

Sunset Rays  
*The "Son" still shines at Sunset Drive Church*  
**November 2019**

**Newsletter for SUNSET DRIVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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**Rev. Dr. Thomas (Tom) Murphy**

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***Live a God-Pleasing Life!***

In this Season of Thanksgiving we are at the time when our church fellowship prepares for our forthcoming Stewardship program. This year's theme is ***Live a God-Pleasing Life!*** We have been "*created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do*" (Ephesians 2:10). Together we'll learn how God not only prepares the work we are to do, but prepares and equips us, his stewards, to do that work.

Be sure to join your brothers and sisters in Christ as we study God's Word to find how we can ***Live a God-Pleasing Life!*** Both our worship and Bible study will focus on the following themes:

November 10<sup>th</sup>  
November 17<sup>th</sup>  
November 24<sup>th</sup>

**Faith is the Foundation**  
**Discipleship is the Path**  
**Generosity is the Hallmark**  
*COMMITMENT SUNDAY*

It is our prayer that each of us will be overwhelmed again and again at the grace of God which has created us, saved us, and daily offers us forgiveness and strength to be stewards who please him.

*Commitment Sunday* is November 24th, as indicated above, which will be the day of joyful response to that grace of God. Please make every effort to attend both our worship services and our Bible studies in church school and on Wednesday evenings, and prayerfully consider your privileges and responsibilities as God's stewards. At Sunset Drive United Methodist Church we need to pursue our vision to: *Connect, Grow, and Serve*. Won't you be a part of our vision in serving the Lord of the Church? God bless us all!

*Joan Shifflett*  
*Chair of Finance*

*Pastor Tom*

## Upcoming Church Events

- **UMM Community Breakfast** on Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30pm- 9:00 am. Meal includes- Turner ham, bacon, pancakes, sausage gravy, scrambled eggs, hot and cold drinks.. The breakfast is open to the community, so spread the word.
- **Church Workday** on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am to trim shrubs, pull weeds, and generally clean up the church grounds for winter. The Men's Breakfast is that morning from 7:30am- 9:00am, so come have breakfast before you start working.
- **Out To Lunch Bunch** will be going to the Miller Grille at ShenValee in New Market, on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> . We will leave the church parking lot at 11am. Please let Kay Bowman know if you plan to attend 896-7665.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will meeting Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> from 1pm-3pm. We supply the yarn, needles, and lessons. New members are welcome.
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Study** meets on Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> , November 13<sup>th</sup> , and November 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm-7:30pm in the conference room. Come join us as we grow spiritually.
- **No Administrative Council Meeting** in November.
- **December 2019 Newsletter Deadline:** Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Please have all information to church office.
- **Sunset Drive Ladies' Ministry** will meet on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm.
- **Community Thanksgiving Service** on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Broadway Presbyterian Church.



## 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: <https://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.



## Congratulations

- **Congratulations** to **JR and Katie Almquist** on the arrival of their son. **Cannon Scott Almquist** was born on Thursday, September 26. We rejoice in this birth with the parents, big brother Clemson, Grandparents Eric and Brenda Hoover, John and Dawn Almquist, and Neloise Vickroy and Great-Grandparents Glen and Virginia Ann Hulvey, and Betty Vickroy.

## Thank you

- Thank you so much for the cards, flowers, and prayers that I received since my son-in-law's passing. Words can't express how much it has meant to me to know so many cared. Doris Emswiler

## Christmas Poinsettia Time

submitted by Judy Post

It is that time again already to submit your order for poinsettias "In Honor of" and/or "In Memory of" to decorate at the church. The cost this year is \$10.00 per poinsettia (or for each name submitted). The order forms will be in the bulletin starting November 17<sup>th</sup> and ending on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

You can pick up your poinsettias after the service on Christmas Eve. Have a Blessed Christmas.

## Children's Group Schedule

submitted by Erica Kann

Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> : Christmas Play Practice from 6:30-7:30pm

Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> : Christmas Play Practice at 11:00 am

Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> : Christmas Play Practice from 6:30-7:30pm

Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> : Christmas Play Practice from 6:30-7:30pm

Our Christmas play "***Away in a Mango***" will be performed on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. There will be an encore performance at 6:00 pm followed by snacks and fellowship.

## Secret Prayer Partners

Prayers are being offered in secret for us by someone we know not.

So let's give thanks to these praying folks 'cause we know it would mean a lot.

A card in the mail at this time of year seems like a simple thing to do.

But we bet you'll be pleased and feel fuzzy inside when there's one in the mail for you.

# Sunset Drive Ladies' Ministry

submitted by Donna Belle Dove

We are back in action. We met in September and October. Cards have been sent to some in need of a pick-me-up and donations have been made to nonprofits. Those receiving donations are Meals on Wheels, the food pantry, the Back Pack Program, UMCOR(hurricane relief), A Small Hands Pantry, and the program at Camp Overlook, "All God's Children". Being able to bless these and more to come is because you have blessed us by helping with our main fundraiser, our annual yard sale. We'll need you in the not too distant future to make this a success again.

We have packed goodie bags for the Meals on Wheels recipients. These will be delivered in a few weeks. It's nice to see the smiles these bring.

There is a ladies' conference being held on Saturday, November 9 near Mt. Solon. Check out the L.I.F.T. flyer on the church bulletin board for details. It's an inspiring day of music, laughter, prizes and fellowship. Continental breakfast and lunch are served. The cost is \$12. Several of us are going and will carpool. If you're interested see Donna Belle or call her at 896-5708.

We know that communicating with your prayer partner is not a must, but if you've ever received a card you know what a boost it can be. They seem to come at just the right time.

With that in mind, would you take the time to drop a card or note in the mail to yours? In this time of shorter and sometimes dreary days, it might be just what she needs.

Our next meeting is Thursday, November 21. Please join us.

The Ladies will be having a ***Christmas Tea*** again this year. Ladies of all ages are invited. It will be held in the social hall on Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Stay tuned for details.

The Ladies Christmas Lunch at Traditions restaurant is being planned too. Watch for specifics in upcoming bulletins. It will be in December also.

## **Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoeboxes** submitted by Bev Thompson



### **We are continuing what Jesus started**

It's time again to fill a shoebox for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Shoebox. Every shoebox gift delivered by Operation Christmas Child is a tangible expression of God's amazing love. But a shoebox is just the beginning. It also presents an opportunity in more than 100 countries for you to invite a child into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Shoeboxes are available in both the front and back narthex.

Instructions on packing a shoebox are included in the box. The collection day here at Sunset Drive UMC is Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Imagine the results if every one of us filled at least one shoebox! Thank you for making a child's life a little brighter and for help spreading the Word around the world. If you have any questions, please call Bev. (896-2643)

## **Kingsway Apple Tree Project**

submitted by Bev Thompson



The Apple Tree Project collects gifts for children of families affected by the incarceration of a parent or guardian. This is a program of Kingsway Prison & Family Outreach in Harrisonburg. If you wish to participate you can pick an apple with a "child's name and gifts desired" off of the tree in the narthex. You will return your unwrapped gifts to the tree with the child's apple by Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. The gifts will be taken to Kingsway where they will be wrapped and delivered to the children for Christmas.

Items for the inmates are also being collected. The items are 1 or 2 chap-sticks, one # 2 yellow pencil, 6 oz size plastic tube of toothpaste (any brand), 5" x 8" mini legal pad with wide strip at top. If you would like to donate for the inmates, please place items in the box located in the narthex marked Kingsway Apples. Thank you.

## **Journey To Bethlehem**

Journey to Bethlehem is a live interactive dramatization of Bethlehem at the time of Jesus' birth. On your 50 minute outdoor walk-through tour you'll experience the cruel Roman guards, meet merchants at the busy marketplace, observe the school of the rabbis, watch a potter create first century pottery, hear the angels sing, and travel with the shepherds to see the baby Jesus. We offer this gift to our community for 5 nights during this holiday season: December 5<sup>th</sup> through December 9<sup>th</sup> at New Market Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The church office has some cards to reserve up to six tickets on a first come first serve. Please contact the church secretary to 896-3970 or email at [office@sunsetdriveumc.com](mailto:office@sunsetdriveumc.com).

# Happy Birthday

## November

- 1 Jozelyn Kann
- 2 Robbie White, Jackson Freds
- 7 Tom Murphy,, Lois Dinges
- 8 Logan Jordan
- 9 Lowell Fulk
- 11 Sharon Krantz
- 12 Terry Bowman
- 13 Sheila Runion
- 16 Donna Belle Dove
- 18 Micki Peoples
- 19 Chris Hoover
- 20 Preston Cupp
- 22 William Freds, Angie Coffman
- 24 Christie Dove Sengul
- 28 Sarah Fulk



## December

- 1 Dawn Murray
- 2 Elizabeth Reeves
- 3 Ken Reeves
- 5 Becky Hoover Harris
- 7 Phyllis Mason
- 8 Hilda Runion
- 10 Brian Craig

# Happy Anniversary

## November

- 21 Chris and Karen Hoover
- 25 Virgil and Rosemary Mumaw

