

signposts

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

All Saints Sunday - November 4th

On Sunday, November 4th, Sardis will celebrate All Saints Sunday, a time in which we remember those people who helped shape our congregation, as well as the Church Universal. During worship, we will recognize the names of those persons in our extended Sardis Family whom we've lost in the last year: Betty Deason, charter member of Sardis Baptist Church, and Carson Sholin — two well loved ladies who contributed to the spirit and formation of Sardis during their years with us.

If you would like to share a name of a friend or family member who has passed on this year, please contact the church office: call 704.362.0811 or email info@sardisbaptistcharlotte.org. At the conclusion of worship, we'll proceed to the labyrinth and sacred gardens, where we will read aloud the names of our Sardis saints.

This will be a Sunday of mixed emotions. We experience great joy and great grief when we remember our loved ones. But this is also a Sunday of power. When we speak the names of our saints, we hasten their spirit, and we are reminded that God's spirit resides in us, too!

And each time we speak their names, we are emboldened to be living saints: people who share their gifts so that others might also know God's fullest presence and God's widest mercies.

We give thanks for our Sardis saints. On Sunday, we'll give voice to our gratitude.

"We are all called to be saints, St. Paul says, and we might as well get over our bourgeois fear of the name. We might also get used to recognizing the fact that there is some of the saint in all of us."

~ Dorothy Day



SARDIS ACADEMY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH

Join us on November 7th for dinner at 5:45 followed by an "Introduction to Frederick Buechner and His Writings" at 6:30 PM. Buechner is an American novelist, poet and essayist, as well as a preacher and theologian. The program will be led by Rev. Gary Hudson, currently the chaplain at Southminster Retirement Community. He has previously served as pastor in various Baptist churches across North Carolina. We look forward to his presentation!



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH

***"Many Faiths, One Community:
Embracing a Multi-Faith World"***

Join us on November 20th at 5:45 PM for a quick supper. Afterwards we will caravan to First United Methodist Church located at 501 North Tryon Street for the 43rd Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving service. Canned goods to feed hungry neighbors will be collected in partnership with Crisis Assistance Ministry and Loaves & Fishes.



I LIFT UP MINE EYES... Rev. Bob Stillerman

On Saturday, October 13th, a dozen Sardisians walked four miles. We rose early. Will filled our bellies with eggs, and coffee, and other proteins for the journey. We stretched. We wore athletic clothes and comfortable shoes. There was an even Emcee, and they sang the National Anthem. And people gave us water at the halfway point, and policemen stopped traffic for us. And a band serenaded us at the finish line. It was a long walk, but it was a fun one, too!

On that same Saturday, more than half-a-billion people around the world walked that same distance to get access to clean water. They'll do the same tomorrow, and the next day, and the next. And as they walk, there will be no pomp and circumstance.

Our church, and other faith houses in Charlotte, often participate in events like CROP Walk and hunger simulations to better understand the devastating effects of hunger and poverty. And we give to social service organizations, and participate in food drives in an effort to help end hunger and poverty both locally and globally.

If these events, activities, simulations, and offerings are to have ANY lasting merit and meaning, we have to make them consistent endeavors. Food banks don't just need food during the holidays. Access to clean water will still be necessary on October 14th. Access for our most vulnerable neighbors to affordable healthcare, childcare, and housing will only become more difficult in the coming years.

This past month, I took 8,800 steps (at least that's what my pedometer said) toward ending hunger. And I brought in a few cans for the food drive. And I gave some spare change here and there to people I passed. And because you all participated in CROP Challenge, our family made a contribution in your honor. And it's making a difference. But my giving (and yours!) will only make a lasting difference if it becomes consistent throughout the year.

We may not be able to make a grand gesture every month. But we can bring one can of food as we are able. And we can say a prayer, or educate ourselves on the effects of poverty, or encourage others to give who haven't already. And maybe one day, we won't have to have a fancy walk for people to take notice of others in need. Until then, count your steps, and be generous with your spare change, and grab a can or two for the bin if you remember.

JEAN LAWRENCE



The barn brack bread Jean Lawrence made for celebration of World Communion at Sardis gives us a hint of her beginnings. She grew up in Yorkshire, England with a brother and two sisters. Though her early church experience was in the Church of England, she was dedicated in a Baptist church in her village. Her father was "doing his part" for the war effort (WWII); with the help of a friend and neighbor, her mother was introduced to a Baptist church near-by where the dedication could take place. Later, when Jean was about 13, she experienced a baptism "of greater years" in the Church of England and was also confirmed in the faith at that time.

"Teacher" is one of the words which sums up Jean's life. She graduated from Doncaster/Sheffield Teacher's College (a college of Sheffield University) with a degree in education, her major field being French. After taking up residence in NC, she earned a masters in education from the University of North Carolina/Charlotte and has National Board certification for world languages.. After teaching stints in Nottingham, England, and in Denmark, Jean married and moved to Greenville, SC. After another short move back home, she and her family came to Charlotte. She taught French at St. Patrick's School, at All Saint's School and at the CMS language immersion school.

Jean has a son who lives in Austin, Texas and a daughter who lives in Charlotte. She enjoys spending time with her grandchildren and with gardening. Her caring and nurturing spirit extends to her rescue dog, Juniper.

Jean first came to Sardis when friends from England (Roger and Janet) were visiting. She "felt welcome the day they came in the door."

Sardis Baptist Church



CELEBRATIONS

- Mary Allen Stillerman is expecting a sibling! Let us pray for all of the Stillermans.
- Melissa Bowlin's recovery continues. She was recently able to attend church for the first time since her accident in January!
- Brenner Children's Hospital is taking good care of sweet little Mollie Gilmore.
- Congratulation to Tillie & Shannon Duncan on the birth of their great-grandson, Baz!
- Michael Shepard-Moore was accepted into Kenan-Flagler Business School of UNC!
- June Ross will be invited to teach quilting on cruise ship!

PETITIONS

▪ All those impacted by Hurricanes Florence and Michael ▪ Fay Alderman ▪ Jourdan Askins and Family ▪ Benjamin, Mary Jane Osborne's grandson ▪ Melissa Bowlin ▪ Margaret Branton, Amanda Lewis' grandmother ▪ Suzette Buchan, Danny Phillips' sister ▪ Ben Cooley, Ruthye's husband ▪ Elzene Corbett, Janet Beltzhoover's mother ▪ Nancy Darnell ▪ Ed DePasquale, friend of William Kruger ▪ Don & Betsy DePaul ▪ Marge Fowler ▪ Mollie Gilmore, granddaughter of Jim & Becky Owen ▪ Myra Helmly, friend of Melissa Bowlin ▪ Don Hill ▪ Eugene Hill, Don's son ▪ Harvie Hill, Kathryn Kreutzer's father ▪ Doris Hunter, Anne Eidson's mother ▪ Ted Jackson, Jeff's grandfather ▪ Karen—CBF North Africa Field Personnel, friend of Amanda Lewis ▪ William Kruger ▪ Lena Landers, friend of the Phillips ▪ Odell Peterson, Howell's brother ▪ Mala Reynolds ▪ Sammy, cousin of Deborah Clark ▪ Bill Sease, Jim Owen's brother-in-law ▪ Catherine Tate, Becky Proctor's sister ▪ Susan Tuttle, friend of Phillips ▪ Carole Underwood, relative of Proctors ▪ Vicki, Amanda Lewis' aunt ▪ Doris Waiters ▪ Eddie Waiters



IT TAKES MANY HANDS, FEET, HEARTS AND MINDS TO DO THE WORK OF SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO ALL OF YOU FOR THE VARIOUS WAYS YOU SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF THIS SPECIAL CHURCH!

- We are grateful to Janette Grassi, Susan Phillips and Robin Rowland for sharing their creative talents with our congregation — Janette for the design and production of our commemorative 30th anniversary ornaments, Susan in her beautiful worship displays, and Robin for the "All Creatures Great and Small" display of beloved animals!
- We are grateful to our Worship Development Stewards for planning a beautiful World Communion service and to those who shared breads from countries they've recently visited: Lauren Clark, Tillie Duncan, Jean Lawrence, Howell Peterson, Susan Phillips and Hannah Shepard-Moore. We are also thankful for special guests who contributed to our service: Jill Crainshaw (proclaimer), Dave Fox (flutist) and Janette Grassi (pottery)!
- Thank you to Hilary Kearns for planning our annual Pumpkin Glow, and to those who helped: Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Kathryn Kreutzer, Becky & Jim Owen and Bob Stillerman!
- We are thankful to Bob Stillerman for coordinating the 2018 Sardis CROP Challenge, and to all those who participated!
- We appreciate the energy given by Susan Phillips and Bob Stillerman to research and select safe, functional and fun equipment for our playground. It has been installed!
- Thank you to Danny Phillips for replacing our church mailbox!
- We thank Becky Proctor for her leadership during Hilary's absence!
- Thank you to Tim Moore and Tillie Duncan for facilitating valuable discussion during the adult Sunday School hour!
- We are grateful to our Fellowship Stewards for coordinating meals during our October Sardis Academy sessions: Janet Beltzhoover, Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Hilary Kearns, Kathryn Kreutzer, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Magay Shepard and Bob Stillerman.
- Thank you to the following people who served as worship leaders in September: Melissa Bowlin, Greg Clark, Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Marge Fowler, Janette Grassi, Betty Gunz, Janie Harris, Irena Hramenkova, Kristin Jackson, Hilary Kearns, Lisa Kennedy, Kathryn Kreutzer, Howell Peterson, Becky Proctor, June Ross, John Simpson, Bob Stillerman and Joe Wall.
- Thank you to those who have shared their love with our youngest Sardis friends during worship care in October: Janet Beltzhoover, Sarah Bowlin, Betty Gunz, Rachel Faulk, David Kreutzer, Amanda Lewis, Katey Mata, Krista Sigmon and Tammy Taylor.

WE WORK HARD TO ACKNOWLEDGE ALL THOSE WHO GIVE THEIR TIME, TALENTS, AND TITHES TO THE MINISTRIES OF SARDIS. YOU ARE A GENEROUS CONGREGATION! SOMETIMES WE FAIL TO OFFER PROPER GRATITUDE TO THE PERSONS WHO DESERVE IT MOST. WE OFFER SPECIAL THANKS FOR THOSE WHOSE GIFTS HAVE GONE UNNOTICED. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOU!

WINTER SKI WEEKEND 2019

For roughly 5,000 years, people have been balancing on two pieces of 'split wood' to get around in the snow. According to Yann de Caprona, the word 'ski' comes from the Old Norse word *skið*. He says it means two pieces of firewood or split wood.

The sport has come a long way and thankfully Winterplace Ski Resort sold off all its 5,000 year old equipment and now has the newest and best for shredding the mountain. Think about this, it's possible some of the water that became the snow that people first skied those many years ago may this winter be on the slopes at Winterplace and it'd be a crime not to ski on it! Read on for the information youth need for this year's adventure led by the CBFNC.

The When: January 25 – 27, 2019

The Where: Winterplace Ski Resort, Ghent, West Virginia

The What: An amazing weekend including snow tubing, snow skiing and worship and group times. Our youth look forward to this one each year and we have a great time together.

The Cost: \$125.00 for members and \$175.00 for non-members.



It seems impossible, but we are a month away from Advent! Because this is such a special year in the life of Sardis Baptist Church, the choir is trying something a little different – we will be presenting a special Advent Cantata on the first Sunday of the season, December 2nd. This cantata includes familiar hymns and new anthems, all telling the story of the Christmas season.

If you or someone you know would like to participate in this year's cantata, please contact Hilary Kearns in person on Sunday morning, or at sardishilary@yahoo.com for more information and a copy of the music. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday evening at 7:30pm in the sanctuary, and a dress rehearsal is in the works.

'Tis (almost) the Season!



SUPERIOR PLAY SYSTEMS @ SARDIS

Superior Play Systems installed new playground equipment at Sardis Baptist during the final weeks of October. It is sure to receive kudos from our kiddos for years to come! It's decked with a variety of options—swings, rings, a slide, multiple climbing options and more. Stay tuned for info on an upcoming playground inauguration event coming soon.





NOVEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

NOVEMBER.4.2018

Worship Care.....Chris Mair & Elizabeth Mosley
Greeter / Vestibule.....Marge Fowler
Ushers.....Elizabeth Beltzhoover, Janet Beltzhoover &
.....Valerie Rutherford

NOVEMBER.11.2018

Worship Care.....Joey & Maria Byrd
Greeter / Vestibule.....Howell Peterson
Ushers.....Kathryn Kreutzer, Madison Kreutzer &
.....Howell Peterson

NOVEMBER.18.2018

Worship Care.....Mary Jane Osborne & Valerie Rutherford
Greeter / Vestibule.....Joe Wall
Ushers.....Betty Gunz, Lisa Kennedy & Joe Wall

NOVEMBER.25.2018

Worship Care.....June Ross & Adam Taylor
Greeter / Vestibule.....Ron Demme
Ushers.....Sarah Bowlin, Ron Demme & Magay Shepard

DECEMBER.2.2018

Worship Care.....Alcie Kreutzer & Jacqueline Stillerman
Greeter / Vestibule.....John Simpson
Ushers.....Janette Grassi, June Ross & John Simpson



REIGN of CHRIST SUNDAY

Reign of Christ, also known as **Christ the King** is the final Sunday in the church calendar. (Think of it as the New Year's Eve of church liturgy.) This Christian feast was established in 1925 by the Pope in an effort to establish Christ as the divine ruler, above and beyond fascist leaders of the world claiming themselves kings.

Rather than focusing on the political happenings of the world, let us focus this **Reign of Christ Sunday** on the theology of Christ's kingdom—that it is at hand, in the here and now. We just need to live in the present and align our spirits with that of Christ.

Rev. Jonathan Eidson will preach on Reign of Christ Sunday, November 25th. We hope to seeing you here!

SUNDAY SCHOOL



The Adult Sunday School class meets at 9:45 AM on Sunday mornings. Rev. Tillie Duncan is facilitating group discussions based on a book authored by Bishop John Shelby Spong, **Re-Claiming the Bible for a Non-Religious World**. Reading of the book is not required to participate or to benefit from our time together! Extra copies of the book are available at the church. Upcoming topics include *Liturgical Books & Wisdom Literature*, *Intro to the Christian Scriptures*, *Paul*, *The Synoptic Gospels*, *The Epistles* and *The Johannine Corpus*.

Sardis Baptist Church – Calendar

November

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30th Anniversary - December 16th				1 All Saints Day	2	3 Daylight Savings Time Ends (Clocks fall back before you hit the sack!)
4 All Saints Sunday 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Deacons Meeting	5 	6	7 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 6:30 PM Gary Hudson 7:30 PM Choir Practice	8	9	10 
11  9:30 AM Baby Shower for Stillermans 11:00 AM Worship Communion	12 Veteran's Day Observed 	13	14 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice	15	16	17
18 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship  Noon Quarterly Conference	19	20 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal Time TBD MeckMin Interfaith Thanksgiving Service 	21 	22	23	24
25 Reign of Christ 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Rev. Jonathan Eidson	26 	27	28 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Practice	29	30	

thanks -for- GIVING

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.

September Budgeted Offerings	\$12,916.67
September Actual Offerings	\$20,668.94
October Budgeted Offerings	\$12,916.67
October Actual Offerings	\$8,580.00
Year-to-Date Budgeted Offerings.....	\$129,166.70
Year-to-Date Actual Offerings	\$106,635.35

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 and their current balances. Any member of our staff or Board of Trustees can provide you with details about additional funds.

30th Anniversary...Campus Development...	\$3,852.84
Benevolence....Individual & Family Needs....	\$1,178.37
*Duncan Proceeds.....Speakers; Budget.....	\$3,562.96
*Hill Proceeds.....Music; Outreach.....	\$2,194.03
*Odom Proceeds....Children & Youth.....	\$6,949.78
Maintenance Escrow...Upkeep & Repairs....	\$17,381.42
*Balance reflects proceeds currently available, principal balances, not listed, vary with market conditions.	

BENEVOLENCE

An extended Sardis family member, a child of charter members of our church, is in need of benevolence. He will be moving back to our area in December to reestablish himself in our community. He has specifically requested clothes in the following sizes: 37/39—30 pants, 2X shirts, winter coat (2X-3X), size 10 work boots, and clothes appropriate for church. Perhaps you would consider a donation to our Benevolence fund which will allow us to provide some assistance during his transition.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS of MINISTRY

As our 30th Anniversary Celebration approaches, Sardis is offering a unique way to mark this special occasion. Our own Janette Grassi has been commissioned to create three commemorative ornaments inspired by the worship window in the meetinghouse. Two of the three designs are represented in the photos, and a sketch of the third option is on the vestibule bulletin board.



The cost of each handcrafted ornament is \$30, but shoppers will receive a discount on the purchase of two (\$25 each), or three or more (\$20 each). All proceeds will benefit the 30th Anniversary Fund, which helps to maintain our campus and grounds. Contact the office to place an order.

CHURCH CONFERENCE

PLEASE STAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP FOR A BRIEF UPDATE FROM THE BOARDS AT OUR QUARTERLY CHURCH CONFERENCE ON 11/18.



QUILTS FOR TAYLOR HOUSE

June Ross, the Sardis "Quilter-in-Residence", recently learned that one of our ministry partners had a need and took action to take care of it! Residents at Taylor House, a retirement community of Baptist Retirement Homes, needed blankets, so June set to work cutting, piecing and quilting. She's made six to donate! Many Sardis friends have benefited from her creativity and generosity; she's made stoles for our staff and quilts for our babies. We have no doubt the Taylor House residents will be thankful!



Hair Bows, Blankies and Burp Cloths Galore,
Bob and Jacqueline Are Having One More!
Big Sis, Mary Allen, Has Plenty to Share,
But Let's Show the Stillermans
How Much We Care!

The Deacons of Sardis Baptist Church
Invite You to Breakfast and a Baby Shower
November 11th, 2018 at 9:30 AM
Honoring Baby Girl Stillerman
Sardis Baptist Church
Educational Building

Registry Available at BabyList.com

