

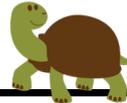


sardis signposts

baptist church

a spiritually progressive community of faith

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



ANIMAL BLESSING

Sardis Baptist Church will host a *Blessing of the Animals* on Saturday, October 7th at 10:00 AM. The service is an opportunity to give thanks for all of God's creation, especially our animal friends. Pets have a special place in our lives because they model unconditional love and affection. And for many people, they provide companionship that is unavailable elsewhere. The service will offer a chance for each family's pet to receive an individual blessing, as well as a time of remembrance for departed pets. Children are encouraged to bring their favorite stuffed animals—our Teddies need blessings too!

Sardis will collect donations (cash or pet supplies) to be given to the Charlotte SPCA. For information about this organization, and needed items, please visit CharlotteSPCA.org.

The gathering will take place next to the Sardis Picnic Pavilion on 5811 Sardis Road. Snacks (for humans) will be provided, but please do not bring food for your pets! We will have water bowls available for our furry friends. For the safety of people and pets in attendance, all animals must be in pet cages or on leashes.

In an effort to expand the reach of the animal blessing, participants are also encouraged to bring a picture of current and former pets. Sardis will use these pictures to create a *Pet Wall of Blessings* that will be displayed in the church for several months after the service. This will be a way for us to ask continued prayers of health and thanksgiving for our animal friends. If you are unable to attend, but wish to take part in the virtual blessing, please email your picture to info@sardisbaptistcharlotte.org or tag us on Instagram or Facebook ([SardisBaptistCharlotte](https://www.facebook.com/SardisBaptistCharlotte)) using [#SardisAnimalBlessing](https://www.instagram.com/SardisAnimalBlessing).

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:45 AM—
Sunday School

11:00 AM—
Morning Worship



For the 2017 Charlotte CROP Walk, Sardis Baptist Church has set 3 goals:

- 30 Walkers
- \$3,000 in donations
- 5,000 points in the Sardis CROP Challenge (That's only 50 people earning 100 points each.)

If you're active at Sardis, check our Scorecard to see how many you've already earned. Those participating in our *Evicted* study have accumulated points without even realizing it! Inactive friends of Sardis are welcome and encouraged to join the Challenge. Simply open the document through the link on our website: SardisBaptistCharlotte.org. Register as a CROP walker or donor through CharlotteCROPWalk.org and donate to the Sardis Baptist Church Team. Thanks for your support!

Picnic & Pumpkins

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29th @ 5:00 PM

SARDIS PICNIC PAVILION

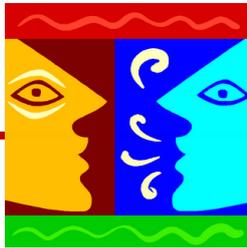
Hotdogs, Fixin's & S'mores
will be provided.

Bring a side dish or dessert,
a pumpkin and your carving tools!



I LIFT UP MINE EYES...

Rev. Bob Stillerman



A BIBLE DIALOGUE

As another school year begins, the Adult Bible Study has resumed its weekly gathering (1pm on Tuesdays). And this year, we're trying something different. Each person in the group is seeking to be keenly aware of the mindset we bring to our weekly study.

Chances are the scriptures we review are ones we've read dozens, even hundreds of times. But we've never read them in this particular setting, on this particular day, with these particular people, in this particular mindset. And that matters. Because our setting always affects our reading.

Therefore, we've begun each session with the following:

- What gives you deep joy?
- What makes you feel whole?
- What gives you a sense of purpose or accomplishment?
- What brings you warmth?
- Is anything making you feel anxious this morning?
- What brings you peace?
- Fill in the blank: God is _____.

Over our first two sessions we've heard a variety of answers. And we should! The answers to these questions vary weekly pending our state of mind. As we hear these answers, we better understand the viewpoints of the readers we join. And unknowingly, we also express our understanding (in a tangible way) of the nature and character of God. After all, who is God, but our source of joy and wholeness and purpose and warmth and peace?

Having revealed our personal setting for the day, we engage in a daily passage (only revealed the day of!). Each person is given the chance to talk about how the passage affects them, and all participants are encouraged to listen to others before responding. It's more than a conversation; it's a dialogue. We've yet to have identical opinions, but I think all participants will agree, we're beginning to know one another a little better. And if you ever want to be reminded of God's vastness, sit in a room full of different, but beautiful people, who express our Creator's depth in different, but beautiful ways!

Can't join the weekly Bible Study? Email Bob Stillerman (bobstillerman77@gmail.com) for the weekly passage, and try this exercise on your lunchbreak, or with a friend. And if you missed the first two sessions, feel free to work with Micah 6 and Genesis 1:1-2:2.

FAYE ALDERMAN

SARDIS PEOPLE:



Baseball is one of the bases in Faye Alderman's game of life. She grew up in various small towns in the state of Georgia (and SC; she graduated from high school in Anderson). And everywhere there was a baseball franchise or high school organization, she and her father would be in the stands rooting for the home team. So when the Braves moved to Atlanta, it was easy to slide right into being a fan(atic).

A nursing career was another base for Faye. Trained at Grady Hospital in Atlanta, Faye worked there for a short time and was also employed by St. Joseph's in Savannah. Mercy Hospital in Charlotte received the greatest benefit of her work years as she worked with the nuns there for 32 years before retiring.

Faye's base of interests cover a wide field. She likes to read – both fiction and non-fiction. She enjoys discussing her reading with the book club she belongs to. It meets at the Senior Center on Tyvola. Many of her days are spent at the center playing bridge or exercising in addition to the book club. She attends Shepherd's Center classes as well and will be learning new things about the Renaissance in the upcoming term.

As for home base, Faye was married to Wade Alderman for fifty years before his death in 2006. They raised three sons who all live in the Charlotte area. Their playing field now embraces seven grandchildren. The Dykes family in which she grew up included three younger brothers. With her father's work-related transfers, Faye often felt she was "always the new kid" in school. She may be one of the "newest kids" at Sardis, but she already feels permanent to us.



**We are grateful for the many good people of Sardis!
We'd like to highlight the following people who helped
lead our ministry efforts in September.**

Worship Care: Thank you to Sarah Bowlin, Joey Byrd, Maria Byrd, Betty Gunz, Erin Kennedy, Lisa Kennedy, Gray Sigmon and Krista Sigmon, for loving and caring for our youngest friends during Worship Care.

Worship Leaders: We are grateful to those who preach, teach, pray, read, serve as greeters and ushers—Fay Alderman, Melissa Bowlin, Linda Cook, Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Janette Grassi, Betty Gunz, Kristin Jackson, Hilary Kearns, William Kruger, Michael Shepard-Moore, Tim Moore, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Magay Shepard, John Simpson, Bob Stillerman, Jo Tiddy and Joe Wall. We thank Mark Catoe for sharing his musical gifts while Hilary was away at the youth retreat.

Music Camp: Our guests at Music Camp had a wonderful time, thanks to Hilary Kearns for planning and coordinating, and to the following volunteers—Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Betty Gunz, Hannah Lingafelt, Alcie Kreutzer, Kathryn Kreutzer, Madison Kreutzer, Susan Phillips and Bob Stillerman.

Fellowship Meals: Thank you to the following people for planning, preparing, setting up and cleaning up for our September Fellowship Meals—Janet Beltzhoover, Melissa Bowlin, Tillie Duncan, Kathryn Kreutzer, Susan Phillips (coordinator), Magay Shepard.

Youth: Jonathan Eidson and Hilary Kearns chaperoned a group of ten youth to Camp Caswell for the CBF Fall Beach Retreat. The group had a wonderful time! Thanks J Swizz and Hilary.

Flower & Decorating: We are grateful for our beautiful worship displays created by Susan Phillips. We thank Betty Gunz and Magay Shepard for caring for our flowerpots.

Building & Grounds: Thank you to Bob Stillerman for his efforts to clean up after the storm! He was cleaning debris from the remnants of Hurricane Irma the day after she passed through. Thanks also to Chris Mair for taking care of our recycling.

Security: Thank you to Linda Cook, for her ongoing time and efforts in working the kinks out of our new security system! It's been a labor intensive job.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Charles Almond, Jacqueline Stillerman's grandfather • Mark Almond, Jacqueline Stillerman's cousin • Suzette Buchan, Danny Phillips' sister • Ben Cooley, Ruthye Cooley's husband • Ruthye Cooley's mother • Elzene Corbett, Janet Beltzhoover's mother • Kevin "Yam" Cruise, friend of Jonathan's • Nancy Darnell, St. Andrews Living Center • Betty Deason, Carrington Place • Betsy & Don DePaul • Ed DePasquale, friend of William Kruger • Howard Etheredge, friend of David Kreutzer • Dennis Espenschied, Jonathan's brother-in-law • Janette Grassi • Larry Harrill • Don Hill, Stewart Health Center • Irena Hramenkova • Doris Hunter, Anne Hunter Eidson's mother • Kathie & Marvin Jean • William Kruger • Jose & Kate Mata • Odell Peterson, Howell's brother • Rachael Phipps, Sean Bracey's wife • Mala Reynolds • Violet Ross, June Ross' mother-in-law • The Rutherford Family • Bill Sease, Becky Owen's brother • Carson Sholin, The Dorchester • People recovering from the devastation of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma • People managing and recovering from forest fires in the Western United States • People recovering from the devastation of the recent earthquakes in Mexico

PRAYER CHAIN CONTACT – MELISSA BOWLIN

704.458.9773 / MBOWLIN@CMPD.ORG

WINTERPLACE

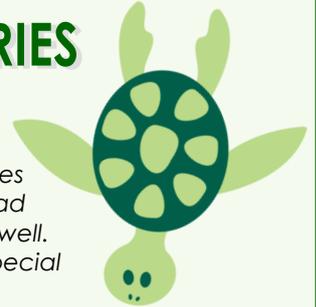
SKI RESORT

It doesn't seem possible seeing that the school year just began and we just returned from the beach but it's time to talk Ski Retreat. It'll be here before we know it! This year's retreat is January 26 – 28. The cost of the retreat is \$150 for members and \$175 for Non-Members. Advanced skiers who want to ski an additional night will add \$40.00 to that total.

We've had wonderful experiences on past trips so be sure to sign up by November 19th with Pastor Jonathan. As Melissa Bowlin loves to inform us, we're under 90 days from Christmas. The Ski Trip makes a great Christmas gift!



BEACH MEMORIES



September 15-17, it finally happened! After 2 straight cancellations due to hurricanes in 2015 and 2016, we finally had our beach retreat at Fort Caswell. Read on to hear about the special memories our youth had.

Hilary: On Saturday evening, a few of us walked from the entrance of the property—all along the beach—to Hatch Auditorium where worship was happening. It was the most beautiful, peaceful experience after a day spent frolicking and playing together. I will never forget it!

Summer: I really liked seeing Fort Caswell, meeting new people, seeing a dolphin, swimming, being at the beach, building a sculpture and worship!

Elizabeth: I liked swimming and seeing a sweet little dolphin in the water. I also liked doing the sand sculpture contest.

Matthew: I liked hanging out with my friends and going to the beach. I also liked building the sand sculpture for the contest.

Ben: I enjoyed swimming and throwing around a football with the guys.

Ian: The sand sculpture competition was a favorite of mine.

Jackson: I liked playing football at the beach with Matthew, Ian, Ben and J Swizz.

Madison: I liked swimming in the ocean and exploring the forts.

Lily: I liked swimming at the beach and exploring the camp and worship. My favorite quote was, "I just got hit with the Jesus bumps!"

Mattie: I liked going to the forts and swimming in the ocean.

Jonathan: The first night, there was an "on the spectrum" activity. I noticed that on every topic, most of our girls were in the exact same spot which really isn't possible. I said something to our group about it and challenged them. The next day, it was a completely different group fully engaged in the activities and discussions. I was extremely proud to be there with them. I also enjoyed watching how our sand sculpture idea was born and grew from the comments and suggestions of our whole group. We had a great weekend together from the conversations and playing to the worship and growing! Thanks Sardis!



Sardis Baptist Church – Worship

october worship LEADERS



OCTOBER 1ST

Worship Care.....Oliva Dumez and
Maria Elena Floren
Greeter / Vestibule.....Howell Peterson
Ushers.....Howell Peterson, Magay Shepard
and Joe Wall

OCTOBER 8TH

Worship Care.....Barbara Mosley and
Mary Jane Osborne
Greeter / Vestibule.....Ron Demme
Ushers.....Fay Alderman, Ron Demme,
and Betty Gunz

OCTOBER 15TH

Worship Care.....Valerie and Brandon Rutherford
Greeter / Vestibule.....John Simpson
Ushers.....Maria Elena Floren, Janette Grassi
and John Simpson

OCTOBER 22ND

Worship Care.....Janette Grassi and Jeff Jackson
Greeter / Vestibule.....Valerie Rutherford
Ushers.....Brandon, Brantley and Valerie
Rutherford

OCTOBER 29TH

Worship Care.....Elizabeth Mosley and Chris Mair
Greeter / Vestibule.....William Kruger
Ushers.....Larry Harrill, Lisa Kennedy
and William Kruger



SERVANT SUNDAY

On Sunday, October 8, 2017, Sardis Baptist Church will host its first-ever *Servant Sunday*. In our 29 years as a church, we've had the privilege of working with hundreds of great ministry partners in Charlotte and beyond. Several times a month, we receive letters of thanksgiving from partners with whom we have either volunteered or given financial contributions. But how often do we thank our partners? We want to change that.

On *Servant Sunday*, Sardis will recognize five local ministry partners: Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, Crisis Assistance Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, Loaves and Fishes and Urban Ministry Center. Each of these partners share three characteristics: 1) The organization has been a recipient of Sardis' annual ministry plan contributions for at least ten years; 2) Sardis members have engaged with the organization in a mission project or special offering within the last twelve months; 3) The organization offers support to people in and around Charlotte.

During eleven o'clock worship, representatives from each organization will be on hand to share a brief ministry update, as well as offer ways that Sardis members can become more involved. In addition, the worship service will be designed to offer prayers of support and thanksgiving for our ministry partners, and to embolden our community to be tangible evidence of God's love for all people. Following worship, Sardis will host a short ceremony in our Labyrinth and Sacred Gardens where we will dedicate paver stones to commemorate the good work of each of these partners. We hope you will attend this celebration of God's co-laborers in Charlotte.

SARDIS ACADEMY

You won't want to miss the two Sardis Academy sessions we have scheduled for October – one breathtaking the other intriguing! On Wednesday, October 11th, Karen Holst will lead a session on Mindfulness. She is a licensed therapist that specializes in Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) and mindfulness meditation.

On October 25th, Guru Ranjit Deora will lead us in Laughter Yoga. He is a master teacher with Charlotte Meditation. Laughter Yoga has countless physical, emotional, and spiritual benefits. Laughter is the best medicine for stress relief, improved communication skills, team building, and increased productivity. There are no physical requirements for this class – everyone is encouraged to attend.

Dinners will be served at 5:45 PM followed by programming at 6:30 PM. Both sessions will benefit our bodies, minds and spirits. We hope to see you here!



Sardis Baptist Church – Calendar



October



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 World Communion Sunday 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Communion	2 	3 1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	4 4:30 PM Staff Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice	5	6	7 10:00 AM Animal Blessing  BLESSING of the Animals
8 SERVANT SUNDAY 9:45 AM Second Sunday 11:00 AM Worship	9 Columbus Day	10 NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY TODAY	11 4:30 PM Staff Meeting 5:45 PM Fellowship Dinner 6:30 PM Sardis Academy- Mindfulness 7:45 PM Choir Practice 	12	13	14 9:00 AM CROP Walk Independence Park 
15 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	16	17 1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	18 4:30 PM Staff Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice	19	20	21
22 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM 4 th Quarter Conference	23	24 1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	25 4:30 PM Staff Meeting 5:45 PM Fellowship Dinner 6:30 PM Sardis Academy- Laughter Yoga 7:45 PM Choir Practice	26 	27	28
29 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM Pumpkin Carving 	30	31 Halloween 1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	NOVEMBER—SAVE THE DATE! 11/5—All Saints Sunday 11/8—Sardis Academy 11/11—Veterans Day 11/12—Field Trip to 24/7 Prayer Room 11/21—Interfaith Thanksgiving Service 11/23—Thanksgiving Day			

SARDIS OFFERINGS

Our Operating Fund (sometimes called 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 outside of our building walls.

August 2017 Budgeted Offerings:	\$ 12,916.67
August 2017 Actual Offerings:	\$ 10,334.16
September 2017 Budgeted:	\$ 12,916.67
September 2017 Actual:	\$ 19,527.50
YTD Budgeted Offerings:	\$116,250.03
YTD Actual Offerings:	\$ 96,776.83

Designated Funds (sometimes called Special Funds) have been set up to support specific ministry efforts of Sardis Baptist Church that are not covered by our Operating Fund. We encourage you to consider whether you can support the efforts of Sardis through a designated donation. Following are some funds and how they are used:

- 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



OUR 4TH QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22ND FOLLOWING WORSHIP. WE WILL HEAR REPORTS FROM THE DEACONS, TRUSTEES AND OUR BOARD OF STEWARDS.

Church Directory

UPDATE



Please note the following changes in your Sardis Baptist Church directory:

Fay Alderman
704.553.1895
fayalderman@yahoo.com
5916 Rose Valley Drive
Charlotte, NC 28210

Don & Betsy DePaul
704.608.1046 (Mobile)
704.931.0169 (Home)
5128 Stockbridge Drive
Mount Holly, NC 28120

William Kruger
704.577.8723

June Ross
junecat10@gmail.com

* Current addresses for college students are available on printed sheets in the vestibule, or by contacting the church office: 704.362.0811 / info@SardisBaptistCharlotte.org.

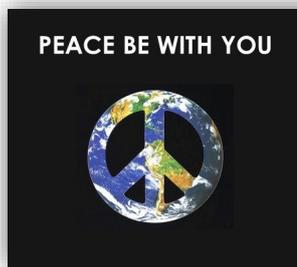


The Alliance of Baptists is a movement of people, faith communities and ministry partners who are deeply passionate about ecumenism, partnership in mission, relentless hospitality and social justice. Sardis welcomed the Alliance Board to our campus for their annual board meeting at the end of September. Our writer in residence, Dr. Tim Moore serves on the Alliance Board. Dr. Ken Meyers, leadership and faith formation specialist, joined us in worship on World Communion Day as our guest proclaimer.

FORT CASWELL YOUTH RETREAT



SAND SCULPTURE CONTEST - 2017



Sardisians continued to pass the peace virtually throughout the month of September, sharing messages and symbols of peace with our friends near and far. We know that the peace of Christ is more than a simple greeting. In this tradition, we acknowledge the shared sense of value and community God offers each of us.

Sometimes community members aren't able to be physically present in worship. So we encourage you to text, Facebook, Tweet, Instagram, SnapChat, or even snail mail a simple message of peace to a friend. We've recently printed some postcards just for this purpose, and we'll have them available for you during worship. You may leave them in the offering plate for Kathryn to stamp and mail for you. (She'll even address them if they are specified for a Sardis member.) If you're using social media, please use the hashtag #SardisPeace.

MAY THE PEACE OF CHRIST BE WITH YOU!

SARDIS BAPTIST STAFF

Rev. Bob Stillerman, Pastor
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Rev. Jonathan Eidson, Pastor
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Hilary Kearns, Minister of Music
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Irena Hramenkova, Pianist



Visit our Website: SardisBaptistCharlotte.org