

# 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



## ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

April 22nd will be a special day in the life of Sardis Baptist Church and in the lives of several members of our congregation. Our worship service will include a service of ordination and installation. Two staff members will be ordained into ministry, two lay leaders

will be ordained as deacons, and several newly elected lay leaders will be installed for service to our boards.

Ordination is a ceremony for the dedication and commissioning of ministers. Hilary Kearns will be ordained as Minister of Music and Kathryn Kreutzer as Minister of Congregational Support. Both have been on staff at Sardis for multiple years, but the deacons recently voted to sanctify their commitment to the ministries of Sardis and honor their callings through this formal process.

Jose and Katey Mata were elected in February to serve on the 2018 Board of Deacons and will also be ordained on April 22nd. Deacons are called to be partners to our staff, servants to our church and Christian leaders in our community. Along with Katey and Jose, Tillie Duncan, Betty Gunz, Howell Peterson and Danny Phillips will be installed for service alongside members previously installed to our boards.

### 2018 BOARD OF DEACONS:

**Tillie Duncan, Marge Fowler, Kristin Jackson, Jose Mata, Katey Mata and John Simpson (Chair)**

### 2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

**Howell Peterson, Danny Phillips and David Sigmon (Chair)**

### 2018 BOARD ON STEWARDS:

**Betty Gunz, Susan Phillips (Chair) and Becky Proctor**

## EARTH DAY PICNIC

“Give us this day, our daily bread...”

We pray the Lord's prayer weekly, and for many of us daily. Do you think about the meaning behind the words? We simply ask God for our “daily bread”, but acquiring our daily bread is a complicated process with many economic and ecological implications! The manner in which we plant, fertilize and water our crops, feed and raise animals for eating, and ship food products around the globe has a profound impact on creation.

Let's gather together to honor God's creation at a picnic following worship on Earth Day, Sunday, April 22nd. The church will provide fried chicken for all. Please bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share. After lunch we'll get dirty taking care of the Earth around Sardis! Bring work gloves and yard tools to help.



## I LIFT UP MINE EYES...

Rev. Bob Stillerman



The calendar is back in sync. Finally! Ash Wednesday was on Valentine's Day, and Easter was on April Fool's Day. Neither pairing seemed an ideal fit.

But Ordination/Installation Sunday and Earth Day...well that's much better!!!

On Sunday, April 22, we'll ordain two new ministers, two new deacons, and install four returning deacons and five returning board members. We're formally blessing each person's calling to minister to Sardis in a particular way.

And we'll celebrate our planet, too. Every year since 1970, the world has paused to give thanks for clean air, water, and land, and to recommit to the protection of our natural environment. We'll enjoy a picnic. And then we'll get our hands dirty by planting, and pruning, and prettying-up our grounds.

I love this symmetry. And I love the idea of renewal. And it's all on the heels of Easter.

Sardis is renewed by new leadership: women and men committed to serving God in unique and creative ways. New ideas and new voices will intertwine with existing ones and weave a new thread into the Sardis tapestry. It may not look like it always has, but it will be born out of the same consistent spirit of collaboration.

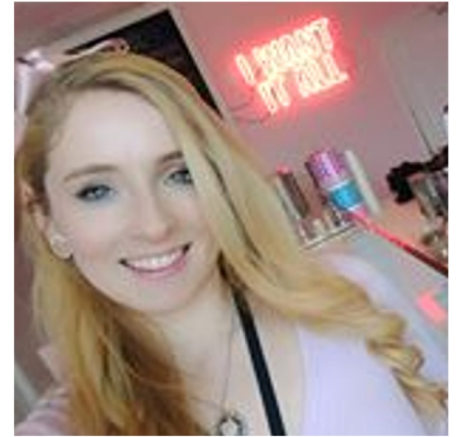
We'll clip away at overgrown branches, and remove fallen debris, and cut-back tall grass and unruly weeds, and tug at tough-minded wisteria. We did it last year, too. The new season has revealed unseen patches of beauty on our campus: more room for walking trails; large vistas; lush beds of daffodils and lilies; and have you seen the grass? Seriously, have you seen the grass?!?

Spring is a season of renewal and re-birth. It's good for us to pause, and notice our part in such renewal. For spring leads to summer, and summer to fall – a fall full of harvest. We're just getting started, Sardis Baptist Church. I hope you'll join us!!!



## RACHEL FAULK

sardis people



Dancing is one of Rachel Faulk's passions. Many of her free evenings are spent on the dance floor moving to Latin and African music. Her favorite dances of the moment are Latin dances, Salsa, Bachata, Zouk; and African-inspired Kizomba. She adds Yoga to her fit and fun activities.

Another personal passion is her personal finances. Having graduated from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, two years ago, Rachel has already paid off her student loans. She earned a Bachelor of Science in psychology and in women and gender studies. She is a sales and marketing representative for the Center for Emotional Health. Her job includes communicating with doctors' offices about resources and how patients can connect to those services. Her work area includes Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, and Gaston counties.

Rachel graduated from Ardrey Kell High School. She came to Charlotte via Atlanta, her birth city, and Fort Myers, FL, where she attended day care. Her earliest and fondest memories are of palm trees and alligators. She adored watching the alligators in the swamp which adjoined her day care facility. Gazing through the high, strong chain link fence at the leathery reptiles was a highlight of her day.

Rachel found Sardis by googling progressive churches. She stays because Sardis is intentional about how they think about faith, intentional about the impact they want to have in the community and beyond, and because they offer varied learning opportunities.

## Sardis Baptist Church

We would like to express appreciation for MANY jobs well done! We thank our volunteers for their labors of love to the many ministries of Sardis. You are examples of servant leaders, and your willingness to use your abilities strengthens our special church home.



Tasks inside and out were completed thanks to the efforts of those who participated in our March workday:

Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Janette Grassi, Danny & Susan Phillips, Michael Shepard-Moore, Mary Jane Osborne, Howell Peterson, David, Grey & Reid Sigmon, Bob Stillerman and Joe Wall.

We are grateful to Jim Owen for the and hard hours he spent to clean the church gutters, and to Tillie Duncan and Susan Phillips for the sparkling clean church windows.

Thank you Mary Jane Osborne for tending our Lenten Roses, Easter Lilies and the area around our prayer garden in preparation for Holy Week.

Sardis friends delighted in visits from our hymn carolers! Melissa Bowlin, Don Hill and Carson Sholin all sang along with Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Jane Jurney, Becky & Jim Owen, Danny & Susan Phillips, Becky & Rick Proctor and Bob Stillerman.

Sardis welcomed a group of college students volunteering for Habitat for Humanity along with some Habitat staff members. They enjoyed a delicious meal thanks to assistance from the following: Tillie Duncan, Betty Gunz, Janie Harris, Jane Jurney, Hilary Kearns, Kathryn Kreutzer, Lisa & Tom Kennedy, Jose & Katey Mata, Tim Moore, Magay Shepard, Bob, Jacqueline and Mary Allen Stillerman, Adam & Tammy Taylor.

We thank Hilary Kearns for her leadership throughout the year, but she was especially busy in March! She coordinated a beautiful Taize service to begin the season of lent. Ruthye Cooley played piano. On Palm Sunday our choir sang their inaugural Easter Cantata under Hilary's leadership. Thank you to those whose performance made it a great success: Ruthye Cooley, Tillie Duncan, Irena Hramenkova (piano), Kristin Jackson, Tim Moore, Jim Owen, Susan & Danny Phillips, Becky & Rick Proctor and Bob Stillerman..

Our annual communion supper on Maundy Thursday is a special event to Sardis folks. Thanks to the following people for their efforts: Tillie Duncan, Janette Grassi, Jane Jurney, Kathryn Kreutzer, Susan & Danny Phillips and Magay Shepard.

The Fellowship Stewards hosted a delicious meal before CareRing joined us for Sardis Academy in March. Thank you to the following people for their contributions: Janet Beltzhoover, Tillie Duncan, Kathryn Kreutzer, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Susan & Danny Phillips and Magay Shepard.

We are grateful to Janette Grassi and Susan Phillips for the creative and meaningful displays they've created to enhance worship at Sardis.

We appreciate the following people for the love shared during worship care: Janet Beltzhoover, Betty Gunz, Chris Mair, Elizabeth Mosley and Jacqueline Stillerman.

Various leaders make worship complete at Sardis. We are thankful to those who greet, pray, read, usher and preach: Ron Demme, Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Betty Gunz, Irena Hramenkova, Hilary Kearns, Kathryn & David Kreutzer, Tim Moore, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Susan Phillips, Becky Proctor, June Ross, Valerie Rutherford, John Simpson, Magay Shepard, Bob Stillerman and Joe Wall.



Let's  
Pray  
Together

### CELEBRATIONS

The Byrd Family is expecting! ▪ Tammy & Adam Taylor are expecting twin boys! ▪ Marge Fowler is expecting a great-grandchild as well as a great-great-grandchild! ▪ Janette Grassi is expecting a great-grandchild!

### CONDOLENCES

Andy Anderson, grandfather of David Sigmon, passed away 3/23 ▪ Carson Sholin passed away on 4/1 ▪ Thomas Williams, Jason's father passed away on 3/25

### PETITIONS

Fay Alderman ▪ Mark Almond, Jacqueline's uncle ▪ Jourdan Askins and Family ▪ Melissa Bowlin ▪ Margaret Branton, Amanda's grandmother ▪ Suzette Buchan, Danny Phillips' sister ▪ Jim & Yvonne Cherokee, friends of Kristin Jackson ▪ Katie Conlon, Betty & Joe's granddaughter ▪ Ben Cooley, Ruthye's husband ▪ Elzene Corbett, Janet Beltzhoover's mother ▪ Nancy Darnell ▪ Ed DePasquale, friend of William Kruger ▪ Dennis Espenchied, Jonathan Eidson's brother-in-law ▪ Don Hill ▪ Doris Hunter, Anne Eidson's mother ▪ William Kruger ▪ Tammy Moore, Tim's sister-in-law ▪ Odell Peterson, Howell's brother ▪ Rachael Phipps, friend of Betty Gunz ▪ Teena Proctor, Rick's mother ▪ Mala Reynolds ▪ Bill Sease, Jim Owen's brother-in-law ▪ Catherine Tate, Becky Proctor's sister ▪ Eddie Waiters, Doris' husband



## YOUTH LAKE SLEEPOVER

It's time for our annual youth lake sleepover. Once again we will travel to the cozy confines of Snug Harbor for swimming, laughter, kayaking, faith, food, fellowship and much s'more. The event begins at 6:00 P.M. on Friday May 4th (yes, may the 4th be with you!) and concludes at 2:30 P.M. on Saturday, May 5th. Youth are welcome to bring friend along. There is no charge for this event. Please call Pastor J. Swizz today if you are interested!

**FRIDAY, MAY 4th @ 6 PM**

**"Prayer is rather the activity that enables each of us to be givers to and receivers from one another of the deepest meaning of life—a meaning I call God."**

**~ John Shelby Spong,  
A New Christianity for a New World**

*Are you busy? Are you stressed? Are you tired?  
Take a deep breath. The world says frantic,  
yet God teaches us to lean into the natural rhythms  
of grace and gives us rest. Join us at UniDiversity for  
a chance to explore and embrace the ebb and flow  
of the complex life that God has invited us into.*



New memories are waiting to be made! We're running out of time and need to sign up soon so we can make them. UniDiversity Camp 2018 is at the University of Tennessee. The dates for this year's camp are Monday, July 23 – Saturday, July 28th. Today's the day to call and reserve your spot.

Sardis leadership believes so much in the importance of this trip and wants our youth to be a part of this incredible experience. The only thing you need to do is sign-up. Youth from Sardis will pay a \$100 camp fee. Sardis youth may bring friends as well at the regular camp rate.

Being on a college campus offers many wonderful opportunities as well as a chance to see what it's like to live there as a student since so many of our youth will one day find themselves in that situation.

Unidiversity seems to get better with age. Each year, the camp is better than the year before. Sign-up today!

## Sardis Baptist Church — Worship



### April Worship Leaders

#### APRIL 1, 2018

Worship Care.....Krista & Gray Sigmon  
Greeter / Vestibule.....John Simpson  
Ushers.....Janette Grassi, June Ross and John Simpson

#### APRIL 8, 2018

Worship Care.....Maria & Joey Byrd  
Greeter / Vestibule.....William Kruger  
Ushers.....Larry Harrill, Lisa Kennedy and William Kruger

#### APRIL 15, 2018

Worship Care.....Betty Gunz & Erin Kennedy  
Greeter / Vestibule.....Marge Fowler  
Ushers.....Elizabeth Beltzhoover, Janet Beltzhoover  
.....and Valerie Rutherford

#### APRIL 22, 2018

Worship Care.....Sarah Bowlin & Lisa Kennedy  
Greeter / Vestibule.....Howell Peterson  
Ushers.....Kathryn Kreutzer, Madison Kreutzer  
.....& Howell Peterson

#### APRIL 29, 2018

Worship Care.....Olivia Dumez & Maria Elena Floren  
Greeter / Vestibule.....Joe Wall  
Ushers.....Fay Alderman, Betty Gunz & Joe Wall

#### MAY 6, 2018

Worship Care.....Barbara Mosley & Mary Jane Osborne  
Greeter / Vestibule.....Ron Demme  
Ushers.....Ron Demme, Sarah Bowlin, Magay Shepard



Floyd Davis, President and CEO of **Community Link** will join us for the first Sardis Academy session in April. He'll discuss the mission and programs of this nonprofit organization that is vital to our growing city. Community Link helps individuals and families obtain safe, decent and affordable housing. They have three programs: *Homeless to Housing* helps get those living on the streets, in their cars and in motels into long-term housing. The *Homeownership Program* helps prevent foreclosure and otherwise keep clients in their homes. Their third program is called *Financial Literacy*. Education and financial literacy are underlying issues that affect one's housing stability. That's why financial literacy is at the core of Community Link's services.

**THE DATE IS APRIL 11TH. DINNER WILL BE SERVED AT 5:45 PM FOLLOWED BY SARDIS ACADEMY AT 6:30.**

### BULLIES 2 the RESCUE

Bullies 2 the Rescue (B2TR) will join us for our second Sardis Academy session of the month. They are a rescue organization dedicated specifically to English Bulldogs. Their mission is ensure the safety and well-being of all English Bulldogs that they take in, as well as to educate the public in the care of English Bulldogs. They rehabilitate and re-home English Bulldogs that are sick, neglected, abused, or injured. Since forming B2TR have rescued more than 700 dogs! They have approximately 35-45 dogs in foster care at any given time.

**JOIN US ON APRIL 25TH AT 5:45 PM FOR A FELLOWSHIP DINNER FOLLOWED BY A PRESENTATION FROM B2TR AT 6:30.**



## Sardis Baptist Church — Calendar



# APRIL



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> 7:00 AM Sunrise Service 8:00 AM Breakfast @ IHOP 11:00 AM Worship 		<b>3</b> 1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	<b>4</b> 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:45 AM Second Sunday Bob Stillerman 11:00 AM Worship Noon Deacons Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	<b>11</b> 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 6:30 PM Community Link 7:45 PM Choir Practice 	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Communion 4:30 PM Youth Event 	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	<b>18</b> 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>Earth Day</b> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship and Ordination Noon Earth Day Picnic & Workday 	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	<b>25</b> 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 6:30 PM Bullies 2 the Rescue 7:45 PM Choir Practice 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	<b>30</b>	<div> <h3>SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH DIRECTORY</h3> <p>We will be distributing new Sardis Baptist Church directories near the end of this month. Please contact the church office to update your contact information.</p>  </div>				

## \$ARDI\$ GIVING REPORT



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.

February Budgeted Offerings.....	\$12,916.67
February Actual Offerings.....	\$8,553.00
March Budgeted Offerings.....	\$12,916.67
March Actual Offerings.....	\$11,715.86
Year-to-Date Budgeted Offerings.....	\$38,750.01
Year-to-Date Actual Offerings.....	\$30,808.13

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 Support
Hill Endowment.....	Music Ministry; Outreach
Odom Endowment.....	Children & Youth
Maintenance Escrow.....	Maintenance & Repairs



### BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES OF NORTH CAROLINA, INCORPORATED

Our partner in ministry, Baptist Retirement Homes, is currently holding their annual "Medicine from the Heart" campaign. Funds collected provide financial assistance to older adults with limited resources to help them purchase needed medications. Please pick up an empty "medicine bottle" from the church vestibule and fill it with spare change during the next month. Collections will be accepted through April 30th. Last year Sardis friends donated almost \$300 of spare change. Help us exceed that goal in 2018!

## Condolences for Sardis Friends

Our heartfelt sympathy is with our friends and family who have recently lost loved ones.



~Carson Sholin passed away on April 1st, Easter Sunday. She will be sorely missed at Sardis.

~Jason Williams father, Thomas Reid Williams passed away on March 25th.

~David Sigmon's grandfather, Andy Anderson, passed away on March 23rd.

## Sardis Baptist Church



Easter Morning @ IHOP



Siena College / Habitat Meal



Lily, Tim, Jose & Katey

Dear Bob,

I want to thank you and your congregation for hosting our collegiate challenge group from Siena College. It was so great getting to speak with and work beside your members. The group had such a wonderful time as did our Habitat staff. I hope we can do it again in the future. Thank you!



Sincerely,

Susannah Monk

Habitat for Humanity

A couple of Sardis friends and family have recently published books! Look for the following editions on Amazon:



Over the Mountain,  
by Katherine Stillerman

An endearing story about a young girl in the throes of change and revolution. The plot is interwoven with themes of inclusiveness, loyalty, friendship and reconciliation.



Last Laugh,  
by Beth Tally

The remnants of the antebellum Jim Crow South and the times before women's liberation form the backdrop for this coming-of-age tale of cultural and generational clashes.

### SARDIS STAFF

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