

Sunset Rays
The "Son" still shines at Sunset Church
March 2017

Newsletter for: SUNSET DRIVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Thomas (Tom) Murphy



NEAR THE CROSS

According to the Gospel of Luke, "... the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law met together, and Jesus was brought before the Council. 'Tell us, ' they said, 'are you the Messiah?" Then Jesus responded. " You say that I am." Thus, the final journey to the Cross of suffering and sacrifice loomed large before the Master. (Luke 22:66,70,)

We are preparing to observe the Lenten Season in the life of our church's teaching, preaching, and witnessing. Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday covering a period of approximately six weeks. It is a season in which signals the time of preparation for Christians to get ready to celebrating Easter. The word Lent comes for the Angle-Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "spring." It is a time introspection for us through prayer, penance, repentance of sin, atonement, and self denial.

The Great Three Days, sunset Holy Thursday through sunset Easter Day, are the climax of Lent, and the whole Christian year. These days become a bridge into the Easter Season.

In preparation for a meaningful season at Sunset Drive, **we will be observing the following:**

- a series of sermons centered around the theme " Near the Cross,"
- a book study using Bishop Kenneth H. Carter's book by the same name to be held Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. in the Faith Classroom. All are welcome to come and books are available.
- securing your day to day Lenten Devotional entitled *The SANCTARY* for 2017 written by Donald K. Mckim. The devotional can be found in the vestibule of the church.
- our Ash Wednesday Service at Sunset Drive on Wednesday, March 1st in the sanctuary at 7pm observing the impositions of the ashes.
- our Palm Sunday Worship on Sunday, April 9th at 10am in the sanctuary. We will remember Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem.
- our Mandy Thursday Service, April 13th , at 7pm in the sanctuary celebrating our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples.
- our Tenebrae, Good Friday Service, April 14th at 7pm in the sanctuary, then on Easter Sunday...
- we will gather for our Easter Sunrise Service at 6:15am off the parking lot of the church to greet the sunrise. This will be followed by breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Following breakfast, we will go to our Sunday School Classes, and then
- we will celebrate Easter Sunday in the music, preaching , and fellowship in the glory of our Lord's Resurrection!

To fully appreciate Easter Morning is never more meaningful than to observe the journey our Lord made at Golgotha, via his suffering, shame, and Resurrection. To experience what is planned above is to journey with Christ Jesus realizing his humanity and divinity. What a wonderful opportunity to celebrate " New Life, New Beginnings", in Jesus our Lord and Savior. Plan to be part of these activities and walk with the Lord in prayer, study, and worship.

Pastor Tom

In Sympathy

- **We extend Christian sympathy** and prayers to *Wilton Thomas*. *Wilton's sister Jane Dove* passed away on Wednesday, February 1st.
- **We extend Christian sympathy** and prayers to *Jack Lohr* and *Jesse Long Families*. *Jack and Jesse's sister Phoebe Lou Lohr Hoover* passed away on Sunday, February 5th.
- **We extend Christian sympathy** and prayers to *Bill Campbell*. *Bill's brother Gary Campbell* passed away on Wednesday, March 1st.

Upcoming Church Events



- *Bishop Kenneth H. Carter's book study* will begin on Tuesday, March 7th at 10 a.m. in the Faith Classroom. All are welcome to come and books are available. Please contact the church office at 540-896-3970, if you would like to register for the book study.
- *UMM* will meet on Tuesday, March 7th at 7pm.
- *Bible Study* will continue meeting on Wednesdays March 8th, March 15th, and March 22nd, and March 29th at 6:30 pm. We are continuing to study the prophet Isaiah. All are Welcome!!
- *UMM Community Breakfast* on Saturday, March 11th, 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.
- *Daylight Savings Time Returns*, Sunday March 12th.
- *Prayer Shawl Ministry* will meet on Tuesday, March 14th and Tuesday, March 28th from 1pm to 3pm. New members are welcome.
- *Sunset Drive Ladies* will meet on Thursday, March 16th, at 6:30pm.
- *April 2017 Newsletter Deadline*: Tuesday, March 21st. Please have all information to church office.
- *Sunset Ladies Lunch* will be on Tuesday, March 28th, at 11:30 am Please bring a covered dish to share in some wonderful fellowship.
- *WRE Spring Choral Concert* at EMU on Saturday, April 1st.

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

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

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

Easter Flowers

The Easter Flower forms and envelopes will be available in the bulletins and narthex starting Sunday, March 5th. The cost will be \$8 per flower. Please put form and money in the envelopes marked Easter Flowers and place in offering plate or the box located in the narthex. All orders must have money attached when ordered. Deadline for ordering *Sunday, March 26th*.

Children's Group

submitted by Erica Kann

VBS will be held Sunday, July 30th through Thursday, August 3rd from 6:30 pm– 8:30 p.m., for children the ages Pre-K through 8th grade. Middle school children will have their own class. High school youth will be helping with skits and the lessons for the younger kids. We also will be splitting the grade school level kids up by the following Pre-K, K&1, 2&3, 4&5. We will have the following stations: game, snack, bible, music, and craft/science. We are going to be asking the children to bring can goods and/or money donations so we can go out and buy food for our local food pantry. This year we are stepping out in faith and creating our own curriculum. The first night we will begin with Christmas in July and teaching the kids about the birth of Jesus. The second through fourth night we will be teaching the children three different events from Jesus' life. The fifth and final night we will end with the Resurrection of Jesus. More to come on the ways you can help in the coming months.

Mission and Outreach

submitted by Alan Laughlin

The Mission and Outreach Team met on Monday, February 13th to plan for 2017. Our goal is to have one mission project a quarter.

The first project we will be working on is to build an enclosed porch for a senior in Mayland. We are working on a material list for Rebuilding Together, they provide the lumber and we will provide the labor.

We are searching for something in June that our youth might be able to help with. Ideas are welcomed.

The trip to Marion(see below) in August is next on our list for 2017. We will partner with Warren Grove UMC from North Carolina (this is my granddaughter church). They were needing some people to join their group.

We don't have a project planned for the last Quarter yet, and are opened for ideas. If any of these interest you, please talk to me, Pastor Glen, or Pastor Tom.

I am happy to announce an upcoming Mission Trip to Marion, Virginia for the first week of August. We will be working with the people of the Project Crossroads. They are in need of people who can stay the week or can help a few days. We are looking for people who would like to join in the fun and help some folks with their homes. There will be a sign up sheet coming soon and we will have a few meetings to go over details. I hope that you will consider joining us or helping as you feel led.

Sunset Drive United Methodist Ladies

submitted by Donna Belle Dove

Sunset Drive United Methodist Ladies met Thursday, February 16th at the church. Donna Price had a program in honor of President's Day. Along with the monthly donation to the local food pantry, donations will be made to the Salvation Army for the purchase of Bibles. These will be used in Bible Study for residents of the homeless shelter. A donation will also be made to the Weekday Religious Program in Rockingham County. The Broadway - Timberville Ministerial Association met here on Tuesday, February 21st. We provided a continental breakfast for them. We will finalize details for our yard sale at the March meeting. After the business meeting we filled 30 bags with toiletry items, snacks and a prayer square. These will be delivered to the Meals on Wheels recipients at the end of the month. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, March 16th at 6:30 at the church. All ladies are invited to attend.

Bible Collection

Do you have an extra Bible? Sunset Drive United Ladies are collecting Bibles to donate to the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army has Bible Study for those people in need of shelter. When they leave the shelter they are allowed to take a Bible with them. What a wonderful way to spread the Word. SDUMC Ladies will be purchasing some Bibles, but are also accepting donations if you would like to contribute. Any translation, any size, preferably in good condition will be appreciated. A box will be placed in the narthex for this.

Yard Sale

The SDUMC Ladies annual yard/bake sale will be held on Saturday, April 29th. We are accepting donations of all kinds except clothing. If you have something to contribute that needs to be picked up let us know and we'll make arrangements. We can take donations at any time, but preferably the week before the yard sale. Let us know if you need more information. More information will follow after the March meeting.

We would like to **THANK** all the youth, large and small who helped decorate the bags for the Meals on Wheels recipients. They are a pleasure to look at and will bring smiles to many faces. Thanks for your hard work.

Camp Overlook

Soon we will be building 2 buildings (16x24') to replace the teepees at two sites. Please pass this along to those in your Church. We will be asking for some help. Let John Packard or Gary know if you think you can put together any work crews to help. Will keep you updated as to needs and timing. Thanks, John Packard

Cub Scouts- Pack 1

submitted by Rick White, Cub Master



Wow, what a busy month we've had! We had yet another successful running of our Pinewood Derby (please see the pictures below), and we've just celebrated Scout Sunday with the Church Youth Program. It was such a great experience to worship the Lord with everyone.



By the time you get this, we'll also have had our Blue & Gold Banquet and watched our Webelos Arrow of Light Cubs cross over to becoming full fledged Boy Scouts. I'll be sure to have some pictures next month.



If you know of a family or boy between the ages of 5 – 10 years old that would really enjoy Scouting, it's never too late to get involved in the program, so please invite them to a meeting or pass the family's information to me and I'll reach out. As part of our outreach, if the family can't afford the program, we can help with that. Well, until next month, I hope the Lord holds you, guides you, and protects you!

Yours in Scouting, Rick White Cubmaster



Barbeque Chicken Time

submitted by Brenda Hoover

It's Chicken BBQ time again!!

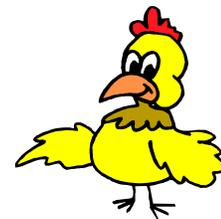
Please mark your calendars!!

The dates for Sunset Drive Chicken BBQ will be:

Saturday, April 8th

Saturday, May 16th

Saturday, June 10th (tentatively)



Volunteers will be needed for cooking, wrapping and selling. The cooking crew begins at 5:00 a.m. Wrapping begins at approximately 7:30 a.m. and selling begins soon after that. Anyone interested in helping please contact Eric Hoover, 896-1319 or Susan Holsinger, 896-3667. Please join us for another season of "Barbecuey" Food, Fellowship and Fun as we raise money for our church!

Fellowship Meals:

The following church wide fellowship meals are planned for the year:

- Sunday, April 16, 2017 - Breakfast after Sunrise Service
- Sunday, April 23, 2017 – Carry-in Luncheon after Worship Service
- This summer we plan to have a church picnic at the park. A date and time will be announced later.
- Sunday, August 27, 2017 – Carry-in Breakfast at 8:15 a.m.
- Sunday, September 24, 2017 – Carry-in Luncheon after our Homecoming Worship Service

Graduate Recognition:

We plan to recognize our high school and college graduates (including grad school) on Sunday, June 4, 2017. Information about each graduate will be included in our June newsletter. Please contact Sandy Cupp at 896-7882 or sandycupp@aol.com with any information on our graduates.

Bible School:

Our Vacation Bible School is planned for July 30 through August 3. We have a great program planned on the birth, life, and resurrection of Jesus! Adult volunteers are needed. Let Sandy Cupp or Erica Kann know if you would like to help. Please consider making a difference for our children in this special ministry.

Middle School Sunday School Class

We are looking at trying to start a Middle School Sunday School class in September. Please let Pastor Tom, Lacey Roberts, or Sandy Cupp know if you have any interest in working with this class.

March Birthdays

1	Bill William	20	Judy Post, Becky Harris, Erin Williams,
2	Colton Wenger, Scott Harris	21	Belynne Hollar, Mark Hoover, Ronald Turner
4	Fred Olson		Stephanie Cantrell
6	Kathie Jo Almquist, Susan Nazelrod	23	Ambi Hahn
7	Cletis Jenkins	24	Melinda Brown
8	Jeff Harris	25	Jeffery Formica, JoAnn Milander
10	Walker Turner	26	Laura Rellins, Jackson Peele
12	Steve Rhodes	27	Jennifer Phillips, Jenna Long
13	Donna Price, Joshua Adams	28	Brandie Lantz Hensley, Marilyn Jenkins
14	Tim Turner	29	Scott Arbogast, Landon Craig, Dawn
16	Erica Kann, Jesse Long, Peggie Turner		Hohenstien
17	Bailey Harris, Pat Milstead	30	Barry Davis, Larry Davis
18	Nichole Dinges		
19	Jacob Fulk		

March Anniversaries

12	Benjamin and Elizabeth Orebaugh
13	Glen and Virginia Ann Hulvey



Happy Anniversary