

FRIENDLY MESSENGER

April 2022

EASTER – THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Easter is the climax of the Church Year. The Gospels state that our Lord Jesus rose from the dead on “the first day of the week.” This day of the week became “the Lord’s Day.” On Easter Day, and every Sunday we gather in joyful remembrance of His victory. Throughout the solemn weeks of Lent the Church looked forward eagerly, almost impatiently, for the coming of Easter.

In Romans 6 St. Paul argues “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we will certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His.” At Christmas all attention is focused on the historical fact of our Lord’s birth, in which we cannot participate. St. Paul tells us, however, that we may participate in Christ’s death and resurrection. Easter is the feast of our redemption and to be redeemed means not only are we freed from sin. It means also that we are endowed with grace. The life in grace is the great theme and lesson of Easter. In the early Church the new Christians were baptized on Easter Day, and they became living illustrations of the grace of Holy Baptism. St. Paul also wrote in Colossians 2:12-13, “When you were buried with Him in baptism, you were also raised with Him through faith in the power of God, who raised Him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with Him, when He forgave us all our trespasses.”

In ancient days the celebration of Easter began at midnight with the ringing of church bells. The churches were ablaze with candles and lights. Baptism was administered at “cockcrow.” The newly baptized were dressed in white robes, reminding them of the “clean, linen shroud” in which Joseph of Arimathea wrapped the body of our Lord and signified “we were buried with Him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too, might walk in newness of life.”

The victory is won. The entire season of Lent reminded us of the battle of darkness with Light. The Light seemed to be overcome when Christ died on the Cross. But at Christmas the light shone in the darkness. So after the sorrowful Holy Week the sun of the Resurrection rises victoriously to shine eternally.

Have a blessed Easter season.

Pastor Bill Hollar



FTF Seniors

The **Fred T. Foard Senior Citizens** group meet on the first Wednesday of each month for lunch and a program. The group will meet in April on the 6th at Plateau Methodist Church. All are invited to join us for fun, food, and fellowship.



LENTEN SERVICES

“In View of God’s Mercy”

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God. Romans 12:1

Lent is a season when we take a look at our lives in view of God’s mercy toward us in the sacrifice of his Son for us on the cross. We, in turn, are called by God, especially during this time of repentance and reflection, to be living sacrifices for him, displaying our devotion to him in word and deed.

All evening Lenten Services will start at 7:00PM

March 2, 2022 ASH WEDNESDAY **Mercy in Ashes** • Joel 2:13 • As we are marked with ashes on this day, a reminder to us of our sins, we are reminded, too, of the mercy of our God who lifts us from our ashes to new life in Christ. Rev. Bill Hollar, Interim Sardis Lutheran Church

March 6, 2022 WEEK ONE **Mercy in Betrayal** • 1 Peter 3:11 • Though we may turn away from our God again and again, our Lord continues to call us back into his merciful arms for Jesus’ sake. Rev. Bill Hollar, Interim Sardis Lutheran Church

March 13, 2022 WEEK TWO **Mercy in Suffering** • 1 Peter 2:23 • No life is without suffering, but our sufferings are not worth comparing to the glory to be revealed to us in Jesus by God’s great mercy. Rev. Marcus Ollis, Beth Eden Lutheran Church

March 20, 2022 WEEK THREE **Mercy in Relationships** • Ephesians 4:32 • Within the communities God has placed us, we are given the grace to treat one another as Christ has cared for us in his love and mercy. Rev. Andrew Miller, Old St. Paul Lutheran Church

March 27, 2022 WEEK FOUR **Mercy in Temptation** • 1 Corinthians 10:13 • In the midst of temptation, our merciful God provides us with a way out through his Son, who was tempted just as we are, yet without sin. Rev. Ralph Kraft, St. Paul-Startown Lutheran Church

April, 3, 2022 WEEK FIVE **Mercy in Service** • Hebrews 6:10 • In response to God’s kindness to us in Jesus, we serve in mercy the needs of those around us by Christ’s example. Rev. Adrienne Martin, Sardis Lutheran Church

HOLY WEEK—Rev. Adrienne Martin

April 9, 2022 Easter Egg Hunt 1—3PM

April 10, 2022 Palm Sunday Worship Service 10:30AM

April 14, 2022 Maundy Thursday 7:00PM

April 15, 2022 Good Friday 7:00PM

April 17, 2022 Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 6:30AM

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Kay Whitener
4261 Pickering Drive
Hickory NC 28602

A NOTE FROM PASTOR BILL

I want to express my thanks to the congregation of Sardis for your help and cooperation during the time I served as interim pastor while Pastor Adrienne was on her Sabbatical. Even though we were restricted because of the threat of the COVID virus, you found ways of continuing your service in the community. And on the Sunday when services could not be held because of snow and ice, we were able to prerecord it so that the congregation could see it from home. I could see that your church has strong lay and pastoral leadership. You are certainly a healthy congregation as you continue to serve our Lord.

I also want to thank you for the kind words, cards, and congregational gift on my last Sunday with you. I have placed the Mr. Potato Head from the children, on my desk at home. And the book of memories is currently in our living room.

I pray that our Lord will continue to bless Sardis Lutheran Church and Pastor Adrienne as you continue your mission in our Lord's service.

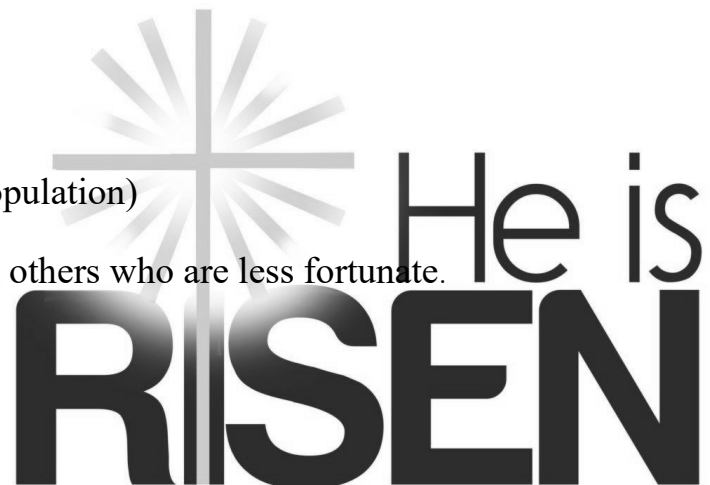
Pastor Bill Hollar

WELCA NEWS

Sardis WELCA will sponsor our annual food drive again this year. Our collected food will go to ECCCM. We will collect food in conjunction with the Lenten season beginning March 6th with **April 3rd** being our last collection day. Below are items most needed by ECCCM

Canned Fruits
Canned Soups
Canned Meats
Canned Pasta
Peanut Butter
Anything with pop top lids (for homeless population)

Please share what you are able to share with others who are less fortunate.



Social Ministry Collections

The Social Ministry Committee will continue collecting items for Personal Care Kits to send to Lutheran World Relief during April. The simple items included in a personal care kit provide much needed self-care, critical germ fighting and the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear and uncertainty.

Items need for the kits are:

One light-weight towel (20" x 40" to 52" X 27") dark colors recommended

Two or three bath size bars of soap in original wrapping

One adult size toothbrush in original wrapping

One sturdy comb

One metal nail clipper

The Social Ministry Committee will send the kits to Lutheran World Relief for distribution.

If you prefer, you can donate \$7.00 and members of the committee will purchase these items.

Also in April Sardis Social Ministry Committee is partnering with the Lutheran Services of the Carolinas to collect items for hygiene kits for New Americans. Different church communities will be receiving new Americans during the next three months. Asheville is expecting 100 and Raleigh is expecting 220+. The Social Ministry Committee will be collecting the following items and making kits for the Lutheran Services of the Carolinas to distribute.

Items needed for the adult kits are:

Regular sized toothpaste

Toothbrush

Soap

Shampoo

Items needed for the child kits are:

Children's toothpaste

Children's toothbrush

Children's shampoo

Body wash



Agape Day Camp is coming!

July 17-22, 2022

to St. Paul Lutheran Church—Startown

Watch for future mailings,
or check with your church.
Registration opens in May.



Youth Easter Egg Hunt will be April 9th 1-3 PM. Please invite your friends and neighbors! There will be games, prizes, snacks, egg dyeing and of course egg hunting! If you are able to donate Candy (nut free), prizes or treats, please bring by Sunday April 3rd.

Ice Cream Flavors

M	O	T	T	O	W	R	A	R	A	B	N	D	I
A	A	Y	R	R	V	T	S	T	N	C	A	L	Y
P	G	G	I	E	A	K	T	A	A	O	T	I	E
L	P	C	P	I	N	G	R	O	N	O	I	A	K
E	S	N	L	R	I	C	A	T	A	K	L	T	O
W	E	R	E	F	L	H	W	U	B	I	O	R	P
A	S	O	T	U	L	O	B	N	I	E	P	E	Y
L	E	C	O	D	A	C	E	O	N	D	O	G	E
N	E	K	R	G	A	O	R	C	A	O	E	I	K
U	R	Y	N	E	N	L	R	O	C	U	N	T	O
T	Y	R	A	A	N	A	Y	C	E	G	I	D	H
I	N	O	D	N	O	T	O	A	P	H	C	E	I
T	N	A	O	S	A	E	T	N	E	E	R	G	R
A	T	D	C	O	T	T	O	N	C	A	N	D	Y

- TRIPLE TORNADO
- REESES
- NEOPOLITAN
- CHOCOLATE
- STRAWBERRY
- COTTON CANDY
- COCONUT
- ROCKY ROAD
- COOKIE DOUGH
- TIGER TAIL
- GREEN TEA
- HOKEY POKEY
- MAPLE WALNUT
- FUDGE
- PECAN
- BANANA
- VANILLA

Sardis Lutheran Church
Council Minutes
February 6, 2022

Members Present:

Pastor Bill Hollar, Gene, Kathy, Kristin, April
Mike, Ben, Roger, Ray, Bryan, Jon

Gene Biggerstaff called the meeting to order, Kathy Weaver had devotions.

Kathy read the minutes from the December meeting. Kristin Teague made a motion to accept the minutes as read, Bryan Hood seconded, and the motion passed.

Gene presented the treasurer's reports. The Building Fund as of January 31st had a balance of \$7,363.60, the Cemetery Fund \$1,159.83 and the General Fund \$6,689.70. Jon Gladden made a motion to accept the report as presented, Mike Midgett seconded, and the Treasurer's Report was accepted.

Pastor's Report

I want to express my thanks to the Council and members for your assistance as I began my service at Sardis. I'm still trying to get to know the folks at Sardis. If I get names mixed up please correct me so that I will be able to call you by name.

During January I made the following visits:

SHUT-INS AND SICK

By phone due to COVID restrictions -	40
In person visits -2 to homes & 1 to Rest Home =	3
TOTAL	43

Meetings and activities in January –

- Four Sunday worship services
- Tuesday morning Bible study – 3 (one canceled due to ice on parking lot).
- Tuesday evening Prayer Group -2
- Fred T. Ford Seniors lunch and meeting - Jan.4
- Attended funeral for Martha Griffin – Jan.7
- Committee meetings before the Council meeting – Jan. 9
- Sardis Council meeting – Jan.9
- Recorded Worship due to predicted snow on Sunday – Jan.13
- Meeting with pastors to plan Lenten services – Jan.26

LENTEN SERVICES – As in the past, Sardis will join three other congregations in the Sunday night Lenten services (St. Paul's Lutheran, Old St. Paul's Lutheran, and Beth Eden Lutheran). The pastors will rotate churches as has been done in past years. A theme is being worked out with a possible booklet on the theme for congregational members. Our Worship and Music Committee has suggested the time as in other years (7:00 pm) with no dinner before to avoid the danger of COVID. Complete information about Lenten services will be provided in the March newsletter.

I continue to work in the pastor's office Monday through Wednesday. Other work I do at home to have use of my computer and printer. However, you can connect with me anytime by phone – home 828-464-4999 or cell phone 828-461-3838 or by email at hollarw@bellsouth.net.

Pastor Bill Hollar

The booklet mentioned (devotions for Lent) will be ordered (1 per family) with a cost of \$1 each. This cost will come out of the Worship & Music Committee budget.

Old Business:

Covid Committee: After a parishioner voiced concern on the distribution of communion the committee decided to reduce the number of people in line. Beginning at the next communion service it was decided to have only on side of the Sanctuary at a time to be in line. An usher will still direct the communion recipients. The Pastor will distribute the bread and the Assisting Minister will distribute the wine.

Annual Meeting: Reports will be distributed immediately after the service. Gene will point out any main points, take questions and will ask if any committee chairperson would like to speak.

Fellowship Hall: Terry Bledsoe will get the unused tables moved and begin the Pastor's Display. The funds set aside for the display materials will be used to buy storage containers for the Chrismon's. Another round of cleaning may produce additional items that can be used elsewhere.

Playground Equipment Replacement: Insurance has provided \$14,000 with a quote of \$11,500 for the replacement cost. The Property Committee brings a motion that we do this. After a vote the motion was approved. There was also two other items the committee introduced - \$1100 to patch the pavement and \$1000 for mulch replacement if needed.

New Business:

Security cameras: There have been two estimates given so far with Terry Bledsoe meeting with both company representatives and providing input. We are still waiting on an estimate from the second company.

Safe Gatherings: The Synod requires background screenings every 3 years for anyone who cares for or works with the children of the church. We currently have an estimate of 14 church members who would need to be screened, with a cost of \$35 with each screening. Gene will seek further information on requirements, timing and need.

Side Door: During the annual meeting Ken Propst brought up the need to verify the closure of the side door of the Sanctuary. Several times it has been found open after the service even though it looks shut. Mike will check with Ken about the possible need for repairs to the doors.

Pew Cushions: April Fulbright mentioned the fading of the pew cushions, especially the side mostly in the sun. This will be considered but is not currently a high priority.

With no further business, Jon made a motion to adjourn. The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be March 13th at 6pm, due to the Lenten Service at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Weaver, Council Secretary

April 2022
Sardis Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service/Holy Communion and FB Live 7:00 Lenten Service	4	5 7:00 Prayer Group Zoom	6 12:00 FTF Seniors at Plateau	7	8	9 1:00—3:00 Egg Hunt
10 Palm Sunday 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service and FB Live 7:00 Church Council	11	12	13	14 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service	15 7:00 Good Friday Service	16
17 6:30 Easter Sunrise Service and Holy Communion Breakfast following Service in Fellowship Hall	18 Easter Monday Office Closed	19 7:00 Prayer Group Zoom	20 5:00 Deadline for May NL	21	22	23
24 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service and FB Live 6:30 LMM	25	26	27	28	29	30

SARDIS LEADERS CONTACTS

Pastor: The Rev. Adrienne E. Martin (C) 469-243-5237 pastor@sardislutheran.com

Organist/Director of Music: Frank Griffin, tfgriffin59@gmail.com

Council Chair: Gene Biggerstaff (C) 828-381-0039 genebiggerstaff@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Jane Moretz, (C) 828-302-8458 secretary@sardislutheran.com

REMEMBER: you can find this NL, the weekly calendar and Sunday Sermons on the website: <https://sardislutheran.com/> mark it as a favorite and check it out often.

April

COUNCIL CONTACT

ASSISTING MINISTER

4/1 April Fulbright

April Fulbright

Austin Propst

4/5 Marvin Kiser

USHERS

4/7 Rick Johnson

Wayne Jarrett, Al King, Nena Babb, Rick Johnson

4/8 Isaac Hollar

Jane Moretz

COMMUNION PREPARATION

CLEAN-UP

Hayden Johnson

Jane Moretz

Marilyn Teague

4/9 Cooper Carroll

4/11 Jon Gladden

SATURDAY MEAL

DELIVERY

Felicia Hollar

For—Catherine Houser,
Garry, Leevada and Lexi Wood

4/12 Alma Fulbright

Carolyn McGinnis

April 2 No Meal Delivery

4/13 Micah Duncan

April 9 Carolyn Hoyle

4/20 Elaine Jarrett

4/23 Greg Fulbright

April 16 No Meal Delivery

4/25 Marilyn Teague

April 23 Phyllis Biggerstaff

Delivery Week

BACKPACK PROGRAM

4/30 Chris Johnson

Cynthia Stuart

April 30 No Meal Delivery

April 1

Gene and Donna

April 8

Joe and Phyllis

April 14

Gene and Donna

April 22

No school

April 29

Dwayne and Barbara

Anniversaries:

Jon & Becky Gladden 4-12

Randy & Joyce Speagle 4-13

Marilyn & Roger Teague 4-17

Jeff & Rebecca Wilson 4-17

Richard & Dawn Covington 4-21

Ethan & Heather Carroll 4-30

<i>VOLUNTEER APRIL</i>	3rd	10th	14th	15th	17th	24th
ALTAR FLOWERS	Joe & Phyllis B.	David & Rebecca R.			Kristin T.	Ben & Jennifer W.
ACOLYTE	Cayden H.	Rick J.	Kathy W.	Zachary S.	Jane M.	Keaton F.
BIBLE BEARER					Roger T.	
CHILDRENS CHURCH	Cynthia S.	Jennifer W				Heather C.
CRUCIFER	Nena B.	Marshall W.	Marilyn T.		Joe B.	Hayden J.
GREETERS	Donna B. & Jill B.	Bruce S. & Betty Sue W.			Felicia H. & Alexis W.	Roger & Marilyn T.
LAY READER	Keaton F.	Nena B.	Al K.		Tim W.	Alexis W.
OFFERING COUNTERS					Dwayne, Tryston, Sherrie, Mike	Dwayne Tryston, Susan, Patsy
SECURITY	Zachary S.	Rick L.	Bruce S.	Rick J.	Ralph S.	Zachary S.
TORCH BEARER					Donna & Phyllis B.	

****NOTE****

If you have a birthday or anniversary and they are not listed please let the office know. Thank you.

OUR MISSION

Sardis Evangelical Lutheran Church serves together as disciples of Christ, teaches the word to invite people into a life of knowing Jesus, encourages each other in faith and personal mission through reaching out to the needs of the community and individuals.

Save these dates:

Easter Egg Hunt April 9th 1-3pm. Egg hunting, games, fellowship, snacks and more.

Community VBS June 26-30 Jerusalem Marketplace at Zion Lutheran Church

**SARDIS LUTHERAN CHURCH
6103 W NC 10 HWY
HICKORY NC 28602**

