

# Friendly Messenger

**August 2023**

It is hard to believe August is upon us! The hazy, crazy days of summer continue in full force but we also have tucked away in our minds that changes are coming and we must be ready. School will be opening again which means buses will be back on the roads and we must be alert for them.

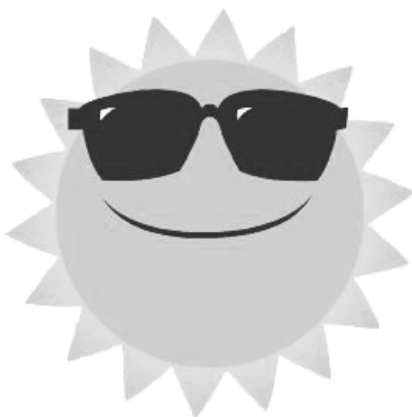
It will seem we are back in a more normal routine since this summer has been filled with vacations, gardening, canning, freezing and all the activities of preserving food for winter time. In the coming weeks, adjustments will be made in family schedules and times together. It will be time to figure out who needs to be where (ball games and practices, dance lessons, music lessons, gymnastics, etc.).

This might be a great time to take the Sardis calendar from this newsletter, mark the activities on your “to-do” calendar, and make these a reminder of the interesting things happening within our congregation. Not only on Sunday morning, but throughout the week. Not only in a worship context, but activities that are fun-filled, involve eating, (we are Lutheran, remember?) and vital ministries that support our community.

Jesus reminds us many times to be alert and ready for the second coming of Christ. That’s great advice. I have no doubt that when the time comes, you and I will be busy doing God’s work with our hands and hearts and minds.

Enjoy the summer days and stay hydrated. After all, we walk wet in the waters of our baptism.

Blessings  
Pastor Mary Louise





This month's spotlight is brightly shining on Dawn Truitt Covington! Dawn is a cradle Lutheran at Sardis: baptized, confirmed and married in our sanctuary. She and her husband, Richard, met at a Fred T. Foard football game while Dawn was in high school.

Dawn and Richard have been married 39 years and have a son, Dylan.

Faith and Family are important to Dawn. In the coming months, Dylan will be married to Lindsie Miles and Dawn is happy for them.

Dawn grew up wanting to be a teacher. She graduated from Lenoir-Rhyne with a degree in Intermediate Education. Later, she earned a Masters in School Administration and worked as an Assistant Principal, ending her career in 2016 after serving at Jacobs Fork for several years.

Dawn enjoys gardening and being with her family, even to the point of going on hunting trips with them, but staying in the lodge to cook and ensure everyone has a good time.

Dawn's favorite food is hamburgers. Her least favorite is sushi (has something to do with it not being cooked....). It took Dawn a long time to think of a food she didn't like. Invite her to dinner: she will eat whatever is served!

Being a life-long part of our faith community, Dawn has been active in the ministries within our congregation. She considers Sardis as family. She is grateful for the good people who worship and serve together in many and varied ways.

## Worship & Music Committee

In 2011 Sardis invited back members of each confirmation class from the years 2011, 2001, 1991, etc. and continued recognizing each class through 2019. Since no Homecoming Celebration was suggested during the 2020 year due to Covid-19, the last class of confirmands ending in year "0" were not recognized. This year at our September 10th Homecoming service and 'dinner on the grounds', we plan to recognize those confirmed in the years ending in "0." We have successfully located bulletins that go back through 1970. If you know of anyone in your family that was confirmed in 1960, 1950, and prior "0" years, please let Becky Gladden or Nena Babb know. Also, if you know of anyone who was confirmed at Sardis and did not receive an invitation to attend a special year, please share that information. Looking forward to seeing and hearing from the confirmation classes of the years divisible by 10.

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### Music News

#### Calling Choir Members – Current and NEW!

**Chancel Choir** will resume our weekly rehearsals on Thursday, August 17 at 7:00 pm.

If you love to sing, there's a place for YOU! Come, join us for one of the best hours of the week! *We could especially use sopranos, but will gladly welcome additional altos, tenors, and basses! "All Are Welcome in this space!"*

**Handbells** will resume after Labor Day on Thursday, September 7 at 6:00 pm.

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## Foard Football Meal

Mark your calendars for Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. This is our date to prepare and serve the meal for the Foard Football Team. We would love to have you come and help. We can use help setting up and cooking, which usually begins around 11. Also, we need help serving. These people usually arrive around 2:45. We will also be asking for donations of cookies, brownies, and other bar type desserts. Please be on the lookout for bulletin announcements and signup sheets soon. See Dawn Covington if you have any questions.

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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 August on the 2nd at Trinity. All are invited to join us for fun, food, and fellowship.



## SARDIS SISTERS

It is not too early to plan a great trip to Valdese. I am thinking Wednesday the 20th. Maybe go early enough to eat at Little Italy.

The Carolina Christmas Show is a heartwarming, fun-filled holiday production featuring LIVE music, dance, & comedy! Tickets (\$15-\$28 each) on sale in July. Four shows at the Old Rock School Auditorium, 400 Main Street West in Valdese, NC: Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 7 PM, Thursday, Dec. 21 at 7 PM, and Friday, Dec. 22 at 2 PM & 7 PM. [www.CarolinaChristmasShow.com](http://www.CarolinaChristmasShow.com) Please let Susan, Donna or Jane if interested. I will put a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

CAROLINA ONSTAGE PRESENTS THE  
**CAROLINA CHRISTMAS SHOW**

"The talent was outstanding, the music was great, and it was the perfect way to usher in the holiday season."

"We will be forever uplifted with joy. Absolutely amazing and well done."

"We laughed, sang along, and were touched by the big hearts behind the production. Perfect for date night or a great family tradition! "

"...a marvelous gift to western North Carolina"

Share the joy & magic of the Christmas season with your friends & families at the 6th annual *Carolina Christmas Show*, a dazzling family-friendly production with live music, dance, & comedy! This heartwarming Broadway-style show features the finest performers from NC & special guest artists presenting sacred and secular Christmas favorites, including *Santa Claus Is Coming to Town*, *O Holy Night*, *Jingle Bell Rock*, and *Go Tell it On the Mountain*. Relax, unplug, & experience the *Carolina Christmas Show*, a celebration of the true spirit of Christmas that's sure to become an annual tradition!

**NEW VENUE for 2023!**

Four performances: Wednesday, December 20 at 7 PM, Thursday, December 21 at 7 PM, and Friday, December 22 at 2 PM and 7PM at the **Old Rock School Auditorium in Valdese, NC** (400 Main Street West).

*Tickets on sale July 2023.*

## August School Supplies

The Sardis Social Committee will be joining the Evangelism Committee in collecting school supplies/backpacks for Banoak and Blackburn during July and the first of August. We know there are families in our communities who cannot afford the necessary items.. Schools will need stocked supply closets to furnish needy students the supplies like crayons, paper, and scissors. Below is a list of needed supplies.

- \* Composition Notebook-100 sheets (marble design)
- \* Colored pencils-12 pack
- \* # 2 yellow pencils
- \* Crayola Washable Markers 8 pack
- \* Large glue sticks
- \* Pack of pencils topper erasers or large pink block erasers
- \* Loose leaf notebook paper (wide ruled 100 sheets)
- \* Primary Notebooks (wide ruled)
- \* Pencil Boxes
- \* Fiskars Scissors
- \* Inexpensive earphones
- \* Book Bags (Back packs)

The following items are also welcome for classroom use.

- o Band aids
- o Facial tissues
- o Ziploc bags
- o Copy paper (white)
- o Liquid soap
- o Hand Sanitizer

Please bring any items you can donate to the church from July 2<sup>nd</sup> until August 20th and place in the church narthex. Pastor Mary Louise will bless the donated supplies as well as the Book Bags Students during the August 20<sup>th</sup> service. The items will be shared between the two schools.

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| Sun   | Mon                                    | Tue | Wed  | Thur                            | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|-----|--|---------------------------------|-----|-----|
|   |  | 1   | 2<br>12:00 FTF Sen-<br>iors meet at Trin-<br>ity | 3                               | 4   | 5   |
| 6<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship Ser-<br>vice/Holy Commun-<br>ion and FB Live                         | 7<br>7:00 Prayer<br>Group via<br>ZOOM  | 8   | 9  | 10                              | 11  | 12  |
| 13<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship Ser-<br>vice/Holy Commun-<br>ion and FB Live<br>7:00 Church Council | 14                                     | 15  | 16   | 17<br>7:00 Choir Re-<br>hearsal | 18  | 19  |
| 20<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship Ser-<br>vice/Holy Commun-<br>ion and FB Live                        | 21<br>7:00 Prayer<br>Group via<br>ZOOM | 22  | 23<br>7:00 MSP Meet-<br>ing                      | 24<br>7:00 Choir Re-<br>hearsal | 25  | 26  |
| 27<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship Ser-<br>vice/Holy Commun-<br>ion and FB Live<br>6:30 LMM            | 28                                     | 29  | 30   | 31<br>7:00 Choir Re-<br>hearsal |     |     |

**\*\*NOTE\*\***

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

**August**

|                         | <u><b>COUNCIL CONTACT</b></u>   | <u><b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b></u> |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 8/3 Elaina Yousef       |   |                                  |
| 8/4 Terry Bledsoe       | Susan Jones   | Ray Whitener                     |
| 8/7 Cash Lee Fulbright  |   |                                  |
| 8/8 Dylan Covington     |   |                                  |
| 8/10 Seth Revetta       | <u><b>USHERS</b></u><br>Rick J., Bruce S., Marilyn T., Ken P.   |                                  |
| 8/11 Debbie Wise        |   |                                  |
| 8/12 Keri Weaver        |   |                                  |
| 8/13 Lindsey Farnsworth | <u><b>COMMUNION PREPARATION</b></u>   | <u><b>CLEAN-UP</b></u>           |
| 8/16 Joyce Speagle      | Jane Moretz   | Wanda Stallings                  |
| 8/18 Benny Fulbright    |   |                                  |
| 8/20 Darrell Jarrett    |   |                                  |
| 8/23 Neal Wyant         |   |                                  |
| 8/24 Edna Fulbright     | <b>Anniversaries:</b><br><b>Rick &amp; Rita Lutz 8-9</b><br><b>Kenneth &amp; Margaret Propst 8-19</b> |                                  |
| Sherrie Midgett         |   |                                  |
| Zach Stuart             |   |                                  |
| Cayden A. Hood          |   |                                  |
| 8/29 Scottie Wyant      |   |                                  |
| Karen Sigman            |   |                                  |
| 8/31 Alfred Whitener    |   |                                  |

| <b><i>VOLUNTEER August</i></b>     | <b>6th</b>                    | <b>13th</b>                   | <b>20th</b>                   | <b>27th</b>                  |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>ALTAR FLOWERS</b>               | Joe & Scottie W.              | Steven & Ashley Y.            | Mike & Sherrie M.             | Osama & Carrie Y.            |
| <b>ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER</b>            | Marshall/Austin               | Rick J./Marilyn               | Hayden/Ray                    | Marilyn/Triston              |
| <b>COMMUNION ASSISTANT</b>         | Zachary S.                    | Jane M.                       | Mike M.                       | Gene B.                      |
| <b>GREETERS</b>                    | Marilyn/Betty Sue             | Kay/Jill                      | Kristin/Roger                 | Marshall/Evelyn              |
| <b>LAY READER</b>                  | Marshall W.                   | Jennifer W.                   | Kathy W.                      | Jane M.                      |
| <b>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</b>           | Heather C.                    | No Children's Church          | Nena B.                       | No Children's Church         |
| <b>TECHNOLOGY</b>                  | Terry, Ben, Joe, Samuel       | Terry, Ben, Joe, Samuel       | Terry, Ben, Joe, Samuel       | Terry, Ben, Joe, Samuel      |
| <b>SECURITY</b>                    | Roger T.                      | Darrell J.                    | Ralph S.                      | Rick J.                      |
| <b>OFFERING COUNTERS</b>           | Dwayne Tryston, Kristin, Nena | Dwayne Tryston, Kristin, Nena | Dwayne Tryston, Sherrie, Mike | Dwayne Tryston, Susan, Patsy |
| <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADER/HELPER</b> | EL Sherrie/Mike MD April      |                               |                               |                              |
| <b>MEAL DELIVERY</b>               | 12th Jill                     | 19th no meal                  | 26th Dawn                     | 9/2 no meal                  |
| <b>Blessings Box</b>               | Church Council                | LMM                           | Pilgrims Progress             | Disciples of Christ          |

## 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.**

**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.

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



### SARDIS LEADERS CONTACTS

Interim Pastor: Rev. Mary Louise Sitton 423-367-6173 [mlsitton50@hotmail.com](mailto:mlsitton50@hotmail.com)

Organist/Director of Music: Frank Griffin, [tfgriffin59@gmail.com](mailto:tfgriffin59@gmail.com)

Council Chair: Terry Bledsoe (C) 828-455-4103 [terrybledsoe@charter.net](mailto:terrybledsoe@charter.net)

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