

# **sardis** **signposts** baptist church

a spiritually progressive community of faith

5811 Sardis Road / Charlotte, NC 28270 / 704.362.0811

[SardisBaptistCharlotte.org](http://SardisBaptistCharlotte.org)

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday @ 9:45 AM  
Small Groups

Sunday @ 11:00 AM  
Morning Worship

## ORDINARY TIME



The Church has long followed a calendar which aids in the keeping of holidays, measuring time, and ensuring that, if followed, each book within scripture is read at least once in a three-year cycle. This is called the liturgical calendar and it actually begins with Advent in late November or December and concludes with what is called Christ the King Sunday.

Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time (which occurs twice, once after Epiphany and once after Pentecost) are the major portions of this calendar which

Christians the world over celebrate and remember.

The Church has finally entered the liturgical period known as Ordinary Time, specifically Ordinary Time After Pentecost, which is the longest continuous period of the Christian calendar. Ordinary time encompasses more than half of the entire calendar year. Despite its name, this season is not intended to be a time of blasé attitudes or hollow liturgies. Rather, Ordinary Time is a season during which the Christian as both an individual and as a member of a faith community, is encouraged and invited to wrestle with the mystery of the Christ.

There is much mystery surrounding the Divine, mystery worth sousing over. This season is ordinary for the simple reason that there are no major holidays which grab our attention and we are free to truly sit in the mystery of what it is which we proclaim we believe and practice in between the highs of the fast paced and head spinning activities of the higher holidays on our religious calendar.

As we begin this season of Ordinary Time, let us find renewed vigor to busy ourselves with the extraordinary work of wrestling with the Divine mystery that is the Triune God in which we believe, whom we proclaim, and in whom we have our calling to further a Divine Kin-dom in the here and now.

~ Rev. Dr. Chris Hensley

## SARDIS SUMMER SPECIALS



### Potluck Picnic Sunday, July 13th @ Noon

Please join us for food and fellowship at our Summer Potluck Picnic. On Sunday, June 13th, bring a favorite dish or dessert to share over good conversation and community building. Weather permitting, we'll recess to the picnic shelter following worship to enjoy time together. Friends and family are welcome!

### Communion Brunch Sunday, August 10th @ 11:00 AM

God's table is open to everyone! We hope you'll join us for Communion Brunch and worship around the table on Sunday, August 10th. For the first Christians, breaking bread and sharing stories was a sacred practice. It was a way to honor God while supporting and uplifting one another. We'll transform the sanctuary into a banquet hall. As we eat we will worship together, remembering that conversation and community are authentic forms of worship.



## CHRIS' CORNER

I have a love-hate relationship with the season of Summer. It is finally here in earnest with the solstice having recently come and gone. I loathe the moist heat which dominates our region of the world and my pasty complexion can only handle so much yard work or gardening before I must seek respite and a glass of water. Now, enough with my hate of this season, on to the more pleasant aspects.

While summer brings an uncomfortable – to me – heat, it also brings about the season of gardening and early harvests. Blueberries and June strawberries have been harvested and tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, peanuts, and squash have exploded into life with the promises of later harvests. Not only that, but wildflower patches and lilies have dazzled us with color and height.

I share this because I have grown to realize that, even in the midst of the oppressive humidity and heat of a North Carolina summer, there is new growth and the promise of a diverse harvest on the other side of a season filled with hard labor. Our lives bear with them similar seasons which bring about much work and good, hard labor. The harvest is well worth the effort though, as we continue whether thrusting our hands into the dirt and clay of our backyards or into the dirt and clay of seeking justice for all motivated by our love of Christ.

~ Rev. Dr. Chris Hensley



## Sardis People: COACH ED GASH

Coach absolutely describes him. Ed Gash has spent his life instructing, training, directing and facilitating self-discovery. He has spent years intentionally “reframing” himself as well as helping others discover possibilities in themselves and develop habits for creating a successful lifestyle. Ed’s early training was at Brevard College where he played football, wrestled, and became interested in theater production and music. His undergraduate degree was completed at NC State. Later he received an M. Ed. in guidance and counseling at UNCC.

He became a guidance counselor at Providence Day School and was also the football coach and wrestling coach. He met a young elementary teacher there who became a good friend. Cindy became the kind of good friend who becomes a wife, and she has been one of his greatest friends and guides ever since.

Subsequent career choices include a stint at drug treatment counseling; probation officer, headhunter (recruiter); a leadership and people skills trainer at the Federal Reserve Bank, at First Union, and at Octapharma. Ed worked across the state with North Carolina Community Colleges, teaching leadership as he worked with industries who settled their home bases in NC. He established Eagle Wings, his own leadership business. A favorite time of learning and passing on learning was when he traveled to Sundance Utah to study The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Steven Covey and returned home to pass on Covey’s principles to bank leaders.

A life-long seeker and disseminator, Ed currently is certified in labyrinth facilitating, grief education and spiritual education. He leads an on-line seminar for the activist-oriented person. “Sacred Ground” advocates for racial and social justice.

Ed grew up in Brevard, NC with one brother. He and Cindy have one son, Mason (deceased).

~ Rev. Tillie Duncan



## MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!

**Sardis Baptist Church is calling all melodious souls to come together and make a joyful noise! Whether you're a seasoned singer or just love to hum along, there's a place for you in our choir. No experience needed — just bring your enthusiasm and love for music. Our seasoned choir members have been enjoying a summer sabbatical, but rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, August 7th at 7:30 PM. Everyone is welcome. Our choir is more than a music group — they are a fellowship group too! For more information, contact Hilary McIntyre, Minister of Music: [SardisHilary@yahoo.com](mailto:SardisHilary@yahoo.com).**



## Music in the Classical Period

~ Rev. Hilary McIntyre, Minister of Music ~

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Franz Joseph Haydn, Christoph Willibald Gluck, Ludwig van Beethoven — each of these composers has one thing in common: they were active during the Classical period of music. Running roughly from 1750 to 1820, this style featured strict form, simpler melodies, and a focus on following specific rules of chord progression. It was named for the Neo-Classical style that was beginning to dominate the world of design and architecture — think about the U.S. Capitol Building with its white marble columns and Romanesque features. This period is also known as the Age of Enlightenment, and many composers incorporated these ideals into their works.

During the classical period, composers were highly regarded and celebrated. There was an effort to democratize music, letting people of seemingly any class have access to live performance of some kind. Public theatres began to open, and composers wrote pieces that would appeal to the masses rather than just their wealthy patrons. One of the most famous plays of the era, turned into an opera by Mozart, *Le Nozze di Figaro* or *The Marriage of Figaro*, tells the story of Figaro and his wife-to-be Susanna, two servants who work for Count Almaviva and Countess Rosina. The action of the opera is set off when Count Almaviva decides to take his right of *prima nocte*, his ability as master of the house to sleep with any maidens on their wedding night, with Susanna. Figaro, Susanna, and the Countess hatch a scheme to shame the Count, allowing Figaro and Susanna to marry without incident. It is a light-hearted comedy that was popular with low- and high-born people alike.

Although vocal music continued to be popular throughout the Classical period, instrumental music dominated. Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven are all famous for their Symphonies—large-scale instrumental works with several movements that follow strict rules of form and composition. Sonatas and concertos were also extremely popular, the former named after its specific form, and the latter a large instrumental work that features a virtuoso solo instrument of some kind, often piano or violin.

I have mentioned form many times, but what is musical form? In poetry, form is related to rhyme scheme, in music it is much the same. Classical compositions are typically organized into movements, self-contained sections that have a particular theme. Within these themes, we also break each individual movement into sections of their own, usually related by key, melody, and rhythm. In something like Sonata form, the first section, maybe 8 or 12 measures of music, have a particular melody. The second 8 or so measures will have a contrasting melody, maybe in a new but related key. The final 8 measures will feature a repeat, or return, to the original melody. When musicians analyze pieces like this, we label the first section A, the second B, and the third A or A<sub>1</sub>, if it's a slightly modified version of the original. Sonata form is a kind of palindrome, with any number of sections, but they always build up and then return back, such as ABCBA or ABCDCBA. Symphonic form is different, but still uses labels like A, B, C, etc., just in a different order from Sonata or Concerto.

When you listen to classical music, you can almost always hear the melody at the beginning of a piece, search Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* for a good example. The first four measures have a clear melodic statement played by the strings, then there is a long answer to that statement from the full orchestra that wraps up the initial statement of the theme. You can hear clear section breaks, leading you clearly and deliberately into new themed sections. The overall feeling is exciting, but controlled—it is easy to tell where things might be leading, they might not always go where you expect, but it is never confusing or lacking elegance.



*Our condolences are with the family of Will Corn, family friend of Tillie Duncan, who died at Moss Lake on June 14th. :*

*Please join your prayers with ours, remembering the following Sardis friends:*

- Sandra Abow, Sardis Baptist Church • Clemmer Allison, friend of Alcie Kreutzer • Askins Family
- Melissa Bowlin, Sardis Baptist Church • Richard (Nick) Bowlin, uncle of Melissa • Maria Byrd, Sardis Baptist Church • Murphy Clark, relative of Robin Rowland • Tyler Criss, Sardis Baptist Church • Betsy Cadle DePaul, Sardis Baptist Church • Rachael Duvall, friend of Susan & Tillie • Amelia Eidson, Jonathan's mother • David Faircloth, extended family of the Phillips
- Jeff Friar, friend of Mark Wiebke • Melissa Galloway, friend of Luther Fisher • Dianne Garner, cousin of Tillie Duncan • Courtney & Ralph Graham, friends of Kristin Parker • Kuddles Grassi, Janette's Dog • Mary Moon Guerrant, mother of Kathryn Kreutzer • Jenna Hardister, friend of Hilary McIntyre • Ken Henderson, friend of Jim Owen • Amanda Hensley, Sardis Baptist Church • Alex Hensley, brother of Chris • Dave Kreutzer, father of David Kreutzer • Jack LeCroix, friend of Jim Owen • Robert Marshall, grandson of Janette Grassi • Barbara Mosley, Sardis Baptist Church • Dave and Durand Newton, parents of Jean Taylor • Rex and Yvonne Nordeen, cousins of Tillie • Vadim Pateshkin and Family, relatives of Billie Hutchison • Susan Phillips, Sardis Baptist Church • Rachel Phipps and Family, friends of Betty Gunz • Pam Poston, Sardis Baptist Church • Becky & Rick Proctor, Sardis Baptist Church • Sam Propst, friend of Debbie Kidd & Billie Hutchison • John Simpson, Sardis Baptist Church • Kenny Spry, friend of David Kreutzer • Jackson Stewart, grandson of Kristin Parker • Amy Stirens, friend of Hilary McIntyre • Wanda Stitt, Sardis friend from Hope Chapel • Emily Tinkler, friend of Mark Wiebke • Barbea Tripp, sister of Melissa Bowlin
- Vanessa Wieland, cousin of Jonathan Eidson
- Katie Wiebke, daughter of Mark and Amy



## CHARLOTTE PRIDE INTERFAITH

Sardis Baptist Church affirms that every person is a beloved child of God, created in God's image and worthy of love, respect, and inclusion. Our faith calls us to walk in love and justice, embracing each individual as a unique and precious part of God's family, regardless of identity classifications. Historically, relations between some religious organizations and the queer community have been contentious, causing challenges for people of faith who struggle to reconcile their sexual orientation or gender identity with their beliefs. No one should have to choose between their faith and the person they love or the pronouns they use.

Each year, Charlotte Pride organizes an interfaith worship service to foster unity and build relationships between the LGBTQIA+ community and various faith groups. The theme for this year's service is "Faith in Action." Our faith can (and should) motivate us to make a positive impact toward advancing the rights of others. Faith stories of action through community engagement will be highlighted, with the goal that attendees will leave feeling empowered to effect meaningful change.

The 2025 Charlotte Pride Interfaith Service and Celebration will be held on Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Community of Charlotte (234 North Sharon Amity Road). Worship will last about an hour, and will be followed by food and fellowship.

If you plan to attend, please reserve a free ticket using this link:  
<https://www.eventeny.com/events/charlotteprideinterfaithservice-20570/>

Please note, there is no charge for the ticket, and proof of ticket will not be required to enter. Organizers are simply asking folks who plan to attend to reserve a ticket to help with logistics and planning.



## INTERFAITH SERVICE AND CELEBRATION

**AUGUST 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2025  
4:00 PM**

**Hosted by Charlotte Pride  
and the Unitarian Universalist  
Community of Charlotte  
234 N. Sharon Amity Rd.  
Charlotte, NC**