

sardis signposts

a spiritually progressive community of faith

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

ST. PHILIP'S PPE PROJECT

A sister church to Sardis, St. Philip's Lutheran, launched a community action task force in mid-2019. Their vision is for "Radical Wellness in the Season of Covid-19," with the goal of providing personal protective equipment to people without access to supplies needed to stay safe during this pandemic. Throughout the season of Advent Sardis Baptist partnered with St. Philip's in this effort. Our church will be sending approximately \$1,000 to support the effort. Sardis friends made donations in honor and memory of the loved ones listed below.

IN HONOR OF FRIENDS OF ST. PHILIPS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Betty Gunz & Joe Wall Kathryn & David Kreutzer Jean Lawrence

IN HONOR OF THE CONGREGATION OF SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH

Melissa Bowlin Rev. Tillie Duncan

IN HONOR OF THE SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR Melissa Bowlin

IN HONOR OF THE SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

Melissa Bowlin Betty Gunz & Joe Wall Susan & Danny Phillips Jacqueline & Bob Stillerman

IN MEMORY OF JAHALA ALMOND Jacqueline & Bob Stillerman

IN HONOR OF ANNE, JOSH, & ALLIE EIDSON Rev. Jonathan Eidson

IN MEMORY OF **RUTH & JOHN FLETCHER** Susan & Danny Phillips

IN MEMORY OF JERRY HENDERSON Marge Fowler Henderson

IN MEMORY OF Dr. Edward Harvie Hill, Jr.

Kathryn & David Kreutzer Rev. & Mrs. Bill & Kathy Stillerman

IN MEMORY OF KELLY ANN KEARNS Clark & Judy Kearns

IN MEMORY OF ELAINE KREUTZER Kathryn & David Kreutzer

IN HONOR OF KATHRYN KREUTZER Melissa Bowlin

> IN HONOR OF HILARY & SAM MCINTYRE Clark & Judy Kearns

IN MEMORY OF **IEWEL & RALPH PHILLIPS** Susan & Danny Phillips

IN MEMORY OF REBECCA CROSBY RISSE Rev. Bill & Kathy Stillerman

IN MEMORY OF WILLIEMAE **ROBERTS & CHRIS ROBERTS** Shannon Roberts

IN HONOR OF MAGAY SHEPARD Melissa Bowlin

IN HONOR OF MARY ALLEN & LUCY STILLERMAN Jacqueline & Bob Stillerman

VIRTUALWORSHIP SCHEDULE

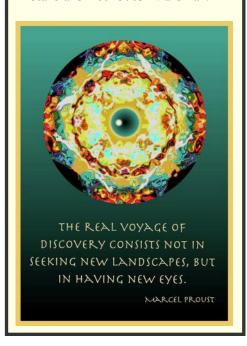
Sunday at 9:45 AM Virtual Sunday School

Sunday at 11:00 AM Virtual Morning Worship

Friday @ Noon Virtual Prayer Gathering

NEWYEAR NEW LOOK

The Sunday School class will be taking a new look at some ancient stories. Beginning on January 17, the group will seek relevant meaning of selected Bible stories. Participants will choose the stories which appeal to them. Contact Rev. Tillie Duncan to to request stories for inclusion in the study. The class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:45 AM via Zoom. Login details are distributed via email.



Sardis Baptist Church

I LIFT UP MINE EYES...

Rev. Bob Stillerman



2020 was not the year we expected, and it certainly wasn't the year we hoped for. If someone had told any of us in January that for the better part of nine months we would be working from home, going to school at home, day-caring at home, worshipping at home, masking in stores, Zooming for every occasion; or that we'd be excited about the prospect of seeing people we know in our driveways, or picking up take-out, or having "date night" at Costco on Sunday afternoon; I'm not sure any of us would have believed that person.

I'm also not sure that any of us would have believed that we could still be Sardis without gathering in-person bi-weekly in the meetinghouse, or sharing a common meal, or passing the peace (and hugs!) of Christ, or lighting our Chrismon Tree, or gathering in the frigid darkness on the labyrinth for Easter Sunrise, or having steward team meetings around our cozy kitchen table, or hearing our beautiful choir, or Irena's powerful piano, or the collective rattling and shaking of Halle, Halle, Halle.

And yet...we are still here! God continues to do new things, and light continues to shine in darkness. Don't get me wrong, I still long for us to have the opportunity to be back in the physical and traditional space we are accustomed to as soon as possible. But I am also VERY, VERY encouraged and energized by this congregation's resilience. We have managed to stay connected. We have managed to meet our fiduciary obligations. We have managed to illumine God's spirit in challenging times. We've have managed to praise God in more creative ways than ever; we have managed to care for people in more creative ways than ever; we've learned to be nimble and patient.

There's light (God's light!) at the end of this tunnel. At some point in 2021, we're gonna realize that light, and I can't wait to see what we do with it!



SAYING THANKS FOR STAFF

The deacons wish to lead the congregation in a heart-felt thank you to the Sardis staff. Be on the look-out for a letter from the deacon board asking you to express your appreciation in tangible ways.

Tillie Duncan, Billie Hutchison,
Debbie Kidd, Amanda Lewis,
Jose Mata, and Kate Mata



As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks

As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way.

Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color or creed.

Let us keep God of our own understanding in our hearts and to chant God's name each day. Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.

Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none.

May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love.

May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

~ Rev. Marcy Sheremetta ~