

Sunset Rays  
*The "Son" still shines at Sunset Church*

**July 2018**

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

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



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## STOP-LISTEN-PRAY

Now that we are into the summer activities we find ourselves immersed in planning and executing what we dreamed over the previous months with an intension upon relaxation. Some of us will go fishing, swimming at the beach or lake, hiking the mountain paths, visiting some family resort, or just "plain-time-out" rest. One or more of these possible experiences seem outstanding. Might I suggest that we add three acts to be included in what we do? How about we **Stop-Listen-** and **Pray** as we engage in whatever activity we pursue. In the midst of our fun times it might add an even more richness to our experiences if we Stop long enough to give thanks to God for the blessings we enjoy. Listening would be fine too as we take in all that is happening around us, reflecting upon the opportunities made available to us in life. And, wouldn't it be extra special if we just took moments to lift up a prayer or two to the Almightyly seeking God's presence in what we are about to experience? In the words of John Baillie, in his *A Diary of Private Prayer*, let us be aware of the Lord's Spirit always with us.

*O God within me, give me grace to-day to recognize the stirrings of Thy Spirit within my soul and to listen most attentively to all that Thou hast to say to me. Let not the noises of the world ever so confuse me that I cannot hear Thee speak. Suffer me never to deceive myself as to the meaning of Thy commands; and so let me in all things obey Thy will, through the grace of Jesus Christ my Lord.*

Have a wonderful summer. but when home..... come to church!

*Pastor Tom*

## 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>

## Upcoming Church Events

- The **"Out to Lunch Bunch"** will be going to Cross Keys Vineyard on Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am. We will leave the church parking lot at 11am. If you plan to go, please let me Kay Bowman know at 896-7665.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will meet on Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, from 1pm to 3pm. We supply the yarn, needles, and lessons. New members are welcome.
- **24 to Double Meeting** on Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm
- **Administrative Council Meeting** on Monday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.
- **August 2018 Newsletter Deadline:** Tuesday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Please have all information to church office.
- **Sunset Ladies Lunch** will be on Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at 11:30 am Please bring a covered dish to share in some wonderful fellowship.



## Chicken BBQ



THANK YOU to EVERYONE for all of your time and effort to have THREE Chicken BBQs this Summer. We had EXCELLENT help (children, youth and adults) from 5am thru noon to cook, wrap and sell Chicken. As we all know, Sunset Drive UMC has the "BEST BBQ Chicken in the Valley" ... compliments of our **"Secret Carl Grey Recipe"**. We cooked over 2000 halves and sold out before noon each Saturday, and cleared about \$3000. For those of you, who came to the "Pit", you know that this is also a great time of fellowship. We enjoy each other's company, and we learn about each other ... we build stronger "CONNECTIONS" with our brothers and sisters in Christ. And hopefully, the SMILING faces of our sales team sent a very positive message to our community. We even "deliver" to your car window, which some folks REALLY appreciate ... SERVING our community with LOVE and a SMILE! THANK YOU and GOD BLESS!

## Blood Drive

Virginia Blood Services has scheduled with Sunset Drive to have a blood drive at the church on Saturday, July 28 from 9:30 am until 1:30pm. As always, blood is in demand and this is a great opportunity to help our fellow citizens. Both Sunset Drive UMC and Linville Creek Church of the Brethren are cooperating with Virginia Blood Services to host a blood drive periodically.



# Photos from VBS



# Finance Committee

***Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow.***

submitted by Dennis Turner

The basics of Sunday – Songs, Sermons and Stewardship. Our Stewardship theme this year is Living Each Day as a Steward and we're emphasizing using our time, talents and treasures to change lives for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Beverly Thompson is our Financial Secretary, one of the most important and sensitive offices in our church. She Supervises the offering count; deposits the offering in the bank; gives a record to Sue Olson, our Treasurer of the amounts and purposes of the contributions; and keeps records of each contribution by contributor. Helping her are Steve Philips, Assistant Financial Secretary and offering counters Dwayne Runion, Donna Arbogast, Charlene Gilley, Donna Belle Dove, Sheila Proctor and Alan Laughlin.

Beverly also enters the attendance from the pew pad attendance sheets that are completed and placed in the offering plate. Did you know that these are actually used? Beverly says one day she might present a "perfect attendance" award.

These are important and time consuming tasks but it has been simplified by our member's use of Electronic Giving. For the first five months of 2018, 23% of our offerings were from electronic giving. Advantages for members include: no check writing; use checking account, debit card or credit card; set up recurring donation on the same date you get paid – electronic donations don't take vacations, don't get sick and are not affected by inclement weather; most importantly, *pay God first*.

So Sunday when our offerings are being made, know that Beverly, Steve and the counters are busy at work with their time, talents and resources, Living Each Day as a Steward. But, please don't have concerns about them; please keep them extra busy with those checks and Electronic Giving contributions.

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

***God Loves a Cheerful Giver***

submitted by Bev Thompson

Giving is important to children too. I find all kinds of interesting things in the tithing envelopes. One little girl put her name on the envelope and put a store receipt in it because that's all she had, but she wanted to give something, Sometimes there's a kid's name on the envelope and a bunch of change in there. One time there was a kid's name on the envelope and a dollar bill with the kid's name on it too. Children are cheerful givers. They can't wait for the plate to get to their pew. And, they love to help take up the collection.

# Ring the Bell for the Salvation Army

Pastor Murphy and our Youth will be Ringing the Bell for the Salvation Army on Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at the Timberville Food Lion. Please consider joining them for an hour that day – select a time and advise Dennis Turner at 540-333-6410. This is a great couple and family activity. Chairs/bottled water provided.

9am – 10am: Dennis and Kay Turner

10am – 11am: Pastor Murphy

11am– 12pm: Steve Shifflett

12 pm– 1pm :Joe Adolf

1pm – 2pm: Norma Lee

2pm – 3pm

3pm– 4pm

4pm – 5pm

5pm –6pm: Youth

6pm – 7pm: Youth

## Happy Birthday

### July

- 2 Kaleb Branner
- 3 Dee Dee Garrett
- 4 Jack Lohr, Michele White, Paige Dove
- 5 Jodi Clarke, Jordan Holsinger, Joshua Lohr
- 6 Amy Popp
- 7 Ellie Roach, Marlin Fulk
- 8 Sophie Davis
- 9 Angela Craig, Susan Holsinger
- 10 Preston Crawford, Stephanie Herndon
- 11 Travis Fulk, Garnett Turner
- 12 Benjamin Orebaugh
- 14 Donna Arbogast, Brenda Hoover, Amber Harpine, Madison Griffith
- 16 Tara Langston
- 18 Emily Dick
- 19 Eleanor Campbell, Glen Hulvey, Amanda Long, Andrea Rexrode,
- 20 Helen Armentrout
- 21 Laura Deavers, Lisa Thacker, Brandon Driver
- 22 Jonathan Thompson
- 23 Carol Driver
- 24 Heather Reeves
- 26 Aaron Hoover, Margaret Whitmore
- 27 Garrett Lantz, Tyler Lantz, Elizabeth Orebaugh
- 28 Blaine Adams
- 30 Karla Dick, Carl Grey Hoover, Ed Roach, Andy Thomas



## Happy Anniversary

### July

- 4 Mike and Cecee Hawkins
- 13 Grant and Laura Holsinger
- 18 Dennis and Kay Turner
- 21 Scott and Valerie Arbogast
- 23 Jeremy and Lisa Jo Fulk

