

# 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 Academy

February is Black History Month. It's a time to reflect. We celebrate the accomplishments of the millions of African Americans who have shaped (and continue to shape!) our nation. We give thanks for the work done and the gains made to advance and extend civil rights to all Americans in the past half-century. But we also recognize that much work remains to be done in making equality a reality for all Americans (and indeed all humanity), and healing the racial discord that still divides us. In that spirit, we invite you to two discussions on *Race and Faith* on Wednesday 2/15 and Wednesday 2/22. The staff is still finalizing program details and will share specifics in the next week. In addition, all are invited to join a Sardis field trip to the Levine Museum of the New South on Saturday 2/18. The Museum includes several exhibits that describe the Charlotte of the Civil Rights Movement. It's our hope that a review of our past, book-ended by two candid discussions, will give us insight into how our community of faith can work to be better neighbors in our city and beyond. Stay tuned!

### Soul Collage Workshop

SoulCollage® is a creative, fun tool for easy, artful self expression. It was developed by Seena Frost as she worked with friends and clients in her psychotherapy practice. Using your own intuition and imagination, you create your own cards, each of which reflects a different aspect of who you are. SoulCollage® is a process that is truly accessible to everyone, including those who believe they have no artistic ability. Creating a card is only the first step. There is still much to be discovered. You are encouraged to step deeper into your inner and outer world through "reading" your cards with the help of others.

Sardis Baptist Church will host a SoulCollage® workshop on February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1-4pm. John Simpson and Janette Grassi will be workshop leaders. John is a SoulCollage® facilitator and Janette is an accomplished artist with extensive experience in this process. Up to 12 people will be able to participate.

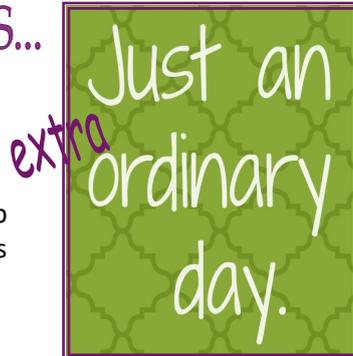
Janette and John will donate blank 5x7 cards and images from which to choose. Each participant should bring pens, glue stick, thin cutting board, thin Exacto knife and their own short-pointed scissors (small Fiskars scissors are recommended and can be purchased at Michael's or Amazon). Any questions? Ask Janette (janettegrassi@att.net) or John (drjohnsimpson@yahoo.com). Call the church office to reserve your spot, 704.362.0811.



## I LIFT UP MINE EYES...

Rev. Bob Stillerman

It's easy to see God in the manger. Baby Jesus is so sweet and so cute. And the sheep are so cuddly. And Mary's song is so pretty. And there are lights everywhere we go.



And it's easy to see God on Christmas Morning. The drummers are drumming, playing their best, and we've got mountaintops to shout from. The thrill and exuberance of a new-born baby are still sinking in.

And it's easy to see God on Epiphany. The star shines bright. And the magi show such courage. And for my money, there's no better hymn than *We Three Kings!*

But now it's February. It's the first part of Ordinary Time – that liturgical sequence before Lent, but not after Easter. It's a blob of green between two purples.

And if we're not careful, we'll believe it's just that: ordinary. But it's not ordinary, it's extraordinary. It's in this season that the ministry of Jesus is revealed. Jesus proclaims God's world is near. And Jesus calls disciples. And Jesus teaches. And preaches. And heals. And loves. And lives. The only reason we call this season ordinary is because we're not talking about the miraculous birth of Jesus, and we're not yet contemplating the cross.

But oh the beauty and the excitement and the wonder of the ordinary! Jesus says follow me. And when you follow, messy, miraculous, marvelous things happen: Peter's mama is made well. And faithful friends lower a paralyzed man through a roof. And Jesus heals him, too! Fisherman find a new catch: people! The scrolls of Isaiah are reread, and freedom never sounded so good. Shepherds find wandering sheep. And old women find missing coins. And daddies reunite with adventurous sons. And that kingdom Jesus keeps talking about comes a little closer, close enough to touch.

Sardis Baptist Church, it's the season of ordinary. But don't you for one second believe that God doesn't have something extraordinary in store for you this season. So go on, embrace that blob of green between two purples!

## REV. TILLIE DUNCAN



January 29, 2017

Dear Sardis Family:

Having given careful thought and consideration to where I am on life's journey, as well as where Sardis is, I have decided to resign from my position as Pastoral Care Pastor of Sardis Baptist Church. I will be retiring effective February 26, 2017.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you for the last 18 years. It is my honor to pass on to the next generation of leaders and innovators the every-day working of this church. This is an exciting time for Sardis, and I am confident that success will continue.

I am thankful to be associated with this productive group of people, and I appreciate the support and affirmation you have always given me.

I look forward to having more time for other interests, while still staying connected to Sardis and being an integral member of the church.

Gratefully,  
Tillie Duncan

## Sardis Baptist Church



### PRAYER CHAIN CONTACT

Melissa Bowlin

704.458.9773 ~ mbowlin@cmpd.org

Evelyn Beck • Sarah Bowlin • Suzette Buchan,  
Danny Phillips' sister • Byrd Family •  
Ben Cooley, Ruthye's husband • Nelson  
Cooper, friend of Jonathan's • Elzene Corbett,  
Janet Beltzhoover's mom • Charles Cureton,  
Ruthye Cooley's brother • Nancy Darnell •  
Betty Deason • Betsy & Don DePaul • Jody  
Herndon, Susan Phillips' sister • Don Hill •  
Irena Hramenkova • Doris Hunter, Anne  
Eidson's mother • Kaleb Kreutzer • Friends  
& Family of Richard Kruger, William's brother •  
Hudson Newbrough, great grand-nephew  
of Janie Harris • Mala Reynolds • Linda  
Roddy, Susan Phillips' cousin • Bill Sease,  
Becky Owen's brother • June Ross • Valerie  
Rutherford • Carson Sholin • Eva Tucker •  
Teddy Walker, teacher for Kreutzer kids •  
Betty Zimmerman, friend of Hilary Kearns

### FEBRUARY WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS

January 29th to February 4th – Janie Harris  
February 5th to February 11th – The Hawkins  
Kris, Kevin, Jackson & Ryan  
February 12th to February 18th – Don Hill  
February 19th to February 25th – Eugene Hill  
February 26th to March 4th – Irena Hramenkova

Thanks  
BIG TIME!

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 ESPECIALLY WANT TO RECOGNIZE THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP AND ASSISTANCE IN JANUARY!

**Worship Care:** Olivia Dumez, Maria Elena Floren, Lisa Kennedy, Brandon Rutherford, Michael Shepard-Moore, Krista Sigmon

**Worship Leaders:** Melissa Bowlin, Ruthye Cooley, Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Marvin Jean, Hilary Kearns, Kathryn Kreutzer, William Kruger, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Becky Proctor, Magay Shepard, David Sigmon, Bob Stillerman, Jo Tiddy,

**Mutual Care Assistance:** Janet Beltzhoover, Kathryn Kreutzer, Barbara Mosley, Susan Phillips, Krista Sigmon, Magay Shepard & Tim Moore, Bob & Jacqueline Stillerman

**Epiphany Meal & Celebration:** Janet Beltzhoover, Melissa Bowlin, Betty Gunz, Kathryn Kreutzer, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Danny & Susan Phillips, Magay Shepard

**Christmas Cleanup:** Betty Gunz, Kathryn Kreutzer, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Danny & Susan Phillips,

**Ski Retreat Chaperones:** Jonathan Eidson Lisa Kennedy, Tim Moore

**Nominating Committee:** Linda Cook, Kristin Jackson, Kathryn Kreutzer, Howell Peterson, Susan Phillips, Bob Stillerman

**Baptist Retirement Homes:** Many thanks to all of you who contributed to our change drive to purchase medications for residents of BRH.

**Year-End Finances:** Linda Cook, Lisa Kennedy, Chris Mair, Jim Owen, David Sigmon

**Building & Grounds Cleanup:** Betty Gunz, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Danny Phillips, Magay Shepard

*Sympathy*



*William Kruger  
may God console you and  
bring you peace.  
We offer our sympathy for the  
loss of your brother, Richard.*

## SARDIS SKI REPORT

The weather was so warm that Tim Moore skied in shorts! Despite the unseasonably high temps, we had a great weekend. You don't have to take my word for it. Read on and hear all about it from our youth.

**Brandon:** *I really enjoyed skiing with our youth group and meeting new friends. The worship services were great and I felt connected in the sermons.*

**Michael:** *I liked this last ski retreat with all my friends. We had fun and listened to new perspectives about God.*

**Kate:** *I really enjoyed the worship services. Dr. Moore had some great dance moves. I also loved swimming with Madison, Summer and Erin.*

**Abby:** *My favorite part of skiing was taking Jackson and Kate down Snow Bowl without any wipeouts! I also loved quality time with Kate and Brandon at the pool.*

**Madison:** *My favorite part of skiing was being with friends and trying some new and harder slopes. I loved the services; they made me really happy.*

**Summer:** *Thank you all sooo much. I really enjoyed this ski trip and I hope to come back next year. My favorite part was basically everything, fun at the pool and getting to meet new people. I had lots of fun!*

**Hannah:** *I really enjoyed just spending time with my family and family of choice, as they say. Just being with them and having a good time has made this a great ski trip.*

**Sydney:** *I enjoyed being able to go snowboarding and getting to know everyone on the trip.*

**Jackson:** *I remember the peaceful transition of power between the president and the president elect as well as President Trump getting inaugurated.*

**Matthew:** *I enjoyed hanging out with everybody on the trip and getting to ski the slopes with friends.*

**Erin:** *I loved getting to spend time with my friends, even though we were skiing in slush!*

There you have it. It was a great weekend. I am grateful for our youth, for the fun we had, the spiritual depth we experienced, the lack of injury, for the invaluable help of both Lisa Kennedy and Tim Moore and for the members and friends of Sardis who provided this opportunity for all of us.



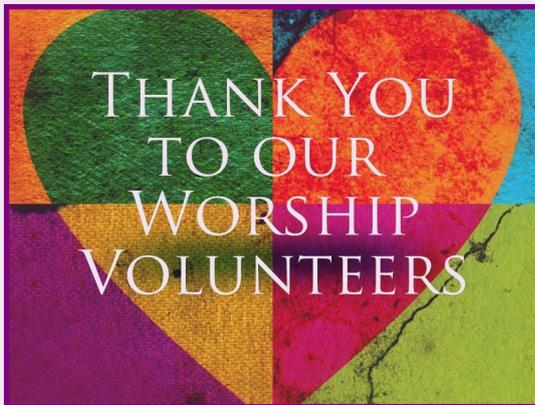
Jonathan is planning an exciting event for our youth in February. They'll venture to Exit Strategy, which is a fun and engaging experience to test your problem-solving skills. Guests have only one hour to escape a themed room, such as "Cabin in the Woods", "Lost in Space" or "Queen City Heist". They're all different, but they're all challenging to figure out.

Escaping requires focus and a group of people that work together to find new clues. The ultimate goal: unlocking the door and fleeing the room before the countdown ends. It's that simple.

Youth will meet at Sardis Baptist on February 12th at 4:30 PM and plan to grab a bite to eat after the great escape. Parents can pick up at 7:30 PM.

## What's In A Name?

Madison Kreutzer, a member of the Sardis Youth Group, will be performing in a production of "What's in a Name?" produced by the Performing Arts Department of the Jewish Community Center. Shows will be at 2:00 PM on March 2nd and March 3rd in Gorelick Hall at the JCC—5007 Providence Road in Charlotte. Tickets are available for \$5 apiece through the JCC Box Office: (704) 366-5007.



## **FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS**

### **FEBRUARY 5, 2017**

**Worship Care:** Janet Beltzhoover and Abby Shepard-Moore

**Greeter/Vestibule Volunteer:** Ron Demme

**Ushers:** Ron Demme and Hannah Shepard-Moore

### **FEBRUARY 12, 2017**

**Worship Care:** Elizabeth Mosley and Chris Mair

**Greeter/Vestibule Volunteer:** Marge Fowler

**Ushers:** Magay Shepard and Janette Grassi

### **FEBRUARY 19, 2017**

**Worship Care:** Janette Grassi and Jacqueline Stillerman

**Greeter/Vestibule Volunteer:** Larry Harrill

**Ushers:** Larry Harrill, Lisa Kennedy and Erin Kennedy

### **FEBRUARY 26, 2017**

**Worship Care:** Krista Sigmon and Hannah Shepard-Moore

**Greeter/Vestibule Volunteer:** William Kruger

**Ushers:** William Kruger, Maria Elena Floren and Howell Peterson

## **DEACONS**

**Melissa Bowlin** – 704.458.9773, mbowlin@cmpd.org

**Marge Fowler** – 704.552.2332, marjibear@gmail.com

**Kristin Jackson** – 704.618.6213, kpj@carolina.rr.com

**John Simpson** – 704.591.0890, drjohnsimpson@yahoo.com

## **Thirty Never Looked So Good!**

On February 12, 2017, the Alliance of Baptists will celebrate its thirtieth year. Sardis will join other partner congregations across the country by reading shared prayers and liturgies to honor the occasion. Since 1987, this alliance of some 200 Baptist congregations across the country has been a prophetic voice for justice, a people self-described as “creative, imaginative, and committed to loving the world God loves so.”

We can't wait to see what the next thirty years have in store! For more information, visit the website: [allianceofbaptists.org](http://allianceofbaptists.org).



## **COMMUNION AT SARDIS**

At Sardis, we consider the sharing of the Lord's Supper to be an act of hospitality – just as all are welcome at our table, all are

welcome to participate in the life of this community. This year, we are making an effort to be more intentional about our hospitality. What better place to start than a table? During the school year, we'll offer Communion once a month on the first Sunday of every month, with the exception of Maundy Thursday. Our next opportunity for Communion will be Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.



Sardis Baptist Church – Calendar

# February

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Staff Meeting 4:15 PM  7:30 PM Choir Practice	2 Groundhog Day 	3	4
5 Super Bowl  9:45 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Worship Communion	6 	7	8  Staff Meeting 4:15 PM  7:30 PM Choir Practice	9	10	11
12 Alliance Day  9:45 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Worship  Youth Group Exit Strategy 4:30 PM	13	14 Valentine's Day 	15 Fellowship Meal 5:45 PM  Sardis Acadmey Race & Faith 6:30 PM  7:45 PM Choir Practice	16	17	18  Museum of the New South— Meet at Sardis at 10:00 AM
19  9:45 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Worship	20  President's Day	21	22 Fellowship Meal 5:45 PM  Sardis Acadmey Race & Faith 6:30 PM  7:45 PM Choir Practice	23	24	25  Soul Collage Class 1:00 PM 
26 Transfiguration Sunday  9:45 AM Sunday School  11:00 AM Worship	27 	28 Shrove Tuesday  Pancake Supper 5:45 PM  Queen City Groove 6:30 PM	29   Sardis Baptist will partner with Sardis Presbyterian Church for worship on Ash Wednesday. The service will be on Wednesday, March 1st at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary of Sardis Presbyterian, located at 6100 Sardis Rd. Additional details will be provided in the March issue of signposts.			

## Sardis Baptist Church – Business



Your generosity allowed us to exceed our offering goals and meet all budget requirements in 2016. We offer our gratitude!

2016 Budgeted Offerings:	\$165,000.00
2016 Actual Offerings:	\$169,806.71

This financial data above and below includes contributions made to our general offering fund. This report does not include contributions made to designated funds, e.g. missions, benevolence, youth / children.

January 2017 Budgeted Offerings:	\$12,916.67
January 2017 Actual Offerings:	\$ TBD

Please 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.

*We are so sorry to hear of the loss of your beloved pets. May you find comfort during this sad time.*

*We offer our sympathy to Irena Hramenkova, whose Persian cat, Duzy died.*

*We send condolences to the Byrd family whose dog, Chloe passed away.*



We are grateful to Danny Phillips and Ross & Witmer for their assistance in replacing one of our HVAC units at the end of 2016! They offered fantastic service and a generous price.

Please update your Sardis Baptist Church directory with the following:

Nancy Darnell's street address is the same, but she has moved to room #202.

Please add Irena Hramenkova's email: [ihramenkova@yahoo.com](mailto:ihramenkova@yahoo.com).

The Grubbs have moved. Their new address is: 24551 Fink Road / Albemarle, NC 28001.

**DIRECTORY**

### SARDIS STAFF

**Rev. Bob Stillerman, Pastor**  
[bobstillerman77@gmail.com](mailto:bobstillerman77@gmail.com) / 919.810.4044

**Rev. Tillie Duncan, Pastor**  
[sardistillie@yahoo.com](mailto:sardistillie@yahoo.com) / 704.562.6599

**Rev. Jonathan Eidson, Pastor**  
[sardisjonathan@yahoo.com](mailto:sardisjonathan@yahoo.com) / 704.622.9984

**Hilary Kearns, Minister of Music**  
[sardishilary@yahoo.com](mailto:sardishilary@yahoo.com) / 704.517.4417

**Irena Hramenkova, Pianist**



# Sardis Baptist Missions

Sardis may be a small church, but we've got big hearts! Here is a sampling of missions that we gave to during 2016 to share God's love with our community...

♥ Room in the Inn, ministry for homeless in Charlotte ♥ Loaves & Fishes, ministry for hungry in Charlotte ♥ Hope House School Supply Drive, ministry of Salvation Army ♥ CROP Walk, ministry for the hungry in the Charlotte region ♥ Medicine from the Heart ♥

Your offering dollars also enable us to provide financial support to the following local ministries: ♥ Habitat for Humanity ♥ Urban Ministries ♥ Baptist Counseling Center ♥ Mecklenburg Ministries, now MeckMin ♥ Crisis Assistance ♥ Loaves & Fishes ♥ Association Missions ♥ Benevolence Funds for Community Members ♥ Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America ♥

A percentage of your offerings are used to support missions in other parts of North Carolina and beyond: ♥ Cooperative Baptist Fellowship ♥ CBF of North Carolina ♥ The Alliance of Baptists ♥ Baptist World Alliance ♥ Baptist Joint Committee ♥ Baptist Center for Ethics ♥ Associated Baptist Press ♥ NC Baptist Colleges ♥ Baptist Retirement Homes ♥ Baptist Hospital ♥ Baptist Children's Homes ♥ Theological Education at NC divinity schools ♥

