

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

Newsletter for: SUNSET DRIVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
127 S. Sunset Drive – P.O. Box 381 –Broadway, VA 22815
Phone: 540.896.3970
office@sunsetdriveumc.com-www.sunsetdriveumc.com

Rev. Dr. Thomas (Tom) Murphy

"WHERE IS HE?"



Tom

Bev

Lisa

Angie

Lacey

*Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him."
(Matthew 2:1-2, KJV)*

After these many years people still come to seek out the Promised One, the One called King of Kings, the Messiah, the Prince of Peace. May you and yours, this Christmas, find him too amid the celebration of Christmas...a baby, a man, a Savior...Christ the Lord! Merry Christmas!

"A Remarkable Gift In An Unremarkable Package"

That is the Advent Study theme we will be considering each Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. as we share Max Lucado's *Because of Bethlehem* Bible study. Come and join with us as we consider: God has a Face; Worship Works Wonders; God Guides the Wise; and, Every Heart a Manger. There will be four sessions in the Social Hall...and we want you there!



Upcoming Church Events

- **UMM Meeting** on Tuesday, December 5th at 7pm.
- **Advent Bible Study** will be held on Wednesday, December 6th, December 13th, and December 20th at 6:30 pm. All are Welcome!!
- The **Adult Choir** will have practice on Wednesday, December 6th and December 13th at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary.
- **UMM Community Breakfast** on Saturday, December 9th, 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 opened to the community, so spread the word.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will meet on Tuesday, December 12th, from 1pm to 3pm. We supply the yarn, needles, and lessons. New members are welcome.
- The **Adult Choir** will present the annual Cantata on Sunday, December 17th during the 10 am worship service. The Cantata is entitled "Come Let Us Adore" by Russell Mauldin and Sue C. Smith. Please join us for this special, music filled service.
- **Administrative Council Meeting** on Monday, December 18th has been CANCELLED. Our next meeting is Monday, January 15th at 7pm.
- **January 2018 Newsletter Deadline:** Tuesday, December 19th. Please have all information to church office.
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service** on Sunday, December 24th at 7pm.



Thank you

Thank you to all who filled a shoebox for Samaritan's Purse this year. We collected 58 shoeboxes for children all around the world. Many thanks.



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

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>

Mission/Outreach

submitted by Alan Laughlin

In 2017, the mission team at Sunset Drive UMC was very busy. We had some members that helped clear a few driveways of snow and did some yard work as needed.

In the spring we helped Rebuilding Together with a project. Sunset Drive replaced a closed in porch, installed part of a roof, and made parts of a floor safe again. We had over 50 hours with that project and we all felt good that we were able to help.

In August we traveled to Marion, Virginia for a week to work with Project Crossroads on three different projects. We were part of a team of thirty-five people that built a 16 foot wood shed for their wood ministry, repaired decks, a walkway, and painted a 30 foot ramp. Sunset Drive supplied enough materials for 27 flood buckets. Our crew packed them and delivered them to the drop off point.

We are making plans for 2018, a trip back to Marion, more flood buckets, and possibly a trip South to help with Hurricane rebuilding.

I want to thank everyone for their support and prayers. None of this is possible without you.

Sunset Drive Ladies

submitted by Donna Belle Dove

Sunset Drive UMC Ladies met on Thursday, November 16th at 6:30 at the church.

We discussed:

- the upcoming Ladies Christmas Dinner. See the separate item for details.
- getting our Christmas family so we can start shopping for their gifts.
- the need to remember our secret prayer pals, especially over the holidays.
- that all the supplies for WRE had been purchased except Easter eggs.

Blessing boxes were packed for church shut-ins. These will be delivered between Thanksgiving and Christmas. We prayed over the boxes and adjourned.



Ladies Christmas Dinner

It will be held at the Broadway Rescue Squad building on Monday, December 11th. All church ladies are invited. Tickets should be obtained in advance and will be available through Wednesday December 6th. Adult tickets are \$10. Tickets for ladies in high school or younger are complimentary. See Peggy Grandle, Donna B. Dove or Bev Thompson for your tickets. If they do not have them at the time they will take your name and your money to reserve a space for you. Social time and appetizers will be from 6:00-6:30. The meal will be served at 6:30. If you wish to participate there will be a gift exchange. Bring a wrapped gift valued around \$10. A box will be available for nonperishable foods to be taken to the food pantry also. Come join us in some Christmas spirit.

Our next meeting is Thursday, January 18th at 6:30pm.

Finance Committee

submitted by Dennis Turner

Sunset Drive UMC has been blessed to receive gifts from the Herman and Janet Mason Families Fund and from the Dennis & Norma Lee Charitable Fund.

Unrestricted gifts were received in August from the Mason Fund and in September from the Lee Fund. Also, an unrestricted gift was received in August from the Lee Fund in memory of Wayne and Betty Lee Turner. We thank Mrs. Eleanor Campbell and Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Lee for their generosity and desire to continue God's work with these funds.

Both funds are administered by The Community Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. The Community Foundation pools funds from many individuals then manages the investments and makes distributions within the local community according to the wishes of the individuals. Because the Foundation is a nonprofit, investment income is tax-free which effectively increases the amount available for distributions. The Foundation currently manages hundreds of funds valued at more than \$30 million.

Individuals interested in knowing more about The Community Foundation can search for their website using 'The Community Foundation Harrisonburg' or call them at 540-432-3863.

Yearend Gifts to Sunset Drive United Methodist Church

Our 2017 Stewardship emphasis was the Joy of Generosity – experiencing the joy that comes from giving, serving, and growing in the Lord. If you wish to have an up-to-date Contribution Statement to compare to your Joy of Generosity goal, please contact Financial Secretary Beverly Thompson, 896-2643, and one will be provided quickly.

Your paper-based 2017 tax deductible financial gift to Sunset Drive must be received by Sunday, December 31 or postmarked no later than that date.

Your electronic 2017 tax deductible financial gift to Sunset Drive may be made on December 31, 2017 using the Donate button on SunsetDriveUMC.com.

If you have appreciated assets – stocks, bonds, mutual funds that have gained in value since purchase, you can make them a gift to Sunset Drive UMC and

- a) avoid all broker commissions / fees,
- b) avoid all capital gains taxes,
- c) take the full market value of the security as a 2017 tax donation (regardless of what you may have originally paid for it),
- d) possibly satisfy your 2017 Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) if you are over age 70½, and
- e) benefit Sunset Drive UMC with the full market value of the security.

This is a win, win, win.

- Sunset Drive receives a donation larger than if you were to sell the assets and donate the proceeds after taxes.
- Your gift is larger than the cost you originally paid for the assets.
- You claim an itemized, charitable deduction on the full value of the asset which is a larger deduction than if you donated the proceeds after taxes from the sale.

The Virginia United Methodist Foundation can arrange the transfer from you to the Foundation where the assets will be sold immediately with the proceeds sent directly and confidentially to Sunset Drive UMC. If you have general questions, contact Dennis Turner, Finance Committee Chair at 540-896-0327. For detailed questions and further instructions, contact **Ted Soto**, Vice President – Investing and Stewardship Development, at the Virginia United Methodist Foundation at **804-521-1122** or tedsoto@vaumc.org.

Youth

submitted by Lacey Roberts

December Calendar

Wednesday, December 6th - Youth group 6:30 pm-7:30 pm (lesson and snacks)

Sunday, December 10th - Sunday school 9am (We have children's time)

Wednesday, December 13th - Youth group 6:30 pm-7:30 pm Minute to Win it and Christmas card signing

Sunday, December 17th - Christmas family shopping at Target and Old Navy and then Cici's 12:30 pm-3:30 pm

Tuesday, December 19th - Christmas cookie baking and decorating for shut-ins and locals. We will then eat and go Christmas caroling! 4pm-7:30 pm

Friday, December 22nd - Bell ringing for the Salvation Army (TBA)

Sunday, December 24th - Christmas Eve service is at 7 PM. Our youth in the past have held a live nativity as the people come in. I have all the costumes for parts. I would like to get a count by next week if your child is able to participate. If they can only stay for the nativity, they can be picked up by 7pm. I would need everyone there by 6:20. The service lasts for about 45 minutes to an hour. Dress comfortable and ALL are welcome!

Wednesday, December 27th - No Youth

See you in the NEW YEAR!!!

Birthday

December

- 2 Laura Holsinger, Elizabeth Reeves
- 3 Ken Reeves
- 5 Becky Hoover Harris
- 7 Phyllis Mason, M.W. Emswiler, II,
- 8 Hilda Runion
- 10 Brian Craig
- 12 Jaxen Phillips
- 13 David Lee, Heather Stroop
- 16 Darren Drury
- 17 Gavin Halterman
- 18 Matt Clarke, Natalie Craig, Richard Sharpe
- 19 Steve Shifflett
- 20 Philip Long, Sr., Will Freds
- 22 Cricket Driver, William Herndon
- 23 Dianne Fulk, Heidi Jordan
- 26 Ruby Baker
- 27 Grayson Hawkins
- 28 Jeremy Turner
- 31 Lowell Turner

Happy Anniversary

December Anniversaries

- 3 Aaron and Brittany Hoover
- 16 Wilton and Helen Thomas
- 17 Larry and Kay Bowman
- 23 Sterling and Meridith Peele
- 31 Dave and Micki Peoples

Happy Anniversary

