your friends to know is going on in the life of St. John's, go ahead and push 'like' BUT don't stop there. Also touch the SHARE button so all your friends will know. This past week, I shared three posts with my 1,242 Facebook friends. It's nice to share; it helps other persons and it makes you feel better too.

REACHING OUT AS BELOVED COMMUNITY

As far back as I can remember, my parents and teachers taught me to reach out. I was encouraged to reach out to 'the new kid;' the elderly neighbor; the boy who was left out and left behind; the person who didn't have any friends; the person who lived with cognitive or physical challenges; the person who was a minority; the person who was shut outside the circle of participation by our systems and structures, etc. I was taught to reach out by building bridges – not walls. I was taught to reach out with grace – not shame – because God is more generous than most people are able to imagine.

St. John's, we reach out in many ways to persons who are lonely, poor, refugees, hungry, homeless, afraid, misguided, grieving, hurting, etc. We must also be diligent in reaching out to those who need a beloved community such as St. John's. Do you keep a list of people you are reaching out to in order to introduce them to St. John's?

QUOTES ON SHARING AND REACHING OUT

"Each person I interviewed for this book has taught me that you have to stay the course, remind yourself that forgiveness is a process that comes with ups and downs and never judge yourself or others along the way." – Katherine Schwarzenegger Pratt in *The Gift of Forgiveness*.

"The Church is the Church only when it exists for others." – Dietrich Bonhoeffer in *Letters and Papers from Prison*.

**Shalom,
Dennis**

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



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

Sunday, February 9, 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 the time Zacchaeus met Jesus. They will have time for art and play, and Music is at 9:40.

Grades 1-5: The 1st-5th Graders will learn about how Jesus fed 5000 people. Music is at 10:00. 4th-5th Graders will join their families for worship. 1st-3rd Graders will have Godly Play in Room 221.

VBS: June 15-19, 2020!

The moment you have been waiting for is here! VBS Registration is open! Registration 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 his people. VBS is June 15-19; 9am-Noon. \$15/child. This is open to children aged 4 by June 1-Rising 6th Graders. Register today!

Grow with St. John's

Ash Wednesday Sacred Space

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

On Ash Wednesday, Broach Hall will be open for self-led, reflective, prayer stations. These include but are not limited to the following: salt prayers, making prayer beads, walking the labyrinth, and a prayer wall. This experience was designed with all ages in mind. 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. During the day in Broach Hall, there will be special opportunities to hear music, thoughts, and a story from our ministry staff. We hope all will consider coming to this experience at any point during the day as we begin another Lenten season.

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. 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.

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>

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. Tickets are \$10/person and are on sale NOW here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-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.



Listening Sessions for the 2020 Financial Ministry Plan will be held **THIS Sunday, February 9** in the Conference Room at **9:20AM** and **11:35AM**. Come, listen, and ask questions about this year's financial ministry plan!

Reach Out with St. John's

Loaves and Fishes Food Drive

You Can Help this February

Did you get your grocery bag and shopping list? As you shop, remember the majority of clients are women, mothers and workers who have little time to prepare complicated meals. But they want to feed their families nutritious and filling meals. Go forth and shop. . .wisely!

**More bags can be found in Sunday School class rooms, Mallory's office, and at the grocery carts in Broach Hall and main entrance lobbies.*



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. Some of those opportunities include:

- **Refugee Support Services in the Galilee Center on Central Avenue offers a monthly "Refugee 101" session. Upcoming sessions are February 5, or March 4, from 9:30-10:45am**
- **A small group from St. John's visits RSS every third Thursday of the month, from 9:45-11:15am providing healthy snacks and a welcoming presence to the refugees who participate in the knitting group and in the ESL classes.**

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
 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

Basketball Game Schedule

Team	Date & Time	Location
6 & Under Co-Ed	2/8 @ 10AM	St. John's
8 & Under Co-Ed	2/8 @ 11AM	St. John's
10 & Under Boys	2/8 @ 2:45PM	The Harvest Center
12 & Under Boys	2/8 @ 2PM	St. John's
12 & Under Girls	2/8 @ 9:30AM	Trinity Episcopal
15 & Under Girls	2/8 @ 2:45PM	Sharon Presbyterian
16 & Under Boys	2/8 @ 12:45PM	Trinity Episcopal
18 & Under Girls	2/8 @ 1:45PM	Trinity Episcopal
18 & Under Boys	2/8 @ 10:30AM	Avondale

Calendar for February 9-15, 2020

Complete calendar online: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

Sunday, February 9

9:00am..... Middle School Discipleship
 9:15am..... Sunday School (Classrooms)
 9:15am..... St. John's 101 (Lounge)
 9:20am..... Listening Session (Conference Room)
 10:30am..... Godly Play (Room 221)
 10:30am..... Worship Service (Sanctuary)
 10:30am..... Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
 11:35am..... Listening Session (Conference Room)
 5:00pm..... Sunday Night Live (3rd Floor, Gym, Lounge)

Monday, February 10

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

Tuesday, February 11

10:00am..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
 11:00am..... Bible Study (Room 209)
 12:00pm..... Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
 5:15pm..... SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
 6:15pm..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
 6:30pm..... National Alliance on Mental Illness Groups
 (Room 114 & 116)

Wednesday, February 12

6:30am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
 9:30am..... Yoga (Room 114)
 1:45pm..... Immigrant Support Study Group (Lounge)
 6:00pm..... AA (Room 114)
 6:00pm..... Mission Resource Team (Conference Room)
 6:00pm..... Handbells (Handbell Room)
 7:00pm..... Sherrill Basketball (Gym)
 7:15pm..... Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, February 13

10:00am..... Craft & Needles Ministry (Lounge)
 2:00pm..... Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
 7:30pm..... CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

Friday, February 14

5:00pm..... Room in the Inn (Gym, Lounge)
 8:00pm..... AA (Room 114)

Saturday, February 15

7:00am..... Benton Basketball (Gym)
 10:00am..... Basketball Games (Gym/Lounge)
 2:00pm..... St. Jude's Holiday Party (Broach Hall)

Prayer Concerns

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

Sunday, February 9

Deacons: Nancy Fuller, Judy Sanford, David Sherrill, Gail Sifford, Anne Sutton, Keith Towery, Kathy Turner, Mindy Vergakis, Nancy Wilson

Greeters: Main-Ed Turner & Scott Kerley; 5th St./NartheX-Linda Kerley; Broach Hall-Ashley Hogewood; Elevator-Marvin Carter

Tellers: Marvin Carter & Paul Lloyd

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

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of January 27-February 2: \$19,760
 Income through February 2: \$109,228

Souper Bowl of Caring:

\$1,056 was collected for Charlotte Rescue Mission!

Ministers on Call:

February 3-9: Dennis Foust 704-359-7234
 February 10-16: Allison Benfield 828-448-8412

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.