

# sardis signposts

baptist church

a spiritually progressive community of faith

5811 Sardis Road / Charlotte, NC 28270 / 704.362.0811  
sardisbaptistcharlotte.org

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:45 AM –  
Sunday School

11:00 AM –  
Morning Worship

### WELCOME HILARY KEARNS

Hilary has been singing since before she can remember. She plays piano, and has accompanied choirs, musicals, and singers of all kinds. Hilary has performed in several operas and musicals, including playing Fantine in *Les Misérables: School Edition*, Belinda in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, Gretel in Humperdinck's *Hänsel und Gretel*, and Helena in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Hilary graduated from Northwest School of the Arts in 2009. She received a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Appalachian State University in 2013, and her Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Florida State University in 2015. She was the Choristers Director at First Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee, Florida until December 2015 when she relocated to Charlotte. During her time at FSU, Hilary taught voice lessons to undergraduate students, and she currently teaches private voice and piano lessons in Charlotte. She has also served as section leader in numerous choirs throughout her years in undergraduate and graduate school.

Hilary is currently a member of the Charlotte Symphony Chorus, and takes part in various opera and musical theatre productions in and around Charlotte. On July 8th, she will be playing the role of Peep-Bo in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado* at Tate Hall at Central Piedmont Community College.

Hilary loves to read, sing, watch cheesy musicals on Netflix, and play with her pet Guinea pig, Elsa.

**Fun Fact:** Hilary has performed with Josh Groban and Carol Channing!



### SUPPLIES FOR SUCCESS

It may seem like Summer just began, but it is already time to begin planning for the 2016/2017 school year. Once again, Sardis Baptist is participating in a drive for school supplies. Marge Fowler and our Missions stewards are coordinating this effort. Stores are already beginning to put back-to-school supplies on their shelves! Needs include backpacks, paper, rulers, pencils, binders, composition books, erasers and art supplies. Drop donations off in the vestibule.



## SARDIS Ministry Partner

Sardis Baptist is affiliated with various ministry partners, one of which is the Alliance of Baptists. The following information is from the "Who We Are" page of the Alliance website: [allianceofbaptists.org](http://allianceofbaptists.org).

The Alliance of Baptists began in 1987 as a prophetic voice in Baptist life. Today, we are a faith community comprised of male and female laity and clergy, people of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, theological beliefs, and ministry practices.

- We are knit together by love for one another and God, combining progressive inquiry, contemplative prayer and prophetic action to bring about justice and healing in a changing world.

- We are women and men, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, grandparents, children, students, teachers, lawyers, professors, artists, doctors, musicians, community organizers, unemployed, retired, volunteers – married, divorced, single, committed and somewhere in between.

- We are concerned about drones, homelessness, the death penalty, racism, education, classism, hunger, poverty, and abuse of all kinds.

- We are creative, imaginative and committed to loving the world God so loves.



## I LIFT UP MINE EYES...

Rev. Bob Stillerman

### A Challenge: Staying Connected

Isn't summer vacation the best? There are so many wonderful things to enjoy: naps, ice cream, sunshine (well most summers anyway!), cookouts, fresh tomatoes... the list goes on! But summer does have one disadvantage – all of our relaxing and traveling can make us feel disconnected from one another. Let's change that! Here are some simple ways to stay connected to Sardis this summer:

### What's your first initial?

Write somebody in the congregation a letter or friendly note whose last name begins with your first initial. In your P.S., encourage them to do the same!

### Haven't been to Sunday School or Worship this month?

Phone a classmate or friend and tell them about something fun you've done this summer.

### How many new friends can you make this summer?

Missing one of your regular friends? This Sunday, introduce yourself to somebody you haven't met. Or better yet, email or phone someone you haven't met, and ask them to look out for you the next time you're at church. And here's an icebreaker: "What's your favorite candy bar?"

### Prayer matters.

Pick somebody, anybody in the church directory, and pray that they will have a good day today.

### Go for a walk!

Ask a friend to go for a walk, and while you walk, ask this question, "What hopes do you have for Sardis Baptist Church in the coming year?"

### Read.

Something, anything (please!). One way we stay engaged with our Sardis community, and all of our communities is to read. Read the newspaper, read a book about theology, read a novel, read those crazy magazines you see in the checkout line at Harris Teeter. Just read! By reading, you think about the world around you. And when you come to Sardis, you'll have plenty to share. And trust me, we want to hear what you have to say!

We've still got another two months of summer...  
Plenty of time to connect!!!



## Sardis Baptist Church



### Prayers of Celebration and Anticipation

- The Byrd Family •
- Bob & Jacqueline Stillerman •

### Prayers for Comfort, Healing and Strength

- Jourdan Askins and Family • Evelyn Beck • Suzette Buchan, Danny's sister • Elzene Corbett, Janet's mom • Ben Cooley, Ruthye's husband • Charles Cureton, Ruthye's brother • Nancy Darnell • Betty Deason • Betsy DePaul • Jonathan Eidson • Marge Fowler • Ginter Baptist Church • Friends and Family of Nancy Kate Gordon, Kathryn's aunt • Friends and Family of Jerry Henderson • Don Hill • Irena Hramenkova • William Kruger • Lennox Manswell, Sandy's father • Jason Matthews & Sabrina Welly, friends of Kathryn • Pete McSwain, Tillie's brother-in-law • Michael Midgett, Mary-Jane's son-in-law • Ryan Midgett, Mary-Jane's grandson • Mala Reynolds • June Ross' daughters - Tonya, Dante, Dawn and Dusty • Bill Sease, Becky Owen's brother • Bill Stillerman, Bob's father •

## FOCUS

- June 26th—July 2nd:** Bob & Jacqueline Stillerman
- July 3rd—July 9th:** Daniel & Juanette Thomas
- July 10—July 16th:** Mike & Jo Tiddy
- July 17th—July 23rd:** The Williams Family, Jason, Joanie, Joy Kate, Nora and Lacey
- July 24th—July 30th:** The Askins Family, Jourdan, Rebecca, Joey, Brady, Samuel, Reece and Keely
- July 31st—August 6th:** Evelyn Beck



*Our condolences are with  
Marge Fowler for the death of her husband,  
Jerry Henderson.*

*Our sympathies to Kathryn Kreutzer on the death  
of her aunt, Nancy Kate Gordon.*

## MINISTRY PRAYER

**Prayer Coordinator—Melissa Bowlin  
704.458.9773 / mbowlin@cmpd.org**

*The work of the church requires the efforts of many people! Sardis is a place for you to feel the love of God and also for you to offer God's love to others. We are thankful for all of you, and especially want to highlight our gratitude to the following people for helping Sardis' ministry in June:*

*Melissa Bowlin, Joey & Maria Byrd, Mark & Xavier Catoe, Linda Cook, Ron Demme, Allie & Jonathan Eidson, Marge Fowler, Janette Grassi, Betty Gunz, Larry Harrill, Kristin & Jeff Jackson, Kathryn Kreutzer, Sandy Manswell, Jim Owen, Susan Phillips, Magay Shepard, Abby Shepard-Moore, Hannah Shepard-Moore, Michael Shepard-Moore, John Simpson, Bob Stillerman.*

*thanks!*

## Sardis Baptist Church – Youth & Children



### U.S. NATIONAL WHITewater CENTER

Youth (and adults, if you'd like to join them!) will be venturing to the U.S. National Whitewater Center on Tuesday, July 5th. We'll meet at the Sardis meetinghouse at 9:00 AM and drive over together for the day of activity. Bring a water bottle, swim suit, water shoes, sunscreen, a towel and money to purchase lunch. Lockers are available for rent or you may carry belongings with you.

Sardis will be subsidizing the cost of admission for members of our youth group who are able to attend. Admission will be \$30 for youth and \$60 for adults who wish to join in the fun. Outside food is not allowed in the park, so please bring money for lunch and drinks.

Whitewater rafting is not on our agenda for this outing, but the park has many other exciting activities and we will partake in as much fun as time allows: rock walls, paddleboards, ziplines and more!

# TGIF!

### THANK GOD IT'S FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY!

Sardis youth (and adults if you'd like to come) are gathering for hot eats and cool treats at Food Truck Friday on July 8th at 5:45 PM; other dates will likely be added to our calendar. We'll meet at the Stillerman residence and walk to the event at nearby Stumptown Park. Bring a blanket; we plan to relax, stay awhile and enjoy some live tunes from the main stage.

Sardis staff, with feedback from several parents, have decided to cancel this year's youth trip to



Passport camp. This was not an easy decision to make, and was not taken lightly. This cancellation was not an indictment of past trips, nor of the quality programming that Passport has offered our church in prior years. The trip does require a large investment of money from participating families and from the church. It did not capture the excitement of our youth in 2016 for a variety of reasons, so we felt it was not a wise investment to make.

Instead we've scheduled some activities during the week our youth would have been away. We'll be going to the U.S. National Whitewater Center on Tuesday, July 5th. That Friday, July 8th, we will head over to Stumptown Park to enjoy music and good eats at the Matthews Food Truck Friday.



Mark the Date and Set your Clock ~  
There Will Soon Be an Addition to the Sardis Flock!  
Join us for a Baby Shower to Honor  
**Jacqueline & Bob Stillerman**  
July 24th at 3:00  
Sardis Baptist Church, Education Building



Baby Stillerman is registered at Buy Buy Baby and Target.



## **WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

### **July 3, 2016**

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer – John Simpson  
Ushers – Ron Demme, Janette Grassi, John Simpson  
Worship Care – Melissa Bowlin

### **July 10, 2016**

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer – Jo Tiddy  
Ushers – Magay Shepard, Grey Sigmon, Reid Sigmon  
Worship Care – Jim Owen

### **July 17, 2016**

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer – Howell Peterson  
Ushers – Howell Peterson, Valerie Rutherford, Larry Harrill  
Worship Care – Kristin Jackson

### **July 24, 2016**

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer – Linda Cook  
Ushers – Linda Cook, Betty Gunz, Joe Wall  
Worship Care – TBD

### **July 31, 2016**

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer – Ron Demme  
Ushers – Ron Demme, Abby Shepard-Moore, Hannah  
Shepard-Moore  
Worship Care – Danny & Susan Phillips

### **Deacons**

Melissa Bowlin / 704.458.9773  
Kristin Jackson / 704.618.6213  
Kathryn Kreutzer / 704.241.6927  
John Simpson / 704.591.0890

## **IN THIS MONTH OF AMERICAN CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE, MAY WE PAUSE TO REMEMBER...**

Through the years as our country was established and expanded, we did not practice inclusion or respect of our native peoples! Explorers, settlers, armies, and governmental powers systematically removed native dwellers from their lands into captivity or onto unfamiliar land not of their choosing. Their freedom denied. Their voices silenced. Many of their lives were lost as a result of violence, disease, hunger and exposure.

Please ponder the concept that much history was written by "winners" at the expense of those who lost so much. As North Carolinians, we remember the tragedy of our Cherokee people on the Trail of Tears.

Throughout the month of July, our worship display is intended to celebrate the strength and spirituality of native Americans. Enjoy the beauty and unique art created from nature featured in the tepees of plains peoples. The photo backdrop was taken of the Blackfoot nation in the late 1800's. It was colorized according to journal entries of the time.

Our display for July was inspired by Susan Phillips and Janette Grassi. Janette created the tepees; William and Marge (from Jerry's collection) added other native visuals.



## Sardis Baptist Church – Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<h1 style="color: red; border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px;">JULY 2016</h1>					1	2
<b>3</b> Sunday School- 9:45 AM Worship-11:00 AM Youth Event- 4:30 PM	<b>4</b> Happy Independence Day! 	<b>5</b> Whitewater Center Adventure- 9:00 AM Huddle Meeting- 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study- 1:00 PM	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Food Truck Friday- 5:45 PM	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Trustees Meeting- 8:00 AM @ Phil's Deli Sunday School- 9:45 AM Worship-11:00 AM Deacon Meeting- 12:15 PM	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Huddle Meeting- 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study- 1:00 PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> Sunday School- 9:45 AM Worship-11:00 AM	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Huddle Meeting- 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study- 1:00 PM	 <p style="text-align: center;">                         We are organizing a group of Sardis folks to gather together for fun and fellowship during Food Truck Fridays at Stumptown Park in Matthews. Our inaugural group will meet at the Stillerman's home on July 8th at 5:45 and walk together to the nearby park. We hope to see you there!                     </p>			
<b>24</b> Sunday School- 9:45 AM Worship-11:00 AM Baby Shower-3:00 PM	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Huddle Meeting- 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study- 1:00 PM				
<b>31</b> Sunday School- 9:45 AM Worship-11:00 AM Church Picnic / Retreat- 12:00 PM						

## MONTHLY BUDGET UPDATE



We offer our gratitude for your generosity, and ask that you continue to give thoughtful consideration to how members of your household can give time, talents, and financial contributions to sustain the ministries of Sardis Baptist Church.

May 2016 Budgeted Offerings:	\$ 13,750.00
May 2016 Actual Offerings:	\$ 9,879.27
June 2016 Budgeted Offerings:	\$ 13,750.00
June 2016 Actual Offering:	\$ 9,254.98
Budgeted Offerings (January – June 2016):	\$ 82,500.00
Actual Offerings (January – June 2016):	\$ 69,557.89

## SARDIS DIRECTORY UPDATE

We are currently in the process of updating the Sardis Baptist Church directory. Thank you to those who have provided updated information. New directories will be distributed this month.



## CHURCH CONFERENCE

We will have a brief church conference on Sunday, July 3rd following worship. The deacons will present Hilary Kearns as their suggestion for Choir Director, and the congregation will vote to affirm or deny their recommendation. Hilary has been our guest director for the past three weeks. She recently amazed and delighted us during worship when she shared her musical gifts during a solo of “Consecration”.



## SARDIS STAFF

Rev. Bob Stillerman, Pastor  
bobstillerman77@gmail.com / 919.810.4044

Rev. Tillie Duncan, Associate Pastor  
sardistillie@yahoo.com / 704.562.6599

Rev. Jonathan Eidson, Associate Pastor  
sardisjonathan@yahoo.com / 704.622.9984

Hilary Kearns, Guest Choir Director  
sardishilary@yahoo.com / 704.517.4417

Irena Hramenkova, Pianist

“The world is my church. My actions are my prayer.  
My behavior is my creed.” –Steve Mariboli

# PRAYER GARDEN AND LABYRINTH

## PRAYER GARDEN AND LABYRINTH



### HONORING THE LIFE OF DOROTHY WILLIAMS

Janette Grassi and John Simpson created a kaleidoscope of butterflies to honor the life of Dorothy Williams. Dorothy was a member of Sardis whose life was taken much too soon following her brave battle with cancer. Her spirit lives among her Sardis friends. Please visit her memorial in the Sardis Baptist prayer garden.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF ALEXANDER HARRIS GEORGE

Notice the two new stone benches in the Sardis Prayer Garden. Money for prayer garden accoutrements was donated by Janie Harris and other loved ones to Alexander George, Janie's grandson. Alexander was following in the family tree care business, and was studying to become a certified arborist. These memorials to Alexander sit around our labyrinth surrounded by the beauty of the trees in our garden. We invite you to visit Alex's memorial and sit for a spell.



Many of the pavers leading to the Sardis Baptist Prayer Labyrinth honor cherished memories of our loved ones and commemorate the service of those who have ministered here. In addition to honoring a special person or occasion these engraved pavers also support the ministries of Sardis Baptist. If you would like to order an engraved paver, please contact the church office for additional information, 704.362.0811. The cost of each paver is \$100.