

# 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



## SARDIS ORDINATIONS

On Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Sardis Baptist Church held a service of ordination for its newly-appointed deacons and ministers. The congregation commissioned Kate and Jose Mata as deacons, Hilary Kearns as Minister of Music, and Kathryn Kreutzer as Minister of Congregational Support.

During the service, every member of the congregation was invited to lay hands of blessing on each new candidate (an ancient ritual of setting apart God's people for Christian service), and sign the certificates of ordination (at Sardis, leaders are called by the entire congregation). Bob Stillerman and Jonathan Eidson offered ordination challenges to each new candidate. The Board of Deacons offered words of affirmation to the newly-ordained ministers; Kathryn and Hilary offered words of affirmation to the Board of Deacons; and Melissa Bowlin (past Chair of Deacons) offered words of affirmation to the collective Sardis Boards. June Ross quilted personalized stoles for Hilary and Kathryn, which were presented to them by Tim Moore. Outgoing board members, as well as the newly-ordained deacons and ministers were also given one of Sardis' most prestigious honors: induction into the Order of the Blessed Chocolate Praying Hands!

After worship, the congregation enjoyed a potluck lunch in the picnic shelter. The food was delicious, but the company was even better! Church members enjoyed the chance to visit with extended family and friends who had come for the celebration.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> was also Earth Day. In addition to renewing its leadership, Sardis focused on renewing its campus. Church members spent time planting Easter lilies along the edge of the labyrinth, clearing debris and overgrowth, and spreading pine needles. It was a fitting end to a full and happy day. Sardis looks forward to the gifts it will receive in the ministries of Kate, Jose, Hilary, and Kathryn. See page 8 for the Statement of Purpose offered during the April 22<sup>nd</sup> worship service.

## BABY SHOWER BREAKFAST

Tammy and Adam Taylor are soon to have a full house. They are expecting twin boys! Although the official due date is in August, the doctors expect they'll arrive before July's end, as multiple birth pregnancies often deliver a bit early.

***We will celebrate their upcoming arrival at a breakfast baby shower on the first Sunday of the month, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please join us for food and festivities in the Education Building at 9:30 AM.***

Tammy and Adam have created gift registries at Buy Buy Baby and Target; both are available online and in stores. The theme of the Taylor's nursery design is foxes, which are known to be curious and clever. Apropos considering little humans are the same. Let's hope the similarities end there—foxes are also known to be active at night!



## I LIFT UP MINE EYES...

Rev. Bob Stillerman

One of the things that I love about Sardis Baptist Church is that we are involved in lots of things. Since the start of the 2017/2018 school year, we've had direct involvement with 18 organizations in Charlotte – we've hosted representatives to learn more about their initiatives, or partnered with them through missional projects and offerings. Here are two you might not be aware of:

**United Baptist Association** – We're part of a consortium of Churches in Charlotte called the United Baptist Association that helps to fund Hope Chapel. Hope Chapel is located adjacent to the Charlotte Men's Shelter (currently under renovation), and every Sunday at 8 a.m. hosts a lively worship service for neighbors connected to the shelter. Neighbors enjoy a few hymns, a short sermon, a hot cup of coffee, and access to basic supplies like toiletries and socks. Proceeds from Sardis' annual ministry plan help fund operating needs of the chapel (utilities and repairs), and during the month of December, Sardis collected warmth items for chapel guests. And two Sundays a year, I'll be the chapel proclaimer.

**Medicine for the Heart** – For the second year in a row, Sardis participated in the Baptist Retirement Homes' Medicine for the Heart offering. During the month of April, we collected spare change in medicine bottles (and few checks, too!). This year, we raised \$317.43. The proceeds will be used to help purchase prescriptions for low income older adults across our state.

You may not realize it, but your generosity, rather in the form of annual giving, or in the form of loose change, helps make a difference in our world. And when we do a lot of little things consistently, we make a big impact. Keep up the good work!

*"Sometimes, said Pooh, the smallest things  
take up the most room in your heart."*

A.A. Milne, *Winnie-the-Pooh*



## 2018 GRADUATES

### Jackson Hawkins

Whether one uses a bat, a stick, or one's legs and head to carry, pass, kick, catch, shoot goals, or hit home runs in some sort of ball game, Jackson Hawkins could probably handle well any of those activities. He has been captain of his soccer team and played baseball in a community organization. He was also student manager of his school's lacrosse team. When not involved with sports, Jackson likes to read, particularly history.



Jackson will be graduating from Charlotte Secondary School, a public charter school with a paideia philosophy. The school encourages active, individualized learning. He will enroll at the University of North Carolina, Asheville this fall. He has always "loved the mountains," having spent much time visiting family there. His plans now are to earn a degree in business.

Jackson's family includes parents Kevin and Kris Hawkins and brother Ryan. Sardis also means family to him and he would like to thank everyone for being part of his life.

### Grey Sigmon

Football and fishing are just two of the sports that graduate Grey Sigmon enjoys. He played safety on the Providence High School football team and is looking forward to an internship with the University of South Carolina football team. As an intern, Grey would have varied responsibilities such as setting up drills. It will help him gain experience to go into a sports related career. At present he intends to major in exercise science.



Grey is an avid fisherman and was president of the high school fishing club. He particularly likes fly fishing. But in addition to catching trout, he also enjoys salt water catches like bone fish and red fish. Along with playing football and fishing, Grey also played basketball with the Sardis Presbyterian team. Mountain biking is another interest of his.

Grey is the son of David and Krista Sigmon and the brother of Reid. As he graduates from Providence High School and matriculates at the University of South Carolina, he would like to say "thank you" to Sardis for being part of his growing up years.

## Sardis Baptist Church



It takes many more human resources than our small staff can provide to get the work of this church done! Thank you all for the various ways you support the ministries of Sardis Baptist Church!

Edie Wilson, Carson Sholin's daughter, said the reception following the funeral was fit for a queen. We are thankful for the many hands that made the event special.

We are grateful to Kathy Stillerman for sharing her love of writing as well as her experiences growing up during the civil rights era for Sardis Academy.

Thank you Jonathan Eidson, Hilary Kearns, Kathryn Kreutzer and Bob Stillerman for their creativity in planning the 2018 Sardis Olympics. And especially thanks for all of you who participated and made it such an exciting event.

Our fellowship stewards provided fabulous fare for our Sardis Academy suppers in May. Please share your gratitude with Janet Beltzhoover, Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Kathryn Kreutzer, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Susan Phillips, Magay Shepard and Bob Stillerman.

Thank you to Betty Gunz, William Kruger, Mary Jane Osborne and Magay Shepard for beautifying our walkway.

Thank you to Janette Grassi and Susan Phillips for the beautiful displays they create to enhance our worship.

The following people served as worship leaders in May: Elizabeth and Janet Beltzhoover, Sarah Bowlin, Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Marge Fowler, Janette Grassi, Betty Gunz, Larry Harrill, Hilary Kearns, Lisa Kennedy, Kathryn Kreutzer, William Kruger, Amanda Lewis, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Susan Phillips, June Ross, John Simpson, Bob Stillerman and Joe Wall

Bob, Jacqueline and Mary Allen are grateful to the following people for the love shared during worship care: Betty Gunz, Chris Mair, Elizabeth Mosley, Mary Jane Osborne and Valerie Rutherford.

Thank you to Chris Mair, Jim Owen and our trustees for keeping our bills paid and our books in order.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### TOGETHER WE WILL PRAY

#### CELEBRATIONS

- THE BYRD FAMILY IS EXPECTING!
- THE TAYLOR FAMILY IS EXPECTING TWINS!
- MARGE FOWLER IS A GREAT-GRANDMOTHER FOR THE 17TH TIME! WE WELCOME A SWEET BABY BOY TO HER FAMILY!

#### PETITIONS

- FAY ALDERMAN ▪ MARK ALMOND, JACQUELINE'S UNCLE ▪ JOURDAN ASKINS AND FAMILY ▪ MELISSA BOWLIN ▪ MARGARET BRANTON, AMANDA LEWIS' GRANDMOTHER ▪ SUZETTE BUCHAN, DANNY PHILLIPS' SISTER ▪ JIM & YVONNE CHEROKE, FRIENDS OF KRISTIN JACKSON ▪ OMAIRA COHEN, FRIEND OF JANET BELTZHOOVER'S ▪ BEN COOLEY, RUTHY'S HUSBAND ▪ ELZENE CORBETT, JANET BELTZHOOVER'S MOTHER ▪ NANCY DARNELL ▪ ED DePASQUALE, FRIEND OF WILLIAM KRUGER ▪ DON & BETSY DePAUL ▪ SHANNON DUNCAN ▪ DENNIS ESPENCHIED, JONATHAN EIDSON'S BROTHER-IN-LAW ▪ DANNY FARQUHAR, FRIEND OF JOSE MATA'S ▪ DON HILL ▪ DORIS HUNTER, ANNE EIDSON'S MOTHER ▪ WILLIAM KRUGER ▪ LENA LANDERS, FRIEND OF THE PHILLIPS' ▪ TAMMY MOORE, TIM'S SISTER-IN-LAW ▪ ODELL PETERSON, HOWELL'S BROTHER ▪ MALA REYNOLDS ▪ BILL SEASE, JIM OWEN'S BROTHER-IN-LAW ▪ CATHERINE TATE, BECKY PROCTOR'S SISTER ▪ EDDIE WAITERS ▪ JOANIE & JASON WILLIAMS





Sardis high school and college students are gaining the fundamentals of the adult work world over the summer. They're working in our community in many different places. Take some time when you see them on Sundays to ask them about their jobs.

- Allie Eidson has an internship CPCC's Center for Organizational Development.
- Jackson Hawkins is landscaping with Heaven and Earth Landscaping.
- Jeff Jackson is a swim coach with the YMCA.
- Erin Kennedy is working at Barnes and Noble as well as in the restaurant at the Whitewater Center. She's taking a Backroads trip to Banff with family in July.
- Alcie Kreutzer is making salads and such at Chopt.
- Dylan Kreutzer is stocking shelves and scanning groceries at Food Lion.
- Kaleb Kreutzer is cleaning cars at AutoBell and lifeguarding at Foxcroft East swim club.
- Hannah Shepard-Moore is working at The Fresh Market on Providence Road, teaching English as a second language at International House and going to Alaska in August.
- Abby Shepard-Moore is working at Ben and Jerry's (with Tammy!) and teaching ESL as well at International House with a little baby sitting thrown in too.
- Michael Shepard-Moore is interning at Northwest Mutual at the South Park location. He'll be officially licensed as a financial planner and will have a license to sell insurance as well. He will be volunteering on and off at Habitat for Humanity.
- Brandon Rutherford is the right-hand man for the Grady Group, Financial Services.
- Grey Sigmon is working at the YMCA helping with summer sports camps.



Graduation Sunday honoring high school graduates will be Sunday, June 10. We will recognize Jackson Hawkins of Charlotte Secondary School and Grey Sigmon of Providence High School. In the fall, Jackson will head to The University of North Carolina at Asheville and Grey will head to The University of South Carolina. Join us to celebrate this milestone with these fine gentlemen and their families.

After worship, our graduates, their families and our staff will go to lunch at Brixx Pizza on Fairview Road to continue the celebration. We hope you will be able to join us!

## SAVE THE DATE

**Believe it or not, we already have dates for two of our popular youth trips! Mark your calendars now to make sure you won't miss the fun:**

- ⊙ **The Beach Retreat will be at Fort Caswell and is scheduled for September 7—9, 2017.**
- ⊙ **The Ski Retreat at WinterPlace in West Virginia will be January 25—27, 2018.**
- ⊙ **Our upcoming UniDiversity trip to Knoxville, Tennessee is July 23—28. There are still a few spots left, but they'll go quickly. See Pastor J Swizz as soon as possible if you'd like to join our group!**

## Sardis Baptist Church — Worship

### Volunteer **2** Serve

#### JUNE 2018 WORSHIP LEADERS

##### JUNE 3, 2018

Worship Care.....Kristin Jackson and  
.....Hannah Shepard Moore  
Greeter/Vestibule.....Howell Peterson  
Ushers.....Kathryn Kreutzer, Madison Kreutzer,  
.....Howell Peterson

##### JUNE 10, 2018

Worship Care .....Kristin Jackson and  
.....Abby Shepard Moore  
Greeter/Vestibule.....Joe Wall  
Ushers .....Betty Gunz, Joe Wall and TBD

##### JUNE 17, 2018

Worship Care.....Becky and Rick Proctor  
Greeter/Vestibule.....Ron Demme  
Ushers.....Ron Demme, Kathryn Kreutzer  
.....and Madison Kreutzer

##### JUNE 24, 2018

Worship Care.....Danny and Susan Phillips  
Greeter/Vestibule.....John Simpson  
Ushers.....Janette Grassi, June Ross  
.....and John Simpson



**June 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Just 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**June 19<sup>th</sup>**

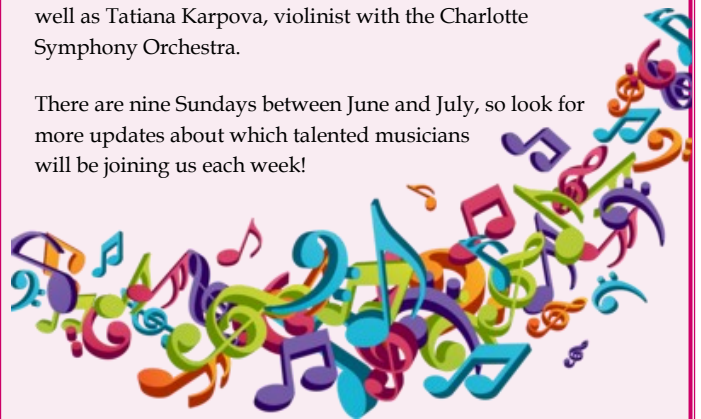
**Tillie Duncan, 19 Years**  
**Kathryn Kreutzer, 3 Years**  
**Hilary Kearns, 2 Years**

### GUEST MUSICIANS

As we head into the Summer, our Sardis Choir prepares for a well-earned break. During this time, we will have the pleasure of welcoming guest performers from around the Charlotte-area to assist in our Sunday services.

In the coming weeks, we look forward to hearing Mark Smith, bass-baritone from Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church. We are also pleased to welcome back the esteemed Olivia and Anthony Yang, students of our very own Irena Hramenkova, as well as Tatiana Karpova, violinist with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra.

There are nine Sundays between June and July, so look for more updates about which talented musicians will be joining us each week!



### CONGRATULATIONS ANTHONY!

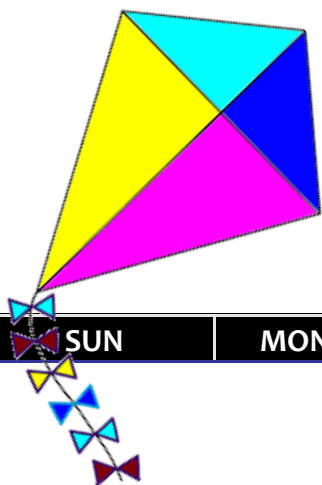
Sardis is proud to congratulate Mr. Anthony Yang, 10-year-old student of Irena Hramenkova, on winning the American Protégé International Concerto Competition.

On May 13, Anthony performed in the winner's recital at Carnegie Hall in New York City, NY. We are honored to have such talent in our midst and cannot wait to see what Anthony will accomplish in the years to come!



**SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER!**  
**THE ADULT BIBLE STUDY**  
**GROUP IS TAKING A BREAK.**  
**CLASS WILL RECONVENE**  
**IN THE FALL.**

# Sardis Baptist Church — Calendar



# JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Tillie's 19th Staff Anniversary  Kathryn's 3rd Staff Anniversary	2 
3  9:45 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Worship	4	5	6  1:00 PM Staff Planning Retreat  	7	8	9
10  9:45 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Worship Communion  Noon Deacons Meeeting	11 	12	13  3:00 PM Staff Meeting	14	 <b>JUNE BIRTHDAYS</b>  5th—Joanie Williams 6th—Melvin Priyemskiy 11th—Mike Jones 13th—Linda Cook 17th—Mala Reynolds 18th—Jourdan Askins 22nd—Betsy Cadle DePaul 22nd—Jo Tiddy 30th—Bob Stillerman	
17  <b>Father's Day</b>  9:45 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Worship	18 	19  Hilary's 2 <sup>nd</sup> Staff Anniversary  	20  3:00 PM Staff Meeting	21		
24  9:45 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Worship	25	26	27  3:00 PM Staff Meeting	28		



The Sardis Baptist Operating Fund (sometimes called the General Fund) is used to do the daily work of the church, and to keep Sardis up and running! Donations not otherwise designated are put into this fund. A portion of this fund is donated to our ministry and missions partners to support the work of the church beyond our building walls. The numbers below show only general (undesignated) offerings.

April Budgeted Offerings.....	\$12,916.67
April Actual Offerings.....	\$11,247.11
May Budgeted Offerings.....	\$12,916.67
May Actual Offerings.....	\$7,055.41
Year-to-Date Budgeted Offerings.....	\$64,583.35
Year-to-Date Actual Offerings.....	\$49,110.65

Designated offerings are often given to support specific ministries of Sardis Baptist Church that are not funded through our Operating Fund. We encourage you to consider whether you'd like to support these efforts through a designated donation. Following are some of our most frequently used designated funds. Any member of our staff or Board of Trustees can provide you with details about additional funds.

25th Anniversary Fund.....	Campus Development
Benevolence Fund.....	Individual & Family Needs
Duncan Endowment.....	Guest Speakers; Budget
Hill Endowment.....	Music Ministry; Outreach
Odom Endowment.....	Children & Youth
Maintenance Escrow.....	Maintenance & Repairs

## RECENT MISSIONS

Sardis Baptist has numerous ministry partners that are supported through our annual budget and ministry plan. But it's a rare day on our calendar that we aren't also holding a drive in support of some grassroots partner and friend that we've met along the way (i.e. school supply drives, food drives, coin drives, CROP Walk, cookie sales, toothbrush collection, warmth gifts, homeless holiday gifts, Uganda girls collection, etc.). In the past couple of months, we've successfully raised funds for two such organizations.

Although Baptist Retirement Homes is included in our ministry plan, their specific efforts to raise money for medications of elderly friends in need is not



included. Sardis participated in a recent coin drive to help. We set a goal to raise \$300 in copper and silver — and we exceeded it. Congratulations Sardis! Our grand total was \$317.43. Next year, we plan to increase our goal to \$325, so please start pinching those extra pennies now!

In the past couple of years we've formed a connection with Sherika Kemp, the PTA President of University Park Creative Arts school. This is a CMS magnet program



with Title I designation, (i.e. at least 75% of its students are designated as economically disadvantaged, which statistically speaking, increases the risk that students will fall behind). Sardis has undertaken efforts to support the UPCA PTA in various ways. Most recently, the school held a community resource fair called "Build Bridges Not Walls" where families had opportunities to network with one another as well as find information on resources like summer camps, credit unions, low-cost tech providers and healthcare. Sardis sent food and funds to help with this event. Thank you for your generosity!





## SARDIS ORDINATIONS - STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Four women have been ordained to gospel ministry by our congregation, and this past spring we established the position of Pastor Emerita. Another former pastor holds the title of Writer in Residence. We've also been open to bi-vocational ministry – both of our current pastors have employment beyond Sardis. Lay leadership is also essential. Deacons, elected from within the church body, are ordained and commissioned to offer congregational care. Board members and stewards, also elected or appointed from within, help accomplish more specific tasks. Together, ordained lay leaders and ordained clergy help fulfill the work of the church.

This morning, we have the high privilege of ordaining four remarkable people, each of whom has been called out – that is set apart for ministry – to share their gifts, and to help lead this congregation.

Much like the practice of baptism or marriage, we are acknowledging, in a very formal way, something that already is. When we baptize new believers, we are celebrating the connection and calling they've established with God; when we marry two partners, we are celebrating a love that already is; and when we ordain members of God's church, we are acknowledging what already is: God working, in a very purpose-filled way, through God's children.

Our tradition offers three types of ordination. There is ordination into gospel ministry. This type is usually reserved for persons seeking formal theological training, and seeking to serve in a pastoral role.

There is also ordination into lay ministry: we call these leaders deacons. These are the ones appointed to care for our congregation, just as the earliest deacons had the primary task of caring for their community. This morning, we will ordain Kate and Jose Mata as deacons of Sardis Baptist Church. They have loved us. And they have led us with their own special gifts. And this morning, we'll simply acknowledge that God has called them to that role in a formal way.

And finally, we have particular ordination – that is, we ordain persons with a very specific or particular calling. This morning, we are ordaining Hilary Kearns as our Minister of Music and Kathryn Kreutzer as our Minister of Congregational Support.

Hilary and Kathryn serve our congregation in a professional capacity. Hilary offers us her gift of music, as well as her gift of being invested in the lives of our congregants. Kathryn offers us her gifts of organization, creativity, and communication, and has served as a deacon. Each of them are integral in the planning of corporate worship, as well as the day-to-day operations of Sardis. More than anything, Hilary and Kathryn are persons who care about, who love, and who attend to the needs of Sardis and its people. Hilary Kearns and Kathryn Kreutzer are ministers. And this morning, we're simply acknowledging what already is.

Friends, God is calling each of us in new and exciting ways. May this time of installation and ordination be one where we continue to listen and respond to God's call for our lives, both individually and collectively.