



# Family News

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

[stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://stjohnsbaptistchurch.org) | Vol. 78, No. 15– Week of April 5-11, 2020

## A Servant Community: Actively Faithful, Faithfully Active

St. John's Virtual  
Worship at Home  
on April 12, 2020

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

Stay Connected on  
Social Media & Website



@sjbccharlotte



@sjbccharlotte



@sjbccharlotte



[Website Link](http://stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

## Holy Week Resources and Maundy Thursday Daily Reflections and a Service on Thursday Evening Online

This week, you should have received daily theological reflections and prompts for Holy Week, written and compiled by Dennis. You will receive two more of these reflections on Friday and Saturday of this week. Each Holy Week reflection can be found on the website [under the SJ Blog](#). We are thankful to Dennis for providing these resources. This evening, we will have an online Maundy Thursday service that will include communion. **In preparation for this service, please do the following: Light a candle just before our service begins.** This candle represents Jesus' life and we will extinguish our candles at the conclusion of this service representing Jesus' death. Keep the candle in your worship place for Easter Sunday as we will light those candles during that service. **Prepare some bread or crackers and a glass or cup of a beverage for each person in your household for communion.** We hope you will join us on Facebook, YouTube, or the website at 7PM for this service. **Stay tuned to your email inboxes for worship resources and links to the videos for the service.**

## St. John's Mask-Making Initiative

Contact Nina Phillips or Willa McNeill for Information

The people of St. John's are a servant people. When faced with need, as we are now, we want to know "How can I help?" With restrictions on our coming and going, which is a good thing for all of us, we are left struggling for answers. One way to serve is helping to supply the widening call for using masks. Novant, Atrium, and the Mecklenburg County Health Department have issued a joint call to the community for masks, including those that can be made at home. **Realizing the homemade masks are not a substitute for surgical masks**, the healthcare providers are asking the help of the community in sewing masks that may help slow the spread of the virus.

Two ways you can serve are:

- Sewing simple masks, using **tightly woven cotton fabric** (or poly cotton) and supplies you may have at home or which we may be able to help supply. We have information about best materials to use and instructions for making\*
- Serving by providing **CURBSIDE pick up and delivery** of needed materials and completed masks. We do not want ANYONE to come in direct contact with other people. We can navigate around that!

We have instructions for the masks that was provided by the hospitals. **If you would like to find out details on how you might be able to offer yourself in some capacity with this effort please contact the following:**

- Willa McNeill: 704-578-3201; [willa.mcneill@gmail.com](mailto:willa.mcneill@gmail.com)
- Nina Phillips: 704-596-3135; [ninacarl@gmail.com](mailto:ninacarl@gmail.com)

**\*WITH ALL THE INFORMATION FLOODING THE MEDIA ABOUT MASKS, PLEASE REMEMBER THAT NO MASK IS A SUBSTITUTE FOR STAYING AT HOME, WASHING YOUR HANDS AND FOLLOWING ALL THE RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES TO PROTECT YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY, AND ANYONE WITH WHOM YOU MAY NEED TO COME IN CONTACT.**

## Easter Sunday at St. John's

Worship at **10:15am** Online

This Sunday is Easter Sunday and we will offer our virtual, **online worship experience at 10:15am**. That's right, 15 minutes earlier than normal! From 10:15 -10:30am, Noel Lance will offer musical preludes to begin our worship time with photos of the flowers that you all have sent in to Mallory. For this service, please make sure you have your Christ candle handy as we will relight this candle at the beginning of worship.



We are aware that you might have had difficulties accessing the website on Sunday mornings. This is due to an increase in traffic to our website. Mallory has upgraded our server capacity this week but she will also be uploading the worship video to YouTube in addition to the website and Facebook in case the website is still finicky. She will send these links to you on Sunday morning along with a worship guide.

**Tell your friends to join us this Sunday at 10:15 on Facebook (@sjbccharlotte), the website ([www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)), or YouTube (link to be sent Sunday).**

## Holy Week Reflections on Pilgrimage

Written and Compiled by Dennis Foust

This week's Holy Week reflections through Thursday are linked below in case you missed them in your email or on Facebook:

- [Monday's Holy Week Reflection](#)
- [Tuesday's Holy Week Reflection](#)
- [Wednesday's Holy Week Reflection](#)
- [Maundy Thursday's Holy Week Reflection](#)

## 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.

## Financial Giving Update

Reminders and an Update

Please remember to contribute financially during this time apart. During these months, our ministries continue to need support. Staff salaries still need to be paid. Utilities need to be paid. We need your ongoing support. In the next few weeks, we will be launching **ONLINE GIVING** to St. John's. This will increase our capabilities and make it easier and more convenient for many of you to contribute! Stay tuned.

## Contact the Staff

A List of Cell Phone Numbers and Email Addresses

- Dennis Foust- 704-359-7234; [dfoust@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:dfoust@sjcharlotte.org)
- Lee Gray- 704-451-1309; [lgray@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:lgray@sjcharlotte.org)
- Allison Benfield- 828-448-8412; [abenfield@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:abenfield@sjcharlotte.org)
- Kevin Gray- 803-524-0287; [kgray@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:kgray@sjcharlotte.org)
- Mallory Brown- 704-477-3349; [mbrown@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:mbrown@sjcharlotte.org)
- Jacquelyn McAbee- 434-579-1177; [jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org](mailto: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 & Sympathy

Emily Batts, Byron Bullard, Mary Chilton (mother of Amy Chilton), Carol Drye, Teri Franklin, Don Furr, Camille Green, Polly Hull, Carl Phillips, Gene Poole, Elma Thomas, Alison Ziegmeier (daughter of Ken and Donna Scott); Parker Jackson, military; all affected by COVID-19 at this time

Sympathy to Carolyn, Stephen, Eli, and Addy Allred in the death of Carolyn's father, Robert Lugo, on April 5th.

Sympathy to Jeff, Betsy, Matt, and Emily Almond in the death of Jeff's father, Wilbert Almond, on April 4th.

Sympathy to John, Alice, and Forest Wirz in the death of John's sister, Susan Wirz Laney, on March 31st.

Sympathy to Steve, Pauline, Dory Ann and Willow Carter in the death of Steve's father, Kenneth Carter, on March 12th.

## Financial Ministry Plan Report:

Week of April 1-7: \$24,614  
Income through April 7: \$274,698  
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.**

**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: \$2,722

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

**Join us for worship tonight for Maundy Thursday at 7PM on Facebook, YouTube, or the website. Mallory will send out links this evening for you to access each of these platforms!**