

## Sunset Rays

*The "Son" still shines at Sunset Church*

*December 2016*

**Newsletter for: SUNSET DRIVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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**Rev. Dr. Thomas (Tom) Murphy**

**God's blessings on All members and friends for a Merry  
Christmas and Happy New Year!**



“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”

**Luke 2:11**

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.

Christina G. Rossetti

## Upcoming Church Events



- *UMM* will meet Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.
- *UMM Community Breakfast* on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30am to 9am. Meal includes- Turner ham, bacon, pancakes, sausage gravy, scrambled eggs, hot and cold drinks. Donations to be used for United Methodist Men's projects. The breakfast is open to the Community, so spread the word.
- *Prayer Shawl Ministry* will meet on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 3pm. New members are welcome.
- *Ladies' Annual Christmas Dinner*  
**Who:** Church ladies (all ages)  
**When:** Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm  
**Where:** *Sunset Drive Fellowship Hall*  
**Cost:** \$10 for adults, *but young ladies through high school age are special guests at no charge.*  
**Optional:** Gift exchange – If you want to participate bring a wrapped gift valued at about \$10, otherwise enjoy the food and fellowship. We will have a box for the Food Pantry, if you'd like to bring along a canned good. Adult tickets are being sold in advance and young ladies' tickets are available if requested. Please join us for an evening of Christmas spirit, good food and warm fellowship. *We need to give the ladies a count by December 5<sup>th</sup>.* Please see Peggy Grandle, Bev Thompson or Donna Belle Dove for tickets.
- *Tuesday Ladies Lunch* Instead of meeting the last Tuesday of the month, Ladies' Lunch for November and December will be combined. We will eat at Traditions Restaurant in Harrisonburg on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. The cost for seniors is \$10.05, including tax. We will pay individually as we enter. Those interested in carpooling should meet at the church at 11am in order to arrive at the restaurant around 11:30 am. If you plan to attend let, Donna Belle Dove or Janet Wager know by Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> so we can reserve our tables. All ladies of the church are invited.
- *January 2017 Newsletter Deadline:* Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Please have all information to church office.

## January 1, 2017

A Special John Wesley Convent Service for renewal baptism and Holy Communion will be shared during worship on Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am. Plan to come experience this unique service.

## In Sympathy

- † **We extend Christian sympathy** and prayers to *The Doris Glendye Family*. Doris passed away on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. She will be greatly missed by the Sunset Drive Family.

## Congratulations

- Congratulations to *Aaron and Brittany Hoover* on their marriage.

## Keep current with News & Events

submitted by Barry Davis

A friendly reminder that you can find an up-to-date calendar, bulletins, sermons, newsletters, upcoming events and online giving information on our website. Please take a few minutes and browse the site to see what's there. You'll be surprised at how much information is right at your fingertips.

If you have any comments or suggestions about how we can improve our website or our Facebook page, please feel free to contact me at [barry8360@yahoo.com](mailto:barry8360@yahoo.com)

Our website: <http://www.sunsetdriveumc.com>

Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/sunsetdriveumc>



## Inclement Weather and Cancellation Notice

Should it become necessary to cancel Sunday services or other activities during the week due to winter weather conditions, a cancellation notice will be posted through the following media: WHSV TV-3, the church website and the church Facebook

## Children's Group

submitted by Erica Kann

The Children will perform their Christmas program "Sleep in Heavenly Peace on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 10am. They will have an encore performance Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, followed by refreshment.

## Adult Choir

submitted by Brenda Hoover

The *Adult Choir* will present the annual Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> during the 10 am worship service. This year's Cantata is entitled, "Silent Night! Holy Night!" by Russell Mauldin and Sue C. Smith. The Choir will present the Christmas story through music featuring familiar Christmas Carols and new Christmas Songs too. We hope you will join us for a morning filled with the Musical message of how God sent his Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. We hope that this presentation will allow Him to fill your life with joy, hope, peace, and love during this Christmas Season and throughout the coming year!

# Youth

submitted by Lacey Roberts

## December Schedule

*Sunday, December 4th*- Youth Christmas party (Cicis pizza and Target to get gifts for local family) No money needed. This is our end of year Christmas party for the kids! Meet at the church parking lot at 5:45pm. We should return around 8:15pm.

*Wednesday, December 7th*- NO YOUTH GROUP

*Saturday, December 10th*- \*Only those I've talked with need to be at the church at 10 to help with play practice.

*Sunday, December 11th*- All are invited to come watch a spectacular performance of the kids Christmas program at either the 10 AM service or 6 PM.

*Sunday, December 14th*- Youth 6:30-7:30 (Mark)

*Sunday, December 21st*- No school but we will still have youth. We will start baking cookies at the church around 5, eat, and then head out for some Christmas caroling and dropping off cookies. This is always a fun night! All are welcome to wear wacky Christmas gear!

*Saturday, December 24th*- Our youth will be ringing the bell for Salvation Army (Timberville Wal-Mart) from 9-2. If you would like to ring from 1-2, please let me know.

*Sunday, December 25th*- Merry Christmas!!

*Wednesday, December 28th*- No Youth

I want to thank all the parents for another wonderful year here at Sunset Drive. Without your dedication and time running back and forth, many of the activities and mission/ volunteer work that we do together would not be possible. These kids (I have a full list I turned in to the Pastor) packed food every month for local kids to eat, visited nursing homes, prepared lessons for God Squad, donated items to local pantries, planted and gathered potatoes, removed trash and weeds from local schools, volunteered time at John C, spend hours on preparing VBS skits, bible lessons and decorating, fed local kids during summer school, and are about the help out several families for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Zach and I are so grateful for all of their hard work and time at youth group. Parents, again, thanks you for all that you do for your child and for youth. I hope that, if anything, our youth group lessons and activities helps your child to grow more in their faith and that we are helping them cultivate the habits of being grateful and humble. We all have a lot to be thankful for this holiday season, our families, hands that will prepare our food, our teachers, leaders, and most importantly, a man who spared his own life so we may have the choice of eternal life, Jesus. As we head into the holiday season this week, I challenge everyone, including myself, to do something kind for someone else. Hold a door, visit the elderly, pay for someone's coffee, or just a simple Merry Christmas!! A "peaceful" world begins with us. I wish each of you a safe and wonderful Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas, and may each of you laugh a little more, gain a little weight, and find time to relax this holiday season!!!

## Grow in the Joy of Generosity Step-by-Step

If you wish to automate your commitment to The Lord, set up a recurring donation that is automatically made at the same frequency that you get paid. If necessary, convert the commitment you made to 'Giving per week in 2017" to an equivalent amount based on your pay frequency – bi-weekly/every two weeks, semi-monthly or monthly. Then:

1. Go to [www.SunsetDriveUMC.com](http://www.SunsetDriveUMC.com)
2. Find the bar of black boxes and click on **DONATE**
3. Click again on *Donate* in the yellow oval
4. Under **donations**
  - a. Enter the amount you will give in the General Operating box.
  - b. Select your Donation Frequency
  - c. Enter your Donation Start Date (a day or two after your next pay date)
  - d. Click Continue
5. Under **Donation information**
  - a. Under Provide your contact information
  - b. Provide your payment type
  - c. Select a Password
  - d. Click that you are not a robot
  - e. Click Process.
6. Experience the Joy of Generosity

Contact Dennis Turner (896-0327) or Beverly Thompson (896-2643) with your questions.

## Church Announcements

- We will have Children's Church on Sunday, December 4. However, due to special programs for the remainder of the month, we will not have Children's Church on December 11<sup>th</sup> (Children's Program), December 18<sup>th</sup> (Cantata), and December 25<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Day Worship Service). The nursery will be available on each of these Sundays. We will not be providing a nursery for the Christmas Eve service on December 24<sup>th</sup>
- ***To everyone who may be doing fall, Christmas or any kind of cleaning.*** The SDUMC Ladies will have another yard sale this spring (2017). If you have things you've fallen out of love with, we'd love to sell them. If you have things you've never loved, but were afraid to admit it, we'll be your conscience and help you through it. We'd love to sell them and unburden your mind. Please keep us in mind for the next several months. We have been able to help many local organizations this year because of your generous contributions to us.
- Sometimes when you leave the service, you may have a concern or message for Pastor Tom. Often there are so many people leaving and talking to him that he can't always capture all the information. We have put "Message" forms in the pew pads for you to use to relay your information to Pastor Tom. Just put your message on the form and hand it to the pastor on your way out of the service. Thank you
- We would like to hear from anyone interested in learning and helping with the sound system. It is not complicated to do and can actually be fun. Anyone interested can contact Dale Cupp at 896-7882 or simply talk to him after service.

## Community Events

- Broadway Fire Department Christmas Parade Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.
- The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society, under the direction of Curtis Nolley, will present its 47th annual Christmas concert on Friday, December 16th at 7:30 PM, and Sunday, December 18th at 3:00 PM at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. The concert will include Conrad Susa's "Carols and Lullabies: Christmas in the Southwest", a collection of carols of Spanish descent, accompanied by classical guitar, marimba and harp. The second half of the concert will feature a variety of new and traditional carol settings. Tickets are available at the door, locally from Choral Society members, Red Front Supermarket (Harrisonburg), Bridgewater Foods (Bridgewater), and on-line at [www.singshenandoah.org](http://www.singshenandoah.org). Admission is \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors/students.

## Happy Birthday

### December

- 2 Laura Holsinger, Dylan Lantz, Elizabeth Reeves, Trenton Moyers
- 3 Ken Reeves
- 5 Becky Hoover Harris
- 7 Phyllis Mason, Gail Bean, M.W. Emswiler, II,
- 8 Hilda Runion, Bruce Turner,
- 9 Michael Ellington, Stuart Long, Jayson Hahn
- 10 Brian Craig
- 12 Jaxen Phillips, Mildred Barrough
- 13 David Lee, Heather Stroop, Tamra Long
- 16 Darren Drury
- 17 Gavin Halterman
- 18 Matt Clarke, Natalie Craig, Richard Sharpe
- 19 Steve Shifflett, Deanna Lee,
- 20 Philip Long, Sr., Will Freds
- 21 Richard Brown
- 22 Cricket Driver, William Herndon
- 23 Dianne Fulk, Brady Turner, Heidi Jordan
- 26 Ruby Baker
- 27 Grayson Hawkins
- 28 Jeremy Turner
- 30 Robert Wenger
- 31 Lowell Turner



*Happy Anniversary*

## Happy Anniversary

### December Anniversaries

- 16 Wilton and Helen Thomas
- 17 Larry and Kay Bowman
- 20 Wayne and Betty Turner
- 23 Sterling and Meridith Peele
- 31 Dave and Micki Peoples