

sardis signposts baptist church

a spiritually progressive community of faith

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

SUMMER SCHEDULE

9:45 AM
Sunday School

10:30 AM
Morning Worship

11:15 AM
TalkBack

SPEAKING CHRISTIAN

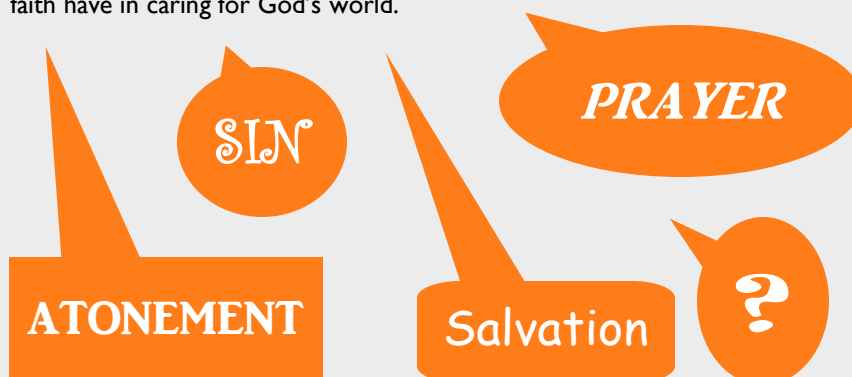
THOUGHT STARTER—9:45; WORSHIP—10:30; TALKBACK—11:15

Our special series on Christian language begins soon! Each Sunday from July 14th to August 4th, we'll focus on a specific word commonly used (or mis-used) by Christian communities. We'll learn its origin, discuss its meaning in the Roman Empire, and use discernment to understand the words in the context of our current lives.

Each Sunday will begin with a "Thought Starter" at 9:45 AM, based on the book, "Speaking Christian" written by Marcus Borg. Contact the church if you would like a copy of the book. Worship will begin at 10:30 AM followed by a TalkBack session at 11:15. This is sure to be a thought-provoking series! We'd love for your voice to contribute to the conversation.

JULY 14th—SIN • JULY 21st—SALVATION •
JULY 28th—PRAYER • AUGUST 4th—ATONEMENT

Our annual Communion Brunch is scheduled for August 11th, and our second special series of the Summer will begin the following week. Our focus from August 18th to September 15th will be on the Creation Crisis. We will look at a variety of issues concerning our environment and the role people of faith have in caring for God's world.



SUNDAY, JULY 14TH

NOON

**PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US
FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP.**

**BRING A MAIN DISH, SIDE OR
DESSERT TO SHARE.**

SARDIS ACADEMY ?

We want Sardis Academy to excite and engage you! Summer is the season we plan for fall academy sessions, and we would like your input.

- What speakers would spark your interests?
- What topics engage your intellect?
- What issues challenge your faith?

Please share your answers with any staff member. Your feedback will help us provide meaningful programming in the coming months.

I LIFT UP MINE EYES...

Rev. Bob Stillerman

A few weeks ago, Mary Allen's daycare class painted seashells. She's really proud of hers. It's blue (her favorite color!), and if you put your ear next to it, you can hear the ocean. She laughs, and she instantly remembers her annual trip to the beach. "There's sand, Daddy, and waves, and clouds, and the water's cold! And I can hear it. Do you wanna hear it, too?"

That got me thinking. Wouldn't it be nice if there was a seashell we could put up against our ear, and no matter how far away, nor what time of day, we could instantly hear Sardis Baptist Church: its laughter, its singing, its joy, its words of welcome?

Well, we sort of can. We do stream our services on Facebook Live, so you can always connect virtually on Sunday mornings in real time or find old archives anytime. And all those good sounds are housed in one box – just put your ear up to it, and yours eyes, too!

Okay, it's not quite the same thing as a seashell. But maybe that makes for a good summer challenge. What things, tangible and intangible, can we give to one another, to keep us connected this summer?

Can a handwritten note invite you to the water's edge, even if you live four hours away?

Is there power in a text, or a phone call, or even (gasp!) an in-person visit to friends new and old?

Can the memory of a kind word, or a prayer remembrance, or even some silly Sardis trinket sitting on your desk (Cheetos, Chocolate hands and crosses, and egg-shakers come to mind) recreate the divine community in a fleeting moment?

I think they can. And I think we, as a worshipping community of believers called Sardis, are really in the seashell business. We're creating life-giving memories, symbols and moments that seek to remind us of God's presence, and our connectedness in such a presence. And when we do that, the life, energy, and depth of worship that's created inside our walls, spills outside. In other words, God's goodness becomes mobile, transportable, and easily connected to.

So when you are at the beach this year, listen to a seashell. Sure, you'll hear the ocean. But if you listen closely, and if we're doing Church right, you'll hear Sardis, too.



Sardis People ~

Allie Eidson



Allie Eidson has an enthusiasm for music, and has shared her vocal talent with the congregation of Sardis. She grew up surrounded by music: her mother Anne spending her working life in church music. Sardis folk are treated to her father Jonathan's musical expertise as he often adds percussion accompaniment to our music and sings bass in the choir.

Allie is a recent honors graduate of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She received degrees in Psychology and Human Development and Family Studies. While in school, she worked as a research assistant in rural middle schools, and as an intern at CPCC's department of organizational development. This fall she will begin studies at Meredith College to obtain her Masters of Arts in Industrial and Organizational Psychology. I/O Psychology is a relatively new field, typically housed within Human Resources, which focuses on the psychology of workplaces. The idea that happy employees are more productive is relatively new to many (and obvious to others), but the field is gaining traction. Allie's ultimate goal is to help make the 1/3 of life spent at work more enjoyable for the masses. During her last semester, Allie spent 30 hours a week serving as Curriculum Development Intern at a nonprofit called StepUp Durham, which provides job readiness training to unemployed and underemployed residents of Durham. Allie wrote 30 hours of curriculum that focuses on interview prep, time management, and strategic planning.

In her free time, Allie enjoys cooking. She loves cookbooks and watches The Great British Bake Off almost every day. Her family is sometimes treated to delicious dishes in which she has "tinkered" with the original recipes to make the outcome her very own creation. Her mother cannot believe that she refuses to follow a recipe verbatim. This summer Allie is staying busy with StepUp Durham, where she has transitioned into a new role coordinating personal, professional, and financial workshops for graduates of the program and their families.



**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!**

Thank you to the Sardis Baptist board of deacons for planning and organizing a baby shower in honor of the Matas and their growing family. We all appreciated the good eats provided by Tillie Duncan, Jonathan Eidson, Bennett Henkel, Marge Fowler, Betty Gunz, Hilary Kearns, Kathryn Kreutzer, Jean Lawrence, Amanda Lewis, Susan Phillips, Magay Shepard, and Bob Stillerman.

We appreciate the following people who served as worship leaders in June: Deborah & Greg Clark, Jonathan Eidson, Betty Gunz, Janie Harris, Irena Hramenkova, Billie Hutchison, Hilary Kearns, Debbie Kidd, Alcie Kreutzer, Kathryn Kreutzer, Jean Lawrence, Peggy Lewis, Katey Mata, Lillian Park, Howell Peterson, Danny Phillips, Susan Phillips, June Ross, Sarah Russell, John Simpson, Bob Stillerman, and Joe Wall.

Thank you to those who shared their love with our youngest friends during worship care in June: Tillie Duncan, Rachel Faulk, Alcie Kreutzer, Kathryn Kreutzer, Tim Moore, Jim Owen, Kristin Parker, Danny Phillips, and Susan Phillips.

We are grateful for the beautiful flower pots and welcoming flag as you enter our sidewalk. Thank you Betty Gunz, Susan Phillips, and Magay Shepard.

Our displays provide a meaningful visual connection with our themes for worship. We are thankful for the creativity and effort of Janette Grassi and Susan Phillips. Thank you to Rick Proctor and Inbo Furniture for supplying elements for our Pentecost display.

We appreciate the leadership of our Sunday School teachers: Tillie Duncan in the Adult Class; Jonathan Eidson and Hilary Kearns in the Children's Class.

**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!**



CELEBRATIONS

We are thrilled that the Mata family is growing! They are expecting a baby boy in August. ■ Congratulations to Marvin & Kathie Jean on 64 years of marriage, Tillie & Shannon Duncan on 54 years of marriage, and Jonathan & Anne Eidson on 30 years of marriage! ■ Congratulations Hilary Kearns on the adoption of a kitten; welcome Luna!

PETITIONS

Fay Alderman ■ Keith Bingham, former pastor of St. Stephen UMC ■ Judy Blevins, friend of Kristin Parker ■ Sammy Boone, nephew of Deborah Clark ■ Melissa Bowlin ■ Margaret Branton, Amanda Lewis' grandmother ■ Suzette Buchan, Danny Phillips' sister ■ Kay, cousin of Deborah Clark ■ Sonny Cole, Marge Fowler's brother ■ Ben Cooley, Ruthye's husband ■ Elzene Corbett, Janet Beltzhoover's mother ■ Nancy Darnell ■ Don & Betsy DePaul ■ David Faircloth, relation of Phillips ■ 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 ■ Larry Hovis, CBFNC ■ Doris Hunter, Anne Eidson's mother ■ Karen—CBF North Africa Field Personnel ■ David Kearns, cousin of Hilary Kearns ■ Bobbie, Katie Mata's grandmother ■ Becky Proctor ■ Mala Reynolds ■ Linda & William Roddey, friends of Phillips ■ Doris Ann Hudson, niece of June Ross ■ Friends and Family of Wretha Townsend, neighbor of Phillips ■ Susan Tuttle, friend of Phillips ■ Vicki Lewis, Amanda's aunt ■ Katie Wiebke, daughter of Mark & Amy ■ Mary Wiebke, mother of Mark ■ Debbie Wike, former member of Sardis Baptist Church



The Sardis Youth Group will attend the CBFNC Beach Retreat on September 20th-22nd at Fort Caswell located in Oak Island, NC. **This year, the church will cover all camper fees for every Sardis Youth and one friend of their choosing.** Jonathan and Hilary will be reaching out via phone and text to all parents and youth, but we wanted to send a heads up. If your child would like to attend, we need to receive a commitment by August 1st.

This offer comes with one stipulation – youth (and friends) who commit to go by the deadline will be expected to honor their commitment. Those youth who commit but are unable to attend will be expected to reimburse the church for their camp fees.

If you are interested in attending, please email Pastor Jonathan (sardisjonathan@yahoo.com) AND the church office (info@sardisbaptistcharlotte.org).

Here is a link to the CBFNC retreat site:

cbfnc.org/events/youth-beach-retreat-2019

The church will fill out the reservation for each youth attending camp. Once we have a commitment, Jonathan will reach out with necessary permission forms.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Jonathan, Hilary, or the church office.

Butterfly Prayers



Sardis resident quilter, June Ross, recently designed, cut, pieced and stitched a healing quilt for Mollie Gilmore, 7-year-old granddaughter of Jim and Becky Owen. June's quilt pattern was titled "Butterfly Prayers," and it represents the love and prayers shared with Mollie by the people of Sardis Baptist Church.

Mollie was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) last year. She began a 26-month protocol of chemotherapy and has completed nine months. Keep the prayers for Mollie and her family coming. Her treatment has been successful so far, and Mollie has a prognosis for a healthy future!

"Butterfly Prayers" is pictured below. We are grateful for the love, creativity and skill that June has shared with Sardis Baptist through quilting. She's presented hand-made quilts to Sardis friends struggling with illnesses, to residents of Baptist Retirement Homes, and all Sardis babies born since June came to Sardis have been blessed with quilts made especially for them! (See the back page for a photo of Kate & Jose with a quilt presented at their recent baby shower).



YOUR CALLING IS BIGGER THAN YOU. IT'S ABOUT THE PEOPLE YOU ARE CALLED TO

Impact

WE ARE CHURCH

JULY 7, 2019

Worship Care

Tillie Duncan & Billie Hutchison

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer

Howell Peterson

Ushers

Janie Harris, Jean Lawrence, Howell Peterson

JULY 14, 2019

Worship Care

Debbie Kidd & Jim Owen

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer

Ron Demme

Ushers

Ron Demme, Valerie Rutherford & TBD

JULY 21, 2019

Worship Care

Susan & Danny Phillips

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer

John Simpson

Ushers

Janette Grassi, June Ross, John Simpson

JULY 28, 2019

Worship Care

Kristin Parker & TBD

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer

Joe Wall

Ushers

Betty Gunz, Lisa Kennedy, Joe Wall

AUGUST 4, 2019

Worship Care

Mary Jane Osborne & Valerie Rutherford

Greeter / Vestibule Volunteer

Marge Fowler

Ushers

Greg Clark, Elizabeth Beltzhoover, Janet Beltzhoover

Be Our Guest...



The month of July will be another exciting one for Sardis music! We welcome Irena Hramenkova back from Russia, along with several guest musicians.

Baritone Micah White will join Soprano Hilary Kearns for a duet one Sunday. Another week we will again enjoy the talents of Tatiana Karpova – violinist with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. We will also have the chance to hear from some of Sardis' own talent. Madison Kreutzer and her friend Eden Pearlman from the Jewish Community Center will sing together one Sunday, and Debbie Kidd will play guitar for us another Sunday.

In addition, we will learn a new hymn or two from Minister of Music, Hilary Kearns. Each song has been carefully chosen for its text and tune. This is going to be an exciting month of music and we look forward to sharing it with you!

We worshipped Jesus instead of following him on his same path.

We made Jesus into a mere religion instead of a journey toward union with God and everything else.





This shift made us into a religion of "belonging and believing" instead of a religion of transformation.

- Richard Rohr

Sardis Baptist Church – Calendar

July



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 2:00 PM Staff Meeting No Choir Summer Break	4 	5	6
7 4 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	8	9	10 2:00 PM Staff Meeting No Choir Summer Break	11	12	13
14 5 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Speaking Christian Noon Church Potluck	15 	16	17 2:00 PM Staff Meeting No Choir Summer Break	18	<div>SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS JULY 14 9:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM TALKBACK</div>	
21 6 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:45 AM Sunday School Toddler Class 10:30 AM Speaking Christian	22 	23	24 2:00 PM Staff Meeting No Choir Summer Break	25		
28 7 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Speaking Christian	29 	30	31 2:00 PM Staff Meeting No Choir Summer Break	<div>IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:</div> <div>8/4: “Atonement” with Tim Moore</div> <div>8/11: Communion Brunch</div> <div>8/11: Quarterly Conference</div> <div>8/18: Environmental Series Begins</div> <div>8/18: Worship Development Meeting</div>		

Sardis Baptist Church—Business



Love knows no borders

Dear Sardis Baptist Church,

I can't thank you enough for yet another unbelievably generous donation. I am overwhelmed with how your group are supporting this work.

Knowing that my shifts always have such an amazing bounty of offerings, allows me to focus on the larger organizing mission. And the way you organize it so beautifully helps me prepare and pack very efficiently for the shift.

I can't wait to go tomorrow and see the children's faces as they get these cute toys and activity books. Thank you for the snacks, toiletries, undergarments, clothing and amazing bags as well as the shoes. The money donated to this will go to buy ingredients for the hot meals that I prepare for the weary travelers.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for this tremendous help.

Nikola, Charlotte Migrant Assistance Project



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.

May Budgeted Offerings.....	\$12,500.00
May Actual Offerings.....	\$9,959.00
June Budgeted Offerings.....	\$12,500.00
June Actual Offerings.....	\$11,841.06
YTD Budgeted Offerings.....	\$75,000.00
YTD Actual Offerings.....	\$60,020.07

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.....	\$9,742.38
Benevolence.....	Individual & Family Needs.....	\$930.12
*Duncan Proceeds.....	Speakers; Budget.....	\$5,508.08
*Hill Proceeds.....	Music; Outreach.....	\$1,765.97
*Odom Proceeds.....	Children & Youth.....	\$8,508.29
Maintenance Escrow.....	Upkeep & Repairs.....	\$17,515.58

**Balance reflects proceeds currently available, principal balances, not listed, vary with market conditions.*

SARDIS BAPTIST MINISTRY TEAM

Bob Stillerman, Pastor
BobStillerman77@gmail.com

Jonathan Eidson, Pastor
SardisJonathan@yahoo.com

Hilary Kearns, Minister of Music
SardisHilary@gmail.com

Kathryn Kreutzer, Minister of Congregational Support
Info@SardisBaptistCharlotte.org



MCS - Multiple Chemical Sensitivity

Friends at Sardis Baptist serve as ministers to one another in many of the same ways our paid staff members do – and many other ways as well! Something we can all do to serve one another is to be aware of special needs of friends in our congregation. Some such needs are met without a second thought. When someone in a wheelchair needs help with a door there are multiple Sardisians at the ready, or when a family needs support during an illness our members prepare delicious homemade meals to deliver. Other special needs may not be as obvious and remain unknown unless shared with you. In that regard, we have a special need to share with you.

Have you ever heard of MCS (multiple chemical sensitivity)? MCS is a medical condition causing a physical reaction to various irritants that are common to daily use. Irritants vary between people afflicted with the condition and can include foods, cosmetics, exhaust fumes, cleaning supplies, and much more. Symptoms occur after breathing, touching or eating an irritant and can range from mild to severe. Common symptoms include headache, dizziness, brain fog, nausea, fatigue, muscle and joint pain. A minimal amount of chemical exposure may cause a reaction to an MCS patient – often so minimal that the irritant may not even be detectable by someone without MCS.



Sardis has numerous members who suffer with varying degrees of MCS, and we are making efforts to make our meetinghouse MCS friendly. We use natural cleaning products as well as natural hand and dish soaps. You can help too! If possible, please avoid wearing scented bath and body products or cosmetics when coming to Sardis. Also consider using unscented laundry detergents and fabric softeners. Synthetic fragrances are primarily made from petrochemicals, one of the biggest offenders to our MCS patients.

The field of science regarding MCS is growing, despite the well-funded lobbyists supporting the chemical industry. For more information please visit the website of **The Chemical Sensitivity Foundation** (chemicalsensitivityfoundation.org).