

# Friendly Messenger

July 2023

Pastor Mary Louise will be in Phoenix, Arizona July 17 – 19 to attend the ELCA Rostered Ministers gathering. Rostered leaders (pastors and deacons) will spend time together in worship, prayer and time set apart to interact with people serving in leadership positions across the United States in the ELCA.

This is only the second time for this gathering. The first was in Atlanta, Georgia before COVID hit and it was wonderful.

If you need to speak to Pastor Mary Louise while she is away, call her cell phone and leave a message. Her number is 423 367 6173. This will be a continuing education event for her.

*For everything there is a season.....familiar words from Ecclesiastes that hold true in so many ways right now.*

On July 24, I will celebrate 18 years of ordained ministry. As I've said so many times, my years at Sardis in the 1990's were times of preparation for me with your help. I argued with God for years about being a pastor, knowing I was called as your musician and active in the planning of worship and part of the life of the congregation.

Let me tell you, it might take a few years, but God doesn't give up and, with your support, I finally answered the call to go to seminary- the best decision ever for me.

On an extremely hot summer day, at 4:00 pm on a Sunday afternoon, I was ordained to Ministry and Sacrament at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, having received a call to be pastor at St. Luke's Lutheran, Mt. Ulla, NC. Many of you were present that afternoon. None of us had any idea that we would once again be doing ministry together as we are now.

Dear people of Sardis, you are being called by God to enter the process of discovering who your next pastor will be – a person whom God has already selected and will be made known to us as the Holy Spirit leads us in the coming months. This is an exciting time in the life of this faith community. There is so much energy, excitement and love for Jesus among us. We have been blessed with women, men and children who look forward to being together in worship, in prayer and in responding to the needs of others.

As we begin the process of identifying who and whose we are; as we form a call committee and develop a ministry profile that identifies our strengths and weaknesses, we do so together. Everyone has a voice in the process and everyone shares a call from God to be open to where the Spirit may lead. There may be plenty of surprises along the way and, to be honest, we may look around and say to God, "really?" Let's look forward to our journey, knowing that God has blessed us in the past with wonderful pastors and God will guide us in ways that bring glory to God's name.

Blessings to each of you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Blessings  
Mary Louise



Our spotlight shines this month on Wayne Alan Jarrett!

I am convinced, after talking to Wayne, that he can do most anything – and if something is needed that he does not know how to do, he will learn.

Wayne was baptized and confirmed at Sardis but in between those years he and his family lived in many places. Fortunately, he found his way back here and has been active in our faith community in many ways.

In his early years, his family lived in Ohio two different times; in North Carolina as well; and Wayne learned to make friends as a child because he was attending different elementary schools.

Wayne spent summers here with his grandparents and worked at the Jarret Lumber Company with his grandfather.

Many in our faith community are related to Wayne: he claims cousins by blood and cousins by close relationships. Just a few are Rita Lutz, Sylvia King, Kay Whitener and Roger Teague. After hearing about all these relatives (the list is extensive), I told him it might be easier to just name the people who are not related.

Elaine Brooks was the hairdresser for Wayne's grandmother. She suggested Wayne should meet Elaine and he told her they had just met. Wayne and Elaine married and it has been a great marriage. They have three children: Laura, Holly and Alan. They also have four grandchildren: Laney, Luke, Dominic and Joseph.

Wayne is an Army veteran, serving in the Viet Nam War. He worked in food service as a manager for KFC and at MDI in the frozen food warehouse. He also was a carpenter for Queen Construction and worked for major companies in this area. He says y'all know where he's been.

For fun, Wayne likes to be on the golf course and he's always happy to be searching for treasures at yard sales. Fishing has also been an activity he enjoys.

As Wayne looks forward, he is proud to be a part of the Sardis family. He has enjoyed all the pastors who have served here and was happy to help Terry and Jill with the youth activities.

Wayne is praying that God will bless our Call Committee and be with our congregation as we begin seeking a new pastor.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR JULY 23<sup>RD</sup>.

**ONE OF THE STARTING FACTORS OF OUR CALL PROCESS IS TO HAVE A CONGREGATIONAL STUDY. BY THE TIME WE DO THIS A CALL COMMITTEE WILL BE FORMED AND ALSO THE MINISTRY SITE PROFILE TASK FORCE. FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE ON THE 23RD THE CONGREGATION IS HAVING A BBQ LUNCHEON AND A TIME TO MEET WITH A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE. SMALL GROUPS WILL BE FORMED TO OBTAIN INPUT ON WHAT SARDIS IS LOOKING FOR IN OUR NEXT PASTOR. THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT MEETING, SO MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND!**

***A SIGN-UP SHEET FOR ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE BBQ IS IN THE NARTHEX. PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME BESIDE THE ITEM(ITEMS) YOU CAN PROVIDE. THE NUMBER REPRESENTS THE AMOUNT THAT ITEM NEEDS TO BE FURNISHED.***

### *Ministry Site Profile Task Force*

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Paisley Hood has been a member of Salem Gymnastics and Swim for 4 years. Her favorite program is the Balance Beam. She is a level 5/6 in her age group. She says she has been doing gymnastics for 6 years. She was recently chosen to model for her gym.



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 July on the 5th at Sardis. 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."

THE  
**CAROLINA CHRISTMAS SHOW**

▶ 🔊 00:03 / 00:46

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

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

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

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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 20<sup>th</sup> 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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## Third Noisy Offering Coming July 30.

July is the next month that has 5 Sundays in 2023 so the Social Ministry Committee will again be collecting everyone's spare change in a bucket on the fifth Sunday, July 30, 2023. As a reminder, at the end of the year, all four offerings will be combined to send to Lutheran Services Good Gifts Department to purchase a domestic animal (chicken, cow, pig, goat, etc.) to help support the ELCA's efforts to fight hunger in over eighty countries. To find out more about the ELCA Good Gifts efforts, visit <https://goodgifts.elca.org>. Please bring your loose change and drop in the bucket in the narthex to make a NOISE to fight hunger.

## More Graduation News

**Paisley Alexandria Hood** was promoted from 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Morgan Elementary in Clemmons and will attend middle school at Clemmons Middle School. Paisley is the daughter of Catherine Hood and the granddaughter of Bryan and Phyllis Hood. She will miss her teachers and friends there, as some of them will attend a different middle school. She is looking forward to meeting new friends and new teachers.

During fifth grade, Paisley enjoyed reading the most. Her favorite book is *Blended* by Sharon M. Draper. She and a group of friends participated in her school's recent talent show singing and dancing to "Baby" by Justin Bieber. Paisley's fondness for dancing probably relates to her being involved in gymnastics from an early age. That is her favorite thing to do. She is training at Salem Gymnastics and is on a competition team that involves a floor exercise, the balance beam, the vault, and the uneven bars. She likes to listen to Paul Thorn's music.

Paisley likes chicken quesadillas and mac 'n' cheese. She enjoys helping her Nanny (Phyllis) bake and work in the flower garden. Purple is her favorite color. She likes to visit her great-aunt Nena Babb and play with Marley the dog. Trying to walk on Austin's slack line is a fun way to practice her balance.

Paisley has an older brother Cayden, a younger sister Maleah, and a younger brother Micah. She helps out her Mom by looking after the little ones.

At church, Paisley participates as a crucifer and acolyte. She has enjoyed being in Christmas pageants and helping at our first God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. Mae & Bill Whitener are special people in her life, and she enjoys helping Mae to the car after church. Her infectious smile and dimples make all our Sundays bright!

**Maleah Grace Duncan** had pre-school graduation from A Child's World Learning Center and will attend Clemmons Elementary School in the fall. Maleah is the daughter of Catherine Hood and Marcus Duncan, and has siblings Cayden, Paisley, and Micah.

Maleah has lots of dolls, but her favorite is Barbie. She likes to dress her in different outfits. She also received a life-size Rapunzel doll at Christmas who came with her own horse Maximus. Both Maleah and Rapunzel enjoy riding Maximus!

Her favorite colors are pink and purple. She loves chicken nuggets and ice cream. She gets the love for ice cream from her Papaw Hood (Bryan) and his dad, Warren.

Maleah likes to ride around the parking lot in her Barbie car. She is also taking tumbling classes at Salem Gymnastics, like her older sister Paisley.

Check out next month's newsletter for bios of Graysen Whitener and Lexi Wood, who both finished up their sixth grade years at Snow Creek Elementary and Mountain View Elementary, respectively.



# Disney Animated Movies

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A	A	B	J	U	A	N	O	B	M	U	D	M	A
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WALL-E  
 PETER PAN  
 TARZAN  
 BAMBI  
 BROTHER BEAR  
 ROBIN HOOD  
 CARS  
 JUNGLE BOOK  
 PINOCCHIO  
 TANGLED  
 BOLT  
 MULAN  
 MONSTERS INC  
 CINDERELLA  
 ALADDIN  
 HERCULES  
 DUMBO  
 FANTASIA  
 DINOSAUR

Sun

Mon


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Thur

Fri

Sat

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2 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service/Holy Communion and FB Live	3 7:00 Prayer Group via ZOOM	4 	5 12:00 FTF Seniors meet at Sardis	6	7	8
9 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service/Holy Communion and FB Live 7:00 Church Council	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service/Holy Communion and FB Live	17 Pastor Mary Louise in Arizona for ELCA Rostered Ministers gathering Lutheran Day Camp 17-21 7:00 Prayer Group via ZOOM	18 Pastor Mary Louise in Arizona for ELCA Rostered Ministers gathering	19 Pastor Mary Louise in Arizona for ELCA Rostered Ministers gathering	20	21	22
23 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service/Holy Communion and FB Live 12:00 Congregational Study 3:00 Trinity Ridge	24	25	26 5:00 August NL articles due	27	28	29
30 <b>NOISY OFFERING SUNDAY</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service/Holy Communion and FB Live  6:30 LMM	31	<p><b>**NOTE**</b></p> <p><i>If you have a birthday or anniversary and they are not listed please let the office know. Thank you.</i></p>				



## July

### COUNCIL CONTACT

### ASSISTING MINISTER

7/2 Kristin Teague

Ken Propst

Austin Propst

7/3 Frank Griffin

7/6 Alex Midgett

7/10 Allison W. Short

Catherine D. Hood

### USHERS

Ralph S., Jill B., Wayne J., Al K.

7/16 Becky Gladden

7/18 Gary Speagle

7/19 Dorothy Lutz

7/21 Rick Lutz

Zayde Yousef

7/23 Carol Mayer

7/26 Wanda Stallings

Maleah G. Duncan

7/28 Paisley A. Hood

Keaton Farnsworth

7/29 Susan Jones

7/31 Al King

Monte Speagle

### COMMUNION PREPARATION

Sharon Sigman

### CLEAN-UP

Sherrie Midgett

### **Anniversaries:**

**Ben & Jennifer Whitener 7-30**

<b><i>VOLUNTEER July</i></b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>16th</b>	<b>23rd</b>	<b>30th</b>
<b>ALTAR FLOWERS</b>	Dorothea W.	David & Mildred F.	Benny & Edna F.	Randy & Joyce S.	Robin S.
<b>ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER</b>	Marilyn/Rick J.	Keaton/Cayden	Paisley/Hayden	Tryston/Nena	Keaton/Bruce
<b>COMMUNION ASSISTANT</b>	Jon G.	Ben W.	Rick J.	Marilyn t.	Ray W.
<b>GREETERS</b>	Darrell/Dianne	Bruce & Sharon S.	Ken/Annette	Donna/Shuford	Rita/Nena
<b>LAY READER</b>	Ray W.	Jon G.	Al K.	Keaton F.	Joe B.
<b>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</b>	Nena B.	No Children's Church	Jennifer W.	No Children's Church	No Children's Church
<b>TECHNOLOGY</b>	Terry, Ben, Joe, Samuel	Terry, Ben, Joe, Samuel	Terry, Ben, Joe, Samuel	Terry, Ben, Joe, Samuel	Terry, Ben, Joe, Samuel
<b>SECURITY</b>	Darrell J.	Ralph S.	Zachary S	Bruce Sigman	Rick J.
<b>OFFERING COUNTERS</b>	Dwayne Tryston, Susan, Patsy	Dwayne Tryston, Kristin, Nena	Dwayne Tryston, Sylvia, Sandra	Dwayne Tryston, Sherrie, Mike	Dwayne Tryston, Susan, Patsy
<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADER/HELPER</b>	Sherrie/Mike Nena/Roger	Susan/Kerby Kristin/Marilyn	Phyllis/Jill Rick/Roger	Cynthia/Robin April/Donna	Susan/Kerby Jon/Marilyn
<b>MEAL DELIVERY</b>	1st Phyllis B.	8th no meal	15th Nena B.	22nd no meal	29th Donna B.
<b>Blessings Box</b>	Disciples of Christ	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.**

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**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)