



Family News

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

stjohnsbaptistchurch.org | Vol. 78, No. 13 – Week of March 23-29, 2020

A Servant Community: Actively Faithful, Faithfully Active

St. John's Virtual
Worship at Home
Each Week on
March 29, 2019

Join us for online
worship experiences at
10:30am on Facebook
and the website.
Worship resources will
be distributed for
guidance.

Connecting as a Community in Uncertain Times Learning to Be the Church at a Distance

As St. John's experiences physical distancing along with the rest of our world, it is our goal to connect with you as often as possible. Each week in the Family News, there will be announcements that you might have seen in other emails or online. Please use this resource as a chance to review and take note of anything you might have missed.

Stay Connected on
Social Media & Website



@sjbccharlotte



@sjbccharlotte



@sjbccharlotte



[Link to Website](#)

Connecting Digitally to the St. John's Community A Schedule of Opportunities

- **Tuesdays at 10AM**
 - Allison Benfield will present a Godly Play story on our [St. John's Facebook page](#)
- **Thursday Mornings**
 - Mallory will email and mail a 2-page *Family News*
- **Wednesdays at 9:30AM**
 - Sara Vavra will offer "[Online Yoga](#)" on the Facebook page; [Here is a link to this week's Yoga Class with Sara Vavra!](#)
- **Wednesdays OR Thursdays**
 - Kevin and Dennis will post a Mid-Week Moment with music and/or devotionals on Facebook and Website
- **Fridays OR Saturdays**
 - You will receive "*Household Worship Resources*" in your email inbox to be used on Sundays during our online worship service
- **Sunday Mornings**
 - At our usual 10:30 worship hour, a worship service will be posted on our [website](#) AND the [SJ Facebook page](#).
 - Our worship time on Sunday Mornings at 10:30 will last less than 30 minutes.

The above schedule is not an exhaustive list of what we will offer online. For example, this Wednesday, Noel Lance did a Facebook Live tour of the Sanctuary's Letourneau organ. Over 300 people viewed this experience online! So, be attentive to our social media outlets for special opportunities like this one as our weeks progress. If you missed the organ tour, check it out on Facebook at these links: [Link 1](#) & [Link 2](#). Mallory will post these on the website on Thursday afternoon.



Our youth group has been connecting on Zoom, an online video conferencing platform, on Sunday evenings. It is different from their regular meetings but still a wonderful way to connect during these times!

Canceled or Postponed Gatherings

- All church meetings and gatherings in person are canceled until further notice
- All mission-oriented volunteer opportunities are closed until further notice due to the risk of spreading disease
- Elizabeth Communities of Faith Wednesday Lenten Services and Lunches are **CANCELED** for the rest of the season
- An Afternoon with Al Staggs as Dietrich Bonhoeffer has been **POSTPONED** to May 30 with him joining us in worship on May 31; Purchase your tickets [here](#).
- Worship now on Sundays at 10:30am on Facebook and Household Worship Resources will be provided weekly for you to use
- Brotherhood of the Biscuit will meet on Zoom on Friday morning, April 3 at 7am. Contact [Eric McCombs](#) for details on how to join this meeting.

Calla Lilies for Easter

An Update on Easter Flowers

We will still celebrate Easter on April 12, but from our homes and not together in our church sanctuary. So, the Calla Lily order has been cancelled. The next time we are able to gather together in a wonderful 'homecoming' in our sanctuary, we hope to have some type of potted flowers to decorate the altar and windows. It is hard to guess right now what those flowers will be since we don't know our return date. Those of you who previously paid for the flowers will be able to take these home after the service. More information will be shared later.

State and Community Offering Continues

An Update on the Recipients

We are continuing to receive funds for the annual State and Community Offering, with a change prompted by the current coronavirus situation. As originally planned, the state portion (50%) will go to Together for Hope, a CBF North Carolina anti poverty program led by LaCount and Anna Anderson.

The other half of the offering (the community portion) was scheduled for special projects at Hope Chapel. The Mission Resource Team is responding to the current virus disaster by creating a special Coronavirus Response Fund to provide a way for St. John's to respond to critical needs as they become known. Our contact for Hope Chapel has assured us that the projects due to benefit from the community portion of this annual offering can wait until next year. MRT has therefore made the difficult decision to reallocate the community portion of the special offering to the newly created St. John's coronavirus fund.

We trust that you will continue to give to this special offering, with this change in mind. We will likely come face to face with critical needs and want to have resources available to respond, both within our church family and through our partner agencies serving the most needy in our community.

Contact the Staff

A List of Cell Phone Numbers and Email Addresses

- Dennis Foust- 704-359-7234; dfoust@sjcharlotte.org
- Lee Gray- 704-451-1309; lgray@sjcharlotte.org
- Allison Benfield- 828-448-8412; abenfield@sjcharlotte.org
- Kevin Gray- 803-524-0287; kgray@sjcharlotte.org
- Mallory Brown- mbrown@sjcharlotte.org
- Jacquelyn McAbee- jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org

Please call or email any of our ministers or staff members if you or someone you know has a need for which they can be of assistance.

Prayer Concerns

Virginia Allen, Emily Batts, Byron Bullard, Carol Drye, Teri Franklin, Don Furr, Camille Green, Polly Hull, Johnnie Morcock, Carl Phillips, Gene Poole, Elma Thomas, Betty Thompson, Alison Zieglmeier (daughter of Ken and Donna Scott); Parker Jackson, military; all affected by COVID-19 at this time

Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of March 16-24: \$22,870
Income through March 24: \$243,171
Annual 2020 Ministry Plan Budget Goal: \$1,175,000

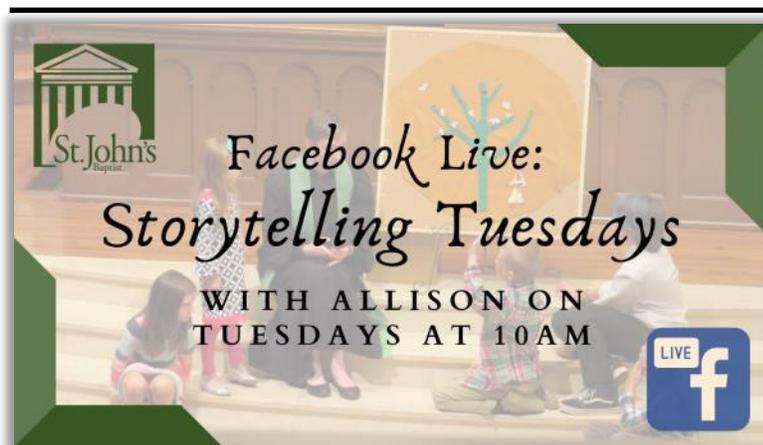
Please continue to contribute financially. During these months, our ministries continue to need support. Staff salaries still need to be paid. Utility bills will still need to be paid. Along the way, as we become aware of unique opportunities or needs, we want the church's finances to be strong enough so we can respond. Your gifts to the Annual Financial Ministry Plan Budget of St. John's also support 42 different ministries.

You may mail your financial gifts to: St. John's Baptist Church, Attn. Jacquelyn McAbee, 300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, NC 28204.

State and Community Missions Offering Update:

2020 Goal: \$5,000
Received to Date: \$2,492

All contributions to this offering will go to the newly created Coronavirus Response Fund and Together for Hope with LaCount and Anna Anderson.



Storytelling Tuesdays on Facebook Live

With Allison Benfield

On Tuesdays at 10AM, Allison will go LIVE on the St. John's Facebook to tell a story from the Godly Play collection. These stories were designed with children in mind BUT, all ages can benefit and wonder along with each story. Tune in at 10AM each Tuesday morning!

[Here is a link to Allison telling this week's Godly Play story online.](#)