

Sunset Rays
The "Son" still shines at Sunset Church
February 2018

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



"Can it be?" Having just finished celebrating the birth of Jesus, the Christian Calendar readies us for the approach of the Lenten Season. Lent is that season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th and ends on Holy Saturday, March 31st. The word *Lent* comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." It is a time of fasting and a time for penance by all Christians. It is a time reserved for intentional prayer and introspection as we remember the Lord's mission on this earth from his Temptation by Satan, his ministry among people, his journey to Jerusalem and entrance into that city on Palm Sunday. Following an exuberant welcome comes the arrest, trial and crucifixion of our Lord. In remembrance, we observe Holy Week with Maundy Thursday on March 29th, Good Friday the following day, and then we prepare ourselves for Resurrection Sunday...Easter Morning...Christ Alive!

Magrey R. deVega, in his book *Embracing the Uncertain*, our Lenten Study this year, tells us that this is a season ... "*pointing us forward to a cross that can show us how to follow Jesus with courage, hope, and obedience.*" While our world is filled with uncertainty, we are called to *Embrace the Uncertain* through the power and the proof of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Our faith is made certain because of the empty tomb, "*...we discover that the ground has settled, our footing is sure, and that there is only one source for a firm foundation upon which to build our lives.*"

As we prepare to observe these days of Lent and Easter, let us look deeply within ourselves and find that peace and strength that can come because of God's sacrifice in Christ Jesus. Let us remember we can overcome the shadowy, untenable, and unreliable parts of our soul because of God's grace. Let us begin now to prepare for our Lenten journey. Join with me on this journey in Bible Study, prayer, and worship, following the signposts pointing the way to Jerusalem.

Pastor Tom

Upcoming Church Events



- **UMM Meeting** on Tuesday, February 6th at 7pm.
- **Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, February 7th, at 6:30 pm. We will continue studying the Gospel of Luke. All are Welcome!!
- The **Adult Choir** will have practice on Wednesday, February 7th, February 21st, and February 28th at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary.
- **UMM Community Breakfast** on Saturday, February 10th, 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, February 13th and Tuesday, February 27th, from 1pm to 3pm. We supply the yarn, needles, and lessons. New members are welcome.
- **Youth Free Will Offering Spaghetti Dinner** on Wednesday, February 14th. Watch bulletin for time. Donations will go towards Youth Mission Trip in July.
- **Ash Wednesday Service** on Wednesday, February 14th at 7pm.
- **Sunset Drive Ladies** will meet on Thursday, February 15th at 6pm.
- **Administrative Council Meeting** on Monday, February 19th at 7pm.
- **March 2018 Newsletter Deadline:** Tuesday, February 20th. Please have all information to church office.
- **Lenten Study Series** will begin on Wednesday, February 21st at 6:30 pm in the Faith Sunday School Class. This will temporarily replace our regular Wednesday evening Bible Study. Our study, over six weeks, will be Magrey R. deVega's **Embracing The Uncertain**. We will explore six stories in the Gospels as Jesus travels towards Jerusalem, where he will be crucified. Do come and join with us for this exciting preparation for Easter.
- **VBS Meeting** on Sunday, February 25th at 11am, following Worship service.
- **Sunset Ladies Lunch** will be on Tuesday, February 27th, at 11:30 am Please bring a covered dish to share in some wonderful fellowship.

Mark your Calendar for the upcoming dates

Ash Wednesday- Wednesday, February 14th
Daylight Savings Time begins- Sunday, March 11th
Palm Sunday- Sunday, March 25th
Maundy Thursday- Thursday, March 29th
Good Friday- Friday, March 30th
Easter- Sunday, April 1st

Youth

submitted by Lacey Roberts

We are now into our 5th week of the new Sunday school class. We have covered the "why" we worship and believe in God, why we chose Christianity as well as Jesus as our Savior, and over the next several weeks we will be studying the book of Daniel. Sunday, January 28th we had a wonderful total of 35 people! All are welcome from ages 7th grade up. If you would like to bring a breakfast snack to share, please contact me and we will pick a date. Thank you for your support. Second, VBS will be from Sunday, June 10th through Thursday, June 14th. Our theme will be on the Old Testament: stories of Faith, Courage, and Hope. We would like to have the youth help again this year for skits and lesson time. We are also planning to serve dinner every evening as well as change the times from 6:00-8:00. More info on this to come.... This July, we have an opportunity to work with JCMES camp for their Autism program. This will be held Monday, July 9th through Friday, July 20th and we will help out with the camp when needed. Once I get more info and times, I will update you on what we will be doing.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! This year, we will return to REACH in Roanoke for our mission trip. We will go from Thursday, July 19th through the evening of Sunday, July 22nd. We will be doing a fundraiser in February so this trip will be fully funded. We will repair houses, serve food, work at a local pantry, and several other projects around the city! More info to come on this.

Here is February's calendar:

Sunday, February 4th: Sunday school 9 am, Children's church at 10 am.

Wednesday, February 7th: Youth at VAS or visit to nursing home. More information TBA

Sunday, February 11th: Sunday school 9 am. Movie to see Jumanji! Time TBA.

Wednesday, February 14th: Ash Wednesday

(Youth to hold a free will offering spaghetti dinner for mission trip.)

Thursday, February 15th: Youth to possibly help out with STEAM night.

Sunday, February 18th: Sunday school 9am.

Thursday, February 22nd: Youth 6:30 pm -7:30pm Lesson/Bible trivia night.

Sunday, February 25th: Sunday school 9 am.

Sunset Drive Ladies Ministry

submitted by Donna Belle Dove



The Ladies Ministry had their regular meeting on Thursday, January 18th. We've invested in the "smile" business. These are some of our recent smile-gathering activities. We had the Ladies Christmas Dinner at the Rescue Squad building with 18 in attendance. The food was great as was the fellowship and gift exchange. Many smiles were seen throughout the evening. The 15 blessing jars delivered to shut-ins between Thanksgiving and Christmas also brought smiles. Speaking of smiles: it would have been fun to see the faces of the 5 children who had Christmas gifts provided by this ministry. Our monthly donations of \$75 to the food pantry and \$50 to Meals on Wheels will be continued this year. We also made donations of \$200 each to The Back Pack Program and Plains Day Care. In March we will again organize goodie bags for community members. Most of these recipients are from the Meals on Wheels programmore smiles to come.

So in order to continue these activities and make people smile, we will have our annual yard sale this spring and you can be a part of making these smiles continue. Check out the details below.



The Ladies' Ministry is planning their annual yard/bake sale. The sale will be held on Saturday, April 28th. Since it worked so well last year, it will be held inside again. We are able to store some things in the garage now if they are in your way. As spring-cleaning begins, keep us in mind. We will accept most things except clothing. If you need help moving items, let us know. However, the best time to drop things off will be Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday before the sale. On those days we'll be in the social hall. Of course, we will take things later if those days aren't suitable. Check your attic. Check your basement. Check your garage. Check your closets. Make us smile!

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



Happy Birthday

February

- 1 Meridith Peele, Kai Orebaugh
- 3 Blake Wenger, Julie Pennington
- 4 Patrick Malloy
- 5 Laurel Roberts, Kay Turner
- 7 Jane Garrett, Glen Langston
- 8 Kyle Flora
- 9 Grant Holsinger, Esther Malloy, John Packard
- 10 Phillip Thompson
- 11 Betty Sue Melchor, Terry Ford
- 12 Meghan Flora
- 16 Bev Thompson
- 18 Austin Deavers
- 19 Mike Dick
- 20 Beth Hoover, Tim Branner,
- 22 Natalie Flora
- 25 Abby Fulk
- 27 C. W. Grandle, Pat Leffel
- 29 Elizabeth Gilley



Happy Anniversary

February

- 6 Steve and Joan Shifflett
- 23 Kevin and Michele Biller

