

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

A NEW YEAR AT SARDIS

As the new school year begins, you'll notice a different look to some of our regularly-scheduled programs. Our goal is to offer multiple opportunities (and spaces) for both worship and fellowship.

Adult Bible Study, Tuesdays 1pm – The Adult Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, September 6th. We'll explore the Joseph novella, and later, parts of Exodus. All are welcome to attend. Participants can join at any stage. No preparation is necessary, only curiosity! (Note: We do realize that events during workday hours are not always accessible for everyone. If there are people interested in creating a weeknight Bible Study or discussion group, please alert Bob Stillerman, and we'll work to help get it facilitated).

Sardis Academy, Wednesdays – We'll have the same number of sessions this fall (eight), only they'll be spread out across the calendar. In September, we'll enjoy three sessions (9/7, 9/14, 9/21) with an emphasis on Hunger. On 10/12, in anticipation of the upcoming election, Elizabeth Mosely will lead us in a discussion about the Electoral College. In November (11/9 & 11/16), we'll explore the concept of Thanksgiving. We'll also attend Meck Min's Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on 11/22. In December (12/14), we'll go caroling to homebound church members. The entire fall will be a balance of theological and missional exploration. For each session, dinner will be served at 5:45pm, and a program will follow from 6:30-7:30. Please plan to join us!

Special Worship Events – On a monthly basis (in most cases a Sunday afternoon or evening), Sardis will host events that offer a chance for both worshipful reflection and good-old-fashioned fellowship. We'll seek to use our whole campus to do so. In September (9/18), we'll host Sardis' inaugural animal blessing. In October, we'll walk in the CROP Walk (10/16), and we'll host a fall-themed picnic (10/23). In November (11/13), we'll host an evening Taize service, and in December (12/4), we'll host an Advent-themed Labyrinth walk.



ANIMAL BLESSING

Sardis will host its inaugural animal blessing on Sunday, September 18th. Invite your animal and human friends to join us for this special event!

The gathering will begin at 5:00 in the Sardis Pavilion, and blessings will start at 5:30. Snacks (for humans) will be provided, but please do not bring snacks for your pets! We will have bowls of water available for our furry friends. For the safety of people and pets in attendance, all animals must be in pet cages or on leashes.

A representative from the Humane Society will be onsite to collect donations if you would like to support their efforts. Visit the following site to see a list of items currently most needed: humanesocietyofcharlotte.org/

To everything
there is a season,
AND A TIME
to every purpose
under
HEAVEN.
Ecclesiastes 3:1



I LIFT UP MINE EYES...

Rev. Bob Stillerman

PRAYERS FOR A NEW YEAR – A new school year. Another new season at Sardis. That happened fast! In the calm before the storm, here are a few thoughts and prayers to help strengthen us for the journey ahead.

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1) - In the year ahead, let us commit to being good stewards of God's creation. Help us, God, to care for our animals, to care for our Earth, and to use our resources wisely.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1) - God lives and dwells among us! In the year ahead, let us commit to searching for and celebrating God's presence in all things big and small.

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea – for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." Immediately, they left their nets and followed him. (Matthew 4:18-20) - And so it began. Peter and Andrew became disciples of Jesus. And so too, it begins for us! In the year ahead, let us commit to being disciples of Jesus. May we cast our nets of love to places near and far!

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice it have a good understanding. (Psalm 111:10) - Help us God, to be wise and just as we discern Your calling for us in the year ahead.

Better is the end of a thing than it's beginning; the patient in spirit are better than the proud in spirit. (Proverbs 7:8) - Give us strength, God, to live with love, faith and discipline in the year ahead - Give us endurance to make our ministries matter all year long. Give us the courage to be a people called Sardis.

May it all be so! And may it all be soon! Amen.

ADAM & TAMMY TAYLOR

SARDIS PEOPLE



Adam and Tammy Taylor have an exciting avocation. They frequent jam band concerts and sometimes work at them, doing VIP check-in. Some of their favorites are Phish, Infamous String-dusters, and especially for Adam, Widespread Panic. These bands play eclectic music and often improvise on stage. Their free-form compositions come from bluegrass, rock and roll, jazz, folk and country genres.

Exciting for us to learn is that Tammy is a manager at the local Ben and Jerry's, just down the street from our meetinghouse. Adam travels all the way to Huntersville for his job with Huber Technology. He is a warehouse manager for the company whose concern is waste water treatment machines.

Tammy grew up in New Hope, Pennsylvania and attended New England College, a small private institution situated in New Hampshire and considered a leader in experiential education. She is an only child and her parents now live in Aiken, SC.

Adam went to Louisburg College, a private college just north of Raleigh. He is a Charlotte native who attended Garringer High School and has one brother. His parents still live in the city.

The Taylors enjoy spending time with friends and playing with their dog, Bud, who is their baby. Bud is a 45-lb. mix, a "super sweet, likes-to-snuggle" three-year-old.

Looking for a candlelight service, the Taylors first visited Sardis on Christmas Eve. Feeling comfortable with our company, they have stayed with us. We are glad that their path which has taken them from Charlotte to Asheville to Greensboro and back to Charlotte led them to us.

Sardis Baptist Church



Prayers of Celebration and Anticipation

Bob, Jacqueline & Mary Allen Stillerman • Jonathan Eidson • College Students—Allie Eidson, Lindsey Jackson, Douglas Kennedy, and Dylan Kreutzer

Prayers for Comfort, Healing and Strength

Jourdan Askins and Family • Evelyn Beck • Suzette Buchan, Danny's sister • Friends & Family of Shawn Bracey • Elzene Corbett, Janet's mom • Ben Cooley, Ruthye's husband • Nelson Cooper, friend of Jonathan's • Charles Cureton, Ruthye's brother • Nancy Darnell • Betty Deason • Ginter Park Baptist Church • Don Hill • Irena Hramenkova • Doris Hunter, Anne Eidson's mother • 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 • Hudson Newbrough, great grand-nephew of Janie Harris • Mala Reynolds • Friends & Family of Davena Rice, friend of Stillermans • June Ross • June Ross' daughters - Tonya, Dante, Dawn and Dusty • Friends & Family of Rutherford, nephew of Valerie • Bill Sease, Becky Owen's brother •

Prayer Coordinator

Melissa Bowlin, 704.458.9773, mbowlin@cmpd.org



| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| August 28th—Sept. 3rd: | Sarah Bowlin |
| September 4th—10th: | Maria, Joey, Isabella & Amaya Byrd |
| September 11th—17th: | Mark, Sandy, Xavier & Celeste Catoe |
| September 18th—24th: | Linda Cook |
| Sept. 25th—October 1st: | Ruthye Cooley |



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. In August we have to many people to thank for their participation as worship leaders, building and grounds workers, Saturday of Service assistants, Camp Sardis teachers, communion brunch cooks and cleaners, picnic helpers, and worship care givers. We are thankful for all of you, and especially want to highlight the following people for their support of Sardis' ministries and operations in August:

Janet Beltzhoover • Melissa Bowlin • Mark, Sandy and Xavier Catoe • Linda Cook • Tillie Duncan • Marge Fowler • Janette Grassi • Brooke & Blake Grubbs • Betty Gunz & Joe Wall • Larry Harrill • Janie Harris • Kristin Jackson • Jane Jurney • Hilary Kearns • Kathryn Kreutzer • William Kruger • Kate & Joey Mata • Jim Owen • Chris Mair • Howell Peterson • Danny & Susan Phillips • Becky Proctor • The Sardis Troupe (youth who participated in our creation skit) • Abby, Hannah and Magay Shepard-Moore • Bill & Carson Sholin • David & Krista Sigmon • John Simpson • Bob Stillerman • Adam & Tammy Taylor



LAUREN MCDUFFIE

(Sardis Summer Intern, 2010)

has been called as associate pastor at

First Baptist Church in Morehead, Kentucky.

Share you congratulations with Lauren at:

First Baptist Church / 123 East Main St. / Morehead, KY 40351



Our youth are heading to the beach! The group will participate in the CBF Fall Youth Beach retreat at the North Carolina Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell on Oak Island. Last year's trip was canceled due to rains and winds of Hurricane Joaquin. We're hoping for better results this time around!

The retreat will be led by Rhody Mastin of Duke Divinity School and Daniel Potter (no relation to Harry). Fort Caswell is set beside the mouth of the Cape Fear river and combines the historical remnants of a Civil War Fort with the natural beauty of the North Carolina coastline.

Youth will leave Friday afternoon from the meeting-house at 3:45 PM on Friday, October 7th and return at 1:30 PM on Sunday the 9th. See complete schedule below:

Friday

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 4:00 - 10:00 | Registration / Check-in / Free Time |
| 10:00 - until | Introductions / Formation of Small Groups |
| 11:30 pm | Youth Leader Meeting |
| Midnight | Lights Out |

Saturday

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 8:00 am | Breakfast |
| 9:00 am | Small Groups |
| 10:00 am | Large Group - |
| | Community Sharing and Music |
| 10:30 am | 11th Annual Sand Sculpture Building Contest |
| Noon-5:30 pm | Lunch and Free Time |
| 5:45 pm | Dinner |
| 7:30 pm | Worship |
| 8:30 pm | Church Community Groups |
| Midnight | Lights Out |

Sunday

| | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 7:15 am | Worship/ Reflection Time |
| 8:00 am | Breakfast |
| 9:30 am | Depart for Home |

Congratulations to Bob & Jacqueling!

Mary Allen Stillerman

August 12th @ 7:41 AM

8 pounds, 6 ounces / 21 inches long

Absolutely Perfect!



YOUTH EVENT 9/11

Our September 11th youth event will involve a look at prayer unlike anything I've ever seen before. Youth will have a hands on experience with visual prayer and will even look at prayer for enemies which has implications given the date of our event.

Yes, I was skeptical too until I walked into the facility. It is an amazing experience that I can't wait for our youth to have. It will be faith changing. We'll meet at the meeting house at 4:30 and return at 7:30.



24-7 PRAYER
PRAYER, MISSION AND JUSTICE

Sardis Baptist Church — Worship



September 4, 2016

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer—Jo Tiddy
Ushers—Magay Shepard, Gray & Reid Sigmon
Worship Care—Lisa Kennedy & Maria Elena Floren

September 11, 2016

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer—John Simpson
Ushers—Ron Demme, Janette Grassi
& John Simpson
Worship Care—Maria & Joey Byrd

September 18, 2016

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer—Howell Peterson
Ushers—Larry Harril, William Kruger
& Howell Peterson
Worship Care—Elizabeth Mosley & Chris Mair

September 25, 2016

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer—Linda Cook
Ushers—Linda Cook, Betty Gunz & Joe Wall
Worship Care—Valerie Rutherford &
Tamara Priyemskiy

Deacons

Melissa Bowlin
704.458.9773, mbowlin@cmpd.org

Kristin Jackson
704.618.6213, kpj@carolina.rr.com

Kathryn Kreutzer
704.241.6927, kathrynkreutzer@gmail.com

John Simpson
704.591.0890, drjohnsimpson@yahoo.com

A FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

As we begin a new school year and get back into the swing of things, I want to take this opportunity to invite anyone who might be interested to join our choir! We have a special need for altos and tenors, but welcome any and all with an interest in music. Previous experience is not necessary, so whether you're a beginner or a professional, all voices are welcome!



The 2016 Charlotte CROP Walk will be Sunday, October 16. Each year, Sardis and other faith communities walk to raise awareness for global hunger, and to help send food and clean water to neighbors here at home and around the world. And this year, we want Sardis to be more visible than ever.

Our goal is to have 25 walkers, as well as 25 supporters (those who will sponsor our walkers with both financial donations and/or prayer and encouragement). Our financial goal is \$2,500. You can register to walk or donate online at:

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/charlottenc/sbc>.

SEPTEMBER 2016

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | |
| 4 Sunday School 9:45 AM Worship-11:00 AM | 5 Labor Day  | 6 No Adult Bible Study (resumes 9/6) | 7 Fellowship Meal 5:45 PM Sardis Academy 6:30 PM Choir 7:45 PM | 8 | 9 | 10 Saturday of Service 9:00 AM  |
| 11 Trustees Meeting 8:00 AM @ Phil's Deli Sunday School 9:45 AM Worship-11:00 AM Quarterly Conference 12:00 PM Worship Meeting 12:30 PM Youth - 24/7 Prayer 4:30 PM | 12 | 13 Adult Bible Study  | 14 Fellowship Meal 5:45 PM Sardis Academy 6:30 PM Choir 7:45 PM | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 Sunday School 9:45 AM Worship-11:00 AM Animal Blessing Gather @ 5:00 PM Blessings @ 5:30 PM | 19  | 20 Bob's 1st Staff Anniversary Adult Bible Study 1:00 PM | 21 Fellowship Meal 5:45 PM Sardis Academy 6:30 PM Choir 7:45 PM | 22  First Day of Fall | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Sunday School 9:45 AM Worship-11:00 AM | 26 | 27 Adult Bible Study 1:00 PM | 28 Choir 7:45 PM | 29 | <div> FOR HE'S A <i>jolly good</i> FELLOW* <i>*and so say all of us!</i> </div> | |

On September 20th we'll celebrate Bob's One-Year Anniversary as pastor of Sardis! We are happy to have him leading us, and grateful for all he's accomplished this year!

Sardis Baptist Church — Business

Saturday of Service



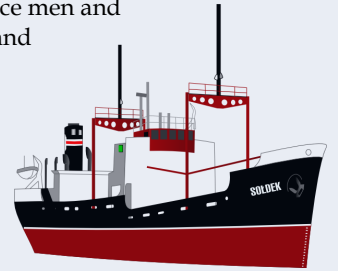
Throughout the school year, we'll host a monthly service opportunity. Some Saturdays, we'll focus on serving local ministries. On other Saturdays, we'll focus on improvements to our building and grounds. The events this fall are: 9/10, 10/1, 11/12, 12/10. The September event will be focused on cleaning up the education building and the grounds near the picnic shelter. More details to follow.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." ~ Helen Keller

CONGRATULATIONS!

Jourdan Askins recently received the honor of Lieutenant Commander Select of the US Navy. Please share your congratulations in a note. While deployed, our Navy service men and women appreciate mail. Big ships can be lonely places! Many of Jourdan's shipmates do not often hear from land dwellers and would love to receive a note from you. Notes to Jourdan's fellow service men and women can be mailed to him, and he will distribute them on his ship.

Lt. Askins, Jourdan K
CLB 22
Unit 80134 DET A Box 052
FPO AE 09508



Charitable Giving

• REPORT •

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.

July 2016 Budgeted Offerings: \$ 13,750.00

July 2016 Actual Offerings: \$ 6,830.72

August 2016 Budgeted Offerings: \$ 13,750.00

August 2016 Actual Offering \$ 9,262.00

Budgeted Offerings
(January—August 2016): \$110,000.00

Actual Offerings
(January—August, 2016): \$ 99,383.44

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, Music Director
sardishilary@yahoo.com / 704.517.4417

Irena Hramenkova, Pianist



Our 3rd quarter business conference is scheduled for Sunday, September 11th. Please mark your calendars and plan to stay for this brief meeting.

Ribbon Cutting - Sardis Picnic Shelter



Linda Cook, representing the Sardis Board of Trustees, cutting the ribbon at the grand opening of our new picnic shelter

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF METROLINA



Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina supplies food and essential grocery items to over 650 agencies feeding hungry people in 19 counties in our region. In Fiscal Year 2013-2014, they distributed over 45 million pounds to these organizations and to other food banks.

William Kruger has challenged Sardis Baptist Church to help him spend some money, (hopefully a lot of money)! He's asked us to collect shelf-stable food and other essential items for a food drive, and he will match our donations pound for pound. The donations will be given to Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina.

Collections are already coming in and will be accepted until November 6th. Items most needed are canned meats like chicken, turkey, ham and beef stew; canned fish like tuna, salmon and mackerel; and nut butters. Other shelf-stable foods are also requested, such as rice, pasta and cereal. Toiletry items and household supplies such as shampoo, soap, deodorant, paper products and cleaning supplies are also needed.

