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# SUDLEY SNAPSHOTS

August 2023



Becoming fully devoted followers of Christ  
to bring hope and healing to our community and the world

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**WELCOME**  
**PASTOR**  
**Tim Blake**

Pastor Tim Blake came to Sudley United Methodist Church from Silverbrook United Methodist Church, where he had been serving since July of 2021. Prior to that he served at Springfield UMC from 2020 to 2021. He also served at St. James United Methodist Church as their Assistant Pastor beginning in 2019.

Tim's call to the ministry dates back to 1987, when, during a "Youth Night" Sunday service at Cokesbury United Methodist Church in Savannah, GA he preached his first sermon. While it was the youth pastor who asked him to speak, God would use that event to confirm in him a lifelong call to ministry as a pastor and preacher.

Through the years that have followed, Tim has served in nearly every facet of church ministry, serving as a youth pastor, a music minister, singles pastor, Officer Christian Fellowship group leader, men's group pastor, associate pastor, interim pastor, church planter, and senior pastor. He is a graduate of Wesley Theological Seminary with a Masters of Divinity degree. Tim is married to Devon M. Blake. They have 4 children: Grayson, 21, Gabe, 20, Abigail, 18, and Malcolm, 16.





## PASTOR'S CORNER

<sup>27</sup> Then Peter said in reply,  
“Look, we have left  
everything and  
followed you.  
What then will we have?”

—Matthew 19:27, NRSV

Several weeks ago, our District Superintendent had appointed me to serve as interim Pastor for our beloved Church. It has been a sincere pleasure to serve our lord and our congregation in this capacity.

Yes, there were a few sleepless nights, but the lord prevailed with grace and wisdom and maturity to do this form of the Lord's work. What an honor to serve and be a follower of Christ during this intensive time in my Christen life,

When stressed I turn to scripture for spiritual guidance, and in this case I sought the teachings of Matthew (*chapter 19, verse 27.*) The scripture said the Apostle Peter (*Jesus's number one apostle*) asked Jesus “*We've given up everything to follow you. What will we get?*” Jesus replied, “***I assure you that when the world is made new and the Son of Man sits upon his glorious throne, you who have been my followers will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or property, for my sake, will receive a hundred times as much in return and will inherit eternal life. But many who are the greatest now will be least important then, and those who seem least important now will be the greatest then.***”

As a follower of Jesus, we must be willing to invest our time and energies. We might lose the time we set aside for Netflix, or golfing, or sleeping, or just doing things for ourselves. But instead, we invest that time in faithfully serving Jesus and by worshipping and leading worship of our lord and learning together with other Christians like yourselves. Matthew chapter 19, verse 27.

As a follower of Jesus,  
we must be willing  
to invest our time  
and energies.

As I said earlier, it has been a heart-warming experience to serve as your Interim Pastor, and I welcome Pastor Timothy Blake to join, and lead our Sudley flock.

Yours in Christ,  
*Nick Abate*, Interim Pastor  
t0920@aol.com

# FOLLOWING JESUS THROUGH THE HOLY LAND

What an amazing experience I was privileged to have! As John Wesley said, “*I felt my heart strangely warmed,*” as we traveled through the Holy Land, walking the dry and dusty land where two thousand years ago Christ walked. We saw the town of Nazareth where Jesus grew up, where Mary heard the news that she would bear the Christ child and call Him Jesus.



A boat ride across the Sea of Galilee was truly a heart-warming experience as we sang and danced with the boat bouncing across the waters. Visiting the Jesus Boat brought the lives of the Disciples into focus as I saw them pulling in nets of fish, then becoming fishers of men.



Continuing on our way we visited the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist and where members of our group were baptized.



We visited towns in the region of Galilee where Jesus carried out His Ministry – feeding the multitudes, teaching in Capernaum, delivering the Sermon on the Mount.

Entering Jerusalem almost made my heart stop as we sang The Holy City, the white buildings glowing in the sunset. At the same time we were nearing the end of our trip and the end of Our Savior’s life on earth.



We visited the house of Caiaphas, the High Priest who presided over Jesus’s trial, and saw the cell in which Jesus was held, where he was scourged and bound. We followed the Via Dolorosa, the Way of Sorrow, where Jesus was condemned to death by Pontius Pilate and where He was forced to carry His cross. The Via Dolorosa ends in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, a church consecrated in 335 AD. Believed to be the site of the crucifixion, the rock which stood in front of the cross and the stone slab upon which Jesus’s body lay after His death are in the church. Lastly we visited the Garden Tomb at the end of a blessed trip.



Story by Kathryn Schmiel

# SUDLEY KIDS AUGUST NEWSLETTER

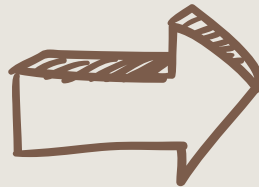


ONE RAINY EVENING QUITE A FEW YEARS BACK, WE WERE SHOPPING FOR SHOES WHEN I TURNED TO SEE MY DAUGHTER STANDING PERFECTLY STILL IN THE MAIN AISLE, STARING TOWARD THE FRONT OF THE STORE. FROM WHERE I STOOD, I COULDN'T SEE ANYTHING INTERESTING. A FEW CLOTHING RACKS, SOME CHECKOUT LANES. "EMMY," I SAID, "CAN YOU COME HERE?" SHE DIDN'T RESPOND. COULDN'T RESPOND, IT SEEMED. I WALKED OVER AND KNELT DOWN NEXT TO HER. FROM HER ANGLE, I COULD SEE OUT THROUGH THE WINDOWS AT THE FRONT OF THE STORE. A STUNNING SUNSET WAS BREAKING THROUGH THE RAIN CLOUDS AND ENFLAMING THE SKY. IT WAS CHANGING QUICKLY. A DARK FRONT WAS RUMBLING IN TO RE-SHROUD THOSE BRILLIANT COLORS. SO I STAYED DOWN NEXT TO MY DAUGHTER. "IT'S LIKE GOD MADE A PAINTING THAT MOVES," I SAID. EMMY WAS ONLY TWO AT THE TIME, FOUR YEARS BEFORE SHE WOULD ASK WHY SHE COULDN'T SEE OR HEAR GOD, BUT THE MOMENT ASSURED ME OF THE TRUTH OF THE PSALMIST'S WORDS: "THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD." (PSALM 19:1). YES, AT TIMES GOD MAY FEEL DISTANT AND "WORDLESS," BUT OTHER TIMES HIS PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENCE ARE TRULY UNDENIABLE. TO YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE. AS PARENTS, DO WE STOP AMID THE FLURRY OF FAMILY LIFE TO RECOGNIZE THOSE MOMENTS WHEN THE KING THROWS BACK THE CURTAINS TO DECLARE HIS GLORY?



## BIBLE STUDY THIS MONTH:

**UNIT 3: CELEBRATE**  
\*The Year of Jubilee  
Deuteronomy 15  
\*The Passover  
Deuteronomy 16:1-8  
\*The Festival of Weeks  
Deuteronomy 16:1-8  
\*The Festival of Booths  
Deuteronomy 16:13-17



### HAVE FUN!

WATCH OUT FOR ISOLATION, AND DON'T FORGET TO STILL HAVE FUN. FOR PARENTS AND KIDS, THE SUMMER OF RELAXATION MIGHT BE OVER, BUT THERE STILL NEEDS TO BE EXCITEMENT. CREATE A CALENDAR OF EVENTS SO YOU CAN DO FUN ACTIVITIES AS A FAMILY TOGETHER. PLAN SEASONAL OUTINGS TO THE PARK, OR TO THE BEACH. IT CAN'T BE ALL WORK AND NO PLAY. FOR EXAMPLE, AFTER THE FIRST DAY MAKE A SPECIAL MEAL, OR GO TO DINNER AT THE END OF THE WEEK TO CELEBRATE. IF YOU GIVE YOURSELF SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO IT HELPS GET THE MIND OFF THE NERVES AND THOUGHTS OF THE END OF SUMMER. ANOTHER TIP IS WELCOMING THE FUN OF FALL COMING. THERE ARE HARVEST DANCES, HAYRIDES, APPLE ORCHARDS, AND PUMPKIN PATCHES FOR BOTH KIDS AND ADULTS TO ENJOY.

BLESSINGS, MS. KATTI  
PRESUSLADY@AOL.COM

## TRUSTEES

A newish Board of Trustees was seated at the most recent council meeting on July 16, 2023 —

*Class of 2023* – Hollis Brown, Bob Reed, Fred Eckstein

*Class of 2024* – Tom Taggart, Steve Fox, Cindy Latham

*Class of 2025* – Amy Harmon, Ed Belcastro, Jeff Kepler

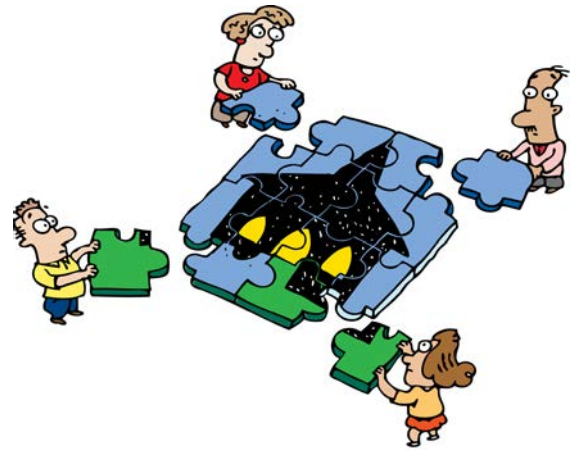
Hollis Brown agreed to serve as chair with Steve Fox as Vice Chair. Cindy Latham is to remain as secretary.

Progress is being made regarding the kitchen range hoods. Please be reminded that no frying is allowed until further notice.

Much of the July 16 meeting was spent discussing the immediate future of the parsonage. It stands vacant at the moment and the incoming pastor has no plans to occupy. Options discussed include selling, renting or leaving the home vacant temporarily while the church considers possible uses of this asset. Standby for updates.

Let's join hands and pray for unity of purpose as we move forward together into the new normal.

**Hollis Brown**, Trustee Chair  
hollis@thorospec.com



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## OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS



The next Outreach and Communications Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 8th at 7 p.m. via Zoom. All are welcome. Please visit [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us), Meeting ID: 897 6196 7703, and Passcode: 021205. You can also use the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89761967703?pwd=N3pJVld2Zk1LcHdHYTJkeERqUGNpZz09>. Please contact Amy Harmon if you have any questions.

The Outreach and Communications Committee needs additional members. We generally meet every other month for approximately an hour via Zoom and are in discussions for programming for the remainder of this year and the next. This includes upcoming concerts and possible trips. Please consider volunteering your time to this committee.

Please help us spread the word about Sudley United Methodist Church by inviting someone to church. Visit our Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/SudleyChurch> to like and share our posts. Please visit our YouTube Channel, <https://www.youtube.com/@sudleychurch6161>, like and share our Sunday Morning Service Videos.

**Amy Harmon**, Outreach and Communications Chair  
amy.m.harmon@gmail.com



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Sudley UMC has a group of Stephen Ministers that are trained to provide high-quality one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties, such as an illness, grief, job loss, problems at work or in the home, loneliness or anything that is making life difficult. Anything you would share with your Stephen Minister would be confidential, even having a Stephen Minister is confidential.

Please contact **Lenore Hart** at [vaharts@verizon.net](mailto:vaharts@verizon.net) or any Stephen Minister to determine if we can assist you.

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## UNITED METHODIST MEN

The United Methodist Men continue their yard sales this year on the 2nd Saturday of each month July through September. The next Yard Sale will be on Saturday, August 12th from 7:00 am - 1:00 pm.



Each space is \$20.00. Contact Doug McGuire for more information. Come on by, there just might be that special treasure you were looking for . . .

**Doug McGuire**, President of UMM  
703-431-1565

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## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

### *Our Mission* —

We seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities

### *Our Purpose* —

The organized unit of UWF shall be a community of women, whose purpose is to know God, and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive, fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Our next meeting will be August 19th, 2023 at 10:0 a.m. in the Social Hall at the church. Women of all ages are invited to join us for fellowship and to help fulfill our purpose.

**Sally Reed**, President of UWF  
[rreed1950@](mailto:rreed1950@)



United  
Women  
in Faith



## NURSERY *through* PRE-SCHOOL

Please sign up to help with the Nursery through Pre-School age children on an “as needed basis.” Sign up is in the Social Hall. If there is a need for nursery through pre-school services, you will need to introduce yourself to the family and escort the children back to the Nursery through Pre-School room and stay with them during church service. Please consider helping. We need two adults for each Sunday over the summer.



## September Sudley Snapshots Sneak Preview –



*Be on the lookout  
as you won't want to miss  
the September issue!*

## SUNDAYS at SUDLEY

8:00 am - Sunday Morning Prayer Service (*In-Person and Online*)

9:00 am - Adult Spiritual Growth Class

10:30 am - Worship Service (*In-Person and Online*)  
 - Nursery and Children's Church  
 - Holy Communion Every 1st Sunday of the Month

### CONTACT US SUDLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Email Address: SudleyUnitedMethodistChurch@gmail.com  
 Church Office: 703-754-4380  
 Physical Address: 5308 Sudley Road, Manassas, VA 21043  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 96, Catharpin, VA 20143  
 Website: Sudley-Methodist.org

### WAYS TO GIVE

Your *Tithes and Offerings* are much needed to continue the ministry of Sudley United Methodist Church. Tithes and offerings may be given —

*By Online through the website:*  
Sudley-Methodist.org/Give

*By Mail*  
P.O. Box 96, Catharpin, VA 20143

*By Auto Pay/Deduction*  
By contacting the Church Office  
(703-754-4380)