

Sunset Rays  
*The "Son" still shines at Sunset Drive Church*  
**June 2020**

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

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*Changes Are A-Coming!*

Someone once said that *"Change is as inevitable as the air we breathe."* One definition of change is *"to make or become different; to transform."* Before Jesus ascended to the Heavenly Father, he told the disciples to have faith and remain in Jerusalem until God clothed them with power from on high. (Luke 24:49). Change was about to come upon the disciples and upon the world. Dr. Luke continues his reporting in the Book of Acts (Pentecost) by picturing for us the coming of God's Holy Spirit...and the followers of Jesus and others witnessed the Almighty outpouring of God's Spirit on all flesh. (Acts 2) Thus, the beginning of the Church's growth as the many became one in their understanding. Their faith was empowered.

These days in which we live have produced for us many changes calling upon our reasoning in order to deal effectively with the virus we are experiencing. Its effects thus far have been manifold and daily we await new changes and adjustments. Thus far we have adjusted to the necessary changes, with God's help, and have added faith to practice.

Our United Methodist Church is in the midst of change. The General Conference, originally to meet in St. Louis this July, has been postponed until 2021. Our Annual Conference that was to meet this June will not meet until this September. When both sessions are held, there promises to be changes affecting our structure and the direction of our denomination. But, like the disciples of old, and in the faith of our forefathers and foremothers, we will "lean on the everlasting arms" and pray for God's guidance amidst the changes that will come. So, let us continue to pray for patience and faithfulness as we address issues that will affect our United Methodist Church. I am convinced that the Lord our God will pour out His Spirit upon us as never before as we seek Him in truth and love. We have that promise in scripture: *"If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face...I will hear from heaven...and I will heal them."* (2 Chronicles 7:14)

One word further: though our Annual Conference will not meet until this coming September, appointments have been made for the ensuing year. Our Bishop and Cabinet have seen fit to return the Murphies back to Sunset Drive for another year. Humbly we say, "Praise God and thank you Bishop and Cabinet." Dreanna and I look forward to a blessed time with our Sunset Drive Fellowship! I believe GREAT THINGS can happen when God works through us. *Pastor Tom*

## Reaching Out to You

Since being quarantined I want to pour out my personal appreciation to "one and all" for attempting to follow our streamed (Zoomed) worship services. I have wanted so very much to keep in contact with our Sunset Fellowship as we are apart one from another. Though we are not professional in our efforts to master this "new normal" of reaching our people and others, we are trying our best to preach the Gospel and convey a time of worship together. At this point in our efforts, we are experimenting and learning as we go along. Having said that, I want to thank Barry Davis, Chair of our Administrative Council, for his willingness to help us utilize streaming (Zooming) to reach our people. Keep us in your prayers as we continue our efforts to share the faith. We are doing our best with the equipment at our disposal. Above all, keep "tuned in" as we strive to do our best.

Blessings, Pastor Tom

## 2020 Graduates

Ryan Deavers

Parents: Jeff and Laura Deavers

Activities: Football team, Swim team, DECA, honor clubs, and many other activities and clubs

Ryan will be attending Randolph Macon in the fall.

Address: 255 Truman Drive

Broadway, VA 22815

Jeremiah Lapp

Parents: Nathan and Marcella Lapp

Activities: Football team, track team, DECA, honor clubs, and many other activities and clubs

Jeremiah will be attending EMU for a nursing degree in the fall .

Address: 8905 Shade Tree Lane

Broadway Va, 22815

Ellie Roach

Parents: Ed and Jacque Roach

Activities: Volleyball team, Soccer team, NJHS, and many other Honor clubs

Ellie will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall.

Address: 8174 Simmers Valley Road

Rockingham, VA 22802

# 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>

## Shut-ins

As the recommended "stay-at-home" order continues, our shut-ins are becoming more and more isolated. Since the number of Corona virus cases in the area is increasing, retirement facilities are having to take even more precautions to protect the health of their residents. These folks haven't been able to visit with their friends and families for weeks; and now, they are almost completely isolated from everyone. The "stay-at home" order for them means looking at the same 4 walls all day, every day. Their days are long and lonely. Making a phone call or sending a card lets them know that their church family hasn't forgotten them. Keep them in your prayers.

Mildred Jacksie	1285 Shank Dr.		
Merteen Arbogast	50 Burkholder Lane	New Market, VA	22844
Jane Garrett	1332 Woodland Park Circle	Harrisonburg, VA	22802
Dot Gladden	1332 Woodland Park Circle	Harrisonburg, VA	22802
Doris Emswiler	5235 CC Turner Trail	Timberville, VA	22853
Phyllis Fidler	13823 Turleytown Rd.	Broadway, VA	22815
Doug Wager	288 West Springbrook Dr.	Broadway, Va	22815
Glen Hulvey	1340 Woodland Park Circle	Harrisonburg,	22802
Jean Dove	346 S. Sunset Dr.	Broadway, Va	22815
Carl Grey Hoover	1401 Virginia Ave..	Harrisonburg, VA	22802
Joan Wenger	1340 Woodland Park Circle	Harrisonburg, VA	22802
Penny and Jack Lohr	357 Copper Dr.	Broadway, VA	22815
Kathryn Ford	16270 Strooptown Road	Timberville, VA	22853
Virginia Ann Hulvey	1401 Virginia Ave.	Harrisonburg, VA	22802
Mike Hoover	1328 Woodland Park Circle	Harrisonburg, VA	22802
Jessie Long	351 New Market Rd.	Timberville, VA	22853
Bea Sager	1225 S.Reservoir St.	Harrisonburg, VA	22801
Anna Showalter	351 New Market Rd.	Timberville, VA	22853
Bill & Eleanor Campbell	3145 Flint Ave.	Harrisonburg, VA	22801
Marium Selke	135 N. Sunset Dr.	Broadway, VA	22815
Glen Langston	1684 Port Hills Drive	Harrisonburg, VA	22801

## Don't forget our young ones

Coping with the effects of COVID-19 has been extremely difficult for some of our youth and children. Just like us adults, their lives have been turned upside down. We are better equipped with an understanding of the situation and the coping skills to handle most of these disruptions. Some of our younger members are suffering from worry, anxiety, and depression. Social distancing, mainly from family; isolation from friends; missing swim meets and baseball games; and the uncertainty about returning to school are some of the overwhelming concerns burdening their young minds right now. If you would like to bring them some hope during these stressful days, you can look in your church directory and find some names and addresses of the young ones and send them a note of encouragement to let them know that we haven't forgotten about them. This is a time in their lives they will never forget; neither will we. You can be one bright spot in their "memory" when they look back at the "bad virus" time in their lives.

Jesus loves you, Bev

## Happy Birthday

### June

- 1 Tim Proctor
- 2 Eric Hoover
- 3 Jessica Koeppen, George Dowrey
- 5 Mia Orebaugh
- 7 Aiden Bennett
- 10 Sheila Proctor, Rocky Fisher
- 11 Cecee Hawkins
- 15 Tom Boller
- 21 Maggie Roberts
- 22 Jean Dove
- 24 Lilah Deavers
- 26 Whit Grandle
- 27 Lacey Roberts, Dave Jordan
- 28 Virginia Ann Hulvey





## Happy Birthday

### July

- 4 Jack Lohr, Michele White
- 5 Jodi Clarke, Jordan Holsinger
- 7 Ellie Roach, Marlin Fulk, Carla Fisher
- 8 Sophie Davis
- 11 Travis Fulk, Les Pettigrew
- 12 Ben Orebaugh
- 14 Donna Arbogast, Brenda Hoover

## Happy Anniversary

### June

- 7 Scott and Diann Harris
- 9 Doug and Janet Wager
- 14 Alan and Ann Laughlin
- 16 C.W. and Peggy Grandle, Donnie and Susie Crider
- 19 Tim and Charlene Gilley, Steve and Judy Rhodes, Trent and Lori Turner
- 21 Sam and Christina Harris
- 22 Margaret and Beck Whitmore, Mark and Donica Hadley,
- 24 Travis and Ashleigh Fulk
- 26 Matt and Jodi Clarke, Ed and Jacque Roach
- 29 Lowell and Dianne Fulk



## Happy Anniversary

### July

- 4 Mike and Cecee Hawkins
- 13 Grant and Laura Holsinger

