

# Friendly Messenger

September 2021

I have a tendency to overcharge my phone. That isn't the best thing for it so I try to avoid it when I can, but sometimes, I leave it plugged in too long. One time, with an older model, I charged to the extent that the battery swelled out of the phone! With the new model, I have been doing my best to not charge it as frequently, especially after recently hearing that it is best to *undercharge* your phone...yes, that's right, undercharge!

In fact, according to one source, it is best to leave your phone at 25 percent charge. It seems that the more you charge your phone, the faster it depletes. One of those unique things about technology. Well, that may be good for a phone, but if we're talking human beings, it's not enough for me!

With all of the busyness of the new school year, stresses and pressures, international and national conflict, concerning trends regarding variants of the coronavirus, there is a lot to distract us from our connection to God. Recharging our spiritual batteries is important during this time as we face new challenges and look toward a hopeful and healthier future. With all that is going on that can drain our battery power, sometimes it may feel like we are minimally charging ourselves back to life.

We have a source of battery power. We are in a wonderful relationship with God. We belong to a holy God, a loving God, a gracious God. God desires to be in relationship with us. Since the dawn of creation, God has met us where we are, in the Garden, in the flame, in the Temple, in the person of Jesus Christ. God is always reaching out to us.

We can recharge our batteries by making time to be with God. We are nourished by time spent in God's word and presence. Sometimes we just need to quiet ourselves to hear that still, small voice. We are reminded in Psalm 46: 10: "Be still and know that I am God" and Exodus 14:14: "The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still." So much is raging around us, let us find peace, guidance, and rest in God's presence. God is our life source!

If you feel a little disconnected, this is a good month to seek reconnection. On Sunday, August 29th, we will have Rally Day for Sunday School and will celebrate our rootedness in Jesus Christ. Then on September 12th, we will have Homecoming Sunday with Pastor Mary Louise preaching and a lunch to reconnect with family and friends. It will be a good opportunity to get recharged in the Christian community of love!

I'm not sure it is possible to get overcharged spiritually, but it sure sounds like a good problem, doesn't it? Who knows, let's stay connected and see what happens!

Blessings,  
Pastor Adrienne



## **YEAH!!! Back Together Again**

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 September on the 1st at Blackburn Baptist. This is our picnic month so you do not have to bring a covered dish. All are invited to join us for fun, food, and fellowship.

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## **SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY**

Rally Sunday School August 29th 9:30 AM

Everyone is invited to help us kick off our Sunday School year! We will be creating a quilt to commemorate returning to Sunday School after COVID and will need your hand print to make it complete. Snacks, games and songs too! Sunday school classes will start in September 12th. Here are the class options for adults and youth.

### **Adult Sunday School Class Options**

Adult Class - Blood Brothers- Jon Gladden

Adult class-Women in the Bible- Ray Whitener, Gene Biggerstaff, Jennifer Whitener (class to start September 19th)

Coffee and conversation

### **Youth Sunday School Class**

Nursery

Primary (PreK-2<sup>nd</sup>)

Elementary (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

Jr/Sr High

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## **EVANGELISM COMMITTEE**

Prior to COVID 19 the Evangelism Committee decided to display a framed collage in the Narthex of all committee chairs. This project needs to be finished ASAP. Terry has built a special frame for this. Jane needs a picture of each committee chair, either your single portrait from the directory in wallet size or a 4x6 photo. These need to be in color. Any questions please see Donna Biggerstaff or Jane.

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## **ALTAR COMMITTEE**

Due to the increase price of flowers the Altar Committee has decided to raise the cost of our weekly Altar flowers from \$40.00 to \$50.00. This is the first increase since 2011. This increase will take place on Reformation Sunday, October 31, 2021. We will continue to notify you of your flower Sunday through the Friendly Messenger and a reminder and pay envelope put in your mail box. Thank you for your understanding and if you have any questions please contact Marilyn Teague at 828-302-3526.

## It's Homecoming Time

Welcome Pastor Mary Louise Sitton! On Sunday, September 12, we will continue our celebration of 50 (plus 1!) years of ordained women pastors in the ELCA as we welcome back Pastor Mary Louise as our Homecoming guest pastor. We look so forward to greeting her and hearing about her journey from *our* music director to an ELCA pastor!

We will hold our 10:30 drive-in service out front and you may either remain in your car or gather in chairs or blankets on the lawn. We will celebrate Holy Communion at this service. Following the service, we will have our traditional dinner on the grounds; but, this year our meal will be individual boxed sandwich meals provided by Jason's Deli. Water bottles will also be provided. Donations are being accepted to help offset the cost of the meals. If you haven't reserved your box yet and you'd like one, please call the church office by August 29<sup>th</sup>.

All are welcome! Please invite family, friends, and past members to join with us as we worship together and welcome back Pastor Mary Louise Sitton.

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### PRAYER SERVICES



We will start holding weekly opportunities for prayer time. If you are interested, please contact Carolyn Hoyle or Pastor Adrienne. We will decide a meeting time together!

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### CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council met on August 7th for their annual retreat. A business meeting was not held to approve the July minutes. They will be printed in the October newsletter.

Kathy Weaver  
Council Secretary

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### SOCIAL MINISTRY

Thank you for participating in our Banoak/Blackburn school supply collection. We were able to collect several backpacks and boxes of supplies that was delivered Monday, August 23rd to each of the schools.

# GRACE



4536 Hickory Lincolnton Highway  
Newton, North Carolina 28658  
Church Office 704-462-1035

www.gracelutheran-newton.org  
email: [gracenalnewton@aol.com](mailto:gracenalnewton@aol.com)  
The Rev. Dr. J. George Gilbert, M.Div., D. Min., STS, Pastor

August 20, 2021

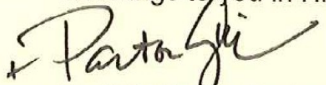
Sardis Lutheran Church, ELCA  
6103 NC Highway 10  
Hickory NC NC 28602

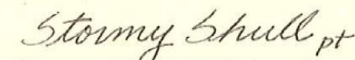
Re: Members & Youth Attendees to VBS

What a great week of Vacation Bible School God gave us at Grace! And it was a joy to have your members participate in those wonderful days of learning and fellowship. It is our sincere prayer that the teachings will be long-remembered by your young people, as well as the adults who attended.

As we share the same neighborhoods, may we be mindful that together we can accomplish even greater things for the Kingdom and our Lord. It was great getting to know each of you and to enjoy the blessings of VBS at Grace. Thank you for your participation and your willingness to partner with us and the other congregations in the area.

Blessings to you in His name!

  
Dr. Gil Gilbert, Pastor

  
Stormy Shull, VBS Leader

# Music Word Search

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

BAND  
 CHORUS  
 DRUM  
 EIGHTH  
 FOLKSONG  
 FORM  
 GLOCKENSPIEL  
 HALF  
 HARMONY  
 INSTRUMENT

MALLETT  
 MELODY  
 MUSIC  
 NOTE  
 PARTNERSONG  
 PIANO  
 QUARTER  
 REST  
 RHYTHM  
 ROUND

SCALE  
 SIXTEENTH  
 SYNCOPATION  
 TRIANGLE  
 WATERBURY  
 WHOLE  
 WOODBLOCK  
 XYLOPHONE



## September 2021 Sardis Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 Pastor Adrienne Va- cation 12 FTF Sen- iors Blackburn Baptist	2 Pastor Adrienne Va- cation	3 Pastor Adrienne Va- cation	4 Pastor Adrienne Vacation
5 Pastor Adrienne Va- cation 10:30 Worship Ser- vice and FB Live Stream 5:00 WELCA	6 Pastor Adrienne Vacation	7 Pastor Adrienne Vacation  No Bible Study	8	9	10	11
12 <b>HOME COMING</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Drive-in Wor- ship Service/Holy Communion and FB Live Stream Dinner on the Grounds 7:00 Church Council	13	14 10:00 Bible Study	15	16	17	18
19 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Ser- vice and FB Live Stream	20	21 10:00 Bible Study	22	23	24	25
26 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Ser- vice and FB Live Stream 6:30 LMM	27	28 10:00 Bible Study	29	30		

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

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

### SARDIS LEADERS CONTACTS

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

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

Council Chair: Bruce Sigman (C) 828-310-5851 [bruce.camping@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.camping@gmail.com)

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

**COUNCIL CONTACT    ASSISTING MINISTER**

Jon Gladden

Jon Gladden

**USHERS**

Wayne Jarrett, Mike Midgett, Rick Lutz, Ben Whitener

**Birthdays**

9/2 Dorothea Wyant  
Amy Jones

9/3 Faye Hoke

9/6 Ken Propst

9/8 Tim Whitener

9/11 Nena Babb

9/17 Amanda Revetta  
Lexie Wood

9/22 Jennifer M. Whitener

**SATURDAY MEAL  
DELIVERY****For—Catherine Houser,  
Garry, Leevada and Lexi Wood**

Sept. 4 Dawn Covington

Sept. 11 No Meal Delivery

Sept. 18 Sylvia King

Sept. 25 No Meal Delivery

**Anniversaries:**

**Ray & Margaret Whitener 9-11**  
**David & Mildred Fulbright 9-27**  
**Ralph & Wanda Stallings 9-28**

	<b>5TH</b>	<b>12TH</b>	<b>19TH</b>	<b>26TH</b>
<b>ALTAR FLOWERS</b>	Betty Whitener	Ethan & Heather Carroll	Darrell Jarrett	Bill & Mae Whitener
<b>SECURITY</b>	Zach Stuart	Bruce Sigman	Bryan Hood	Ken Propst

**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.

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

