

# sardis signposts baptist church

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## EPIPHANY CELEBRATION

Epiphany, sometimes called Three Kings Day or Twelfth Day, is celebrated on the twelfth day of Christmas and commemorates the visit of the three kings (magi or wise men) to Jesus. Although Christmas symbolizes the incarnation of God as human, it's Epiphany that symbolizes God's revelation to the entire world. At Christmas, the light shone forth, but only to a few around the manger. On Epiphany, the light shines to all nations and the old testament prophesy is fulfilled. A theme of Epiphany is "God as the light of the world", and it brings completion to the waiting of the Advent season—God's peace, love, hope and joy are offered to all.

We will celebrate Epiphany at Sardis on Wednesday, January 11th. A de-LIGHT-ful dinner will be served at 5:45 followed by Epiphany traditions old and new. We'll "chalk our doors" to ask God's blessing on our church home and all those who visit. Then we'll write our desires for peace, love, hope and joy onto paper lanterns and then send the light into the world. (Our lanterns are eco-friendly and 100% biodegradable.) Finally, we'll give thought to how we as individuals and a community can bring these desires to fruition. We hope you will be able to join us!



### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:45 AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:00 AM  
MORNING WORSHIP



Church Family  
Meeting

### CHURCH CONFERENCE JANUARY 29, 2017 @ 12 PM

An important meeting for all members of our church family is scheduled for Sunday, January 29th following worship. During this first conference of the new year, the board of trustees will present the budget, offer an opportunity for questions and discussion, and hopefully an opportunity to vote on it. Copies of the proposed budget will be distributed before the conference to allow adequate time for your review.

We'll also hear from the Board on Committees regarding open board and stewardship positions. You should expect a nomination form for board positions to arrive soon. The process of recruiting stewardship volunteers is well underway. Please consider how your gifts can best serve others through Sardis Baptist Church.

## Sardis Baptist Church

WE JUST WANTED **thank YOU** FOR  
*to say* THAT YOU DO,  
**ALL EACH &**  
*every single day.* **we**  
**COULDN'T** *do it without* **you.**

The work of Sardis Baptist requires the efforts of many people! This is a place for you to feel God's love, and for you to share it with others. Thank you for your efforts in helping to make our Advent and Christmas seasons special!

Betty Gunz and Hannah Shepard-Moore offered loving care to our little ones during worship.

Worship leaders contributed to our services in many ways — through prayers, songs, litanies, readings, sign language and service: Melissa Bowlin, Ron Demme, Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Marge Fowler, Kristin, Jeff and Lindsey Jackson, Hilary Kearns, Lisa Kennedy, Alcie, Madison, Kaleb & Dylan Kreutzer, William Kruger, Katey & Jose Mata, Howell Peterson, Susan Phillips, Melvin Preyemskiy, Becky & Rick Proctor, June Ross, Abby Shepard-Moore, Hannah Shepard-Moore, Michael Shepard-Moore, John Simpson, Bob & Jacqueline Stillerman.

Janie Harris, Judy Bailey and Barbara Mosley transformed our sanctuary into a beautiful banquet room with beautiful floral arrangements for our annual Christmas Party.

Magay Shepard donated candy bags as party favors; Melissa Bowlin and Kathryn Kreutzer helped put them together.

Too many people to mention helped with planning before and cleaning after the Christmas Party; efforts were led by Susan Philips. Delicious dishes were shared by many.

Many volunteers made Sardis a welcome home for the night to our Room In The Inn guests. We're grateful to all of you who provided transportation, setup the rooms, made snack bags, provided food, stayed the night, offered friendship, washed the laundry and cleaned up afterwards.

More than 20 people joined together for Christmas Caroling to Sardis friends. Thanks for participating and helping us spread the joy of Christmas!

Kristin & Jeff Jackson hosted the annual youth Christmas gathering in their home. Much fun was had by all!



January 1st—January 7th.....Janette Grassi  
January 8th—January 14th.....Beth & Chad Grubbs,  
Banks, Brooke, Blake  
January 15th—January 21st.....Betty Gunz & Joe Wall  
January 22nd—January 28th....Larry & Donna Harrill  
January 29th—February 4th.....Janie Harris



God speaks in the silence of the heart.  
Listening is the beginning of prayer.  
Mother Teresa

### JANUARY PRAYER LIST

Evelyn Beck  
Sarah Bowlin  
Suzette Buchan, Danny Phillips' sister  
Ben Cooley, Ruthye's husband  
Nelson Cooper, friend of Jonathan Eidson's  
Elzene Corbett, Janet Beltzhoover's mother  
Nancy Darnell  
Betty Deason,  
Don DePaul  
Don Hill  
Irena Hramenkova  
Doris Hunter, Anne Eidson's mother  
Mala Reynolds  
Bill Sease, Jim Owen's brother-in-law  
Teddy Walker, teacher for Kreutzer kids  
Betty Zimmerman, friend of Hilary Kearns

### PRAYER LIST CONTACT

Melissa Bowlin / 704.458.9773 / mbowlin@cmpd.org

# Worship MINISTRY

## WORSHIP LEADERS

### JANUARY 1ST

**No Worship Care Today –**

**All Children Welcome In Worship!**

Greeter/Vestibule Volunteer – Valerie Rutherford

Ushers – Valerie, Brandon and Summer Rutherford

### JANUARY 8TH

Worship Care – Betty Gunz and Erin Kennedy

Greeter/Vestibule Volunteer – John Simpson

Ushers – Ron Demme, Janette Grassi and John Simpson

### JANUARY 15TH

Worship Care – Valerie Rutherford and  
Michael Shepard-Moore

Greeter/Vestibule Volunteer – Jo Tiddy

Ushers – Magay Shepard, Michael Shepard-Moore  
and Jeff Jackson

### JANUARY 22ND

Worship Care – Olivia Dumez and Maria Elena Floren

Greeter/Vestibule Volunteer – Howell Peterson

Ushers – Howell Peterson, Grey Sigmon and Reid Sigmon

### JANUARY 29TH

Worship Care – Lisa Kennedy and Brandon Rutherford

Greeter/Vestibule Volunteer – Linda Cook

Ushers – Linda Cook, Betty Gunz and Joe Wall



We offer 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 offerings to sustain the ministries of Sardis Baptist Church.

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

November Budgeted – General Offerings:	\$ 13,750.00
November Actual – General Offerings:	\$ 22,108.01

December Budgeted – General Offerings:	\$ 13,750.00
December Actual – General Offerings (through December 27th):	\$ 26,922.00

Budgeted – General Offerings (January – December 2016):	\$165,000.00
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Actual – General Offerings (January – December 27, 2016):	\$151,521.71
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During our Christmas Eve service we collected \$400 to support two of our local ministry partners:

**Loaves & Fishes**

**Crisis Assistance Ministries**

Thank you for your contributions to help friends and neighbors during the holiday season!




## Sardis Baptist Church – Calendar

# January

Save the date! Shrove Tuesday is February 28th. We'll enjoy a pancake supper and entertainment from our favorite a cappella group, Queen City Groove.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1  NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:00 AM Worship	2	3  1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	4  7:45 PM Choir Practice	5	6 Epiphany 	7
8 Epiphany Sunday  9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	9	10  1:00 PM Adult Bible Study 	11 Epiphany Party  5:45 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Celebration 7:45 PM Choir Practice	12	13	14
15 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	16 MLK Day 	17  1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	18 Irena's 24th Staff Anniversa  7:45 PM Choir Practice 	19	20 Inauguration Day  Ski Retreat Ghent, WV 	21
22 Youth Ski Retreat Ghent, WV  9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	23	24  1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	25  7:45 PM Choir Practice 	26	Irena Hramenkova is an acclaimed pianist, having been educated in piano at the Moscow Piano Conservatory for Music. She was the accompanist of the National Soviet Gymnastics Team, and her compositions have been featured in international competitions.	
29  9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	30	31  1:00 PM Adult Bible Study	In addition to working at Sardis Baptist, she has taught piano lessons in Charlotte for many years. Many of her students have won local and state competitions, and have played with both the Charlotte Symphony and Charlotte Youth Symphony.  On January 18th, Irena celebrates her 24th staff anniversary with Sardis Baptist Church. Her talent and skill continues to bring blessings on our congregation. Please take a moment to share a word of gratitude with Irena this month!			



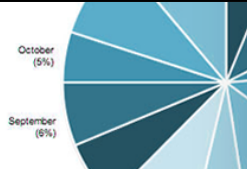
## A Spiritually Progressive Community of Faith



**SARDIS YOUTH GROUP WILL BE ATTENDING UNIDIVERSITY CAMP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE THIS SUMMER. YOUTH AND PARENTS, PLEASE SAVE THE DATES: JULY 17–22. WE HAVE A LOT OF GRADUATING SENIORS, AND WE HOPE THEY WILL ALL BE ABLE TO ATTEND!**

**UNIDIVERSITY IS PLANNED AND RUN BY FRIENDS OF PASTOR BOB'S AND PASTOR JONATHAN'S, AND BOTH OF THEM ARE EXCITED ABOUT THIS NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR YOUTH.**

## End of Year Statements



**End of year donation statements will be prepared and mailed out in the new year. Look for yours in January.**

## SARDIS STAFF

**Rev. Bob Stillerman, Pastor**  
bobstillerman77@gmail.com / 919.810.4044

**Rev. Tillie Duncan, Pastor**  
sardistillie@yahoo.com / 704.562.6599

**Rev. Jonathan Eidson, Pastor**  
sardisjonathan@yahoo.com / 704.622.9984

**Hilary Kearns, Minister of Music**  
sardishilary@yahoo.com / 704.517.4417

**Irena Hramenkova, Pianist**

## a note from the board of TRUSTEES

Dear Sardis Families,

2016 has been a banner year in the life of Sardis Baptist Church. And because of your generosity, we are poised to do even bigger things in 2017. We want to express our gratitude for the financial contributions you've made in the past year – every penny you contribute makes a significant difference in enhancing the ministries of this place.

There were a number of highlights in 2016. We welcomed Hilary Kearns, our new Minister of Music. We dedicated our new picnic shelter. We introduced several new worship events including an Easter Sunrise Service, a Blessing of the Animals, Camp Sardis, and Communion Brunch. During our Saturdays of Service in Lent, Sardis members contributed more than 100 hours of community service to six local ministries, and in the Fall, Sardis raised more than \$2,500 for CROP Walk, and contributed more than 2,000 pounds of food to Loaves and Fishes. Our church also increased its year-over-year annual giving to the missions of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina – we were one of only a handful of churches to do so. These dollars help support local and global missions, divinity schools to train our clergy, homes for both children and the aged, hospitals, the WMU and Baptist Men, the Alliance of Baptists, and countless other organizations that spread God's love in tangible ways.

Your generosity also benefited Sardis in subtle ways: one of our three main HVAC units was replaced, and funds are being set aside to replace another when the need arises; our office computer and financial software were upgraded; the baptistry's water heater was repaired; a Bluetooth speaker was purchased for the Meetinghouse; memorial benches were added to the Labyrinth; candles, flowers and other liturgical elements were purchased to help enhance worship. In addition, your contributions helped pay for utilities, staff salaries, fellowship activities and meals, administrative expenses including postage, printing, paper, custodial and landscaping services, educational materials, printed music and licensing, and insurance, just to name a few.

God is at work in and through the people of Sardis Baptist Church! As 2016 comes to an end, we offer our deepest thanks for you and your contributions. You give us bright hope for where God will lead Sardis in the year ahead.

Wishing you God's blessing and God's peace,

The Trustees of Sardis Baptist Church  
Linda Cook, Lisa Kennedy and David Sigmon



Dear Sardis Family,  
How proud we are to serve this place! Each week offers us new and exciting ways to experience the love of God through your smiling faces. We want to extend our sincere gratitude for the generous love offering you provided to us at this year's Christmas Party. Your kind gift will make an already-great Christmas season even better. We look forward to what God has in store for Sardis in 2017.  
With Love,  
The Sardis Staff

### DEAR SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH...

Thank you so much for the love offering. I really appreciate it. Your act of kindness shown toward me will never be forgotten. Thank you so much for thinking of me. Your kindness may seem simple to you, but it meant everything to me. Thanks again! May God ever bless you all.  
Love, Doris Waiters (office cleaning)

*I would like to thank the member or members of the church who left a present for me at my office a couple weeks ago. It was very much appreciated and rest assured I will pay it forward one day when I am able. Again, I am humbled by your generosity and thankful for your kindness.!*  
Sincerely, Kristin

Thank you so much for all your love and prayers following Christopher's injury and surgery. The meal was delicious. Everything has been deeply appreciated.  
With gratitude, The Mosley-Mair Family

Thanks for the great gift from the Church. Please relay the message. Thanks and God Bless everyone at the Church. Tell others to write if they wish.  
Your Family, Eugene Hill