

Sunset Rays
The "Son" still shines at Sunset Drive Church
August 2020

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

"Facing What Comes?"

Well, here we are! As I write, we are still in the middle of a pandemic after some five plus months. Quarantined, masked, and scrubbed to the bone (especially our hands). In addition, we are experiencing a hurricane by the name of Isaias kicking up the east coast of our country. It would seem that, pardon the pun, "whatever is not nailed down...is coming up!"

During times such as these, I hold fast to the words of encouragement once written by the Apostle Paul. Writing to the Christians in Philippi, to strengthen them as they faced their troubles, pressures, and trials he says, *"I have learned the secret of living in every situation...I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength I need."* (4:3)

There is a story of a little girl who, when trains were popular transportation, was taking her first train ride with her parents. As night descended, the mother took the girl, who was clearly quite anxious, and placed her on the upper bunk of the sleeper. She told her little one that up there she would be nearer to God and that God would watch over her. As silence enveloped the young lady, she became afraid and called softly, *"Mommy, are you there?"* *"Yes dear,"* came the response. A little later, in a louder voice, the child called, *"Daddy, are you there, too?"* *"Yes dear,"* was the reply. After this had been repeated several times, one of the passengers sharing their sleeper car, finally lost his patience and shouted loudly, *"Yes, we're all here, your father, your mother, your brother, and all your aunts and cousins; now settle down and go to sleep!"* There was a moment of silence and then, in hushed tones, a little voice asked, *"Mommy, was that God?"*

You know, in the midst of our trying times, I believe that our peace and strength come from our Lord Jesus. He comes to us as a gift from God, helping us to endure and face the trials and tribulations we encounter living on this side of heaven. Such strength and peace, however, can only be received as a by-product of faith. Are you finding that faith these days as you read your scriptures, take time to pray and court the Spirit of the God? Try it if you haven't...continue it if you are; it helps us to "Face What Comes."

Pastor Tom

Sunset Drive UMC Drive-In Service



Sunset Drive UMC Drive-In Service Sunday mornings at 9am. If you wish, you may worship in the air- conditioned comfort of your vehicle. When you arrive at church, tune your FM Radio to 87.9. We can fellowship with our church family in the safety of our vehicles until we are able to come safely together again

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: <https://www.sunsetdriveumc.com>

Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/sunsetdriveumc>

Thank you

- Thank you for all the cards, prayers, calls, and office help while I was out of the office sick. It was greatly appreciated. Lisa Thacker
- Dear Sunset Drive family, Thank you so much for all the cards, calls, food, and kindness from SDUMC. It has been so very thoughtful and to know we are not forgotten even if we don't walk around very much. Thanks for your prayers and concerns. Jack and Penny Lohr
- Dear Church Family, Ronnie and I want to thank you for your support during the time of Daddy's (Kenneth Weakley's) illness, his death and afterwards. The cards, calls, flowers, and other expressions of sympathy were greatly appreciated and warmed our hearts. We coveted most of all your prayers. They were a blessing in this troubling time. Even though we haven't been able to make personal contact, we want you to know that we knew you were praying and that has meant so much. How do people without a church family get along during times of crisis? We are glad we don't know and are so thankful for ours. Donna Belle Dove
- Thank you to everyone for your prayers, calls, and cards following Merteen's passing. It was a long, difficult time for her as well as for her family. We can never tell you how much your support was appreciated. Wayne and Donna Arbogast

Message from Staff-Parish Committee

It is with disappointment, and yet with understanding, that we announce that our Music Director, Harlen Miller, has decided to resign from his position with us. In as much as he is facing a new treatment schedule for his cancer, and being careful during this pandemic, he has made the decision to dispense with his music commitments for now.

To know Harlen is to know of his love for the church and music that lifts the spirits of all who seek to praise God. His faith, professionalism, and multi-talented skills will be missed. We are grateful for the time he has spent with us, and we will miss his enthusiasm and contributions to our church's ministry.

God Speed to Harlen and to Lorna in the days ahead! We will miss you.

Pastor Tom, on behalf of the Staff-Parish Committee

Congratulations

- ♥ Congratulations, prayers, and well wishes to **Logan Jordan** and **Marissa McCormick** who were married Saturday, August 1st.
- ♥ Congratulations, prayers, and well wishes to **Emily Dick** and **Jeffrey Kopsick**, who will be married Sunday, August 16th.

Praise Report

After months of treatments and worry, Dave Peoples got his long-awaited medical report back. **He is cancer-free !!!!** Great news for Dave and Micki. It's been a long and difficult marathon for Dave and his family, but he won the race. Is it too late to plant potatoes? We love you Dave. God is good !

In Christian Sympathy

- **We extend Christian sympathy** and prayers to **Glen Hulvey's Family** . Glen passed away on Saturday, July 11th . He will be greatly missed by his Sunset Drive Family.
- **We extend Christian sympathy** and prayers to **Merteen Arbogast's Family** . Merteen passed away on Thursday, July 23rd . We will all miss her very much.

Happy Birthday

August

- 4 Zane Turner
- 5 Erika Dick, Dot Gladden, Huck Kann
- 7 Helen Thomas, Andy Haviland
- 8 Tanner Fulk, Brian Powell, Luke and Daniel Boller
- 9 Kay Bowman
- 10 Joanna Thompson
- 12 Joan Shifflett
- 17 John Crist
- 18 Tom Hoover, Doris Emswiler
- 19 Eva Rellins
- 20 Norma Lee, Craig Hoover, Terri Hoover
- 24 Ashley Hoover, Ollie Roberts
- 28 Alan Laughlin, Eli Flora
- 31 Lee Andes



Happy Birthday

September

- 1 Tammy Jordan, Matt Krantz, Mildred (Lucille) Jacksie
- 3 Anna Showalter
- 4 Ben Jones
- 5 Jody Turner
- 7 Kathryne Haviland
- 8 Dreanna Murphy
- 11 Dixie Miller, Harlen Miller
- 12 Sadie Kann
- 13 Doug Harpine
- 16 Lindsey White
- 18 Shannon Rellins, Scott Murray
- 23 Amy Hoover, DD Hulvey, Kathy Turner
- 25 Dave Peoples
- 26 Allison Hawkins, Pam Dowrey, Peggy Packard
- 28 Eli Flora
- 29 Don Rellins
- 30 Wayne Arbogast, Jean Thomas

Happy Anniversary

August

- 1 Wayne and Donna Arbogast, Ronnie and Donna Belle Dove
- 4 Kyle and Meghan Flora
- 5 Lowell and Sandy Turner, Scott and Becky Harris,
- 9 Tim and Shelia Proctor
- 17 George and Janet Hadley
- 20 Tim and Robin Turner
- 21 Tom and Dreanna Murphy



Happy Anniversary

September

- 9 Jeremy and Tonya Turner
- 11 John and Peggy Packard
- 15 Fred and Sue Olson
- 17 Richard and Kathy Sharpe
- 22 Kris and Erica Kann
- 23 Jeff and Ashley Formica, Jack and Penny Lohr
- 25 Jeff and Laura Deavers
- 29 Matt and Sharon Krantz