

# sardis signposts

baptist church

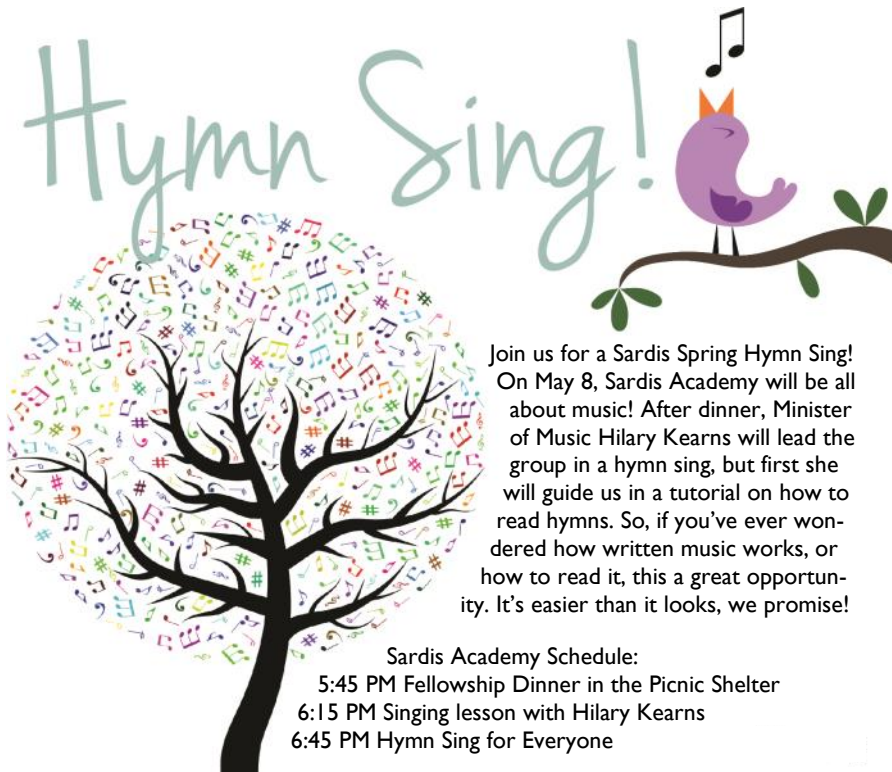
a spiritually progressive community of faith

5811 Sardis Road / Charlotte, NC 28270 / 704.362.0811  
sardisbaptistcharlotte.org

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:45 AM –  
Sunday School

11:00 AM –  
Morning Worship



Join us for a Sardis Spring Hymn Sing! On May 8, Sardis Academy will be all about music! After dinner, Minister of Music Hilary Kearns will lead the group in a hymn sing, but first she will guide us in a tutorial on how to read hymns. So, if you've ever wondered how written music works, or how to read it, this a great opportunity. It's easier than it looks, we promise!

Sardis Academy Schedule:  
5:45 PM Fellowship Dinner in the Picnic Shelter  
6:15 PM Singing lesson with Hilary Kearns  
6:45 PM Hymn Sing for Everyone



Sardis Baptist Church celebrates alongside our graduates of the class of 2019, Allie Eidson and Kaleb Kreutzer. We will recognize their accomplishments during worship on Sunday, May 19th.

Allie has earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Kaleb has earned his High School diploma from Charlotte Secondary School. Both will continue formal educations following graduations. Allie has been accepted to a graduate program for Industrial and Occupational Psychology at Meredith College. She will begin in the fall. Kaleb has decided to stay in Charlotte to begin his college career. He will start at Central Piedmont Community College with a plan to take transferrable general education classes. He plans to transfer to earn his undergraduate degree from a school in North Carolina's university system.

Please take a moment to share your congratulations with them both!

## 3RD ANNUAL SARDIS OLYMPICS

Mark your calendars! You won't want to miss our 3rd Sardis Olympics! The Opening Ceremony begins at 5:45 PM on May 15th in the Sardis Picnic Shelter. Supper will be provided. Competition between Team Swiz-Hil (pronounced Swizzle) and Team Bob-Kat is expected to be fierce and your sportsmanship is needed! Events this year include Curling (toe-curling, that is), Trash & Field, Squash and more. Physical training is not necessary in order to prepare. Just bring your appetite and be ready to go for the gold!



## I LIFT UP MINE EYES...

Rev. Bob Stillerman

Now that the Easter candy is on clearance, and the pollen count is up, and the weather is warmer, I see renewal happening every day.

Every lawn on the cul-de-sac has been treated (well all but one!), and those hedges and edges are angled perfectly. And you can't go too far without seeing a bucket, and a hose, and some Turtle Wax, and a big truck or a sporty coupe being made pretty again. Or after having its long-awaited wash, being backed meticulously into a parking space one-hundred feet away from any sign of life in the grocery store parking lot – nothing spoils Resurrection quicker than door dings and bird poop.

There are new pastel wardrobes, and tanned bodies from tropical spring breaks, and organized garages, and new resolutions for healthier eating and living. The list goes on.

And don't get me wrong. I participate in plenty of these kinds of renewals. But if we're not careful, we can easily ignore the most important type of renewal this season. Too often, we view Easter as the culmination of our spiritual year rather than as a catalyst for ongoing renewal.

Easter morning doesn't end with a period. I think it's more of an ellipsis. And the question that remains for us: "What are we going to do to resurrect, or reclaim, or renew God's spirit in our lives?"

In the past month alone, I can tell you for certain that I've given at least twenty hours of my time for errands like repairing my car, cleaning my house, taking out the trash, mowing my lawn, managing my finances, doing laundry, and on and on. Not to mention the ten intentional hours I'll give toward Game of Thrones, and at least a dozen more to the Braves in the coming month.

But I wonder, what would happen if I gave even a fraction of that "renewal" time to noticing where God is in my world? And even more so, seeking to notice the people and places for whom God's presence is not so apparent and noticeable?

Last Sunday, the stone was rolled away. And guess what, that'll still be true next Sunday and the next. And if we open ourselves to such a truth, we also open ourselves to an ongoing sense of renewal. No matter who takes the Iron Throne in a few weeks!



*Sardis People and Places...*

## The Byrd Family



Children like to stay busy. For parents who want to limit screen time for their little ones, community opportunities for play and learning becomes an important resource. Having a family which includes three little girls sent Joey and Maria Byrd looking for children's activities in their area. Finding nothing close to their Mountain Island Lake home, the Byrds purchased a Romp N Roll franchise. Then the time-consuming work began: securing a location, installing equipment, training staff.

The Mountain Island Romp N Roll opened in December, the third franchise in North Carolina. Classes are offered every day of the week and there are also times and areas for open playtime. Art, music and physical activity provide children with the opportunity to develop imagination, motor skills, socialization. Children aged three months to five years can attend one week and be a princess or knight; another week is pirate-themed; super heroes is yet another motif. So play-learning is always new and exciting. Families with preschoolers can attend functions like summer camp or a mother's day party, or can arrange for birthday parties. So many exciting activities beckon, one might wish to be a child again.

Both Maria and Joey still work at Wells Fargo. But their schedules are less hectic now that the Romp N Roll is established. These days they most often go as customers! Well, actually, Isabella, Amaya and Leilana are the customers.

The most recent exciting event for the Byrds was the child dedication service for Leilana. The April 28 Sardis worship included a time for Joey and Maria to pledge their goal to provide a loving home for their daughter, undergirded by their faith.





# Sardis Baptist Church



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!

Holy Week is the busiest week of the year in church life, and we had numerous services and events at Sardis Baptist: Memorial and Reception for William Kruger, Palm Sunday Service & Cantata, Maundy Thursday Supper and Service, Community Good Friday Worship and Minsters' Luncheon, Easter Sunrise Service, IHOP Breakfast Celebration, and Traditional Easter Worship. We cannot possibly list those who made these events and services successful! Thank you for your role in the sacred events of Holy Week.

Thanks to many of you for great efforts leading to productive Sardis workdays in preparation for Holy Week and in celebration of Earth Day. Again, there are just too many names to list! We are grateful for the engagement of you all in the life and happenings at Sardis Baptist Church.

We appreciate all those who helped with preparation, cooking and cleanup for our celebration of William Kruger's life. There are too many names to list – a wonderful showing of love for our departed friend. A special word of thanks to Mark Catoe for playing piano for William's memorial service.

Words (or songs) are inadequate as thanks to Hilary Kearns, Irena Hramenkova, and the members of our choir for their regular leadership in worship and especially for their outstanding performance in our "Dance of the Lord" Easter Cantata!

We have a piano in the Education Building! Many thanks to Irena Hramenkova, Hilary Kearns, Jim Owen, Danny Phillips and Rick Proctor for their efforts in the purchase and delivery.

Thank you to the following people for our Sardis Academy meals in April: Elizabeth and Janet Beltzhoover, Tillie Duncan, Gunz, Kathryn Kreutzer, Howell Peterson, Susan Phillips, Magay Shepard, Bob Stillerman and Joe Wall.

We appreciate the following people who served as worship leaders in April: Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Marge Fowler, Janette Grassi, Betty Gunz, Janie Harris, Bennett Henkel, Irena Hramenkova, Billie Hutchison, Hilary Kearns, Lisa Kennedy, Kathryn Kreutzer, Jean Lawrence, Jim Owen, Howell Peterson, Abby, Hannah & Michael Shepard-Moore, John Simpson, Bob Stillerman, and Joe Wall.

We are grateful to those who shared their love with our youngest friends during worship care in April: Rachel Faulk, Janie Harris, Lisa Kennedy, Kathryn Kreutzer, Jose & Katey Mata, Mary Jane Osborne, Krista Sigmon, Jacqueline Stillerman, Adam & 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!



## CELEBRATIONS

Congrats to Allie Eidson on her acceptance to a graduate program for Industrial and Occupational Psychology at Meredith College ▪ The Henkel/Lewis family is welcoming a new puppy this month— Fredward ▪ Congratulations to Jeff Jackson on his new job with Flying Squirrel Tree Company ▪ We are thrilled that the Mata family is growing! They are expecting a baby boy in August ▪ Congratulations to Hannah Shepard-Moore for her summer internship appointment

## CONDOLENCES

May our Sardis friends be comforted by the outpouring of love surrounding them as they grieve.

- Marian (Wis) Monroe, sister of Larry Harrill
- Billie Washburn, aunt of Tillie Duncan
- Odell Peterson, brother of Howell Peterson

## PETITIONS

Fay Alderman ▪ Keith Bingham, former pastor of St. Stephen UMC ▪ Duke Birtwhistle, friend of Matas ▪ Judy Blevins, friend of Kristin Parker ▪ Sammy Boone, nephew of Deborah Clark ▪ Melissa Bowlin ▪ Margaret Branton, Amanda Lewis' grandmother ▪ Suzette Buchan, Danny Phillips' sister ▪ Sonny Cole, Marge Fowler's brother ▪ Ben Cooley, Ruthye's husband ▪ Elzene Corbett, Janet Beltzhoover's mother ▪ Nancy Darnell ▪ Don & Betsy DePaul ▪ Mollie Gilmore, granddaughter of Jim & Becky Owen ▪ Gennelle Hall, Mother of Jessica Wallace (Bullies 2 the Rescue) ▪ Joanne Henkel, Bennett's grandmother ▪ Don Hill ▪ Eugene Hill, Don's son ▪ Harvie Hill, Kathryn Kreutzer's father ▪ Doris Hunter, Anne Eidson's mother ▪ Billie Hutchison ▪ Kathie Jean ▪ Karen— CBF North Africa Field Personnel, friend of Amanda Lewis ▪ Barbara Newman, mother of Kris Hawkins ▪ Becky Proctor ▪ Betty Rector, grandmother of Hilary Kearns, Mala Reynolds ▪ Linda & William Roddey, friends of Phillips ▪ Catherine Tate, Becky Proctor's sister ▪ Wretha Townsend, neighbor of Phillips ▪ Susan Tuttle, friend of Phillips ▪ Vicki Lewis, Amanda's aunt ▪ Debbie Wike, former member of Sardis Baptist Church

## Baby Dedications



The future is now! Would you believe we've scheduled three baby dedication services for this spring? We began with Leilana Byrd on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Curtis and Hank Taylor are scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>, and Lucy Stillerman's dedication will not be far behind.

Why do we dedicate the children of our church? True, "We've always done it that way," but have you ever considered why? Some believe it's because churches that weren't baptizing infants needed an alternative. We've grown up hearing faith stories of Moses' river basket, Abraham and Isaac, Hannah and Samuel, Elizabeth and John the Baptist and Mary and Jesus. We've seen the importance of faith in their lives and we know the importance of faith in ours.

We dedicate our children to God more as an agreement or covenant between the faith community and the child's family to teach the child about following Jesus. We don't decide for the child but instead agree to love and educate the child to the point that the child can make her/his own decision about faith matters.

If you've been a part of one of our services, you know how special they are for the family as well as for our community. I believe they are special for the child too. The child may not be able to verbalize any memory of the dedication but it has been woven into the very fabric of her/his being. The future is bright and it is now!



## UNIDIVERSITY

YOUTH! THE TIME HAS COME TO START  
PLANNING FOR UNIDIVERSITY!

This year's theme is *Fathoms*, exploring the idea of depth both personally and in scripture. For the past two years this week-long event has been held at the University of TN at Knoxville, but in 2019 we have moved to Maryville College — still in the Knoxville area, but a much smaller liberal arts college. This will allow us to do more with the spaces provided and to hopefully have free-reign of the entire campus!

If you are a youth, or a youth parent, please let Jonathan or Hilary know if you would like to attend this year's camp. We will leave Sardis on the morning of Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, and travel together to Maryville. Camp begins Monday night and lasts until Saturday morning, July 27<sup>th</sup>, when we will make the journey home and reminisce about our awesome time there.

Jonathan's email:  
sardisjonathan@yahoo.com  
phone: (704) 552-9426

Hilary's email:  
sardishilary@yahoo.com  
phone: (704) 517-4417

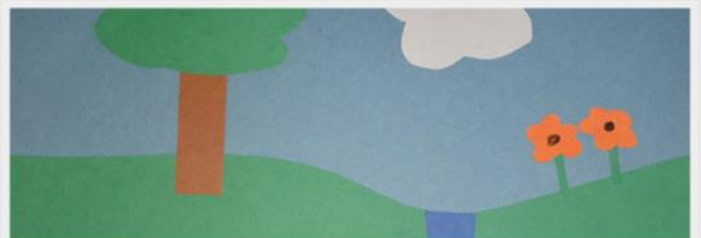
MARYVILLE  
COLLEGE  
BE THERE

July 22 - 27, 2019

UNIDIVERSITY

## CREATION: GOD MADE THE WORLD

Our May preschool Sunday school will focus on the creation of the world. We'll talk about animals, plants, day and night, the sun, moon, stars and oceans. We'll be able to use the beauty of spring all around us as we explore this theme, an important concept for our faith. We'll be praying for a warm, sunny day but even if it rains, we'll have great visual examples from the world around us. Your preschooler is invited to join Pastors Hilary and J Swizz on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 AM.



# SERVE

## Ministry Opportunities

**MAY 5, 2019**

**Worship Care**

Janet Belzhoover and Betty Gunz

**Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer**

Ron Demme

**Ushers**

Sarah Bowlin, Ron Demme, Valerie Rutherford

**MAY 12, 2019**

**Worship Care**

Sarah Bowlin and Amanda Lewis

**Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer**

John Simpson

**Ushers**

Janette Grassi, June Ross, John Simpson

**MAY 19, 2019**

**Worship Care**

David Kreutzer and Tammy Taylor

**Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer**

Joe wall

**Ushers**

Betty Gunz, Lisa Kennedy, Joe Wall

**MAY 26, 2019**

**Worship Care**

Joey and Maria Byrd

**Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer**

Marge Fowler

**Ushers**

Elizabeth and Janet Beltzhoover, Greg Clark

**June 2, 2019**

**Worship Care**

Choir Members TBD

**Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer**

Howell Peterson

**Ushers**

Janie Harris, Jean Lawrence, Howell Peterson



### WORSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Worship Development Stewards will meet for a Spring planning session following worship on Sunday, May 5th. They will be discussing plans for Pentecost as well as special series and events during the Summer months.

During meetings, the Sardis Ministry team collaborates with Worship Development volunteers to plan worship that is intentionally inclusive, creative and sacred. Please find an opportunity to share how you experience worship at Sardis with a member of our staff or this team which includes the following people: Janette Grassi, Amanda Lewis, Susan Phillips, Becky Proctor, and Robin Rowland. If you are interested in adding your voice to our worship planning team please talk to a member of the Sardis Baptist Church staff.

## Official Taylor Welcome



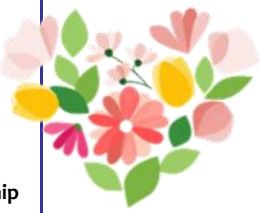



Although we have long considered the Taylors members of our Sardis Family, they have made their commitment official. Adam, Tammy, Hank and Curtis officially joined us in April. We are thrilled to add them to our roster.





# Sardis Baptist Church – Calendar

# MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	2	3	4
5 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Taylor Dedication Noon Church Conference 12:30 PM Worship Development	6 	7	8 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 5:45 PM Fellowship Dinner 6:30 PM Sardis Hymn Sing 7:45 PM Chancel Choir	9 	10	11
12 Mother's Day Allie Eidson's Graduation 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Communion Worship	13 	14	15 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 5:45 PM Fellowship Dinner 6:30 PM Sardis Olympics 7:45 PM Chancel Choir	16 	17	18
19 9:45 AM Sunday School Toddler Class 11:00 AM Worship Graduate Recognition	20 	21	22 4:45 PM Staff Meeting 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	23 Kaleb Kreutzer's Graduation	24	25
26 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Jonathan Eidson	27  <b>THANK YOU !</b>	28	29 4:45 PM Staff Meeting	30	31	



Sardis Baptist holds one conference per quarter, as required by the church by-laws. Our next church conference is scheduled for Sunday, May 5th. We will stay briefly following worship to give member of our Deacons, Trustees and Board on Stewards an opportunity to share updates regarding their to work. If you have a matter you'd like discussed at a church conference, please share it with a member of our staff or boards.



**Pastor Bob, along with guest proclaimers, share thought provoking words with us on Sunday mornings at Sardis! If you are unable to be with us you can watch live or recorded versions of our services on Facebook.com/ SardisBaptistCharlotte/. Electronic copies of sermons are also available on our website: SardisBaptistCharlotte.org. Printed copies are always available on Sunday mornings in the vestibule for those who wish to follow along with a written copy.**

# offerings

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 and church grounds. The amounts below reflect general (undesignated) offerings.

February Budgeted Offerings.....	\$12,500.00
February Actual Offerings.....	\$8,936.00
March Budgeted Offerings.....	\$12,500.00
March Actual Offerings.....	\$8,716.00
April Budgeted Offerings.....	\$12,500.00
April Actual Offerings.....	\$11,997.00
YTD Budgeted Offerings.....	\$50,000.00
YTD Actual Offerings.....	\$38,220.01

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.....	\$10,720.18
Benevolence.....	Individual & Family Needs.....	\$964.54
*Duncan Proceeds.....	Speakers; Budget.....	\$5,230.18
*Hill Proceeds.....	Music; Outreach.....	\$2,118.04
*Odom Proceeds.....	Children & Youth.....	\$6,931.14
Maintenance Escrow.....	Upkeep & Repairs.....	\$17,515.58
*Balance reflects proceeds currently available, principal balances, not listed, vary with market conditions.		





**BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES**  
**OF NORTH CAROLINA, INCORPORATED**

Our partner in ministry, Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, 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 May. Sardis folks collected close to \$300 of spare change last year. Let us exceed that amount in 2019!

We are wrapping up our "Welcome Home" project. Please bring any donations you wish to contribute as soon as possible. Donations for the "Migrant Assistance Project" and "Loaves and Fishes" are ongoing.

*May our Sardis friends be comforted by the outpouring  
of love surrounding them as they grieve their loved ones:*

*~ Marian (Wis) Monroe, sister of Larry Harrill ~*

*~ Odell Peterson, brother of Howell Peterson*

*~ Billie Washburn, aunt of Tillie Duncan ~*